



*American Lutheran Church*

*May 2024*

1512 Avenue G    Gothzemburg, NC 69138    308-537-3433    office@aleg.org

# WORD OF LIFE

*Sunday Lessons in May for your devotions*

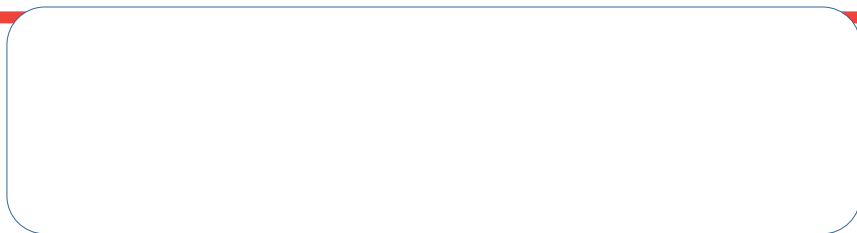


**May 5**  
*Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
**Acts 10:44-48**  
**Psalm 98**  
**1 John 5:1-6**  
**John 15:9-17**

**May 12**  
*Seventh Sunday of Easter*  
**Acts 1:15-17,21-26**  
**Psalm 1**  
**1 John 5:9-13**  
**John 17:6-19**

**May 19**  
*Day of Pentecost*  
**Acts 2:1-21**  
**Psalm 104:24-34, 35b**  
**Romans 8:22-27**  
**John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15**

**May 26**  
*The Holy Trinity*  
**Isaiah 6:1-8**  
**Psalm 29**  
**Romans 8:12-17**  
**John 3:1-17**





**Congregational  
Council**

Congregation Council  
meeting summary

April 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Present: **Pastor** Doug Hjelmstad, **President** – Kara Kreis, **Vice President** – Amanda Rossell, **Treasurer** - Madison Jones, **Secretary** – Connie L. Dalrymple, **Youth and Family** - Stacy Anderson, **Property** - Glenn Finke, **Music & Worship** – Ernie Blecha, **Evangelism** – Lori Johnson - Berke

President Kreis opened the meeting and Ernie offered devotions on the 1873 backstory of the hymn *It Is Well With My Soul*, the truth of a family's faith rising above tragedies and sorrows. There were no congregational comments or discussion.

**Minutes** – March minutes were approved as presented.

**Treasurer's Report** – Receipts exceeded expenses for a positive balance at month end. Report was approved as presented.

**Pastor's Report:** He was very pleased with the mid-week, holy week, and Easter services.

He made five home visits, including one home communion and offered communion at Stone Hearth on March 25 and April 8.

New members being received soon include Mary Bell, Tom Gosinski, the Erb family, and Kennedy Tucker. Kristine Dalrymple will be received by transfer.

He will preside at Marla Weber's funeral at Zion Lutheran on April 20, attend the Guided Retreat at St. Benedict Center in Schuyler April 21 – 28. Baccalaureate Service for the Class of 2024 will be May 1 at the Sun Theater and ALC Senior

Recognition will be May 19.

We will host a guest speaker on August 25 to speak on the *Food for the Poor* program.

**Evangelism:** They've agreed to change the committee's name to 'Outreach and Hospitality', feeling it's more representative of their mission. They will distribute popsicles at the elementary track meet and possibly sponsor a movie in the summer. They will also contact new folks in town, have prepared new folders for home communion servers and added households to the list.

**Youth & Family:** Twelve students will be recognized on Senior Sunday, May 19. Brunch will be served after worship that day. Preparations continue for the National Youth Gathering but they've not heard from the Foundation as to what they will contribute to the cost. Usually they pay for the sponsors, which this year are Cressy Rossell, Lonna Grabenstein who is bringing the Eustis group, and Cathy Sabin who will go with her family.

**Music & Worship:** New members Nancy Jobman and Steve Berke were welcomed to the committee.

Discussion was had on the Lent and Easter services / meals and possible improvements for next year. Thanks to United Methodist for inviting us to their Good Friday service and to Colbie Brown for singing. The brass and woodwinds were also a wonderful addition to Easter worship.

Thanks also to Carol Wahlgren, Coleen Clark, and Charlie and Connie Bihlmaier for repairing and organizing the choir robes.

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*Continued from page 2*

A pipe on the organ is collapsing and will need to be replaced. A matching white parament for the pulpit costs \$550. Amanda will check on available memorial funds.

Chuck Titkemeier's memorial service will be June 29 at 11:00 a.m.

**Property:** There is a summer mowing sign-up sheet on the welcome stand and there's already been some volunteers.

Glenn has established an account at the new ACE Hardware store.

The City will repair, at no cost, the sidewalk in the back when they're working on sidewalks this summer.

Bids have been received From CMH Interiors and 5-Star Flooring for the youth room and hallway project. CMH was \$500 less for the youth room at \$5500 and Tom Gosinski will provide the paint. Glenn also received information from Mission Investment Funds regarding loans on projects in excess of \$100,000. This could be used to replace whatever we wanted, such as HVAC, windows in the educational wing, etc. Following discussion, Council was not interested in taking on debt at this time. Amanda moved and Ernie seconded to move forward with the renovation of the youth room into a space to be used as bereavement, bridal, and a meeting area for such as Parent / Child Center. All present voted "Yea" and the motion carried.

Amanda moved to approve the \$5500 bid from CMH Interiors for materials and labor for new flooring in the youth room. Glenn seconded the motion and all present voted "Yea". The motion carried. Kara will contact Kelly Schmeackle about using Arlene Peterson's memorial donations for this project. She will also contact Tom to proceed with the ceiling. Ernie talked with Lori Kitzing regarding items stored in the west room by the youth room. She is okay with moving those items elsewhere but would rather not have them upstairs.

Franzen's are still waiting on the new lighting equipment for the sanctuary.

**Discussion items:**

- Discussed putting a security camera in the office but we need to complete updating the system before that can be done.
- Discussed having contracts for outside groups to use the building.
  - Pastor reported new (acolyte) candle lighters will cost \$125 - \$135 each. Further discussion will be had in May.

Since Ken Christensen's term is up, Glenn moved, Lori seconded, to remove Ken Christiansen from the Foundation account at Dayspring Bank and add Brooke Stevens. All present voted "Yea" and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Parish Ed will serve coffee in May and Connie will have devotions.

Connie L. Dalrymple, Secretary



Women of American Lutheran Church,

As women of ALC, we wear many hats to serve our church community. Often times you may be contacted to prepare, serve, or provide church meals; work in the kitchen; clean or organize church facilities, and so much more. While your gift of time is priceless, we also are in need of financial support to perform these many behind-the-scenes tasks. We ask annually that each woman of our congregation donate \$10 to support those duties. Please place your donation in the offering basket with the Women of ALC designated on the envelope at your earliest convenience, or you may give your donation to any of the WELCA board members or drop it by the church office.

Thank you for your support!

**Join us Sunday, May 19th to celebrate our graduating seniors!** We will be having a congregational brunch following the regular 10 a.m. service. Our seniors are: Sophia Aden, Braeden Anderson, Lexi Johnson, Kooper Koehn, Ty Kreis, Hayden Ricely, Ashlyn Richeson, Hayden Russman, Trey Stevens, Addisyn Streeter and Katelyn Weidman.



### Prayer Requests

**Remember in Prayer: Members:** Bonnie Block, Elsie Cyriacks, Jim Gonzalez, Judy Hicken, Molly Magana, Dennis McCain, Lavonne Werkmeister; **Family & Friends of Members:** Kristy Connelly, Lennix Dacy, Keith Fickenscher, Chad Fuller, Shelly Goldfish, Mairik Holbein, Darlene Ostendorf Underwood, Jolene Parsons (Judy Hicken's sister), Travis Pieper, Gene Reinke, Jamie Reiter, Tipp Ronnekamp, Shirley Stombaugh, Kathy Stull, Boone Tederman; **Service Members:** Colton Bebensee, Johanna Keiser, William Mannel, Brandon Reinke, Chad Schmiett.

*If you or a family member are ill or in the hospital, let us know so Pastor Doug can visit you and include you in our prayers or if a family member is on the prayer list and you feel that they no longer need to be included in them, please call the office at 537-3433.*



“Many hands make light work.” And the middle schoolers and their parents did! They got together the Saturday before Easter and prepared food and tables for Easter breakfast in record time. The offering collected at Easter breakfast went toward the youth. Special thanks to Stacy Anderson for coordinating their efforts.





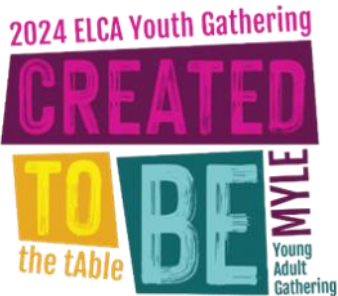


*The Parish Education committee held an Easter Egg Hunt in between the Easter services. The children collected eggs filled with toys and candy.*

### Special Offering for May is L2 for Kids

L2 stands for Lazarus who was given a second chance. Like Lazarus, children have a second chance with new school clothes for the first day of school.

**With the help of local churches, counselors, and school personnel, applications will be given to parents of children needing school clothes. Based on a family's application of need received by L2 for Kids, Inc., each child in grades K-12 will be offered a one-time shopping trip purchase new school clothes. The program's aim is to increase a child's self-esteem and sense of well-being.**



**We are now just under 3 months out from attending the**

**National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.** It is going to be an amazing trip and we are so excited we get to do this trip with the kids. We have been busy, behind the scenes, booking hotels, booking flights, planning tours and everything in between to ensure this trip is the best we can make it. We

have a few more meetings with our entire group as there is a lot of important information that we all need to learn before we leave.

The trip has ended up costing more than we planned (as does everything else this day and age). The total cost per person is about \$300 more we had originally planned. The kids have worked hard with their fundraising and we have one last fundraiser we will be doing. We have created a "getting to know us/fundraising board". Between now and July we will have someone in the spotlight so everyone can get to know who is going on the trip. For the "fundraising" portion, there is several envelopes that note what the money is used for. If you would like to donate, please just put your money in the envelope of your choosing. We are so thankful for everything already. We have an amazing congregation!!

We will be updating the board in June as we get closer to our trip so be sure to watch for what comes next.

**We can't wait till July!!!**

**The Congregational Council is excited to announce an exciting project in our building! The current youth room is getting a new look!** The new space will be used as a chapel, meeting room for families for funerals, and a room for brides to get ready in. A kitchenette will also be added. The council voted to utilize money from the Arlene Peterson memorial for this remodel.





## *May Birthdays and Anniversaries*

### **Happy Birthday**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Maren McKim<br>Zac Franzen<br>Joe Richeson<br>Will Rahjes                   | 13 Tyler Aden<br>Jon Mapa  |
| 2 Frankie Miller  | 14 Amber McNew   |
| 4 Emma Christensen  | 15 Noel Jacobsen<br>Stone Hite<br>Derek Franzen<br>Ethan Bihlmaier |
| 5 Stephanie Aden  | 16 Jessica Bartlett<br>Avery Streeter                              |
| 7 Kay Kottwitz  | 17 Julie Childers  |
| 8 Bev Titkemeier<br>Rhonda Jobman<br>Alex Franzen<br>Adam Aden<br>Paul Stubbe | 20 Ira Suhr<br>Heather Clement                                     |
| 9 Cliff Brock<br>Matt Keiser<br>Tyler Barkmeier                               | 22 Melissa Bell<br>Larry Franzen<br>Ty Kreis                       |
| 10 Creighton Franzen  | 23 Scott Brown<br>Jamie Steuben                                    |
| 11 Marci Ostergard<br>Jason Keiser<br>Sean Canas<br>Jim Dalrymple             | 24 Maria Andersen<br>Dustin Olson                                  |
| 12 Shelby Finke<br>Dan Jensen<br>Konnor Barnes                                | 25 Ruby Bell<br>Tim Schmeekle<br>Tylyn Haynes                      |

26 Tommy France  
Tonya Steuben

27 Trent Good  
Dave Clark

28 Ashley Barkmeier

29 Blake Brown  
Sonia Richeson

30 Shane Geiken  
Brayden Keiser  
Hadley Ostergard  
Joanna Pritchard  
Alexandria Rodriguez

31 Alexis Brian  
Pam Buddenberg  
Ken Christensen  
Baylor Haake  
Bob Jorgenson  
Katie Kreis

### **Anniversaries**

- 1 Randy & Cindy Garcia**  
**2 Charlie & Connie  
Bihlmaier**  
**8 Darren & Jane Franzen  
Logan & Stephanie  
Ricely**  
**12 Boyd & Carolyn Hicken**  
**14 Craig & Mary Finke  
Dennis & Jeanne McCain**  
**15 Todd & Lisa Geiken  
Brian & Torey Keiser**  
**20 Jim & Rita Porter**  
**21 Bob & Jill Jorgenson**  
**24 Karl & Becky Randecker**  
**28 Mark & Marci Ostergard**  
**29 Randy & Cressy Rossell**





## *Sunday Volunteers*

### **Acolytes**

May 5 - Emma Christensen, Hadley Ostergard  
May 12 - Blake Brown, Alec Wagner  
May 19 - Kash Koehn, Kingston Koehn  
May 26 - Scout Bell, Teegan Stevens  
June 2 - Kya Roth, Natalie Hengen

### **Ushers**

May 5 - Scott & Jackie France  
May 12 - Ken Christensen, Greg Feather  
May 19 - Larry Franzen, Lloyd Hicken  
May 26 - LaMonte Schlake, Kurt Stevens  
June 2 - Jim & Connie Dalrymple

### **Communion Assistants**

May 5 - Will Rahjes, Randy & Cressy Rossell  
May 12 - TJ & Ashleigh Brown, Rick Zarek  
May 19 - Connie Dalrymple, Craig & Mary  
Finke  
May 26 - Bob Jorgenson, Kim Kitzing, Lisa  
Wagner  
June 2 - Macy Finke, Noel & Joni Jacobsen

### **Reader**

May 5 - Jim Long  
May 12 - Linda Rodine  
May 19 - Darla Schlake  
May 26 - Lori Long  
June 2 - Lisa Wagner

### **Welcome Center Host**

May 5 - Connie Dalrymple  
May 12 - Eldon Rodine  
May 19 - Marlene Fiese  
May 26 - Elaine Keiser  
June 2 - Lisa Bihlmaier

### **Sound/Tape**

### **Offering Counters**

May - Eldon & Linda Rodine  
June - Karl & Becky Randecker

### **Communion Bread**

May 5 - Jan Blecha  
May 12 - LaVon Reinke  
May 19 - Lisa Wagner  
May 26 - Carol Keiser  
June 2 - Michele Warner

### **Greeters**

May 5 - Bob & Jill Jorgenson  
May 12 - Dan & Sharise Scherer  
May 19 - Greg & Erin Feather  
May 26 - Larry & Sue Schledewitz  
June 2 - Corey & Keri Roth

Thank you for enjoying the children's table. It will go on break for the summer. We will see you again in the fall.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	<i>May 2024</i>			1 2:30-3:30p JAM	2	3	4
5 9a Property 10a Service of Holy Communion/ Children's Church 11a Linger Longer	6 WIC	7 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	8	9	10	11	
12 10a Service of Holy Communion/ Children's Church 11a Linger Longer	13 1:30p Communion Stone Hearth	14 Pony Express Cluster Text Study 7p Congregational Council	15	16	17	18	
19 10a Service of Holy Communion/ Senior Recognition 11a Congregational Brunch	20	21 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	22	23 9a Quilters	24	25 Porter/Henry Wedding	
26 10a Service of Holy Communion 11a Linger Longer	27 Memorial Day	28 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	29	30	31		