

Alleluia! Lutheran Church, 4055 S. Book Rd., Naperville, IL 60564

[www.alleluia!lutheran.org](http://www.alleluia!lutheran.org) Phone: 630-904-3311

*Our Mission: To enable all to come, connect, and commit to Jesus.*

# October 2025 Alleluia! NEWS



All are welcome! Scan the QR above or check out upcoming events at:  
[alleluia!lutheran.org/events/upcoming](http://alleluia!lutheran.org/events/upcoming)



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## Message from Pastor Joel

***"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"***

**~Psalm 118:1**



As you know, we've been focusing on gratitude lately at 103rd and Book. I wanted to take this opportunity to share some of the many things I am grateful for this month.

### **Gratitude for Improving Financials**

About a year ago our treasurer, Roger Russell, stood before the congregation and shared that based on current giving and anticipated expenses, Alleluia! Lutheran Church would run out of money in the third quarter of 2025. Three things happened that helped us through this crisis: 1) Thrivent, our mortgage company, graciously gave us 12 months of interest only payments on our mortgage. 2) Little Blessings Preschool was able to grow enrollment from last school year. 3) All of you stepped up and generously gave to support the mission of the church this past year. Through the work of the Stewardship Team and your generosity, we saw a 22% increase in pledging from 2024 to 2025. *"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"*

### **Gratitude for Our Ministries**

Last month we kicked off our fall programs on Rally Day! We celebrated our community—beginning in worship, followed up with good food, playing on inflatables, and gathering school supplies for the Kids in Need Foundation. Later this month we will welcome Wheatland Salem Church to lease the CLC wing of our building as their new church home for the next two years—a place where they can gather for worship, fellowship, Bible study, and launch new ministries in our neighborhood. On Reformation Sunday, October 26th, we will celebrate as 17 of our 9th graders affirm their baptismal promises. *"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"*

### **Gratitude for God's Abundance**

Pastor, theologian, and author Henri Nouwen says, "Gratitude flows from the recognition that *who we are and what we have* are gifts to be received and shared. Gratitude releases us from the bonds of obligation and prepares us to offer ourselves *freely and fully for the work of the kingdom.*" We are God's beloved children with whom God is well pleased. And we have many gifts to be shared *"freely and fully for the work of the kingdom."* Join me in giving thanks to God for the abundance of gifts. Together let us use these gifts to do God's work here on 103rd and Book, in our community, and to the ends of the earth. *"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"*



In September, Alleluia! women were invited to gather in the Alleluia! Underground to view and discuss the film, *The Forge*.

*Alleluia!*  
**Women**

Not to be outdone, Alleluia! men were invited to gather for football and pizza.



**Alleluia!**  
**Men's**  
**Ministry**





# Children's Ministry

*Sharing the love of God with children and families so they can come, connect, and commit to Jesus.*

## Have You Registered for KidsConnect?

**Registration is requested each year.** KidsConnect meets every Sunday during both services. We welcome children 3yrs-5th grade, placing them in age-appropriate classrooms where they explore Bible stories in fun and meaningful ways. Each week, kids dive into God's Word through **art, games, music, videos, science, or drama**, making the Bible come alive! Our time together begins with **worship music, the Lord's Prayer, communion, and blessings**—a sacred and joyful experience created just for kids. Don't miss out — [CLICK HERE](#) to register your child today!



## KidsConnect is Looking for Volunteers!



Join us in making a lasting impact in the faith journey of our children. We offer \*flexible scheduling, \*easy-to-follow no-prep lessons, \*a meaningful and rewarding experience, as well as \*occasional sweet treats as a thank-you! Whether you're a middle schooler, high school student, or adult, there's a place for you on our team. [CLICK HERE](#) and sign up to be part of something special.

## Seven Students were Presented with Bibles

at services in September. This marked a special **Faith Milestone** for our congregation to celebrate with our 3rd grade students.



## Faith Milestones

Did you know that each grade level of our Children's Ministry at Alleluia! has a Faith Milestone associated with it? These milestones help children grow in faith, step by step, surrounded by the love and support of their church family.

Check out the Faith Milestone chart. Greater details for each Milestone can be viewed on the Children's Ministry page of the Alleluia! website by [CLICKING HERE](#). Reach out to April Blair at [ablair@alleluia.church](mailto:ablair@alleluia.church) with any questions.



**Children's Ministry News Continues on the Following Page**

## Join us for Trunk or Treat

Wednesday, Oct. 22nd, 5:00-6:15pm

For ages 3 years through 5th graders and their families

Join us for a fun evening of games, service projects, and sweet treats!



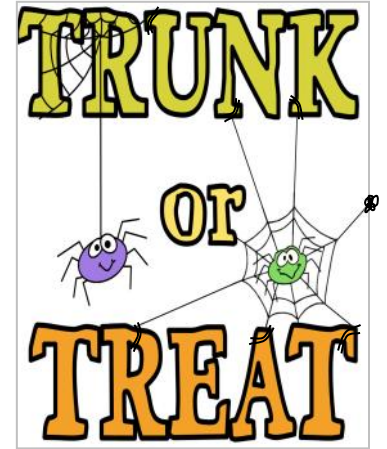
- 🎃 Come in costume
- 🎃 Decorate your trunk
- 🎃 Bring peanut-free candy to share

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to register your family for this fun event!

Please contact April Blair at [ablair@alleluia.church](mailto:ablair@alleluia.church) with questions.

We're in need of youth and adult volunteers to help before, during, and after the event.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up to help at this FUN event! Thank you!



## Connect45 Registration is Open



Calling all 4th & 5th graders! Come for a fun year of faith growth, building friendships, and connecting with God in new ways. We meet Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00pm in the lower level Celebration Room for Bible lessons, games, service projects, and more! Let's make this the best year ever! [CLICK HERE](#) and register today to join us at Connect45.

Email April Blair at [ablair@alleluia.church](mailto:ablair@alleluia.church) with any questions.

## KidsConnect Has a New Logo

You'll see it start popping up more and more—on our volunteer shirts, signs, and even on the website. It's the same fun and meaningful KidsConnect you know and love, now with a fresh new look!



## Save the Date for Breakfast in Bethlehem

Sunday, Dec. 7th

Hosted by the Children's Ministry

- KidsConnect kids will sing at the end of service
- Pancake breakfast will be served
- Games & crafts will be available in the gym
- Service project: Christmas Cards for Seniors
- Visit with St. Nick

Join our planning committee! Email April Blair at [ablair@alleluia.church](mailto:ablair@alleluia.church) if you are interested in helping to make this event even more special.



# Alleluia! Youth News!

## Affirmation of Baptism Service on Reformation Sunday

On October 26th at the 10:30am service our 9th Graders will be Affirming their Baptisms! If your 9th grade student has not yet registered for the Affirmation of Baptism service please do so by clicking [HERE](#).



## Youth Sunday is Coming! - October 19th, 10:30am Worship

Pastor Joel is handing the keys to the 10:30am service to our Youth! Seriously, our Youth will run nearly every aspect of this worship service!

On October 19th, most roles at the 10:30 worship service will be filled by our 6th-12th grade students. That means youth will be readers, ushers, communion servers, greeters, the worship assistant, and will also handle the music, welcome center, and A/V booth! On top of that— our high school students have been tasked to come up with and lead the Children's Chat!

Students will be trained for all roles and ready for this special Sunday. There's a role for everyone; the more youth participants, the better! Please click on [this link](#) to sign up for a role.

## Confirmation (6th - 8th Grade)



We've had a great start to our Confirmation year! In September, we covered both of our sacraments—Baptism and Holy Communion, as well as enjoying Laser Tag at Chasers.

There's so much to look forward to in October for our 6th-8th graders!

- Confirmation students are invited to attend the Northern Illinois Synod Day Retreat in Sycamore, IL.
- We will have a lesson on "The Neighbor" and "The Bible."
- As we prepare for Youth Sunday, students will gather for Culver's.
- To finish off October, we will dive into lessons on Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Our Confirmation program has a running registration. If your student is in 6th-8th grades—please register! All are welcome! Please do so by scanning the QR code or by clicking [HERE](#).



## High School Youth Group (9th - 12th Grade)



Students in grades 9-12 meet Sunday Nights from 6:30-8:00pm in The Underground Youth Center for fellowship, a lesson, and a wide variety of activities including games, community building, service projects, and more. As always - all are welcome to come as they are!

Our October lesson series is entitled, "Nailed It!" We will focus on Martin Luther, the Protestant Reformation, and what the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is up to in 2025! Also in October, high school students can look forward to Youth Sunday and Reformation Sunday when many of our 9th graders will affirm their Baptisms.

Our High School Youth Group is always growing and welcoming new faces! Want more information or to be added to the email list? Scan the QR code or [CLICK HERE](#)!

Contact Youth Director Kurtis Arndt at [karndt@alleluia.church](mailto:karndt@alleluia.church) with any questions.







# October<sup>6</sup> Music News

**Alleluia! Music's Annual BUTTER BRAID fundraiser begins Sunday, Oct. 19th! The sale ends on Sunday, Nov. 2nd— and we'll offer FREE SAMPLES that morning. Orders will be distributed on the following Sunday, Nov. 9th AFTER EACH SERVICE. Please see all details on the next page.**

**Contact Michele Nelson Lui at [mlui@alleluia.church](mailto:mlui@alleluia.church) regarding any of the following.**

**Mondays:** We offer private piano lessons for ages 6 & up. There is currently a waiting list available. We also offer lessons in beginning saxophone, drums, percussion, clarinet, flute, and voice. Contact Ms. Michele at [mlui@alleluia.church](mailto:mlui@alleluia.church) for ALL lesson sign ups and questions.

**Tuesdays:** Private piano lessons, ages 6 & up (waiting list available). Contact Michele at [mlui@alleluia.church](mailto:mlui@alleluia.church).

**Wednesdays:** Children's Choirs meet in the Music Room, 5:15-6:00pm. Both choirs meet together to sing, dance, play instruments, games, and learn about Jesus in creative ways. We sing in church once each month. [CLICK HERE](#) to register for Children's Choirs on the Music page of the Alleluia! website.

**K3 Bible Exploration** (Kdgt-3rd grade) 6:00-6:45 in the Music Room. We have fun while digging into scripture through Bible verses and stories, drama, crafts, movement, occasional food, learning the books of the Bible, and more! [CLICK HERE](#) to register for K3.

**The Handbell Choir** (middle school and up!) rehearses from 7:00-8:00pm in the sanctuary. Please join us! You don't need to "read" music to play! We ring once each month at services.

**Thursdays:** **Traditional Praise/Traditional Praise Team** sings hymns (usually from the ELW) from 5:00-6:00pm. You are welcome to join us in the sanctuary.

**Contemporary Praise/Contemporary Praise Team** meets in the sanctuary to sing Christian Contemporary Music at 6:00pm! Come sing along!

**Praise Choir** meets 2 times a month on Thursdays at 6:30pm when we have a drummer available...SO PLEASE let Ms. Michele know if you'd like to be notified when those dates will be. They change monthly! A large group sings with ONE microphone, voices blended together, and you can enjoy singing and clapping to add even more ENERGY to the services!

**Vocals Only** are rehearsed for the 10:30am service from 6:00-6:30pm.

**Alleluia! Jam Night** is on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. Come join the contemporary praise team and JAM with them...or, just watch! [CLICK HERE](#) to let us know you'll join us!

**Saturdays:** Some special music rehearsals (for those who travel during the week).

**Sundays:** 7:50am-Traditional Praise rehearsals (vocal); 8:30am-instrumental "warm up;" 8:40am-prayer with Pastor Joel.

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

Come and train to operate our **soundboard**, "run" **worship slides** on the computer, or learn to help with the technical aspects of **streaming our services**. Please contact Michele at [mlui@alleluia.church](mailto:mlui@alleluia.church) for more info.

We're seeking **BRASS** and **WOODWIND** players to accompany hymns or perform special music with an ensemble on Reformation Sunday, Oct. 26th.

**Any 9th GRADERS** interested in helping with music on Reformation Sunday, Oct. 26th? It's a SPECIAL DAY! Let's celebrate! Contact Ms. Michele at [mlui@alleluia.church](mailto:mlui@alleluia.church) with questions or if interested!

Christmas Eve music rehearsals will begin in November. Please keep watching for further details!



- ♦ Apple
- ♦ Blueberry & Cream Cheese
- ♦ Cinnamon
- ♦ Cream Cheese
- ♦ Raspberry
- ♦ Strawberry & Cream Cheese
- ♦ Caramel Rolls (9/pkg)
- ♦ Cinnamon Rolls (9/pkg)



**Delicious Pastries—  
Just in time for the  
upcoming holiday season!**

**On sale Oct. 19th-Nov. 2nd  
\$17 each item**

**(FREE samples on Nov. 2nd)  
Paper forms & online ordering  
will be available soon!**

**Watch for info on the Alleluia!  
website at [Events/Upcoming](#).**

**Pick up on Sunday, Nov. 9th  
following both services  
or by appointment.**

**Questions to [mlui@alleluia.church](mailto:mlui@alleluia.church)**

## SAVE THE DATE FOR A CONCERT!

**Saturday, Nov. 8th, 6:00-8:00pm**

**Doors open at 5:30pm**

The Alleluia! Outreach & Mission Team is sponsoring a community outreach concert at Alleluia! to benefit Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry.

**Mix Tape Junkies** will perform songs from the '80s and '90s in the Alleluia! Underground.



We're all excited to offer this concert for such a great cause! The music will be suitable for all ages. Invite your family and friends!

[CLICK HERE](#) for ticket information and sales.

Tickets are available for presale and also will be

available at the door. [CLICK HERE](#) for info on Mix Tape Junkies. [CLICK HERE](#) for Loaves & Fishes needs.



## Operation Christmas Child Collection

**Begins October 12th and Continues through November 23rd.**

Pack a shoebox with small toys, school supplies, and hygiene items for a needy child to receive as a gift this Christmas! Use your own shoebox or pick up one at Alleluia! Please do not gift wrap items.

"How to Pack a Shoebox" pamphlets will be available at the Welcome Center beginning in mid-October or you can go online to [SamaritansPurse.org](http://SamaritansPurse.org) to get more information as to what items can/cannot be accepted. There is also an opportunity to pack an online shoebox!

Thank you for providing a gift in Jesus' name to a child who may otherwise receive nothing for Christmas.



# SALE! BOOKSTORE & OFFICE FURNISHINGS

**Saturday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-3:00**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC \* Door #4**

- OFFICE FURNITURE
- DISPLAY CABINETS
- GONDOLA SHELVING w/ WHEELS
- CASH WRAP CHECKOUT COUNTER
- FAITH-BASED GAMES/BOOKS (NEW)
- STERLING SILVER NECKLACES (NEW)
- JEWELRY DISPLAY CASE
- CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS
- PRESCHOOL ITEMS
- HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
- MUCH MORE!

Seeking Alleluia! members to help with the sale! [CLICK HERE](#) for info.

# SALE!





# RALLY DAY!



Thanks to all  
who volunteered  
or donated, and  
to those who  
attended!





## New Member Class

**Our New Member Class has been rescheduled to Sunday, Oct. 12th.**

We'll meet in the Legacy Room behind the Well Café at 11:45am.

A light lunch will be provided. Childcare is available upon request.

### What is a New Member Class?

- A casual and informative get together with others interested in becoming members
- A space to ask questions about faith and Alleluia! Lutheran Church
- An opportunity to learn about Lutheranism and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- A way to discover where you fit at Alleluia!

### Why is becoming a member important?

- You are an official member of Alleluia!
- You will have "voice" and "vote" responsibilities at our Congregational Meetings
- You can be eligible to serve on Church Council
- You can be elected to represent Alleluia! in the Northern Illinois Synod.

Questions? Please reach out to Deb Bostjancic at [dbostjancic@alleluia.church](mailto:dbostjancic@alleluia.church) or [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up.

## Wine Appreciation Group Friday, Oct. 3rd, 7:00pm

We'll have a blind cabernet sauvignon tasting, fellowship, and fun! We'd love to include you! For more information or to sign up for this evening get together, please email Darcy Jasien at [djasien@alleluia.church](mailto:djasien@alleluia.church) by September 30th.



The Alleluia! Church Council members may be contacted via [council@alleluia.church](mailto:council@alleluia.church)

Laura Bowler (Term Exp 2/26)  
[lbowler@alleluia.church](mailto:lbowler@alleluia.church)

Darcy Jasien (Term Exp 2/26)  
[djasien@alleluia.church](mailto:djasien@alleluia.church)

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Roger Russell (Term Exp 2/27)  
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**4055 S. Book Rd.  
Naperville, IL 60564**



## Worship Schedule

**All are welcome to join us  
for worship!**

**Sunday Morning  
9:00am & 10:30am**

### Stay Connected!

Website: [www.alleluialutheran.org](http://www.alleluialutheran.org)



Alleluia - Naperville, IL



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