

LAMP

Monthly publication of the American Lutheran Church

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Council President: Maureen Even
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Welcoming Summer, Welcoming New Beginnings

June at American Lutheran Church is a month of connection, celebration, and new beginnings. We are delighted to welcome Pastor Susan Friedrich as our interim pastor and invite you to read her message inside this issue of the LAMP.

As we celebrate Father's Day, we give thanks for fathers, grandfathers, mentors, and all who guide and encourage us in faith. Even as summer schedules become busy, we encourage you to stay connected through worship, fellowship, and service. May God bless you throughout this season.

COUNCIL MINUTES

American Lutheran Church May Council Meeting May 11, 2026



The meeting was called to order at 6:17 pm. Present were President Maureen Even, Christy Phillips, Mike Waring, Mary Adams, and Sara Borland. Sheila Collins joined at 6:20 pm and Connie Hamilton joined at 6:24 pm. Pastor Pat Mohr-Kelly and Cindy Gosse were absent.

Devotions were from Christ in Our Home and Genesis 9:15.

Sara made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Christy. Motion carried.
(The above minutes were taken by Sara Borland.)

Treasurer's Report – The checking account balance at the end of April was \$10,761.01. No transfer will be made to the savings fund this month due to projected lower giving during the summer. Sara made a motion to approve the April Treasurer's Report. Second by Mike. Motion carried. Treasurer Cindy Gosse had provided an elevator repair cost breakdown spread sheet for council review. Further discussion and approval will continue when Cindy is present.

Secretary's Report – Mary made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2026 council meeting with one addition. Second by Connie. Motion carried. Sheila read the April 13, 2026 closed session minutes aloud. Sara made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Second by Christy.
Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Hospitality – Amber Reuter will join the committee. A cake or cupcakes will be ordered for fellowship for May 17 Graduation Sunday. There are leftover Mother's Day gifts for that day as well.

Parish Ed/Youth – Vacation Bible School will be August 9-13. Parish Ed is looking for volunteer help with Wednesday Worship in the fall. The Youth group met for an end of year picnic. Plans for attending the 2027 National Youth Gathering in Minnesota have begun.

Property/Technology – The chair lift has been removed. The church grounds have been sprayed for dandelions at no charge thanks to Dan Kopplin. Mike will get quotes for spraying in the fall. The light fixtures for Pastor's and Secretary's offices have been ordered.

Scholarship – The Committee (Pat Winblade, Sue Rigdon, and John Bergman) has approved granting the \$750.00 budgeted Scholarship to Wartburg College for Katelyn Zelle. Wartburg will credit the funds to her account and apply their matching funds.

Worship and Music – An organist job description has been written. Shirley Bergman will remain in an active role on the committee.

Call Committee – The church video is posted on the website and has been sent to Pastor Brackett of the NEIA Synod to be added to our Ministry Site Profile. Thanks to Sara Borland and all who participated in making this awesome video!

Pastor's Report – In lieu of a parting celebration, Pastor Pat would appreciate a card party. Her new address is: 39 Bluff St. Apt. 206, Dubuque, IA 52001 and will be posted in the LAMP.

New Business

Sheila made a motion to approve Pastor Pat's request for vacation days on May 24 and May 31.

Second by Connie. Motion carried.

Communion for shut ins: Will be discussed at the June council meeting with Pastor Susan.

Old Business

Correspondence – None.

Deacon Assignments for June

7 – Connie

14 – Mike

21 – Sheila

28 – Maureen

Connie will ask for fellowship hosts for June.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Sara made a motion to adjourn. Second by Mike. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Collins,
Secretary



JULY 5TH

Sunday Worship Schedule Change

American Lutheran Church will be participating in the community Ecumenical Service in the Park as part of the USA 250th Celebration. Therefore, there will be no worship service at ALC that morning.

We encourage everyone to join us for this special community worship service as we gather with fellow Christians to celebrate our faith, our nation, and our shared blessings.

We look forward to worshipping together, July 5th, 10am, East Land of Corn Park
Located on Young Street East of 6th Street

June 2026

To those at American Lutheran,
My name is Pastor Susan Friedrich, and I will be your interim pastor beginning in June. I am delighted to be here and am confident that the Holy Spirit has called us together to be partners in ministry in this time and place. I am looking forward to learning your names and your stories, as well as our story together. God calls us to both endings and beginnings, as well as to ongoing work that is “in the middle.” Interim ministry takes place “in the middle,” during a time between settled pastors, but it also enfolds beginnings and endings. Much awaits us!



The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. 1 Samuel 3:8-12

The boy Samuel (probably about 12 years old here), hears the LORD calling to him, but doesn’t recognize God’s voice. He runs to Eli once, twice, and then three times, when Eli realizes that Samuel is hearing God’s voice. “Next time,” Eli instructs Samuel, say, “Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”

It is not always so easy to recognize God’s voice when God speaks to us either. Like Samuel, we also need people of faith around us who can help us listen appropriately to God. God calls us each through our baptism, but God’s voice will continue to come to us throughout our lives at any and all ages. One way God calls is through our vocations, the ways in which we live the lives God has called us to live. Understanding our vocation comes primarily out of the gift of our own selves as created in the image of the Triune God. God needs everyone to use those gifts to do all the things that need doing in this world that God loves so much. That means our vocations as children, parents, and spouses, our daily work, our volunteer activities, our hobbies – all are part of the multiple vocations to which each of us is called.

I want you to know a little about my vocations (just as I look forward to learning more about yours!) I have been a rostered minister in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for 35 years, much of it as an associate in ministry serving a number of congregations, most here in NE Iowa. I was ordained as a pastor in 2013. My most recent settled call was at Bethany Lutheran in Elkader and Emanuel Lutheran in Strawberry Point. My last three interim calls have been at St. Paul Lutheran in Maynard, Good Shepherd Lutheran in Decorah, and St. Paul Lutheran Church and School in Waverly. I serve as secretary of Northeastern Iowa Synod. I also teach 4-Hers in Fayette County how to train their dogs. I enjoy reading, quilting, and making bread. My husband, Norman, is partially retired, still working part-time as an engineer with the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Norman and I live on an acreage 5 miles southeast of West Union, not far off Highway 56. It is a 48-mile drive to American Lutheran from our home. We both grew up on Iowa farms, so we appreciate living in the country. We've been in the West Union community since 1992. We are parents of four adult children. Tristan is an aerospace engineer working for Cessna aircraft in Wichita, Kansas. Benjamin (fiancée Laura) works for a web design company in Chicago. Ethan lives at home and helps with keeping things going at home. Our daughter Ellen (fiancé Chris) lives in Minneapolis and works for the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

I grew up in Madison County near Winterset. My father, age 91, lives in his country home near Rockwell City in Western Iowa. Norman grew up on a farm north of Elma.

I am happy to be your interim pastor. My call is half time, so I am typically working at least two days, usually Tuesdays and Wednesdays out and about, but those days will flex as needed to meet ministry needs. In conjunction with the half time call there will be one Sunday each month that I will have as a Sunday off. Please call if you would like to talk or meet with me! I also hope you will contact me when you would appreciate prayer or additional pastoral care about joys, concerns, medical care, or... You may call or text my cell phone. I also welcome opportunities to get to know all of you and the community of Jesup better.

“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” I look forward to listening with you to discover what God is calling us to do as the community of faith known as American Lutheran Church in this interim time. We may find our ears tingling!

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Susan's Cell: 563-422-7882
Pastor Susan Friedrich

Need 13 packing boxes

Summer Food Program

This summer, the Jesup Ministerial Association will help support 13 local families twice each month during June, July, and August. American Lutheran Church has committed to providing boxed oatmeal and canned fruit for each distribution.

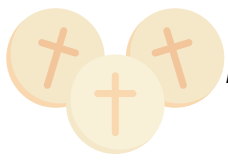
That means we **will need 26 boxed oatmeals and 26 cans of fruit every month** to help care for families in our Jesup community. Donations may be placed in the grocery cart by the front entrance.

Thank you for helping us share God's love through this important ministry!



We are in need of two volunteers on July 8 at 4:00 p.m. to help pack and distribute food to families participating in the Summer Food Program at the Presbyterian Church.

We also need one volunteer on July 22 at 4:00 p.m. to deliver food from ALC to the Presbyterian Church for distribution. Please contact Secretary Chris! Thank you for helping support local families in our community!



Home Communion Volunteers

We are looking for individuals interested in distributing communion to church members who are unable to attend worship services in person. Pastor Susan has a list of members requesting monthly visits and will provide training for those interested. If you would like to help, please contact Pastor Susan.

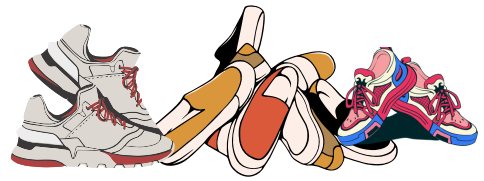


Parsonage Essentials for Pastor Susan

Pastor Susan has graciously accepted the position of part-time interim pastor. To provide her with a space to relax while in town, we have offered her the parsonage. We are looking for donations of a few essentials to make the space comfortable: a small dinette table and chairs, a comfortable living room chair, a reading lamp, a small bookcase, sets of bath and kitchen towels, dishes, utensils, pans, and basic cleaning supplies. If you are able to contribute, please contact a council member or Pastor Susan.



Fellowship Volunteers needed!



Soles4Souls Update from Mike & Chris Waring

Wow! Thanks to the amazing generosity of our community, we have now collected over 5,000 pairs of shoes toward our goal of 10,000 pairs by August 2026!

That means we're officially halfway there, but the finish line is approaching fast and we need your help to reach our goal!

Every pair of shoes donated creates economic opportunities for families around the world while keeping usable footwear out of our landfills. Together, we're making a difference both locally and globally.

As you clean out closets, finish spring cleaning, host garage sales, or prepare for back-to-school shopping, please remember Soles4Souls. We gladly accept shoes of all sizes and conditions, and every pair brings us one step closer to our goal.

With just a few months remaining, now is the time to spread the word to family, friends, churches, schools, and businesses. Your donations and encouragement are helping us move closer to providing FREE shoes for children.

The countdown is on—let's make these next 5,000 pairs happen together! Keep those shoes coming!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050448A5A628AAF94-61890755-alcfellowship#/>



Scan QR code, use the link
or leave message for
Chris 319-827-6626

Military Members



Christa Leach has been called to active duty with the 434th Air Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana. Jordan and Justin are still members of the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is stationed at Fort Knox and in the Army Reserves Cassidee is stationed in Iowa City and Cole is currently home. Cody Clayton is back from Fort Benning, Georgia Basic Training and will report to Dubuque. Karsten Nuehring is currently at Fort Lee in Virginia for his AIT training

Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We remember them in our prayers.

Worship WEDNESDAYS

Help Make Worship Wednesday Possible!

Worship Wednesday will return this fall, and we're looking for a volunteer to help with this important ministry from September through April.

This midweek program provides children with an opportunity to grow in faith, build friendships, and learn more about God's love in a fun and welcoming environment. If you enjoy working with children and would like to make a difference in their faith journey, we would love to hear from you!

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Christy Phillips-319-822-4267



Summer is here! With vacations, family gatherings, ball games, camps, and busy schedules filling our calendars, it can be easy to fall out of our regular routines. **As you enjoy all the blessings and activities of the season, we encourage you not to forget your church family at ALC.**

Your presence in worship, fellowship, and continued financial support help sustain the ministries and mission of our congregation throughout the summer months. Even while traveling, we invite you to stay connected through prayer, worship whenever possible, and online giving.

For your convenience, ALC offers easy Electronic Giving through Simply Giving. You may set up one-time or recurring donations that fit your schedule. Simply scan the QR code below with your smartphone or download the Give+ App to get started.

Thank you for continuing to keep ALC a part of your summer plans as we rest, recharge, and grow together in faith.



LIFE COMES
IN WAVES



SO TRUST IN
THE LORD.



RAGBRAI will be coming through Jesup on July 23rd

Our local churches have an exciting opportunity to be part of the day while raising funds for important community ministries and projects.

Members of the Jesup RAGBRAI committee recently met with RAGBRAI organizers and learned that homemade pie is always a huge favorite with riders! Communities along the route often sell pie by the slice at \$5.00 – with great success. After discussion, it was decided this would be a wonderful fundraiser opportunity for our churches and community.

The hope is for each church to provide 8–10 pies to help make the event a success. Youth volunteers may also help during the event by serving and selling pies throughout the day. Funds raised could support individual church needs, the Jesup Ministerial Association, or community projects such as future restroom additions at Reed’s Park and the splash pad area.

If you are willing to bake a pie or would like to volunteer to help on July 23rd, please contact Cindy Gosse. Thank you for helping us welcome visitors to Jesup while supporting meaningful projects in our community!

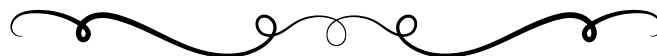


Dive Into Adventure at Rainforest Falls VBS!

Get ready for an exciting week of faith, fun, and adventure at Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School!

Join us **August 9–13 from 6:00–8:00 p.m.** in the Jesup City Park as we explore God's amazing world through music, games, crafts, stories, and new friendships.

Register for VBS Here

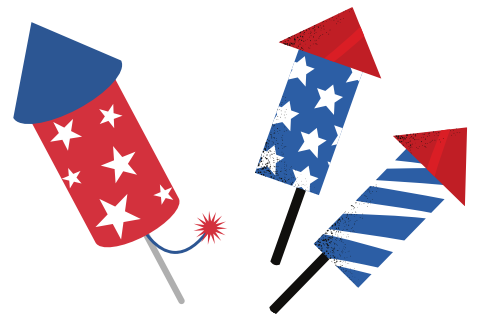


CONNECTIONS

Stay Connected with ALC! Visit our website and Social media to keep up with everything happening in our church family. You’ll find meeting minutes, the LAMP newsletter, our calendar, and much more—all in one place!

<http://www.americanlutheranjesup.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/alcjesup//>



Birthdays

Susan Bowers	3-Jul
Crystal Lysne	6-Jul
Layne Witt	6-Jul
Braylon Dahl	10-Jul
Kayla Hunziker	11-Jul
Brady Ahmann	11-Jul
Brea Witt	12-Jul
Katelyn Zelle	15-Jul
Karsten Nuehring	16-Jul
Kohl Nuehring	20-Jul
Bill Schneider	23-Jul
Wayne Schneider	26-Jul
Brady Hemmer	26-Jul
Dar Thompson	28-Jul
Beth Stanek	29-Jul
Hannah Borland	31-Jul

Baptism Anniversaries

Barb Schneider	1-Jul
John Bergman	3-Jul
Laurie Even	7-Jul
Sheila Collins	11-Jul
Haylee Frush	11-Jul
Katey Niichel	13-Jul
Mary Adams	18-Jul
Justin Leach	27-Jul
Jim Gosse	31-Jul

Wedding Anniversaries

Dan and Maureen Even	7/3/1982
Danny Kopplin and Erin Christel MacTaggart	7/4/2014
Bill and Laurie Even	7/17/1982
Tom and Sue Hoey	7/25/1992

2026

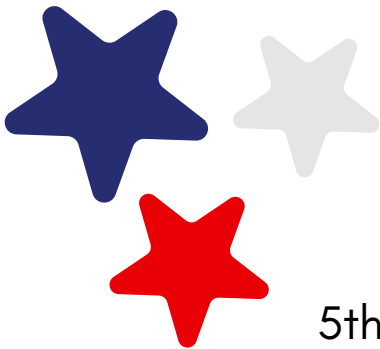


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
6TH Sunday after Pentecost 10 AM Ecumenical Worship Jesup Pavillion			LAMP Articles Due 4pm ALC Pack Food @ Methodist Church	Jesup Farmers Days.....		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
7TH Sunday after Pentecost 9am Worship & Communion	6:30 Council Meeting			Chris out of office July 16-26.....		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8th Sunday after Pentecost 9am Worship & Communion			4pm Food Delivery to Methodist Church	Chris out of office July 16-26.....		
26	27	28				
9th Sunday after Pentecost 9am Worship & Communion				Pastor: Rev. Susan Friedrich Council President: Maureen Even Secretary: Chris Waring Church Phone: 827-6626 Web Address: www.americanlutheranjesup.org Church e-mail: secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org		

Prayers

Remember our members and friends in your prayers: Wendel, Shirley, Jeanne , Bill , Sharon, Jeanne, Debbie, Lori, Joyce, Kaye and Marie

Prayer Chain: Contact Kaye Jones kayejns@gmail.com or the office-
secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org



July Deacon/Readers

5th Ecumenical
Service at Park
12th Mike Waring

19th Cindy Gosse
26th Mary Adams

