



August 2020

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

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The
AMERICAN LUTHERAN
WINDOM, MN Church



Our Staff:

Sarah Larsen Tadé, Lead Pastor: pastorsarah13@gmail.com

Adam Roberts, Pastor: pastoradamcroberts@gmail.com

Melanie Shamp, Christian Ed./Youth & Family Coordinator: melanieatalc@gmail.com

Jane Cartwright, Worship & Music Coordinator: cartj58@gmail.com

Wendy Pigman, Financial Secretary: wendyalc@windomnet.com

Gina Hauge, Administrative Assistant: winalc@windomnet.com

Dorothy Fundahn, Custodian Judy Lindvall, Assistant Custodian

Email: winalc@windomnet.com * Website: www.alcofwindom.com

Please Join Us for our in house worship, outdoor worship, or go to Facebook, our Website, KDOM Radio, or Local Cable Channel 3 for our Digital

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

****It was decided that our Saturday Chapel Service will be moved to Wednesday nights in the sanctuary to give more time for disinfecting and allow more space for distancing. ****

Sunday, August 2nd

9:00 AM Worship at the Lake w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, August 5th

5:30 PM Worship w/Noisy Offering

Sunday, August 9th

Second Sunday Noisy Offering

9:00 AM Worship at the Lake

Wednesday, August 12th

5:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion

Sunday, August 16th

9:00 AM Worship at the Lake

Wednesday, August 19th

5:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion

Sunday, August 23rd

9:00 AM Worship at the Lake w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, August 26th

5:30 PM Worship

Sunday, August 30th

9:00 AM Worship at the Lake



Worship and life at ALC during the Pandemic: August Edition

Little by little we are finding ways to get back together while doing everything we can to keep everyone safe. This asks us to work together for the common good. It's what loving one another is all about! My discomfort is nothing, compared to knowing that I've done what I can to protect you.

We will meet in person when and where we can, while continuing to provide on-line options for both meetings and worship. We know some are really itching to connect in person, while others are most comfortable at home. Each one must do what they are comfortable with.



Outside is better! We are doing what we can outside during the summer months! Worship at the Lake, Women's Bible study - all are great opportunities! Remember to keep a social distance of 6 feet, even when outside, and if you can't wear a face covering.

When in the building:

By state mandate, everyone must wear a face covering while in the building. Staff also will wear face coverings while working during the week, unless working alone. Face masks are available as you enter the building if you did not come with yours □

Social Distancing within the building is a must: keep a 6-foot distance from others who are not in your family group.

Seating in the sanctuary: Use the side aisles. An usher in the middle aisle will show you where to sit. Seating will be from the front to the back with social distancing. Those of the same household can sit together. Please follow the direction of the usher, even if it is not where you "normally" sit. When worship is over, you will be ushered out from back to front.

Worship: Since COVID-19 is an air borne disease, singing is a liability. This makes us sad, but we continue to have music! Piano and organ, song leaders, and videos will provide music while the rest of us hum along, tap our toes, and worship in our hearts and minds.

Food at church: There will be no coffee hour or food served during this time □

Other details: If you are sick, have a fever, cough or any other symptoms of COVID-19, or have been in contact with a sick person please consult your health professional and stay home. Restrooms are available in the Skylight Court and in the office hallway. Water fountains are not accessible. Stay only in the worship area of the building. Do not circulate into other areas.

Weekly worship is available online! (Facebook/ YouTube) and on the radio. Technology has been a huge help when we can't all gather in person.



Pastor's Message

Research shows that people get really anxious entering a church that they've never been to before. There is fear of standing out, of not know what to do, of saying something wrong, of being stared at, of not knowing where to go, and on and on. This fear of entering church buildings makes it even harder to evangelize which is especially frustrating for us Lutherans because evangelism is not our strong suit in the first place.

During August and some of September we will be worshipping on Sundays at Cottonwood Lake and many of us thought that this is a great opportunity for evangelism. Whereas once you sit in a pew in a building you're trapped, however, at the lake, there are no walls and every direction is an escape route, which has the potential to ease anxieties for newcomers.

ALC will be advertising these worship services but even better advertising is you talking to people. Worshipping at the lake makes this even easier. For your friends who like to go on walks you can tell them, "Hey, we're having our worship at the lake, if you'd like to check it out just take your walk on Sunday at nine and walk by our service. You could even walk a little slower and listen, or if anything, maybe bring your bottle of water and take a little rest nearby. If you like what you hear come on in and join us, if not, well, you can keep walking."

If you have friends who fish invite them to fish at nine in the morning and simply ask them to have an open ear. If you know people who have children you can suggest that they take them to the playground at that time and while their kids play they can listen to worship.

Don't forget to follow up, ask if they tested it out. If you saw them ask them what they thought. Maybe even go the extra step and say, "Hey, I got an extra couple lawn chairs, you can come sit with my family (socially distanced of course) during worship, we'd love to have you."

Jesus calls each and every single one of us to bring others to Christ and for most people it scares the daylights out of us more than entering a church we've never been to before but luckily we have a great opportunity for the month of August to evangelize in a low-key way, not to mention that if the people we're evangelizing to have kids, well, BAM is right around the corner and we have even more opportunities to tell them how great our Sunday school program is (or confirmation).

Let us seize this opportunity that has been given to us to do the work that Christ calls us to especially as it has been made easier for us at this time.

Pastor Adam Roberts





Worship & Music Notes

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

Worship Themes for the week of:

July 29 / August 2:	Walk by Faith not Sight 2 Corinthians 5:1-21
August 5 / August 9:	Generosity 2 Corinthians 8:1-15
August 12 / August 16:	Lord's Prayer Luke 11:2-4
August 19 / August 23:	Lord's Prayer Luke 11:2-4
August 26 / August 30:	Lord's Prayer Luke 11:2-4
September 2 / September 6:	Lord's Prayer Luke 11:2-4

Perhaps you recall this Sunday School anthem:

Heavenly sunshine, heavenly sunshine, flooding my soul with glory divine,
Heavenly sunshine, heavenly sunshine, Hallelujah, Jesus is mine.

Have you heard? It was so much fun to gather and worship together at the lake on July 12th! So, with council approval, the 9:00 AM Sunday service is moving to the lake beginning on July 26th. This service is open to everyone! Bring a chair. Holy Communion will be served Sundays on the 1st and 4th Sunday of the month. If the weather is questionable, staff will determine by 8:00 AM if the service will be in the sanctuary. Please check Facebook or ALC YouTube account.

Our services will also continue on the online sites, cable channel 3, What's Up link, and on KDOM at 10:30 AM. If you want to worship indoors, join us on Wednesday at 5:30 PM. Holy Communion on Wednesday is served on the 2nd and 3rd weeks of the month.

As we continue to offer services in the sanctuary, there is a need for individuals to assist with either Sunday or Wednesday worship. There is a need for Greeters to welcome people back to the building. Light duty ushering to assist with seating and dismissal of those attending worship. Holy Communion is served once per week and there is a need for willing individuals. If you are available to help, please contact the church office or send me a message at cartj58@gmail.com.

Noisy Offering This Month: St. Dysmas

Even though ALC is not going to St. Dysmas this year due to Covid-19 we would still like to help by giving a donation. For those of you who don't know about St. Dysmas. Here is some helpful information on this important ministry. St. Dysmas is a congregation of the ELCA located behind the walls of the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls and Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield. They also support Sunday evening worship at the Yankton Minimum Unit in Yankton.

St. Dysmas is a hospitable, welcome, and a dynamic worship experience. Worship is the only place the men are called by their Christian names. Everywhere else they are known by their surname or number. Members (inmates) serve as ushers, lectors, musicians, and communion assistants. The men take pride in their congregation.

**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:

Hello ALC Family!

August already! We are gearing up for fall programming! We don't know quite what that will look like yet, but we are still working on it!

If you have not heard yet, VBS curriculum will be used during BAM! Kids will get more out of each section because we will have more time to dig into it! Our 5th and 6th Graders will be digging into the Small Catechism! It is sure to be a little different but also very fun!

As you know, many events in this church run on volunteers! There are many events and programs we would not have if it were not for volunteers. AND, we have many AMAZING volunteers in this church! With that being said, we will need volunteers to be leaders for BAM. If you volunteered last year and would like to continue, please let Melanie know. If you are new and would like to try it, also please contact Melanie. There is more info below under the Christian Ed section on this!

I hope you all have a wonderful month of August!

God's peace-

Melanie Shamp, Christian Education/Youth and Family Coordinator



Youth News!

Attention 9th Graders: Confirmation interviews will be held in August. The pastors will be calling each 9th Grade confirmation student to set up a time. If you have not already done so, please get your confirmation videos completed.

Sr. League: Friday, August 28th at 7pm. Pizza at the park and swimming at the lake! Bring your floaties, paddle boards, or whatever you have! Melanie will also bring her peddle boat for those who would like to take turns using it!

Jr. League: Will meet on Sunday, August 16th at 6:00pm at Island park for pizza and then swimming at the pool!



Christian Ed News:

Congratulations to the kids who received their First Communion on Wednesday, July 22nd and Sunday, July 26th!

Lilly Derickson

Jack Elness

Addison Evans

Jocelyn Frank

Eli Muske

Miranda Peterson

Braxton Pohlman

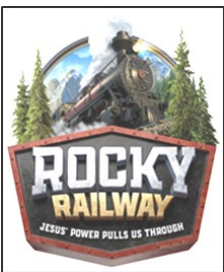
Caelen Ralston

Braiden Sandmeyer

Addison Spielman

Sadie Tjentland

Carson Wiens



Ride the Rocky railway this Fall in BAM!

Here is more information on BAM:

Please make sure you register your child AND/OR sign up to be a BAM leader on the Website below!

<https://vbspro.events/p/alcrockyrailway>

Here, you can fully register your child. Please indicate if they will be coming on Sunday or Wednesday.

We need your help! As you know, BAM for the kids cannot happen without leaders! I know there are many of you out there with the very special gift of leading these children! Please sign up to be a BAM leader by contacting Melanie or going to the website above! Thank you!

Good to Know



The American Lutheran Church of Windom is moving our **9:00 AM Sunday worship services to Cottonwood Lake for the rest of the summer!** Whether you're a member or not we'd love to have you worship with us! **Bring a chair** and we'll see you there! Please Note: If there is bad weather our worship service will be moved back to the Sanctuary at ALC. For those who prefer to worship indoors, join us on Wednesdays at ALC for our 5:30 PM worship.

It's "Back to School" time! School supplies are going on sale so please consider buying items to complete school kits for Lutheran World Relief. Items needed include:
70-80 sheet spiral notebooks (wide or college rule)

30 centimeter rulers or rulers with cm on one side and inches on the other.

Another donation request: new, square potholders to be used to make "survival kits". Plain, floral, butterfly, bird designs preferred. Bring your donations to church during office hours, Wednesday evenings or Sunday mornings when the building is open. Thank you!



Want Communion?

Do you want communion but are still not fully comfortable with going to worship or cannot get to worship? As the restrictions on meeting in person are lifting in some areas concerning assisted living we pastors are now able to visit and give communion, yet, we don't want anyone to feel pressured that they have to have us over. If you'd like us to bring communion, or just visit, let the office know and we'll make it a point to come (with masks on of course) because we miss seeing you. This is available for anyone, not just those who cannot make it to worship.



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.

**** Altar Guild does not meet in June, July, or August. ****

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!

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

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.

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!



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.

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

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!

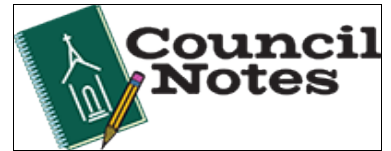


The City of

Windom



CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES FROM **July 14th, 2020 MEETING**



- Health Insurance for Gina Hauge - Gina is now 26 and unable to remain on her parent's insurance. Treasurer Cartwright provided insight on costs of the Portico Benefits. The package would begin in July of 2020 and continue to the end of December 2020. A review of the package would be done with staff reviews and Budget and Finance's input. See attached for financial information. MM/S/C to approve the benefit coverage. (Cartwright/Thompson)
- President Michalski shared she had received very positive remarks concerning the worship service at the lake and brought forward a discussion on using the lake for the upcoming future services. Additional council members noted they also had received numerous positive remarks and would like to see this option pursued. Sarah Tailowright, of Worship and Music, shared that she and the W&M staff had discussed this and felt very positive about it. Discussion on providing communion, set-up, and advertising provided positive support, so council agreed to move Sunday services to Tegel's Park, as weather permits. It was noted to request the restrooms be opened by city employees for the service. The Wednesday service will continue to be recorded for posting.
- School Request For Rooms - See attached letter from Wayne Wormstadt, Windom Schools Superintendent. The school is researching options for social distancing of students and has inquired if ALC would be willing to rent rooms to the school to allow off campus classrooms. Discussion of concerns involved custodial support, rate of rental, church activities that may be affected, and the concern for older ALC members and COVID exposure. In closing the council felt it was a wonderful community service to work with the school. Pastor Sarah will continue conversations with Mr Wormstadt and an Ad-Hoc committee of the pastors, Properties, Council President, Budget & Finance, and a custodian, should be created when appropriate.
- Board Agendas - Please provide your agendas and meeting minutes to the office as soon as possible! Minutes need to be available for inquiries when requested.

Board Reports:

Worship and Music - Sarah Tailowright reported W&M reviewed the Sanctuary re-opening. They are discussing a celebration for the 50th year of Women In Ministry for the fall of 2020. The musical group scheduled for August 2020 has been re-scheduled for August 2021.

Spiritual Life and Fellowship - Sharon Thompson shared the responses to the ice cream treats provided at the lakeside service were very positive. They are discussing sending thank-you cards to ALC members that are school employees, for the time and talents they provided during the distance learning.

Discipleship/Marketing and Stewardship - Steve Johnson provided a comparison of households, attendance, and giving, over the last 3 years. They are discussing marketing and web use, and encouraged council members to complete a positive public online review of ALC, which online searches would see. Giving and ways to thank people are being addressed, with a thought of sending personal thank-you notes with the statements. Pastor Adam had shared information with them about a stewardship support company (KEM) which they will look into. Pastor Adam also did a Millennium Survey and received 7 responses, noting time challenges for work, family and worship. There will be a New Member Reception in August.

Properties - Linda Jaakola reported they had completed the walk through of the building and grounds. A priority is the parking lot, with a bid from Borgen of \$18,000. At next month's meeting they will prioritize their "to do" list.

Budget and Finance - Keith Pohlman reported all the bills were paid, and thanked all those that have continued to support ALC with the giving!

Christian Education - Amanda Wilson reported that BAM will follow the school calendar, and the VBS material will be used for BAM. They are reviewing options for the curriculum for the younger students and ideas for engaging with the confirmation students.

Youth and Family - No Report

Church In Society - Betty Olson updated the council on the cancellation of attending The Banquet; they will continue to raise money to send to support the meals provided by this program through July.

GLOW - Jean Johnson provided the upcoming dates for Quilting and School Kits (August 1 and 3); August 20 is the Bible Study.

For the Record

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 7/27/20:

Income: \$248,781

Expenses: \$265,622

Borrowed: \$22,000



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

Baptisms: None

Deaths: None

MEMORIALS:

Renovation Fund: *In memory of JoAnne Cowan, Marvin Bretzman, Terry Makovsky & James A. Redding.*

OFFERING OPTIONS:

The ministry of our congregation continues in many ways! While services have started again in-house here at ALC and at the lake, the options remain open for ways of contributing your offerings. You may still use on-line giving on our website alcofwindom.com, mail in your offering to PO Box 188, Windom, drop it off at the church or simply place it in the offering plate. If you have any questions regarding these options, please contact Wendy Pigman in the church office.

THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

ALC wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as away to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much needed donation consistency for our congregation. As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office.

Credit & Debit Card Giving allows you to make offerings automatically on a pre-determined schedule using a credit or debit card. Online Giving allows you to go to the American Lutheran Church website at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

GLOW News!

Gals Living Our Witness

American Lutheran Church Women's Ministry 2020

AUGUST BIBLE STUDY



Thursday, August 20 @ 9:00 am

Island Park Shelter House

Bring your own beverage

July/August Gather Magazine page 34

IN THE NATION: GIVING BIRTH TO JUSTICE

God calls us to act with love.

Our sisters from Bethany will be joining us.

All are Welcome!



SCHOOL KIT PACKING AND SEWING

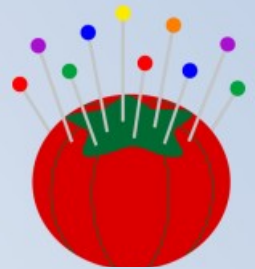
Tuesdays, August 4 and 18

9:00 am—Noon

ALC FELLOWSHIP HALL

BYO Beverage

**Due to Covid 19 cancellations, school kits for Lutheran World Relief still need to be packed! It is fun and no skills are needed!!!
The quilts that were completed at winter sewing days are going to Lutheran World Relief. Quilts need to be completed for the Women of Today Christmas Cheer Box.
We have jobs for all skill levels!**



August 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

Campers are here!!



In the middle of June, the MN Dept. of Health came out with guidelines for overnight camps to begin operating after July 1. We welcomed our first campers on July 5 and will do 5 weeks of onsite programming. All campers are bringing masks and will use them whenever we are inside buildings and during worship. Most of our activities, even meals, are outside and follow physical distancing guidelines. We are very thankful we can offer this experience this summer.

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!

Updates from camp!

1. Our Quilt "Auction" Sale is going well and with the sales and donations we have raised over \$21,000 for the ministry at Shetek! We are very grateful for all those who have supported camp in this way. Thank you!
2. Our Golf Tourney is postponed to August 31.

*Our theme verse for this summer is Psalm 100:5
"For the Lord is good, His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations."*

*God's love flows from generation to generation –
from Abraham all the way to us and beyond!*

During this time, we are thankful for donations from supporters when we don't have any retreat income and program income is way down. 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.

