



# The Hainesville Crossroads

## Month at a Glance

- Sunday morning worship 9:30 AM; YouTube live broadcast beginning at 9:30 or available on demand following the service
- Tuesday Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> Book Club noon
- Men's Bible study meets Wednesdays at 8 AM
- Saturday Dec 6<sup>th</sup> decorate church for Christmas at 9:30
- Tuesday Dec 9<sup>th</sup> "The Wired Word" Bible Study 9:30
- Monday Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Church Council meets at 6:00 PM
- Tuesday Dec 16<sup>th</sup> WELCA Christmas Lunch Celebration at Noon
- Thursday Dec 18<sup>th</sup> Grief Support Group at 6:00
- Tuesday Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> & Dec 30<sup>th</sup> Quilting at 9:00
- Wednesday Dec 24<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS EVE worship service at 4:00 PM.

### Nominating Committee

The nominating committee would like you to know that in 2026 the church will need to elect:

- Vice President (2year term)
- Secretary (2year term)
- Education (3 year term)
- Property (3 year term)
- Auditor (3 year term)
- Nominating committee (2) 1 year each
- Synod Delegates (2) 1 year each

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him everything was made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. (John 1:1-3 EHV)**

### LOOK WHO'S COMING FOR CHRISTMAS

Every year, a boy dreamed of a white Christmas. Yet as far back as he could remember, December rains transformed the cracked earth into a kaleidoscope of color: lush green grass, robust reds of poinsettias bushes, plush purples of jacaranda trees, piercing pinks of bougainvillea vines.

But he wanted a Christmas like the ones he had heard of in carols or seen in movies. He dreamed of fluffy snow, sleigh rides, and family visits. But he lived a thousand miles south of the equator and thousands more from extended family. For any of those dreams to become a reality seemed impossible and difficult. Then, one year, his grandparents came for Christmas!

They flew across continents and an ocean for a visit. That was extremely special--better than snow. God created us for connection. We want to love and be loved unconditionally. But sin makes that impossible for us. Sin causes cruel slurs and cold shoulders that dampen Christmas cheer. Sin is why that chair once warmed by mother now sits empty, that home once filled with a child's laughter now echoes with eerie silence. Sin makes love conditional. Sin slams the door on companionship. Sin separates us from the ones we love and from God, who loves us unconditionally.

This season we rejoice that God so loved us. He came to join us to himself and one another. God, the Creator of all, is our Savior! The One who knit together the universe and gave birth to the world was knit together in his mother's womb and born of the virgin Mary. The One who created light out of darkness came as a child to bring life out of his death. His holy precious blood purifies us from all guilt and transforms us from loners to beloved of the Father.

It's in our nature to want to connect. We want to be loved. That child who came to earth from heaven is proof that we aren't alone. That tiny baby born in Bethlehem is proof we are not.

Are you spending this Christmas with family? Even if you aren't, you can still celebrate that God came into our human family so that we might spend eternity in his.

**Creator and Savior, you make every Christmas special. Thank you for coming to earth, dying for me, and creating in me a pure heart by Spirit. Amen.**

# CHRISTMAS "Secret Santa" SHARING PROJECT



Greetings!

2025 ~ Holiday Season! We will be having a "Secret Santa" project this Holiday Season. It's with hope we can continue this "project" at Hainesville Church.

There are cans at each entrance to the sanctuary and one in the fellowship are labeled Secret Santa. You may place your donations in any of these can or you may write a check to the church with Secret Santa in the memo section. These may be mailed to the church or put in the offering plate.

Deadline: December 7<sup>th</sup>

Thank you as always.....God Bless

Orders are being taken for poinsettias for the Christmas Season. Orders need to be into the church office before December 7th. They will be available for pick up following worship on December 28th.



## Looking Ahead to 2026

- The last day for donation for 2025 is Dec 31
- The nominating committee would like you to know that in 2026 the church will need to elect:

**Vice President (2-year term)**

**Secretary (2-year term)**

**Education (3-year term)**

**Property (3-year term)**

**Auditor (3-year term)**

**Nominating committee (2) 1 year each**

**Synod Delegates (2) 1 year each**

**Talk to Linda Monahan, Deb Grunwald, or Marie Weber if you have suggestions or would like to volunteer.**

## BRICK ORDERS



Brick orders are still being taken. Order forms can be found at each entrance to the sanctuary. Please fill them out and return to the office with payment. Orders will be put on the wall in the Spring.

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The WELCA will be meeting on December 16th with their Annual Christmas celebration. All are welcome to this event. They will be having a gift exchange of \$10.00 or less as part of the activities. A Sign-up sheet is posted in the basement for the goodies for the day. Come and enjoy this fun day with family and friends. All are invited.



## Reports Due soon for Annual Report

Please have your year-end report into the office by January 4th. Besides council committees, there should be reports from all aspects of the life of Hainesville: Sunday school, men's breakfast, quilters, book club, the Women's group, Hainesville Lunch Bunch, Grief Support Group, and the Family Choir.

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Decorating the church for Christmas will take place on December 6<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00. Please help if you are able.

## October 20, 2025, Hainesville Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Present: Joanne Adlon, Pastor Mary Lou Plummer, Lori Flick-Langer, Dean Larson, John Melland, Gene LaPlante, & On-line: Lora Schaefer, Dean Larson, & Sue Nusbaum.

Absent: Heather Sund, Ellen Klister, & George Sincock.

The meeting was opened by Joanne Adlon at 6:00 pm. leading the Council Prayer.

A motion was made to accept the Meeting Agenda by John Melland & 2nd by Dean Larson. Motion approved.

### Pastors Report: (Mary Lou Plummer)

- The pastor visited with Evelyn Brieder, Sue Larsen, Irene Thorsen & Tilly Hannemann.
- The pastor sent out "Trunk or Treat" info to our members & owners of businesses.
- Pastor will do Acolyte training at Bayview Lutheran on November 5th, at 6 pm.
- Pastor reported on the Commitment Ceremony of Bob Pachniak & Becca Anderson on Oct. 5th. She commented on the generosity of the Ladies ELCA group & their all-out effort to make it a very memorable event. Congratulations to Becca & Bob!
- Pastor reported on the "Hack" of her personal e-mail account.
- Pastor reported that the new tiles for the Memorial Wall will be installed by George in October.
- Pastor requested to switch services with Pastor Raben, Sunday, November 30th, due to a family commitment.

### Worship, Music, Arts: (Dean Larson)

- Communion assistants were filled for Nov. & Dec.
- The problem of streaming our services has been corrected.

### Social Ministry: (Lora Schaefer)

- Lora reported that the response of donations of food for Feed & Clothe My People has been so overwhelming she needed help transporting all to the Sturgeon Bay facility.

### Evangelism: (Lori Flick-Langer)

- Lori will be sending a thank you to the donor of the pumpkins for the "Trunk or Treat" event.

### Property/Maintenance: (John Melland, Gene LaPlante)

- The water has been shut off to the outside faucets.
- The light timers have been reset to light at 5pm & off at 10 pm.
- The newly donated John Deere lawnmower is in need of 2 new tires. John will take care of this.
- The furnace filters have been changed.
- The bathrooms have a new coat of paint! Thank you Cheryl Larson!
- The inside of the church has had an influx of wasps & bees. Orkin will be called to come & spray.

### Education: (Heather Sund)

- The Christmas program will be held on Sunday, Dec. 14th.
- Becky Brown & Pastor Mary Lou had a conversation to update each other on Youth Sunday instructions.

## CHURCH OFFICERS REPORTS:

### President: (Joanne Adlon)

- Joanne was contacted regarding our church newspaper ad for the Pulse. Do we want to remain in a combined ad with Bayview Church & Shepard of the Bay Church, at \$544.78./ year or our individual ad at \$1634.36/year. A Motion was made to continue with the combined ad by Dean & 2nd by Lori. Motion was approved.
- An Ad will be placed in the Pulse newspaper for our "Trunk or Treat" event. The ad will run for 2 weeks ahead of the event date of Oct. 26th. The cost is \$160.92.
- Christmas church decorating will be on Dec. 6th @ 9:30 am. Choir rehearsal will be at 8:30 am.

### Vice-President: (George Sincock)

- No report.

### Treasurer: (Ellen Klister)

- No report.

Secretary: (Sue Nusbaum)

- Motion to accept the September minutes was made by Joanne & 2nd by Lora.  
Motion accepted.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS: (WEDDINGS, FUNERALS, BAPTISMS, ECT.)

- Sunday, October 26, Youth Sunday, “Trunk or Treat” event after services. Flyers have been distributed. Hot dogs, macaroni & cheese & s’mores & more!
- Sunday, November 16th, Youth Sunday
- November, date to be determined, Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service
- Sunday, December 14, Christmas program.
- Saturday, January 10, 9:30 am. undecorate the church.

Old Business & Action Items from previous Meetings:

- Nordic Grant Update: No update. (Gene reports that the shingles on the front of the church will need extra cleaning & repair. These shingles were in worse shape because of the tree that has since been removed.)
- Ecumenical Partnership for Housing - No update.

- Outdoor signage for our individual events - No update.

New Business:

- Good Samaritan Ideas: Pastor reports these submissions from a church member responding to a request seeking recipients of fund money:
  1. Lutheran Social Services
  2. Salvation Army
  3. NAMI - (Mental Health)
  4. St. Vincent De Paul

Tabled Items:

- New computer for Secretary - tabled
- Lighting Assessment - on hold
- Hire Landscaper to clean & thin gardens around church grounds - on hold

Closing Prayer & Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Gene & 2nd by Sue. The meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.

The Council Meeting was closed with the “Lord’s Prayer” led by Joanne at 6:46 pm.

Next Council Meeting: November 17, 2025, at 6 pm.

**Sharon (Albert), Linda (Anderson), Tom & Alice (Angermeier), Bill & Sue (Aune), Evelyn (B), John (B), Elaine (Caelwaerts), Mike & Rina (Clumpner), Erin (Culbertson), Tom (D), Dan (Fenrich), Pat (Fenrich), Alan (G), Barbara (Hughes/Dean), Dawn (Jeanquart), Charlotte (K), Patricia (Kehl), Cindy (Knapp), Keith (Knapp), Myriah (Krueger), Kenny (Meyer), Beth (Pachniak), Monika (Perry), David (Plummer), Jim (R), Matthew (Rocque), Kathy (S), Todd (S), Delores (Schuyler), Deb (Ukrich), Irene (Thorson), Betty, Bill, Brixanna & Marley, Carole & Russ, Jay, and Laurie.**



## YOUTH SUNDAY

Youth from our congregation made 24 blessing bags for those less fortunate. The next Youth Sunday will be December 14<sup>th</sup> for our annual Children’s Program.



Evert, Rylinn,

Sophia, & Elliott





# 2025

| Sunday                                                                                                                                    | Monday                                                | Tuesday                                                         | Wednesday                                                                                      | Thursday                                        | Friday                                                     | Saturday                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>30</b> <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i><br><b>9:30 am</b><br><b>Worship</b><br><b>w/Holy Communion</b><br><br><b>L-Z</b>                    | <b>1</b>                                              | <b>2</b><br><br><b>Book club Noon</b>                           | <b>3</b><br><br>8 AM Men's Breakfast group<br>Mid-week Advent service at Bay View at noon      | <b>4</b>                                        | <b>5</b>                                                   | <b>6</b><br><br><b>9:00 AM</b><br><b>Decorate Sanctuary</b><br><br><b>11:00 Family Choir</b> |
| <b>7</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i><br><b>9:30 am</b><br><b>Worship</b><br><br><b>A-K</b>                                                | <b>8</b>                                              | <b>9</b><br><br><b>9:30 AM</b><br><b>"The Wired Word"</b>       | <b>10</b><br><br>8 AM Men's Breakfast group<br>Mid-week Advent service at Hainesville at noon  | <b>11</b>                                       | <b>12</b>                                                  | <b>13</b>                                                                                    |
| <b>14</b> <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i><br><b>9:30 am</b><br><b>Worship</b><br><b>w/Holy Communion</b><br><br><b>Council Provides</b>       | <b>15</b><br><br><b>6 PM</b><br><b>Church Council</b> | <b>16</b><br><br><b>Noon WELCA CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION</b>        | <b>17</b><br><br>8 AM Men's Breakfast group<br>Mid-week Advent service at Tanum Forest at noon | <b>18</b><br><br><b>Grief Support Group 6PM</b> | <b>19</b>                                                  | <b>20</b>                                                                                    |
| <b>21</b> <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i><br><b>9:30 am</b><br><b>Worship</b><br><b>Children's Program and Youth Sunday</b><br><br><b>L-Z</b> | <b>22</b>                                             | <b>23</b>                                                       | <b>24</b><br><br><b>4 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service</b>                                     | <b>25</b>                                       | <b>26</b>                                                  | <b>27</b>                                                                                    |
| <b>28</b><br><br><b>9:30</b><br><b>Worship</b><br><br><b>Food Drive</b><br><br><b>A-K</b>                                                 | <b>29</b>                                             | <b>30</b><br><br><b>9:00 AM</b><br><b>Quilting for Missions</b> | <b>31</b>                                                                                      | <b>1</b><br><br>Happy New Year!!!!              | <b>2</b><br><br><b>Annual report submissions due Jan 4</b> | <b>3</b><br><br><b>9:30</b><br><b>Family Choir Practice</b>                                  |

# December Newsletter

*Hainesville  
Lutheran is a  
fellowship of  
Christians,  
empowered by  
the Gospel,  
who share  
their faith  
through  
witness,  
service and  
hospitality*

**Hainesville Lutheran Church –ELCA**

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GUEST COPY  
PLEASE HELP YOURSELF

## The Hainesville Crossroads



### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Christmas Eve Worship will take place on December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00. This will be a Candlelight Service. All are welcome, bring family and friends.