

# American Lutheran Church LCMC

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# ALC Newsletter

AUGUST 2017  
Pastor Bill Bakewicz

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*A Place to Call Home*

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## From the Pastor....

One year ago, we replaced our flat roofs as well as our shingled roofs. The total cost of the project was \$96,345. We were able to secure a loan for \$65,000 with Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank here in Long Prairie at a fixed rate of 3% for 15 years with no prepayment penalty. I am happy to report that one year later, our loan balance is down to \$30,167. We have paid off over half of the loan amount in one year. This year our offering envelopes have included a monthly "roof" envelope. Contributions received in these envelopes have gone toward paying off the loan.

Thank you for helping to reduce the loan balance so quickly! While we have done a great job of giving to reduce the amount we owe on our roof loan, we need to do a better job at supporting our church's ongoing mission and ministry expenses. Our expenses year to date (January through July) are approximately \$12,000 more than our giving. If each one of us would increase our weekly offerings a bit, we will be able to cover our expenses. Approximately \$2,000 more per month is needed to do this. Please pray and ask the Lord what He would have you do in this regard.

On another note, we had a very successful fun-filled week at Vacation Bible School. Sixty six children attended, and a staff of 32 people ministered to the children. Our theme was Galactic Starveyors: Discovering the God of the Universe.

Thank you also to all who helped with food

## Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in  
Sanctuary  
Thursdays at 5:45 p.m.  
in Choir Room (Through  
August 31<sup>st</sup>)

### Wednesday Family Night Suppers...

Will resume Wednesday,  
September 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.  
Supper teams and the  
schedule will be posted. If you  
are not on a team, we  
encourage you to sign up on  
the easel in the narthex. It's a  
great way to serve and to get  
to know people.



Do you love to sing? Do you play an instrument and want to share your gifts with others? The music lovers at American Lutheran Church would love to have you join us as we worship the Lord in song! We would love to add members to our choir, Praise Team, or have you join us for special music. Please talk to Kari Christians if you are interested!

## From the Pastor (Continued)

donations and donations of your time at our Food Stand at the Todd County Fair. It was a challenge for us as a congregation to have both the Todd County Fair and our Vacation Bible School taking place in back to back weeks.

As you probably already know, we have hired Kari Christians as our interim Youth & Family/Music Ministry Coordinator. Beginning this month we are accepting applications for this position from within our congregation. We hope to complete the application process by the end of August. Copies of the job descriptions are included in this newsletter. If you are interested in applying for the position, please contact our church office.

Included in this month's newsletter you will also find a report from one of our missionaries, Evangelist Chris Mikkelson. Chris grew up in Osakis, and his sister, Lisa Steinert, is a member of our congregation. In Chris' report you will discover that Chris conducted a crusade in Pakistan a few months ago, and at that five day crusade, more than 43,200 people received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior for the first time! Chris will be conducting another crusade in Pakistan next month. Let's do all we can to continue to support Chris as one of our missionaries.

Just before He ascended into Heaven forty days after His resurrection from the dead, Jesus spoke these words to us – words that have come to be known as the Great Commission – words that are still our marching orders today as Christians: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have command you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20).

Whether it's supporting and helping with Vacation Bible School, our Food Stand at the County Fair, one of our missionaries, or our church's ongoing mission and ministry in many other ways, let's continue do all we can to spread the Good News of Jesus in our own community and around the world.

**Sincerely,** **Pastor Bill**

# Youth & Family

## Summer Highlights High5/Youth and Family Wednesday Nights

### NERF WAR!

Russ and Jen Olson hosted our Youth and Family night on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Nine kids (and their parents!) participated in games, fellowship and bible devotion. Kids enjoyed learning how to be a warrior for Jesus!



### GAME NIGHT!

Ron and Jan Richter hosted a family game night at our church on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Families participated in various outdoor games, enjoyed fellowship, and learned about the importance of endurance in our faith. It was a great night!



## Coming Up Soon!

### August 16<sup>th</sup>: American Ninja Warrior

Steve and Kari Christians  
25992 County 18, Browerville  
(320)533-3021

### August 23<sup>rd</sup>: YOLF Night! (yard golf)

Sy and Janie Thole  
30704 250<sup>th</sup> St., Long Prairie  
(320)291-4598

Events start at 7:00 pm!

RSVP to Kari or  
sign up in the narthex.

## Just a Note

“Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so...” This is such a familiar song to us. Sometimes when something becomes so familiar it starts to lose its meaning. But this message we cannot forget. He loves us. How do we know this? Because He told us. And He’s never stopped. The other day my three year old son Drew told me that God was in his heart. He then asked, “Am I in God’s heart?” Wow. That stopped me for a second. I told him “Yes, you are absolutely in God’s heart.” I think kids are able to comprehend such simple truths better than I can sometimes! I love the words in the song “You Are Loved” by Ellie Holcomb (see below for entire song lyrics). It reminds me that God just loves me despite all of my failures, that I can’t measure up, and frees me to stop trying to be perfect. In fact, if I never did another thing for Him, He loves me just the same. Psalm 34:5 states “Those who look to Him for help will be radiant with joy; no shadow of shame will darken their faces.” That is something to let soak in. We can just rest in the fact that we are in God’s heart. What a safe place to be.

Peace and blessings,

Kari Christians

Youth & Family Coordinator

Kari Christians

[karichristians@yahoo.com](mailto:karichristians@yahoo.com)

call/text(320)533-3021

Are you passionate about our youth knowing Jesus? Do you want to be part of events centered on teaching our kids about God’s love for them? The Board of Education is seeking a **Sunday School coordinator and Sunday School teachers** for all ages this fall. Please see a board member if you are interested! Current board members are Kari Christians, Liza Hasse, Laurie Barthel, Tracy Schultz, Jonathan Young and Pastor Bill Bakewicz.

## YOU ARE LOVED

*Psalm 34:5 & Romans 5:8*

Ellie Holcomb, Christa Wells, Nicole Witt

Some days you’re tired of trying to measure up/You see a girl who’s not enough/When you look in the mirror/Some nights all you want to do is hide/Cause every time you look inside/You’re face to face with failure/**But you are loved, not because of what you’ve done/Even when your heart has run the other way/Nothing’s gonna change His love/ And you are wanted, not because you are perfect/ I know that you don’t think you’re worth that kind of grace/ But look into His face, you’ll know/ That you are loved/**You’ve searched for something that will stir your soul/That will make you feel less alone/But nothing ever saves you/He knew before you ever took a breath/There’d be days when you’d forget/How beautiful He made you/**CHORUS/**That Jesus, He chose you/He sees you,/He know you, ohhhh/You’re covered, forever/Beloved Daughter/**CHORUS/**Look into His face, you’ll see it there/Look into His face, you’ll know/That you are loved

# ALCW

## Fall Women's Retreat October 6-7-8 Mt. Carmel Retreat Center



“Don't be weary in prayer, keep at it; watch for God's answers, and remember to be thankful when they come.” Col. 4:2 (Living Bible)

Material from Susie Larson (*Your Powerful Prayers*) and Mark Batterson (*Circle Maker*) will be used as our topic focus. Praying from a powerful position and claiming God's promises within our prayers are primary encouraging words that will be at the center of our study. Included will be time to pray, using what we learn. New this year, we have invited the women of CrossRoads church (Pastor Sarah Carlstrom) to join us!

Although this is a weekend retreat, options are offered to make it most available for all the women of ALC: entire weekend--\$156

1 over night--\$99

Saturday only-\$36

**Watch for the poster for more information...**

***Make your reservation SOON....Praying you join us!!!***

# Mission Focus for August

Dear Friends,

I'm so excited to share with you the results of our Gospel Campaign last week in South Asia. Over five days of ministry, 43,200 people received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and are being ushered into the church follow-up program! Praise God!

Now more than 200 local pastors along with their elders and church leaders are following up with all these new believers to ensure they become faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Please continue to pray for these new believers as they follow Jesus.

Also, please continue to pray for us as we make preparations to go back to this country in September of this year for our next Gospel campaign. I believe this is just the beginning of what God wants us to do in this country and we're believing for even bigger festivals where more people can hear the message of Jesus Christ.

Thank you so much for standing with us in the harvest! Together we are fulfilling the Great Commission and taking the Gospel to the most unreached nations.

Over **5 days of ministry, 43,200 people received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.** This is a picture from the Gospel campaign. What you can't see is that **the crowd in this picture is only a portion of the massive crowd** of people who came to hear the Gospel message preached.



This is a picture of **a woman** who was **paralyzed in the right leg** for the past 6 months and couldn't walk who was healed at the Gospel Campaign. We walked together back and forth on the stage and she said she was completely healed. This was **just one of multiple healings that took place** on this trip. In fact, there were so many people who wanted to testify of their healing, that we didn't have enough time to hear all of them. All glory to Jesus Christ!

On Sunday morning I was able to preach at the largest church in this county **which has over 15,000 members.** After the Gospel message, I made a call for salvation and asked for first time decisions only to stand. **Thousands stood to make a first time decision for Jesus Christ. Praise God!** I also prayed for the sick as well and many people were healed of various sickness. Praise the Lord!

God bless you!

Evangelist Chris Mikkelson.

# Job Posting – Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator

Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministries – revised/updated job description now posted by the Youth and Family Committee and open to all congregational members. Please submit letter of interest and resume to the church office or to Karen Bakewicz (Chair of Committee) for the committee to review.

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**Job Title: Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministries**

**Status: Salary Position (minimum expectation of 20 hours per week)**

**Reports to Pastor:** for coordination of church calendar with staff and management of hours

**Reports to Youth and Family Ministry Committee:** for all planned ministry and activities

## **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Vision, Mission and Strategies**

- Implement program content that follows both the ALC Mission and Youth and Family Ministry statements.

Mission Statement of American Lutheran Church: Led by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we seek to make the Kingdom of God real and present in our world through ongoing worship, witness, and service.

Youth and Family Ministry Statement: American Lutheran Church Youth and Family Ministry seeks to enable Youth and Families to GLORIFY God through spiritual GROWTH by GATHERING together, sharing their God-given GIFTS, and GIVING Christ to others.

- Communicate this vision to the congregation by announcements made in person during Sunday worship, bulletin boards, and use of communication media.
- Actively encourage and prepare for the continued growth of American Lutheran's Youth and Family ministry.

### **Ministry of Presence**

- Consistent attendance and participation in worship services and Wednesday activities.
- Consistent attendance and participation in Youth & Family committee meetings to plan and implement regular activities/events.
- Work with committee to enhance, equip, enable and maintain congregational involvement for all programs of the committee.
- Meet one on one and in small group setting as appropriate for mentoring, supportive listening, and increasing growth of personal faith relationships.

### **Administrative Responsibilities**

- Ensure that all participants adhere to the child protection policy.
- Provide resourcing for Youth and Family Ministry committee members and others involved with activities/events.
- Develop and maintain incoming and outgoing communication through various tools (phone, direct mail, e-mail, newsletter, web site, bulletin board, weekly worship bulletin, and other social media).
- Develop and be responsible for the Youth and Family Ministry budget, with the assistance of the Youth and Family Ministry committee and Board of Trustees.

### **Personal Qualifications:**

- Vital personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Demonstrated leadership and organizational skill
- Ability to identify and foster leadership in adults and youth
- A desire to be a team player who works well with other staff
- Display a personal aptitude for spiritual, emotional, social and physical wellness
- An attitude of flexibility and adaptability in the face of the changing moods, plans, and directions common to working with youth and parents
- A resilient and persevering spirit that is not easily discouraged or frustrated which contributes to stability and longevity in this position
- Sense of humor and energetic personality helpful
- Ability to self-manage professional use of time required to fulfill the job description
- Ability to develop and respect personal boundaries
- Training in youth/family ministry preferred but not required; ongoing educational opportunities available
- Bachelor's degree is preferred but not required

# Job Posting – Music Coordinator

Music Coordinator – Job posting now open to all congregational members.  
Please submit letter of interest and resume to the church office.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- Abide by and implement the Mission Statement of American Lutheran Church:

***Led by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we seek to make the Kingdom of God real and present in our world through ongoing worship, witness, and service.***

- Coordinate/lead contemporary worship services with leaders and participants
- Assist with scheduling worship formats with pastor, organist and other participants
- Work with Sunday School music people for seasonal programs
- Coordinate/lead Vacation Bible School music program
- Provide weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter information to the church secretary in a timely manner
- Provide report for annual congregation meeting in January
- Attend weekly staff meetings
- Monitor maintenance of pianos with congregation's Board of Trustees



# Mission Projects

## School Supply Drive



It's that time of the year again to start picking up school supplies for our local school children. Please drop off supplies in the narthex in our School Supply Drive bin. Contact Tracy Schultz if you have any questions. 732-6548

## Operation Christmas Child



Our VBS students and parents made a great beginning toward filling our **2017 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes!** *Thank You!* We would like to step up our goal this year to 350 boxes! That will take every family watching for and grabbing bargains during the next three months.

The August "Gift of the Month" is **School Supplies.** *Did our VBS children know this?* We received many crayons, colored pencils, pens and other school supplies, but still need "LOTS" if we are to fill 350 boxes. Another reminder: Remember the coin "banks" our Sunday school students received as treat boxes after the Christmas program in 2016? Do you have it collecting coins for our 2017 boxes? What a great way to painlessly accumulate a little cash for filling boxes or for the shipping funds.

Spread the information about OCC Shoeboxes to family, friends &

# Service Group 4 – July - August

## Service Group Responsibilities:

- Serve for funerals on a rotating basis every 7<sup>th</sup> Funeral.
- Serve for special events occurring during the two month period.

**Group 4 Leaders:**

<b>Neva Paulson</b>	<b>320-360-5637</b>
<b>Assistant – Mary Emblom</b>	<b>320-360-5152</b>
<b>Assistant – Bernice Petrie</b>	<b>320-732-2559</b>

## Group 4 Members:

Frank & Nancy Ademite	320-352-2496	
Pastor Bill & Karen Bakewicz	320-760-3843	(Cell)
Allen Emblom	320-732-2073	(Home)
Dee Gjerstad	320-360-4429	
David & Liza Hasse	320-732-3907	
John & Jane Hasse	320-547-0008	
Ralph & Barbara Holmes	320-547-2300	
Donna Johnson	218-330-0764	
Bryon & Amy Karjala	218-330-1467	
Hope Karjala	320-815-2407	
Bertha Leagjeld	320-360-2463	
Ryan & Jillene Lubbers	320-360-2463	
Al & Connie Marcyes	320-732-3559	
Larry & Jan Mellgren	320-732-3070	
Russ & Jen Olson	320-732-3289	
Rich Paulson	320-732-4069	
Connie Pesta	320-360-5637	
Marvin & Laurie Poegel	320-732-6780	
Allen & Tami Priebe	320-547-3676	
Dave & Christy Ruda	320-808-4739	
Carole Thompson	320-732-6067	
Tom & Theresa Wieggers	320-732-6045	
Bruce & Diane Young	320-491-6299	
	320-298-6078	
	612-741-6039	

# August

## Happy Birthday

1<sup>st</sup> Rebekah Bakewicz  
5<sup>th</sup> Lorraine Winge  
6<sup>th</sup> John Hasse  
6<sup>th</sup> Marge Morgan  
6<sup>th</sup> Diane Young  
10<sup>th</sup> Stan Hillman  
11<sup>th</sup> Peg Drevlow  
12<sup>th</sup> Toni Kraska  
12<sup>th</sup> Ruth Mittag  
12<sup>th</sup> Patty Ostendorf  
13<sup>th</sup> Liza Hasse  
13<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Kramer  
14<sup>th</sup> Mark Hasse  
14<sup>th</sup> Andrew Katterhagen  
14<sup>th</sup> Karen St. Germain  
14<sup>th</sup> Lori Zellmann  
17<sup>th</sup> Joshua Berscheit  
18<sup>th</sup> Connie Pesta  
18<sup>th</sup> Katylin Saarela  
20<sup>th</sup> Greg Goplin  
20<sup>th</sup> Jean Jacobson  
20<sup>th</sup> Donna Ostendorf  
22<sup>nd</sup> Linda Hatton  
22<sup>nd</sup> Kessy Holmquist  
25<sup>th</sup> Jonathan Haugen  
26<sup>th</sup> Pearl Kramer  
20<sup>th</sup> Stephanie Eckel  
31<sup>st</sup> Dianne Flaten  
31<sup>st</sup> Brannon Karjala



## Happy Anniversary

1<sup>st</sup> David & Julie Atkinson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Woody & Marilyn Gustafson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Dick & JoAnn Manlove  
4<sup>th</sup> Delvin & Debra Durheim  
14<sup>th</sup> Russ & Jean Jacobsen  
15<sup>th</sup> Melvin & Charlotte Ackerson  
16<sup>th</sup> Jim & Patty Ostendorf  
17<sup>th</sup> Rich & Neva Paulson  
20<sup>th</sup> Bob & Tammie Chapin  
23<sup>rd</sup> Tom & Teresa Wieggers  
25<sup>th</sup> Chuck & Nancy Eldred  
26<sup>th</sup> Bruce & Diane Young  
29<sup>th</sup> Dennis & Carrie Roering  
31<sup>st</sup> Dustin & Chelsea Bless  
31<sup>st</sup> Roger & Gerry Thies



# ALC CALENDAR – AUGUST 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p>1 <b>10:00 am</b> Music Ministry at Valley View</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b> Trustee Mtg</p>	<p>2 <b>3:00 pm</b> Board of Education Meeting</p> <p><b>5:00 pm</b> Praise Team Practice</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b> Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>3 <b>10:00 am</b> Staff Meeting</p> <p><b>5:45 pm</b> <b>Worship service with communion</b></p> 	4	<p>5 <b>7:30 am</b> New2U Workers Arrive</p> <p><b>8:00 am</b> <b>New2u Sale</b></p> 
<p>6 <b>9:00 am</b> <b>Worship Service With Communion And Baptism</b></p>  	<p>7 <b>7:00 pm</b> Sarah Circle Nursing Home Birthday Party</p>	<p>8 <b>10:00 am</b> Music Ministry at Valley View</p>	<p>9 <b>4:00 pm</b> Youth &amp; Family Committee Meeting</p> <p><b>5:00 pm</b> Praise Team Practice</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b> Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>10 <b>9:30 am</b> Chapel at Nursing Home</p> <p><b>10:15 am</b> Chapel at Assisted Living</p> <p><b>2:00 pm</b> Staff Meeting</p> <p><b>5:45 pm</b> <b>Worship Service</b></p>	11	12
<p>13 <b>8:00 am</b> Praise Team Practice</p> <p><b>9:00 am</b> <b>Worship Service</b></p> <p><b>10:15 am</b> Missions Committee Meeting</p>	14	<p>15 <b>10:00 am</b> Music Ministry at Valley View</p>	<p>16 <b>11:00 am</b> Newsletter Articles Due</p> <p><b>5:00 pm</b> Praise Team Practice</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b> <b>Family Event - American Ninja Warrior at Steve Christians' Home</b></p> 	<p>17 <b>10:00 am</b> Staff Meeting</p> <p><b>5:45 pm</b> <b>Worship Service with Communion</b></p> 	<p>18 <b>6:00 pm</b> Wedding Rehearsal</p>	<p>19 <b>Wedding of Kyle Bodle and Kate Hillig</b></p> 
<p>20 <b>9:00 am</b> <b>Worship Service with Communion</b></p> 	<p>21 <b>6:45 pm</b> Sarah Circle Valley View Hymn Sing</p> <p><b>7:45 pm</b> Sarah Circle Bible Study</p>	<p>22 <b>10:00 am</b> Music Ministry at Valley View</p>	<p>23 <b>5:00 pm</b> Praise Team Practice</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b> <b>Family Event - YOLF at Sv Thole's Home</b></p> 	<p>24 <b>10:00 am</b> Staff Meeting</p> <p><b>5:45 pm</b> <b>Worship Service</b></p>	25	26
<p>27 <b>9:00 am</b> <b>Worship Service</b></p>	28	<p>29 <b>10:00 am</b> Music Ministry at Valley View</p>	<p>30 <b>5:00 pm</b> Praise Team Practice</p>	<p>31 <b>5:45 pm</b> <b>Worship Service (Last Thursday Worship of Season)</b></p>		