

June 2020

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The American
LUTHERAN
WINDOM, MN Church



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Please Join Us on Facebook, our Website, KDOM Radio, or Local Cable Channel 3 for our Digital Worship!

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.

Saturday, June 6th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, June 7th

Holy Trinity Sunday

9:00 AM Worship w/National Cancer

Survivor Day

Saturday, June 13th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, June 14th

9:00 AM Worship

Saturday, June 20th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, June 21st

Father's Day

9:00 AM Worship

Saturday, June 27th

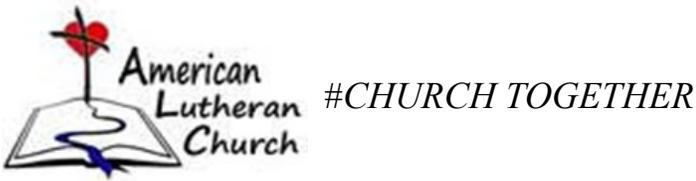
5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, June 28th

9:00 AM Worship w/Care of

Creation Sunday





As June opens, we continue to be church together in a time when we cannot gather freely. The ALC Council leadership and your church staff aim to navigate these unfamiliar waters faithfully, trusting God to guide us “safe to shore”. Being out on rough waters teaches you new skills! We are all learning to be church in new ways. Here are some things we can say for sure:

1. We miss the physical presence of our brothers and sisters in Christ of all ages in the gathered space.
2. We lament the real loss, isolation and disruption experienced in this time.
3. Online worship is worship! We hope you will continue to tune in. We will continue to record our worship services and provide Facebook devotions through June and for the foreseeable future, knowing that our hearts continue to be tied together in faith. We believe that God is with us.
4. You all are amazing!! You are caring for each other in more ways than we know. Remain in prayer, attentive to scripture, and loving your neighbor through acts of caring and kindness in all the ways in which you are led. Continue to be creative!! And thank you for your financial support of our ministry.
5. COVID – 19 is a serious disease and public health threat. We are committed to loving our neighbors, especially the most vulnerable.

Moving forward:

We will continue to follow the directives of the MN Dept of health, and local authorities while taking into consideration the recommendations coming from the Southwest MN Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and other sources. A “Reopening Team” has been put in place to review these directives and prepare a way forward for our congregation.

Our building currently remains locked although ministry continues. If you need to stop by the church, our safety plan asks that you do the following.

Maintain 6 feet between people not from the same household.

Persons at a higher risk are strongly encouraged not to participate in gathering at this time. This includes persons over 65 and those with underlying health conditions such as heart or lung disease or diabetes.

If you are sick, please stay home.

Wear a facemask at your own discretion.

We know that COVID 19 is spread by aerosols or droplets in the air containing the virus. Gatherings of large groups in enclosed spaces is not advised. Outdoor gatherings are better. We will be looking at possibilities once we can gather in groups of more than 10.

Sadly, singing together is one of the riskiest behaviors. Its hard to imagine worship without singing! When we begin to gather, we will look largely to recorded music and keyboard instruments to lead our worship, until the time when we can all resume singing safely.

I am grateful for all the ways that God is providing for us during this time, and for the ways that you are providing for each other. Please remember those who have so much less than we do to confront illness and difficulty throughout the world, especially our partners of the Ondini Circuit in South Africa. Don’t hesitate to be in touch with staff or Council leadership with any question or concerns. Stay well and keep the faith!

Pastor Sarah

Pastor's Message

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

-1 John 3:16-17

I am blessed to serve this congregation for a couple of reasons.

First off, do you realize how many congregations are on the verge of collapse because of this pandemic? Yet we're making ends meet because you're still acting out of faith and sacrificing to God despite the unknown future.

Secondly, when the quarantine hit my biggest fear was people losing jobs, homes, and businesses. I continue to fear for those who live paycheck to paycheck and are unable to work and can't pay their mortgages and I worry about their families. I'm really grateful that ALC started a Covid-19 Fund to assist people who are behind on payments for mortgages, utilities, and/or small business loans. This fund was to get its money mainly from those who would donate their stimulus checks if they didn't need them to survive (mainly, for those still earning their income). Once again ALC was stepping out in faith despite an unknown future.

When this fund was initiated I worriedly thought, "We'll have more people asking for money than money to help with!" It turns out that one week before the deadline we were sitting fine and able to help a group of individuals in need in our community.

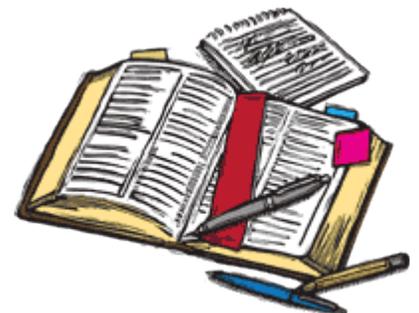
On the application it asks the total bill and how much of it a person is asking to be paid (some asked for less than what they owed) and I'm happy to report that there is enough for everyone to be paid the full amount of what they need and we will still have a couple bucks left over in which the committee decided to continue to take more applications and donations and push the deadline back to June 18th because of the need for financial assistance during this pandemic. We also realize that some people have not received their stimulus check to even have had the opportunity to donate it. If you are in need of assistance or know of anyone that needs assistance please fill out the Covid 19 Assistance application on our ALC Website and return it to the church. Thank you ALC members!

The requests that we received went to pay for past rent, paying small business building payments, mortgage payments, and medical bills and all the recipients had jobs in which they could not work during this time because of the quarantine.

I am simply impressed by you all. You could have spent this government money on vacations, new cell phones, a down payment on a car, and a million other unneeded things but you spent it on your sisters and brothers in Christ along with people who aren't even members who may not even have a relationship with Jesus in order to lift them up as they suffered from problems that they could not and cannot control nor do anything about. I also think about how powerfully what you have done is evangelism to our community and how it speaks volumes about what serving Christ with everything we have truly looks like.

I am blessed to be in this body of Christ that truly loves their sisters and brothers not just by their words, but also by their actions of stepping out in faith and trusting God with what you have despite of an unknown future.

Pastor Adam





Worship & Music Notes

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

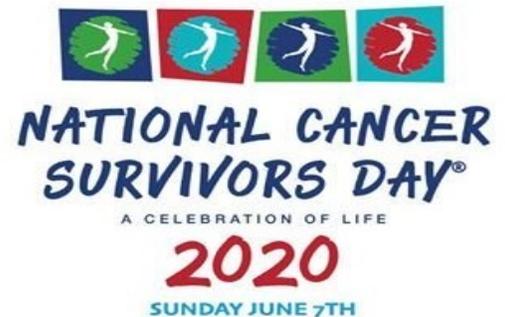
Greetings!

This time of year finds many transitions. School students look forward to summer activities, families schedule trips to campgrounds or beaches, and graduates prepare to explore life changing education and employment opportunities. The church also transitions into a new season. We leave the white paraments of the Easter season after seven weeks. Pentecost, the birthday of the church, was celebrated on May 31st with the use of the red paraments. June begins with Holy Trinity Sunday; connecting the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as one, with white paraments once again. Beginning June 14th, the church transitions into The Season After Pentecost with the use of the green paraments. This time of growth will last until the end of October, Reformation Sunday.

Don't miss worship this summer as we explore the book of Job June 7th to July 5th. How will Job react to all his trials and tribulations? What will happen to his faith? Where is God during all his suffering?

June 7:	Job 1:1-22	What is Faith?
June 14	Job 3:1-10; 4:1-9, 7:11-21	How Does Job Respond to Suffering?
June 21	Job 14:7-15, 19:23-27	Bad Things Happen to Good People
June 28	Job 31:35-37; 38:1-11 [25-27]	God is Always with Us
July 5	Job 41:1-8; 42:1-17	A Life Rebuilt Through Mercy and Compassion

Worship services at church continue to transition during the Coronavirus pandemic. We continue to follow CDC guidelines regarding worship opportunities. Opportunities are available for those willing to volunteer musical selections, reading scripture, or participating in dramatic readings. Please contact me or the church office for more information. Worship services are available on the church website (alcofwindom.com) or Facebook on Sunday mornings during the summer months. An audio version of the worship service is available on KDOM radio 103.1 FM Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM.



Highlighted Events in June:

June 7: National Cancer Survivor Day

June 21: Father's Day

June 28: Creation Sunday

There will be no Noisy Offering until we can meet again in person.

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

The Church in Society Board of ALC invites you to help **clean up our community** by grabbing your own trash bag when going on a walk and filling the dumpster at ALC with trash you picked up on your walk. Don't forget your gloves and make sure to have fun, take pictures, and send them to us to be posted on our Facebook Page and Website!



The City of

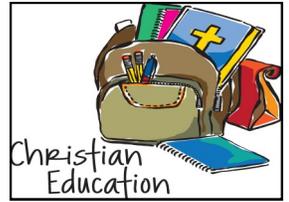
Windom



Christian Education & Youth News:

Greetings ALC family!

Hard to believe it is June already! We would have been busy with Vacation Bible School this week but instead we are doing more preparing to have an EVEN BETTER VBS in August! I have still been working on a hopeful short mission trip to Minneapolis at the end of July! Otherwise, there has been a lot of cleaning and organizing going on in BAM rooms and the Resource room and in the Youth room!



We have all summer to prep ourselves for another great year starting in September! Please continue to watch the services online. There are still Children's sermons in them and also look at the Children's Ministry Tab on the website for resources for families and kids.

I will be working on some things for us to do this summer as well, just waiting to see when social distancing is not required anymore.

I will still be having Zoom meetings with youth until we can meet in person!

God's peace to you as we continue to get through this!

Melanie Shamp

Christian Education/Youth and Family Coordinator



Christian Ed Events:

VBS is planned for Sunday, August 2nd- Thursday August 6th. It will be in the evening. Time TBD, but most likely 5:30-7:30. If you would like to volunteer to be a Crew Leader, Helper (for 7th-12th grade), or a Station Leader, please contact Melanie! It is a ton of fun and very rewarding! More information to come in the July messenger regarding time and registration.



Other events: Please stay tuned for other events that will be happening if things start opening up!



Youth Events:

Stay tuned to the Remind app for future Jr. League and Sr. League Zoom dates.

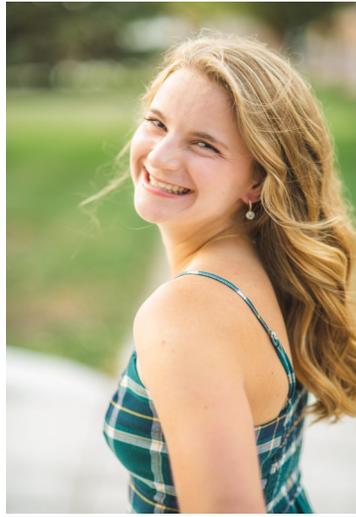
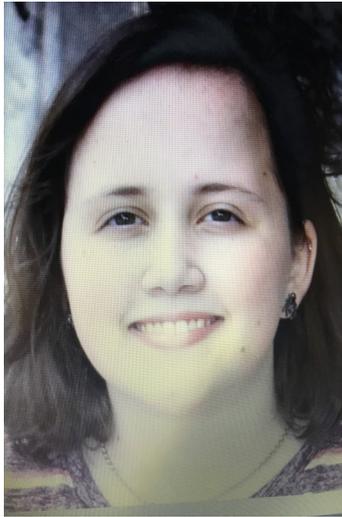
HEY YOUTH! People in your congregation may need your help! Our congregation President, Nancy Michalski, is taking phone calls from people who are looking for someone to do yard

work, go to the store, or other things they may need help with! Please let Melanie know if you would like to help out members in your congregation by doing some yard work or maybe even window washing. We will leave the store trips to adults. □

Short Mission trip to Minneapolis: This would be for grades 6th-12th, limited to 10 people, right now. If the number of people allowed to be in a group goes up, we will allow more to go. Melanie has been talking to Urban Ventures in Minneapolis about doing some volunteering at one of their farms where they grow vegetables and fruits. These are then used at their soup kitchens. We would go at the end of July. We can do a weekday or weekend. Please let Melanie know if this is something your child would be interested in or even if you would allow them to go. Once we get there, social distancing is enforced. (Only if restrictions are lifted and the Church starts to open up and hold events. We will keep you posted.)



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH 2020 GRADUATES!



Mikal Anderson

Katie Boltjes

Shelby Erickson

Dylan Fossing



Autumn Hauge

Halle Jackson

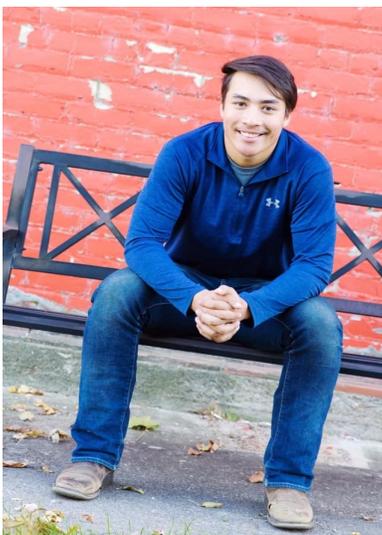
Daytona Smedsrud

Not Pictured:

Tatum Paulson

Peyton Hall

For those of you who would like to send a graduation card in congratulating these seniors during this difficult time can call the church office at (507)831-1794 to get their address.



Vincent Vongsy

Ezra Hughes



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH 2020 GRADUATES!



Austin Pohlman



Olivia Maras



KC Flatgard



Elijah Mutz



Sophia Nelson



Katelyn Nichols



Ethan Grant



Brett Willaby

For those of you who would like to send a graduation card in congratulating these seniors during this difficult time can call the church office at (507)831-1794 to get their address.



Audra Smith

Good to Know

Covid-19 Assistance Fund Update

While originally forming to help one time with financial assistance the committee thought that there would continue to be a need for financial assistance because of this pandemic. We also realize that some people have not received their stimulus check to even have had the opportunity to donate it. Therefore we are continuing to take applications and donations. The new due date for applications is June 18th. Thank you ALC members!

Synod Assembly set for June 12th & 13th is CANCELLED.

St. Dismas worship with the inmates at the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls scheduled for June is also CANCELLED this year.



NATIONAL CANCER SURVIVORS' DAY

will be observed June 7th at our worship services. If you have ever had a diagnosis of cancer, we want to recognize you, as well as the medical professionals and caregivers who provide care and support. Thank



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.



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

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 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!

If you are not part of the ALC Prayer Chain and would like to be, please send the church your email address.

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!

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.



Thank 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 Area Sharing Center in the coming months. Monetary gifts may be sent to 1156 4th Ave, 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

Pastor Sarah and the wonderful people of American Lutheran, Thank you so much for your prayers and generous support for us at St. John's after the destruction brought about by the tornado of March 3rd. Words cannot express how much your notes and gifts help up through the process of rebuilding and the eventual "resurrection" of our new facility at St. John's. God blessings, Pastor Rick Roberts

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES FROM May 12th, 2020 MEETING



- Constitution Update - Pastor Adam reported the updating of the constitution has been completed and approved by the Synod.
- Synod Assembly Canceled - Assembly Offering - motion by Treasurer Cartwright to make the same donation to the Synod as 2019 (\$250). This offering is used by the Synod for special services they support.
- Daily Devotions and Church Connections - With the inability to meet as a congregation these online services will continue.
- Deeper Connections With Facebook Responses - We are receiving positive responses to the daily devotions and online services. Ideas on how to connect with those commenting, responding, and liking these communications are wanted as some are non-members or inactive members.
- ND Strategies For Re-opening - Bill Tjentland shared a review of the ND process in reopening, addressing comfort levels, re--opening phrases, reaching members, and online communities. Noting also, this fits directly into our strategic planning.
- Thank you to staff - President Michalski thanked the staff for their dedication to ALC's mission, and the work they are doing to maintain ALC's professional and caring environment.
- Approval of Bills - Treasurer Cartwright reviewed current bills. MM/S/C to pay current bills.
- Approval of Payment of Wages and Benefits - Treasurer Cartwright updated the council on the PPP loan and monthly wage/benefit expenses, with a motion to pay normal wages and benefits for the months of May and June. MM/S/C
- Funeral, Wedding, and Church Usage Practices during a Pandemic - discussion revolved around the need to use instructions provided by Guide One (our insurance carrier), the CDC, health department, state of MN, and the Synod. Also noted was our need to address the concern and safety of our staff, along with proper sanitation options. Decision was to continue to follow those instructions provided by the noted groups, allowing for groups of 10 or less to use the church for appropriate events. Lucille Nelson's Funeral will be held at ALC on 6/2/20, with 10 family members of less attending.
- Re-opening Committee - A committee of a medical individual, pastors, MMC member Bill Tjentland, Worship and Music (Jane Cartwright), and custodial staff will be formed to begin creating a checklist and recommendations to be used once the church re-opens. The ND papers may be used as a reference, along with instructions from the Synod and other appropriate entities. Those recommendations will then be brought to the council.
- Other - Continuing community outreach - Information will be put into the bulletin and on the web site for those needing assistance with grocery or RX pick-up, or other small services, to contact the church office. Those sending cards and letters to individuals and families will continue. John Shamp shared that Youth and Family is planning on delivering gift cards to the graduating high school seniors and may need assistance from council members will to do so.

Board Reports:

Worship and Music - Sarah Tailwright noted they are thankful for those providing and being involved with the online services. They prayed for good leadership from our gov't in making decisions relating to the pandemic.

Spiritual Life and Fellowship - Sharon Thompson reported she sent the members of her board Mother's Day cards.

Discipleship, Marketing, and Stewardship - Steve Johnson discussed an upcoming meeting with the estate planner of the Synod.

Properties - Linda Jaakola informed the council the walk through has not been completed.

Budget and Finance - Keith Pohlman reported that giving is approximately \$5,000 weekly, and was thankful to those who continue to support ALC.

Christian Education - Amanda Wilson provided dates for VBS (August), thoughts for a family fun day, and the need for Rally Day ideas.

Youth and Family - John Shamp noted gifts for the graduating seniors.

Church In Society - Betty Olson reported they did not meet. July 23 is to be their next event at The Banquet. Betty will be in contact with them for updates, money to be raised, etc.

GLOW - Kathy Hiley reported the plan for a video bible study with Pastor Sarah and a Zoom bible study in June. The quilt auction at Shetek is planned for June 27.

For the Record

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 5/20/20:

Income: \$169,233

Expenses: \$187,319

Borrowed: \$22,000

(These figures do not include May end-of-month commitments and benevolences.)



MEMORIALS:

Properties Fund: In memory Charles "Moe" Lehman.

Renovation Fund: In memory of Fern Haglund and Kathy Evenson, mothers of Steve and Rhonda Haglund.

OFFERING OPTIONS in the time of COVID19/Corona Virus: While we are not together in person, or collecting a regular offering, the ministry of our congregation continues! We are hoping not to fall behind in meeting our expenses during this time. Check out on-line giving on our website alcofwindom.com, or mail in your offering to PO Box 188, Windom. If you have any questions regarding on-line giving, please contact Wendy Pigman in the church office.

ALC configured a "Reopening Team" to review directives from the MN Department of Health, local authorities, The Southwest MN Synod, The Evangelical Lutheran Church, and other sources to prepare a way forward for our congregation. Please consider taking this survey to provide feedback and input from our congregation for moving forward. This survey is also available on our ALC website, through our What's Up at ALC weekly email, and on our ALC Facebook Page. You may also print out this survey and drop it off at the church parking lot entry doors or mail it to the church office at 906 Prospect Ave, PO Box 188, Windom, MN 56101. (Please take this survey only one time per person and submit it or mail it to the church office by Friday June 5th, 2020) Please Complete the Survey to the right or go to our website, Facebook page or email the church at winalc@windomnet.com to request the survey link. You may also write on another piece of paper if you need more space.

ALC Congregational Survey

Covid-19 Pandemic

1. Based on what you know about the corona virus, when would you feel comfortable returning to worship in the sanctuary at ALC assuming that safety protocols are in place?

- July
- August
- September
- I don't know
- Other: _____

Based on what you know about the corona virus, would you feel comfortable attending Worship at the Lake in mid-July?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe
- Other: _____

How are you currently accessing our Worship services? (Please check all that apply)

- Local Cabel- Channel 3
- KDOM Radio
- Facebook
- ALC Website
- ALC YouTube Channel
- Through a link on our What's Up at ALC email
- I'm not accessing Worship at this time
- Other: _____

Comments, Questions, and/or Concerns.

Your answer _____



GLOW in June

Gals Living Our Witness

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."

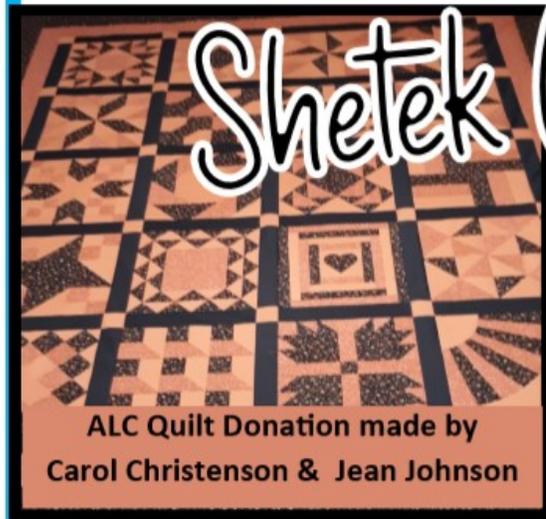
Bible Study in June

GIVE IT A TRY

Since we can't be together in person, we will meet via a ZOOM virtual Bible Study To join the Bible Study on June 18 @ 2 p.m., go to our website, ALCofWindom.com Find the link to the June Bible Study and click on "Join Meeting".

If you have not used Zoom before, call Gina at the church office for instructions.

The June Bible Study will be from the June Gather Magazine, page 20. Session One, "in the Family: What's love got to do with it?"



Shetek Quilt ~~Auction~~ Store

June 27 - July 4

Due to Covid 19, the Shetek Quilt Auction has been changed to an ONLINE STORE !!!
Shop online from June 27-July 4 @ www.Shetek.org
Your participation and generosity is very much appreciated sduring this difficult time.

Go to Shetek.org and SHOP generously!!!
Quilts and other items are priced but they will accept more than the asking price!

This is an important Fundraiser that supports Summer Programs at Shetek



Due to Covid 19 restrictions, Our annual Ice Cream Social at Mikkelsen Manor has been CANCELLED for this year.



June 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

Shetek is postponing the first 3 weeks of camp – June 7-26. We were waiting for guidelines from the American Camp Association (ACA) and the CDC, which were supposed to be out by the end of April but are not out yet. In light of the delay, we postponed those first weeks until we know more about the recommendations for opening safely.

We will work with the CDC guidelines, the ACA recommendations, MN Dept. of Health and our local public health officials as we evaluate the summer and any onsite programs.

In the meantime, watch for other ways to connect with camp – our 10:05am devotions on Facebook, Mon-Fri and other special events online.

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

1. Watch for an announcement soon about Shetek's Camp Store coming online. We will be offering many products for sale on our website. Check it out and be sure to get your piece of camp even if you can't come to camp today!
2. Watch for announcements about our Golf Tournament, our Pelican 5K Fun Run/Walk and the Quilt Auction. We'll be doing them different this year.

One of the songs we sing at camp (Cast Your Burdens) is from 1 Peter 5:7, "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." We know God cares for us and we can be grateful for this!

During this time, we are thankful for donations from supporters when we don't have any retreat or program income. If you are able to help out, we really appreciate it!

Our "Building on the Foundation" capital campaign is on hold for now. So far, we've raised just over \$1,000,000 in gifts/pledges towards our \$1,500,000 goal! We'll be continuing the campaign efforts later this year when it is more feasible and safe to do so.

