

August 2021

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

Tera Elness, Christian Education Coordinator: teraALC@gmail.com

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

Wendy Pigman, Financial Secretary: wendyalc@windomnet.com

Gina Hauge, Administrative Assistant: winalc@windomnet.com

Donald Crowell, Custodian

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

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

All Sunday worship services are streamed online and can be viewed on ALC's YouTube Channel, Facebook Page, and Website.

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.

Sunday, August 1

9:00 AM Children of Eden

Saturday, August 7

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Noisy Offering

Sunday, August 8

Second Sunday Noisy Offering

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Saturday, August 14

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion (Moved to the Sanctuary)

Sunday, August 15

9:00 AM Worship at Cottonwood Lake

Saturday, August 21

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion

Sunday, August 22

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Saturday, August 28

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, August 29

9:00 AM Worship





Pastor's Message

Pilate asked Jesus, "What is truth?"

-John 18:38a

While visiting at the Good Samaritan the other day I ran into Chaplain Dan Hormig who introduced me to Misha, an ELCA seminarian doing her chaplaincy training there. Dan and I reminisced with her about what we were taught in seminary, what worked, and what definitely did not work. I said that seminary made everything so clear and easy but once I entered my first call I found so much of what I was taught being questioned, sometimes angrily. In our conversation I quoted Pilate saying, "What is truth," and Chaplain Dan pointed to my Bible and said, "That is truth."



He is absolutely right.

But the question is how can we all read the same book, the same passages, and yet live our lives so differently and have such different beliefs? How to live our lives based on scripture has been a debate since the beginning.

For example, I recently read *Love Your Enemies: Discipleship, Pacifism, and Just War Theory*, which is a history of how the Church has sought to interpret Jesus' sermon on the mount when he teaches about loving our enemies. How does one do that in real life? Theologians have wrestled with questions like can Christians be in the military? Can we kill in self-defense? Can a Christian even be in politics?

It was interesting to see throughout the centuries how theologians would answer these questions so differently. It was also interesting to see how some theologians only used scripture to justify their answers while others would also use outside sources.

But pacifism and just war theory aren't my topic here, my topic is what is truth. When we say the Bible is the truth, what does that mean and how does that shape how we behave and make decisions? Are we strictly using the Bible or adding in other sources, or even what we might call "common sense"?

We say the Bible is the truth, yet, to this day, we do not have consensus on exactly what loving our enemies looks like, let alone consensus on how Christians view immigrants, refugees, or even present-day Israel.

It is my experience that the Bible has multiple, overlapping messages that all tie together. The messages are that God loves every human being. God loves you so much that God goes to great lengths to give you eternal life and contentment right now. Once you have that loving relationship with Jesus scripture shows that that ought to change you from looking out solely for yourself to caring more about everyone else, so much so that you live a life of inconvenience because you realize how undeserving you are of the blessings God has showered upon you. This causes you to be unable to *not* serve God by serving everyone else, even, as Jesus says, your enemies.

I would make the case that the truth of the Bible is that, for those with a loving relationship with Jesus, it guides our lives to not think about ourselves, but guides us to giving ourselves away for all people as Jesus inconvenienced himself by giving himself away for us, even when we were enemies of God.

Once we have that loving relationship with Christ then it is no longer about us. Everything becomes about Jesus, and serving Jesus, by serving everyone else on the planet in the hopes that all people will be gathered up into Him on that last day.

Pastor Adam Roberts





Worship & Music Notes

from Jane Cartwright, Worship & Music Coordinator



July 31 / Aug. 1:	Armor of God	Ephesians 6:10-20
August 7/8:	Nothing to Fear	Revelation 4:1-11
August 14/15:	The Lamb of God	Revelation 5:1-13
August 21/22:	Trust the Power of the Lord	Revelation 6:1-8; 7:9-17
August 28/29:	Bigger and Stronger than Monsters	Revelation 13:1-18
September 4/5:	Alpha and Omega	Revelation 21:1-6; 22:1-5

As I write this, the sun shines warmly on the earth. The fields and gardens are green with plants producing a colorful array of florals and produce. However, the area is once again in need of more moisture. The riverbed is beginning to display multiple sandbars and fish, swimming near the surface, are creating splashes of droplets flying every direction as they move about the deeper pools. Tracks of wildlife are imprinted on the edges, leading to mysterious, hidden locations. But we as people of God, trust that the Lord will provide for all needs.

As the summer begins to wind down, this is what's happening in worship!

- August 1st American Lutheran Church of Windom will be hosting, Musicals with a Mission, a youth drama group, from St. John's Lutheran Church in Shakopee. Their performance, *Children of Eden*, will be presented during Sunday's worship service. There are meaningful songs and fast paced, fully choreographed numbers. This group is under the direction of Kari Vaupel, daughter-in-law of Dave and Donna Vaupel. Following the musical, a free-will offering will be taken to support their charity, the "Scott County Bookmobile" to provide books and healthy snacks to children in need. Communion will be offered on August 8th instead.
- Sunday, August 8th Communion and Noisy Offering Sunday for St. Dysmas
- August 15th the last summer worship at Cottonwood Lake
- Interested in joining a musical group? Keep watching for "re-start-up" information.

Worship with us in a variety of ways:

Sunday morning at 9:00 AM in the sanctuary Saturday night, 5:30 PM in the chapel

Sundays – KDOM radio 103.1 FM at 10:30 AM; Facebook, YouTube, ALC of Windom website services are streamed live.

Changes in Worship times beginning September 15 - Fall, 2021:

Saturday night worship at 5:30 PM in the chapel

Sunday morning worship at 9:00 AM in the sanctuary

**Wednesday Worship will be at 6:30-7:15 PM*



Noisy Offering This Month: St. Dysmas

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. Please consider donating to this important ministry.

**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:



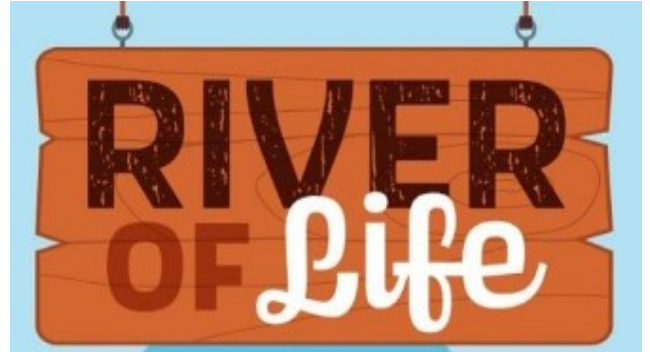
Greetings from a VERY Busy
(and Excited!)

Christian Education Department! ☺

With August comes Vacation Bible School and we are gearing up for a SuPeR FuN FiVe NiGhTs filled with learning new things, singing new songs, making new crafts, and of course, meeting new friends!

Vacation Bible School will be held August 1st-5th from 5:30pm-8:00pm each night. Our final night will include a short program starting at 7:30pm followed by ice cream in the Skylight Court for parents, grandparents, and anyone else who would like to attend!

HUGE shout-out THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who make VBS possible. This is an incredibly important ministry,



and we simply couldn't do it without you! THANK YOU! ☺

With September right around the corner, a NEW SCHOOL YEAR will quickly be upon us! (and all the parents shout, "Hallelujah!" ☺)

And we give THANKS to a God who makes all things NEW!

One of those "NEW" things is a NEW name for our Christian Education school-year programming.

We will be returning to the name SUNDAY SCHOOL for Sunday morning programming and using the name WEDNESDAY SCHOOL for our Wednesday night programming. (Both were formerly referred to as BAM)

There will be MORE NEW to come for this NEW school year, so be watching your mail this month for a letter to be arriving, and plan for a nice big fat September newsletter as well! ☺

To wrap up this mini article, I want to THANK YOU all for your warm welcome, incredible support, grace abundant, and kindness galore as I have begun to settle into this position. I look forward to serving you in this place and beyond, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to do so.

So Take Care – Stay Cool – Drink your Water (including that Living Water!) – and Know that You are Unconditionally Irrevocably and Infinitely Loved!

(Oh, and let me know if you are willing to teach a Sunday/Wednesday School class this year because the kiddos and I would SURE appreciate it! ☺)

Big Summer Blessings,

Tera Elness ☺

teraalc@gmail.com

507-822-3377

And any other way you can find me

SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT: If you have a child that is turning 3 years old by September 1st and will be enrolling in Sunday school please call the office at (507)831-1794 and let us know.

Youth News:

CONFIRMATION GUIDE ANNOUNCEMENT

We're getting the ball rolling early looking for confirmation guides for this coming year. As a guide you spend twenty minutes with a small group of kids after the CONFIRMATION lesson, talk with them about the lesson using a worksheet that has everything laid out for you, and mostly just spend time simply listening to their highs and lows and being there for them. This is a very powerful ministry in which every year the kids talk about how much they appreciated the guides. Please pray about this and let us know if you're interested.



JR. LEAGUE AND SR. LEAGUE

Junior League will be the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Come once, or often, for some fun and a place to hang out. Also, don't forget to invite your friends! You don't have to be a member, or even Lutheran, to come! Senior League will continue to be on hold until further notice.

THANK YOU!!

Church in Society wants to thank everyone who volunteered at and donated to the Banquet in Sioux Falls. A total of \$1,000 was raised for the meal and \$304.44 for school kits. There were 23 volunteers from our church/community participated and 229 people were served meals! Thank you all again for contributing to this wonderful ministry!



ALC BLOCK PARTY

Sunday, August 8th, 2021, 5pm-7pm

ALC members have gone out inviting our neighbors in a three block radius to come for free food and games in the hopes that they become familiar with our congregation and members. We invite ALC members to come also to meet those who live around our place and join in the festivities. Let's show this neighborhood what a fun and nice group of people we are!



**ALL ARE
WELCOME!**

The 2021 Southwest MN Synod Assembly was held entirely online through ZOOM meetings on Sunday June 6th, Friday June 11th, and Saturday June 12th. The Synod Staff and assembly leaders were onsite at Gustavus Adolphus College. In attendance from The American Lutheran Church of Windom were Lindsey and Jane Cartwright, Michael Wojahn, Pastor Sarah Tadé and Pastor Adam Roberts. The theme of the Assembly was taken from Philippians 4 "...and the God of peace will be with you. Rejoice in the Lord always and again I will say, Rejoice."

The largest order of business was the election of a new bishop as Bishop Jon Anderson will complete his term this fall after 18 years of service. Seven candidates were in the running. Rev. Dee Pederson was elected June 12th to serve a six-year term as bishop of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) on the fifth ballot. Pr. Dee has most recently been serving as Director for Evangelical Mission for the synod, and before that was the lead pastor of long tenure at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, St. Cloud.

Other items on the agenda were:

- Adoption of Bylaw S7.15.02, allowing for electronic meetings of the Synod Assembly
- Treasurer's Report and Approval of the 2022 Budget
- Report of Bishop John Anderson
- Video presentations of "Ministry Moments" from around the synod, including info on the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering "Boundless" which will be held in Minneapolis.
- Approval of 2022 Compensation Guidelines
- LSS Servant of Christ Award to Glenwood Lutheran Church for assisting two small rural churches to stream their services during the pandemic.
- An address by Churchwide representative Rev. Rafael Malpica Padilla from the Department of Service and Justice Home Area.

Rev. Malpica highlighted that over the course of the pandemic, the ELCA has shared 2.5 million in assistance worldwide. He recognized the \$900,000 that the Southwest MN Synod has passed on to the churchwide organization in mission support. We can do much more together than we can do alone.

He encouraged our ministry, encouraging us to learn from the early church to understand the path forward for the church today: Peter baptized Gentiles. Then the question came from leadership in Jerusalem. "How could you stay at their home, breaking protocols?" It is difficult to open doors to new neighbors.

Today there is a decline in baptized members. The projection is staggering. The population is not declining. What is our choice? Can we embrace the future, or simply turn off the lights? Is the task for today faith, hope, and love? What is called for is courage. We lack holy rage, when injustice lies prostrate on the street. The signs of the Christian church have been the lion, the lamb, the dove, but never the chameleon.

Offerings were received in gratitude for Bishop Anderson's 18 years of leadership for the Gifts of Grace program for financial well being in our congregations. The projection for Phase 2 was \$280,000. The total amount received now stands over \$307,000.

Resolution 21.02 presented:
Honoring the ministry of Bishop Jon V. Anderson with "Bishop Emeritus of Southwest Minnesota Synod of the ELCA"

The next Southwest

Minnesota Synod Assembly will be held June 10-11, 2022 held at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN.



"Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about[f] these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you."
- Philippians 4: 8-9 (NRSV)

Good to Know

Bishop Jon Anderson's Celebration Gathering

August 14 @ 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Thanks and Appreciation for Bishop Jon Anderson

Open House: August 14th 1-5 p.m.

Redwood Area Community Center

901 E. Cook Street, Redwood Falls, MN 56283

All are welcome.

We are gathering to celebrate Bp. Jon's 18 years of service to the Southwestern Minnesota Synod

Bp. Jon will conclude his third, six-year term as Bishop on August 31, 2021.



Church Softball Schedule

August 1st:

6:45 pm ALC 2 vs. Bergen at Bergen

8:00 pm ALC 1 vs. The Free Church at Bergen

August 6th-7th-8th

Church Softball Tourney at Bergen Ballfield



School Supplies

needed for
Lutheran World Relief Backpacks

Help us fill over
100 backpacks this winter!

Buy now while school
supplies are **ON SALE!**

Supplies needed to
complete backpacks:

70 sheet spiral notebooks

Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel pens)

Pencil sharpeners

Blunt cut kid's scissors

24 count boxes of crayon

Thank you to
Carolyn Jansen for
sewing the Backpacks!

If you don't
have an
opportunity
to shop for
supplies,
a **\$6**
DONATION
will buy
supplies for
ONE
BACKPACK

GLOW
Sewing
Days
Project

Place new supplies in
Skylight Court
Donation Box

Holiday Fair!!!

is coming on
November 13 !!!

Mark your calendars!

Get out your recipes!

Get to crafting!

Clean out your cupboards,
closets & basement!
(NO clothes excepted)

Holiday Fair is organized by
GLOW but it is an event for
the whole church. Your help
is needed to make it a success!

Want to know more? Contact
Karen Skarphol @ 831-5540 or
Judy Trotter @ 831-5750

Good to Know

Welcome New Members!

Robert “Bob” & Marlene Johnson



Tony & Robin Dick



Welcome to our American Lutheran Community!



Our Vision: People experiencing a life-giving relationship with God.

Our Mission: Living God’s grace, we cultivate community to love and serve.

Our Values:

Relationships- God. Each other. Creation.



Good to Know

Join us for Coffee hour at our Skylight Court Café every Sunday following worship around 10:00 AM!!

If you would like to bring goodies a sign-up sheet is located in the skylight court!



Men's Bible Study: Change of time and place. We meet every Tuesday at 8:00 AM in the Skylight Court at ALC. Bring your own coffee if you like, and your own Bible. This is a very friendly group, and a great way to dig into God's word and hang out with a great group of guys. Men, if you're free, try it out!!

HELP WANTED:

FULL-TIME YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

POSITION: The American Lutheran Church of Windom and American Lutheran Church-Worthington have formed a ministry collaboration to create a full-time youth coordinator position. This is a new ministry position. Twenty hours/week will be spent at ALC of Windom and twenty hours/week will be spent at ALC-Worthington. The Youth Ministry Coordinator will schedule two Sundays and two Wednesdays in each congregation per month.

The ministry area of focus is faith formation of junior and senior high youth and their families.

Salary: negotiable compensation package with benefits

Person to Contact: Pastor Sarah Tade, pastorsarah13@gmail.com or find application at alcofwindom.com

A job description for each congregation is available upon request.



The Church in Society is planning a Block Party on August 8. We are looking for yard games--bean bag toss, ladder golf, yard Jenga, yard Yahtzee etc. If you have any of these games or others we may use, please contact Betty Olson. Thank you! 831-4684



LAST WORSHIP AT THE LAKE OF 2021: Sunday,

Sunday, August 15th at Cottonwood Lake. Come as you are and bring your own lawn chair and sunscreen.



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

****Altar Guild does NOT meet in 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 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.



ALC Prayer Chain: 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.

“MUSICALS WITH A MISSION”

Proudly Presents The Broadway Musical:

“CHILDREN OF EDEN”



Sunday, August 1st, 2021

9AM

American Lutheran Church

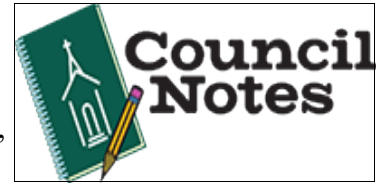
Join us Sunday, August 1st during our 9:00 AM worship service here at American Lutheran Church of Windom, to see an exciting youth drama group who will be sharing their production, *Children of Eden*. “Musicals with a Mission” comes to us from St. John’s Lutheran Church in Shakopee with Kari Vaupel as their director. Dave and Donna Vaupel’s daughter-in-law.

“Children of Eden” tells the story of Adam, Eve, as well as Noah and his family. It speaks the message of family and forgiveness. There are meaningful songs and fast paced, fully choreographed numbers! Come see these youth spread the word of God in a new and wonderful way!

Following the musical, a free-will offering will be taken to support their charity, the "Scott County Bookmobile" to provide books and healthy snacks to children in need.

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES FROM

July 13th, 2021 MEETING



- Youth and Family Coordinator Update - Lindsey updated the council on the discussion with the Trust board on the financing needed to hire a coordinator, which will be shared with a Worthington church. \$22,000 would be ALC's responsibility for a full year; given the position has been open this year the current budget could provide the financial support for the remaining portion of the year. The Trust Fund would be asked to provide \$20,000 for each of the coming two years. The funds come from the Rahn Fund which the Trust Fund oversees. Pastor Sarah added that currently advertising for the position is being done in a variety of media platforms.
- Youth BWCA Trip - Pastor Adam shared that the fundraising has gone well.
- Annual Zoom Subscription Renewal - With no council member using Zoom at the current meeting, it was decided to stop the subscription and renew if needed. MM/S/C (Betty - Sharon)
- COVID Information - Discussion on the possible need to place signs on the doors to remind people that are not vaccinated to continue to wear their mask. There is a concern for those with health issues, and it was discussed that many businesses still ask non-vaccinated individuals to wear masks when entering their establishment. It was decided to place the signs on the doors. Information will be placed on the web site also. MM/S/C (Bri - Linda)
- Musicians in mission using the church overnight - Sarah Tailowright verified the group has made other plans and will not need the church overnight.
- New Members - MM/S/C (Kevin - Sharon) to approve the new members of Robert and Marlene Johnson, and Tony and Robin Dick.

Board Reports

Worship and Music - Sarah Tailowright brought forth a motion, along with Christian Education, to alter the Wednesday services as so: the meal will be 5:00 to 5:30pm, BAM will be renamed Wednesday School and will meet 5:30 to 6:15pm, Wednesday worship will replace the name WOW and will be held 6:30 to 7:15pm, and Confirmation will be 7:30 to 8:30. MM/S/C (Sarah T - Sharon)

Spiritual Life & Fellowship - Sharon updated the council on the upcoming baptism and lake service goodies. She also noted that new members that will be recognized at the upcoming service.

Discipleship/Marketing and Stewardship - Steve reported that the QR codes are now in the pews and may be used for giving; the board reviewed K LW Stewardship Readings; they will be assisting with the August Block Party; they are looking for an acronym for the monthly stewardships. Since Steve is heading the summer volunteer janitorial services he asked what was needed for the Saturday evening services; it was discussed that those services require very little need and the pastors could attend to those needs, aside from the winter clearing of the walks which the custodian is responsible for.

Properties - Linda updated the council on the replacement of the basketball hoop; it has been ordered and should be placed and ready for the Block Party. The spots of weeds on the lawn have been seeded (underground electrical work resulted in the weed spots). Discussion on the bus repair and it's air conditioning was done with Kevin noting he has recently inspected the bus and it is known that when the bus needs additional power the air conditioning decreases.

Budget & Finance - Kevin reported that the bills are paid.

Christian Education - Bri updated the board on 7th grade confirmation, Sunday School, confirmation mentors and their hope to match a mentor to each student and that they will remain with them for the entire confirmation process, Shetek Camp for 2nd graders, and VBS. They will be sponsoring a Thursday movie at the Windom Theater. She also reviewed their portion of the motion shared with the Worship and Music Board which was approved; MM/S/C (Bri - Kevin)

Youth and Family - Pastor Adam reported they approved \$1500 towards the BWCA trip.

Church In Society - Betty updated the board on the progress for the Banquet. Currently there are 30 individuals registered to attend the Banquet which is the most ever registered. Funds donated to the Banquet will be used to purchase the requested school supplies. Also discussed was the Block Party. Pastor Sarah asked if there would be a table with ALC information for those attending the Block Party that are not familiar with ALC; it was determined this could be done.

GLOW - no report

For the Record

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 7/22/21:

Income: \$238,289

Expenses: \$268,760

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



RECORDS:

Baptisms: *Maggie Olive Hansen, daughter of Luke and Alyce Hansen.*



Deaths: *Melvin Wojahn In Loving Memory*

MEMORIALS:

Parking Lot Fund: *In memory of "Papa" John Helgeson.*

Video/Media Fund: *In memory of John Helgeson & Ernie & Gen Carlson.*

Music Fund: *In memory of John Helgeson.*

Camperships: *In memory of John Helgeson.*

Youth Education Fund: *In honor of Owen & Adam Dahna.*



OFFERING OPTIONS:

The ministry of our congregation continues in many ways! The options remain open for ways of contributing your offerings. You may 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.

Applying Bible Principles

A wise person once observed, "Half of any task is having the right tool, and the other half is knowing what to do with it." Although we don't often consider it as such, money is a tool which God uses in our lives as a means of spiritual growth.

You see, money is not an end in and of itself. It is a means to an end. And in God's hands, one of its primary "ends" is to instruct us and to help us grow spiritually. God especially wants us to avoid our natural tendency which is a bent toward selfishness, greed, and hoarding. That's why the Lord Jesus said, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions" (Luke 12:15).

Well, if an individual's life does not consist in having a lot of possessions, in what does it consist? Jesus provided an insightful answer to that question in Matthew 6:20-21, where He said, "... store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Now, according to Jesus' teaching in the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25), there is nothing wrong with saving. There is nothing wrong with investing or earning interest on investments. There is nothing wrong with being a wise steward by planning for the future. In fact, Jesus taught that those who do so are to be commended. But our primary emphasis as God's children is to make our investments in the "Bank of Heaven." When we do that, our investments are secure. They are not affected by inflation, by theft, by wear and tear, or anything of the kind.

There is only one way to make deposits in this special "bank": By giving to the Lord's work. Although the money is used here, it is credited to your eternal account. Each time you give your tithes and offerings at ALC, you are giving to the Lord by investing for eternity. You are storing up "treasures in heaven" that will glorify God forever.

GLOW in August

Gals Living Our Witness

A Women's Ministry of American Lutheran Church

GLOW Meeting Sunday, Aug. 8 @ 10 a.m. ALC Meeting Room

33 Women enjoyed our trip to
Painted Prairie Vineyard!
We need your ideas for future
events! Please come and
help us plan!



School Supplies

needed for
Lutheran World Relief
Backpacks

During Sewing Days this winter,
we will be packing Backpacks.
Now is the time to buy while
school supplies are ON SALE!

Look for list of supplies
needed elsewhere in
this August
Messenger!!!



Holiday Fair!!!

is coming on November 13 !!!

Now is the time to be

*Crafting

What is your crafty passion?
Make some extras for the Craft Sales!

*Making Pickles

Always great sellers
in the Bake Department

*Time to Purge!

New and Nearly New needs your
stuff!!! Box it up and bring it the week
of Holiday Fair. (No clothing)



August 2021



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

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers

Events at camp!

(See shetek.org for more info)

Mark your Calendar 2021

Week 8 of camp – Aug. 1-6

Toddlers and Trees– Aug.

Week 9 of camp – Aug. 8-13

Move Your Body – Aug. 16

Firefly Night – Aug. 23

Leaf Art – September 19

Pre-Marriage Retreat – September 25

Make a Bug Hotel – September 25

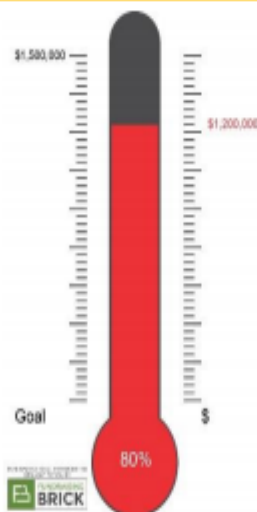


Thank you to everyone that made our quilt auction a huge success!



Progress of the New Adult/Youth Lodge – getting ready to pour the floor.

Our "Building on the Foundation" capital campaign is restarting after a pandemic pause. So far, we've raised over \$1,200,000 in gifts/pledges towards our \$1,500,000 goal! More info. on our website. <https://shetek.org/slm-master-plan/>



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!