

*American Lutheran Church*

*May 2025*



1512 Avenue G    Gothensburg, NC 69138    308-537-3433    office@alec.org

## WORD OF LIFE

*Sunday Lessons in May for your devotions*



### May 11

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 9:36-43

Psalms 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

### May 25

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 16:9-15

Psalms 67

Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5

John 14:23-29

### May 4

*Third Sunday of Easter*

Acts 9:1-20

Psalms 30

Revelations 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

### May 18

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Acts 11:1-18

Psalms 148

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35





## Congregation Council

### meeting summary

April 8, 2025 at 7:00 pm

#### *Congregational Council*

Present: **Pastor** – Doug  
Hjelmsted, **President**- Kara

Kreis, **Vice President** – Amanda Rossell,  
**Treasurer** – Madison Rosse, **Secretary** –  
Connie L. Dalrymple, **Property** - Glen Finke,  
**Music & Worship** – Ernie Blecha, **Outreach &  
Hospitality** – Lori Johnson-Berke, **Youth &  
Family** – Stacy Anderson

**Minutes** – The March 11 minutes were ap-  
proved as presented.

**Treasurer's Report** – The March report was  
approved as presented.

**Pastor's Report:** He enjoyed the Retreat at  
St. Benedict Center in Schuyler March 30 –  
April 6.

He is considering developing and using  
seasonal bulletins that will recycle the  
order of service, since we use so much  
paper.

Following discussion, a motion was made  
by Ernie to send the Lenten offerings  
to three schools to assist with lunches  
for students that have no tickets.  
Gothenburg will receive 50%, Cozad  
25%, and Brady 25% of the funds.  
Glen seconded the motion and it was  
unanimously approved by those pre-  
sent. There is also a jar of change  
(approximately \$78) from long past  
Sunday School offerings. Amanda  
moved and Ernie seconded, to add  
that money to the Lenten offerings and  
disperse it in the same manner. This

was also unanimously approved.

**Hospitality & Outreach:** Greeting cards were  
sent to new residents during March.

They are looking for more home commun-  
ion servers for the third Sunday of the  
month.

The committee served Linger Longer as  
well as assisting Music & Worship with  
meal prep and serving the Augustana  
Choir members on March 23.

Lori shared a card they've had printed to  
be used when making hospital calls out  
of town, etc.

Discussion was had on how to keep  
service recorders up-to-date on the  
equipment and how to recover when  
there are equipment failures. Stream-  
ing worship services is an important  
part of our ministry and perhaps we've  
reached the point where a paid person  
is needed for sound service that can be  
kept going and to train others.  
Currently there are no instructions on  
running or trouble-shooting the equip-  
ment either. Amanda will check with  
the Kearney church on how they  
handle it.

**Music and Worship** – Ernie shared a 'thank  
you' from the Augustana Choir for meals and  
use of the sanctuary for the concert.

The organ tuner has been here and several  
repairs are required. Matters Organ  
Company of South Dakota will replace  
the bottom octave of the facade pipes  
on the organ. The windchest for the  
bottom six pipes will be reinforced so  
the pipes stand up straight. The re-  
cording system will be updated and

keys on the console will be adjusted.

Senior recognition will be May 4.

**Youth & Family:** The Easter breakfast will be hosted by the 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

April will end youth activities until fall.

There are two graduating seniors and they will be recognized on May 4.

**Property:** There is a mowing sign-up sheet on the hospitality stand.

The Methodist church will pay half the cost to replace poles on the church sign that ALC will share with them at the South entrance to town. They will also help install. We have permission from the landowners for all four signs and Ken has the state permits to fill out prior to installation. Amanda moved to proceed with the state applications for the signs and a payment of \$1088.58 from Memorial funds. Lori seconded the motion and all those present approved the motion.

**Memorial:** There is currently \$44,820.79 in the account, including \$315 in recent donations and interest.

The AED has arrived. Logan Ricley will install it and train persons to operate it. Payment will be made from Margaret Block's memorials.

The keypad lock has been ordered and Corey Rossell will install it.

#### **Discussion Items:**

An in-depth review of the first quarter budget was had, with some clarifications made.

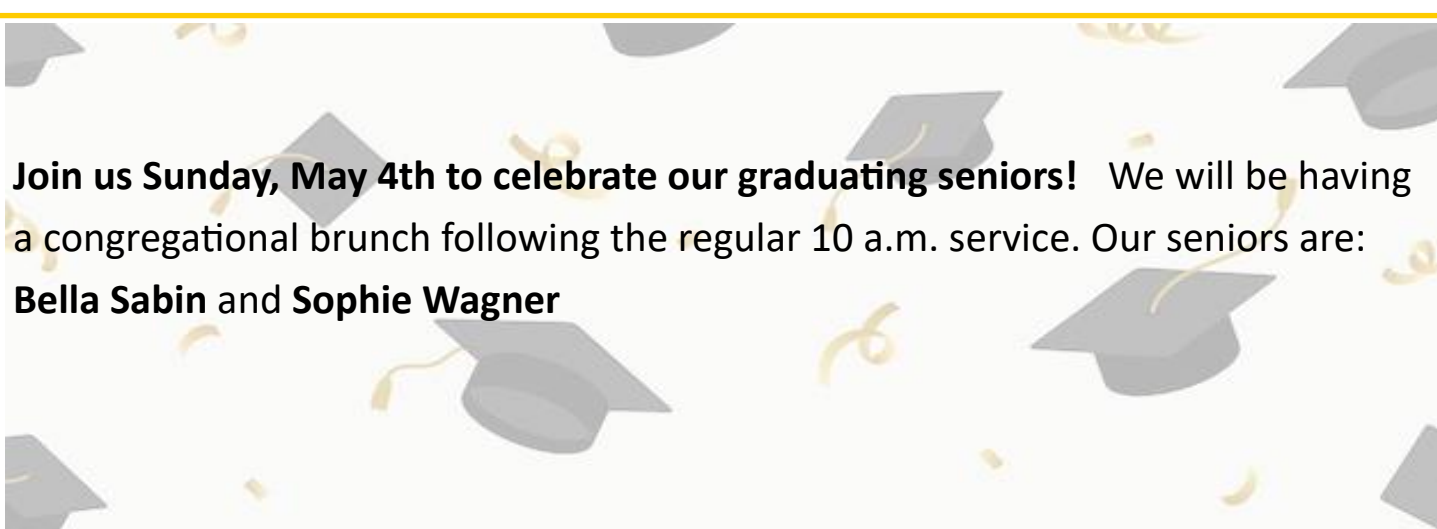
Locks on hallway doors will be a budget item.

Drop box has been troublesome and it was decided to move to a Google docs platform.

The meeting closed at 8:55 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Note: Connie will have May devotions and Parish Ed will serve Linger Longer.

Connie L Dalrymple, Secretary



**Join us Sunday, May 4th to celebrate our graduating seniors!** We will be having a congregational brunch following the regular 10 a.m. service. Our seniors are:  
**Bella Sabin and Sophie Wagner**

ALC friends! Please sign up to deliver Meals on Wheels the week of May 12 -- each day has **SEVEN** routes to cover. If you are able to deliver to more than one route, please sign up for each route separately so that other drivers are aware and the Center knows each route is covered. Plan to be at the Senior Center at 11:15. Any questions? Contact Lori Long. Thank you for serving our community!\_

<https://bit.ly/ALCMealsMay2025>



## Augustana

On behalf of the Augustana Choir, Jon Hurty, Augustana College and myself, I wish to extend a sincere thank you to you and other members of American Lutheran Church for being such excellent hosts for the choir when they performed in your sanctuary during their 2025 tour. Dr. Hurty was very pleased with the concert.

Please offer my special thanks to those who helped with the meal preparation, publicity and all other preparation for the concert. I especially appreciate the generous amount of time and energy you and others spent in making sure the many details were attended to before the concert.

We are so happy that the Augustana Choir students could experience singing in your sanctuary. They were very touched by how engaged the audience was during the performance. Thanks also for providing two delicious meals for us during our visit. Also thanks for returning our music stand after all those years. I hope the choir will have the opportunity to perform at American Lutheran Church again in the future. Thank you again for your warm hospitality.

**Sonja Hurty**

Manager of Choral Performance and Outreach

Voice Instructor

Adjunct Faculty

Augustana College, Rock Island, IL



## 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.



American Lutheran **Cemetery clean-up will be on Saturday, May 17th at 10 a.m.** Contact Glenn Finke with questions at 308-529-1067.

### Prayer Requests

**Remember in Prayer: Members:** Gail Block, Elsie Cyriacks, Anne Franzen, Pam Gage, Jim Gonzales, Lonna Grabenstein, Judy Hicken, 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), Jolene Parsons (Judy Hicken'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.*

*Palm Sunday* – The donkey returned this year for our Palm Sunday procession around the block to the delight of young and old. Special thanks to Scott and Rhonda Russman for bringing him so we could have an authentic as possible experience. Thanks also to Rebecca Jacobsen for the great pictures.









### Happy Birthday

- 1 Maren McKim  
Zac Franzen  
Joe Richeson  
Will Rahjes
- 2 Frankie Miller
- 4 Emma Christensen
- 5 Stephanie Aden
- 8 Rhonda Jobman  
Alex Franzen  
Paul Stubbe  
Bev Titkemeier
- 9 Cliff Brock  
Matt Keiser  
Tyler Barkmeier
- 10 Creighton Franzen
- 11 Marci Ostergard  
Jason Keiser  
Jim Dalrymple
- 12 Konnor Barnes  
Shelby Finke  
Dan Jensen
- 13 Jon Mapa
- 14 Amber McNew
- 15 Ethan Bihlmaier  
Derek Franzen  
Noel Jacobsen
- 17 Julie Childers
- 20 Ira Suhr
- 22 Melissa Bell  
Larry Franzen  
Ty Kreis

## *May Birthdays and Anniversaries*

- 23 Scott Brown  
Jamie Steuben
- 24 Maria Andersen  
Dustin Olson
- 25 Ruby Bell
- 26 Tommy France  
Tonya Steuben
- 27 Trent Good  
Dave Clark
- 29 Blake Brown  
Sonia Richeson
- 30 Shane Geiken  
Brayden Keiser  
Hadley Ostergard  
Joanna Pritchard  
Alexandria Rodriguez
- 31 Pam Buddenberg  
Alexis Brian  
Ken Christensen  
Baylor Haake  
Bob Jorgenson  
Katie Kreis

### Anniversaries

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





## Sunday Volunteers

### Welcome Center Host -

May 4 - Lisa Bihlmaier  
May 11 - Kurt Stevens  
May 18 - Ruby Bell  
May 25 - Eldon Rodine  
June 1 - Lori Long

### Greeters -

May 4 - Kash Koehn, Kingston Koehn  
May 11 - Jonie Birnie, Elaine Keiser  
May 18 - Logan Feather, Brigham Ricley  
May 25 - Erica Johnson family  
June 1 - Noel & Joni Jacobsen

### Acolytes -

May 4 - Hadley Ostergard  
May 11 - Blake Brown, Lathan Johnson  
May 18 - Kya Roth  
May 25 - Braelen Rossell  
June 1 - Eli Erb

### Ushers -

May 4 - Boyd Hicken, Roger Koehler  
May 11 - Bob Ronnekamp, LaMonte Schlake  
May 18 - Kevin Boyd, Greg Feather  
May 25 - Pat Jobman, Connie Stevens  
June 1 - TJ & Ashleigh Brown

### Communion Assistants -

May 4 - TJ & Ashleigh Brown, Bob Jorgenson  
May 11 - Noel & Joni Jacobsen,  
Tammy McMichael  
May 18 - Connie Dalrymple, Carolyn Hicken,  
Kim Kitzing  
May 25 - Randy & Cressy Rossell, Rick Zarek  
June 1 - Aaron Lauer, Scott & Jackie France

### Reader -

May 4 - Jim Long  
May 11 - Linda Rodine  
May 18 - Darla Schlake  
May 25 - Kara Kreis  
June 1 - Kathy Graff

### Sound -

May 4 - Eldon Rodine  
May 11 - Cressy Rossell  
May 18 - Kurt Stevens  
May 25 - Scott Aden  
June 1 - Eldon Rodine

### Offering Counters -

May - Ernie & Jan Blecha  
June - Linda & Eldon Rodine

### Communion Bread -

May 4 - Jan Blecha  
May 11 - Carol Keiser  
May 18 - Lisa Wagner  
May 25 - Michele Warner  
June 1 - Carolyn Hicken

### Communion Support Person-

May 4 - Natalie Hengen  
May 11 - Kendra Boyd  
May 18 - Macy Finke  
May 25 - Scout Bell  
June 1 - Della Hengen

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>May 2025</i>			1	2	3
4 9a Property 10a Service of Holy Communion/ Children's Church 11a Linger Longer		6 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	7	8	9	10
5 7p Women's Bible Study						
11 10a Service of Holy Communion / Children's Church 11a Linger Longer		13 Pony Express Cluster Text Study 7p Congregational Council	14	15	16	17 ALC Cemetery Clean up 10am
12 1:30p Communion at Stone Hearth						
18 10a Service of Holy Communion 11a Linger Longer	19	20 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	21	22 9a Quilters	23	24
25 10a Service of Holy Communion 11a Linger Longer	26 Memorial Day	27 Pony Express Cluster Text Study	28	29	30	31 NE Synod Assembly