

THE CALLER

A M E R I C A N L U T H E R A N
C H U R C H

C A S T L E W O O D , S D

Volume 26, Issue 9, September 2021

Calling all people! – P.T.'s Practical Theology

*Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!
For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.*

Psalm 96:1-6

Ready or Not....God has been making things new again!

As I begin my ministry among you, there are many levels of "newness". A new community, a new congregation, a new home to be set up, new traditions to learn, and many new faces to connect with names, just to name a few.

And for you...there is assuredly also a newness to embrace when it comes to your Christian life and witness through American Lutheran. Who is this new guy? What is his story? When will he ever put the "AMEN" to his sermon? Where is he going to focus his ministry? Why did he pick that weird hymn? How is our partnership in Gospel work going to work? Great questions....that deserve great answers....even though some of the answers will need time to be discovered.

New! The psalmist declares that we are to "*sing to the Lord a new song*". That has nothing to do with hymn selections, but everything to do with our calling to see each new day as our opportunity to sing the praises of God. Oh, sometimes when the cares of the world press in upon us, we give little thought to singing to God a new song of praise. But, even then, we are to remember that God is with us, ever willing to guide, strengthen and comfort us. This we know....for this we have seen in hindsight time and time again....and so, we sing a new song!

We sing a new song based on the old, old story. We sing a new song because we are ever being reminded that even as elements of our lives change... there is a constant word from God that declares life, and life forevermore. That word has not changed, nor will ever change!

Whatever else American Lutheran has been or will be, the one constant will be our calling to sing to God a new song! A new song that points to the blessed promises of God, because we have experienced Him, and found Him to be good. This is our treasure. Yet a treasure with which we have been entrusted for God's *works among all the peoples!*

So, as we sing together a new song....let us ever be mindful of those within our congregation, and those from without who also need to be refreshed in the faith that ours in Christ Jesus, because all splendor, majesty, strength and beauty belong to Him!

In His Service, Pastor Tom

Confirmation Ministry – Grades 7-9

Wednesdays at 5:15-6:15 pm, starting September 15th.

Confirmation Classes are the way your congregation helps parents to live out the promise that they made to their child at Holy Baptism: *“to nurture them in faith and prayer”*. To this goal, American Lutheran will have a three-year time of instruction based on the following:



- Year A – Old Testament Overview & Reformation History
- Year B – New Testament Study of Jesus from the Gospel of Luke
- Year C – Living in the Confirmation Promises
- All Years – Weekly memory work and application from Luther’s Small Catechism, and select Bible verses.

Since Confirmation Classes are held on Wednesdays, it will be our expectation that 7th through 9th graders are also regular in their Sunday School attendance.

Parents will be receiving a more detailed note with syllabus through the mail. If you do not receive the letter by or have questions about the Confirmation Ministry, please call Pastor Tom at the church or email him at: pastortlc@gmail.com.

American Lutheran Youth!

Wednesday, September 22nd – 7:00 pm. at the parsonage.

Pastor Tom and Janet invite all 7th – 12th graders to a meal and brain-storming meeting at the parsonage (509 E. Gerhold St.) All you need to bring is a lawn chair, and your ideas for what you wish to receive and give to your fellow sisters and brothers in Christ. Of course, you can bring a friend... all we ask is that you email your RSVP to pastortlc@gmail.com so we can have a rough idea for chow! (Any dietary restrictions, please give notice)



Ileta ‘Dolly’ Gasner went to her heavenly home on August 9th, 2021 at the age of 87. Her funeral was at ALC on August 17th, 2021. Our prayers and sympathies to Dolly’s family.



Membership Transfers

Gary and Sharon Hyde transferred their membership to Living Word Lutheran Church in Milbank, SD



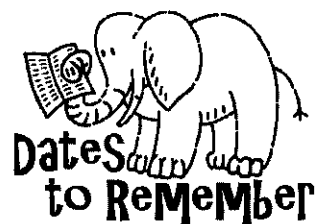
Castlewood
Assisted Living
Don Galbavy
Geri Gantvoort



When I am troubled, I rest in the words of Holy Scripture: “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. ... He will come and save you” (Isaiah 35:4, NRSV).

September 2021

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

5th	9:00 a.m. Worship Service with communion 12:30—1:30p.m. Blessing Center Open
6th	Labor Day (No School)
11th	Patriot Day
12th	RALLY DAY—Preschool—12 grade 9:00 a.m. Worship Service National Grandparents Day
15th	5:15 p.m. Confirmation Class for Grades 7-9
19th	8:30 a.m. Choir Practice 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with communion <i>10:00 a.m. COUNCIL MEETNG</i>
22nd	First day or autumn 7:00 p.m Youth Group Meeting at parsonage
24th	CHS Homecoming
25th	<i>2:00 p.m. Ordination Service for Jesse and Lexy Carson</i>
26th	9:00 a.m. Worship Service



Sunday School's Rally Day!

September 12th – Preschool – Grade 12

It's time to rally back together and start our new season of Sunday School! Brenda is seeking teacher and helpers for the preschool through grade 6. Vicki will be leading the Jr./Sr. High class. Please contact them if you can help!



The Servants of our Lord

	<i>Organists</i>	<i>Scripture Lectors</i>	<i>Fellowship Servers</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Audio-Visual Technician</i>
Sept.5	Roxanne Bass	READERS NEEDED	Top's	Fischer's	Chuck Juntti
Sept.12	Marsha Kurtenbach	READERS NEEDED	Sunday School	Grupe's	
Sept.19	Roxanne Bass	READERS NEEDED	<i>Server Needed</i>	Pribbenow's	Doug Strait
Sept. 26	Marsha Kurtenbach	READERS NEEDED	<i>Server Needed</i>	Tvedt's	Rod Fischer

Our Faithfulness in Giving

	General	Building	Mission	Children	Blessing Ctr
July 25	\$684.00	\$900.00	\$39.00	\$1.00	\$28.00
August 1	\$2,255.00	\$1,453.00	\$97.25	\$20.25	\$27.00
August 8	\$840.00	\$100.00	\$21.00		
August 15	\$1,231.00	\$350.00	\$ 25.00		\$25.00
August 22	\$2,209.00	\$10.00	\$279.00	\$174.00	\$105.00



ALTAR GUILD

SEPTEMBER: Carna Miller

October: Ruby McKee, Dawn Wiersma

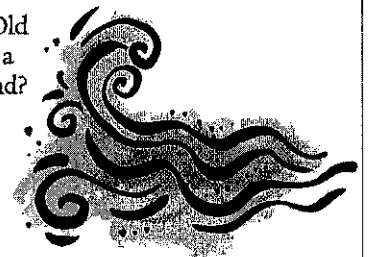
Altar Guild takes care of the communion ware, change altar clothes, banners and fill oil candles when needed.

Thank you for your service.

Bible Quiz

How many times in the Old Testament do people cross a body of water on dry ground?

- A. once
- B. twice
- C. three times
- D. four times



Answer: C (See Exodus 14; Joshua 3; 2 Kings 2)



Dan Grupe	09-03	Janell Bemis	09-17
Kailyn Larson	09-04	Clarence Rhody	09-19
Lindsey Vetter	09-04	Debi Olson	09-23
Kylie Wittnebel	09-06	Rich Ries	09-24
Logan Ronne	09-08	Jeremiah Wiersma	09-26
Debra Aderhold	09-10	Amanda Pribbenow	09-26
Roni Jankord	09-12	Kim Stevens	09-27
Kabren Jackson	09-15		

Karen Hamill	9-01	Michelle Ronne	9-17
Ruby McKee	9-06	Abbey Strait	9-17
Katie Fischer	9-07	Paula Grupe	9-19
Kim Fischer	9-07	Clarence Rhody	9-19
Ed Aderhold	9-10	Austin Nielsen	9-22
Melissa Prohl	9-10	Casey Kenyon Jr	9-23
Justin Ries	9-12	Chad Langenfeld	9-23
Craig Bass	9-15	Kaylie Gabur	9-26
Darah DeKam	9-15	Tara Nolte	9-27
Erin Ruesink	9-15	Charlsy Laue	9-28



John & Bonnie Top	September 2nd
Lars & Jodi Hanson	September 13th
Sherwin & Shelly DeKam	September 16th
Clarence & Melissa Rhody	September 24th
Dale & Sharon Hattendorf	September 29th

If anyone has announcements for the bulletin or caller e-mail Americlec@itctel.com or janell-bemis@hotmail.com or call/text/message Janell at 605-880-0917.

If there is a need for pastoral care please contact Pastor Tom Christenson at 605-793-2444.



Sr. High/Adult Choir!

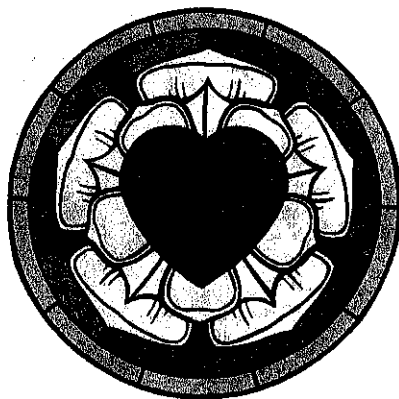
8:30 am, starting Sunday, September 19th!

Karen Lund has graciously agreed to give a go at directing our choir again... for which we give her thanks, and unto God be the glory! Not "professional" choir, but for those who love to sing and wish to be a blessing to our worship life. Come and join us as we sing to God a new song!



Adult/Sr. High Bible Study

Pastor Tom is interested in starting a Bible Study, but he needs help! Help is being sought as to your ideas for a Biblical Book or topical areas in which you would be interested. Also...what day and times would be of most interest for you to attend? Please, email your thoughts to pas-tortlc@gmail.com or write it down and give to Pastor Tom before or after worship.



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
ORDINATION SERVICE OF

*Jesse and Lexy
Carson*

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER | 25TH | 2021
AT TWO O'CLOCK
IN THE AFTERNOON AT
LIVING WORD
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1722 16TH AVE EAST
ALEXANDRIA MN, 56308



HELP WANTED --- The audio visual team at church is looking for 2 more people. We will train. You would be responsible for sound and video recording of the church services for 1 week a month. Chuck will handle the video editing and uploading. Several people rely on the video rebroadcasts of our services. This is a great way to serve your church from the sidelines. See Chuck, Rod, or Doug if you are interested.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council
August 22, 2021

American Lutheran church council met on Sunday, August 22, 2021. Those present were Dan Grupe, Rod Fischer, Craig Bass, Dan Davis, Candy Gailsath, Lindsey Vetter, Chuck Juntti, Pastor Tom Christenson. Also present Janell Bemis.

Council meeting was called to order by President Dan Grupe. The minutes for the July meeting was reviewed. There was a correction, the council donated \$300.00 to Food for the Poor. Motion by Rod, second by Chuck to approve the minutes. With all voting aye, motion passed.

The financial report for July was reviewed. Parsonage remodel cost were reviewed. It is encouraged for everyone to submit their bills for the parsonage. Motion by Craig, second by Chuck to approve the financial report. With all voting aye, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

-Parsonage remodel:

- carpet not done, J. Espland from Montgomery's will complete the installation
- linoleum, Barrett was able to arrange to complete that installation
- door between house & garage, Russell & Lori Mack will purchase a door and have it installed
- microwave is backordered, will fix cabinets above stove when that comes in
- Garage door opener – cannot find them, Josh might have one
- need outlet in utility room for dehumidifier
- Pastor would like to be able to use his gas grill by have a flex hose attached to current line. He will pay to have this done.
- Pastor is replacing lighting in dining room.

-Church basement

- remodeling of basement will be put on hold until later this fall

-ALC 75TH Anniversary

- Celebration will be in conjunction with Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, November 21st. Anyone with history to share please get to Chuck ASAP.

-Ministerial Association Account at First Premier Bank

- To change signatures the bank requires minutes to do so. Rod made the motion to have Pastor Tom Christenson and future pastor from Hamlin Reformed Church be on the account. Chuck offered the second the motion. With unanimous aye, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

-Rally Day

- September 12th, Ask Brenda to give Pastor a Sunday School Confirmation roster.

-Confirmation

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Council cont.
August 22, 2021

-Confirmation

- Labor Day through Ash Wednesday
- grades 7th, 8th and 9th.
- after getting a list of students, Pastor will meet with parents and students

-Congregational Members

- Give congregational roster to Pastor
- Lindsey will give a list of shut-ins and those in assisted living or nursing homes to Pastor

-Pastoral Office

- Office hours will be M-Th with Fridays as his day off.
- Discussion to purchase lap top for the office. Rod made the motion for Chuck to purchase a lap top costing up to \$900.00, Craig 2nd, with all voting aye, motion passed. Lindsey brought up that Larry Vetter had a new computer. Chuck will take a look at it before a purchase.
- Discussion on ALC web site and facebook needs to be updated. Pastor will visit with Doug Strait to update the web site.

-Sunday Services

- There will be communion two times a month: 1st and 3rd Sundays. There will be an option for pre-recorded music during communion.
- Ushers, a list will be out by September 12.
- Need people to sign up to be readers and fellowship servers.
- Ushers will be pass the offering plate and children's offering will be at the front of the church.
- 2 more people are needed to help with videoing the service, contact Chuck if interested.

-Installation of new Pastor at ALC

- Between Pastor and council, it was decided that we will have President Grupe and Pastor Tom work out the installation liturgy to be held on September 12th.
- On Rally Day we will welcome Pastor Tom and everyone back for the 2021/2022 Sunday School year.
- Place an ad in the paper

Motion made to adjourn by Craig, second by Candy, with all voting aye, motion passed.

Closed by praying Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Janell Levisen-Bemis, for Craig Bass, council secretary



2021 USHER LIST

SEPT. 5	Rod & Joann Fischer
SEPT. 12	Dan & Paula Grupe family
SEPT. 19	Kevin & Amanda Pribbenow family
SEPT. 26	Austin & Leslie Tvedt family
OCT. 3	Travis & Sandra Everson family
OCT. 10	Philip & Jessica Ruml family
OCT. 17	Candy Gallisath & Traci Bass
OCT. 24	Dennis & Vicki Strait
OCT. 31	Roy & Dawn Wiersma family
NOV. 7	Kendal & Alisha Nielsen family
NOV. 14	Darin & Traci Laue family
NOV. 21	Mark & Angie Larson family
NOV. 25	
Thanksgiving Eve	Landon & Lindsey Vetter
NOV. 28	Andrew & Sarah Smith family
DEC. 5	Richard & Neda Ries
DEC. 12	Joshua & Sara Nei family
DEC. 19	Lars & Jody Hansen family
DEC. 24 Christmas Eve	Barrett & Peggy Wittnebel family
DEC. 26	Doug Strait & Dan Davis

1. Thank you for your ushering and greeting ministry.
2. If you can not serve that Sunday, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Please leave a note for Janell of any changes.
3. Ushers need to take a head count for every service and record on the chart located on the bulletin board in the narthex.



**American Lutheran Church Financial Report
July 2021**

General Fund

Balance on hand 7-1-2021			\$82,223.07
Receipts			
Offerings	\$	5,345.00	
Thrivent	\$	-	
Confirmation	\$	-	
Transfer from Building (Lowe's)	\$	1,622.10	\$ 6,967.10
Disbursements			
Lexy Carson (Interim Pastor - 2 Svc)	\$	350.00	
Lexy Carson (Mileage - June)	\$	127.68	
Jim Ulhe (Pulpit Supply)	\$	175.00	
Janeil Bemis (Secretary-22 hr)	\$	238.72	
Dawn Mickey (Custodian-20 hr)	\$	217.02	
Roxanne Bass (Organist-2 Svc)	\$	90.00	
Marshe Kurtenbach (Organist-2 Svc)	\$	90.00	
NALC (Benevolence)	\$	50.00	
City of Castlewood (Ch: \$60.00, Pars: \$81.03)	\$	141.03	
ITC (Church and Parsonage)	\$	124.43	
Northwestern (Ch: \$14.47, Pars: \$11.97)	\$	26.44	
Ottertail (Ch: \$252.70, Pars: \$44.97)	\$	297.67	
North Star Mutual Insurance Company	\$	297.75	
Office Peeps (Copier)	\$	45.01	
Booker Schooley (Help moving)	\$	50.00	
Tristan Nielsen (Help moving)	\$	50.00	
Bowen Ryan (Help moving)	\$	50.00	
Brody Bass (Help moving)	\$	50.00	
David Prohl (Help moving)	\$	50.00	
Tanner Grupe (Help moving)	\$	50.00	
SD Secretary of State (File Annual Report)	\$	10.00	
US Treasury (2nd quarter payroll taxes)	\$	249.88	\$ (2,830.63)
Balance on hand 7-31-2021			\$ 86,359.54
*** Confirmation Balance	\$	567.76	
*** Thrivent Choice Balance	\$	1,668.95	

Building Fund

Balance on hand 7-1-2021			\$ 45,046.74
Receipts			
Offerings for Building Fund	\$	1,075.00	
Offerings for Carpet Fund	\$	-	\$ 1,075.00
Disbursements			
Menards - Paint and supplies for Parsonage	\$	346.50	
Transfer to General (Lowe's charges)	\$	1,622.10	
Kelly's Tree Service	\$	213.00	
Karl's (Parsonage appliances)	\$	2,608.92	
Craig Bass (Reimburse for appliance deposit)	\$	950.00	
Josh Nei (Reimburse for Menards & Lowe's supplies)	\$	582.88	\$ (6,323.40)
Balance on hand 7-31-2021			\$ 39,798.34
*** New Carpet Fund Balance	\$	22,390.00	

Mission Fund

Balance on hand 7-1-2021			\$ 4,277.47
Receipts			
Offerings for Mission Fund	\$	170.00	
Children's Offering	\$	2.00	
Offerings for Blessing Center	\$	105.00	\$ 277.00
Disbursements			
North American Lutheran Seminary	\$	500.00	
Food for the Poor	\$	300.00	
American Red Cross	\$	300.00	
Castlewood Blessing Center (July offerings)	\$	105.00	\$ (1,205.00)
Balance on hand 7-31-2021			\$ 3,349.47

Memorial Fund

Balance on hand 7-1-2021			\$ 9,089.72
Receipts	\$	-	\$ -
Disbursements	\$	-	\$ -
Balance on hand 7-31-2021			\$ 9,089.72

Account Summary

	Current	Change	Change
	Balance	July 2021	Year to Date
General Account	\$ 86,359.54	\$ 4,136.47	\$ (22,446.59)
Building Account	\$ 39,798.34	\$ (5,248.40)	\$ 12,259.18
Mission Account	\$ 3,349.47	\$ (928.00)	\$ (1,846.25)
Memorial Account	\$ 9,089.72	\$ -	\$ (565.50)

Parsonage Remodel Costs as of 8/21/2021

March 24, 2021	Reiffenberger Construction (1st Payment)	\$ 9,000.00
April 3, 2021	Menards (Cabinets and vanity)	\$ 418.52
April 3, 2021	Amazon (Door knobs)	\$ 58.36
April 18, 2021	Reiffenberger Construction (2nd Payment)	\$ 6,304.88
May 23, 2021	Jerke's Home Inspection	\$ 319.50
June 3, 2021	Andor, Inc. (Install vanity, change plumbing, etc.)	\$ 1,023.88
June 4, 2021	Lowe's	\$ 79.00
June 5, 2021	Lowe's (Carpet)	\$ 3,499.07
June 8, 2021	Jim Bohl's Construction (Rebuild Stairs)	\$ 612.25
June 9, 2021	Menards (Paint and supplies)	\$ 400.14
June 13, 2021	Menards (Paint)	\$ 115.58
June 17, 2021	Reiffenberger Construction (3rd Payment)	\$ 2,005.28
June 23, 2021	Menards (Paint and supplies)	\$ 207.87
June 28, 2021	Lowe's (Bathroom Flooring)	\$ 1,543.10
July 1, 2021	Menards (Paint and supplies)	\$ 193.20
July 6, 2021	Menards (Paint and supplies)	\$ 153.30
July 18, 2021	Kelly's Tree Service	\$ 213.00
July 20, 2021	Menards (Light Fixtures)	\$ 117.65
July 21, 2021	Karl's (Appliances)	\$ 3,558.92
July 24, 2021	Menards (Vanity, dehumidifier, etc.)	\$ 600.23
August 9, 2021	Menards (Towel bars, light bulbs, etc.)	\$ 392.45
August 19, 2021	Andor, Inc. (Plumbing after flooring install)	\$ 1,551.98
Total Expenses to Date		\$ 32,368.16

	Menards Rebate certificates	\$ -
	Lowe's (Change to available bathroom flooring)	\$ 60.26
	Donations made for appliances	\$ 2,600.00
Additional income / offsets		\$ 2,660.26

Net Expenses to Date		\$ 29,707.90
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The American Lutheran Caller

P.O. Box 132

Castlewood, SD 57223

Address Service Requested

WATCH US ON YOUTUBE & ITC!

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS!

*American Lutheran
Church's
Mission Statement*

The mission of American
Lutheran Church is to

**welcome,
worship,
teach and
serve**

In the name of Christ our Lord
and Savior!



September 12, 2021

2021 Church council members

Dan Grupe, President
Candy Galliseth, VP
Rod Fischer, Treas.
Craig Bass, Sec.
Traci Bass
Josh Nei
Chuck Juntti
Dan Davis
Lindsey Vetter
Carrie Hendersen