

LAMP

Monthly publication of the American Lutheran Church

Pastor; Pat Mohr-Kelly, patmohrkelly@gmail.com

Council President: Maureen Even

Secretary: Chris Waring

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Church e-mail: secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org



His presence is steady:

September is a month of fresh beginnings. The school year has started, schedules are filling up, and the seasons are beginning to shift toward autumn. In the midst of all this change, God reminds us that His presence is steady, His promises sure, and His mercies new every morning.

This is a wonderful time to re-center our hearts in prayer and worship. Just as farmers prepare for harvest and students prepare for learning, we too are called to prepare our hearts for what God is doing among us. Let us enter this season with gratitude, anticipation, and open hands, ready to serve and to be renewed.

May the Lord bless our congregation in this busy season, and may each of us find moments of stillness and joy in His presence.



COUNCIL MINUTES

August 11, 2025 Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Maureen Even.

Present: Pastor Mohr-Kelly, Shirley Bergman, Amber Reuter, Mike Waring, Christy Phillips, and Mary Adams. Absent: Sara Borland

Pastor led a devotion from Psalm 127.

Mike Waring asked to add an addition of the Lions Club shoe drive to be added under New Business. Motion by Cindy to approve. Second by Shirley. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Cindy has fixed federal state withholdings on the July report. Motion by Mike. Mary second. Motion carried.

Mike pointed out the transfers in improvement, youth and benevolence funds for July & August. Cindy said the CD is now at 4% for 3 months. Maureen pointed out insurance was paid so expenses should go down. Cindy did complete the workers comp paperwork and the premium will increase but not up to the premium when we had a full-time pastor. Mary motion to approve. Second by Christy. Motion carried.

Secretary Report:

There were a couple grammatical things that were updated. Discussion was about how detailed the meeting notes need to be. Question was brought up that the time stamp on the July 28th meeting was the same as the July 14th meeting. Amber believes it was around 8 p.m. Cindy motioned to approve the July minutes. Second by Mike. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality Reports:

August fellowship hosts are set through August. Cindy will line up for the last 3 Sundays in September.

Parish Ed/Youth:

Christy shared VBS went really well. 60-65 kids each night. Parish Ed will meet August 13 to get ready for Worship Wednesday which will start after Labor Day. Chris will send out postcards to the families with youth.

Property/Technology:

Mike shared the last thing left to fix is the elevator. He should have a quote tomorrow so we can then file insurance. There was a mistake on the claim previously, that the laptop used for worship was on there. Mike had them remove that from the initial claim. Mike recorded on Sunday, but the volume wasn't working. Anthony Bahe with Heartland Technology came and looked at it. The boxes are \$70-\$75, so Mike had it ordered. Cindy recommends that after the elevator is fixed, we discontinue service with Schindler and switch to another provider because of the response time and service we have received. Schumacher could be good alternative.

Shirley mentioned the fire extinguishers will need to be checked. Mike will call and have them checked.

Scholarship:

Maureen mentioned we won't really have anything until spring.

Worship and Music:

Shirley shared we have had smaller numbers this summer. Pastor believes Praise Worship attendance will increase with confirmation. Two baptisms this past Sunday. Next Sunday will be sending of the college students. August 24 will be the blessing of school children. Wendall mentioned to Pastor that the Independence Bulletin Journal only lists the 9 a.m. service. Mike will get that updated.

Call Committee:**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor shared we should line up cottage meetings. Cindy suggested we get the feedback at the congregational meeting and use the info for the cottage meetings. August 24th will only be a 9 a.m. service with the meeting to follow. The mailing for the confirmation students went out. Confirmation will begin September 7th. Christy shared that we will know the first day of Worship Wednesday after the August 13th. Pastor's granddaughter gets married December 20th. She has reached out to synod for a Pastor that day. Christy mentioned we may have the children's Christmas service that Sunday which they will discuss on Wednesday's youth meeting.

New Business:

Maureen brought up ratifying the emailed motion by Cindy Gosse and seconded by Sara Borland to approve the bid from Hawkeye Alarm & Signal Company in the amount of \$3,078.00 plus tax to replace the fire alarm system for the elevator. Ayes: Mike Waring, Cindy Gosse, Sara Borland, Shirley Bergman, Mary Adams & Maureen Even. Motion Carried. Motion carried.

Plans for renewal and feasibility will be after the congregational meeting.

The chairlift was installed temporarily while the elevator is out of commission.

Mike shared the Independence Lions is taking on Soles for Souls collection. He asked that ALC be a collection site for the shoes, all kinds of shoes. Cindy motion to approve. Second by Christy. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Maureen emailed Ruth Frush about dates for a joint Council meeting with Zion Lutheran. The dates do not work for them. Zion would like the meeting to be only the President and Vice President of each Council. Cindy suggested it be a full joint meeting to discuss the yoke agreement and future activities like Advent which begins November 30th. Amber also agreed that it should be a joint meeting to discuss the upcoming season. Maureen will suggest Thursday, August 28 or Wednesday, September 3 for a meeting and share a suggested agenda.

Discussion was had around chapter 1 of "Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Rural Congregations" by David Poling-Goldenne and L. Shannon Jung. Ideas were brainstormed on ideas of how we can give back to our community. Pastor suggested a Purple Pantry at the church with canned goods, toiletries. Donations could be collected for Jay's Closet at the school. Cindy will contact Mrs. Hansen to find out the needs of Jay's Closet. Pastor suggested a Mission Moments once a month during Sunday service to hear from members doing missions or working in the community to share their stories. Mary will call Crystal Lysne and Pastor will talk to Missy Weber about sharing their work. Mary suggested we put up a collection for a mitten tree early in November for those in need.

Pastor mentioned Kaye Jones is going to lead a prayer group this fall. Pastor will lead a study on Paul.

Correspondence:

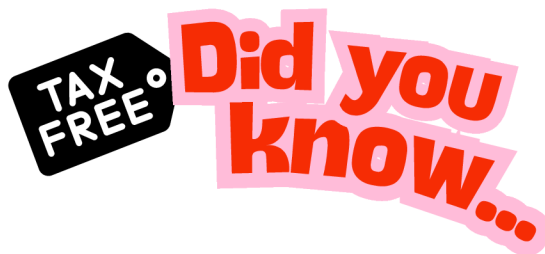
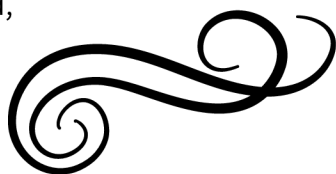
No correspondence.

Deacon assignments for September: September 7: Christy; September 14: Mike; September 21: Maureen; September 28: Amber

Lord's Prayer was said.

Mike Waring motioned to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Second by Cindy Gosse. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Reuter
Secretary



Owners of an Individual Retirement Arrangement (IRA) who are age 70 ½ or older can make tax-free charitable contributions up to \$108,000 per year through qualified charitable distributions. For those age 73 or older, qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) also count toward the year's required minimum distribution (RMD). Distributions must go directly from the IRA custodian to the charity. QCD's are excluded from your taxable income even if you take the standard deduction. Contact the custodian of your IRA to initiate this type of contribution which can be made on a schedule of your choosing, i.e. one-time, monthly, quarterly or annually. American Lutheran Church meets the requirements for a qualified charity. This type of distribution (QCD) is not a deduction but rather an exclusion from taxable income and could provide a tax benefit. Contact the custodian of your IRA or your tax accountant for further information. Also, our Financial Secretary, Mike Waring, can give you information regarding how to transfer funds to the church.

FROM PASTORS DESK

PIGS SEW – It's a humorous way of remembering the Spiritual Disciplines of a healthy congregation. They stand for **P**rayor, **I**nvitation, **G**iving, **S**erving and **S**tudy, **E**ncouragement and **W**orship.

When a God centered focus comes alive, it starts with prayer. A key to congregational turnaround, it seems, is getting out of the way: inviting God deep into the planning and conversation process, seeking God's insight, will, and guidance in all facets of the ministry. (Discovering Hope by Shannon Jung and others).

At our most recent council meeting we talked about how we can enhance the prayer life of this congregation. Here are some comments that were made. Which of these would you be interested in joining/participating in?

- Listing those who are in need of prayer in the bulletin/Lamp (with permission)
- Making a prayer room available whenever the church is open
 - A vacant Sunday School room
 - Battery operated candles
 - Supply of bibles and devotionals
 - Prayer shawls
- Prayers before worship – pastor's office
- Prayers after worship – at altar – all are welcome for individual prayers
- Prayer walks in the community
- Sending prayer cards to those God has put on our heart

These were all such good ideas. These leaders of the church are committed to enhancing our prayer life.

FROG – fully rely on God

Pastor Pat



Scan this QR code and watch the ladies at work and having fun doing it!



Pastor Pat, Sheila, Shirley Iva, Kaye



The Rural Women's Study Club, in collaboration with the Riverview Center and Winding Creek Meadows, invites the community to an important educational program:

Wisdom of the Ages: Keeping Our Seniors Safe

This event will take place on Saturday, September 27, from 1:00–2:00 PM at Winding Creek Meadows, 1044 9th Street, Jesup.

As we know, seniors in our community face unique challenges that can put their safety and well-being at risk. This presentation will highlight critical topics such as physical safety, scams that threaten financial security, and awareness about sexual harassment and abuse. The Riverview Center will provide practical tools and insights to help protect ourselves and our loved ones from these threats.

Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity for questions and answers so participants can gain specific, practical advice for staying safe. Light refreshments will be served, and we hope you will join us for this meaningful time of learning and community care. "Protecting our seniors means protecting our whole community."

Together, through awareness and action, we can help ensure that older adults in Jesup and surrounding areas remain safe, valued, and supported.



Tailgate Feast at Zion Lutheran

Mark your calendars! Zion Lutheran Church will be hosting a Tailgate Feast on Sunday, September 28, from 4:30–6:30 PM. This fun community event is the perfect way to enjoy good food and fellowship with friends and neighbors.

Come hungry—our menu includes grilled brats or burgers, your choice of potato salad or mac & cheese, baked beans, chips, and dessert. You can dine in for fellowship or take advantage of our convenient drive-thru option if you're on the go.

The cost is just \$10 for ages 6 and up, while children 5 and under eat free. Proceeds help support the ongoing ministries and outreach of Zion Lutheran.

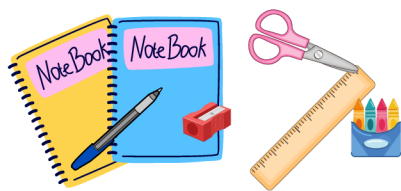
Bring your family, invite your friends, and join us for an evening of great food and community spirit. We look forward to seeing you there!

Baptism

Jaidyn Wright and
Nash Lee



Congratulations to our newest members, baptized on August 10th! We joyfully welcome you into our church family and celebrate this special moment with you!



Lutheran World Relief School Kits – Donations Due Sept. 21

American Lutheran is working to fill 25 backpacks for the Fall In-Gathering on October 8. 70-sheet spiral notebooks, Pencil sharpeners, 12-inch rulers, Blunt scissors, Black or blue ink pens (no gel), 16- or 24-count crayons.

Please bring donations to the church by Sunday, September 21. Thank you for helping us bless students through this ministry!

Keep ALC in Your Heart All Year Long Even When You're Away!



Life is full of busy seasons—vacations, family events, or weekends away—but your faithful support of American Lutheran Church can continue wherever you are.

Through Simply Giving, you can make one-time or recurring donations on a schedule that fits your life. Recurring gifts are a wonderful way to provide steady support for our ministries all year long, ensuring ALC can continue to grow, serve, and share God's love in our community.

Getting started is simple:

- ♥ Scan the QR code with your smartphone
 - ♥ Or download the Vanco Mobile app today
- Your generosity makes a lasting difference—thank you for keeping ALC in your plans year-round!



Q: Why didn't the skeleton go trick-or-treating?

A: Because he didn't have the guts! 🥰🎃



SOLES & SOULS

Give Your Shoes a Second Life – Change a Life!

Got shoes you don't wear anymore? Mike and Chris Waring, members of ALC and the Independence Lions Club, invite YOU to join the mission!

We're collecting new and gently used shoes for Soles4Souls—a nonprofit that turns unwanted shoes into opportunities. Our goal is 10,000 pairs by August 2025! Why? Hitting this milestone makes us eligible to bring new shoes to children in need right here in Buchanan County.

How to Help:

- ✓ Gather any shoes you no longer wear (all sizes/styles welcome—even single shoes!)
- ✓ Drop them in the bin located in the lower narthex at ALC
- ✓ Know that every pair you give helps change a life

Let's fill the bin, reach 10,000, and spread hope—locally and globally!



Noisy Offering for the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Fundraiser

On Sundays, October 5th and 12th, we will hold a Noisy Offering to support the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll fundraiser. Since local businesses are no longer allowing collections at their locations, our church has the opportunity to step in and help keep this important tradition alive. Bring your change—and let's make some joyful noise together for a great cause!.



Camp Ewalu's 38th Annual QUILT AUCTION

Saturday, Sept. 20

at Ewalu, 3 miles west of Strawberry Point

FREE admission & family fun all day!

All are welcome for music, food & fellowship!

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 9 a.m. - Quilt Review, Opening of Country Store & Family Fun
- 11 a.m. - Devotional Service
- 12 p.m. - Freewill Lunch
- 1 p.m. - Live Auction Bidding Begins



Don't miss the Online Auction: Sept. 15-21

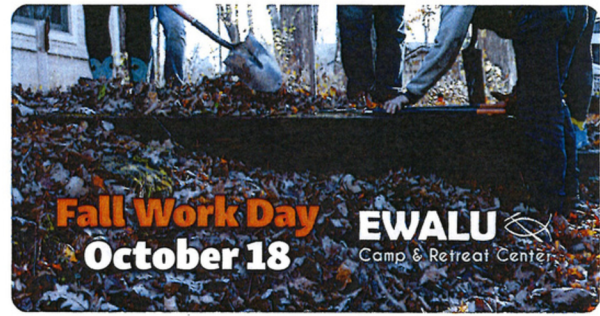
Scan code or go to
www.ewalu.org



More than 120 quilts & items
auctioned live on Sept. 20,
plus 150 more online!
Take part in either auction ...
or both! Proceeds benefit the
ministry at Camp Ewalu.



37776 Alpha Ave, Strawberry Point, IA 52076 563-933-4700 www.ewalu.org



Join volunteers, families, and church groups to help Ewalu get ready for the winter season. Take time to explore camp and meet staff and other volunteers ... come Friday evening to spend the night at Ewalu for free, our way of thanking you for helping!

A variety of projects are being prepared for all ages and abilities. If you can't be here for the weekend, we have plenty of things for volunteers at any time. Just give us a call!

37776 Alpha Ave, Strawberry Point, IA
(camp entrance is 3 miles west of town, on Iowa Hwy 3)

For more information:

563-933-4700

www.ewalu.org/fall-work-day

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday, Oct. 17: Spend the night at Ewalu. Free for volunteers!

Saturday, Oct. 18:

Volunteer Work Day

- 8:00 a.m. Arrival
- 9:00 a.m. Work Projects
- Noon Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Work Projects
- 4:00 p.m. Departure



Contact with questions:

Paul Frantsen at
563-933-4700

RSVP for lodging:

Diane Parker at
563-933-4700 or email
office@ewalu.org



Youth Fall Dirty Feet Retreat October 17-18-19



Calling all junior high students: Enjoy two nights of lodging in cabins, meaningful faith conversations, quality meals & snacks, energetic camp counselors, active praise music, the High Ropes Course, campfires and much more! This special weekend at Ewalu will help you grow in faith and meet new friends!

WHO: Grades 6-9 youth **WHEN:** 8 p.m. Friday, through 11 a.m. Sunday

COST: \$90 /youth, \$65 /chaperone

Includes: Activities, meals, & bunk bed style lodging,
Bring your own bedding, towel, pillow

Our Camp Store of items to purchase will be open, if anyone would like to make a cash or credit card purchase. No need to put money into the canteen at registration time!

Packing List: Bedding (bunkbed), Towel, Pillow, Weather appropriate clothing, Closed toe shoes, Water bottle, Toiletries, Bible, Backpack A Positive Attitude!

Contact us: Camp Ewalu, 37776 Alpha Ave., Strawberry Point, IA 52076,

Phone: 563-933-4700

Email: office@ewalu.org

growing your faith OPPORTUNITIES

Thursdays with God – The Life of Paul and His Early Writings

Thursdays, 6:00–7:30 PM – Fireside Room or via Zoom

Join us as we take a fresh look at Paul—his background, transformation, and writings. Together we'll explore his identity, views, and lasting influence on our faith. Come be part of the conversation—you may see Paul in a whole new light!

GROUNDING IN PRAYER

A 6-week small group study on deepening your prayer life. Themes include the groundwork of prayer, tools for personal prayer, and praying for different “soils” of faith. Meeting time and place will be set by participants.

If interested, write “Prayer Group” and your name on a prayer request slip (pink paper in hymnal holder) and place it in the offering plate, or let Pastor Pat, Chris, or Kaye Jones know.

EWALU Camp & Retreat Center Autumn Odyssey

55+ Retreat | October 13-15

Enjoy our fall retreat **just for seniors** at the comfortable Stone Center north of Strawberry Point!

Join us for featured speakers, time for reflection and renewal, optional hiking and chair yoga, and simple relaxation. Plus, we'll see the beautiful fall colors in NE Iowa! *Meals & lodging included.*

DATES: 4 PM Monday, Oct. 13 to 11 AM Wednesday, Oct. 15
COST: Double occupancy \$175
Single occupancy \$225



*Ewalu's Stone Center:
35124 Highway 13,
Strawberry Point, IA*

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Rev. Joan
Fumetti
Des Moines



Rev. Larry
Trachte
Waverly



DETAILS
&
HOW TO
SIGN UP

Go to www.Ewalu.org/Autumn-Odyssey
or scan the code above



Worship WEDNESDAY

 Worship Wednesday Fun! 

We kicked off Worship Wednesday on September 10, and oh what fun we had! The kids learned a brand-new bell song (ring, ring!), Pastor Pat shared a wonderful lesson, and everyone planted sunflower seeds to take home and watch grow. We also learned the 5-Finger Prayer and, of course, enjoyed some tasty snacks.

✨ **All children ages 3 years through 5th grade are invited!** ✨

Join us every Wednesday night from 6–7 pm for songs, stories, crafts, and fun.

Next up on September 17: we'll explore the story of The Lost Sheep and the Lost Coins. Don't miss it!

September Celebrations

Birthdays

Ryder Costello	3-Sep
Celeste Corkery/Saunders	3-Sep
Brian Jones	5-Sep
Emily Clark	7-Sep
Kylon Dahl	8-Sep
Dorothy Thompson	11-Sep
Mackenzie Wilson	12-Sep
Stella Distler	12-Sep
Lauryn Witt	12-Sep
Carmen Nuehring	16-Sep
Joyce Becker	19-Sep
Katie Clark	19-Sep
Keith Nuehring	20-Sep
Teri Schares	21-Sep
Tom Hoey	21-Sep
Merritt Jones	22-Sep
Kathy Rachuy	24-Sep
Jeff Borland	25-Sep
Missy Weber	30-Sep

Baptism Anniversaries

Susan Bowers	1-Sep
Maureen Even	2-Sep
Marie Bushkofsky	5-Sep
Dan Even	6-Sep
Randy Ruehs	8-Sep
Landon Bergman	8-Sep
Katelyn Zelle	9-Sep
Carsyn Niichel	10-Sep
Macey Krivanek	18-Sep
Jordan Leach	19-Sep
Eric Clark	22-Sep
Benjamin Gosse	22-Sep
Hannah Borland	23-Sep
Brady Ahmann	25-Sep
Dar Thompson	28-Sep
Grace Distler	29-Sep
Karsten Nuehring	30-Sep

Wedding Anniversaries

Mike and Chris Waring	9/2/1977
Dave and Jenifer Wyant	9/3/1994
Brad and Jennifer Wilson	9/4/1999
Wayne and Ruth Schneider	9/5/1970
Brian and Barb Hayek	9/10/1983
James and Kristi Clayton	9/11/1993

**LOST &
FOUND**



Are you missing your Hawkeye jacket?
See Chris Waring to claim. The jacket has
been hanging around since Palm
Sunday.



2025

OCTOBER

Pastor: Pat Mohr-Kelly Council President: Maureen Even Secretary: Chris Waring Church Phone: 827-6626 Web Address: www.americanlutheranjesup.org	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	29	30	01	02	03	04
			6pmWorship Wednesday	9am Womens Bible Study 6:30 Thurs W/God		
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
17th Sunday After Pentecost 9am Worship & Communion Blessing of LWR Kits during Worship 4pm Praise Worship Confirmation to follow PW			6pmWorship Wednesday	6:30 Thur W/God		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18th Sunday After Pentecost 9am Worship & Communion 4pm Praise Wroship Confirmation to follow PW	6:30 Council Meeting	9am Quilters	6pmWorship Wednesday LAMP articles due	6:30 Thur W/God		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
19th Sunday After Pentecost 9am Worship & Communion 4pm Praise Worship Confirmation to follow PW			6pmWorship Wednesday	6:30 Thur W/God		
		Pastor Vacation 10/20-10/22 Chris gone 10/22- 10/26				
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
REFORMATION SUNDAY 9am Worship & Communion 4pm Praise Worship Confirmation to follow PW		9am Quilters	6pm Worship Wednesday	6:30 Thur W/God		

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/>

Read daily devotions and share with your friends on our Facebook Page



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



If you wish to be added to the prayer chain either as someone needing prayers or want to join the Prayer Warriors as ALC, please: Contact Kaye kayejns@gmail.com or the office secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org with any prayer concerns.

Deacon Assignments for September

7th Christy Phillips

21st Maureen Evens

14th Mike Waring

28th Amber Reuter