

AMERICAN LUTHERAN NEWS

JUNE 2025

American Lutheran Church, 500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866
Church Phone: (217) 893-4550 Pastor Aaron's Phone: (618) 200-0352
Website: www.alc-rantoul.org



Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. Over the past couple of months, I have written articles concerning the core values of the NALC. They are Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, and Congregational focused. This month I will write about being grounded in tradition.

To be traditionally grounded does not mean that we force ourselves to adhere to tired practices that no one enjoys or benefits from. It means we maintain the traditional faith of the church. The NALC website states: "We affirm the ecumenical creeds and the faithful witness of the Church across time and space. We endorse the form and practices of the universal Church that are consistent with Scripture, particularly the office of the ministry and the tradition of worship under Word and Sacrament. We seek dialogue and fellowship with other Lutheran churches and with faithful Christians of other confessions."

The ecumenical creeds refer to the Apostles, Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds by which we confess our faith. The NALC uses these creeds as many Christians do because they are a tried-and-true means by which the Christian faith can be understood.

With regards to the office of ministry, The NALC requires regular ministers of Word and Sacrament to be regularly called and ordained. This is to keep good order in the congregation. The NALC has a rigorous vetting process that protects the congregations from abuse or malpractice by under prepared or unqualified ministers.

Finally, the NALC practices traditional Worship. This means our worship service focuses on the proclamation of the Word in the sermon and the liturgy. It also means we administer the sacrament to the people of God for the strengthening and preservation of their faith.

Although occasionally we try new practices and methods, we never change the tried-and-true ways of expressing our faith. For more information on the NALC core values or our Lutheran Traditions, please reach out to me or visit thenalc.org.

In Christ,
Pastor Aaron

ANNOUNCEMENTS



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY There will be a clean-up day on Monday, June 2nd, at 5:00 p.m. to start cleaning up the youth room upstairs. This is for all youth that will be in high school in the fall.

VBS 2025-SUPER SQUAD: POWERED BY GOD! will be held on Monday, June 9th - Friday, June 13th, from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Sign-up sheet is enclosed.



ROOTED SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY for college students and young adults is being held on Sunday mornings following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service each week and is being taught by Pastor Aaron. They meet in the first Sunday School room outside of the Chapel. Please come and be rooted in the word.

USHERS



LOOKING AHEAD Beginning Sunday, July 6th, the ushers will be handing out the bulletins to the congregation. The ushers will be at the two side doors and the main entrance to the Sanctuary. This change is permanent. Any questions, please call Shirley Friemel at 217-766-4111.

BUSY BAGS are located on a stand in the Narthex. These bags are for the children of the congregation to help keep them occupied during the church service. The bags have been recently updated with new items. Please return them to the stand after the service.



SOUND BOOTH HELP NEEDED We are still needing additional people to help in the Sound Booth. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Neal White (217-840-4471) or the church office (217-893-4550).

SHEETS NEEDED The Quilting group is still in need of flat cotton sheets. These are used for liners in the quilts. Donations may be brought to the church office. Thank you in advance for any donation.



FROM:

Susan Millsap...Thank you for all the prayers, cards and texts during my recovery. I am truly blessed to have this church family.

Loretta Elliott Family & Fruhling Families...Our appreciation to Pastor Aaron, our families, and our friends for all the prayers, support and love that was given to us while Gene was in the hospital 28 days. Thank you also to everyone that came to the visitation and funeral. We would also like to thank the ladies for the meal you provided for us. God Bless you all!

SPECIAL THANK YOU: The church would like to thank Ricky Wolken and Drew Uken for opening the safe, protecting the contents of the church history and disposing of the "old locked" safe.

2025 CONFIRMANDS

AUBRIE BROOKLYNNE ALBERS Ephesians 6:13

KYNDALL NICOLE COX Psalm 34:18

JACK TRAVIS FLESNER Jeremiah 29:11

LIAM CARL KAISER Jeremiah 29:11-14

CARSON MATTHEW MCCLAIN James 1:2-3

CONNOR DALE SUITS Galatians 6:9

LOGAN DALE SUITS. Philippians 4:13



8TH GRADE

Aubrie Albers

Daughter of Brad & Stacey Albers
Fisher Jr. High School

Kyndall Cox

Daughter of Devin & Jessie Cox
Classical Conversations

Jack Flesner

Son of Travis & Nikky Flesner
St. Malachy School

Liam Kaiser

Son of Justin Kaiser and Falonn Maier
Mahomet-Seymour Jr. High School

Carson McClain

Son of Matt McClain and Julie Hammack
St. Malachy School

Connor Suits

Son of Greg & Tanna Suits
St. Malachy School

Logan Suits

Son of Greg & Tanna Suits
St. Malachy School

HIGH SCHOOL

Emily Holland

Daughter of Jeff & Christie Holland
Fisher High School

Maddy Graves

Daughter of Kelly Graves and Tom Graves
Fisher High School

Andrew Peck

Son of Jeff & Nicole Peck
Grandson of Judy Peck
Rantoul Township High School

Sofia Roelfs

Daughter of Cory & Casey Roelfs and
Stefanie Williams
Mater Dei Catholic High School

(We apologize in advance if some
graduates have been missed.

Only the names of those who reported this
information to the church office are listed.)

GREAT RIVERS MISSION DISTRICT DISASTER RESPONSE WAREHOUSE REPORT MAY 2025

As of May 14th, our inventory of Disaster Response supplies was as follows:

521 Health Kits	477 School Kits	679 Quilts/Blankets	335 Cleaning Buckets
137 Kitchen Kits	2126 Diapers	120 Debris Removal Tools	683 Bibles
1500 Masks	12 Tarps	9 Garbage Cans	

On May 19th, ALC volunteers loaded a 6 x 12 trailer full of various supplies along with \$1,060 worth of Gift Cards which was delivered by Cory Roelfs the next day to Cornerstone Church in Marion, IL, to aid tornado victims in Williamson County.

On May 21st, a 26' box truck arrived from Ohio and 17 ALC volunteers loaded it with the remaining of our supplies to be taken to the National NALC Disaster Warehouse in Caldwell, Ohio, for distribution to other areas in need. Due to numerous Disasters happening throughout the country, our warehouse was one of the few that still had supplies available. In addition, our District Disaster Response contributed \$5,000 to NALC Disaster Response to assist with expenses incurred for equipment and mission team support.

SO, within 3 days, we completely depleted our supply inventory and need to begin re-stocking efforts. Thankfully, "seed has been sown" as we collected 12 Cleaning Buckets and 27 Health Kits from St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Oregon, IL, during the District Retreat May 22nd-23rd in Magnolia, IL.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? Please refer to the NALC Kit List posted on the hallway bulletin boards and included in this newsletter for items needed. Most are easily attainable, easy to assemble and inexpensive to purchase. There will also be group work sessions scheduled in the future where we need volunteers to help with assembling multiple kits. Anyone interested in helping with those or need further information, please contact Terry Doyle (815)-258-8474.

For those wishing to provide financial support, there are options of *Gift Cards* as suggested on the Kit List, *Thrivent Dollars* for those who are members, and *monetary* donations. Checks should be made payable either to the **North American Lutheran Church**, mailed to the national office as indicated on the Kit List instructions OR made payable to **American Lutheran Church**, mailed to 500 Church Dr., Rantoul, IL 61866. In BOTH cases, be sure to write "Disaster Response" in the check memo line.

God has greatly blessed us with this mission of opportunity to help others get through some very difficult times...and those times will keep coming....and by His Grace, so will we.



KIT PACKING LIST

*** REVISED JULY 2024**

IMPORTANT — PLEASE READ FIRST

HOW TO PACK YOUR DISASTER KITS:

- Please send **COMPLETE** kits as outlined here. Incomplete kits must be completed before they can be distributed.
- Pack them, in **STURDY, WELL-TAPED** boxes (not too large).
- Label contents and quantity in **LARGE BLOCK LETTERS** and place labels on at least one end and one side of the box so the contents will be visible regardless of how box is stacked.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box with a label that says:

"A GIFT FROM [name & address of your church or group]"

**We recommend including a small pocket-sized devotional in your completed box.*

Financial donations designated for **NALC Disaster Response***

should be made payable and mailed to:

**North American Lutheran Church
2113 Harwood Road, Suite 309, PMB 409
Bedford, Texas 76021-4703**

***Indicate "NALC Disaster Response" on the
memo line of your check.**

NALC Disaster Warehouse,
16500 Noble Ave., Caldwell, Ohio 43724

*For more information, please email Mary Bates,
disasterresponse@thenalc.org or visit
thenalc.org/nalc-disaster-response/*

Bibles

***(We encourage you to write messages of
hope in the front pages of donated Bibles)***

- new or used (highlighted & underlined text is acceptable)
- child, teen or adult
- Bible stories for children
- Spanish, or any language
- large print
- prayer books

Cleaning Buckets

- 1 five-gallon bucket with lid
- 1 jug bleach (1/2 gal. or smaller)
- 2 large trash bags (Contractor 3 mil)
- 1 roll paper towels
- 2 rags
- Comet or scouring cleanser
- Pine Sol or liquid cleaner
- scrub brush
- gloves, 1 pair each, size L preferred
 - rubber (reusable, i.e. Platex, dishwashing type)
 - leather
 - cotton

Health Care Kit

(Pack in 2-gallon plastic storage bag or tote bag)

- 1 bath towel
- 1 wash cloth (optional)
- 1 shampoo (2 if travel size)
- 1 bar of soap (2 if travel size)
- 1 toothbrush (individually sealed)
- 1 pack of floss (optional)
- 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size)
- 1 comb
- 1 deodorant
- 1 nail clippers (optional)

School Kit – Elementary

- 1 backpack or duffle bag
- 4 notebooks
- 4 pocket folders
- 1 blunt scissors
- 1 ruler
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 4 pencils
- 2 pens
- 1 eraser
- 1 box of crayons, colored pencils, or markers

School Kit – High School

- o 1 backpack or duffle bag
- o 4 notebooks
- o 4 pocket folders
- o 4 pencils, 1 pencil sharpener & 1 eraser
- or- 4 mechanical pencils
- o 4 pens

Miscellaneous Items***(Pack like items together)***

- o Masks (bundle/pack each type separately)
 - painting
 - sanding
 - N95
- o disposable diapers, baby or adult in assorted sizes
- o feminine hygiene items
- o any school supply item can be donated in bulk.
- o mops, brooms & dustpans
- o leaf and garden rakes, flat bottom shovels, spades

Kitchen Kits***(Pack kits in a 2-gallon plastic storage bag or drawstring backpack)***

- o can opener
- o cookbook
- o dish cloths
- o dish towel
- o hot pad
- o spatula (turner)
- o measuring cups
- o measuring spoons
- o another helpful kitchen item of your choice (i.e., mini cutting board, peeler, tongs, etc.)
- o storage container (2-cup w/lid)
- o garbage bags (a few, mixed sizes)

Quilts and Blankets

- o any size including baby
- o any fabric including religious, patriotic/military theme, seasonal

Gift Cards*****Please write the date purchased on each card***

- o Home Depot
- o Lowes
- o Walmart

NALC Disaster Response
Needs YOUR Help!



"Serve one another humbly in love"
GALATIANS 5:13b

RED PARAMENTS FOR THE DAYS OF REFORMATION AND PENTECOST

Reformation Day (Panel One)

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:1-5, Revised Standard Version)

One of the hallmarks of the beginning of the Reformation was that the people were given access to the Scriptures to read and study for themselves. The Reformation opened the door for common people to have access to God's truth. Martin Luther nailed his 99 thesis to a door at Wittenberg. Jesus Christ is the light of the world, he is the Word of God. Thus, we placed the open Bible on the cross. We also chose to include the circle representing the world as we are commanded by Jesus to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20a, Revised Standard Version).

The Day of Pentecost (Panel Two)

"And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit..." (Acts 2:2-4a, Revised Standard Version)

The people of God received the Holy Spirit. The white dove represents the Holy Spirit descending upon them. They were seen with tongues as of fire resting on their heads. The flames are waving, blown by the breath of the Holy Spirit. The flames extend back into the first panel because it is the Holy Spirit that connects the entire body of Christ to one another. The people represented have different faces and different appearance because every tribe and every nation has opportunity to receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit comes to us through the open door of our hearts as we receive him through our Baptism and as we continue to walk in the paths he has set before us.

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

APRIL 15, 2025



2025 Council

President...*J.R. Sipes*
Vice President...*Mitch Suits*
Secretary...*Terry Doyle*

Shirley Friemel-
Ushers/Worship Stewards;
Linda Kirk-HR;
Ann Price-Sunday School;
Joyce Holland-
Youth/Confirmation;
Ron Howe-Worship/Music;
Lois Sjoken-Grounds;
Justin Kaiser-Building;
Midge Seim-Preschool;
Deanne Rosenbeck-
Chairman/Outreach.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by opening prayer by Pastor Aaron. No guest requests or public comments.

Pastoral Acts

Pastor Aaron presided over a funeral for a non-member.

Ministry Reports

- a. Worship & Music - Included; discussion on needed child care during services. A motion to hire Kristin Dawson for Choir Director in accordance with the submitted proposal and job description was made and carried.
- b. Ushers & Stewards - Meeting is scheduled for May 8th to meet with Pastor and the roster of volunteers to review protocols.
- c. Youth - Included; discussion on the Child Protection Policy. Motion made and carried to accept the NALC Guidelines as policy.
- d. Pre-School – Included.
- e. Building - Parsonage, Pre-School entry door &

Handicap buttons have been addressed

- f. Benevolence Report - Included; Communication with Maddy Benson, NALC Director of Development as a valuable resource to help with benevolence options and NALS.
- g. Disaster Relief - A large supply delivery was received from the Wisconsin Mission District, a workday was scheduled with 156 kits assembled, attempts were made to connect with southern Illinois agencies regarding flood damaged areas.

Old Business

- a. Stage Removal - Has been disconnected but not yet removed.
- b. Painting in Youth Hall - Painters will complete after removal of stage.
- c. Flooring Inspector - Numerous calls have been placed with Flooring Surfaces but no response has been received to date regarding issues with the new flooring.

New Business

- a. Janitor Hiring of "Illini Cleaning" - They are scheduled to clean Mondays & Thursdays. Contact J.R. Sipes for any issues that need to be addressed.
- b. Amendment to the Constitution/Audit Process - Regarding Art. 10.16, discussion was made on deleting the requirement to use a 3rd party every three years for auditing purposes. A checks-and-balance system is already in place for internal audits. Exact wording for a proposal from Council is needed to present to the Congregation.

- c. ALC Anniversary Celebration - In 5 years the ALC Congregation will be 100 years old, and discussion was made on setting goals and fund-raising options.
- d. Paul Wolter's Retirement Reception - Scheduled for May 4th, held immediately after the church service. Sondra Sipes and DeAnn McMorris are coordinating the event.
- e. Memorial Committee Expenditure - As per submitted recommendation, a motion was made and carried to allow the Memorial Committee to send \$6,000 of excess funds to the NALC Youth Development Fund.

Pastor's Report

Included. The NALC National Convocation is August 6th-8th in Pittsburgh, PA. Three ALC delegates are needed to attend. The GRMD Retreat is May 22nd-23rd at Sacre Couer Retreat Center in Magnolia, IL. The GRMD Annual Convocation is scheduled for October 2025 and ALC has been encouraged to host it this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



BENEVOLENCE RECIPIENTS

Do you know who the benevolence recipients are for ALC? Would you like to learn more about them? Over the next few months, we will be featuring them so you will know who they are!

Our first benevolence recipient is the Fisher Area Food Pantry. They were established in February 1998, 27 years in existence. It serves four townships, East Bend, Brown, Condit and Newcomb. It is located in the Fisher Community Building. They have served as many as 20 individuals a month and as few as 5. Since the trailer park has been dismantled in Fisher, they average 8 a month currently. A meal is offered to anyone who wants one each Thanksgiving and Christmas. Each meal includes a turkey or ham, boxed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, 2 cans of vegetables, stuffing mix, rolls and a pie. Another feature of the food pantry includes collecting coats, hats and gloves. Anyone in need of them is welcome to take them.

The food pantry is open on the third Saturday of each month from 9-12 in the Fisher Community Building. There are 4 individuals who are available to serve them if they need food at any other time during the month with a call to set up an appointment. During food drives, there are 4-6 ladies who volunteer to come in and mark each item with the best used by date and shelve the food.

GIFT OF GOD

April 28, 2025 - Owen Bruce Sjoken

9 lbs. 12 oz. 22½ in.

Son of Tim & Brooke Sjoken

Grandson of Gary & Lois Sjoken

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);
Levi Loschen (grandson/Luella Loschen);
Ryan Falletti; Riley Falletti; Eli Baker
(grandson/Gary & Lois Sjoken).

SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:

...Karen Flessner & family
for the loss of her nephew,
Robert Hayn, and for the
loss of her sister-in-law,
Joane Wilson, on May 3rd.

...Loretta Elliott & family for
the loss of her husband,
Gene, on May 15th.

...Patsy Franzen & family for the loss of her
husband, Vern, on May 28th.



PRAYER *list*

Sue Coffin; Janet Kreaweki (sister/Peggy Schmidt); Brian Dietz; Karen Flessner; Roberta Arthur; Steve Schluter; Eugene Schmidt (brother/Dave & Peggy Schmidt); Kim Wyre; Tracie Sisneros (sister/Sean O'Donnell); Glenn Behnke; John Keith; Pen Pendleton; Denny Doyle; Pastor Barb Busboom; Rodney Larkin (husband/Kaylee (Sleigh) Larkin); Rich Friemel; Geraldine Gorecki (sister/Joyce Williamson); Lee Briggs (friend/Reggie & Mary Peters); Carla Adkins (friend/Joyce Williamson); Jessica Hawn (daughter/Rob & Kim Wyre); Earl Smith; Gabbi Reynolds (friend/Tome's); Ben Moser; William Benton (father/Phillip Benton); Steve Ritchie (friend/J.R. & Sondra Sipes); Sharon Loeh (friend/Paul & Linda Keith); Mary Mallicoat (mother-in-law/Earl Smith); Nick Shepherd (brother/Rhonda Keith); Joyce Keith; Bob & Jenny Hobby (cousins/Keith Family); Merrill Wattjes; Michael Markarian (brother/Joyce Williamson); Joan Percival; Joyce Williamson.

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Bridle Brook: Keith Dohleman. Country Health: Annette Carlson. Goldwater Care (Gibson City): Ruth Lutz. Holly Brook (Rantoul): Genet Dixon; Luella Loschen; Joan Mathis. Piatt Co. Nursing Home (Monticello): Rita Buenting. Prairieview Lutheran Home (Danforth): Dave & Loretta Overholt.



Linda Little	6/1	Merrill Wattjes	6/7	Phillip Benton	6/19
Ben Moser	6/1	Gene Heap	6/8	Linda Kirk	6/19
Mackenzie Tome	6/1	David Hulse	6/9	Joel Pilarski	6/19
Clarke Albers	6/2	Kim Wyre	6/10	Barb Corbly	6/20
Kay Cain	6/2	Tangela Brooks	6/11	Judy Peck	6/20
Renae Hinrichs	6/2	Brian Dietz	6/13	Jennifer Luna	6/21
Bill Schlueter	6/2	Charly Hein	6/16	Cathy Albers	6/23
Brian Loschen	6/3	June Willms	6/16	John Borchers	6/23
Samantha Schroeder	6/3	Rich Bartell	6/17	Sam White	6/25
Anita Pilarski	6/4	Glenn Behnke	6/17	Olivia Todd	6/26
Kathy Stalter	6/5	Leah Graves	6/17	Richard Friemel	6/27
Chuck Cain	6/6	Synda Miller	6/17	Marcie Rodgers	6/27
Donna Nigg	6/6	Briana Lehmann	6/18	Millie Roseman	6/27
Davis Albers	6/7	Ashley Razor	6/18	Kenny Price	6/29



Ben & Briana Lehmann	6/3	J.R. & Sondra Sipes	6/16
Terry & Denise Madden	6/7	Steve & Connie Early	6/19
Cory & Casey Roelfs	6/8	Dale & Debbie Sleigh	6/20
Andrew & Allison Schluter	6/10	Bobby & Debora Loveless	6/23
Rich & Kathy Bartell	6/11	Bob & Lorraine McElwain	6/23
Pr. Jim & Beverly Lehmann	6/11	Dennis & Anne Long	6/25
Mike & Nancy Little	6/13	Lawrence & Ellen Roessler	6/27
Stan & Martha Stanfill	6/13	Glenn & Susan Behnke	6/30
Leon & Cheryl Freese	6/16	Scott & Tina James	6/30
Joseph & Patricia Jones	6/16		

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)

Pastor Aaron Dawson
Senior Pastor
rev.daws25@gmail.com

Nikki Foss
Office Manager
amluthoffice@gmail.com

Miri Grose
Preschool Director - (217) 893-8773
preschoolatalc@gmail.com

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

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

JUNE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE

	Worship Stewards	Offering Communion	Table Guild	Greeters	Bulletin Greeters	Lectors	Prayers	Acolytes
6/1/25	Midge Seim	Travis, Nikky, & Jack Flesner	Sheila Sherman Emily Deal	David Hulse Donna Hustedt	Tina & Joshua James	Sally Bauer	Aubrie Albers	Liam Kaiser Connor Suits
6/8/25	Richard Peavler	Marleen Peavler John & Rhonda Keith		Judy Peck Sondra Sipes	Nikky & Jack Flesner	Kyndall Cox	Monica Carico	Liam Hall Peyton Cox
6/15/25	Lloyd Schluter	Emily Holland Leon & Cheryl Freese		Jack & Brenda Spitz	Shirley Barnes Emily Deal	DeAnn McMorris	Pam Cheek	Logan Suits Carson McClain
6/22/25	Ron Howe	Donna Hustedt David Hulse Wendy Watkins		Sheila Sherman DeAnn McMorris	Emily Deal Joan Cleary	Lorraine McElwain	Terry Doyle	Jack Flesner Aubrie Albers
6/29/25	Sheila Sherman	Shirley Friemel Bill Schlueter Aubrie Albers		Joshua James Liam Kaiser	Geri Remmers Phyllis Hafermann	Midge Seim	Justin Kaiser	Kali Schluter Owen Schluter

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