

Helmar Heartlines



815-201-3789
helmarlutheran@gmail.com

VOLUME 52 ISSUE 5
MAY 2026

From the Pastor's Study

Thom S. Rainer, in his book, I Am A Church Member, makes the following statement: “By our best estimates, we think most rolls are overinflated by a factor of three. . . What that means is, if your church has three hundred members on its rolls, it probably only has a hundred real biblical members. Only one-third are functioning members.”

Note the word: *biblical*. You can be on the rolls of many churches and never attend worship. Or, attend only now and then, perhaps when it is most convenient. You may even give money to the church but never be involved in ministry. But, as Rainer makes clear, this type of membership is not biblical membership.

In I Cor. 12:27 the apostle Paul writes: “Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it.” The church is the Body of Christ, the fellowship of believers. Every church member is called to be a functioning member. That means worshiping, studying, serving, and encouraging. In addition, that means consistent attendance at worship services. It is to cultivate the mindset that Sunday doesn't “feel right” without starting the day in church.

I know going to church doesn't save you. Jesus saves you! But if you are really saved, you will want to be in church worshipping Him. Remember Heb. 10:25 “. . . not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.” Some who have their names on a membership list have little interest in “assembling together.” As such, they discourage rather than encourage the fellowship.

As we head into summer, by all means, enjoy a vacation or some time away. That is wonderful! But, don't take a vacation from church. Don't wave good-bye singing: “See You in September.” Instead, let's say “See You in Church Next Sunday!”

Pastor Steve

Upcoming Events:

- ~May 17th: Confirmation Sunday
- ~May 26th: 6:30pm Community Choir practice begins in the LL (for July 4th)
- ~July 6-10th: “Emerald Crossing” VBS
- ~July 19th-23rd: Family Youth & Bible Camp in Cedar Lake, IN
- ~August 8th: 6th Annual Helmarpalooza



Pray for our Graduates!

Junior High

Carter Chelsen

Ellie Chelsen

Brett Cryder

Payton Yaggie

High School

Lily Benjamin

Hannah Greven

Sam Niles



**I LOVE AMERICA
CANTATA**

Fifty years ago, during the Bicentennial, more than 100 voices from Kendall County joined together to sing "I Love America." Now as America celebrates its 250th Anniversary, we are bringing the powerful patriotic cantata back to life at The Great American Hometown Picnic!

Calling All Singers

Who Can Participate...

All Ages & Experience Levels
Individuals & Families
Church Groups & Community Members

ABOUT THE MUSIC
"I Love America"
Composed By: John W. Peterson

Choir Director: Sharon McKanna
Accompanied by the Chicagoland Pops Orchestra

Orchestra Conductor: Maestro John Apple

TO JOIN / MORE INFORMATION
Contact Sharon McKanna
 Sharon.McKanna@gmail.com
 (815) 690-5337

HLC VBS July 6-10, 2026



Registration Available



July 19-23, 2026
Cedar Lake, IN
Register Today!



May 2026

Pickleball M-F 7-10am, Open Volleyball M 7-9pm, Open Basketball Th 7-9pm

1	F	9am Ladies Prayer Hour, 7:30 pm Pilon Life Group
2	Sa	
3	Su	8:30am Fellowship, 9am Sunday School, 10am Worship
4	M	9am-2pm Firm Foundations, 2-6pm FLC closed for cleaning
5	Tu	6:30pm Greven Life Group
6	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study, 2pm Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm BLAST, JAM, HS classes
7	Th	6:30pm Cryder Life Group, 7pm Mathre Life Group, No basketball
8	F	9am Ladies Prayer Hour, 5-7pm Food Pantry, 7:30 pm Pilon Life Group
9	Sa	
10	Su	8:30am Fellowship, 9am Sunday School, 10am Worship
11	M	Church reserved
12	Tu	6:30pm Greven Life Group, 6:30pm Deacons/Trustees Mtg, 7:30pm Council Mtg
13	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study, 9am-2pm Quilting, 2pm Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm BLAST, JAM, HS classes
14	Th	6:30pm Life Group (at Dave & Shira's), 7pm Mathre Life Group
15	F	9am Ladies Prayer Hour, 7:30 pm Pilon Life Group
16	Sa	
17	Su	8:30am Fellowship, 9am Sunday School, 10am Worship— Confirmation
18	M	9am-2pm Firm Foundations, 2-6pm FLC closed for cleaning
19	Tu	6:30pm Greven Life Group (last one)
20	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study, 2pm Adult Bible Study, 6:30pm BLAST, JAM, HS classes (last night)
21	Th	6:30pm Cryder Life Group (last one), 7pm Mathre Life Group (last one)
22	F	9am Ladies Prayer Hour, 7:30 pm Pilon Life Group (last one)
23	Sa	
24	Su	9:30am Fellowship, 10am Worship
25	M	3-5pm Food Pantry
26	Tu	6:30-8pm Community Choir practice in FLC lobby
27	W	6:30am Men's Bible Study, 9am-2pm Quilting, 2pm Adult Bible Study (last one)
28	Th	
29	F	9am Ladies Prayer Hour
30	Sa	
31	Su	9:30am Fellowship, 10am Worship service— Welcome New Members!