

DAY OF PENTECOST

Sunday, May 24, 2026



***God bless our native land;
Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night.
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do Thou our country save
By Thy great might.***

**BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
6409 N. 200TH St. Altamont, IL 62411**

Rev. Marcus Manley, Pastor

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“Let us go to Bethlehem...” Luke 2:15

The Lord calls us by the Gospel to His house to worship Him. It is only by the Holy Spirit that any of us can believe in Jesus Christ and receive His gift of salvation. The LC-MS confesses that the one holy Christian church includes all believers of Christ in all denominations, while also confessing Jesus' teaching of Closed Communion. If you are not in altar fellowship with the LC-MS please refrain from the Lord's Supper at Bethlehem until you have spoken with Pastor Manley.



In our prayers we remember:

Those in need of healing & comfort:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Annette Altman | Dale Roll |
| Dwayne Beccue – surgery recovery | Judy Stuemke – LCC |
| Lucille Beccue- LCC | Sam Stuemke – heart |
| Karly Brummer - leukemia | Brad Suckow – back |
| Heather Davis - cancer | Katheryn Suckow – cancer |
| Bernice Graumenz | Steve Voelker |
| Lillian Grobengieser | Catherine Zumwalt – cancer |
| Gail Robert Heimgartner - cancer | |

Birthdays (05/24-05/30): 05/26 – Everly Shewmake; 05/29 – Ian Lowe-Phillips;
05/30 – Hunter Grobengieser

Prayers and Congratulations to our 2026 Graduates:

- ALIS 8th Grade Graduates: Preston Kroening, Aubree Willenborg
- ACHS Senior Graduate: Dayton Tabbert
- College Graduates: Ella Ruffner, Jerod Ruffner




Trustee's Report:

Weekly amount needed for unified budget 2026	\$ 8730
Offering collected for <u>General Fund</u> on 05/17	\$ 4535

Loose change in the offering plate is designated for LWML Mites for Missions



Attendance: Sun., 05/17, 9:30am – 120



Bible Study Today: Matthew 8:1-17 | He Bore our Diseases

- What is the significance of the number 10?
- What does Matthew call Jesus' miracles?
- What causes Jesus to perform these?
- What do we know about how Jesus did these mighty deeds?

Join us for the Altamont Memorial Day Parade: Bethlehem Church will be participating in the parade on Monday, May 25th. Line up at the ACHS at 9am. Parade starts at 10am. All are welcome!

Parish Hall Kitchen Open House The Parish Hall kitchen remodel is now complete. It has turned out beautifully. We are extremely thankful and blessed to have been given the opportunity! The ladies would like to welcome everyone to come to an Open House next Sunday, May 31 immediately following the service. There will be baked sweets and drinks to enjoy as you browse the kitchen.

Annual Family Choir Cookout – Sunday, May 31 -Manuel's Home

Bethlehem Choir and Kinderchor - *Families- Siblings - Grandparents*

Swimming begins at 3 pm - Supper at 6 pm

Bring your favorite dish to share. Hamburgers-Hot Dogs-Drinks Provided

Thank you Choirs!

A Special Voters meeting is scheduled for May 31 immediately following the Divine Service for the purpose of approving the ALIS Tuition Program Revisions as recommended by the Elders and Church Council. In addition information will be shared from the Trustees concerning the condition of Parish Hall roof and how to proceed forward. All Voters should be present and the Congregation is invited. In order to be informed attend the meeting. – Dean Manuel, Chairman

✂✂✂✂✂ District & Synod News, Community Items & Acknowledgments ✂✂✂✂✂

Vacation Bible School at Immanuel

May 26th – May 29th from 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM each day.

The theme will be: “Tropical Trek - Jesus Comes to Seek and Save.” Registration

is Open: vbsmate.com/events/immVBS2025/31738

Lutheran Young Adult Bible Study: Friday, May 29th, 6:30pm, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Vandalia, IL. Gather with other young adults to learn about the book of Job and the idea of suffering. *Contact: Violet Wendling – 618-704-6114*



With thankful hearts, the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) Central Illinois District rejoices in the many blessings of our recent convention held in Decatur, Illinois. Delegates gathered in Christian fellowship, worship, and prayerful consideration as important decisions were made to guide the work of our district in the coming years.

Mite Goal for 2026–2028 - \$220,000 Biennium Goal

Sharing Christ's Love Through Your Mite Offerings

The following mission grants were approved for the 2026–2028 biennium:

- **Student Church Workers** — \$60,000
- **Christ-Centered Crisis Support - LFS** — \$25,000
- **Sharing Our Savior, 1 Meal at a Time** — \$7,500
- **Hands that Serve, Hearts that See - Braille** — \$12,000
- **Care Packages - Phil's Friends** — \$5,000
- **Children's Books - LHM State Fair** — \$10,000
- **Lutheran Books for Children - World** — \$5,000
- **Set Apart to Serve** — \$10,000
- **Gospel Access for Aging Adults - CID** — \$13,000
- **Deaconess Kim Bueltmann in Germany** — \$10,000
- **Family 4 Life in CID** — \$7,500



Remember, all coins in the offering plate at Bethlehem are given to the LWML for Mite Missions.

BABY BOTTLE
Fundraiser

MAY 10 - JUNE 21

**CELEBRATE LIFE WITH US
BY SUPPORTING THE
FAMILY LIFE CENTER FROM
MOTHER'S DAY TO FATHER'S DAY**

<https://rebrand.ly/bbeff>

Pick up baby bottle or give online to Family Life Center.



Donation box for non-perishable items for the Altamont Food Pantry is in the narthex. *The Food Pantry had 60 participants on Tuesday, 05/19/2026.* Jesus said, I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Mt. 25:35). The Altamont Ministerial Alliance does this by caring for the poor in our community. The Altamont Food pantry is open at First United Methodist Church every Tuesday, 1-3pm for citizens with an Altamont address. When available, other funds are given to the poor with an Altamont address to help with their needs. The Altamont Ministerial Alliance has checks and balances to properly steward all donations to those who are living in our community and follow Jesus’ words to care for the poor.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Monday, May 25 – Memorial Day

- Office Closed

Sunday, May 31 – The Holy Trinity

9:30 am – DSIII with Holy Communion

10:45 am – Parish Hall Kitchen Open House

3:00 p.m. – Choir Cookout

8:00 am – Pastor Manley’s Radio program on KJ Country/102.3FM

5:00 pm – Sunday morning worship service TV broadcast Ch.81

(Recording of today’s worship service is also available on our YouTube channel - link via our church website)

***So shall our prayers arise
To God above the skies;
On Him we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye,
To Thee aloud we cry:
God save the state!***