



American Lutheran Church

June 2025

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

WORD OF LIFE

Sunday Lessons in June for your devotions



June 1

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17:20-26

June 8

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-35

Romans 8:14-17

John 14:8-17, 25-27

June 15

The Holy Trinity

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

June 22

Time after Pentecost

Isaiah 65:1-9

Psalm 22:19-28

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

June 29

Time after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

Psalm 16

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Luke 9:51-62





*Congregational
Council*

Congregation Council
meeting summary

May 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm

Present: **Pastor** – Doug
Hjelmstad, **President**- Kara
Kreis, **Treasurer** – Madison
Rosse, **Secretary** – Connie L.

Dalrymple, **Property** - Glen Finke, **Music & Worship** – Ernie Blecha, **Outreach & Hospitality** – Lori Johnson-Berke, **Youth & Family** – Stacy Anderson, **Parish Ed** – Erica Johnson
The meeting was delayed from May 13 due to illness.

Minutes – Glenn asked that the April 8 minutes reflect that the Methodist Church will pay half the cost to replace the posts on the church signs at the four entrances to town, and they will also help with installation.

Treasurer's Report – April ended with a negative balance as receipts were down. Madison talked with the bank and those funds in a savings account were moved to a money market account earning 4.08% interest. The April report was approved as presented.

Pastor's Report: Thank you to Pastor Berke for presiding at worship on the 18th.

- He was pleased with Easter services and Senior Recognition.
- Conducted the memorial service for Gerald Junker at Zion Lutheran and for Blaine Peterson at ALC
- Gretchen Ahrens attended worship and made contact with students going on the service trip to Nashville.
- Helped with Baccalaureate for graduates
- Lisa will be on vacation July 7 – 13.
- Bishop Scott Johnson will be here September 21.

Outreach & Hospitality: The committee discussed the possibility of a multi-generational activity in August at Lafayette Park. It would include a potluck meal and games for all ages. They would like to partner with Parish Ed and Erica agreed.

Property: Spring clean-up at the cemetery went well.

- The mowing list is full and Glenn is mowing in May
- The handicap parking lines have been painted in back. Unfortunately, the space delineating the handicap van parking area is horizontal instead of angled. Glen has talked to the contractor about correcting it, which may include sandblasting and repainting.
- He hopes to delay roof hail repair until late summer to get through the hail season before repairs are made.

Parish Ed: Erica reported Children's Church is finished until fall. They've been averaging 10 children per Sunday.

- Lessons are being prepared for fall using the gospel lessons.

Youth & Family: Youth activities are finished until fall except preparations for the Nashville service trip.

Discussion Items: We continue to have streaming issues and are unsure if it's a WIFI problem or 'dead spots' within the building. Options were discussed and it was decided to begin by asking Lisa to call Oliver's.

- Logan Ricley will provide AED training
- The meeting closed at 8:35 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Stacy will have devotions in June and Music & Worship will serve Linger Longer.

Connie L. Dalrymple, Secretary

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.” —Ephesians 3:20–21—

Beloved in Christ,

This month, we bring our year of “Cultivating Love” to a close. Our Assembly theme for 2025 is “Imagine? Imagine! Imagine...” and I am excited to imagine with you in the months to come.

Paul’s word of praise which serves as our scriptural foundation for this year’s Assembly is both a word of promise and a word of challenge. We are reminded that God’s abundance doesn’t depend on our planning, effort, or resources alone, but neither are we called to wait passively – we have work to do! By the Spirit, we are part of something larger and more surprising than we can imagine on our own – but together, with the Spirit’s guiding, God’s church can faithfully live into its new future together.

Imagine? Yes!

We can be a church that tries new things. What’s possible for your church? Partner with a local full communion partner? YES! Make faith formation the work of the whole church and not one person? YES! Try something new that doesn’t work, but teaches you what might? YES! God is inviting us to experiment and grow. The churches of the Reformation are called to always be re-forming for the sake of the Gospel.

Imagine! WOW!

We are becoming something new; not because everything is settled or secure, but because God is moving among us in ways beyond our imagining. This is the Church That Is Becoming — flexible, relational, Spirit-led, grounded in the love of Christ. This is what brings us together to imagine what may yet be revealed to us, and to give thanks for what has been.

Imagine... A-HA!

Imagine a church that focuses on the good we can do in this moment, with whomever is present to be part of that work... Imagine a church that knows why the love of Jesus makes a difference, and is learning how to share that love in word and in action... Imagine a church that is brave enough to ask tough questions and grace-filled enough to risk bold answers with each other. Imagine a church that treasures our connections with each other, believing that we are truly **one church, better together...**

God is drawing us into all of this and more as we imagine together this year. I look forward to imagining with you, according to that wondrous power that is at work within us. We move forward together with faith and good courage, trusting in the One who is accomplishing immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

In gratitude and hope,
Bishop Scott

Questions to Ponder

- 1 What is life-changing at the heart of your Christian faith and in your church? What difference does Jesus make to you personally, to the life of your church, and to our world?^[1]
- 2 What do you imagine for the future of your church? For your faith? What might your next faithful steps toward that future be?

Prayer

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**^[2]

Special Offering for June is the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

During the month of June we will be collecting funds for the pantry. You can mark special fund on your offering envelopes for monetary donations or you can note on your check that it is for the food pantry.

Patrons of the food pantry receive a box of food and a voucher for items at the grocery store. In 2024, we gave out almost 600 boxes of food and roughly 800 vouchers. Vouchers may be used for anything, but alcohol or tobacco. Many patrons use their voucher to purchase meat or cleaning supplies.



We plan on trying a change to our bulletin for the summer to save paper and ink. The order of service will be the same as always, but we will have an insert along with the announcements that will change every week. The hymns, readings and gospel for the day will be on this insert. We will reuse the outside two pages of the bulletin through the summer. We will be trying the new format starting June 15th. Please remember, that this change is just on a trial basis. We want to be good stewards with your money and for the environment.

Prayer Requests

Remember in Prayer: Members: Gail Block, Elsie Cyriacks, Pam Gage, Jim Gonzales, Lonna Grabenstein, Bob Hicken, Judy Hicken, Tot Holmes, Molly Magana, Dennis McCain, Lavonne Werkmeister;

Family & Friends of Members: Kristy Connelly, Keith Fickenscher, Chad Fuller, Shelly Goldfish, Mairik Holbein, Charlene Morris (Jonie Birnie's sister), Jamie Reiter, Tip Ronnekamp, Shirley Stombaugh, Boone Tederman;

Service Members: Colton Bebensee, Johanna Keiser, Brandon Reinke.

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.

Nondenominational and ALL ARE WELCOME!

**Support Group: for
anyone needing any
type of support!**

**1st and 3rd Monday of
each month
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm**

**Gothenburg First United
Methodist Church
1401 Lake Ave,
Gothenburg, NE 69138**

**Grief Support
Group**

**1st and 3rd Tuesday of
each month
9:00 am - 10:00 am**

**Gothenburg First United
Methodist Church
1401 Lake Ave,
Gothenburg, NE 69138**

Led by Bailey Dahlgren:

Clinical Mental Health Graduate Student

Questions? Call or Text: 308-856-9804

The support group meeting on Monday evenings is now a general emotional/mental health support group! When I say that anyone is welcome I truly mean it, and you don't have to belong to the Methodist church to attend these groups. Remember, it's okay to reach out for help! ❤️

Happy Birthday

- 2 Nancy Christensen
Doug Keiser
- 3 Tabitha Carlson
- 4 Elaine Finke
Amanda McMichael
Darin Werkmeister
- 5 Norma Folkers
Heather Franzen
- 6 Cooper Roth
- 7 Sophie Wagner
- 8 Cordelia Aden
Lyle Grabenstein
- 9 Emily McMichael
- 10 Colleen Clark
Jasmine Wagner
Carol Wahlgren
- 11 Arie Miller
- 13 Kim Dewey
Carlin Discigil
Benjamin Headley
Ethan Kreis
Hayden Russman
Levi Walker
- 14 Dale Brittenham
Holden Randecker
- 15 Ellie Newbrey
- 16 Scott France
Norv Kolbo
Ryan Ostendorf
Emaleigh Rosse
- 17 Neligh Andersen
Taya Franzen
Tyic Miller
- 18 Dwaine Aden
Stacy Anderson
Audree Miller
- 21 Kevin Boyd
Pastor Doug Hjelmstad
Kelly Schmeeckle
- 22 Briana Mahrt
Blayr McMichael
Taylor Schmielt

June Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 23 Dale Franzen
Ron Jobman
Ross Ostendorf
- 25 Rod Brooks
Bronson Long
Tim Schnackenberg
- 26 Braeden Anderson
Courtnee Magnuson
- 27 Georgina Dishman
Charlee Lindholm
- 28 Corey Rossell
Kelly Terrell
- 29 Scout Bell
Dustin Ehlers
Misty Schlake
Trent Schlake
- 30 Mason May

Anniversaries

- 7 Tot & Pauline Holmes
Matt & Donna Schnackenberg
Jamie & Tonya Steuben
- 9 Roger & Julie Koehler
- 10 Lloyd & Judy Hicken
- 11 Rodney & Theresa Brooks
- 14 Roger & Carol Wahlgren
- 16 Rick & Rhonda Putnam
- 19 Rick & Pat Zarek
- 20 Mike & Jennifer Bartlett
- 21 Ken & Adelle Williams
- 24 Al & Jennifer Ballmer
Jason & Amber Block
- 25 Will & Jena Rahjes
- 26 Levi & Renee Hansen
- 30 James & Amy Headley



Acolytes -

June 1 - Eli Erb
June 8 - Jay Bell
June 15 - Alec Wagner
June 22 - Kya Roth
June 29 - Natalie Hengen
July 6 - Landon Feather

Ushers -

June 1 - TJ & Ashleigh Brown
June 8 - Randy & Cressy Rossell
June 15 - Glenn & Sue Finke
June 22 - Ken Christensen, Kurt Stevens
June 29 - Noel & Joni Jacobsen
July 6 - Joyce Hudson, Dave Keiser

Communion Assistants -

June 1 - Aaron Lauer, Scott & Jackie France
June 8 - Kendra Boyd, Craig & Mary Finke
June 15 - Macy Finke, Jim & Lori Long
June 22 - Will Rahjes, Eldon & Linda Rodine
June 29 - Bob Jorgenson, LaMonte Schlake,
Lisa Wagner
July 6 - Kevin Boyd, Connie Dalrymple,
Kim Kitzing

Reader -

June 1 - Kathy Graff
June 8 - Steve Berke
June 15 - Carol Keiser
June 22 - Lori Long
June 29 - Tim Franzen
July 6 - Jo Fuller

Welcome Center Host -

June 1 - Lori Long
June 8 - Colbie Brown
June 15 - Emma Christensen
June 22 - Jonie Birnie
June 29 - Elaine Keiser
July 6 - Marlene Fiese

Greeters -

June 1 - Noel & Joni Jacobsen
June 8 - Corey & Keri Roth
June 15 - Kara Kreis, Lori Long
June 22 - Joe & Carol Keiser
June 29 - Dan & Sharise Scherer
July 6 - Greg & Erin Feather

Sound -

June 1 - Eldon Rodine
June 8 - Cressy Rossell
June 15 - Kurt Stevens
June 22 - Scott Aden
June 29 - Aaron Boyd
July 6 - Eldon Rodine

Offering Counters -

June - Linda & Eldon Rodine
July - Macy Finke

Communion Bread -

June 1 - Carolyn Hicken
June 8 - Connie Dalrymple
June 15 - Carol Wahlgren
June 22 - Karan Smith
June 29 - Joni Jacobsen
July 6 - Lisa Wagner

Communion Support Person-

June 1 - Della Hengen
June 8 - Melissa Bell
June 15 - Linda Rodine
June 22 - Marci Ostergard
June 29 - Natalie Hengen
July 6 - Kendra Boyd

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9a Property 10a Service of Holy Communion 11a Linger Longer	2 7p Women's Bible Study	3 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	4	5	6	7
8 Pentecost 10a Service of Holy Communion 11a Linger Longer	9 1:30p Communion at Stone Hearth	10 Pony Express Cluster Text Study 7p Congregational Council	11	12	13	14
15 10a Service of Holy Communion 11a Linger Longer	16	17 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	18	19	20	21
22 10a Service of Holy Communion 11a Linger Longer	23	24 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	25	26 9a Quilters	27	28
29 10a Service of Holy Communion 11a Linger Longer	30		<i>June 2025</i>			