

# AMERICAN LUTHERAN NEWS

**AUGUST 2024**

American Lutheran Church, 500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866

Church Phone: (217) 893-4550 [www.alc-rantoul.org](http://www.alc-rantoul.org)

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## STEWARDS — IN ALL SEASONS

**Based on Matthew 20**

**Moment by moment, day by day, season by season, life by life, we're called to be generous, for Jesus' sake, with our time, talent, treasure and testimony.**

Whose is it? Shaping a vision for generosity and giving is always grounded in this one simple yet profound truth—God who created everything, owns everything. Living a life of generosity is especially difficult because even though we may be more than willing to intellectually acknowledge God owns everything, on a daily basis we do not functionally live this way. As long as we live in the flesh, we have to daily wrestle with the lingering ghosts of our own selfishness. St. Augustine said it well, "God is always trying to give good things to us, but our hands are too full to receive them."

In the Parable of the Workers, after a few disgruntled employees complain that they worked more hours than a new hire and yet all received the same pay, the owner of the business goes on to say, "What's it to you. It's my business. It's my money to spend and invest anyway I see fit. Are you going to be envious and resentful because I chose to be generous? So, the last will be first and the first last."

Jesus' words "the last will be first", "whoever saves his life will lose it" and "if you want to be truly free, you must be a slave to all" echo the same trajectory. The human heart, our flesh truly struggles to let go. Jesus words require of us a self-emptying and a self-sacrifice. And yet our hearts cry unfair and unjust. I earned it all. It's mine.

Think about it for a moment, we are consumed with "this is mine"—my life, my career, my home, my vision, my church, my pastorate, my ministry, my investment portfolio and my rights. Do you see how this mindset, "this is mine," is so embedded in our thinking that at times we don't even recognize we're saying such a thing—it is our default.

Shaping a vision for stewardship begins and ends with the generosity of God. God is Giver. Although he owes us nothing, God gives us everything and His giving is flawless. When we look at the parable of the workers, entry into God's kingdom is not gained by how many hours we work, or how hard we strive to perfect and acquire more fame, fortune or power. Entry into the Kingdom is solely by God's generosity.

Taken from the NALC website, written by Rev. Dona Johnson, member of the NALC Living and Giving Stewardship Team.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**AUGUST PULPIT SCHEDULE** August 4<sup>th</sup> – Terry Doyle; August 11<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Jay Johnson (Communion); August 18<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Carl Rasmussen (Communion); August 25<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Jim Lehmann (Communion).



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held immediately following the Worship Service on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, concerning the replacement of the youth hall floor and connecting hallways.

**CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed on Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.



**ON VACATION** Nikki will be on vacation the week of August 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>. During this time, Judy Peck will be in the office from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and DeAnn McMorris from 1:00-4:00 p.m. each day except Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. Please call the church office if a need arises or stop by during these times and they will make sure you are taken care of.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE** for the call of a pastor continues to be held in the Chapel at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday evening. This time of prayer is devoted to all aspects related to the call of a pastor - praying for our call committee, congregation, Mission District Dean, the pastor (& family) to be called, and any other related needs as the call process continues. A time of fellowship with a light meal begins at 5:45 p.m. prior to the prayer service. All are invited and welcome to attend!



**LEMONADE STAND** The last ALC Summer Camp lemonade stand will be held on Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Proceeds are going to the Humane Society. Please stop by if you can and enjoy a refreshing glass of lemonade!

**HELP NEEDED** The preschool will be having their floors refinished on Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be clearing out the rooms after summer camp on Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, starting at 4:30 p.m. Please let the office know if you would be available to help. Thank you! Any help would be much appreciated.



**50+ POTLUCK** will be held on Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 a.m. in the ALC Youth Hall. Please bring a dish to share and come and enjoy this time of food and fellowship.

**BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING** School days are coming soon! We will celebrate our students and teachers (Preschool through College) with a back-to-school blessing on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. If you are a student or teacher, please plan to attend our service and receive the Lord's blessing upon you.

**BACK TO SCHOOL DAYS** will be held on Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Bethany Park Church Clothing Center. Volunteers are needed to work from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on this day. If you are able to help, please call Shirley Friemel at 217-766-4111. We need lots of help making this event happen. This is a great way to help the children have a great start to the new school year and you will be blessed seeing all the happy faces.



**CHRIST LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL'S KNIGHT FOR CHRIST BENEFIT AUCTION** will be held on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Ford County Fairgrounds in Melvin. Silent Auction begins at 4:00 p.m. Reservations are \$50.00 per person. RSVP required by August 9<sup>th</sup>. Please call the CLHS office at 217-394-2547 to RSVP or for more information.



**2024-2025 CONFIRMATION** A Parent's Informational Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Confirmation Room. A second meeting will be held on Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Confirmation Room only if someone is unable to attend on Wednesday.

Please note: This meeting is mandatory for parents to attend in order for their child to be in Confirmation Instruction. Please call the church office (217-893-4550) or Sean O'Donnell (217-714-2776) if you are wanting your child to attend Confirmation this year but cannot make it to either of these meetings. Confirmation Instruction will begin on Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.

**ACOLYTE TRAINING** will be held on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, during the Sunday School hour for any child wanting to become an acolyte.

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## HELP PUT A T IN CANTEEN

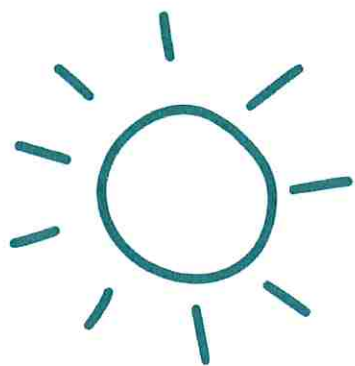
We are asking for your help to restock the canteen to get ready for this fall and winter. We are in need of **long sleeve T shirts** – pocket or no pocket – sizes medium up to 4X (bigger sizes are requested more often). They can be any color – preferably not white as they show soil so much faster. A donation box will be located in the Narthex.

**OTHER ITEMS NEEDED:**

Peanut Butter (creamy)  
Jelly  
Fruit Cups  
Chips  
Snack Cakes

As always – we would love to have you come on Monday evenings beginning at 4:00 p.m. to help make sandwiches and pack lunches and/or ride with us in the canteen to pass out food and other items to the homeless. It is a very rewarding night – you receive more than you give. If you have any question or would like to schedule a time to ride please give me a call or leave a message - DeAnn – 217-419-2112.

*Matthew 25:37-40* <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? <sup>38</sup>And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? <sup>39</sup>And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' <sup>40</sup>And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers,<sup>[a]</sup> you did it to me.'



# OPEN HOUSE

AMERICAN LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Enrollment can be completed early by calling or emailing the number and email below.

Now Accepting CCRS

217-893-8773

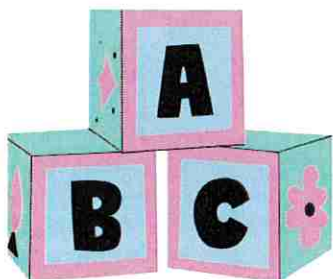
[preschoolatalc@gmail.com](mailto:preschoolatalc@gmail.com)

When: August 15th,  
2024 From 5:30 -  
6:30pm

Where: 500 Church  
Drive, Rantoul IL 61866

One week free tuition  
IF you refer someone  
and they enroll.

Call or email  
for more  
information



DCFS Licensed  
Qualified teachers  
Safe and Caring  
Environment  
Christian Curriculum  
Preparation for Educational  
Future



# CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

JUNE 18, 2024



### 2024 Council

President...*John Lux*  
Vice President...*J.R. Sipes*  
Secretary...*Mitch Suits*

*Devin Cox*-Building;  
*Marleen Peavler*-Preschool;  
*Deanne Rosenbeck*-  
Chairman/Outreach;  
*Shirley Friemel*-  
Ushers/Worship Stewards;  
*Linda Kirk*-HR;  
*Ann Price*-Sunday School;  
*Joyce Holland*-  
Youth/Confirmation;  
*Ron Howe*-Worship/Music;  
*Lois Sjoken*-Grounds.

Call to order at 7:30 p.m. with opening prayer led by DeAnn McMorris. Approval of last month's minutes was made by Ron Howe second by Shirley Friemel. Additional agenda items. New guidelines were set for approval of bills to be paid not to exceed \$2,000 without board approval. Motion by J.R. Sipes, second by Ron Howe. Motion carried. Discussed sound board issues, motion was made by Shirley Friemel, second by Ron Howe, to hire SENERGY electric technologies to troubleshoot sound system board to include reprogramming board, testing inputs and outputs, and all cabling systems not to exceed \$5,000.

**Treasurer's Report** - Gave approval to DeAnn to move funds around to be more fiscally responsible. Some funds have been in accounts earning no interest. All budget line items are good except for Supply Pastor. Those funds will be coming from Pastor's Salary line item. Also, parish nursing purchased new pads for ADT which were outdated. The decision was made not to pay off the old mortgage and use some funds for more pressing maintenance issues.

**Pastoral Acts** - Funerals: Sandy Ackerman (6/5); Darrel Meuser (6/7)

**Ministry Team Reports** - Reports available upon request.

**Building Team** – Devin Cox had Duden & Silver come in and perform routine maintenance on all heating and air-conditioning units for church. One geothermal unit had a pump leaking. Devin noted that seven geothermal units are approximately twenty years old. Would be around \$16,000 per unit to replace.

**Disaster Response Committee Report** – St. John's of Danforth helped resupply some items.

**Elder's Report/ALC Foundation Report** – Old piano was disposed of. ALC Foundation report minutes were submitted.

### **Old Business**

- a. John is revisiting bid from M&R builders for floor repair in youth hall and cost to replace flooring.
- b. Looking into cabinet for bells and paraments.

### **New Business**

- a. Convocations will be held online this year for 3 hours. DeAnn McMorris and Sally Bauer will be our representatives this year.

No Pastor's Report.

Motion to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. by Ron Howe, second by Devin Cox. Motion carried.

**THANK YOU!**  
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!  
**THANK YOU!**

**PRAYER**  
list

**FROM:**

**Community Service Center** - Thank you very much for the monetary donations and donation of food that you continue to donate to our center. We could not do everything we do without help from generous people like you.

**ChildVoice International** - Thank you so much for partnering with us and helping to make our life-changing work possible. Lives are being transformed because of your faithful support!

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**PRAYERS TO THOSE**  
**SERVING IN THE MILITARY**

Jon Stiebner (son/Synda Miller); Alex Short; Brandon Elrod (grandson/Elfrieda West); Kasey Fenimore (nephew/Bill & Jody Schlueter); Brian Griswold (son/Phillip Griswold); Levi Loschen (grandson/Luella Loschen); Ryan Falletti; Riley Falletti.



Rich Friemel; Steen Bjerre; Maddy & Leah Graves; Debbi Dietz; Carla Adkins (friend/Joyce Williamson); Kim Wyre; Jessica Hawn (daughter/Rob & Kim Wyre); Loretta Overholt; Jennifer Birkey (friend/Terri Kirby); Earl Smith; Cindy Williams (sister/Scott James); Gabbi Reynolds (friend/Tome's); Ben Moser; Denny Doyle; William Benton (father/Phillip Benton); Steve Ritchie (friend/J.R. & Sondra Sipes); Sharon Loeh (friend/Paul & Linda Keith); Marla Osterbur (friend/Sue Coffin); Mary Mallicoat (mother-in-law/Earl Smith); Nick Shepherd (brother/Rhonda Keith); Joyce Keith; Bob & Jenny Hobby (cousins/Keith Family); Bob Selby (brother-in-law/Mary Stocks); Merrill Wattjes; Michael Markarian (brother/Joyce Williamson); Joan Percival; Joyce Williamson.

**NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:** *Bridle Brook*: Keith Dohleman. *Country Health*: Shorty Baugher. *Goldwater Care (Gibson City)*: Ruth Lutz. *Holly Brook (Rantoul)*: Genet Dixon; Joan Mathis; Janet Withers. *Piatt Co. Nursing Home (Monticello)*: Rita Buenting. *Prairie Winds of Urbana*: Ilene Ackerman.

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**SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:**

...Family & friends of Mildred Flessner who passed away on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

...Rod & Sandy Heiser and family for the loss of Rod's mother, Mary Ann Heiser, on July 17<sup>th</sup>.





# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Debbie Tyler	8/2	Ivie Albers	8/12	Marilyn Worra	8/25
Ed Bartell	8/3	Janine Fruhling Petersak		Mike Tome	8/26
Marlys Morris	8/3		8/13	Emily White	8/26
Paul Keith	8/5	Neal Bauer	8/14	Andy Holland	8/27
Pam Mathews	8/5	Mary Peters	8/14	Connor Schmidt	8/27
Barbara Busboom	8/6	Jessica Cox	8/15	Martha Stanfill	8/27
Olivia Graves	8/6	Patti Motley	8/15	Phyllis Hafermann	8/28
Annabelle Lehmann	8/6	Duane Smith	8/15	Sandy Lindsay	8/28
Bev Ehmen	8/8	Kevin Kaiser	8/17	Leonard Stocks	8/29
Grace Hanson	8/9	Eric Briggs	8/19	Debby Wilcoxon	8/29
Steven Jeffers	8/9	Aiden Cheek	8/20	Ilene Ackerman	8/30
Dale Sleigh	8/11	Dave Overholt	8/21	Alex Brooks	8/30
Stacy Tome	8/11	Mike Little	8/23	Katherine Bartell	8/31
Janet Withers	8/11	Donna Hustedt	8/24	June Luna	8/31



# AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Sam & Joyce Holland	8/3	Brad & Stacey Albers	8/22
Paul & Linda Keith	8/12	Duane & Jennifer Smith	8/22
Dennis & Libby Buhr	8/13	Phillip & Rose Benton	8/23
Gene & Lisa Heap	8/15	Rob & Kim Wyre	8/25
Roger & Pam Mathews	8/18	John & Joyce Borchers	8/30
Reggie & Mary Peters	8/18		

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
500 Church Drive  
Rantoul, IL 61866

**NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
Rantoul, IL 61866

**Return Service Requested**

**Permit No. 17**

**TO:**



Youtube Channel: Rantoul, IL - American  
Lutheran Church (ALC)

**Nikki Foss**

Office Manager - (217) 893-4550  
[amluthoffice@gmail.com](mailto:amluthoffice@gmail.com)

**Logan Bushman**

Preschool Director - (217) 893-8773  
[preschoolatalc@gmail.com](mailto:preschoolatalc@gmail.com)

Worship Service -  
Sunday Mornings at 9:00 a.m.  
followed by Sunday School  
and Women's Bible Study.

**ALC is Christ-centered by emphasizing teaching, worship and prayer  
as we strive toward spiritual growth.**



## AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE

	<b>Worship Stewards</b>	<b>Offering Communion</b>	<b>Table Guild</b>	<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Bulletin Greeters</b>	<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Acolytes</b>
<b>8/4/24</b>	Terry Doyle	Bill Schlueter Tom & Mary Edwards	DeAnn McMorris Sue Coffin	Shirley Barnes Chrissie Hall	Rich & Shirley Friemel	Midge Seim	Sally Bauer	Jack Flesner Joshua James
<b>8/11/24</b>	Richard Peavler	Marleen Peavler Sam & Joyce Holland		Jim & Pam Cheek	DeAnn McMorris Justin Kaiser	Kyndall Cox	Pam Cheek	Connor Suits Carson McClain
<b>8/18/24</b>	Ron Howe	Shirley Friemel John & Rhonda Keith		Emily Deal Connie Early	Chrissie & Liam Hall	Sheila Sherman	Justin Kaiser	Liam Kaiser Aubrie Albers
<b>8/25/24</b>	Lloyd Schluter	Katie Holland Jack & Brenda Spitz		Tom & Mary Edwards	Phyllis Hafermann Geri Remmers	DeAnn McMorris	Mary Edwards	Kyndall Cox Logan Suits