

American Lutheran Church

July/August, 2017

From Your Pastor,

How's your summer to-do list coming along? This last week I preached about expectations of Jesus, but also expectations of vacation, both that they would be just as we had dreamed and envisioned them. Just like with Jesus not being the Messiah folks had hoped for, often times summers are less relaxing and idyllic than we had planned. When things don't go as planned for you, where do turn? Like the first followers of Christ, we have to recalibrate, let go of what we had expected, to find the good in what is put in front of us.



A great place for an attitude adjustment is paging through the psalms. With each new psalm, your mood can

swing from joy, lament, anger, denial, celebration, or praise. When life isn't what you had hoped, there will be a psalm for that. When it's peachy keen, there is a psalm for that. When you don't know what you hope for and you're not sure where you're at, there is a psalm for that.

I always think summer will mean kicking back with a good book and soaking up the sun. Turns out, I don't get much reading done these busy months, but there is a Good Book, it doesn't hurt to pick up even for a page or two. Happy reading! Happy Summer!

Pastor Elizabeth

Moss Mansion Worship Service



Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 6th. There will be ONE worship service at 10:00 a.m. on the lawn of the Moss Mansion. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and

friends and family for this lovely outdoor service.

Prayers for Our 2017 Mission Trip Participants (July 30th-August 4th)

We are fast approaching our departure date for



Giving in Glacier. Please keep ALC students and chaperones in your prayers as they prepare for a week of service in the Glacier Park area. This year's participants are Hannah Stubson, Alec and Micah Donald, Taylor Buyse, Peder and Bengt Rickbeil, Natalie Olson, Ryan Smith, Lukas Hutchinson, Alex and Heather Moore, and Ally Stallman. Our chaperones are Pastor Elizabeth, Rochelle Buyse, Heath and Delaney Schmidt, and Mark Rickbeil.

Sunday School Registration

A quick reminder to families at ALC that Sunday School will start up again on Rally Sunday, September 10th. Please watch your email for updates regarding registration. We should have the registration up and running on the ALC web site no later than mid-August. Feel free to contact Rochelle at rochelle@amluth.org if you have any questions.

Already time for the backpack blessing?



Yes! Have the kiddos (little AND big) bring their backpacks to either church service on Sunday, August 27th. Pastor Tim and Pastor Elizabeth will bless each of our children, and help them start off the school year under Christ's

guidance. All children are welcome! Questions? Email Rochelle at rochelle@amluth.org.

Family VBS Thank You's

We tried something new this summer with Wednesday night Family VBS. Attendance was smaller than usual, but Wednesday nights were still a lot of fun, and required lots of help from a few great

people!! Thank you Jennifer Michael, Marianne Smith and Connor Hutchinson - we couldn't have done it without you! If you see Jennifer, Marianne or Connor at church, please make sure to give them a word of thanks!

Summer Events at ALC:



We still have a lot of exciting stuff happening at ALC this summer. Below is a schedule of what is coming up.

Please watch you email and church newsletter for more information on these events as they get closer. Feel free to contact Rochelle at rochelle@amluth.org if you have any questions.

July 21st, August 11th

ALC's 4th – 7th graders (entering) have the opportunity to team up with kids from King of Glory for Mystery Bus VBS. Each session runs from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm and the total cost for all three sessions is \$20. Please visit KOG's web site

(www.kingofglorybillings.com) for registration.

July 19th, and 26th

ALC will be trying something new this summer with Wednesday night 'Family VBS'. We will have three sessions in June and three in July that will each run from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm at ALC. Each session is FREE and will include a meal, a lesson, a craft, and games. Please email me at rochelle@amluth.org if your family is interested in attending.

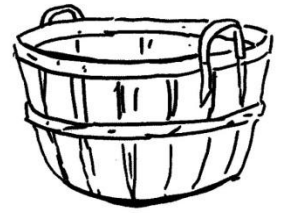
Financial Update:

The line of credit borrowed from the bank remains at zero at the end of May. Year-to-date, net income is \$4,451 ahead of budget and \$391 ahead of last year through May.

	Income	Expense	Net
Month of			
May 2017	\$36,790	\$44,139	(\$7,349)
2017 YTD actual	\$227,000	\$222,549	\$4,451
2017 YTD budget	\$229,167	\$229,167	\$ -
Variance YTD	(\$2,167)	\$6,618	\$4,451

Bountiful Harvest?

Did you plant a garden this year? If so, are you drowning in zucchini, tomatoes, cucumbers or other fresh fruits or vegetables? Please consider sharing your excess with the HUB drop-in center. Simply bring in your produce to the marked blue tub in the narthex. Thanks!



Spring Giving Tree



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our "Giving Tree" this spring. As of this week, the total amount raised is \$7,072! That's a lot of sandwich bags and Christikon

scholarships! Your support has helped benefit our general fund, which includes operational costs associated with keeping our building and ministry alive.

Softball Team

Thanks to all of you who played and watched our games and otherwise made this season a successful one. In terms of results, we had our first winning season at 5 wins and 3 losses! More importantly, we had a lot of fun together, enjoyed one another's company, and were able to engage in God's gift of recreation.



ALC at the Mustangs' Game

Join fellow American Lutherans at a Billings

Mustangs' game, **Friday, August 4 at 7:00 pm**. If we get 20 or more to sign up, tickets are \$6, otherwise the cost is \$7. Please sign up at the reception desk. Deadline to sign up is **Sunday, July 30**.



Friends' Group

Will meet for a drive into the country and for lunch on **Thursday, August 17 at 11:00 a.m.** The group will take the bus to the **3 North Bar and Grill in Acton**. We will be back at the church by **1:30 p.m.** If you are interested, please sign up at the reception desk.

Age of Uncertainty

will be meeting on **Friday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m.** at the home of **Tim and Marcia Tostengard, 3000 Ryniker Drive** and will be hosted by the Tostengards and Marlin and Joy Waylander. Please bring a **salad** or **dessert** to share. In you are interested, please sign up at the reception desk. This very fun group is for people aged 40 and up. If you've come before, we'd love to have you again, and if you haven't, please join us!

Heartfelt Thanks

On behalf of my family, I want to thank the congregation of American Lutheran for all their expressions of sympathy on the death of my dad, Cliff Sillerud. Your calls, cards, prayers, meals and messages have meant the world to us as we mourn the sad loss of a wonderful father and grandfather.

THANKS

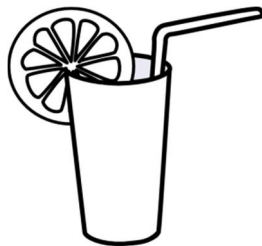
-Kristin Rapacz

Thank You, Volunteers!

Four families were comfortably housed, fed and nurtured during the last week of June due to the compassion and commitment of dozens of American Lutheran's volunteers. To those who set up, shopped, cooked, conversed, overnited and did laundry for the benefit of these families, thanks so much!!

American Lutheran Patio Party

Sunday, July 30th after both
worship services
Lemonade, eats and treats will
be served
All are welcome!



Pre-Kindergarten

ALC Pre-Kindergarten is now accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school years. Spaces are available in both the M-W-F program (\$140/mo.) for four and five year olds, and the T-TH program (\$110/mo.) for

three and four year olds. Need based scholarships are available. For more information, visit www.alcprek.org, or contact Amy Hawkins, Director, at ahawkins.prek@gmail.com.

Christikon Clips

August 2017

Information for our Congregations

As you are reading this clip, we are readying for our last sessions of the season. We have hosted over 450 campers this season including developmentally disabled adults, youth, families, and adults. We would welcome scholarship gifts as you are able for a wonderful group of new campers!

Our summer staff will be completing their stay with us and will soon be heading back to their lives outside of Christikon.

We look forward to our congregational retreats scheduled this fall and there are still retreat times available to visit Christikon! Call Kerry in the office and reserve a time.

We continue to ask for your prayers for those traveling to camp, our staff, and campers. Blessings to all of you who support Christikon with prayer, time, skills, and financially. We are grateful.



It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ— exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.

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June Pastoral Acts

Baptism: Owen John Walker
Funeral: Audrey McDermott

July Pastoral Acts

Funeral: Virginia Gerrells

