

# THE CALLER

AMERICAN LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
CASTLEWOOD, SD

Volume 27, Issue 8, August 2022

## CASTLEWOOD DAYS AUGUST 13-15, 2022



ALC YOUTH PANCAKE FEED  
Castlewood Community Center  
Saturday, August 14, 2021  
7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Free Will Offering



Regular  
Worship  
Service  
9:00 a.m.

## CHURCH at the Ball Park

Sunday, August 14, 2022  
11:00 a.m.

### COMMUNITY POTLUCK

12:00 noon

Picnic Shelter

Bring a dish to pass

Plates, utensils, cups & drinks provided





# August 2022



Pray for Our Students

Sun	Mon	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	31			

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 6th 10:00 a.m. Church Fellowship Hall Reserved
- 7th 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship  
12:30—1:30p.m. Blessing Center Open
- 12th 7:30a.m.—10:00 a.m. ALC Youth Pancake Feed
- 14th 9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship  
11:00 a.m. Community Worship at the Ballpark  
12:00p.m. Community potluck
- 19th First home Football game
- 21st 9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship  
**10:00 a.m. CHURCH COUNCIL**  
12:30—1:30p.m. Blessing Center Open
- 23rd First home Volleyball game
- 24th First Day of School
- 28th 9:00 a.m. Worship  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship



Remember there is **CALENDAR** on our **Website!** Go to: [americanlutheran-church.com](http://americanlutheran-church.com) and you can see the calendar of events for American Lutheran. If you have anything church related to add to the calendar, please contact Pastor Tom at [pastortlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortlc@gmail.com)



## *The Servants of our Lord*

	<i>Organists</i>	<i>Scripture Lectors</i>	<i>Fellowship Servers</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Audio-Visual Technician</i>
Aug. 7	Roxanne Bass			Gareth & Sharla Hamen	Chuck Juntti
Aug. 14	Marsha Kurtenbach			Ernie & Rhonda Karst	
Aug. 21	Roxanne Bass			Ted & Cheryl Sutton	Doug Strait
Aug. 28	Marsha Kurtenbach			Lynn & Kristy Borer	Rod Fischer

### Our Faithfulness in Giving

	<b>General</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Mission</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Blessing Ctr</b>
<b>June 27</b>	\$1,716.00	\$12.00	\$33.00		
<b>July 3</b>	\$2,239.00	\$177.00	\$110.00	\$7.00	\$3.00
<b>July 10</b>	\$471.00	\$155.00	\$5,863.45		\$25.00
<b>July 17</b>	\$1,910.00	\$30.00	\$154.01	\$4.01	\$80.00
<b>July 24</b>	\$1,576.25	\$18.00	\$10.00		

#### **ALTAR GUILD**

**August: Roxanne Bass &  
Janet Christenson**

**September: Jodi Hanson &  
Deb Aderhold**

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

**SIGN -UP SHEET FOR  
Lectors—Scriptures sheets avail-  
able**

**Fellowship Servers  
IN THE NARTHEX**

"A friend is one of the nicest things you can have, and one of the best things you can be."

—Douglas Pagels



# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Lauren Gabur	08-02	Ed Aderhold	08-17
Travis Prohl	08-04	Paula Grupe	08-17
Craig Bass	08-05	Dan Davis	08-18
Karen Hamill	08-09	Darah DeKam	08-19
Jessica Ruml	08-09	Julie Fischer	08-20
Kay Zimiga	08-11	Erin Arbach`	08-22
Jasmine Goodwin	08-11	Ruby McKee	08-22
Charlsy Laue	08-12	Donna Rhody	08-26
Londyn Pribbenow	08-12	Justin Ries	08-26
Drake Langenfeld	08-14	Mason Nielsen	08-27
Abbey Strait	08-14	Jennifer Hanson	08-30
Tara Nolte	08-14	Christina Kenyon	08-31

Corbin Nei	8-01	Hannah Wiersma	8-19
Darin Laue	8-02	Clayton Gasner	8-20
Tristan Nielsen	8-03	Lane Tvedt	8-21
Veriti Smith	8-03	John Top	8-26
Dale Hattendorf	8-06	Richard Fischer	8-29
Galen Swenson	8-14	Lonny Junker	8-30
Emery Larson	8-17	Marissa Gasner	8-31



# AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Joshua & Sara Nei — August 3  
 Dennis & Vicki Strait — August 10  
 Lynn & Kristi Borer — August 11  
 John & Bonnie Bucher — August 11  
 Reid & Kari Nolte — August 17  
 Tom & Janet Christenson - August 20  
 Timothy & Julie Hofwalt — August 25  
 Kevin & Amanda Pribbenow—August 29  
 Darin & Tracy Laue — August 30





## ***“Monumental Love” – P.T.’s Practical Theology***

*“Thus says the Lord: ‘Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my righteousness be revealed. Blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil.’ I will give in my house and within my walls a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.”*

**Isaiah 56: 1, 2 & 5**

You may have heard it said that the Old Testament presents God as wrathful and full of judgement, while the New Testament presents God as gracious and loving. Well, that is not really the case! For as the psalmist says: God is steadfast, and His love endures forever.....from the beginning of time and always!

It is not the case that God has changed His ways of tending to us, rather God has from the beginning sought to have a relationship of trust and faith with all of His children. The fact that the Old Testament stories seem to show a more vengeful and wrathful God is because it's stories more frequently chronicled when God's people had turned away from Him. Yet, over and over again, God has always stood ready to restore His people into a right relationship with Him, and he does this out of His Monumental Love!

“Monumental Love” was the theme of this year's Community Vacation Bible School. One hundred and twenty of our area children met together to learn more about God's love for his people in the past, in the present and under the promise of the same love for the future. Through both Old Testament and New Testament stories they learned more about what God has done and is doing to show His Monumental Love which culminated in the ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

It is the coming of Jesus Christ into our world that the Prophet Isaiah was pointing to in the passage above. Even as Isaiah was given by God words of wrath and judgement against the people for their sin and unbelief, God also gave him words to speak about the age of salvation that would come with the promised Messiah of God. Isaiah prophesied that within the Household of God would be raised up a “monument” that would give the people and everlasting name. That name, we would learn was Jesus; the name that is above every name. The name that is eternal because His name has done for us, just as it says: *“Jesus”, He will save!*

This most precious promise came into our world, because we are not able without Him to fully trust and place our faith in God. So, when the time was right, God displayed His Monumental Love for all His people, giving us His Son so that we could be convinced of God's love for us.



**"Monumental Love" – P.T.'s Practical Theology" con't.**

Jesus Christ is the one of which our community's youngest children were taught, and it is the same of which we hear and return our thanks each and every time we gather together for worship! God is a God of love, monumental love! Oh, come let us worship and adore Him!

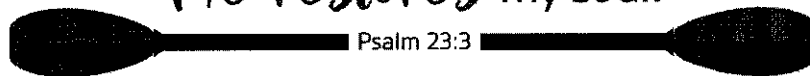
**Let us pray:** God of all mercy, grace and love, we thank you for opportunities to hear your word and to sing your praises. We pray that you would daily awaken in us the power of your Holy Spirit that our lives would reflect your love into our families and into our world, for your name's sake. AMEN

In Christ's Service,

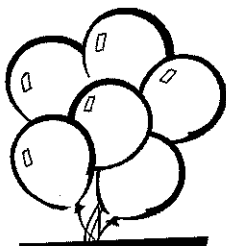
*Pastor Tom Christenson*

*He restores my soul.*

Psalm 23:3



**Community Vacation Bible School – THANKS!**



**THANKS  
FOR  
ATTENDING  
VBS!**

For the first time in recent history, American Lutheran joined with other Castlewood area churches in sponsoring and leading the Community Vacation Bible School. We gathered under the theme of "Monumental Love", and in worship, Bible Study, Theme Video, crafts and games we celebrated being named as God's beloved children!

120 children were registered, and were led by 30 leaders ranging from our youth and adults. *So, we offer praise to God for the willingness of those who served our children and also many of you who supplied craft items, snacks, and*

*financial gifts!*

We look forward to continuing this ministry in the years to come, and ask that God will continue to bless us in His Monumental Love.





**Meeting Minutes of the Church Council  
American Lutheran Church  
June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dan Grupe, Carrie Henriksen, Chuck Juntti, Jessie Ruml, Mark Larson, Lindsey Vetter, and Pastor Tom Christenson.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Dan Grupe called the meeting to order, declaring a voting quorum as being present.

**PRAYER:**

Pastor Tom led the Council in prayer.

**COUNCIL MINUTES:**

President Dan presented the Minutes from the May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Council Meeting. Motion by Chuck, second by Jessie to approve as printed. **Motion Carried**

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

President Dan presented the Financial Reports of April and May 2022. A discussion was had regarding expenses from Northwestern Energy between the Church and parsonage. Motion by Lindsey, second by Jessie to approve as printed. **Motion Carried**

**PASTOR'S REPORT:**

Pastor Tom gave reports on:

Youth Mission Trip to Colorado Springs, CO

Use of Church by Castlewood School following severe storms

Upcoming Vacation Bible School & planning meeting

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Reviewed list of tasks to be completed at parsonage (*Basement door and trim, egress window panels*) – **No Action Taken**

President Dan reported that drywall repairs have been completed. Some small additional cracks were found following repairs - **No Action Taken.**

President Dan reported that the Church basement work is on-going with assistance by Barrett Wittenebel. Dan mentioned that he feels this work should get completed sooner vs. later with the assistance of whomever is willing to help. Dan will visit with Barrett about this. **No Action Taken.**

President Dan reported that he was not sure if the infant pads for the defibrillator had been received. Dan will check on this. **No Action Taken.**

Discussion on thermostat located on the south wall of the Sanctuary. Dan has been and will continue to work with Larry Dockter on this issue. If needed, an HVAC Company may need to be contacted. **No Action Taken.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Communion Distribution Volunteers** – Mark (July 3<sup>rd</sup>) & Chuck (July 17<sup>th</sup>)

President Dan presented an estimate from Seim Painting for the interior painting of the Church in the amount of \$5,658.96. This includes high grade paint and all labor. Motion by Mark and second by Lindsey to approve the bid. **Motion Carried.**



Discussion was had concerning new carpeting for the Church and what type of carpeting best fits the needs. It was agreed that Jessie and Lindsey would obtain some options for carpeting and present those to the Council during the next meeting. **No Action taken**

Discussion was had concerning storm damage to the Church and Parsonage from the May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, storm event. Doug Strait has submitted a claim and the adjuster has visited both locations and is in the process of preparing a report and estimate. **No action taken.**

Pastor Tom reported that he has received several donations (checks) from various Churches and individuals who wished to help with the recent storm damage in Castlewood. A discussion was had concerning these donations and motion was made by Mark and seconded by Chuck for these funds to be given to Rod Fischer and held by Rod until a decision was made on where the funds could be best used. **Motion Carried.**

Pastor Tom reported that Geise Funeral Chapel had contacted him concerning the temporary use of the Church for visitations and/or funerals as their building west of the Church was destroyed by the May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 storm. Geise Funeral is working with their insurance company who asked them to get a quote for a temporary location for this. Discussion was had and a motion by Chuck to submit a figure of \$600.00 per month for a period of 12 months to Geise Funeral Chapel. Seconded by Lindsey. **Motion Carried.**

A discussion was had concerning the need for some dirt work in the parsonage yard following the May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, storm. Heavy equipment caused some ruts in the yard that need to be filled. Mark will take care of getting topsoil placed in the needed areas and Pastor Tom will grass seed once the topsoil is in place.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

Motion by Jessie to adjourn and seconded by Mark. **Motion Carried.**

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

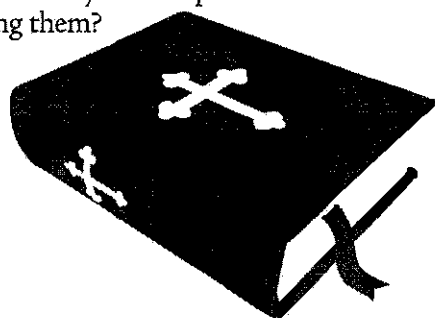
Pastor Tom led us in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mark Larson, Secretary

**Bible Quiz**

A few Bible books have only one chapter. Which of the following is not among them?

- A. Obadiah
- B. Philemon
- C. 1 John
- D. 2 John
- E. 3 John
- F. Jude



Answer: C



**Food Donations**

**Blessing Center Collection** –We remind the congregation that there is a collection box in the narthex, and ask that each ALC family bring in a few non-perishable items each month to support this local ministry.



**American Lutheran Church Financial Report  
June 2022**

**General Account**

Balance on hand 6-1-2022		\$	122,503.94
Receipts			
Offerings	\$	5,921.00	\$ 5,921.00
Disbursements			
Thomas Christenson (Pastor Salary)	\$	4,126.68	
Thomas Christenson (Social Security)	\$	268.26	
Thomas Christenson (Housing Equity)	\$	200.00	
Retirement Plan Consultants	\$	432.67	
EBSO (Health Insurance)	\$	2,218.00	
Tristar Management (Ancillary Benefits)	\$	621.75	
Amanda Pribbenow (Custodian - 12 hrs)	\$	130.21	
Roxanne Bass (Organist - 2 Services)	\$	100.00	
Karen Lund (Organist - 1 Service)	\$	50.00	
Marsha Kurtenbach (Organist - 1 Service)	\$	50.00	
NALC (benevolence)	\$	50.00	
City of Castlewood (Ch: \$60.00, Pars: \$82.83)	\$	142.83	
ITC (Church and parsonage)	\$	124.46	
Northwestern (Ch: \$235.8, Pars: \$75.24)	\$	311.04	
Ottertail (Ch: \$238.75, Pars: \$57.67)	\$	296.42	
North Star Mutual Insurance Company	\$	314.25	
Office Peeps (Copier & Supplies)	\$	115.29	
US Postal Service (PO Box Rental)	\$	54.00	
Upper Room Ministries (July / August booklet)	\$	32.25	\$ (9,638.11)
<b>Balance on hand 6-30-2022</b>			<b>\$ 118,786.83</b>
*** Confirmation Balance	\$	1,058.23	
*** Thrivent Choice Balance	\$	2,489.95	

**Building Account**

Balance on hand 6-1-2022		\$	33,856.04
Receipts			
Offerings for Building Fund	\$	207.00	
Offerings for Carpet Fund	\$	20.00	\$ 227.00
Disbursements	\$	-	\$ -
<b>Balance on hand 6-30-2022</b>			<b>\$ 34,083.04</b>
*** New Carpet Fund Balance	\$	22,414.00	

**Mission Account**

Balance on hand 6-1-2022		\$	7,197.22
Receipts			
Offerings for Mission Fund	\$	162.00	
Children's Offering	\$	5.00	
Offerings for Blessing Center	\$	137.00	\$ 304.00
Disbursements			
Food for the Poor	\$	500.00	
China Service Ventures (Apr-Jun child offerings)	\$	117.75	
Castlewood Blessing Center (June offerings)	\$	137.00	\$ (754.75)
<b>Balance on hand 6-30-2022</b>			<b>\$ 6,746.47</b>

**Memorial Account**

Balance on hand 6-1-2022		\$	7,528.41
Receipts	\$	-	\$ -
Disbursements	\$	-	\$ -
<b>Balance on hand 6-30-2022</b>			<b>\$ 7,528.41</b>

**Account Summary**

	Current Balance	Change June 2022	Change Year to Date
General Account	\$ 118,786.83	\$ (3,717.11)	\$ (22,403.47)
Building Account	\$ 34,083.04	\$ 227.00	\$ 451.15
Mission Account	\$ 6,746.47	\$ (450.75)	\$ 6,449.00
Memorial Account	\$ 7,528.41	\$ -	\$ (698.75)

*The American Lutheran Caller*

*P.O. Box 132*

*Castlewood, SD 57223*

*Address Service Requested*



**WATCH US ON YOUTUBE & ITC!**

*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!



**[americanlutheranchurch.com](http://americanlutheranchurch.com)**

**2022 Church council members**

Dan Grupe, President

Candy Galliseth, VP

Rod Fischer, Treas.

Mark Larson, Sec.

Jesse Ruml

Josh Nei

Chuck Juntti

John Bucher

Lindsey Vetter

Carrie Henricksen