

January 2019

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The American LUTHERAN WINDOM, MN Church

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Dorothy Fundahn, Custodian **Judy Lindvall, Assistant Custodian**

Please Join Us For Worship!

Worship On Wednesday (WOW) at 5:45 PM

Wednesday, January 2
5:45 PM WOW w/Holy Communion

Saturday, January 5
5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, January 6
9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, January 9
5:45 PM WOW

Saturday, January 12
5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion

Sunday, January 13
(Second Sunday Noisy Offering)

Wednesday, January 16
5:45 PM WOW

Saturday, January 19
5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion

Sunday, January 20
9:00 AM Worship

Wednesday, January 23
5:45 PM WOW

Saturday, January 26
5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday January 27
9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, January 30
5:45 PM WOW

906 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 188
Windom, MN 56101
Phone: 507-831-1794
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Pastors Message

We made it!! Into 2019 that is. 2018 is past, and we wonder what lies ahead. Some of it, we will have no control over. Some will be of our own making. Each new year is an invitation to grow.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3.18

Here is some great wisdom from the author Max Lacado from his book When God Whispers Your Name.



*G*rowth is the goal of the Christian. Maturity is mandatory. If a child ceased to develop, the parents would be concerned, right?

When a Christian stops growing help is needed. If you are the same Christian you were a few months ago, be careful you might be wise to get a checkup. Not on your body but on your heart. Not a physical, but a spiritual. May I suggest one?... Why don't you check your habits... Make these four habits regular activities and see what happens.

First. The habit of prayer...

Second the habit of study...

Third the habit of giving...

And last of all, Habit of fellowship...

I love the sound of all of these, and I myself would benefit from growth in all of these areas. I have high hopes every year for self-improvement but quickly become discouraged that my old habits are hard to shake and somehow it is just the same old me that has entered into a new year!!

Here is some good news, like Gospel good news: When change has happened in me, I didn't accomplish it, God did. It's what God does best: change us from the inside out through Christ.

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and, has given us the ministry of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5.17-18

New Year's blessings to you, each one, as we grow in faith, love, and God's saving grace!!

Pastor Sarah

JANUARY 2019

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Youth News!



From Lisa Petersen, Youth Coordinator

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FIRST THINGS FIRST...

Thank you to all that helped the youth host another Living Nativity and Chili Supper. A call out to Dr. Mary Olson, Karen Skarpol, John Osher, Mel & John Shamp, just to mention a few!! THANK YOU!! It takes a ton of volunteers and a ton of youth to host this event; thank you to everyone involved!!

Now! Thank You to all of you that came and took in the festivities and for the fiscal support that you provide through this event.

Next summer's mission trip is still being negotiated by the youth and their parents. If you have an 8th – 12th Grader, they are invited to come along with us. We have had a lot of kids VERY interested in going. With that being said, we are now looking at 2 different locations. San Francisco or San Diego, CA.

There will be a final Informational / Sign-Up Meeting on Monday, January 7th @6:30pm.

By using YouthWorks Missions, our group will have the opportunity to partner with a variety of different social service organizations. These include service partners who serve the elderly, the homeless and the hungry. If we go to San Diego, we'll also be able to experience the Latino culture of San Diego, and one evening, we'll walk to the Mexican border. We'll learn about the history of the border from an organization that works to provide justice for immigrants. In addition, we'll attend a bilingual church service and enjoy a cookout with community friends. YouthWorks has partnered with this community since 1999.

I am guessing this will be another huge trip, but, not near as expensive. I am looking for a couple of adults to commit to this trip as chaperones and high-impact adults that will walk along with the youth. Contact Lisa at lcpete2@gmail.com or 507-822-6680 or at the church, 507-831-1794.

We are planning on providing cookies every 1st & 3rd Sunday Mornings. Your freewill offerings will be divided between the 2 kids that provided the treats. We are bringing back "Hot Dish Sunday" also. Every 3rd Sunday, starting in January, you can pick up your homemade hot dish.

We are planning another Valentine's Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, February 16th from 5pm – 7pm. Seating is by reservations only. Please contact the church office if you would like to reserve your table. Groups of 2-4 persons are welcome.

On a completely different note: I just want to make sure everybody understands the importance and keeping an eye on the ALC Website, Youth FB Page and the Youth Bulletin Board for ALL Youth Information.

I have come to realize that the kids have moved on from FB to communicate events, fundraisers and group planning events. So, please, encourage them to keep an eye on what's happening up at church, by either the Website, FB Page or Youth Bulletin Board. Thanks!!

The ALC Youth are the future of our church and they have been called, loved, filled and released to do what God has called them to do, "Love your Lord God with all of your heart and love your neighbor as yourself."

Attention Adults: If you are interested in getting involved in the youth program, let me know. I would love to have some other positive adults involved.

Any questions, please give me a call at 507-831-1794, my cell 507-822-6680 or send me an email at lcpete2@gmail.com.

Sincerely, Lisa

Eph. 2:8-10

January 2019 Messenger

Worship & Music Notes for January

By Karen Wojahn, Worship & Music Coordinator (831-3161)

Thank you to all the musicians who were involved in the wonderful music of the Christmas season! Our congregation is blessed with many musicians who shared their talents in the Community Christmas Concert, the Living Nativity, the BAM program, Sunday worship services and on Christmas Eve.

The Community Christmas Concert was an overwhelming success in December with 50 singers from 3 communities participating in the Cantata Choir. Over 30 members of our congregation were also involved in the concert as handbell ringers, greeters, ushers, narrators, technology assistants, reception bakers and dining room servers. A standing-room-only crowd of 365 people attended the concert on one of the most beautiful blue-sky days in December. Over \$2,021.00 and 148 lbs of food were collected for the Windom Area Sharing Center. Thank you, thank you, thank you ALC!

During the month of January, the ALC Choir and the Handbell Choir will take a break, but if you enjoy singing or are musical, we would love to have you participate in a worship service. Please sign up on the Worship & Music bulletin board or give me a call.



Now in the new year, our scripture readings will follow the life of Jesus, as related in the Gospel of Matthew:

January 6	Day of Epiphany: Visit of the Magi	Matthew 2: 1-23
January 13	Jesus' Baptism	Matthew 3: 1-17
January 20	Tempted in the Wilderness	Matthew 4: 1-17
January 27	Beatitudes	Matthew 5: 1-20

Get involved and help lead YOUR church's worship services! Check your schedule and sign up on the Worship & Music bulletin board. We need WOW (Worship on Wednesday) ushers, and Sunday morning Greeters, Scripture Readers and Communion Assistants. See you in church!



Christian Education News:

I would like to say THANK YOU for such a warm welcome from EVERYBODY as I take on the role of Christian Education Coordinator! I am very excited, thankful and blessed to be in this role and hope to make things run more smoothly in this area from now on! I would also like to say a HUGE thank you to Mandie Borer and the Christian Ed Board for keeping BAM running and stepping up to do extra work while we didn't have a Christian Ed Coordinator. Also a HUGE Thank You to Karen Wojahn for taking on a lot of details for the Christmas Program! There were so many hands involved with making the Christmas program happen! Thank you to everyone!

As I take on this new role, I will be implementing more bible study opportunities and maybe even some vlogging! So, stay tuned for new things that will be in store! My goal is to bring children and more importantly, families together, into a deeper relationship with God and His living word!

A very Blessed New Year to All!

Reminder: No BAM-W Wednesday, January 2nd!

Sincerely,

Melanie Shamp-Christian Ed Coordinator



BAM-W January Schedule

January 2nd– No BAM-W
 January 9th– Jesus' Baptism– Matthew
 January 16th– Tempted in the Wilderness
 January 23rd-- Salt & Light
 January 30th– Treasure in Heaven

BAM-S January Schedule

January 6th– Day of Epiphany– Magi Visit
 January 13th– Jesus' Baptism– Matthew
 January 20th– Tempted in the Wilderness
 January 27th– Salt & Light

Happy New Year!

Here's to hoping that the new year is in every way complete. With happiness, success, good health, and all that makes life sweet.

We hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



“Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his presence continually. Remember the wonderful work he has done, his miracles, and the judgement he uttered.”

1 Chronicles 16: 11-12

From the ALC Staff

January Happenings

Annual Meeting Reminder: Sunday, January 20th following the Worship Service. There will be childcare provided during the Annual Meeting. Come and learn about the ministry we had in the past year and learn about the year to come. Rolls will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Lutefisk Supper: Saturday, January 12th, 5:00pm-7:00pm, Tickets are available following church services on Sunday's or by calling or stopping in the church office during regular office hours, 9AM-12noon, and 1PM-4PM. Menu items include: Lutefisk, Meatballs, Lefse, and more. Reservations are encouraged by January 4th.

GLOW Happenings: January 8: 9:00 a.m. Sewing

2:00 p.m. Altar Guild

January 17: 2:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

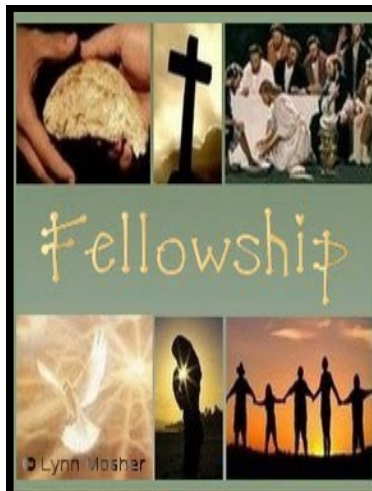
January 19: 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study at River City Eatery

January 22: 9:00 a.m. Sewing

Holiday Hours

Monday December
31st— Office will be
closed at 12:00 noon.

Tuesday January 1st—
Building and Office
Closed.



Soup & Bread is a great fellowship opportunity for the 25ish—45ish. We usually meet on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. We'd love to have you join us! Child care is provided.

December Dates:

December 2



Grace Ministries 101:

Something very exciting is happening at American Lutheran! We have access to a whole video library of digital resources through Grace Ministries. Stay tuned for courses that will be offered in the weeks and months to come. In the meantime, checkout the library yourself and start watching at home!

STEP 1: Go to grace101.org

STEP 2: Login information - Username: ALCWindom
Password: alcw

Come to **ADULT LEARNING** on January 6th in the West Meeting Room or January 9th in the Skylight Court to get a preview of all that is offered in the Grace Ministries Digital Library.

Results of Strategic Planning so far!

Remember the work we did as a congregation with our Intentional Interim Pastor Gene Alms? There were Town Hall Meetings and a Mission Assessment Process led by a team that resulted in a report in May, 2017. The ideas and energy generated through that process led us to launching our Wednesday evening programming, among other things. Then, we were left with an assignment:

“Strategic Planning is a crucial need for American Lutheran Church. The MAP project found energy and enthusiasm for creating a future vision. Having a plan and a sense of purpose will help to define the identity of the organization.”

The Mission Assessment Process Report, May 2017

In 2018 we began Strategic Planning in earnest. We solicited the assistance of Luke Hollander and Pastor Lisa Janke, Co-Executive Directors of Shalom Hill Farm who both have experience in this area and agreed to work with us. Council members, program staff, and select church leadership participated in sessions on June 24 at Shalom Hill Farm, and then on August 6, September 13, October 30th at ALC. The goal of these meetings was to identify through group process the **Mission**, **Vision** and **Values** of American Lutheran Church of Windom. The hard work paid off! The result will be before the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting.

On February 17th we will ask the newly formed Boards to meet, and with the Mission, Vision, and Values in hand do some goal setting for the work of their Boards.

Thank you to all who participated in this process, moving us forward as a congregation as we seek life giving relationships with God and each other!

Pastor Sarah

American Lutheran Church, Windom, MN

To be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on 01/20/18

Our Vision:

People experiencing a life-giving relationship with God.

Mission:

Living God's grace, we cultivate community to love and serve.

Values:

Relationships

God. Each other. Creation.

Belonging

Affirmed. Included. Valued.

Faith

Active. Inquiring. Hopeful.

THE STORY OF JESUS FOR CHILDREN

A FILM FOR ALL!!

When: Wednesday, January 16th at 6:30-8:00

Where: in the ALC Sanctuary

Who: Confirmation Students and their families, Small Group

Guides, and anyone who loves Jesus and the story of his life!!



When people encounter Jesus, everything changes

In the first century, a group of children meet together to talk about what they've seen and heard about Jesus. Some believe Jesus is the Son of God. But others think Jesus may just be tricking the people.

The children follow Jesus around, witness His miracles, and listen to Him teach. Jesus raises a girl from the dead, calls imperfect people like tax collectors to follow Him, teaches everyone to be kind and gracious to each other, and lets a woman wash His feet with tears. He teaches in parables no one really understands, calms a raging storm, gives sight to the blind, and helps those who no one sees as worth helping. He shows the children an amazing, powerful, and kind way to live. Benjamin and Sarah talk to the children watching their story about Jesus and what it means to believe who He is and accept Him as their Savior.

Good to Know

Lutefisk Supper

Saturday, January 12, 2019

Serving 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Lutefisk, Meatballs, Lefse, and More

Tickets are \$15 and will be available December 16th, 23rd, 30th, & January 6th.

You may purchase tickets in the church office or by calling the church office at (507)831-1794.

These tickets could make a great Christmas gift!!

Thank you!

Thanksgiving Eve:

Pack the Pews with food.

We took in \$390.00 and 392 pounds of food.

There were 60 Thanksgiving meal boxes packed.

Thanks to all the Business that Donated: POET, Fortune, GDF, Ag Builders, Toro, Thrivant, Fulda Credit Union, Hometown, Prime Pork, Polzin Tax, LaCanne Funeral Home, the many individuals who contributed!

Community Christmas Concert:

Over \$2,021.00 and 148 pounds of food were collected for the Windom Area Sharing Center.

Living Nativity:

We took in \$298.00 and 217 pounds of food were collected for the Windom Area Sharing Center.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, to everyone who donated, worked, and helped with our events!

Befrienders Ministry

Need a friend?
Someone to listen?
Just a visit would be nice?



We are blessed in our congregation to have a group of volunteers called Befrienders. These individuals are good listeners, easy to talk to, willing to pray, lend a hand, or visit. They do not take the place of your pastor, but broaden the reach of pastoral care in our congregation. Contact the office or one of the pastors to get connected with a Befriender.



Church Photo Directory 2019

Plans are being made for a new directory. Photos will be taken the weeks of

June 17 – 22 and June 24 – 29.

More information to come.

Good to Know

Wednesday Suppers

Wednesday, January 9th, 5:00 PM— Walking tacos, jello-cups, and bars

Wednesday, January 16th, 5 :00 PM— Ham sandwiches, chips, baby carrots w/ranch, and cookies.

Wednesday, January 23rd, 5 :00 PM— Sloppy joes, corn chips, green beans, and bars.

Wednesday, January 30th, 5 :00 PM— Tater tot hotdish, jello-cups, and cookies.



Summary of Minutes from ALC Council

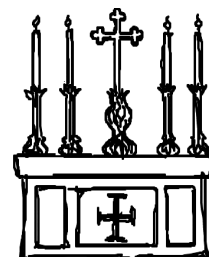


Tuesday, December 11th, 2018

- Strategic Planning– February 17th at 2pm. All board members are encouraged to attend.
- Annual Meeting set for January 20th, 2019, following 9:00AM Worship.
- Proposed changes to the Constitution reviewed.
- A.L.I.C.E Training encouraged for all churches in Windom. The time and date will be discussed by the next meeting on January 8th for ALC to do the active portion of the training.
- End of Year Board Reports due for the Annual Meeting.

GET INVOLVED!

ALTAR GUILD is looking for new members – male and female! Altar Guild prepares communion for worship, dusts the chancel area (around the altar) and changes the paraments. In both the sanctuary and the chapel. We have monthly business meetings (September - May) with dessert and fellowship. It is not a huge time commitment and it is a wonderful way to serve your church. Please consider this important ministry of American Lutheran. Questions? Please contact Kathy Hiley, 831-4109 or momhiley@gmail.com or Judy Holt, 831-2128 or jjholt51@gmail.com.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The American Lutheran Church of Windom needs volunteers for messenger assembly help. Please contact Administrative Assistant, Gina Hauge at (507)831-1794 or by stopping in the office. Thank you!

A Message from our Synod

About a month ago, I received an email from our Synod expressing the need for quilts for students at California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA. This area of California was devastated with wildfires and a tragic shooting at the nearby Borderline Bar and Grill. Since our mission is to “promote healing and wholeness in the church, our society and the world”, GLOW decided to mail 6 quilts to the university. Here is the response we received:

“Thank you for your generous gift to the Cal Lutheran community. After the tragic events of the past few weeks, these quilts are able to provide a bit of love and support to our campus community in this time of need. It was a very tender and moving experience to share these quilts with our students and staff. It was amazing for them to realize that ‘a church did this just for us?’ Thank you for this gift of warmth and praying for us that our future will be brighter.”
Melissa Maxwell-Doherty, Vice President, Mission and Identity, California Lutheran University

GLOW makes quilts during the months of January through April for the Sharing Center, Christmas Cheer Box, Lutheran World Relief and anyone in need. This is one mission in action activity that the women of ALC do year after year having made hundreds of quilts as well as school kits, sewing kits, and baby care kits distributing them to those in need. ALL women of ALC are invited to participate in these activities to make a difference in the lives of those around us, locally and beyond. For more information, contact the church office or any GLOW team member as printed in the GLOW brochure mailed out in December.

Jean Johnson, GLOW Leadership



GLOW in January

Gals Living Our Witness

Sewing Days

Tuesdays, January 8 & 22 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meet in the Fellowship Hall to make quilts, baby care kits, fabric kits, personal care kits and school kits for missions.

Come for part of the day or bring a sack lunch and spend the day (until about 2:00 p.m.).

No experience necessary!

Questions? Contact Carolyn Janssen, 831-3082

January Bible Study

Thursday, January 17 @ 2:00 p.m.

ALC Meeting Room

OR

Saturday, January 19 @ 8:30 a.m.

River City Eatery

January "Gather" Magazine Bible Study

"Meetings with Jesus", page 22

Come and see: Seeking and finding faith.

Questions? Contact Carolyn Torkelson, 831-5986

For the Record

From the Church Records

Baptisms:

Grace Anna Krenz,
daughter of
Tyler & Hannah Krenz



Burials:

Loren Hammer
Jon Hunter

*In Loving
Memory*

SUNDAY USHERS FOR December:

Ron Vought, John Berge, Kermit Twait, Steve Nasby, Kyle Ludewig, Keith Bloomgren, Jay Mickelson, John Holt, Todd Mattson, Bruce Turner, Paul Turner, Steve Haglund, Travis Friewald, and Jason Rupp.



SATURDAY USHERS:

December 1 – Jean Blanshan
December 8 – Rob Becker (Noisy Offering, Communion)
December 15 – Lori Seifert (Communion)
December 22 – Cheryl Hochstein
December 29 – Lori Seifert



ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

ALC is in need of approximately \$20,000 to meet our 2018 commitments. We need everyone to help us meet this goal. No contribution is too small.

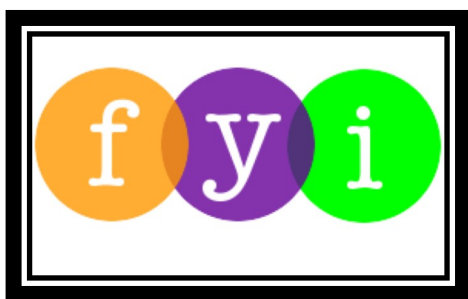
The ALC financial books for 2018 will close at noon on Monday, December 31, 2018. Let's work together and meet all 2018 commitments here at ALC. No gift is ever too small.

Memorials:

Renovation Fund – In memory of Florence Hunter, Orville Berkness, Loren Hammer & Jon Hunter.

General Fund – In memory of Florence Hunter & Dwayne Flatgard and in honor of Jane Smith.

Music Fund – In memory of Kathryn Hoffman & Leonard Lohre, father of Barb Johnson.



Did you know that you can see sermons on the **ALC WEBSITE**? Don't miss out. Go to <http://www.alcofwindom.com/> and click on the Media tab to hear a sermon that you might have missed in the last two weeks.

HAVE YOU BEEN receiving weekly emails from us here at ALC with weekly happenings? If not, and you would like to, please call the church office so we can update your email address and keep you posted on events!



IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE are hospitalized, going through any medical treatments or need pastoral care of any kind, please call the church office to let us know.

831-1794



ALC Prayer Chain Request Change: All prayer chain requests will now be handled through the church office. To activate ALC's Prayer Chain please call the church office at 831-1794 or an email may be sent to winalc@windomnet.com. If you are not part of the ALC Prayer Chain and would like to be, please send the church your email address. Thank you!

Have you recently cancelled your telephone landline or changed your cell phone number? Please let the church office know, so that we can stay in touch with you!



Bits and Pieces

PRAYER SHAWLS: If you know of someone in our church family who could use a Prayer Shawl, call the church office.

KEEP SAVING those empty printer ink cartridges. They are turned in for cash for our Education Department. The container is located in the hallway by the offices.

CONTINUE to remember the Windom Sharing Center in the coming months. Monetary gifts may be sent to PO Box 173, Windom. Contributions may be left here at the church or at the Center on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 1 pm. Call 822-7210,

PRAYER CHAIN: To activate ALC's Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 831-1794 or an email may be sent to winalc@windomnet.com.

REMEMBER 2nd Thursday of every month at Senior Dining. Join your ALC family once a month for lunch at the Windom Community Center.

MISSING A CAKE PAN? Our collection of orphaned pots and pans in Room 102 is growing! Please stop in and see if one of them is yours. Thanks for all the food you have shared!

WANT TO RECEIVE THE MESSENGER ELECTRONICALLY? Save the church paper, ink and postage! Contact the church office to share your email address.

January 2019



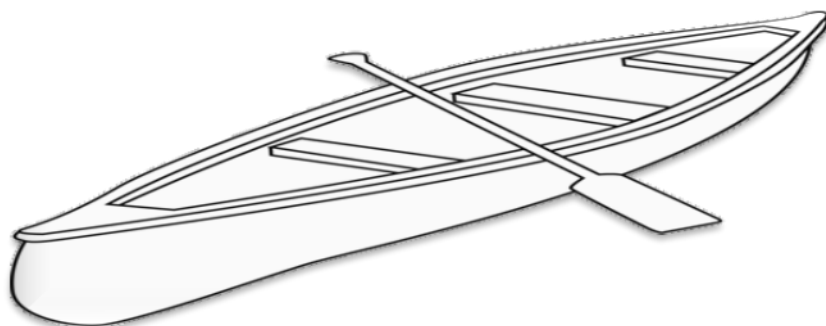
14 Keeley Island Drive
Slayton, MN 56172
507-763-3567
slbc@frontiernet.net
www.shetek.org

CANEWS FROM CAMP

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empower

Happy New Year!

The Shetek Staff and board would like to thank all who gave of their time, talents, and gifts in 2018. With your support we together are transforming lives and nurturing Faith-filled leaders for tomorrow. Your gifts make a difference for all who come to Shetek Lutheran Ministries. May God richly bless you for your support!



Mark your Calendar

2019

Snowshoeing & Stargazing – Jan. 11
SLM Quilting Retreat – Jan. 18-20
Scrptacular – January 25-27
Family Ski Day – Jan. 27 2-4pm
Family Snowshoe Day-Feb. 2
SLM Annual Meeting – Feb. 10
Women's Tea & Ski – Feb. 10
Winter toddlers & trees – Feb. 23
Syrup on the Prairie day-March 2

For more information call 763-3567 or check out our

www.shetek.org

The joy of the Lord is your Strength.

Nehemiah 8:10



Lasting Friendships!

Help send Kids to Camp...Become a Pelican/Timber member today. For more info. Call 507-763-3567 or check out our website at www.shetek.org