



AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

PARISH LIGHT

CHRIST WELCOMES ALL AT AMERICAN LUTHERAN

American Lutheran Church

401 Flynn Drive, Milbank, SD 57252

April 2023

We begin this month, by gathering together to celebrate Holy Week once again. We gather to remember Christ's gift of Holy Communion, His sacrifice on the cross, and the glory of the resurrection on Easter morning. I give thanks, especially, for this family of faith here at American Lutheran Church that we are surrounded by to experience this Holy Week. We are all blessed to be a part of this congregation and to have the opportunity to gather to worship, learn, and serve together.

Over the past couple years, the Church Council and the Strategic Planning Team have been looking at the current needs of our wonderful congregation, while also dreaming about the future. Where is God leading us as a church? What are the opportunities for ministry and sharing the Good News of the Gospel with the people?

Through that process, we have developed our Vision Statement - "Christ Welcomes All at American Lutheran Church." We are a church that provides a place of welcome and hospitality for ALL people to grow in their faith, be touched by the love of God, and be sent out to serve in the community and world around us.

We also recognized the great opportunity that is before us with the large amount of children and young families we have in our church right now. We have well over 100 students on our Sunday School roster (Preschool-8th Grade). Because of that opportunity, we have expanded Amy Bass's role from Sunday School Coordinator to Education Coordinator that will provide staff support to all Youth Programs at the church.

This process of planning, dreaming, and growing towards the future will be an on-going process. As we look to what is next, the Church Council would appreciate your input. What are the next steps we need to take to continue to grow the ministry of American Lutheran Church? Are there more staffing needs for our congregation? What areas of ministry are in need of growth or are we missing at this time?

Following Holy Week, there will be two Listening Sessions in the Fellowship Hall during Coffee Hour on Sunday, April 16th and 23rd. Each week, there will be a couple Council Members available to provide a space to listen to your concerns, thoughts, and visions. Just look for them after grabbing your cup of coffee!

If neither of those dates/times work for you, and you have something to share - you are welcome to write it down and submit it to the Office, contact any Council Member, or speak with Pastor Justin.

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
 (1510AM/98.3FM)

FACEBOOK Live

"LIVE at 9 am on Facebook"

ALC APP

Worship Service Videos,
 Bulletins, Newsletter

www.americanlutheran.com

Worship Service Videos

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS AND UPDATES

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MARCH 8 COUNCIL MEETING

Property & Management Committee

- Looking at options to add a handrail for the steps in front of the sanctuary.
- Developing guidelines and responsibilities for the newly-formed property management committee.
- After receiving the quote of \$9,100 from Dakota Storage for a 12x16 shed, we are looking into the possibility of building it ourselves.

Worship & Evangelism Committee

- Reported the Roller Skating Party was a success with over 100 attending.
- Continue working on lining up Sunday morning worship volunteers.
- We are working to initiate and document intentional steps to re-engage two members/families each month who have been absent from church for an extended period of time. Once steps have been established, we will determine methods and time-lines for contacting these members.

Finance & Stewardship Committee

- The investment committee will be meeting with Kathy McHenry from the Synod Office.
- Finalizing a legacy gifting program/policy for our church.

Youth & Education Committee

- Approved the renewal contract for Sierra Daugaard as Preschool teacher.
- Accepted the resignation of Brittany Bray, Preschool Assistant, after the end of the school year. (Brittany will be moving to Watertown)
- Continue to develop guidelines and responsibilities for the preschool board.
- Senior Recognition Day will be May 7. The Youth and Education Committee will work

with the High School families to organize this.

Other Business (new & old)

- With the assistance of the Mutual Ministry Committee, we continue to review additional staffing to find opportunities to grow our various ministries throughout the church, with the first focus being on youth and education.
- We continued discussion on Lenten meals and activities. Everything is going well despite issues with the weather. The Ash Wednesday service needed to be cancelled. Free-will donations from the meals, so far, are going to the Preschool, Spring Work Day, and the Shed Project.
- Spring work day is Sunday, April 30
- New member Sunday is Sunday, April 30.
- Approval made for Pastor Justin to purchase a new computer.

The next American Lutheran Church Council meeting is April 12 at 6:30.

Stewardship *Time, Talent, Treasure*

Date	Attendance	Offering
3/05/23	180	\$ 6,001
3/12/23	145	\$ 2,465
3/19/23	118	\$ 4,965
3/26/23	184	\$ 3,655
3/01/23	105	\$ 353
3/08/23	102	\$ 416
3/15/23	76	\$ 224
3/22/23	94	\$ 270

Online giving: \$ 4,410

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—Brittany Bray
 Volunteer—Rebecca Welberg

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Amy Bass
Aw_35_star@hotmail.com

CUSTODIAN

Gary Christianson
 Cell 605-924-0181

PARISH NURSE

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



April Birthdays



4/1	Preston Barragan	4/10	Debra Homan	4/18	Adam Boone	4/25	Sheila Myrum
4/1	Lavonne Fraasch	4/10	Brianna Kirchberg	4/18	Wade Ericsson	4/26	Isaac Nolz
4/2	Liam Koepke	4/10	Drake Wellnitz	4/18	Katie Fraasch	4/26	Cody Peterson
4/2	Kay Thompson	4/11	Larry Thompson	4/18	Dennis Nordquist	4/26	Mark St. Martin
4/3	Kenzey Anderson	4/14	Justin Kohn	4/19	Debra Appl	4/27	Debbie Johnson
4/3	Dennis Mears	4/15	Fischer Hawley	4/19	William Gruba	4/27	Valerie Mears
4/3	Lizzie Prisinger	4/15	Holland Knoll	4/19	Ryan Mielitz	4/27	Jeremy Steffensen
4/4	Amy Bass	4/15	Sara Koepke	4/20	Dylan Halvorson	4/28	Keith Grabow
4/5	Brittnee Frerichs	4/15	Renee Neuharth	4/20	Hans Sacrison	4/28	Barbara Prisinger
4/5	Tanner Kohn	4/16	Dillen Sheeley	4/20	Michael Smith	4/29	Kinslee Frerichs
4/5	Darby Waniorek	4/16	Deanna Stickland	4/20	Sara VanMeter	4/29	Dar Prisinger
4/6	Brandon Sipe	4/16	Darien Waniorek	4/21	Katie Pulscher	4/29	Miriam Schwenn
4/7	LaRon Unzen	4/17	Parker Cordingley	4/24	Mark Mueller	4/30	Braxten Boerger
4/8	Joel Foster	4/17	Shirley Tucholke	4/25	Carter Boerger	4/30	Saylor Jones
4/9	Mackenzie Foss	4/18	Kimberly Bjerke	4/25	Stephanie Gruba	4/30	Quinn Mielitz

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



Bible Study, Service, & Mission Opportunities Contact the Church Office for additional information about these groups.



Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10 am. Currently watching THE CHOSEN.

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 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.

Holy Week Schedule



- **PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP at 9:00 AM**
- The Sunday School children process with palms as part of the worship service.
- The Confirmation Youth are serving a Palm Sunday Breakfast at 10:00 AM



- **MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP at 6:30 PM**
- A "Living Last Supper" will be presented by congregational members.
- Our ALC Youth will be celebrating their "First Communion"



- **GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE WORSHIP at 6:30 PM**
- Tenebrae is Latin meaning "darkness." After each segment of the story is read, a candle is extinguished. Worshipers leave in silence to ponder the impact of Christ's death and await the celebration of the coming Resurrection.



***Celebrate the Resurrection
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!
Easter Sunday Celebration Worship at 9:00 AM***



Piece Corps Quilters

The quilters meet the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 9 am.

Stop by anytime!

They recently presented a quilt to Pastor Justin.



Spring Work & Fun Day Sunday, April 30

Work & Fun Projects for all ages & abilities

New Member Sunday

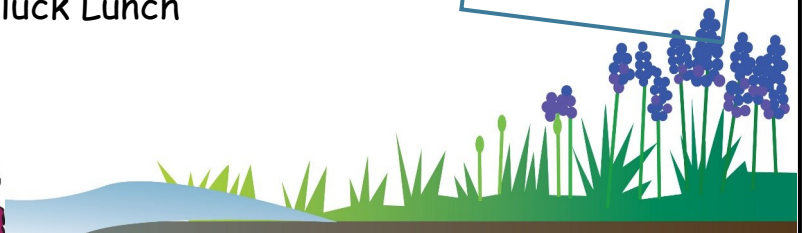
Last Day of Sunday School

Potluck Lunch

Clean-up Projects
Service Projects
Inside Activity
Outside Activity
Fun for the kids!

Potluck Lunch
Suggested to bring:
• A-L Hot Dishes
• M-Z Salads/Sides

**The Worship & Evangelism Committee is providing dessert.



Recipes Sweet-Mixers Baking Group

The following recipes were served during March for Coffee Fellowship. All were from the ALC Cookbook.

- Crescent Roll Bars pg. 269
- Almond Bars pg 259
- Lemon Whispers pg 299
- Can't Leave Alone Bars pg 264
- Cinnamon Roll Cake pg 359
- Uncle Bob's Green Cake pg 361



messyvegetariancook.com



Early on the first day of the week ... Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.

John 20:1, NRSV

WELCOME

New Member Sunday, April 30

We will welcome new members, who have joined ALC in the past few months, during the worship service on April 30.

If you are interested in joining American Lutheran Church, or know of someone who is, contact Pastor Justin or the Church Office for more information.

Mark the Date!

**Senior Recognition Sunday
May 7**

ALC graduates will be honored during the worship service and fellowship hour.

Junior/Sophomore/Freshmen youth & families will help with the fellowship hour.



7th & 8th Grade Youth Group
They always have a good time!

Parish Nurse News



2023 Walking Program Update

The walking group put in lots of miles. They are finishing up this last week of March with total miles being tabulated the first week of April. **Congratulations to all!**

Diana Dirksen
Parish Nurse

Blood Pressures

I will be in church entry area to take blood pressures on April 2, following worship. I am also available to answer questions. You may reach out to me anytime. My contact information is always listed on page 2 of the newsletter. You may also call the church office.



SD Synod 2023 Assembly June 2-3, 2023

The SD Synod Assembly is held in Sioux Falls Friday & Saturday, the first week of June.

ALC needs to send three voting delegates in addition to Pastor Justin.

Would you be interested in attending?

Visit with Pastor Justin or a member of the church council for more information.



Send a card to someone. It will brighten their day AND yours!

Volunteers Needed



Worship Volunteers for May

Sign-up sheets are on the Welcome Center for Sunday Worship Volunteers.

We need lectors, communion servers, ushers, greeters, and for coffee fellowship.

Easter Sign Painting Event!



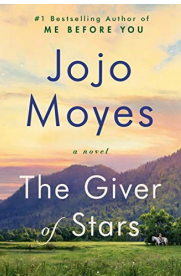



Grown-ups Movie Night

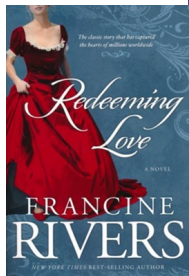
Sunday, April 23 @ 5:00
ALC Holy Word Theatre
 Pizza, Popcorn, Soda, Candy
 Free Will Offering
 Sign up at Welcome Center to help plan for numbers.

Page-Turner's Book Clubs in April

Books are provided. If you would like to attend, Janelle Kelly, Church Librarian, will get a book for you.



Monday, April 24, 2 pm
 Group 1 - **The Giver of Stars**
 by JoJo Moyes




Monday, April 24, 5 pm
 Group 2 - **Redeeming Love**
 by Francine Rivers



Early bird discounts for Lutherans Outdoors Bible Camp end on April 17.

You can check out all the camps & sign up at www.losd.org

American Lutheran Church
 "A Light of God's Love for All People"

Milbank, South Dakota

Present this flyer for American Lutheran Church Youth fundraiser!

Dine-in or Carry-out orders!


Monday, April 3rd
10:30am-9pm
Milbank, SD
Pizza Hut Location

Present the ALC flyer at Pizza Hut when you dine in or carry out

on Monday, April 3
10:30 am - 9:00 pm

Pizza Hut will donate **20% of all sales to ALC.**

****You MUST present the flyer when you pay for your order. Copies are on the Welcome Center.**



American Lutheran SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School kids have been busy with new lesson units. The preschool-5th grade kids have started "Opposite Day," and the 6-8th grade are studying "Focus." The kids have also been working hard on musical selections for a Palm Sunday performance. All of the kids will be performing during the church service



on Palm Sunday! The 7-8th grade kids will be serving Palm Sunday breakfast following the service. All are welcome and invited to attend. The kids will also enjoy an Easter party during Sunday School hour on April 2nd.



The kids who will receive their first communion



on Maundy Thursday enjoyed making unleavened communion bread for the

service. They also received instruction from Pastor Justin on the meaning of communion.



See you at the Easter Party on Palm Sunday!

There will

not be Sunday School on Easter Sunday. Enjoy the church service and time with friends and family! Halleluiah, He is risen!

Looking ahead, April 30th will be the last day of Sunday School for the year.

Amy Bass, Education Coordinator



ALC Preschool

We currently have openings in both the 3-year-old and 4-year-old class. Registration forms can be found on the bulletin board outside the preschool classroom or on the church website. If you have any questions about registration, please feel free to reach out.



**Happy
Easter!**

Information on a preschool fundraiser
in April will be coming soon.

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



EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES



Communication is more than just talking and listening — it's also about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, and body language. As the disease progresses, individuals living with Alzheimer's or other dementias lose the ability to use words, but families can find new ways to connect.

Join us to explore how communication changes when someone is living with Alzheimer's, learn how to interpret the verbal and behavioral communication, and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.

**Thursday, April 20
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Koch Senior Living - Large Conference Rm
410 E 10th Avenue
Milbank**

For more information call 605.339.4543

Visit alz.org/CRF to explore additional education programs in your area.

alzheimer's association®

18393186

Hopeful Imagination



"We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered, having become a high priest forever."

Hebrews 6:19-20

PRAIRIE COTEAU CONFERENCE

Women of the ELCA

Spring Retreat

Our Saviors Lutheran Church, Veblen

Saturday, April 29

Registration: 9:00-9:30 am

Registration Fee: \$12 (lunch)

Guest Speakers

General Offering & Silent Auction

*Love Offering: Bring items for the Marshall County Food Pantry.
(Cans of fruit, vegetables, soup, toilet paper, monetary donations)*

Orphan Grain Train, Inc.

**Milbank Branch
101 West 12th Avenue, Milbank
605-924-0021**

What is happening this spring at OGT?

In February, volunteers at Milbank Orphan Grain Train loaded a 55' semi trailer with:

- **10 pallets (42 boxes per pallet)** hygiene kits, medical items, school items, toys, clothing, shoes, kitchen items, homemade diapers (made from t-shirts), quilts, blankets, and religious materials;
- **2 pallets of mercy meals** (14,256 meals)
- **35 sleeping mats** (made of plastic bags)
- **2 walkers, one bike, and a guitar.**

The entire load was delivered to Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, Texas.

Orphan Grain Train was also able to financially assist Milbank OST, St. Lawrence OST, CASA (Foster Children) and the Milbank Elementary Students.

How can you help?

1. **Include the Milbank Collection Sight in your prayers.**
2. **Stop in to help pack mercy meals.**
Meals are packed the 1st Wednesday of each month at 9:15am.
3. **You can also organize a separate time for your own group to pack mercy meals.**
4. **Call the number above for additional suggestions and information**

COLLECTION CENTER HOURS

Tuesdays 3pm-5pm

Wednesdays 10am-12pm

Saturdays 10am-12pm



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



...just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may **live a new life.**

Romans 6:4

2 PALM SUNDAY
9 WORSHIP
 10 Palm Sunday Breakfast
 10 Sunday School
 Easter Party



3


FUND-RAISER for the Youth!
 Bring your Coupon

4
 12 Peace Circle

5
 10 Bible Study
 THE CHOSEN
 5:15 Bell Practice
 6:30 Manna Band Practice

6
 8 Men's Group
6:30 MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP



7

6:30 GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

8
 Ron Boe Funeral at 1:00

9 EASTER SUNDAY
9 CELEBRATION WORSHIP



10
 Office Closed

11
 9 Quilting
 10:30 Milbank Ministerial

12
 10 Bible Study
 5:15 Bell Practice
 6:30 ALC Council Mtg.
 6:30 Manna Band Practice

13
 8 Men's Group
2 VESPERS WORSHIP
 at St. Williams Care Center

14

15

<-----Pastors Retreat/Conference in Watertown----->

16
9 WORSHIP
 10 Fellowship Hour
 10 Sunday School
 5 Piano Recital (Dailie)

17
 12 Staff Mtg
 7 Scouts

18
19
 10 Bible Study
 3:30 Confirmation
 5:15 Bell Practice
 6:00 H.School Youth Group
 6:30 Manna Band Practice

20
 8 Men's Group

21

22

23
9 WORSHIP
 10 Fellowship Hour
 10 Sunday School
 5 Grown-up's Movie Night

24
 12 Staff Mtg
 2 Book Club 1
 5 Book Club 2
 7 Scouts

25
 9 Quilting
26
 10 Bible Study
 3:30 Confirmation
 6:30 Manna Band Practice

27
 8 Men's Group

28

29
 MHS Prom Banquet

30 Work & Fun Day
New Member Sunday
9 WORSHIP
 10 Sunday School
 11:30 Potluck Lunch
 (last day of Sunday School)



May 7
ALC High School Senior Graduate Sunday



June 17
MN Twins Bus Trip
 Sign up now at the Welcome Center.



April 29
Prairie Coteau Conference
 Our Saviors Lutheran Veblen, SD

