



AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

PARISH LIGHT

401 Flynn Drive, Milbank, SD 57252 October 2023

Fall may be my favorite season of the year. The colors of the trees and the changing fields provide so much beauty for us to enjoy. After the heat of the summer, the cool evenings and mornings offer a freshness in the air and an opportunity to grab those comfy sweatshirts. Sunday afternoon football has been a tradition in my life since I was little. Each fall reminds me of those Sundays when we would get home from church, throw the blanket down on the living floor (so we wouldn't spill on the carpet), and each our dinner watching the Vikings. It was maybe the one time, we were able to eat in the living room while we were growing up, so us kids all thought it was pretty special. There is much to enjoy about this season.

Fall also brings about the season of harvest. That long awaited time when you get to discover what developed from those tiny seeds that were put in the ground back in the spring. That hopefully over the last few months have received the right amount of sun, nutrients and water to yield of mighty harvest. Some years, of course, are better than others, but the same is always true – there would be no harvest without first sowing the seeds.

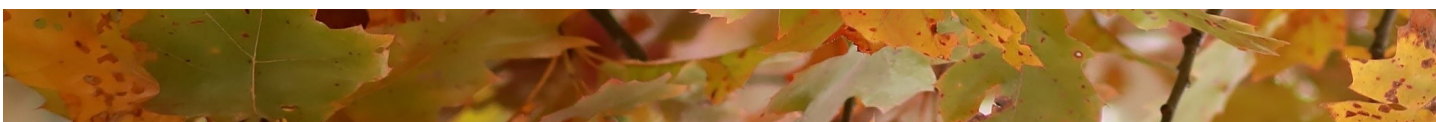
It reminds me of the parable Jesus tells about the Sower who went out to sow found in Matthew 13. In this parable, the farmer sows generously – with some seeds falling on the path, some among the thorns, some among the rocks, and some in good soil. We often look at this parable from the perspective of our own hearts – what kind of soil do we have ready to receive the seeds of God's love in our lives. God being the sower who is generously shares His love with the world. This is an appropriate interpretation and offers us something to reflect on in our own lives.

But what happens if we view ourselves as the farmer? Are we generously sowing the seeds of God's love in our lives? We often talk about planting seeds of faith in our children's lives through Sunday School. Continuing to give them nuggets of faith and knowledge of God's love for them, hoping one day they will grow into a strong and faithful member of God's church. But as we have been reflecting on in worship and as our Mission Statement says, we are all people growing in faith. Again – as the harvest reminds us each fall – there is no harvest without the planting of seeds.

In what ways are you sharing your time, talent, and treasures with those around you – children and adults alike? What are the ways you can generously share God's love and plant seeds of faith in others? How have the seeds other people have planted in our lives helped us to grow in our own faith?

As you witness the harvest this fall season, may it remind you of the seeds that were planted and the seeds that God has given to you to plant in this world around us!

Pastor Justin



CHURCH COUNCIL

Pres: Ryan Gruba
V. Pres: Sara VanMeter
Secretary: Heather Zinter
Treasurer: Emily Mueller

PROPERTY/ MANAGEMENT

Ryan Gruba
Dan Bohn
Brett Storm

YOUTH/EDUCATION

Jessica Schuchard
Heather Zinter
Holly Hilbrands

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP

David Bergan
Sara Anderson
Jacob Knoll

WORSHIP/EVANGELISM

Laurie Strege
Sara VanMeter
Amanda Grabow

LISTEN TO THE SERVICE:

On the RADIO

LIVE at 9 am on KMSD
(1510 AM / 95.1 FM)

FACEBOOK Live

"LIVE at 9 am on Facebook"

ALC APP

Worship Service Videos,
Bulletins, Newsletter

www.americanlutheran.com

Worship Service Videos
& Bulletins

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS AND UPDATES

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AUGUST 16TH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Property & Management Committee

- The estimate to remove the evergreen bushes was \$1,700. Work will start this fall and finish in the spring.

Worship & Evangelism Committee

- Upcoming Events: New Member Sunday will be on October 15 and a Church Potluck on November 19.
- Sending Member Engagement postcards.
- We have four volunteers for the Church Directory Committee. They will meet soon to look at directory options.
- The Events Committee is looking at doing a fall painting event and a casual basketball fun event.
- Details were sent in the September newsletter explaining the new hybrid version of Love-in-Action committees which will be starting in October.

Finance & Stewardship Committee

- We continue our work on drafting a gifting program.

Youth and Education Committee

- Preschool is going well.
- A discussion on substitute teacher/assistant pay took place. We will ask the Preschool Board for their recommendation.

- Approximately 100 kids are in Preschool through 8th grade Sunday School

Other Business (new & old)

- Fall programming has started with Youth Groups, Men's Groups, Women's Groups.
- 11 youth will be confirmed on October 29. We currently have 16 youth in 7th and 8th grade confirmation.
- Diana Dirksen, Parish Nurse, is planning an event in October in conjunction with the Call to Freedom Organization from Sioux Falls. She is working with the Milbank Ministerial Association on this. American Lutheran committed to advertising, facility use, and printing costs. The presentation is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24.
- Pastor Justin will attend the Fall Theological Conference in Pierre September 17-20.
- Committees will begin working on the 2024 budget in October.
- The nominating committee will begin working on the 2024 council nominations.
- Youth Director/Staffing update discussion.

The next American Lutheran Church Council meeting is October 11 at 6:30.

STEWARDSHIP

Time Talent Treasure

Date	Attendance	Offering
9/03/23	94	\$ 3,022
9/10/23	194	\$ 3,109
9/17/23	224	\$ 2,698
9/24/23	238	\$ 5,059

Online giving: \$ 4,757

ALC Vision Statement

Christ welcomes all at American Lutheran.

ALC Mission Statement

The Gospel of Jesus Christ calls us to be a welcoming community for all people growing in faith, love and service.

American Lutheran Church Staff Contact Information

PASTOR

Justin Neugebauer
alcpastor@itcmilbank.com
Office 605-432-5566
Cell 605-228-8073

PARISH ASSISTANT

Carol Kirchberg
Carol.Kirchberg@americanlutheran.com
Office 605-432-5566
Cell 605-949-2942

ALC PRESCHOOL

Sierra Daugaard—Teacher
preschool@americanlutheran.com
Assistant: Mya Johanson

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Gail Selgeby
alcoffice@itcmilbank.com
Office 605-432-5566
Cell 605-467-3831

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rachel Kiley
milbank.alc.youth@gmail.com
605-210-0753

CUSTODIAN

Gary Christianson Cell 605-924-0181

PARISH NURSE

Diana Dirksen
dirksen@tnics.com
605-432-6128 (leave message)

Confirmation Sunday — October 29.

The 9th grade confirmation youth are finishing up their final faith projects. These projects will be displayed on a table in the entry area the last two weeks of October, along with envelopes for you to drop off cards & notes of encouragement for each of them for their Confirmation Day. This year's confirmands are:

Thomas Bass	Parker Cordingley	Brander Hicks	Tayla Trapp
Braxten Boerger	Macyn Dunnihoo	Macy Mueller	Harley Zemlicka
Jeryn Borman	Liam Heller	Reese Schuneman	

Pray-ers for Youth are Needed

Each 9th grade confirmand will receive a secret pray-er, just for them, on Confirmation Sunday. This pray-er commits to praying for the student until their graduation from high school. The pray-er's may also send cards or notes of encouragement to the student occasionally throughout the years. Your final card to the student, on High School Senior Sunday, at American Lutheran Church, will reveal your name.

This is a simple and fun way YOU can make a difference in a young person's life. If you are willing to become a pray-er for one of this year's confirmands, please contact the church office or Karen Davis (605-949-0585).

Confirmation Mentors are Needed

Pastor Justin is looking for adult mentors to walk alongside our 8th Grade Confirmation students this year. As a mentor, you will meet with your student about once a month to have a Guided Conversation (guidelines provided for you) about faith and to build a relationship with your student.

This is a great way to encourage these youth in their faith lives and the adults might learn something about their faith as well.

Please pray about this and if you are interested in serving in this way, please talk with Pastor Justin. The mentor program will start in October.

American Lutheran High School Youth Group meets on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Wednesday, October 4—Big Stone Pumpkin Patch

Meet at Church at 6:00 to car pool out to the Pumpkin Patch together. Following our time at the Pumpkin Patch we will return to church for Supper and Devotions.

Wednesday, October 18—Youth Group Night

Join us at 6:00 for Supper, Devotions, and Activities

All are welcome. Bring your friends!



Church on the Street

A Ministry with the Unhoused of Sioux Falls.

At Church on the Street, we build relationships as God did through listening, asking questions, being present and consistent, and showing compassion to all of God's people.

We believe that every human being, regardless of whether they are housed or unhoused, deserves a community where they feel at home. We look a little different than most churches, but where it matters we are exactly the same.

American Lutheran Youth will be attending and helping with a Sioux Falls 'Church on the Street' Worship Service in November.

**REJOICE
ALWAYS,
PRAY
CONTINUALLY,
GIVE THANKS
IN ALL
CIRCUMSTANCES.**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV



October Birthdays



10/2	Wylder Hawley	10/10	Mark Hintz	10/19	Ryver Trapp	10/23	Priya Zemlicka
10/3	Sandy Christensen	10/10	Tyke Schumacher	10/20	Randy Busk	10/25	Lewis Heaton
10/3	Kari Schmeichel	10/11	Trista Mikkelson	10/20	Arla Mae Petersen	10/26	Ramzey Hicks
10/3	Carmen Van Veen	10/12	Charlotte Larson	10/21	Jessica Schuchard	10/26	Annie Prisinger
10/4	Cosette Mau	10/13	Paris Zemlicka	10/21	Sophia Schuchard	10/29	Danny Bohn
10/5	David Wellnitz	10/14	Amanda Prisinger	10/21	Bailey Storm	10/29	Kayla Borah
10/5	Logan Wietman	10/14	Gene Torness	10/22	Pierce Mathiason	10/29	Brielle Grabow
10/6	Wesley Magedanz	10/15	Vivian Mathiason	10/22	Asher Sipe	10/29	Hunter Hawley
10/8	Brittni Cordingley	10/15	Neal Thompson	10/22	Kayla Strege	10/30	Chuck Foss
10/8	Wally Hamman	10/16	Dori Bolstad	10/22	Karsonn Winston	10/31	Treyton Wellnitz
10/8	April Steffensen	10/17	Oakley Wildung	10/23	Everly Kohn		
10/9	Kevin Bjordahl	10/18	Austin Johnson	10/23	Nicole Scott		
10/9	Shelley Smith	10/18	June Van Asch	10/23	TyLynn Wellnitz		

Please let the Church Office know if there are corrections or additions to the birthday list.

ALC Altar Guild—Monday, October 2 at 5:15

Altar Guild members care for the altar, vestments, vessels and altar linens. They also prepare and set up for the serving of communion each week.

Altar Cleaning is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 2, at 5:15.

This is also the time for you to sign up so serve for 2024.

Members sign up in teams to take one month each year.

If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild or have questions, contact Peg Dohrer or the Church Office.

Many hands makes light work!

FAMILY BASKETBALL LIGHTNING GAME

Sunday, October 1 @ 3:30

Fun for ALL Ages
in the ALC Parking Lot.

Come join in!
Come watch the fun!



Peace Circle—Tuesday, October 3 at 11:00

New Time: We will meet the first Tuesday of each month at 11:00 in the Church Library Room.

We will use the September/October Gather Magazine for our October devotion.

All are Welcome. Just stop in on Tuesday, October 3!

Women's Connection

an affiliate of Stonecroft Ministries

Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 1:30–3:00 pm
at Central Church, Milbank, Fellowship Hall

Speaker: Sherry Segal of Owatonna, MN
"My Journey from Hopeless to Joy in Christ"

Music : Judi Francy

Come enjoy an afternoon of fellowship together with women in our area.

For reservations: please contact:
Peg Dohrer (605)949-0311 pldohrer@itcmilbank.com

Tickets: \$5.00 – light dessert will be served.

Kumbaya My Lord

"Come to me all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

All women are invited!

Prairie Coteau Fall Gathering

Thursday, October 12

at NeSoDak

Registration 9-9:30

\$12.00



ALC Book Clubs

Books are provided for you. Contact the church office or Janelle Kelly for more information.

Book Club #1 Monday, October 23, at 2:00
They will discuss **Under the Magnolias** by T.I. Lowe.

Book Club #2 Monday, October 23, at 5:05
They will discuss **The Red Tent** by Anita Diamant



A special THANK YOU to Amy Bass for her years of service and dedication to the youth of American Lutheran Church.

We thank her for sharing her gifts, her faith, and her time as she directed the Sunday School and Vacation Bible School programs these last 7 years.

The teachers and children were blessed and grew in their faith because of all that she did!

We wish Amy all of God's blessings as she seeks new ways to share her gifts with our congregation.



Welcome New Members

We will welcome all new members, who have joined American Lutheran Church since last April, on Sunday, October 15. Mark the date!

If you are interested in becoming a member of ALC or know of someone who is, contact Pastor Justin or the church office. We will send you the membership information form



Bible Study, Service, & Mission Opportunities



Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10 am in the church library room.

Thursday Morning Men's Breakfast Group

Thursdays at 8 am in the library. Great conversation plus they look at the upcoming Sunday's gospel lesson.

Piece Corps Quilters

The quilters create quilts that are given to Lutheran World Relief and local charities plus an infant quilt for every child baptized at ALC and every ALC HS Graduate. Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Peace Circle (WELCA)

Bible Study, Fellowship, and Community Service. Meets the first Tuesday of each month at NOON in the Library.

Page Turners Book Clubs

There are two book clubs. They each meet once a month. (2 pm or 5 pm) Books are provided for you. Contact Janelle Kelly jrenaek@hotmail.com for more information.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

This group crochets or knits prayer shawls (on their own time) that are given to members that are in need of a special touch of love. Yarn is provided.

ALC High School Youth Group

Usually meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month

ALC 7-8th Grade Youth Group

This group meets occasionally for events.

ALC Library

It's easy to check out books. No time limit.

Two locations: a Book Cart in the entry area and the Church Library room.

Manna Praise Band

Usually practices one evening a week.

Note-A-Bells

A bell choir that practices most Wednesdays at 5:15.

Choir

No set schedule. They send out emails/texts when meeting.

Decorating Committee

This group changes the décor in the church to match the seasons and celebrations.

Event Committee

Plan and help with events throughout the year.

Altar Guild

This group takes care of the altar. The set up the altar for communion each week for worship. Teams sign up for one month each year.

Plant Care

Water and care for indoor plants on a weekly basis.

Boy Scouts

Meet on Monday Evenings

Sweet-Mixers Baking Group

This group meets once or twice a month to bake the treats for the Sunday Coffee Fellowship hours.

The Milbank Area Ministerial Association
& Parish Nurse Program invite you to

BECOME INFORMED

by attending the presentation:

Human Trafficking Right Here, Right Now

You will hear about trafficking in our South Dakota communities. You will learn what CTF is doing to combat human trafficking and how YOU can join the fight.

American Lutheran Church
401 Flynn Drive, Milbank, SD 57252

Tuesday, October 24, 6:30 pm

(presentation lasts about 1 hour)



Sex and labor trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation occur at growing rates across the United States, including in the state of South Dakota.

Several intersecting factors, including extreme poverty, geographic isolation, and homelessness, result in high levels of victimization across the state.

Call to Freedom is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in South Dakota dedicated to bringing wholeness to all individuals impacted by sex & labor trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

Vision Statement

Our vision is to create a comprehensive Community model of care for individuals, and support communities while educating and advocating to combat sex and labor trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

Statement of Faith

We model Christ in our approach to restore wholeness to those impacted by sex and labor trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

October 24 - Save the Date!

Established in 2016, **Call to Freedom** is a trauma-informed organization headquartered in Sioux Falls, SD that provides comprehensive, ongoing, and coordinated support services for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Call to Freedom works every day to expose the fastest growing and second largest criminal industry in the world today. Trafficking can be hard to see, and victims or trafficking rarely find a way out. But, over 1,100 victims have been served since the organization's creation and the number of survivors served increases each year.

Call to Freedom is a safe way out of trafficking and the only organization in South Dakota to effectively address the many and complex needs of victims of human suffering.

Please learn more by attending their presentation here at American Lutheran October 24!



Diana Dirksen
Parish Nurse

Blood pressures taken October 8



ALC Preschool



Morning Class: 8:00-11:00; Afternoon Class: 12:15-3:15; Email: alcps@itcmilbank.com

American Lutheran SUNDAY SCHOOL

The kids had a great time celebrating Rally Day with a variety of games on the church lawn . They enjoyed bowling, bean bags, basketball, sack races, three-legged races, fun with the parachute, sidewalk chalk, yard dice, and coloring.

Sunday School classes kicked off on September 17. The elementary students are studying a unit called "Page Turner," and the middle schoolers are diving into "On the Flip Side."

Third graders and 3 year-olds will be receiving bibles during the church service on Sunday, October 1st. Make plans to attend!



Thank you for sharing your children with me
over the years! *Amy Bass*



We Welcome Rachel Kiley! Youth & Education Director at American Lutheran Church

Hello,

I am Rachel Kiley. I live in Labolt with my family, Morgan, Aspen (10) and Lincoln (8). We moved here from Spearfish, SD. My husband was promoted to the 740th National Guard unit in Milbank and then later promoted to the 147th in Watertown.

We claim Milbank as our home. We both graduated from Belle Fourche High School. I graduated from SDSU Nursing Program in Rapid City. I have been a nurse for 11 years, working in Deadwood/Lead, Spearfish and Milbank.

While living in Spearfish, we attended a small Episcopal Church. We called it home for many years, baptizing our children there. When we moved, we initially attended the Episcopal Church here. While they welcomed us with open arms, they only had one other child attending.

I attended the service here for Preschool Sunday and was blown away by the children's attendance and youth involvement. This prompted Morgan and I to have further discussion and prayer.

Being new to the area, we wanted a church that our children could establish new faith-based relationships. We jumped into attending American Lutheran Church and were welcomed. God has blessed our family abundantly through this decision.

I was able to serve on the preschool board, became new Godparents to local teens, my parents have been able to join us, mentored confirmands, and now I am beyond excited to help lead our youth. I am so thankful for this opportunity.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any ideas you may have.

Rachel Kiley
605-210-0753
milbank.alc.youth@gmail.com



Job Posting

Custodian Needed

Gary Christianson, our current custodian, will be retiring in October.

Responsibilities include cleaning, light building maintenance, and assisting with setting up for events as needed. Flexible hours - Full Job Description available from the Church Office.

This will be a part-time position.

If interested, please contact the Church Office (605-432-5566) or Pastor Justin to apply!



Painting Event

Sunday
October 15
2:30



Sign up at the Welcome Center for
Pumpkin Canvas Painting Event
\$10 per person (8 x 10 Canvas)
Wear painting clothes.

Text Rachel Kiley with any questions:
605-210-0753



October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9 Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee Fellowship 3:30 Family Basketball Lightning Tournament	2 7 Scouts	3 11 Peace Circle	4 10 Bible Class 3:30 Confirmation 5:15 Bell Practice 6 Manna Praise Band 6 HS Youth Group	5 8 am Men's Group	6	7
8 9 Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee Fellowship	9 Office Closed ←----- Gail Selgeby, Office Secretary, on vacation ----->	10 9 Quilting	11 10 Bible Class 3:30 Confirmation 5:15 Bell Practice 6 Manna Praise Band 6:30 Church Council	12 8 am Men's Group 2 Vespers Women's Retreat at NeSoDak	13	14
15 9 Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee Fellowship 2:30 Painting Pumpkin Canvas Event	16 ←----- Gail Selgeby, Office Secretary, on vacation ----->	17	18 10 Bible Class 3:30 Confirmation 5:15 Bell Practice 6 Manna Praise Band 6 HS Youth Group	19 8 am Men's Group 10 Prairie Coteau Conference Meeting	20	21
22 9 Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee Fellowship 2:00 Eagle Scout Ceremony	23 7 Scouts 2 Book Club #1 5 Book Club #2	24 9 Quilting 6:30 Call to Freedom Presentation	25 10 Bible Class 3:30 Confirmation 5:15 Bell Practice 6 Manna Praise Band	26 8 am Men's Group	27	28
29 Confirmation 9 Worship 10 Sunday School 10 Coffee Fellowship	30 7 Scouts	31				

October Bible Reading Challenge—Growing in Faith through Scripture

Fall is here! Which means it is time for all things cozy—sweatshirts and sweaters, pumpkins, hot apple cider, falling leaves, and sitting down on the couch to watch football on Sunday afternoons!

Pastor Justin challenges you to **Grow in your Faith through Scripture** during this month of October. He found a “Little Bible Plan” themed around cozy passages of the Bible. Join him in taking a little time each day to slow down and spend time with God.

Pick up your copy of the reading list from the Welcome Center counter. You may also call the church office and we will mail a copy to you.

