

“Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?”

—Corrie ten Boom

February 2026

Hainesville Crossroads

Hainesville Lutheran Church ELCA Sturgeon Bay, WI

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.” Matthew 5:14 NIV)

YOU ARE LIGHT

This past December, did you hop in a car and take a drive to look at Christmas lights? Some houses have a couple of modest strings of lights, while others put on a flashy show synced up to Christmas music on the radio. Some parks have displays for you to walk or drive through and enjoy the beauty of bright Christmas lights during the winter evenings. Lights shine beautifully and brightly through the backdrop of darkness.

Jesus tells us we are “the light of the world.” Wait, but didn’t Jesus say in John 8:12, “I am the light of the world”? So, which is it? Is Jesus the light of the world, or are we? The answer is yes. Jesus is the light, and we are the light. How is that possible? Think of the relationship between the sun and the moon. Both give us light. Both shine over our world. The sun is the source of that light. The moon only reflects the light. Both give off light, but there is only one source.

Jesus is the light of the world. He stepped into our sin-darkened world to rescue us from the gloom of our transgressions and the shadow of death. On account of our sins, we were left stumbling around and could not find the way to salvation. We were lost and condemned to the pit of hell. But Jesus entered our world. His perfect life and death on the cross lit the way to salvation. The Holy Spirit opened our eyes and our hearts to see this light of salvation. We are no longer in darkness because God has brought us into the light of his love.

Jesus is the producer of the light, and we reflect his light. Lights shine. It is what they do. If a light doesn’t shine, it doesn’t have any value. Christians shine. It is what they do. As followers of Christ, we are called to shine the light of God’s love in a world still lost in the darkness of sin. We are to shine so others may see the light of God’s grace. As the Lord continues to give you his light through the Word, may you reflect that light ever more brightly in your life.

Holy Spirit, shine the light of your love on our hearts. Cause us to glow with the radiance of your grace and to reflect the light of Christ in our world. Amen



February

- Sunday morning worship in sanctuary at 9:30 and is being live-streamed via YouTube.
- ANNUAL MEETING FEB 1st following worship service; Soup-er luncheon planned—please help if possible
- Book Club meets February 3rd at 10:00
- Men’s Bible study meets Wednesdays at 8 AM at church
- Bible Study—“The Wired Word” February 10th at 9:30
- Church council meets Monday February 16th at 6PM
- WELCA meets Tuesday February 17th at noon
- Ash Wednesday Service at noon
- Grief Support Group February 19th at 6:00
- “He Chose the Nails” weekly Bible Study during Lent at 9:30
- Quilting group meets Tuesday February 24th at 9:00
- Hainesville Lunch Bunch February 26th at 11:30 at Door County Fire Company

December 15, 2025 Hainesville Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Present: Dean Larson, Ellen Klister, George Sincock, Pastor Mary Lou Plummer, Lori Flick, & Gene LaPlante, & via phone: Sue Nusbaum.
Absent: Joanne Adlon, Heather Sund, John Melland, & Lora Schaefer.

The meeting was opened by Dean Larson at 6:00 pm. leading the Council Prayer.

A motion was made to accept the Meeting Agenda by Gene & 2nd by Lori, motion approved.

Pastors Report: (Mary Lou Plummer)

- Pastor visited with many congregants including Arne Odegaard, Evelyn Brieder, John Brieder. She also visited & gave communion to Irene Thorsen, Mathilde Hannemann, Gary Hannemann, Ardy and Don Lauscher.
- The pastor stated that the Memorial Service for Evelyn Brieder will be held on Saturday, January 10th at 11 am. With visitation beginning at 9:30 am. Joanne Adlon will be arranging the details of the service, along with Forbes Funeral Home.

Worship, Music, Arts: (Dean Larson)

- Dean organized Communion assistants for January.
- Dean stated that Joanne Adlon has requested that the Christmas decorations remain up for Evelyn's memorial service. So, the removal of the decorations will be January 17, at 9:00 am.

Social Ministry: (Lora Schaefer)

- No report.

Evangelism: (Lori Langer-Flick)

- Ellen reported that a very grateful "Thank You" was received from the recipient of the Good Samaritan Fund.

Property/Maintenance: (John Melland, Gene LaPlante)

- Gene reported that the furnace went out this past week & needed to be replaced. Two bids were accepted & Great Lakes Climate Control installed a new furnace for \$4800.

- The boiler valve is still an issue & John & Gene will be monitoring it.
- John has salted the driveways & entrances to Church as the snow has fallen.
- George has plowed the parking lots as needed because of the snow.

Education: (Heather Sund)

- No report.

CHURCH OFFICERS REPORTS:

President: (Joanne Adlon)

- No report.

Vice-President: (George Sincock)

- No report.

Treasurer: (Ellen Klister)

- Ellen reports the November offerings are very good.
- She also reported \$10,000. gift from the Cindy & Terry Kinney Foundation, for Hainesville Church.
- Ellen presented to the Council, a raise of \$5000./ year for Pastor Plummer
- Ellen presented a suggested raise of \$25.00/ service, for our piano/organist/musician.
- A motion to accept the November budget was made by Dean & 2nd by Gene. The motion was approved.
- A motion to add these items at the Annual Meeting for the following projects for 2026 Budget.:
 - Resurfacing the parking lot & driveways to the pavilion & school building.
 - Outdoor Digital Signage for church events. (\$27,000.)
 - Replace the flooring in the downstairs bathrooms & the kitchen.
 - Give the Pastor a \$5,000./year raise.
 - Give our musician a raise of \$100/service to \$125./service.

Motion was made by Gene & 2nd by Lori, Motion approved.

Secretary: (Sue Nusbaum)

- Motion to accept the November minutes was made by Ellen & 2nd by Gene. Motion accepted.

UPCOMING CHURCH SPECIAL EVENTS

(Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms, etc.)

- Tuesday December 16th, WELCA Christmas Celebration at noon
- Wednesday, December 24th, Christmas Eve, 4 pm.
- Saturday, January 10th, Celebration of Life, Evelyn Breider
- Saturday, January 17th, remove Christmas decorations from sanctuary, 9 am.
- Annual Meeting: Sunday, February 1st, after services.

Old Business & Action Items from Previous Meetings

- Nordic Grant: No update.
- Ecumenical Partnership for Housing - The name of this project has been changed to: Interfaith Coalition for Housing. The work to remodel the structures continues.
- Annual Meeting reports are due January 4th. The secretary for this meeting will be Lana

Ferry, & Dean Larson will do the treasurer's report.

New Business:

- None

Tabled Items:

- New Computer for Church secretary. This item is in the budget for next year.
- Lighting Assessment- need to contact a lighting specialist regarding the upgrade.

Closing Prayer & Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by George & 2nd by Lori. Motion accepted. The meeting was closed at 6:23 pm.

The Council Meeting was closed with the "Lord's Prayer".

Next Council Meeting: January 19, 2026, at 6 pm.

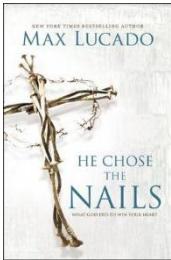


In Our Prayers! Families, Friends & Neighbors....



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

LENTEN BOOK STUDY



Looking for a spiritual discipline for Lent this year? Consider picking up author Max Lucado's book *He Chose the Nails; What God Did to Win Your Heart* as entry into a good discussion into our Christian faith with the aim of deepening our Lenten journey. In the book, Lucado invites you to examine the cross, contemplate its purpose, and celebrate its significance. This is an opportunity to linger on the hill of Calvary and see just how much God did to win our hearts.

We will be gathering Mondays from 9:30 am to 11 am beginning February 23rd and concluding March 30th. *He Chose the Nails* is being provided by our church council for our members.

Please let the office know so books can be ordered. Deadline for ordering is **February 11th**.

A birthday party was held at her residence for lifelong-member Tilly Hannemann for her 96th Birthday!! We are all glad to see you are looking beautiful as always. Hope you had a great birthday!



YOUTH SUNDAY



Youth of all ages participated in Youth Sunday where 3 different games of "Minute To Win It" were played. The picture to the left And below shows the contestants using a straw to move marshmallows.



Lots of concentration was needed to get as many marshmallows as possible into the egg carton in one minute.



Getting the Life Savers candy from the plate into your mouth took lots of thinking and patience. Those brave enough to try had a great time.

Youth Sunday will be held on the 15th of February again. It is always a fun time, and we hope that you will come and enjoy the energy of our youth. Whether young in age or at heart.



Remember as you begin your Spring-Cleaning Projects to keep the Goods and Goodies sale in July in mind. What will be taken will be available soon. This is always a great cause. Many thanks goes to Carolyn Melland and her family for the many, many hours that she puts into this project to make it a success.

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Feb 4th	Regan Markham
Feb 5th	Pete Larson
Feb 11th	Isaak Aune
Feb 13th	Ben Dixner Young
Feb 15th	Pam Freiberg
Feb 16th	Margery Reynolds
Feb 19th	Jerry Gutschow
Feb 23rd	Sue Larsen

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Feb 9th	Karin & Don Heldmann
Feb 26th	Jim Hanstad & Gordy Hughes

FEBRUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Worship/Holy communion <i>Soup lunch and annual meeting</i> <i>See note on bottom of page</i>	2	3 Book Club 10:00	4 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship /Installation of Church Council A-K	9	10 Bible Study "The Wired Word 9:30	11 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study	12	13	14
15 9:30 Worship/Holy communion/Youth Sunday Council Provides	16 6 PM Church Council	17 WELCA Noon	18 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study	19 6 PM Grief Support Group	20	21
22 9:30 Worship/Food Drive Sunday L-Z	23 9:30 AM Lenten Bible Study "He Chose the Nails"	24 9AM Quilting for Missions	25 8 AM Men's Breakfast/ Bible Study	26 11:30 AM Hainesville Lunch Bunch at Door County Fire Company	27	28 9:30 AM Family Choir Rehearsal



At the annual meeting on February 1, 2026 we will be learning more about the projects that have been accomplished in 2025 and what to look forward to in 2026.

February Newsletter



Hainesville Lutheran Church –ELCA

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

GUEST COPY
PLEASE HELP YOURSELF

NEW TO HAINESVILLE !!!

Is getting to church on Sunday morning difficult? We are in the process of working on rides for those who would like to attend but for whatever reason aren't able to because of transportation. Please let the church office know if this is a service that would be of help to you or if you are willing to provide a ride. Know someone who would like a ride? Let the church office know please.



*In the event of weather related closings at church—
please listen to WDOR or channel 2 for cancellation notices and check our Facebook page*