

The Beacon

*"Choose you this day whom ye will serve...as
for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
Joshua 24:15*



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Office Hours: 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Monday-Friday

Gary Reitzel, Custodian

**Council Members: Wesley Stinson (Vice Chair), Karen Stewart (Secretary),
Celia Reece (Treasurer), Robert & Darbie Crouch, Kristen Link,
Kristy Painter, Ashton Hatley, and Tanya Stinson**

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LETTING GOD BE GOD.

A Reflection and Prayer on Psalm 62

from Martin Luther

The 62nd Psalm is a psalm of instructions concerning the false confidence in human powers and the true confidence in God. There are many who, having the favor of a prince or a noble or the good will of the rich and powerful, think that they need nothing more, then do much harm. Particularly, where they see a tottering wall, that is, when they notice that someone is not well looked upon in the palace or else is in need and is persecuted by another so that he cannot defend himself, then they all become knights, and they thoroughly flatter and play up to the great nobles. They do not see how entirely vain is such trust in princes and also do not believe, until it happens, how thoroughly it shall collapse. Therefore, it is said: Trust God and do wrong to no one who stands before God and men.

**62 For God alone my soul waits in silence;
from him comes my salvation.**

**² He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.**

**³ How long will all of you attack a man
to batter him,
like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?**

**⁴ They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.
They take pleasure in falsehood.**

**They bless with their mouths,
but inwardly they curse. Selah**

**⁵ For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,
for my hope is from him.**

**⁶ He only is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

**⁷ On God rests my salvation and my glory;
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.**

**⁸ Trust in him at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before him;
God is a refuge for us. Selah**

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- ⁹ *Those of low estate are but a breath;
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.*
- ¹⁰ *Put no trust in extortion;
set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, set not your heart on them.*
- ¹¹ *Once God has spoken;
twice have I heard this:
that power belongs to God,*
- ¹² *and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.
For you will render to a man
according to his work.*

Lord, our God, our sure refuge in need, grant us to love one another, and to honor and obey those You have placed over us. But teach us by Your Spirit to trust alone in You, and not to make flesh our arms, that we may look to You alone for our salvation through Jesus Christ. Amen.

("Reading the Psalms with Luther." Concordia Publishing House, Saint Louis: 2007, p. 145-146)

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DID YOU KNOW?

In 2025, the North American Lutheran Church celebrated its 15-year anniversary along with the 10-year anniversary of the North American Lutheran Seminary. In 2022, the NALC stepped forward in faith with a bold goal: to strengthen the future of the Gospel ministry across our church body through the 20/20 Vision Initiative. Together, congregations, pastors, and individuals, responded with generosity, prayer and trust in what God might do through our church.

Today, we give thanks not only because the financial goal was reached, but because we are already seeing the fruit. Since the launch of the 20/20 Vision Initiative, the NALC has grown and matured in tremendous ways.

444 to 557 Congregations.
35 to 45 Mission Districts.
23 to 66 Seminarians.
5 to 21 Global Workers.
12 New Mission Congregations Started.

As we look to the future, let us not only celebrate the blessings and accomplishments of our past, but continue to grow as followers of our Lord Jesus and faithful stewards of the gifts God has entrusted to us.

The Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Selbo
Bishop, NALC

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There **WILL NOT** be any Tuesday evening Bible Studies during July and August. They will resume on September 15th at 7:00 pm in the Library.

The **Red Cross Blood Drive** will be held on Wednesday, August 26th from 2:30 until 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Building.

The **new address** for Ps John and Marie Lingle is:
Trinity Village IL
Apt. 323
1255 21st Ave, NE
Hickory, NC 28601



CATECHISM INSTRUCTION for 5th, 6th and 7th GRADERS

Confirmation Saturday
Sept. 19 9:30 am - 12:00 pm



WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (9:30am)

Children	Upstairs	Infant - 4 years
Children	Upstairs	Grades K-4 th
Youth	Upstairs	Grades 5 th -12 th
Adults	Library	
Adults	Fellowship Building	

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet on July 1st at 6:30 pm.

WOMEN'S GROUP will NOT meet in July. Next meeting will be August 3rd.

WOMEN'S CRAFT DAY is Thursday, July 2nd at 2:00 pm.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE meets on Wednesday, July 8th at 6:30 pm in the Library.

CHURCH COUNCIL meets on Thursday, July 9th at 6:30 pm in the Library.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - July 15th, 16th & 17th from 5-8:30 pm, with dinner starting at 5:30 pm each night. All ages are welcome. The Theme this year is "*Let Your Light Shine*".

WOMEN'S CRAFT DAY WITH LUNCH is Tuesday, July 21st at 10:00 am.

MEN'S BREAKFAST is Sunday, July 26st at 8:00 am.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS are in the Secretary's office following Worship Service on Sunday, July 26st.

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EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

On Sunday July 19th at 3:00 pm, the **Cockman Family** will be back after two years to play and sing for us in the Fellowship Building. We will need homemade ice cream, cakes & desserts. Please tell your friends and family about this event.

Thank you!

Gary

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THE LAITY TEAM

The Laity Committee is available to assist with prayers, comfort, support and encouragement. Please advise the team of needs or wishes.

Co-chairs are Keeley Stikeleather and Kristy Painter .. plus Robin Burgess, Betty Hawn, Tanya Stinson, and Claire Sipe .. plus Pastor Ken.

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Congratulations to Reagan Painter and Ian Hull who were married on June 13th.

May God be with you in your new life together.



4. Benji Burgess
5. Chris Clark
6. Jerry Abernathy, Travis Lee
9. John Schlie, Jon Travis, Glenda Verbos
10. Wrenn Travis
11. Louis Setzer
12. Tina Beal, Brian Sipe, Sandra Turner
13. David Arndt
14. Rodney Miller
15. Riley Young
18. Marilyn Craig
21. Emma Dixon
23. Linda Carswell
25. Jean Link, Robin Sigmon, Brent Stewart
26. Gary Burgess, Reagan Painter Hull
31. Noah Dixon



3. Ps. Bob Alle
4. Robin Burgess, Gary Reitzel, Nora Smyre
5. Barbara Sigmon, Chris Travis
8. Johnnie Bolick, Alexis Barr Horne
10. Jeffrey Sigmon
12. Emily Barr, Laura Miller
14. Jessie Clark, Kyle & Montana Lineberger,
Cheryl Sigmon
15. Kristen Link
17. Jessica Little, Nicole Morrison, Joe Verbos
20. Jack Reed
21. Barbara Harris
23. Gabby Hernandez
25. Emmett Clark, Nancy Spriggs
28. Kyle Thompson
31. Raegan Black, Steve Ferguson



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Mr. & Mrs. George Young 3. Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hullet 5. Mr. & Mrs. Ron Sipe 8. Mr. & Mrs. Jared Little 20. Ps. & Mrs. Ken Reed
Mr. & Mrs. Brent Stewart 22. Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Cline | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Mr. & Mrs. Andy Sipe 6. Mr. & Mrs. Clay Chapman 14. Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Craig 23. Mr. & Mrs. J C Sipe |
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We give thanks to God for these people who have joined St. James.

Kyle Thompson -- husband of Katherine Link Thompson -- moved from Charlotte to Newton.

Carolyn Kelley -- mother of Jeff Watts -- moved from Arizona to Newton. They are living in Larry and Nancy Spriggs former home.

Randy & Sindy Banwart -- former teachers at Concordia School -- moved from Beach Mountain to Newton.



CONGRATULATIONS to Darby and Amber Crouch on the birth of their son, Banks Robert, on June 29th.

May God's blessings be with them!

The Ladies' Group would like to thank all who donated items for the [Western North Carolina Relief program](#) that Joe and Susie Devine participate in every Thursday. The table will still be up in the back of the church for anyone who wishes to keep contributing.



June 14

LEFT:

Lighting the Christ Candle

RIGHT:

Children's sermon

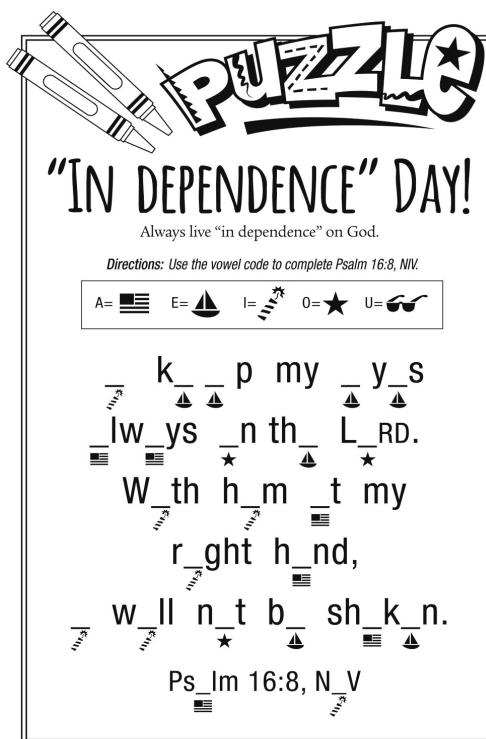
Riley is making sure everyone is paying attention.



SPECIAL DATE IN JULY

July 4

Independence Day



Answer: I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand. I will not be shaken. Psalm 16:8, NIV.



June 14:

LEFT: Erica is recognized for her completion of a degree in the healthcare profession.

RIGHT: New members Kyle Thompson and Carolyn Kelley.



June 21

LEFT:

Lighting the Christ Candle

RIGHT:

Pastor relates the story of the church printed on a keepsake plate.



June 28

Randy and Cindy Banwart are joined into the St. James congregation. Their granddaughter helps Pastor Ken light the Christ Candle during the children's sermon.