

AMERICAN LUTHERAN NEWS

AUGUST 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.

Kristin and I were blessed to be asked to serve as Liturgist and musician for the NALC's first ever youth leadership camp. The event was called Building Youth Leaders who are Disciples (BYLD for short). This event is designed for youth who are seeking deeper discipleship or discerning a call to ministry. This event was significant for our congregation for two reasons. First, We took Aubrie Albers and Andrew Peck as participants. Aubrie was able to make new friends and explore deeper discipleship. Andrew spent the week with other pastors and decided to answer the call to the Holy Office of Word and Sacrament Ministry. Both of these young people will be exploring ways they can serve God in our congregation. Second, our memorial committee graciously contributed funds to the NALC Youth and Family Ministries. These funds were used to help fund BYLD. This helped to provide each student with books and materials, pay travel expenses for volunteers, and cover other expenses. At the end of the week we polled our 18 participants and found that 10 of them (including Andrew) are actively discerning a call to ministry. Once again, ALC has directly contributed to the formation of Pastors.

BYLD will happen on odd numbered years. The Continental Youth Gathering (CYG) is a larger event which will happen in even numbered years. Please keep these youth in your prayers as they grow in faith and calling. As I always say, our youth are not the future of the church, they are as much the church as you and I. If you are curious about the NALC, it's mission, and work, I invite you to visit thenalc.org.

Yours in Christ,



ANNOUNCEMENTS



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, August 10th, immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service concerning the payoff of the mortgage on the new addition. Letters have been mailed to all eligible voting members.

NALC CONVOCAATION is being held August 6th- 8th in Pittsburgh, PA. Our ALC delegates are Neal & Sally Bauer and Deanne Rosenbeck.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY for college students and young adults continues to be held on Sunday mornings following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service each week. They meet in the first Sunday School room outside of the Chapel. (Please note: They will NOT meet on Sunday, August 3rd, due to Pastor leaving immediately after church for the NALC Convocation.)

NO BIBLE STUDY There will be NO Thursday Morning Bible Study on August 7th, due to Pastor Aaron attending the NALC Convocation. They will start the Revelation study on Thursday, August 14th.



LOOKING AHEAD There will be a Re-Dedication Service for the Sunday School Wing held on Wednesday, September 3rd, at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. This will be a full communion service.

ATTENTION USHERS When you are ushering on a Sunday morning, please check in with the worship steward on duty when you arrive at church. This ensures that the worship steward knows you have arrived and can assign you the area you are to cover.

LEMONADE STAND The ALC Summer Camp kids lemonade stand will be held each Friday afternoon through August 8th from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Proceeds are going to the Kids Foundation.

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.



SHEETS NEEDED The Quilting group is still accepting donations of flat cotton sheets. These are used for liners in the quilts. Donations may be brought to the church office.

WOMEN'S FALL BIBLE STUDY

Join us for Jennifer Rothschild's 7-session Bible Study titled Psalm 23. If you want to:

- Gain fresh insight and encouragement from Psalm 23
- Explore the depths of God's compassionate care
- Trade the myth of self-reliance for the truth of God's providence
- Banish fear as you trust the Shepherd's goodness in every season of life.



The class will start on Wednesday, September 17th, at 1:00 p.m. in the Confirmation Room. Please contact the office or Deanne Rosenbeck at 217-621-8816 (text or call) by August 29th to get your workbook ordered. The price for your book will be \$22.00.



AUGUST - ALC PRESCHOOL NEWS

The Preschool has hired a director. Her name is Jessica Bensyl. She started training on Tuesday, July 22, 2025. If you have time stop by and say hello.

The month of July was a busy one with 20 prekindergarten and school-age children enrolled.

We are looking forward to a fun filled closing on Thursday, August 14th at 1:00p.m. An OPEN HOUSE is scheduled for August 22, 2025, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. for those already enrolled and those that would like to enroll.

Mackenzie Tome has been our assistant director and School age teacher this summer. She will be returning to college for her last year. We are looking forward to her return next Summer. She has been an asset to the program.

We are taking applications now for the Fall program. Call the preschool office at 217-893-8773 for more information.

“This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it” Psalm 118:24

THE SEASON OF PENTECOST PARAMENTS



The season of Pentecost paraments have been raised in our main sanctuary. Their purpose is to enhance our worship of our God and Giver of Life and to direct our thoughts toward living lives which bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit who came to us and dwells within us.

The paraments are primarily green in color since they are for the season of Pentecost, normal time in the Church calendar, and one reflecting growth in nature and spirit. This is a season in which we should be intentional toward our growth in faith and discipleship. Tradition calls for an emphasis on missions during the season of Pentecost.

One of the goals in the pattern of the banners was to represent the fruits of the Spirit, but it is hard to capture love, joy, peace, and gentleness in a visual and tangible form. Our prayer is that the flames of fire representing the Holy Spirit who came to humanity on day of Pentecost, the blue waters of baptism, and the dove descending help capture some of the events that bring the fruit of the Holy Spirit to our lives and testimonies.

Reading the story from the left panel, Jesus the Christ, the bread of life, and our Midwestern roots are represented by the wheat stalks. The flames of fire are descending upon the people of God. In panel two the fellowship of believers is represented by the circles. The squares below them are blank, showing the emptiness within our hearts and lives when we don't know Jesus. The cross is also represented in this panel and continues over to the third panel. The empty spaces in our lives are becoming filled with the Holy Spirit as we come to the cross. We continue to be refined by the flames of the Holy Spirit. In the fourth panel, we see the dove descending to us, the circle of God's completeness; eternity, the symbol of eternal victory over death by and through Christ. The purple colors in the third and fourth panel reflect Jesus Christ's royalty as He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He has ascended to the right hand of the Father. We, too, rise in newness of life from the waters of baptism and through the baptism of fire. We, the adopted children of the living God, have received the gift of living water from and through Jesus, our Lord. This is represented throughout the four banners with the flowing waters dancing - portraying the abundant life found in Christ and our joy when walking with God.

The pulpit and lectern hangings and the stoles reflect the same themes. The Luther Roses with the green Pentecost background, which are located on the candlestick bases of the altar, reflect our Lutheran heritage. The Luther Rose tells a story of its own which can be found in other reference material.

The parament committee hopes that your reflection upon the themes represented in the banners will enhance your worship experience and bring you ever closer to our Savior, Jesus the Christ.



CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS



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.

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

JUNE 17, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Report – Submitted. The only large outstanding expenses due are for Picture Perfect (new screen system) and Flooring Surfaces (north end flooring balance).

Ministry Reports

- a. Ushers & Stewards - Discussion regarding the Ushers now being assigned to distribute the Bulletins on Sunday, thereby eliminating the separate scheduling of Bulletin Greeters.
- b. Youth - VBS was a success and drew an exceptionally good attendance, especially for the dinner finale; 8 youth helped clean the upstairs Youth Hall.
- c. Pre-School – Included. Looking for a stackable washer/dryer combo.
- d. Building - Picture Perfect installation is completed with exception of some tweaking and minor wiring issues; proper drainage for the parsonage still needs addressing.

Disaster Response - Restocking warehouse work-in-progress.

ALC Foundation Committee - Had discussion on liability coverage for the farm ground and question/answer session with Seminarian Ryan Sage.

Old Business

- a. Flooring in North End & Youth Hall - Flooring Surfaces has agreed to replace all the vinyl plank with commercial grade carpet tile at no additional cost to ALC. Start date TBD.
- b. Amendment to the Constitution/Audit Process - Work in progress.
- c. 100 Year ALC Anniversary Celebration - Work in progress. Committee including Jack Spitz, Connor Schmidt, Pastor Aaron.
- d. Parament Storage Cabinet Relocation - Needing a suitable place on main level, in close proximity to the Sanctuary.
- e. Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Co. proposal previously presented by Gearhart Church Insurance Group - Council voted to accept and become effective July 1st.
- f. GRMD Convocation - ALC will host the event October 11th, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; ALC is responsible for providing a lunch which volunteers will be needed for. NALC representative Maddy Benson will be the guest speaker and also for our Mission Sunday the following day.
- g. Door Checks - Need to review Council list and determine a timeframe for checking.

New Business – None.

Pastor's Report

Included. Funerals: Gene Elliott 5/20 Vernon Franzen 6/3

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



BENEVOLENCE RECIPIENTS

ChildVoice International is one of our Benevolence recipients for this calendar year. The generous donations from American Lutheran Church help make their life-changing work possible through their Girl Empowerment Centers. It serves young, displaced Nigerian girls in northern Nigerian IDP camps, and South Sudanese girls living in Imvepi Refugee Settlement in northern Uganda. It also helps to continue to provide Uganda and South Sudanese girls (and their children) comprehensive social, therapeutic, and vocational training services at the Lukome Center in northern Uganda. As we walk alongside ChildVoice, we help support the lives of vulnerable, wartraumatized girls.

SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:

...the family of Ruth Lutz who passed away on July 6th.

...the family of Rita Buening who passed away on July 20th.



PRAYERS TO THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

PRAY FOR OUR Jon Stiebner (son/Synda
 Miller); Alex Short; Brandon
MILITARY 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).



Ray Hoff (stepfather-in-law/Allison Moser); Daniel Rodriguez (father/Allison Moser); David James (father/Scott James); Kim Wyre; Annette Carlson; Marlys Morris; Wilma Suits (sister/Sue Coffin); Janet Kreaweki (sister/Peggy Schmidt); Brian Dietz; Karen Flessner; Roberta Arthur; Steve Schluter; Eugene Schmidt (brother/Dave & Peggy Schmidt); 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 Lohen (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. Holly Brook (Rantoul): Genet Dixon; Luella Loschen; Joan Mathis. Prairieview Lutheran Home (Danforth): Dave & Loretta Overholt.



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



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	Pr. Aaron & Kristin Dawson	8/29
Reggie & Mary Peters	8/18	John & Joyce Borchers	8/30

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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

Jessica Bensyl - Preschool Director

Mackenzie Tome - Assistant

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.**

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE

	Worship Stewards	Ushers*	Table Guild	Greeters	Lectors	Prayers	Acolytes
8/3/25	DeAnn McMorris	David Hulse Donna Hustedt Wendy Watkins	Midge Seim Terri Kirby	Justin & Liam Kaiser	Monica Carico	Sally Bauer	Peyton Cox Aubrie Albers
8/10/25	Midge Seim	Jack & Brenda Spitz Marvin Ideus		Jackie Roelfs Marcie Rodgers	Pam Cheek	Terry Doyle	Kali Schluter Ivie Albers
8/17/25	Ron Howe	Shirley Friemel Emily Deal John Lux		Emily Deal Connie Early	Kyndall Cox	DeAnn McMorris	Liam Kaiser Liam Hall
8/24/25	Lloyd Schluter	Jim & Pam Cheek Tom Edwards		Chrissie Hall Janie Howe	Lorraine McElwain	Deanne Rosenbeck	Jack Flesner Logan Suits
8/31/25	Richard Peavler	Aubrie Albers Bill Schlueter Sheila Sherman		DeAnn McMorris Andrew Peck	Justin Kaiser	Midge Seim	Connor Suits Carson McClain

***Ushers: Please be at the church by 8:30 a.m. to pass out bulletins.**