

January 2020

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Our Vision:

People experiencing a lifegiving 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.

Please Join Us For Worship!

Wednesday, January 1

No Worship- New Year's Day

Saturday, January 4

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, January 5

Epiphany

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, January 8

5:45 PM WOW (Worship on Wednesday) w/Holy Communion and Noisy Offering

Saturday, January 11

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion & Noisy Offering

Sunday, January 12

(Second Sunday Noisy Offering) 9:00 AM Worship

Wednesday, January 15

5:45 PM WOW (Worship on Wednesday)

Saturday, January 18

5:30PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion

Sunday, January 19

9:00 AM Worship

Wednesday, January 22

5:45 PM WOW (Worship on Wednesday)

Saturday, January 25

5:30PM Chapel Service

Sunday, January 26

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, January 29

5:45 PM WOW (Worship on Wednesday)

Pastor's Message

A Note from Pastor Sarah

As the New Year and a new decade begin, we are offered an opportunity for a new start. I invite you to deepen your habit of prayer. I expect the habit of prayer is already deep and well formed in many of your lives. I would enjoy hearing more about what prayer has meant to you, and how you practice it. We have a lot to learn from each other!



My best time for prayer is early in the morning at the kitchen table. I often pray with scripture, and a devotional resource or two. I also like to pray as I walk. Many sources also point to the benefit of contemplative prayer, a practice that quiets the body and mind to a heightened state of awareness of the divine.

Here is something else I have stumbled upon. I'm beginning to put it into practice. You might try it too: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me"

"The Jesus Prayer has historically been passed on face-to-face, from one Christ-loving person to the next, down the generations ever since the desert saints. It is learned in a community of fellow -believers, all of whom are aware of their need and sin, trying daily to resist temptation better and love God more. As you form the habit of saying this prayer in the back of you mind all the time, it soaks into you, like dye into cotton, and colors the way you encounter every person and circumstance you meet.." Frederica Mathews-Green The Jesus Prayer The Ancient Dessert Prayer that Tunes the Heart to God

The Apostle Paul commends us to "pray constantly". That seems like a tall order. Yet he repeats the suggestion in four different places:

"Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." Romans 12.12 "Pray at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance" Ephesians 6.18

"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving" Colossians 4.2

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances."! Thessalonians 5:16-18

In the Gospels, many who encounter Jesus asked for mercy. To ask for mercy is to recognize your need before one who can provide for you. *I am a sinner, in need of mercy, healing and grace.* What a wonder that God meets us in Jesus again and again, bringing healing, mercy and grace! May we find that to be so each in our own lives, as a community and in our world.

Pastor Sarah



Worship & Music Notes

from Jane Cartwright, Worship & Music Coordinator (831–5032)

January 5th January 12th	Jesus' Ministry Begins Jesus Heals and Teaches	Mark 1:21-45	
		Mark 2:1-22	
January 19th	Parables in Mark	Mark 4:1-34	
January 26th	Gerasene Demoniac	Mark 5:1-20	

It has been a busy start to the church year. The year started with Advent, just a few weeks ago. The birth of Jesus was announced and many gathered around the manger. Epiphany signals the arrival of the wise men who spent time following the light of the star. January 6th is not only the date of Epiphany, but also Jesus' baptism. Epiphany is defined as a sudden and profound understanding of something. It is that moment when one realizes that something is about to change, a character or story events. In the Narrative Lectionary passages for this month, listen carefully as the book of Mark shares stories of Jesus' life changing events. Come, follow the light of the star!

Guided by the star, they found, him whose praise the ages sound. We too have a star to guide us, which forever will provide us With the light to find our Lord, with the light to find our Lord.

And this star, as bright as day, that will never lead astray
With its message so appealing, is the word of God, revealing
Christ, the way, the truth the life, Christ, the way, the truth, the life. (ELW #301 v. 5-6)

A special thank you is extended to all who participated in the many worship opportunities during the month of December! Whether you were a reader, greeter, usher, lit Advent candles, served communion, or provided musical selections during the Living Nativity or Christmas Eve, you shared God's love with others.

American Lutheran Church of Windom Worship Opportunities:

Weekly worship is available: 9:00 AM Sunday – in the Sanctuary 5:45 PM Worship on Wednesday 5:30 PM Saturday- in the Chapel

There will be no Worship on Wednesday (WOW) on January 1, 2020. Mark your calendar for Service of Healing February 1-2, and February 5th.

Noisy Offering This Month: GLOW-Quilts

GLOW Quilting Ministry-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.

Tune in to ALC's Worship
Broadcasts on Sunday at 10:30
AM on KDOM 103.1 FM
Thursdays at 10:00 AM
& 6:30 PM on
Windom Cable TV, Channel 3

Christian Education & Youth News:

Happy New Year! It's really hard to believe it's Happy New Year already! It's also hard to believe I've been here a year! It's gone by so quickly with lots of great memories along the way! I'm very excited to see what God and 2020 has for the Christian Ed and Youth program at ALC!



I will be attending a Recharge event for Youth workers on January 4th in St. Paul! I am excited to attend and learn new things to bring back and possibly implement here! Everything changes so quickly it's hard to keep up the what the best way is to teach and reach the youth! But I have a great support system and with this new year, we may try some new things!

We had a great December with a successful Living Nativity that all the Youth worked hard at and there were many hands of volunteers that went into making it as wonderful as it was! Thank you to everyone who had a part in that!

The BAM kids also did a great job on their Christmas Program! Thank you to Amanda Wilson and Jamie Pohlmann for leading them in the music and to Kari Schietel for playing piano! Also, a big thanks to the BAM teachers, the media ministry team and the custodians for all their help as well!

I hope you had a very blessed Holiday season with your loved ones and have a blessed start to 2020!

God's peace- Melanie Shamp, Christian Education and Youth and Family Coordinator

Christian Ed News:

Wednesday, January 15th and Sunday, January 19th is our Donuts with Dads Day at BAM! Dads, grandpas, uncles, or "dad-like" guys in kids' lives are invited to come to BAM! We will gather in the Fellowship Hall after worship for donuts, Nursery-4th will sing for us and then we will have some fun games and crafts!

Youth News!

Sr. League: Sr. League is going to get a "face-lift"! We are **SHAKING THINGS UP** a bit! Come on **Sunday, January 12**th at 6:30pm to see what's going on and give your ideas!

<u>Jr. League:</u> Will meet on Sunday, January 5th at 6:30. It's a surprise party! Come to find out how we are partying!

5th Quarter is back! You may be asking what 5th Quarter is?! Well, it is a time for youth to get together after the basketball game, right at the school. ALL 7th-12th Grade kids are invited to come on Friday, January 24th right after the boys home basketball game, we will be in the high school commons! There will be music, pizza, pop and Bingo for prizes! It is a great time to hang out and eat with your friends! ALL are welcome!

Confirmation Wednesdays 6:30 PM

January 1st-No Confirmation-Christmas Break
January 8th-Stewardship of Money
January 15th-Stewardship of Creation
January 22nd-World Religions
January 29th-The Greatest Prayer

BAM-Sunday 10:15 AM

January 5th- No BAM Christmas Break January 12th- Jesus Forgives Sins

January 19th-Jesus Teaches Parables (Donuts w/Dads)

January 26th– Jesus Heals and Outcast

BAM-Wednesday 6:30 PM

January 1st– No BAM-Christmas Break
January 8th– Jesus Forgives Sins
January 15th– Jesus Teaches Parables (Donuts w/Dads)
January 22nd– Jesus Heals and Outcast
January 29th– A Woman Healed, A Girl Raised

January Acolyte schedule:

Wednesday, January 1st—No Worship
Sunday, January 5th—Isaac Armstrong and Emma Holtz
Wednesday, January 8th— Ethan Zafft and Naomi Purrington
Sunday, January 12th—Adam Dahna and Makayla Marcy
Wednesday, January 15th-Hunter Haken and Alexa Frank
Sunday, January 19th—Abbigail Grunewald and Kaden Holtz
Wednesday, January 22nd—Ryan Boltjest and Anna Holtz
Sunday, January 26th—Caleb Herding and Toria Robillard
Wednesday, January 29th—Chloe Shamp and Riley Borer

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

Good to Know

Wednesday Suppers in January

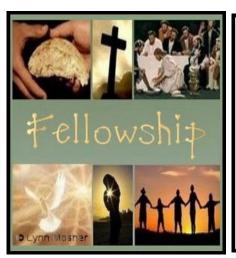
January 1st, 5:00 PM- No Supper (New Years Day)

January 8th, 5:00 PM- Ham sandwiches, chips, baby carrots w/ranch, and bars.

January 15th, 5:00 PM- Goulash, corn, buttered bread, fruit cup, and cookies.

January 22nd, 5:00 PM- Chicken noodle soup, crackers, buttered bread, fruit cups, and bars.

January 29th, 5:00 PM- Sloppy Joes, green beans, and bars.



<u>SOUP & BREAD</u> is a great fellowship opportunity. We usually meet on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. We'd love to have you join us! Child care is provided.

January plans:

<u>January 5th</u>: Escape Room in a Box <u>January 19th:</u> Minute to Win it Game

For more information, contact Kathryn Ralston at (507) 822-0686.

The congregation is invited to join in celebrating

MELVIN WOJAHN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY ON SATURDAY, JANUARY

4TH in the Fellowship Hall from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. All are welcome! No gifts, please. Hosted by Melvin's children and grandchildren.



Annual Meeting Reminder:

Sunday, January 26th 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. Hope to see you there!

Thank you!

Thanksgiving Eve:

Pack the Pews with food.

We took in \$579.00 and 287 pounds of food.
There were 60 Thanksgiving meal boxes packed.
Thanks to all the Business that Donated: POET,
Fortune Transportation, GDF, Thrivant, Fulda
Credit Union, Hometown, LaCanne Funeral Home,
Hair with Flare, Smith Repair, and the many
individuals and other businesses who contributed,
but were not named! Tears of joy and appreciation
were seen.

Living Nativity:

We took in \$444.00 and 239 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!

Good to Know

Lutefisk Supper

Saturday, January 11, 2020 Serving 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Lutefisk, Meatballs, Lefse, and More

Tickets \$15 for Adults and \$5 for Children 12 and under. Tickets will be available before and after Church on Sunday December 29th and January 5th. You may also purchase tickets in the Church office or by calling the Church office at (507)831-1794.

Lefse making Wednesday, January 8th beginning at 8:00 AM





Adult Learning:

Christians and Citizenship

Sunday, January 12th at 10:15 AM

Scripture says that we are citizens of Heaven while we are also told that we are citizens of the United States. Pastor Adam will go over what the Bible has to say about dual citizenship and how that plays a part in our daily and civic lives. All are welcome!

Confirmation Update

Confirmation students and their Small Group Guides* contributed \$339 on 12/18/19 for the ELCA Good Gifts program. One group brought in \$40 for fruit trees, knowing that this would provide food for families for years to come. Another group contributed \$60 for he purchase of 1 goat and a flock of chickens. Another gave \$30 for one rooster and some chickens. The remaining sum of \$206 will be contributed toward the purchase of a spring box, which is a water point that allows as many as 500 families to gain access to clean, safe water.



This project grew out of our study of the 10 Commandants, and Luther's Small Catechism. "You shall not kill" *What does this mean?* "We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body but help and support him in every physical need."

What a great way to love and serve the neighbor, near and far!

*comprised of 47 students and 17 Small Group Guides from The American Lutheran Church and one student and one Small Group guide from Bethany.















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 <a href="months:months



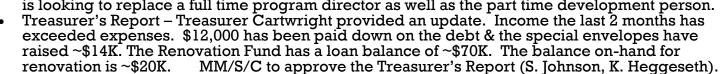
Council

Notes

Good to Know

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES FROM December 10th, 2019 MEETING

• Marv Nysetvold, Executive Director from Shetek Lutheran Ministries provided an update to the council. Programming & activities are strong at SLM, and ALC support is greatly appreciated. The capital campaign is going well & the camp is looking to replace a full time program director as well as the part time development person.



- Annual Meeting January 26, 2020. Board members please provide a dozen goodies. Agenda
 items thus far are Strategic Planning Review, Report on Updated Constitution and By-Laws, Ballot,
 Trust Fund Report, Budget Approval, and written staff reports included in the packet.
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 Wedding Coordinator info Jane C. provided an update. MM/S/C to accept the Wedding Ceremony Personnel Fees (L. Jaakola, J. Trotter).
- Constitution Update Pastor Adam provided an update on the minor changes adopted/proposed. The Ad-Hoc Committee will review before the annual meeting (L. Cartwright, N. Michalski, J. Johnson, and M. Wojahn).
- 2020 Budget Update -L. Cartwright provided an update & walked through the proposed 2020 Budget. Overall the proposed 2020 budget is reduced ~\$22K vs. 2019 budget. Should there be overages at the end of the year, overages are suggested to split evenly 3 ways across the General Fund, The Venture Ministry Fund, and the Emergency Maintenance Fund. The council should be prepared to vote on the proposed budget at the January 2020 council meeting.
- New Board/Council Orientation Date February 11, 2020 will be the date.

Board Reports:

Worship and Music Board – J. Cartwright provided a brief update. Thanksgiving/Living Nativity/Christmas services are planned. Easter is on the horizon.

Spiritual Life and Fellowship Board – Judy Trotter provided an update. The Lutefisk Supper will be January 11, 2020 & the board needs 2 members. Judy is starting to lineup the Lenten Suppers.

Discipleship/Marketing & Stewardship Board – Steve Johnson provided an update. Pledges and giving are up on the pledge forms and 55 volunteer forms were provided. The board will be full.

Properties Board – Linda Jaakola provided an update. \$2,950 bid to put heat tape on the parsonage...bill will likely come next year. The parking lot needs new lights ((Estimated cost of \$1,470) & electrical for the shed (est. cost of \$1,150). The parking lot bids are coming in. A recent bid was ~\$50K. (Bids are ~\$50K and another is ~\$19K). Carpet/flooring will need attention in the coming year as well (Est. cost of \$1400).

Budget and Finance – K. Heggeseth provided an update. MM/S/C to pay bills on hold.

Christian Education Board - T. Holtz provided an update.

Youth and Family Board – J. Shamp provided an update. Living Nativity meal is arranged. The 2020 Mission Trip is on hold.

Church in Society – Dorothy Fundahn provided an update. Thanksgiving boxes – 60 boxes were created \$2293 was taken in from donations. 215 lbs and \$579 was collected during the Thanksgiving Eve Service.

GLOW – J. Johnson provided an update. From the Holiday Fair, 50% of the fair was donated to the Shetek Lutheran Ministries capital campaign. In addition, GLOW has committed a minimum of \$1,000/year for the next 3 years to the SLM campaign.

For the Record

From the Church Records

Baptisms:

Amery Edna Gilbertson, daughter of Ryan and Caitlyn Gilbertson.



Burials:

Charles "Moe" Lehman Doris Remund Ruth Christiansen



SUNDAY USHERS FOR JANUARY:

Greg Hanefeld, Don Boltjes, Paul Voth Sr, Dean Schoeb, Rahn Larson, and Rick Quade.

SATURDAY USHERS:

January 4 – Ron Becker

January 11 – Cheryl Hochstein (Noisy Offering/Communion)

January 18 – Lori Seifert (Communion)

January 25 – Eric & Kari Hanson

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 12/23/19:

ALC is in need of approximately \$40,000 to meet our 2019 commitments. Let's work together as a congregation to achieve this goal. No gift is ever too small.



The ALC financial books for 2019 will close at noon on Tuesday, December 31, 2019.

MEMORIALS:

Renovation Fund: In memory of Wilfred Metz and Doug Stemm

Music: In memory of Douglas Stemm, Wilfred Metz and Pastor Joe Nystuen.

Video/Media: In memory of Wilfred Metz.

Christian Education: In memory of Glenn Emmons.

In honor of Owen and Adam Dahna

Choir Fund: In memory of Doug Stemm and Wilfred Metz.

General Fund, Organ Fund, Bell Choir, Banners and Youth Fund: In memory of Doug Stemm.

Bell Choir: In memory of Lois Castledine.

GLOW in January

Gals Living Our Witness

Sewing Days

Tuesdays, January 7 \$ 21 @ 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 Kathy Hiley 831-4109

January Bible Study

Thursday, January 16 @ 2:00 p.m. ALC Meeting Room

January "Gather" Magazine Bible Study "Hearing God's Voice", page 24 In the Old Testament,

God's call comes in many forms.

Questions? Contact Carolyn Torkelson, 831-5986

American Lutheran Church Women's Ministry 2019

All women of American Lutheran Church are members of GLOW!

Our Purpose Statement: "As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in our church, our society, and our world."

For Your Information



Are you interested in **SPONSORING** THE RADIO **BROADCAST** on Sundays? The cost

is \$57 for a Sunday service sponsorship. Please contact the ALC office if you are interested in a sponsorship.

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.

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 to update your email address and keep you posted on events!

Follow us on Facebook!



hospitalized, going through any medical treatments or need pastoral care of any kind please call the church office to let us know.

If you or a loved one are





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.

KEEP SAVING your canceled stamps. Correctly cut stamps by leaving 1/4" to 1/3" boarder around the stamp. You can turn your stamps in at the church office.

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.

THANK YOU! American Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for the beautiful bouquet of flowers you sent for Joe's memorial service. Seems like just yesterday we were living and working amongst you. Joe and Pastor Al Kvamme were quite a pair. Blessings to each of you as you continue to live, work, and spread the gospel in Windom. We have such fond memories of those days. With gratitude, Nancy Nystuen.

Blessings to you and your families as we celebrate the birth of our Savior this Christmas Season. The family of Joe Nystuen.

January 2020



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

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers

Happy New Year!



New Year Blessings to you from all of us at Shetek!



Shetek is hiring for summer 2020!

"Being called to work at Shetek has been one of the greatest joys.

Not only did I get to have a job where I got to share God's word with the campers, but my own faith grew as well. Even though I'm not at camp, I carry the lessons I've learned there with me in my heart."

(Quote from a summer ministry team member) Apply – shetek.org

Help send kids to Camp...Become a Pelican Club or Timber Society member today. Pelican Club members support the ministry with a gift of \$100 -\$499 a year and Timber Society members give \$500 or more a year. Thanks for your support!

Mark your Calendar 2020

Snowshoe and Stargazing – Jan. 10

Quilting Retreat – Jan. 17-19

Scraptacular Retreat – Jan. 24-26

SLM Annual Meeting – Feb. 9

Women's Tea and Ski – Feb. 9

Winter Toddlers and Trees – Feb. 22

Family Day – Syrup on the Prairie – March 7

Pre-Marriage Retreat – March 14

Sugarbush Pancake Breakfast – March 22

Pre-marriage Retreat – April 18

Confirmation Retreat – April 24-25

Spring Toddlers and Trees – April 25

Spring Clean up Days – come help get camp ready for a great summer – April 25 + May 2

Can you help Shetek out? Here's our Wish List!

Vehicles in good condition (Mini-vans)

17 foot aluminum canoes
Flatscreen TV's
4 Drawer dressers
Office supplies – reams of paper, dry erase markers
Box fans

Here's an update on our "Building on the Foundation" capital campaign. So far in 2019, we've raised over \$900,000 in gifts/pledges towards our \$1,500,000 goal! We are working with an architect to develop our plans for the Adult/Youth Lodge, our first project. We will start construction in 2020! Exciting times at Shetek! Check out our website for more info. (Scan below)



