



# July 2023

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The  
American  
LUTHERAN  
WINDOM, MN Church



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## Our Staff:

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Tera Elness, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries:

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Join us for Worship in Church, on Facebook, on our Website, via our YouTube Channel, on KDOM Radio 103.1 FM, or Local Cable Channel 22!

### Saturday, July 1

5:30 PM Chapel Service

### Sunday, July 16

9:00 AM Worship

### Sunday, July 2

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion,

### Saturday, July 22

5:30 PM Chapel Service

### Saturday, July 8

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

### Sunday, July 23

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

### Sunday, July 9

9:00 AM Worship & Noisy Offering

### Saturday July 29

5:30 PM Chapel Service

### Saturday, July 15

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion

### Sunday July 30

9:00 AM 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.



## Pastor's Message

### One in Christ

We have new wall art at The American Lutheran Church of Windom. A photo dropped into a newsletter doesn't do it justice, so check it out for yourself. It is painted on the wall outside the youth room at the bottom of the steps. The artist is member Lisa Petersen who grew up here, and has served on staff working with youth. Lisa offered to contribute some of her art to her home congregation to help point people to Jesus. Lisa can take an idea, like a passage from scripture, and paint it into a picture so that it speaks to those who see it.



The painting speaks to what the Apostle Paul wrote about, being one in Christ. Not that we always were or are. No, just like Christians in Ephesus, we come from many backgrounds and worldviews. We aren't always of one mind. Paul is writing to a community where some were born Jews and followed the Jewish law, and others were "far off", not a part of God's chosen people at all. That created a hostility between them, but the cross of Christ broke that hostility down, and made one new humanity in place of two! It is Jesus who can bring people together who have nothing in common, and who may have even been enemies, or on opposite side of the aisle. Through faith, those who were enemies have become friends, members of the same household of God, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone! The dividing wall has been broken down. He is our peace.

If you have gotten this far reading, I invite you to open your Bible to Ephesians 2:11 -22.

As you read, think of the work of Jesus in your own life. What has he done for you? Have you ever been "far off?" v. 17. When have you heard a word of peace that you desperately needed to hear? Can you speak a word of peace like that to someone else?

This passage and the wall art speak to situation of conflict and alienation. In the text, aliens has become a "*citizens* with the saints". There has been reconciliation. Now, look at the art. Really look at it. The lines in the opposing sides of mural are moving inward toward the cross of Jesus, and the peace that he brings. May that peace be yours, and in your relationships!

As Christians, our life together in Christ is a living witness that "He is our peace" vs.14. In places where conflict, hostility or a diving wall remain, use this month or this time of summer to work on it. Do not doubt what God can accomplish and has already done, through the blood of Christ.

Pastor Sarah

July

2023

# Worship & Music Notes

from Jane Cartwright, Worship & Music Coordinator

Summer Series II: Second Letter of Peter:

Week:	Theme:	Scripture:
July 2 / 3	The Christian's Call and Election	2 Peter 1:1-11
July 9 / 10	Eyewitnesses of Christ's Glory	2 Peter 1:16-2:2, 15-19
July 16 / 17	Promise of the Lord's Coming	2 Peter 3:1-10, 17-18

Summer Series III: Old Testament Wisdom and Poetry:

Week:	Theme:	Scripture:
July 24 / 25	Admonition to Trust and Honor God	Proverbs 1:1-7; 3:1-8
July 29 / 30	The Gifts of Wisdom	Proverbs 8:1-11, 22-36

## Service Notes:

**JULY USHERS:** Gary Nelson's team

**HOLY COMMUNION:** Sunday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>; and Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

**NOISY OFFERING:** ALC will be collecting coins, etc. for **GLOW School Kits** on Sat. July 8<sup>th</sup> & Sun. July 9<sup>th</sup>.

**WORSHIP AT BERGEN BALLPARK:** ALC and Bethany will combine worship services on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at the Bergen Ballpark. Worship will begin at 10:15 am. Bring a chair or blanket to sit on. Wear your hat and sunglasses! Following worship there will be a potluck meal. Bring one of your favorites or grab something from the grocery store. Coffee and drink will be provided. Plates and plastic ware provided.

**ALC's Saturday's 5:30 pm chapel service will be held in the sanctuary and recorded for use on KDOM and FB/website streaming.**

Summer worship opportunities are provided on Saturday nights in the Chapel at 5:30 PM, with Holy Communion on the second and third weekends. Sunday worship will be in the sanctuary at 9:00 AM with Holy Communion on the first and fourth weekends.

**SEEKING INDIVIDUALS TO FILL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:** ALC is looking for an individual to direct the ALC Choir. This group sings practices weekly and sings on Sundays one time per month. For more information contact Jane Cartwright, Worship and Music Coordinator. Practice will begin in September. ALC is looking for an individual to be a Leader for the Praise Band. Responsibilities would include selecting worship songs, leading practice, and help lead worship on Wednesday nights beginning in September. For more information contact Jane Cartwright, Worship and Music Coordinator.

## Noisy Offering This Month: GLOW- School Kits

GLOW school kits are for the ELCA Mission in Action Backpacks filled with school supplies.

Imagine having to choose between a meal or purchasing a notebook. School Kits are sent to places where even the few required school supplies may be more than a family can afford.

## Tune in to ALC's Worship Broadcasts:

Sundays at 10:30 AM on KDOM  
103.1 FM

Thursdays at 10:00 AM & 6:30  
PM on Windom Cable TV,  
Channel 22





# Christian Ed/Youth & Family

From Tera Elness, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries (822-3377)

## YouthWorks Summer Trip

**\*\*9th-12th Graders\*\***



# KANSAS CITY!

**JULY 5th - 8TH, 2023**

**Please keep the following youth & adult leaders in prayer as they travel to do God's Work!**

Eric Heggeseeth  
Erin Shamp  
Xavier Roberts  
Grace Scheitel  
Zadie-Anne Johnson  
Morgan Johnson  
Addison Spielman  
Jack Elness  
Shaun Schunk  
Miranda Peterson  
Jocelyn Frank  
Jemisyn Flute  
Lilly Derickson  
Theora Ahnupkana  
Jordan Hacker  
Sadie Tjentland  
Marissa Newman  
Braxton Pohlman

Tera Elness, Kevin Heggeseeth, Wendy Newman

**SHETER LUTHERAN MINISTRIES**

# DAY PLAY!

**GET READY FOR A GREAT ADVENTURE!**

**TUESDAY, JULY 18TH**

LEAVE CHURCH AT 8:15AM AND RETURN HOME APPROXIMATELY 3:45PM

THIS SPECIAL ONE-DAY OPPORTUNITY IS OPEN ONLY TO NEXT YEAR'S 2ND GRADE STUDENTS! TERA WILL TAKE THE KIDS, AND STAY WITH THE KIDS FOR THE DAY! CONTACT HER TO SIGN UP! COST TO ATTEND IS \$25

## ATTENDING COLLEGE THIS FALL?

DID YOU KNOW???

**ALC SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS AT SHETER LUTHERAN MINISTRIES**

EARN \$1,000



**You could earn \$1,000 Scholarship to any college**

**funded by the TRUST FUND!**

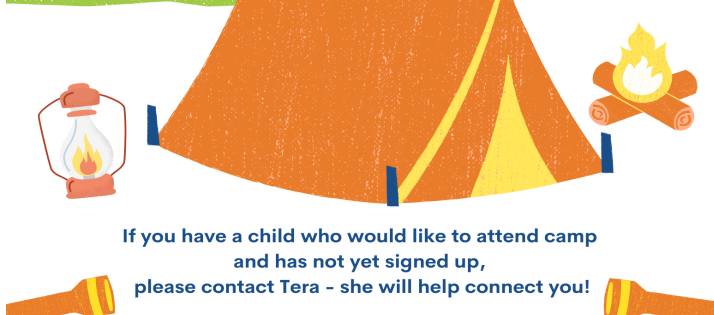
Contact the church office for more information

# Christian Education

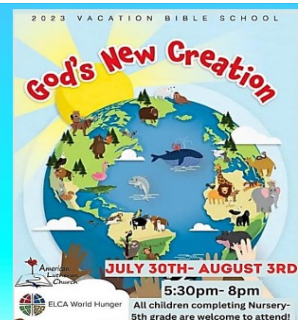
From Tera Elness, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries (822-3377)

## ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER WITH ACTION DOLLARS TO USE?

DCYFM TERA WOULD LOVE TO VISIT  
WITH YOU ABOUT SOME  
CHILDREN & YOUTH POSSIBILITIES!



## 2023 Online VBS Registration



Scan the QR code below, open your camera on your smart phone, move your camera so the QR code is in the frame. You'll see the code's URL, click that to go to our online VBS registration.



Note: You DO NOT need to fill out the registration form right away, the URL link will stay in your internet browser on your phone if you would like to fill out the online form later tonight.

## Teen Summer Breakfast Club



### Let's have Breakfast & Bible Study!

Second Wednesday Morn of Each Summer Month

June 14th - July 12th - August 9th

8:00-9:00am

Skylight Court

RSVP to Tera \* Friends Welcome!



## Youth & Family

Watch the Youth and Family bulletin board for a “boat load of fun.”

### Men's Bible Study:

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!!



## YOU'RE INVITED! FREE FAMILY SWIM NIGHT!

Friday, July 14th  
6:30pm - 8:30pm



**\*Windom Pool\***  
Sponsored by the  
American Lutheran  
Church of Windom  
Christian Ed. Board

**FREE VBS  
REGISTRATION WILL  
ALSO BE AVAILABLE!**

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)!

VBS will be held Sunday, July 30th- Thursday, August 3rd! It will be held in the evening from 5:30 PM-8:00 PM! This year's theme will be God's New Creation! There will be a chance to register early at our last Sunday/Wednesday School classes on Wednesday, May 10th and Sunday, May 14th!

Many volunteers are needed to make Vacation Bible School successful! If you are interested in helping out with Vacation Bible School in any way, please contact the church office or Tera Elness at [teraalc@gmail.com](mailto:teraalc@gmail.com) or 507-822-3377.

Men, do you like  
cribbage and  
pizza? If so, join  
us in the  
fellowship hall on



Thursday, **July 20th** at 6:30 pm for cribbage, pizza, fellowship, and a devotion. Feel free to bring a friend whether they're members or not! All are welcome! If you have ideas about more activities that you would like to do, please contact Pastor Adam.

## Church Activities

### July Softball Schedule :

July 2	ALC 1	Eagle Field	5:30 & 6:45
	ALC 2	Bergen	8:00
	ALC 3	Bergen	5:30
July 9	ALC 1	Bergen	6:45 & 8:00
	ALC 2	Eagle Field	5:30 & 6:45
	ALC 3	Qwest Field	6:45
July 16	ALC 1	Qwest Field	5:30
	ALC 2	Qwest Field	5:30 & 6:45
	ALC 3	Eagle Field	6:45
July 23	ALC 1	Qwest Filed	6:45
	ALC 2	Qwest Field	5:30
	ALC 3	Bergen	5:30
July 30	ALC 1	Eagle Field	5:30 & Qwest Field 6:45
	ALC 2	Bergen	8:00
	ALC 3	Bergen	5:30 & 6:45

**AUG 4-5-6 Church Softball Tournament**

**JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FAMILY FUN!**



**Baseball Night**

★★★★

**FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT!**

★★★★

**JUST \$10/PERSON AND INCLUDES A HOT DOG MEAL!**

**MOONDogs**

**SUNDAY, JULY 23RD**

*Meet at the Church Parking lot at 3:30pm and we'll caravan over!*

**SIGN UP WITH TERA BY JULY 16TH!**

### **GLOW in July** *Gals Living Our Witness* **Summer Bible Study**

Mark your Calendar  
**Glow Meeting**  
**August 6**  
**10:15 am**

Thursday, July 13  
9:00 am to 11:30 am

Pastor Sarah will lead us as we explore the Summer Bible series, "SALVATION NOW" found in the May/June and July/August Gather Magazines.

*Refreshments will be served!*

*New to Bible Study?*

*See Rachael in the office for a copy of the bible study.*

**Travel with us to the Grotto in West Bend, Iowa**  
**Tuesday, August 1**

9:30am - Depart the ALC parking lot  
11:30am - Wagon Wheel Cafe for lunch  
1:00pm - One hour Tour at the Grotto  
Plus time to explore and visit the gift shop  
Return to Windom about 5:00 pm

**SIGN UP ACROSS FROM THE OFFICE BY JULY 25**

Please be advised that walking (possibly difficult) and stairs are involved.

*A Women's Ministry of American Lutheran Church 2023*



**Cost:** Transportation \$7  
Paid to the office by July 25  
Pay for your own lunch  
A Freewill Donation to the Grotto



### Mark your calendars!

We will be joining Bethany for outdoor worship on **July 16th** at the Bergen Ball Park. Worship will be at 10:15 AM with a potluck meal to follow.

We are waiting for construction to end at Cottonwood Lake. Watch for more information.



# Visit the Shrine of the Grotto



***Tuesday, August 1***

**All women invited !!!**

**Trip is limited to 20 women**

**The Shrine of the Grotto of the Redemption is a religious shrine in West Bend, Iowa, in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Sioux City. A conglomeration of nine grottos depicting scenes in the life of Jesus, it contains a large collection of minerals and petrifications and is believed to be the largest grotto in the world.**

**9:30am - Depart the ALC parking lot**

**11:30am - Wagon Wheel Cafe for lunch**

**1:00pm - One hour Tour at the Grotto**

**Plus time to explore and visit gift shop**

**Return to Windom about 5:00 pm**

**Cost:** \$7 transportation fee  
(paid to the office by July 25)

**Pay for your own lunch**

**A Freewill Donation to the Grotto**

**SIGN UP ACROSS FROM THE OFFICE BY JULY 25**

**Please be advised that walking (possibly difficult) and stairs are involved.**

**A GLOW Women's Trip**



## Good to Know



**SEEKING INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES, OR FAMILY GROUPS WILLING TO USHER.** Would you be interested in helping seat individuals, pass out bulletins, assist in passing the plate for offering and in helping the process with Holy Communion?

It's a great way to meet people in the congregation. The schedule normally rotates by months (3 months, not consecutively out of the year). You also don't have to be here EVERY Sunday of the month. You are put into a group and those members also help with your months and the rotation. Please contact the church office if you're interested.

**OPEN POSITIONS:** Budget & Finance Board and the Nominating Committee (3 openings, calling and finding people in the months of October, November, and December to serve on boards/council when positions are open.) If you would like to be on a board or committee, or have questions, please call the church office for more information volunteering!



## Shetek-Ondini Partnership

We are excited to have one young man from the Ondini Circuit, Sicelo Masando, coming to work at Shetek Lutheran Ministries as a counselor this summer. **The Shetek Conference will host a pot-luck on July 22 @ 4 PM at Immanuel Lutheran in rural Fulda to honor Sicelo and our Ondini partners. Anyone interested in the partnership is welcome to attend!** We are also in the process of inviting 4-5 members of the Ondini Partnership to the Shetek Conference in 2024.

Contributions can be designated through your congregation or sent to:

**Carol Serfling, Shetek Conference Treasurer**

**PO Box 293**

**Adrian, MN 56110-0293**

Please make checks out to "Shetek Conference" and note that your gift is for the Shetek/Ondini Partnership.

### SHETEK CAMPERSHIPS

To register go to [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org) or pick up a Shetek Lutheran Ministries 2023 Summer Camps brochure that has a mail in registration form in the church office. If you have any questions please contact Shetek Lutheran Ministries at 507-763-3567 or contact Tera at [teralalc@gmail.com](mailto:teralalc@gmail.com) or 822-3377.

Also, **DID YOU KNOW THAT ALC PROVIDES TOWARDS CAMPERSHIPS FOR THOSE WISHING TO ATTEND CAMP AT SHETEK?** That's right! We provide \$100.00 towards Mini-Camp, and \$200 for those wishing to attend Full-Week camp, Family Camp, and/or Grandparent/Grandchild camp!

Also, the ALC Trust Fund provides a scholarship towards college for any student that works at Shetek for the summer! For those high school and college students that are looking for a summer job check out Camp Shetek!



## Good to Know

### Summer Worship Schedule

Join us as we explore these themes.

**2 Peter:**

**July 2 – July 16**

**Old Testament Wisdom**

**and Poetry:**

**July 23 – August 13**

**Sabbath:**

**August 20 – Sept. 3**



### Did You Know?

ALC started a **PUZZLE PLACE** in our Church Library!?

Feel free to come in and take a puzzle or two, or three, or bring some in, or both! Please only bring in complete puzzles in good condition.

You don't need to check any in or out. Just take, drop some off and repeat!



We hope you all enjoy!



### HAVING TROUBLE HEARING IN THE SANCTUARY?

We have added 3 additional **SOUND MATES**, which are available from the ushers. Sound Mates are a small unit that helps amplify sound through the use of headphones. Check one out. They are easy to use.



### ALC Day at Senior Dining:

**The 2nd Thursday of the month.**

Show your ALC pride and have a great meal with others at the Community Center! Anyone can come and dine in on this or any other day, **just call the day before at 831-6161 to make a reservation.** If you are 60 years old or older, the cost is \$4 or what you can pay. For others, the cost is \$8.75. Come, eat and enjoy!

The Senior Dining program is a program of Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota. By the way, there are 3 ways to benefit from this program: Dine In, Meals on Wheels, and curbside pickup. Call to sign up for which ever you are interested in.



## Good to Know



Would you like to be a part of **ALC'S PRAYER CHAIN**? Prayer Chain is an email group that gets requested prayers for subjects/people in our congregation, community, and world. If you would like to be a part of this email group please email or call the church office at [winalc@windomnet.com](mailto:winalc@windomnet.com) or 831-1794 with your current email address and we will add you to the group. Likewise, if you or someone you know needs prayers please contact the church office and we'll send out a **PRAYER REQUEST** to the Prayer Chain email group. Please let us know if you would like that person or subject to be prayed for publicly in church or privately through our Prayer Chain. Also, in consideration of HIPAA, we do have a generic please pray (individuals name) in this time of need. No medical/personal information will be shared unless it is public information, we get consent from that individual, or consent from a close relative.

**\*\*Altar Guild Meeting  
Does not meet during the summer\*\***



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!

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.



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!



### **BELL CHOIR**

Watch for information as we gather in September to once again practice.

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 CHOIR**

will resume practice in September. If you would be interested in directing in the fall, please contact Jane Cartwright.



### **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,

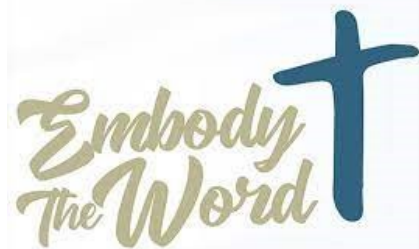
**PRAYER CHAIN:** To activate ALC's Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 831-1794 or an email may be sent to [winalc@windomnet.com](mailto:winalc@windomnet.com).

**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 2023 Southwestern MN Synod Assembly of the ELCA

was held June 9-10 at Gustavus Adolphus College located in St. Peter, MN around the theme ***Embody the Word***. ALC was represented by Lindsey and Jane Cartwright, John Shamp, and Pastor Sarah Larsen Tadé.



The highlight for Lindsey was opening worship. Sitting in Christ Chapel, set in the middle of Gustavus' campus, with its triangular stained glass windows pointing upwards to the roofline, provides a backdrop filled with peace. Music filled the chapel through organ selections, Dakota Road musical selections, a soloist, but most notably, through congregational singing. Listening to worshippers of all ages joining in song, singing "Praise to the Lord", "Healer", and "All are Welcome" was very uplifting. Bishop Dee Pederson provided the message. Rev. Naomi Mahler was installed as a Synod Minister for Equipping Congregations. What a joy it was to participate in Holy Communion with all those present for the Assembly.

Jane attended the workshop provided by Dakota Road Band. As they took those attending the workshop through a "mock" worship service, Larry Olson, Karol Baer, and Rev. Hans Peterson introduced some of their newest musical selections, "The Welcome Table", "Come to the Well", I am excited to introduce some of their songs in various worship services. I have the newest copy of Dakota Road Music Anthology as a resource. Check out their music online at [www.dakotaroadmusic.com](http://www.dakotaroadmusic.com). We were blessed to have Dakota Road provide musical selections during the worship service and also during breaks during the assembly.

Pastor Sarah attended the Synod South African Partnership meeting with guest Kevin Jacobson before the Assembly began on Friday morning. The Southwest MN Synod is looking forward to welcoming four guests from South Africa this fall!

She attended two workshops: Viral Hope: Coaching for Positive Change (we have 10 ministry coaches in the Synod) and Anti-Racism Workshop. One learning from this workshop was the 3 foot rule: make a difference where you are.

Bishop Dee Pederson thanked all gathered for the way that we *embody the word, the love of Jesus*. She reported that there were thirteen ordinations in the Southwest MN Synod in 2022, thanks be to God! She thanked us for opening scripture together in our congregations, as Jesus "opened scripture" to the two he walked with on the road to Emmaus. Luke 24.27

Kevin Jacobson from the ELCA also brought a report, assuring us that the state of the ELCA is strong. He spoke of our history sending missionaries throughout the world. We are now a church that accompanies other church bodies, while continuing to send missionaries.

The Assembly received a video greeting from Bishop Meeaga from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa, the Southeastern Diocese.

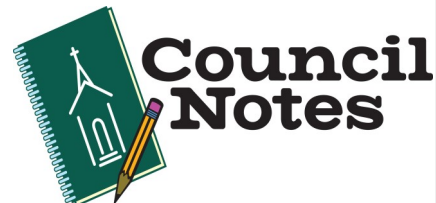
Matt Bloom was the keynote speaker on the topic of Well Being. He has done research and writing on flourishing in life and ministry. He reminded us that small steps add up over time to big changes in our well being. Think small and regular. John Shamp appreciated the presentation and found it very applicable to his own life and work.

Actions taken by the Assembly included passing the SWMN Budget for fiscal year 2025, electing new leaders, and passing the 2024 Southwestern Minnesota Synod Compensation and Benefits Guidelines for Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Ministers of Word and Service, and Non-Rostered Lay Church Staff.



## **CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM** **June 13th, 2023 MEETING**

(Written minutes to be approved at the next Council meeting.)



Open Board Position still needs to be filled. (1 open position for Budget & Finance)

Synod Assembly- still have 1 open seat to fill, please ask your boards.

Pastor Sarah added there were no big resolutions this year.

2 guest speakers – Keven Jacobson/ELCA programming and Matt Bloom/Wellness and Wellbeing.

Blood Drive Update - Passed around signup sheet. They would like approx. 30 people interested for them to come to ALC

Mid-Year Meeting July 23rd, 2023 – Following church service in sanctuary.

Land Acknowledgment of the ELCA – Discussion on which group is indigenous to our church land. ELCA encourages congregation to approach this/more discussion needed/how does congregation feel about this topic. Table until next month.

Transfer signature right of Accounts from Gina to Rachael. Motion Linda, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cory, MSP

Properties Board recommendation – camera placement – Linda showed us maps of approximate locations of the 9 security cameras. Motion to approve placement of camera's Linda, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cory, MSP

Other: Bills on Hold: Motion to pay bills on hold, Sharon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cory, MSP

## **Board Reports**

Worship and Music: ALC/Bergen Joint Church Service on July 16<sup>th</sup> @ 10:15 am., Bergen Ball Park, potluck to follow. Need people for summer music, need substitute Choir director while director is on maternity leave. Possible move to revised common lectionary starting at Advent.

Spiritual Life/Fellowship: Father's days gifts and root beer floats served during coffee hour.

Discipleship/Marketing/Stewardship: Cribbage tourney during Riverfest was sponsored by ALC. good exposure for us and well attended.

Properties: Landscape project to divert water, Nielson Landscape came in with the low bid of \$1383.00. Trust fund has agreed to provide funds

Budget/Finance: No report

Christian Education: Girls/Boys night activities have been well attended. There will be a Free swim at the Windom Pool, Sunday/Wednesday schools went well, Rally Day is possibly going to be at Cottonwood Lake on Sunday Sept 10th

Youth/Family: Rummage Sale was a success, about \$1500 raised. Discussed more signage next time. Senior Sunday was a success, car wash raised \$375, upcoming events; Breakfast club, Arnold's Park and Moon Dogs game on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Church/Society: No report

GLOW: Ice cream social at Sogge was well attended, Women's Bible study on July 13<sup>th</sup>, need a co/chair for the Holiday Fair in November.

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATEAs of 6/20/23:

Income: \$222,381

Expenses: \$279,115

Borrowed to date: \$12,000

These figures do not include June end-of-month commitments and benevolences.

# July Update

RECORDS:**Baptisms:** *Rixon Lee Knigge, son of Ryan Knigge & Lisa Hoffman***Deaths:** *Roberta "Buzzy" Flatgard and Dan Beam*MEMORIALS:**Youth Fund** – *In memory of Marlene Mattson.**In Loving  
Memory***Video/Media Fund** – *In memory of Marlene Mattson & Roberta "Buzzy" Flatgard.***Parking Lot Fund** – *In memory of Marlene Mattson.*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](http://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.

**DO YOU HAVE A THRIVENT POLICY?**

If you have an insurance policy through Thrivent please give them a call to let them know that you'd like your choice dollars to go to your congregation. Thrivent is very generous and every bit helps.

During the summer

- ♦ if you are with family, may you experience smiles and laughter
  - ♦ if you are in a boat, may the water be calm
  - ♦ if you are camping, may you be surrounded by God's creation
- and may God hold you in the palm of His hand.





**July 2023**



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

**Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers**



Please keep our staff in your prayers!



When I feel the warm sun on my face, I better understand "God is light, in Him is no darkness at all."

## **Mark your Calendar**

June 11-August 11

Summer Programs

We still have openings!

Register at [shetek.org](http://shetek.org) or

Call 507-763-3567 for more information

### **Wish List**

- 17 foot Aluminum canoe
- Vest style life jackets
- Office supplies – reams of paper
- Good Vacuums
- Volunteers



We met our Phase 1 goal! \$1,533,000 in gifts and pledges! Our challenge goal is \$2,000,000 and with increased costs, our budget has changed for our different phases. 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!**

# Letter from Carolyn, Our Missionary

Dear friends and partners in ministry,

May 2023

Greetings to you at this moment of the church year when the seasons change from Easter, when we bask in the message of new life in Christ, to Pentecost, when we are sent out in the power of the Holy Spirit to share that reality with the world. Here in Jamaica, my work during the month of May has reflected that very same movement from resurrection to sending, as you will see.



From May 1 to 4, in the middle of the Easter season, I was the facilitator of a retreat for Anglican clergy who serve western Jamaica. This year, the Anglican church in Jamaica is emphasizing baptism, so I chose as my theme, “The Risen Life of the Baptized”. In an evening session at the retreat I gave the participants a slide show of the remains of a third-century Syrian house church in the town of Dura-Europos, and I focused on the little room upstairs containing a baptismal pool and wonderful paintings all over the walls and ceiling that give us a clue to how this church understood baptism. We imagined together what it would be like to enter the room as people about to be baptized: We would make our way toward the baptismal pool accompanied by ten women painted on the wall, each carrying a light and a jar and heading toward some kind of structure painted at the edge of the baptismal pool. Are they the ten wise virgins with their lamps and oil running to the wedding banquet (Matthew 25:1-13), or are they the women with their lights and jars of spices going to Jesus’ tomb, only to find it empty (Luke 23:55-24:3)?

Either way, as those about to be baptized we would have the thrill of knowing that we were walking into a new life with Jesus that would last forever. I hope that the active engagement of the participants was a sign that thinking about these things was as refreshing for them as it was for me.

After one day at home, I was off to my next delightful gathering, this time with the delegates to the annual convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (ELCG), a country on the northeastern coast of South America, right next to Suriname. Since the ELCA has close relationships with the Lutheran churches of Guyana and Suriname, I attended the convention of the ELCG as a living representative of that relationship, along with Hellen Rios-Carrillo, the Regional Representative of the ELCA in the Caribbean.

The theme of the convention was “A Waiting World, a Willing Church, a Gracious God”. In her report, the Secretary of the ELCG, Ms. Elocia Smith, reversed that order to start with “A Gracious God” because, as she wrote, the “good news that in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit God heals and saves” is what moves us to a world “groaning under severe burdens, waiting for God’s grace which offers release and freedom.”

This step from receiving to sharing, from learning to practicing, was taken this May by Rafael van Ommeren, who has been the resident Lutheran student under my care at the United Theological College of the West Indies. You may remember him from previous newsletters. He has now finished his Master’s program and has just returned with his wife, Lucille, to Suriname, where he will serve as a congregational intern for a year before he is ordained as a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Suriname (ELKS). Even though I will miss his jovial company, I am glad for him and for his church that he has taken this exciting step, and, of course, I plan to visit him, Lucille, and the church in Suriname when they are able to invite me. I will surely fill you in on the experience.

And so, the month has had an Easter-to-Pentecost shape for me. It has moved from a focus on receiving the risen life of Christ in baptism to a celebration of how that risen life is shared with the world through the impulse of the Holy Spirit. I am grateful that you make these moves with me as we accompany one another in our congregational, local, regional, national, and global ministries.

Carolyn Schneider

P.S. In addition to prayer, here are ways to support me financially.

1. To become a covenant congregation, download the form at [ELCA.org/covenantform](https://www.elca.org/covenantform) or call 800-638-3522, ext. 2820.
2. Make an individual gift by check payable to “ELCA Missionaries” with “Carolyn Schneider (GCS2016)” in the memo line and mail your check to: ELCA Gift Processing Center P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009
3. Make an individual gift by credit or debit card by visiting [ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving](https://www.elca.org/MissionaryGiving) or calling 800-638-3522.