

"Living Our Faith in Jesus Christ  
Through Acceptance, Service, and Love."

# Celebrating the Journey

## May 2026 *Newsflash*

**Sunday Worship weekly at 10:00 a.m.**

**Services are livestreamed and can be accessed on  
YouTube, Facebook, and [www.algonquinucc.org](http://www.algonquinucc.org)**

### FROM PASTOR JIM

Looking ahead to the month of May we have many reasons to gather as God's people.

May 3: Communion—we encounter the risen Christ through the broken bread and poured wine.

May 10: Mother's Day (The Festival of the Christian Home) - in all its' manifestations we celebrate households that call themselves Christian.

May 17: The Sacrament of Baptism—we acknowledge a young person as a child of God and remember that we are also baptized children of God.

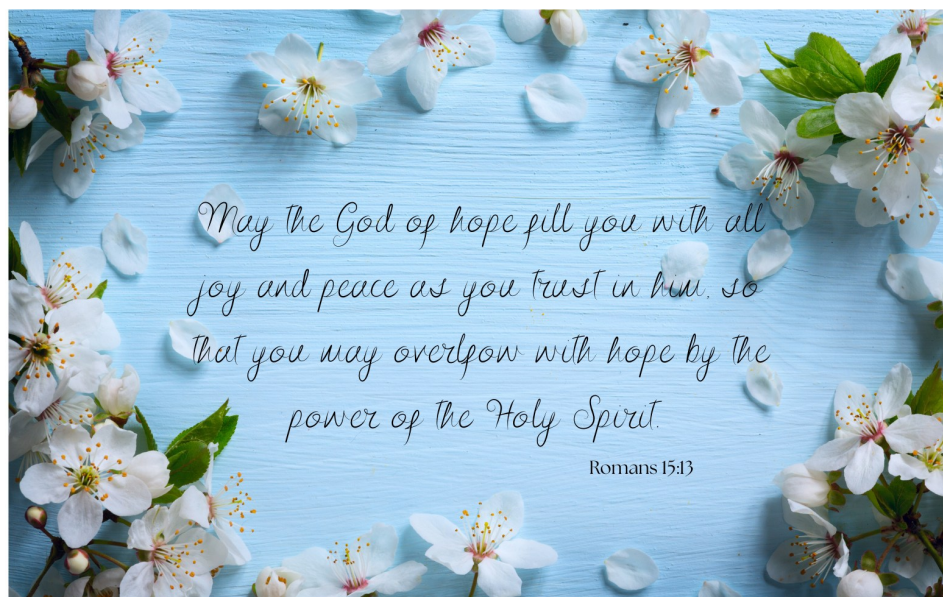
May 24: Pentecost Sunday—if not for the power of God's spirit the Church would be in hiding.

May 31: Trinity Sunday—a celebration of "God in three persons, blessed Trinity."

I look forward to our times together each and every Sunday!

Thanks be to God.

Pastor Jim



SAVE THE DATE

# Scholarship Applications Available

Due June 1<sup>st</sup>



Contact the Church Office for an Application



## Men's Fellowship Annual Breakfast

*Honoring the  
Women of CCA*

Saturday, May 9 | 9:00 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall

All women are invited to join us for a  
delicious meal, fellowship, and fun!

*Please sign up in the Narthex.*



## SAVE THE DATE & WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### SAVE THE DATE

*\*Please see our online calendar for the most up-to-date information*

#### MAY 3RD

First Sunday—Food Pantry Offering

#### MAY 4TH

Ministry of Christian Ed (Zoom) 7:00 PM

#### MAY 5TH

Open and Affirming Meeting (Zoom) 7:00 PM

#### MAY 6TH

Senior Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

#### MAY 8TH

Women's Bunco 6:00 PM

#### MAY 9TH

Men's Fellowship (Women's breakfast) 9:00 AM

#### MAY 10TH *Shepherd U.*

*Mother's Day*

Fair Trade Sunday

Ministry of Trustees Meeting 8:30 AM

Ministry of Deacons Meeting 8:45 AM

Ministry of Missions Meeting 9:00 AM

#### MAY 11TH

Ministry of Finance Meeting (Zoom) 6:30 PM

#### MAY 13TH

Senior Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

#### MAY 14TH

Bibles & Brew (Port Edward) 6:00 PM

Women's Fellowship 6:30 PM

#### MAY 17TH *Shepherd U.*

*Declan O'Connell Baptism*

Council Meeting 11:00 AM

#### MAY 19TH

Newsletter Deadline

#### MAY 21ST

Women's Fellowship—Faith Journey Party 6:00 PM

#### MAY 25TH

Memorial Day—Church Office Closed

#### MAY 26TH

Social Justice Advocates (Zoom) 7:00 PM

#### MAY 27TH

Senior Game Afternoon 12:30 PM

*\*Please note, the Church office will be closed the week of June 1st. Please email the office if you need anything.*

### MAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>**: The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Scripture:** Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

*Note: The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served.*

**MAY 10<sup>th</sup>**: The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Scripture:** Acts 17:22-31

Psalm 66:8-20

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

**MAY 17<sup>th</sup>**: The 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**Scripture:** Acts 1:6-14

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

**MAY 24<sup>th</sup>**: Pentecost Sunday

Guest Catherine Erwin

**Scripture:** Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21

John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

**MAY 31<sup>st</sup>**: Trinity Sunday

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20



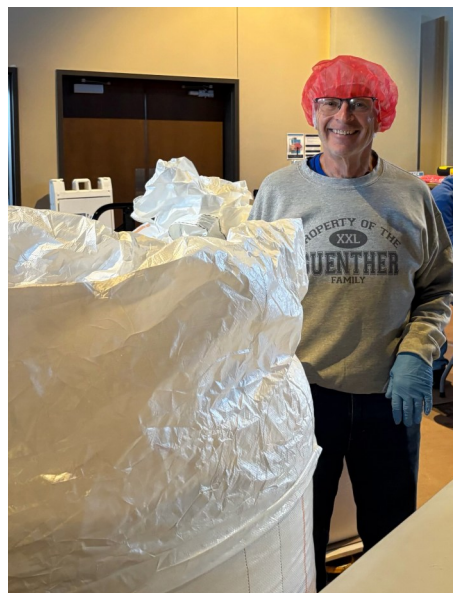
**Ushers,  
Greeters, and  
Liturgists Needed.  
Sign-up today.**

## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN



On Saturday, April 18, a group from our congregation joined a mobile packing event for **Feed My Starving Children** at Light of Christ Lutheran Church. Together, we hand-packed "MannaPack" meals filled with essential vitamins, vegetables, soy, and rice.

The energy was high, and the results were even higher! In just two hours, our session packed **39,960** meals, which is enough food to feed **109 children every day for a full year**. These life-saving packages are now headed to communities in need across the globe. It was a beautiful day of service and fellowship shared by everyone who attended.



For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

Matthew 25:35

## BUNCO!

On the second Friday of every month at 6 o'clock, ladies get together to play BUNCO! For just a \$5 entry fee, enjoy a fun-filled evening of playing BUNCO! The winner chooses the recipient charity for the evening's proceeds!



## WOODSTOCK OPERA HOUSE PLAY GROUP

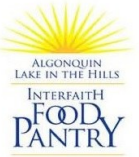
Every fall, members and friends of the Congregation have the opportunity to purchase a ticket package for the Woodstock Opera House. Carpooling and dinner are some of the fun options available when going to see the plays.



## MISSION EVENTS & NEWS!

### 1st Sunday Collection - Special Offering for the ALITH Food Pantry Sunday, May 3rd

“Be a Neighbor, Feed a Neighbor”



Food Donations: There continues to be a great need in our community for donations of non perishable food. Food donations can be left in the shopping cart by the elevator or dropped off at the pantry at 1113 Pyott Road, Lake in the Hills. A current needs list can be found in the Narthex. The food pantry will also take plastic grocery bags to be used by pantry clients.

### May Special Food Collection

For the month of May, we are collecting condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo, etc.) and salad dressing.

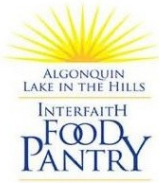
### SALLY NORRIS COPE FUND

Donations have been made to the following organizations, each for \$500.00. February— the Family Sponsorship Fund, March—NISRA (Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association), April – Feed My Starving Children .



### ALITH INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY

In addition to monetary donations, the Food Pantry also accepts non-perishable food items, toiletries, and paper products 24/7 at their location (1113 Pyott Road, Lake in the Hills). Items may also be placed in the shopping cart located between the elevator and Fellowship Hall. The Food Pantry also collects grocery bags for use by their clients.



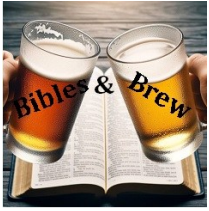
### MINISTRY OF MISSIONS

#### PROJECT IDEAS

The Ministry of Missions appreciates ideas for mission projects. Please share ideas with any Missions member (Barb Erion, Peg Nesser, Wynn Ann Roggeveen, Alice Woertendyke, Paula Evans, Kris Panzloff), or by putting a note in the container in the Narthex.



## GROUPS & STUDIES



### BIBLES & BREW

Thursday, May 14th at 6:00 p.m.  
at Port Edward.



### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall. Saturday, May 9th will be our Breakfast to honor the women of CCA.



### WOMEN'S BUNCO NIGHT

Friday, May 8th at  
6:00 p.m. - \$5.00 entry fee

Join us for a fun-filled, competitive evening of playing Bunco while enjoying wonderful food and benefiting a good cause.



### SENIOR AFTERNOON OF GAMES

Senior Afternoon of Games will be held on Wednesday, May 27th. Feel free to bring a snack for yourself!

## FELLOWSHIP!

LOVE FELLOWSHIP?  
LOVE COFFEE?

Volunteers are  
needed to serve  
during Fellowship  
Hour!



*Sign-up in the Narthex or contact the Church Office*

**Coffee Hour** is so much fun, don't you agree! We have several openings to serve ; please sign-up!

Pick a date that is a special occasion for you, birthday, anniversary, birth of a child, etc., we want to celebrate with you!

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our donation drive for the tornado victims in Kankakee such a success! Ashley publicized our event, volunteers gave their time over four days and evenings to receive donations, Steve Guenther generously loaded up his Suburban (that was entirely filled) and delivered everything to Kankakee, and so many of you contributed essential supplies to support those in need.

We are truly grateful—thank you, church family!

*Thank You!*

## COMMITTEES & MINISTRIES



Total Operating Fund Income		
Income	MTD	YTD
	\$ 34,046.10	\$ 99,573.23
Total Operating Expenses		
Expenses	MTD	YTD
	\$ 22,315.73	\$ 63,932.76
Net	\$ 11,730.37	\$ 35,640.47
<b>Mortgage Balance *</b>		\$ 118,831.05
Checking Account Balance		\$ 33,931.78
<b>OCWM \$250 plus member contribution</b>	\$ 662.00	\$ 1,691.00
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>		
Refer to Capital Fund for details	-	-
<b>Memorial Funds</b>		
Income	-	\$250.00
Expenses	-	\$720.00
Net	-	\$(470.00)
<b>Control Check</b>	Ok	Ok

*As of March 31, 2026*

### ALITH FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Algonquin Lake in the Hills Interfaith Food Pantry seeking valuable volunteers.

The food pantry was established in 2000 to meet the growing needs of the underserved. Last year we served 12,105 clients and distributed 287,596 pounds of food. Our gardens yielded 2,844 pounds of vegetables, herbs, fruits, & flowers. Of which, all was distributed freely.

As our growing season approaches, we need volunteers to help feed our clients. Our hours are Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 11:30, both outside and in the pantry. The work varies from day to day. We are located on Pyott Road.

To contact us visit [alithfoodpantry.org](http://alithfoodpantry.org) and scroll to the bottom. Fill in the contact information and in the message section type “volunteer gardens” or “volunteer other” and submit. You’ll be contacted within a few days.



**Fair Trade**  
USA™

**FAIR TRADE**

**Sunday, May 10th**

When you purchase products that meet Fair Trade standards, not only are you supporting and compensating workers with fair wages for their talents and labor, you're also contributing to protecting the planet. Visit our Fair Trade table in Fellowship Hall, where you can browse and purchase quality Fair Trade products like coffee and tea. Visit our website or contact Nancy Kneip for more information.



**THE HEAVENLY ATTIC - Open Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

In honor of Mother's Day this month the Heavenly Attic donated \$500 to the Home of the Sparrow which operates seven [Sparrow's Nest Thrift Stores and Donation Centers](#) in Northern Illinois (Arlington Heights, Cary, McHenry, Mundelein, Palatine, Third Lake, and Woodstock) to support housing for women and children. These locations accept donations and provide affordable goods, with net proceeds directly funding housing and supportive services.



*McHenry County*  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**VOLUNTEER ON THE PRAIRIE TRAIL!**

Join the McHenry County Conservation Foundation to help maintain a small segment of our extensive county trail system! As part of the District's Adopt-A-Trail program, McHenry County Conservation Foundation volunteers and staff will meet at the Mitchard Way (formerly Meyer Rd) parking lot in Algonquin to help keep a one-mile stretch of the trail free of debris and litter. Take a morning stroll down the Prairie Trail, meet new people, and help beautify the area. Dress for the weather. Gloves and hand sanitizer encouraged. Long-handled trash pickers provided.

The minimum age to volunteer independently is 18, but those under 18 can sign up with adult supervision.

**2026 Clean-Up Dates**

**9:00-11:00 a.m., Saturdays on the following dates:**

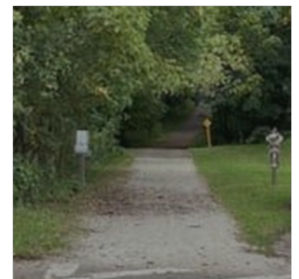
June 13\* (Church Group)

August 8

October 10

To sign-up or for more information, visit their website at:

<https://www.mchenryconservation.org>



# May

*Happy Birthday!*

*Happy Anniversary!*

5/2	Lynne Carlson	5/21	Sandra Lindgren
5/5	April Venzon	5/22	Bruce Thorne
5/5	Dawson Thorne	5/22	Jen Jazwinski
5/5	Garret Tarosas	5/23	Eric Hertel
5/7	Cory Kirkpatrick	5/25	Tucker Tarosas
5/9	Diane Scheske	5/26	Ryan Tarosas
5/15	Nancy Blackman	5/30	Bev Tipps
5/16	JoAnn Schindler	5/30	Carol Haug
5/21	Barb Erion	5/31	Joan Ryckman

5/21 Ed & Donna Church

*Please contact the Church Office if we missed your anniversary or birthday.*

## *In Our Thoughts In Our Prayers.*

### **OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS**

Carol Briggs	Janet Kelley
Lynne Carlson	Gary Parker
Fred Ekstrom	Bobbie Reed
Nancy Ekstrom	Dick Roggeveen
Elsie Fry	Sue Kreibich
Gary Gray	Marilyn McNichols
Pat Hemmingsen	

### **OTHERS IN NEED OF PRAYER**

Donna Church

# **A Mother's Day Prayer**

**Loving God,**

**We celebrate the divine gift of nurturing, and we lift up all women who have mirrored your compassion to us.**

**For those who are mothers: By birth, adoption, or foster care—grant them strength, patience, and the joy of seeing their children thrive.**

**For expectant mothers: And those waiting with anticipation, that you fill them with peace and hope.**

**For those who long to be mothers: And those whose hearts ache with the pain of infertility or lost children, we ask for comforting, gentle grace.**

**For spiritual mothers: Mentors, teachers, aunts, and friends who have nurtured, loved, and supported us—we thank you for their wisdom.**

**For those with strained relationships: We pray for healing and peace, even in complicated mother-child bonds.**

**For those who have lost their mothers: May they find comfort and hold onto loving memories.**

**For those who have given the gift of adoption: We pray for peace in their sacrifice.**

**We ask that all women today, no matter their story, feel truly seen, honored, and valued. We recognize their tenacity, resilience, and quiet sacrifices that sustain the world.**

**We ask this in the name of the One who loves us all.**

**Amen.**

# Puzzle!

Unscramble the names of these biblical mothers. Look up the verse if you need help. Then use the letters on the numbered blanks to complete the message below.

VEE (Genesis 3:20)      6 11 \_ \_

NNAHAH (1 Samuel 1:20)      \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 14 \_ \_

RBAHEOD (Judges 5:7)      18 \_ \_ \_ 3 \_ \_ \_ \_

KREEHAB (Genesis 27:5)      16 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ 5

EHLA (Genesis 30:14)      \_ \_ \_ 1 \_ \_

CLEHRA (Genesis 30:22)      7 \_ \_ \_ \_ 12 \_ \_

MOIAN (Ruth 1:22)      \_ \_ \_ 10 17 13

RAAHS (Genesis 17:19)      8 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

AMYR (Matthew 2:11)      2 \_ \_ \_ \_

ZEBLEHATI (Luke 1:13)      \_ \_ 9 15 \_ \_ \_ \_ 4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		<b>G</b>	<b>F</b>		<b>F</b>				<b>G</b>		<b>!</b>
13	8	14	15	4	16	10	17	3	18		

Answers: Eve, Hannah, Deborah, Rebekah, Leah, Rachel, Naomi, Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth; A mother's love is a gift from God!

## Bible Quiz

What was the name of the wealthy merchant of purple cloth who met Paul and his companions, was baptized and became a leader in the Philippian church?



- A. Priscilla
- B. Lydia
- C. Dorcas
- D. Joanna

Answer: B (See Acts 16:11-15, 40.)

*A Prayer of Thanksgiving  
for the Month of May*

Thank You, Lord, for the gift of life, family, friends,  
and every opportunity You've given me.  
As I enter into the month of May, I surrender my  
life, my family, my dreams, and aspirations into  
Your hands.  
May Your will be done in every aspect of my life.  
Amen.

**CCA STAFF AND LEADERSHIP**  
**Interim Bridge Pastor:** Rev. Jim Benzing  
**Office Manager:** Ashley Hrynko  
**Moderator:** Dan Reebel  
**Vice Moderator:** Nancy Kneip  
**Past Moderator:** Bill Hellyer  
**Ministers of Music:** Bev & Greg Tipps

**Newsletter  
Deadline**

**Please submit June  
Newsletter Articles by  
May 19th**

**The Congregational Church of Algonquin**  
 109 Washington Street, Algonquin, Illinois 60102  
**Phone:** 847-658-5308 • **Email:** algonquinucc@gmail.com • **Website:** algonquinucc.org  
**Office hours: Monday — Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**