

American Lutheran Church LCMC

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ALC Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2018
Pastor Bill Bakewicz

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From the Pastor....

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th .
Worship is at 7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion.

The season of Lent is a time for reflection on the cross and on baptism, the seal of salvation for the people of God, and for rebirth and rededication as Christians look forward to the celebration of Easter. The word Lent means "spring" and is a time for growth in the Christian life.

The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for 40 days until the eve of Easter. Sundays are not included in the Lenten season since they are weekly commemorations of the resurrection.

In the early church the day before Easter was observed with fasting. The celebration of the Lord's Supper on Easter morning ended the fast and marked the resurrection of Christ. Later the church observed a fasting period of six days which developed into the Holy Week observance. In the early church, believers were baptized on Easter eve, after a 40-day fasting period. This preparation for baptism was expanded to include all believers, forming a period of preparation for Easter named Lent.

We focus our attention again this Lent on the cross of Jesus Christ. The cross is the basis for all God's provision. Everything that God has provided for those who believe is provided through the cross of Jesus Christ. The cross is the center of the Scriptures, and its place in the Bible can be compared to the hub of a bicycle wheel in relation to the other parts of the wheel.

Lenten Schedule

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday, February 14

– Holy Communion “The Cross – Curse on Christ and Blessings for Believers”

Wednesday, February 21 “The Cross – Chastisement and Peace”

Wednesday, February 28 “The Cross – Sickness and Healing”

Wednesday, March 7 “The Cross – Sin and Righteousness”

Wednesday, March 14 “The Cross – Banishment and Acceptance”

Wednesday, March 21 “The Cross – Poverty and Abundance”

Maundy Thursday, March 29
“The Cross – Death and Life”
Holy Communion

Good Friday March 30 “The Cross – Our Salvation”

Easter Sunday, April 1 “Meet the Risen Christ”

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service
– Holy Communion

**8:00 a.m. Easter
Breakfast**

**10:00 a.m. Festival
Service** – Holy
Communion

New Office Hours

Tue – Thu 8:00am – 3:00 pm
Fri 8:00 am – 11:00 am

From the Pastor (Continued)

The rest of the wheel is dependent upon the hub. All the spokes fit into the hub, and the rim is supported on the spokes. In the revelation of Scripture, the cross is the center of everything. Everything fits into the cross, and you never really can have a solid basis for your faith and salvation until you fully understand what was accomplished by the death of Jesus Christ on your behalf on the cross. Our theme this Lent is:

“The Provisions of the Cross”

During the season of Lent (from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday) we will be going on a spiritual journey as individuals and families through a series of daily Lenten mediations and prayers.

A Lenten devotional booklet for adults entitled ***Thy Will Be Done***, by Ted Schroeder, will be available on a table in the narthex, along with a Lenten devotional booklet for children entitled ***Jesus Loves Me!*** by Arden Mead. As we focus once again on the cross of Jesus Christ this Lent, my prayer is that you will embrace all that God has for you and for us as His Church, so that the love, mercy and grace of God given to us in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord will be manifest in us and through us to one another and to our world today so that our individual and collective witness will attract and bring many others into God’s Kingdom for all eternity!

**Sincerely,
Pastor Bill**

New Church Email Address

The church email address has changed from alclp@embarqmail.com to americanlutheranchurchlp@gmail.com

Our Board of Education...is looking for an [Education Coordinator](#) and a [Vacation Bible School Coordinator](#). Job descriptions are listed in this newsletter. If you are interested, please contact a member of our Board of Education - Liza Hasse, Jonathan Young, Laurie Barthel, or Tracy Schultz.

High5 / Youth & Family

FAMILY BOWLING!



Mark your calendars for March 18th! Come join your ALC family as we gather for fun and fellowship! All ages welcome. Win prizes!

8's Bowling pub & Grill
Long Prairie
2:30-4:30
\$6.00/game; includes shoes

Sign up coming soon!

Next Youth and Family Meeting:
Wednesday, February 7th
@4:00pm

What: High5 Youth Group
When: Wednesdays at 7pm
Where: Basement of ALC
Why: To know God and to make Him known!
Who: YOU! Youth in grades 7-12

Just a Note

Attn: Mission Trip Participants!
Our next fundraising Family Night Supper will be on March 14th. Make plans to help with this important fundraiser!

**Peace and blessings,
Kari Christians**

How's life? Want to talk about it?
Feel free to contact me.
(320)533-3021
karichristians@yahoo.com
Kari Christians

FAMILY WATERPARK ADVENTURE

Sunday, February 25th
Three Bear Waterpark
Holiday Inn Express, Baxter, MN

Come for an afternoon of floating, freestylin' and fellowship!

Waterpark passes will cost \$9.95 per swimmer if we have a total of 15. Every swimmer needs a pass, ages two and under are free. Please sign up on the Youth and Family Board!

Pick up and pay for passes at the waterpark the day of event.

Mission Focus for February



CURRENT PROJECTS

Hurricane Harvey Rebuild

Help rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey.

East Baton Rouge Parish, LA Rebuild

Help repair and restore homes damaged by August 2016 flooding that devastated many Louisiana communities.

Edgecombe County, NC Rebuild

Help rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Matthew.



U.S. DISASTER RELIEF

Samaritan's Purse mobilizes staff and equipment and enlists thousands of volunteers to provide emergency aid to victims of tornadoes, hurricanes, wildfires, floods, and other natural disasters in the United States. We often stay behind after our initial response to rebuild or restore houses for families in need.

International Responses

Whether building churches where believers can worship the Lord and minister to their communities, hospitals where Christian medical professional can care for the sick, or houses for victims of natural disaster, Samaritan's Purse reaches out internationally, bringing the love of God to the edges of the world. We partner with local churches and our international field offices, while also accepting volunteers for our construction projects that help build up the body of Christ around the world.

Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits Collection

The ALCW will be collecting items for the LWR Baby Care Kits during the months of February & March. A collection box is in the narthex. Monetary donations for shipping may be given to ALCW treasurer, Jane Olson.

A BCK from LWR is like a promise. It says to that baby, *Your needs will not be neglected by this world. You matter to us.* BCK provide encouragement by welcoming these little ones into an international community that cares. BCK are distributed as part of emergency and relief efforts, but they are also given out as part of LWR health initiatives to encourage women to seek prenatal care. One such initiative provided training for local prenatal health care workers, who were given BCK to distribute when they assisted with births. These kinds of programs help more babies in poor rural areas receive a healthy start in life.

The following items are included in a Baby Care Kit:

- 2 cotton t-shirts
- 2 gowns or sleepers w/o feet
- 2 receiving blankets
- 4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt w/ a hood, or include a baby cap
- 2 pair of socks
- 1 hand towel, dark color recommended
- 2 BATH-sized bars [4-5 oz.] of gentle soap, in original wrapping
- 2 diaper pins or large safety pins

GENTLY used, clean items [no stains or tears] can be substituted for new ones. **Sizes 6-24 months** are requested. Our goal always is to assemble a minimum of 100 kits. We have already received many items throughout the year. **What we have most need for are t-shirts [lots- more girls than boys] & sleepers [more boys] in sizes 6-12 months, lots of blankets, bath-sized bars of soap; some boys jackets and hand towels.**

We hope you will partner with us in this mission outreach! Thank You!

Baby Bottle Campaign

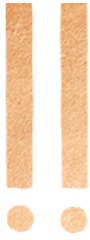


Baby Bottle Campaign....continues in support of the Pregnancy and Life Resource Center - Medical Clinic here in Long Prairie until February 11th. You can still pick up a bottle from the bassinette at the back of the sanctuary if you haven't already done so. Please return your gift bottle to the "box" in the back of the sanctuary by then. Thank you very much!



Women's Events

IF: GATHERING JOIN US FEBRUARY 9 - 10



What IF we followed God with perseverance instead of insecurity? At IF:Gathering 2018, we will look at one of Paul's letters to Timothy as he reminded him of the power and responsibility of sharing the gospel. We want to give God away in the very places He's put us, so we're going to gather for the purpose of remembering why following God and making disciples matters. We all get tired, we all wonder if what we're doing matters, so IF:Gathering 2018 will be the reminder--it will be the celebration. The work we're doing to share the gospel on the earth is worth it and God DOES move through the little things that nobody sees.

Join us as we gather as Christian Woman in our community to worship and grow together.

When: Friday, February 9th 5:30pm-9:00pm, supper provided Saturday, February 10th 8:30am-4:30pm, breakfast & lunch provided

Where: First Baptist Church, Long Prairie

Register: register.ifgathering.com or call Rachel at (320)808-3087

Follow us on FACEBOOK at IF:Long Prairie

Women's Day Retreat

All ALC women and their friends...

Save the date... save the date...

Put March 24 on whatever calendar device you use...

Set aside the day for a day retreat at the Bakewicz home.

Hopefully we shall see YOU there!!

Education Coordinator Job Description

Purpose: The purpose of the Education Coordinator is to oversee the details of the education of our youth here at American Lutheran Church.

Responsibilities: The Education Coordinator will...

- Attend Board of Education monthly meetings and take detailed notes of the meetings
- Oversee the other job descriptions as delegated by the Board of Education
- Maintain registration information on all students
- Manage attendance records
- Plan the Sunday School calendar
- Manage parent correspondence as needed
- Submit an annual report to the Church Council in December
- Check in with Sunday School teachers during the year and address issues as needed
- Order Sunday School curriculum throughout the year

Qualifications:

- Love of God and others
- Organized
- Ability to be at church most Sundays for Sunday School
- Access to a computer (either at home or come to church to use) for correspondence
- Belief in the importance of Christian education for our youth
- Effective communicator
- Flexibility

Amount of Time Required: Approximately 6 hours per month, mainly during the school year

When is the Ministry Performed: Be present during the Sunday School time, attend Board of Ed meetings one time per month (as set by the Board of Ed), other work completed at time frame delegated by the person in this position.

Length of Commitment: One year

Training Provided: On-going by the Board of Education, also contact information for past leaders in this position.

Responsible to: Board of Education

Support Provided by: Members of the Board of Education

VBS Coordinator Job Description

Purpose: The purpose of the Vacation Bible School Coordinator is to oversee the planning and implementation of Vacation Bible School at American Lutheran Church.

Responsibilities: The Vacation Bible School Coordinator will...

- Meet with the Board of Education to discuss the year's theme and plans
- Coordinate with and oversee all of the various leaders for Vacation Bible School (Hold an initial meeting to hand out curriculum and lay out plan for current year)
- Post sign up sheets (right after Easter) for teachers and helpers
- Post registration materials (right after Easter) for students to sign up
- Manage all registrations and class lists
- Coordinate all advertising starting in early Spring; posters, bulletin info, chamber (contact: chamber@longprairie.org)
- Organize and plan a name tag for the week for each student and leader (teachers will help)
- Send a parent letter home the first day of VBS explaining the week, the mission focus, Water Day, Friday lunch/program, and any other necessary information (see past examples)
- Coordinate the final program with Pastor, Music Leader, Food Leader and Sound/tech team.
- Submit a follow up summary to the church bulletin for the Sunday after VBS is completed.

Qualifications:

- Love of God, others and a heart for children
- Organized
- Ability to lead a team
- Effective communication skills
- Flexibility
- Ability to be present during the week of VBS

Amount of Time Required: This job would probably require about an hour of time each month starting in March, April and May to set up registrations and advertising; in June and July as the prep work begins and during the actual week of VBS it is a much larger commitment. Specific time amount depends upon the actual needs for the particular VBS that year. During VBS week the commitment would most likely be from 8:00am until noon, Monday thru Friday. There will also be clean up after the event.

When is the Ministry Performed: Advertising starts in early spring, and the commitment would run through after the completion of VBS in July.

Length of Commitment: One year

Training Provided: On-going by the Board of Ed, Education Coordinator, and past event leaders

Responsible to: Board of Education

Support provided by: Board of Education members, past leaders, all VBS teachers and helpers

Service Group 1 – January - February

Service Group Responsibilities:

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

Group 1 Leaders: **Doris Peterson** **320-732-6317**
 Jane Olson **320-732-6895**

Group 1 Members:

Blair & Marchell Anderson	320-874-0755
Misty Thom-Baker	320-732-2039
Bob & Tammie Chapin	320-859-4454
Kevin & Amy Dahl	320-732-2452
Kevin & Donna Faust	320-732-3361
Kermit Goldenstein	218-756-2319
Woody & Marilyn Gustafson	320-491-5776
Bryan & Linda Haugen	320-732-6883
Scott & Becky Hillig	320-815-0162
Ione Krause	320-732-3664
Kirk Olson	320-732-6895
Jim &	320-232-7913
Patty Ostendorf	320-492-0359
Chuck & Kathy Parker	320-732-3299
Nettie Pederson	320-732-3176
Lowell & Carol Sanvik	320-285-7792
Gary & Pam Schneekloth	320-732-2261
Donna Schneekloth	320-732-2603
Pat & Tracy Schultz	320-732-6548
Vicki Simpson	320-732-2869
Blanche & Al Tirk	320-732-3765
Sandy Westerberg	320-732-6768
Bob & RoseAnn Zinter	320-732-3397

February

Happy Birthday

- 2nd Kevin Faust
2nd Glen Merritt
2nd Teresa Wieggers
7th Betty Oliver
8th Allen Bruder
8th Brielle Flan
9th Lowell Sanvik
11th Amy Holmquist
11th Reilly Jacobsen
11th Heather Marcyes
12th Sue Kaneski
13th Simon Kruse
14th Christy Mallak
14th Jeni Vanselow
15th Jan Jorgensen
16th Harlen Darkenwald
17th Hunter Katterhagen
17th Dick Manlove
18th Cole Ostendorf
19th Leora Hillman
20th Mason Ellingson
23rd Gary Schneekloth
24th Stacy Cavallero
26th Amy Dahl
27th Ethan Barthel
27th Norma Fox
28th Gloria Larsen





Happy Anniversary

4th Robert & Lynn Kruzel



ALC Calendar – February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1:30pm Staff Meeting	2	3
4 8:30am Choir Practice 9:00am Worship Service with Communion  10:15am Sunday School - Children's Lesson "Paul's Conversion and Baptism"	5 7:00pm Sarah Circle Nursing Home Birthday Party	6 10:00am Music Ministry at Valley View 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	7 3:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation Class 4:00pm Youth & Family Committee Meeting 5:30pm Wednesday Night Family Supper 6:00pm Rock Solid Grades K-6 6:00pm 9th Grade Confirmation Class 6:00pm Praise Team Practice 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm High5 Youth Group Grades 7 - 12 8:00pm Deacons Meeting	8 9:30am Chapel at Nursing Home 10:15am Chapel at Assisted Living 1:30pm Staff Meeting	9 5:30pm – 9:00pm IF:GATHERING Women's Event at First Baptist Church, Long Prairie	10 8:30am – 4:30pm IF:GATHERING Women's Event at First Baptist Church, Long Prairie
11 8:00am Praise Team Practice 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School - Children's Lessons "Paul's First Journey" and "The Message: Christ Alone" 11:15am Missions Committee Meeting	12	13 10:00am Music Ministry at Valley View	14 1:30pm Hannah Circle Meeting 3:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation Class 4:00pm Praise Team Practice 5:15pm Wednesday Night Family Supper 6:00pm 9th Grade Confirmation Class 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Rock Solid Grades K-6 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service with Communion 8:00pm Church Council Meeting	15 1:30pm Staff Meeting	16	17
18 9:00am Worship Service with Communion  10:15am Sunday School - Children's Lessons "Paul's Second Journey" and "Paul Preached in Europe" 11:15am Board of Education Meeting	19 6:45pm Sarah Circle Valley View Hymn Sing 7:45pm Sarah Circle Bible Study	20 10:00am Music Ministry at Valley View	21 9:30am Esther Circle Meeting 11:00am Newsletter Articles Due 3:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation Class 4:00pm Praise Team Practice 5:15pm Wednesday Night Family Supper 6:00pm 9th Grade Confirmation Class 6:00pm Rock Solid Grades K-6 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm Lenten Service	22 1:30pm Staff Meeting	23	24
25 9:00am Worship Service 10:15am Sunday School – Children's Lesson "Paul's Third Journey" Family Event – Waterpark Adventure at Baxter	26	27 10:00am Music Ministry at Valley View	28 3:30pm 8th Grade Confirmation Class 4:00pm Praise Team Practice 5:15pm Wednesday Night Family Supper 6:00pm Rock Solid Grades K-6 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm 9th Grade Confirmation Class 7:00pm Lenten Service			