

# AMERICAN LUTHERAN NEWS

SEPTEMBER 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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## SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME



The season of Ordinary Time begins the Sunday after Pentecost Sunday and lasts until Advent. Ordinary Time is known in the church both as Ordinary Time or the Sundays after Pentecost. The season of Ordinary Time can be broken into two sections: Summer Pentecost and Fall Pentecost.

Ordinary Time is the season of everyday. There is nothing exciting that happens during Ordinary Time. Rather, we focus our energy on the ordinary, the daily rhythms and patterns, finding and noticing God—how God is with us, for us and works through us in everyday moments. The season is marked by the color green.

On the back of the pulpit of my internship church was the sign above that says, “We Would See Jesus.” The sign was a reminder that while sharing God’s Word from the pulpit we also pause to see Jesus in the faces of those who are receiving the Word. The reality is that each and every one of us need this reminder. We all get caught up in the hustle and bustle of our daily lives that we may not notice where God is actively involved in our everyday. Instead, we think that God only acts in big and monumental ways instead of the ordinary everyday, which is not true. Or that God doesn’t care about us because we don’t sense Him present in our lives, which is also not true. The fact is God cares deeply about each and everyone of His beloved children. God is engaged in our daily lives but we may not be aware.

As we move through the season of Ordinary Time, the time where we simply go about our day-to-day lives, it is good for us to pause and take notice of God. To slow down our pace and notice what God does for us and how God works through us and others every day. When we do this, we notice that God is in the faces, hands, voices and hugs of others. That God is in the bird chirping on the branch outside our office. That God is in the silence. That God is grounding you when your emotions are overwhelming. That God is right beside you in everyday moments.

So, let’s join each other in this season of Ordinary Time in the practice of noticing God. Each day, pause and notice God, then share with your family or a friend where you noticed Him. Share it loud around the dinner table, in your journal, or on social media. Before long we will be noticing God in many ways and be drawn even closer to Him. Amen.

This article was shared by Pastor Jes at Faith Lutheran Church, Goshen IN, Summer 2021

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**OFFICE CLOSED** The church office will be closed on Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, in observance of Labor Day.

**NO QUILTING** The quilters will not meet on Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, due to the Labor Day holiday.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE** will not meet on September 4<sup>th</sup>. A decision will be made by Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, as to when and where they will resume meeting due to the ongoing floor project taking place outside of the Chapel.



**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. Please enter through the east Narthex doors. 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>.



**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTING DELAYED** Due to the flooring project, the Children's Sunday School year will not start until Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. There will still be an installation of the Sunday School and Preschool teachers on Sunday, September 8<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.



**50+ POTLUCK** will NOT be held this month due to the ongoing floor project in the Youth Hall. Please watch upcoming bulletins & newsletters for when the next one will be held.

**TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** is not just a men's Bible study. This study, led by Dennis Albers, meets at 6:00 p.m. and is open to anyone that would like to attend. They normally meet in the Sunday School room just outside the Chapel, but due to the flooring project, they are meeting in the Confirmation/Bible Study room for a few weeks. Please consider attending this wonderful study.



**PORTALS OF PRAYER** The fourth quarter Portals of Prayer (October-December) will be available to pick up in the Narthex and outside of the church office on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

# AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL



The preschool has had a very busy and fun few months. Our summer was filled with field trips to the splash pad, park, and movies. We enjoyed lots of sweet treats and even got a little creative making our very own "Kids Olympics".

We spent Friday afternoons out in the sun selling delicious lemonade for the Champaign County Humane Society. The children enjoyed getting to decide how to spend the money they had earned. We were able to raise about \$400. The children were allowed to help shop for the animals and thought it was very cool to order items to get shipped to the Humane Society.

As the summer came to end, we began to prepare for preschool to start back up. We did lots of rearranging of the classrooms, we were able to have our floors rewaxed, and even got a new fish friend. We are so appreciative of everyone who helped and made this possible. The children and the teachers love their classrooms, and it made for a perfect start of the school year.

We are just a couple weeks into our preschool school year. We still have some full-time openings! We are excited to have both classrooms open again this year. The children enjoyed chapel with Mrs. DeAnn and have been really focusing on Jesus' love for us. We will be posting on our Facebook account (Preschool Lutheran) with pictures and updates about the preschool.

We want to thank everyone again for all the support and help throughout summer and into the new school year, none of this would be possible without you!



**SUNDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** The Book of Revelation has instilled courage in the lives of Christians throughout the world. God's message in Revelation assures believers that whatever they are experiencing in the world, Jesus is on His throne and ruling on high. His children can live boldly and confidently, knowing that God has set them in a divinely appointed time and place. The Sunday morning women's Bible study class invites you to join us for this study on Revelation starting on September 8<sup>th</sup> in the Bible study room directly after the church service. Hope to see you there. Blessings.

**NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** I would like to invite the women of our church to join me in an 8-Session Bible Study by Jennifer Rothschild, entitled Amos, An Invitation to the Good Life. "As we read Amos together, we're going to turn each condemnation into an invitation. Amos is full of invitations to seek God and live. It's full of invitations to feel assured by God, live humbly and justly for Him, and receive hope of renewal and restoration. 'So don't let the bad news or sad outcomes keep you from reading. "If hope is the narrator, then the book will end OK." Starting Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the Bible Study Room and accept Jennifer's invitation to Amos. Please contact Deanne Rosenbeck by September 9<sup>th</sup>, so that your study book of Amos can be ordered. The cost will be \$22. You can call the church office, text Deanne Rosenbeck at 217-621-8816 or by email at [dwattjes@hotmail.com](mailto:dwattjes@hotmail.com) to register for this class.

## **SEPTEMBER PULPIT SUPPLY**

September 1<sup>st</sup> - Vicar Aaron Dawson\*  
September 8<sup>th</sup> - Pastor Jim Lehmann (Communion)  
September 15<sup>th</sup> - Neal White  
September 22<sup>nd</sup> - Pastor Phil Gronbach\*\* (Communion)  
September 29<sup>th</sup> - Neal White

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\*On Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be visited by Vicar Aaron Dawson who will be preaching and presiding at service. Vicar Aaron, originally of Benton, Illinois, is currently serving as Acting Pastor at St. John Lutheran Church in Metropolis, Illinois, with permission from the General Secretary. Vicar Aaron holds a Bachelor of Arts Ministry from the Institute of Lutheran Theology where he is currently working on the last year of his Master Divinity. The Vicar began serving Trinity Lutheran Church in Shumway, Illinois, due to their pastoral vacancy in 2020 at the request of General Secretary Mark Chavez. In 2022,

Trinity and St. John's of Shelbyville formed a two-point parish that served as his internship site. Upon completion of his internship, Vicar Aaron went to serve St. John Lutheran Church of Metropolis, Illinois.

Vicar Aaron was accepted into the NALC candidacy process in 2020. In October, he will appear before the candidacy committee for his final interview to be approved for ordination. As soon as he is approved, he will be allowed to enter the call process a semester before graduation.

Vicar Aaron will be accompanied by his lovely wife, Kristin. Kristin, who is originally from Metropolis, Illinois, is a Board-Certified Music Therapist and holds a Master of Music Therapy from Saint Mary of the Woods College in Terre Haute, Indiana. They will be bringing their 15-month-old son, Asher.

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\*\*Pastor Phil Gronbach was called to ministry at the age of thirteen. He has served in ordained ministry since November of 1971. Since his retirement in 2005, he has served as pulpit supply and interim pastor for several congregations. He continues to teach Bible study twice each week, helps lead a grief group every week and leads a Widows/Widowers fellowship group twice a month.

Pastor Gronbach was married to Anne prior to her death in 2009. They have two adult children and seven grandchildren in whom he takes great delight.

# CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS



## **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.

## **CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**JULY 11, 2024**

Call to order with opening prayer at 7:24 pm by DeAnn McMorris. Members absent: Mitch Suits, Ann Price, and Devin Cox. Guest Requests/Public Comments – None. Additional Agenda Items and Approval of Agenda – No additional items. Motion to Approve Agenda by Marleen Peavler, second by Lois Sjoken, motion carried. Approval of past Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve past meeting minutes by Ron Howe, second by Joyce Holland, motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report/Financial Committee**

Report by DeAnn McMorris - All items are within budget. Motion to accept report by J. R. Sipes, second by Deanne Rosenbeck, motion carried.

### **Pastoral Acts**

None

### **Ministry Team Reports**

Reports available upon request.

### **Elder's Report**

Presently searching for places to donate farm rent money.

### **Old Business**

- a. M & R Builders estimate for Youth Hall and Hallways concrete repair move to New Business.
- b. Job Descriptions – In work
- c. Church and Parsonage inspection – Done
- d. Sound system repair/Inpection – In work
- e. Convocation will be online – DeAnn McMorris and Sally Bauer to be reps in August.

### **New Business**

- a. Flooring bid for youth hall by Flooring Surfaces. M & R Builders submitted a bid of \$12,600 to repair floor cracks. Flooring surfaces submitted a bid of \$47,500 for new flooring. Motion by Ron Howe to accept bids to repair floors, second by Shirley Friemel. Motion carried. Amount is high enough to require a vote by the congregation. A special meeting will be scheduled.
- b. Cabinet to store Church Paraments - tabled.

No Pastor's Report.

### **Adjournment and Closing**

Motion to adjourn by Ron Howe, second by Deanne Rosenbeck, motion carried. Adjourned at 8:27pm.



**FROM:**  
*...the family of Irene Galindo -*

The thoughts and prayers for our family are appreciated as our mother/grandmother/great grandmother, Irene Galindo, moved to her eternal rest with our Lord. We also express thanks to all who have loved and supported her through her many years as a member of the American Lutheran Church.

*...Shirley Friemel* - A special thanks to all the ladies and Lloyd who helped with the 2024 Back-to-School Days. We made up packets of supplies for K - 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Even though it was hot and humid, we worked through it and had them ready for the Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, give away. We helped over 100 children prepare for the new school year. Your help and dedication to this ministry is appreciated. Thank you again and God's blessing to all of you.

*...Community Service Center* - We are SO VERY appreciative of your donations. Thank you!

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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.

# PRAYER list

Tyler Edwards (son/Tom & Mary Edwards); Geraldine Gorecki (sister/Joyce Williamson); Lee Briggs (friend/Reggie & Mary Peters); Rich Friemel; 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.

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**SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:**

*...the family & friends of Ilene Ackerman who passed away on July 29<sup>th</sup>.*

*...the family & friends of Irene Galindo who passed away on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

*...Paul Wolters & family for the loss of his aunt, Dolores Matzat.*





Ellen Roessler	9/2	Bob McElwain	9/9	Pamela Bross	9/19
Riley Falletti	9/3	Terry Doyle	9/10	David Keith	9/20
Ryan Falletti	9/3	Brenna Schluter	9/10	Midge Seim	9/20
Bev Lehmann	9/3	Magdaline Riley	9/12	Ed Hesterberg	9/21
Gary Rosenbeck	9/3	Ruthie Riley	9/12	Annette Carlson	9/22
John Lux	9/4	Brenda Spitz	9/12	Joan Cleary	9/22
Bob Lindsay	9/5	John Colwell	9/13	Dennis Long	9/22
Ronnie Kocher	9/6	Sandy Heiser	9/14	Jennifer McKaufsky	9/22
Jackie Roelfs	9/6	Stacey Albers	9/15	Mary Stocks	9/22
Lois Sjoken	9/6	Katie Holland	9/15	Mike Meek	9/25
Linda Finger	9/7	Gwen McMorris	9/15	Stacy Acton	9/26
Dennis Buhr	9/8	Tracy O'Donnell	9/16	Nancy Little	9/27
Rob Dailey	9/8	Leona Palmer	9/16	Matt Albers	9/28
Greg Suits	9/8	Jacob Holland	9/17	Stan Stanfill	9/28
Jacob White	9/8	Gary Sjoken	9/17	Kyndall Cox	9/29
Helen Carmien	9/9	Harmon Albers	9/19	Loretta Elliott	9/30
Karen Derges	9/9			Reggie Peters	9/30



Michael & Shelly Dunn	9/2	Rodney & Sandy Heiser	9/19
Jim & Pam Cheek	9/3	Jeremy & Patti Motley	9/20
Scott & Marcie Rodgers	9/3	Joe Jr. & Kari Briggs	9/21
Ed & Madonna Bartell	9/5	Kyle & Amy Cheek	9/21
Terry & Synda Miller	9/5	Dennis & Terry Doyle	9/24
Chuck & Kay Cain	9/9	Greg & Jennifer McKaufsky	9/27
Jeff & Christie Holland	9/18	Kenny & Ann Price	9/28
Willie & Monica Carico	9/19	Vernon & Patsy Franzen	9/30

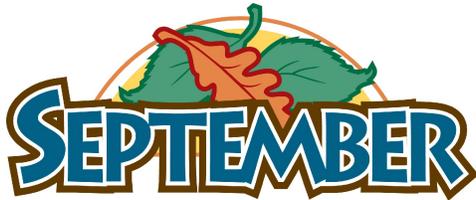
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**TO:**



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

**Nikki Foss**

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**Logan Bushman**

Preschool Director - (217) 893-8773  
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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.**