



CALLING ALL STUDENTS, FAMILIES, TEACHERS AND SCHOOL STAFF!

As we begin a new school year, we invite you to join us for a **special time of prayer during both of the 10:30 AM worship services on August 30.** Our congregation and pastors would be honored to pray for you, your family, and all those involved in education as you embark on another year of learning, teaching and growing. Come receive God's blessing, encouragement and prayers for a safe, successful and faith-filled school year!



A NEW WAY TO CARE FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

American Lutheran Church is forming a Medical Emergency Response Team, and we invite you to consider being part of it.

The **new Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT)** will be a group of trained church volunteers prepared to provide a

calm, organized and compassionate response when someone experiences a medical emergency during worship.

You do not need to be a healthcare professional to serve. We welcome physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals, but we also need caring members of our congregation who are simply willing to be trained and ready to help.

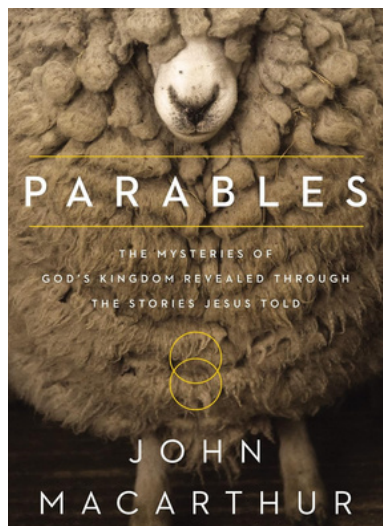
MERT representatives will be available at tables outside both worship locations following each service on **Sunday, August 30.** Stop by, ask questions and learn what serving on the team involves. Sign up then, or get your questions answered before deciding.

UPCOMING MERT DATES TO NOTE:

CPR/MERT Certification Training: Sunday, September 27 from 1–5 PM
MERT Ministry Launch: Sunday, October 11

Caring for one another is part of who we are as a church family. MERT provides another way for us to put that care into action when a fellow member or guest may need us most. We hope you will prayerfully consider joining us.

NEW CONNECTIONS CLASS BEGINS SEPT 13!



Connections Adult Education Hour meets Sundays from 9:15-10:15 AM in the downstairs Activity Center. The next session begins Sept 13, with a study on **John MacArthur's Parables.** The mysteries of God's kingdom are revealed through the stories Jesus told. This is an **11-week class with a book and workbook,** led by Altha Cline. Cost for the class is \$10; scholarships are available.

Discover how Jesus' parables can help you better understand God's Word and how to live today. **All adults are welcome to participate.**

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB ON FIRST TUESDAYS



Love to read? Join the Women's Book Club for good books, lively conversation, and fellowship! The group meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 10–11:30 AM (downstairs Room A-7) and reads a variety of Christian books, exploring different authors, topics, and perspectives.

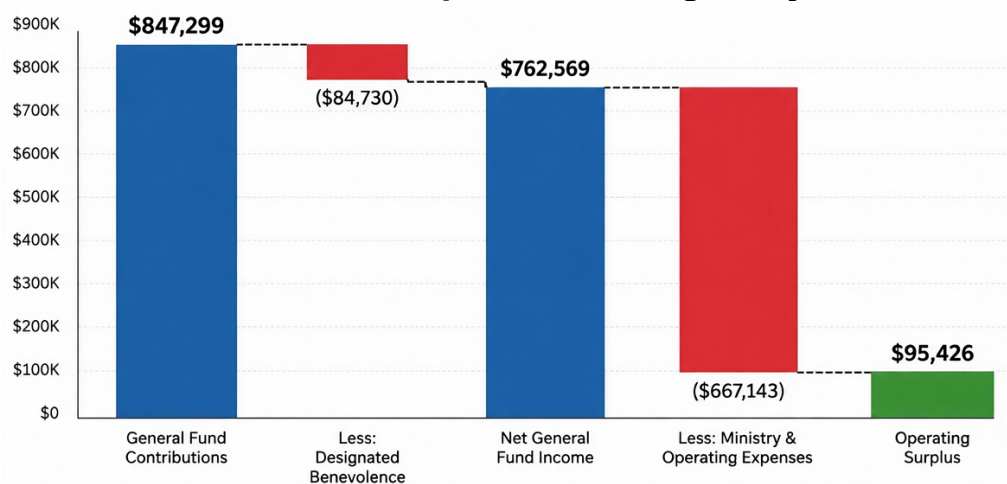
Whether you're an avid reader or simply looking for a welcoming group to connect with, you're invited to join us. Come for the book, stay for the fellowship! Contact Bev Goehring through the church office for more info.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A Strong Start to the Fiscal Year

The mid-point of our fiscal year reports that the church continues to be in a sound financial position, with an **accumulated 6-month operating surplus of \$95,426.** This is a reflection of God's faithfulness and the steadfast stewardship of our church family and staff.

Thank you for your faithful giving and your commitment to the ministries of American Lutheran Church. Together, we serve our church, our community, and those in need, sharing Christ's love in meaningful ways. We are truly blessed to partner with one another in God's work, and we look forward with gratitude to all He will continue to accomplish through the ALC family.
– Lynda Parrish, Council Treasurer

6-Month Financial Snapshot - Through July 31, 2026



♥ Benevolence Recipients for Q1 and Q2 ♥

Peace Lutheran Church (LCMC)
Community Bible Study International
Jewish Voice Ministries
Hope Medical Center, Guinea
Mission Aviation Fellowship
Zion Ministries, India
10/10 Ministries
The Community Cupboard
Community Pregnancy Center

Granite Creek Feed
House of Hope
Hungry Kids Project - Humboldt
Hungry Kids Project - Chino Valley
Shepherd's Canyon Retreat
Village of Hope
Road to Jerusalem
North American Lutheran Church
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ



MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Sept 4 | Oct 2 | Nov 6

FIRST FRIDAY

FOOD FUN FELLOWSHIP

Where can you find fun, food and fellowship? **First Friday Potluck!** Gather with others who love the Lord and enjoy sharing quality time.

Bring a dish to share, and even a friend! **Three easy steps:**

- 1) Mark your calendar for the first Friday and RSVP to the church office. (RSVPs are not essential but appreciated.)
- 2) Bring a dish to share: appetizer, salad, casserole, crockpot item, veggie, dessert – all are welcome on the buffet table.
- 3) Come to the lower-level Activity Center at 5:30 PM and enjoy the evening!

GriefShare Fall Session Starts Thurs, Sept 10

Grief can be one of life's most difficult experiences, but you don't have to go through it alone. GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who understand what you're going through and will walk alongside you as you navigate the grieving process.

Our Fall 2026 GriefShare seminar will meet Thursdays, September 10 through December 10, from 1–3 PM in the Parlor. This welcoming group provides encouragement, support, and practical help as you work through grief and begin to find hope and healing. To register, contact GriefShare Coordinator Julie Backous through the church office (928.445.4348). Walk-in registrations are welcome anytime.

If you're grieving the loss of someone you love, we invite you to join us for this season of support, understanding, and hope.



BACK TO JERUSALEM



Three Chinese House Church Leaders
Share Their Vision to Complete
the Great Commission

MISSIONS PRESENTATION

Sun, Sept 20 @ 3pm
Fellowship Hall

On Sunday, September 20 at 3 PM, three missionaries – Pastor Peter Xu, his sister Deborah, and translator Esther, from the persecuted church in China – will be presenting their testimonies and God-given vision for the future of China, surrounding nations, and Israel in a movement called “Back to Jerusalem.” All three of them have been imprisoned for their faith. Feel free to invite your friends and be encouraged to hear how God is using China to fulfill the Great Commission.

From Pastor Peter: “My sister, Deborah, and I are fourth generation Christians. In 1895, missionaries from the Norwegian Lutheran Church sowed the seeds of the gospel in our hometown in Henan province in China, when our ancestors accepted Christ. Since 1964, I was called to serve the Lord full-time.

Now the Chinese Church is under persecution. Having followed Jesus without hesitation, I have been arrested five times during my sixty years of ministry in China. After 2001, God brought my entire family to the U.S. One by one. We come to the U.S. not trying to avoid suffering, but to communicate to our brothers and sisters here about the revival occurring in China. In just a few decades, China has transformed from an atheist nation into the world’s most populated Christian country, because God has revived the Chinese Church!

Using the model of the early Jerusalem church described in the book of Acts, God has laid the burden on the Chinese house churches to spread the gospel throughout China along the old Silk Road trade routes, and return back to Jerusalem where the Church began.

We look forward to meeting with our co-workers at American Lutheran Church!”

THANK YOU for your patience while we navigate transitions within our office staffing; a new front office team member will be arriving shortly. Special thanks are extended to Connie Ellis, Leisa Geiler, Paula Johnson, and Lori Barbe for their hours spent volunteering at our reception desk during the past month while we reorganize! – *ALC Staff*



Troop 7006 held a wonderful Court of Honor Sunday evening, August 23 in the Fellowship Hall, celebrating the hard work and achievements of its members. Scouts were presented with merit badges earned this summer at Camp Geronimo. We’re grateful for the opportunity to support Troop 7006 and proud to celebrate all they’ve accomplished! – *Norm Davis, Troop 7006 Chairman*



A Fresh Look, A Renewed Focus

We're excited to share that our church is rolling out a new logo! Along with this refreshed look, our Church Council has prayerfully reviewed and approved new Mission and Vision Statements to guide us as we move forward together.

Our Mission: Rooted in God's Word, we worship faithfully, love deeply, and serve boldly so that others may know life in Jesus Christ.

Our Vision: One body in Christ, growing across generations, where the Gospel of God's Grace is boldly carried into our homes, our community, and the world.

We believe these statements capture the heart of who we are and where God is leading us. Keep an eye out for the new logo on our signage, website, and materials in the weeks ahead — and please join us in praying over this next chapter as a church family!

Good Book, Good Men, Good Morning Bible Study

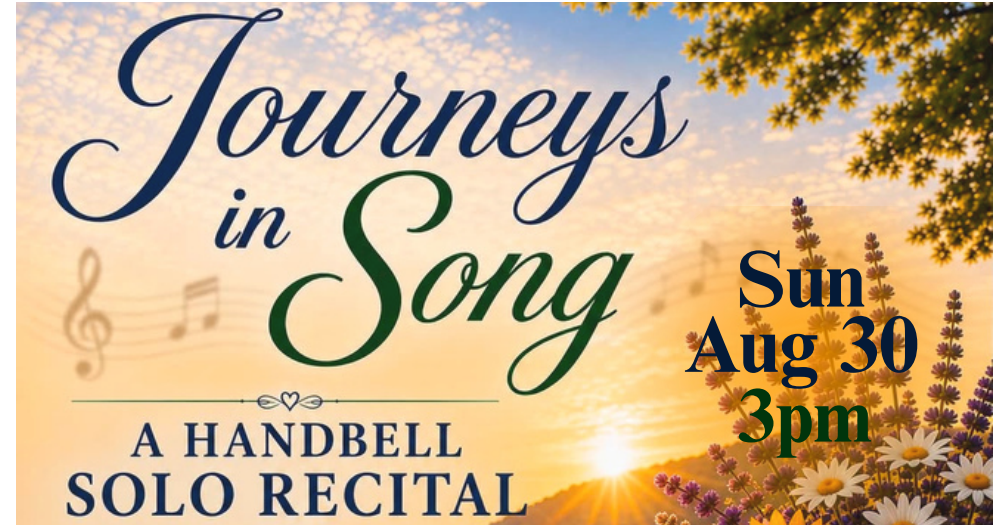


Men, if you’re not currently connected to a Bible study, you’re missing an opportunity to deepen your relationship with our Lord and Savior. Join us Thursday mornings at 8 AM in the Parlor. We’re a small group of Christian men seeking to better understand God’s Word through Scripture, Bible notes and commentaries, and sharing our own life experiences.

This is a grassroots Bible study, and you don’t need to have a strong background in the Bible – or any background at all – to participate. We read Scripture together, explore its meaning, and discuss how God’s message applies to our lives. Participation in the discussion is encouraged but never required.

Each meeting stands on its own, so you won’t be lost if you can’t attend every Thursday. You’ll leave each gathering with a deeper understanding of God’s Word and, we hope, a greater sense of His personal message for you.

Give us a try! You may find a meaningful connection to ALC, new friends to worship with, and encouragement for your walk of faith. –*Russ Laibl, Coordinator*



Sun Aug 30 3pm

A HANDBELL SOLO RECITAL

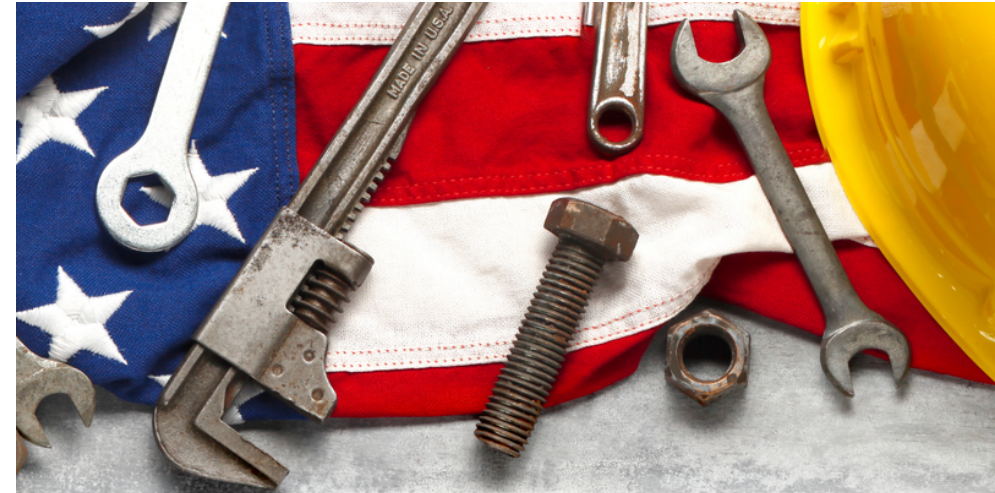
Featuring Katie Staudt, handbell soloist, with Jim Klein on piano

Come enjoy an afternoon of music, reflection, and community in our beautiful Sanctuary! A freewill offering will be received and shared with Meals on Wheels and ALC.

FIRM BELIEVERS SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

September begins the Firm Believers fall session of low impact group fitness classes using contemporary Christian music and following the theme, “Walking in Step.” Sessions are **Tuesdays & Thursdays at 9:50 AM** in the Narthex (no class on September 29). **Everyone is welcome to participate!** Come join us as we walk, move, and grow together in fellowship and faith. Contact Lynda Parrish through the church office for additional information on Firm Believers.





A LABOR DAY PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for the gift of work and the many ways you call us to serve one another. We are grateful for those whose labor builds our communities, provides for families, cares for others, and makes our lives better.

Bless all who work – with their hands, minds, hearts, and gifts. Give strength to those whose work is difficult, dignity to those whose labor is overlooked, and hope to those seeking employment. Protect workers from injury and exploitation, and guide employers and leaders to act with fairness and compassion.

We give thanks especially for those whose work is often unseen: caregivers, parents, volunteers, first responders, health-care workers, teachers, and all who serve their neighbors.

As we pause this Labor Day, remind us that our worth does not come from what we produce, but from being your beloved children. Help us follow Christ, who came not to be served, but to serve.

May our work glorify you, our rest renew us, and our lives reflect your love.
In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen