



# October 2023

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The  
American  
LUTHERAN  
WINDOM, MN Church



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## Our Staff:

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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!



## 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, October 1

*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion,

## Wednesday, October 4

6:30 PM Wednesday Worship w/ Holy Communion

## Saturday, October 7

5:30 PM Chapel Service

## Sunday, October 8

*Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
9:00 AM Worship w/ 2nd Sunday Noisy Offering

## Wednesday, October 11

6:30 PM Wednesday Worship

## Saturday, October 14

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

## Sunday, October 15

*Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost*  
9:00 AM Worship

## Wednesday, October 18 MEA-No Wednesday Evening Activities

## Saturday, October 21

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/ Holy Communion

## Sunday, October 22

*Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost*  
9:00 AM Worship w/ Holy Communion

## Wednesday, October 25

6:30pm Wednesday Worship

## Saturday, October 28

5:30 PM Chapel Service

## Sunday, October 29

9:00 AM Reformation Sunday Worship  
10:45 AM Confirmation Service

# Pastor's Message

*Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.*

*-Galatians 3:24*

A buddy gave me a facebook post from a friend of his titled, "I used to be Christian." The author talks about growing up in the church and striving to love God and be the best Christian she could be. She says, though, that the church had filled her with guilt, shame, and self-hatred. She was terrified of going to Hell. When she had questions she was ignored, ostracized, or told she needed more faith. She said that the leaders she looked up to used the Bible for their own selfish gain. She found a god in the Bible that she says delights in wiping out civilizations including women and children for God's own design flaw and she ends her opening statements with: The Christian church caused me more harm than good.

Now, are there denominations and certain congregations where it is really easy to believe that this happens to people? Definitely. There are congregations where guilt and shame are doled out heavily. There are preachers who know how to get you to give them money so that they can have their mansions and multiple personal jets. There are congregations that do not want your questions and that preach a racist god that *does* delight in the destruction of people and families that are not like us.

One of the many things I love about Lutheranism is our doctrine on Law and Gospel. Law, reminding us that we are sinners, we can't be perfect, and will continue to hurt God and others often. Gospel, meaning that Jesus died to forgive all of our sins, always and forever.

So yes, Lutherans will say that we will feel shame and guilt and sometimes we won't like ourselves. We all have those days when we take our anger out on others and we say hurtful things and, once seeing the pain in our loved one's face, we feel shame, guilt, and we're not happy with ourselves. Those feelings come with sin and Lutherans don't sugarcoat it or sweep it under the rug. We blatantly say that we sometimes come to worship with hurt hearts from hurting those we love and hurting ourselves. Sometimes we come to worship with shame and low self-esteem. This is the life of a Christian.

But we don't stay there. We come and confess, get forgiven (Gospel), and start fresh.

Have some Lutheran congregations had money-loving pastors that have taken advantage of people? Unfortunately. But predominantly our denomination has used its money very well, just look at all our Lutheran charities. Not to mention that our congregation has managed her funds well and, as far as I know of our history, there has been no concerns about mismanaged funds (although I am still waiting for my first private jet).

As for the god of wrath of the Old Testament, well, the civilizations destroyed by God were notoriously evil civilizations engaging in child sacrifice/torture and religious prostitution where teenage girls were basically forced into it. It was a lose-lose situation for everyone.

So yes, there are trauma-causing congregations out there, that is true. But I would say ELCA congregations, and especially our congregation, are among the least trauma causing. They're places where questions can be asked, no matter how tough or controversial. Places we can bring in our shame and guilt and get them removed. Places that are financially generous without people pushing you to constantly give more. Places of Law and Gospel that I'm willing to bet the majority of people raised in this congregation, even if they rarely worship now, would still say that this place did more good than harm in their lives. In fact, I would hope you would ask those members who haven't worshipped in a while their thoughts on that, just for research purposes, and get back to me.

Either way, may this place continue to do you, and all people, good. Amen.

Pastor Adam



# Worship & Music Notes

from Jane Cartwright, Worship & Music Coordinator



Week:	Theme:	Scripture:
Sept. 27-Oct 1	Moses and God's Name	Exodus 1:8-2:10; 3:1-15
Oct. 4 – 8	Hear O Israel	Deuteronomy 5:1-21; 6:4-9
Oct. 11-15	Ruth	Ruth 1:1-17; 4:13-17
Oct. 18-22	David Anointed King	2 Samuel 5:1-5; 6:1-5; Psalm 150
Oct. 25 – 29	Kingdom Divided	1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29



## “Changing of Seasons”

By now, you have noticed the changing colors throughout the rural landscape. The green has left the fields of corn and beans. The reds, oranges, and yellows are popping out throughout the hillsides as leaves and vines begin to distinguish themselves. Pumpkins of all colors are appearing at roadside stands and stores. It is once again time to sing praises to God, the creator of all!

### Service Notes:

**SEPTEMBER USHERS:** Bryan Carlson's team

**HOLY COMMUNION:** Sunday, October 1st and 22nd; Saturday, October 14th and 21st, and Wednesday October 4th

**NOISY OFFERING:** ALC will be collecting coins, etc. for **Windom Area Schools Backpack Program** on Wednesday, October 4th, Sunday, October 8th and Saturday, October 14th.

Worship opportunities are provided on Wednesday nights at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of the month. Saturday night worship is in the Chapel at 5:30 PM, with Holy Communion on the second and third weekends. Sunday worship is in the sanctuary at 9:00 AM with Holy Communion on the first and fourth weekends.

### 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



Come check out the Worship Volunteer Sheet located on the Worship and Music Bulletin Board in the main hallway. Scripture Readers and Communion Assistants are needed.

Thank  
you!

### Noisy Offering this Month:

#### Windom Area Schools Backpack Program-

This program provides weekend meals to Windom elementary students. Last year the program served around 85 students EACH WEEK! Generous donations from the community make this independent program possible, as it receives no school funding.

**October 2023  
Worship  
Participants**

*Scripture Readers:*

Oct. 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct. 8: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct. 15: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct. 22: \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct. 29, (9:00am) \_\_\_\_\_

*Holy Communion Assistants:*

Sun. Oct. 1:  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_

Wed. Oct. 4:  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_

Sun. Oct. 22:  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_

**American Lutheran Church**  
Monthly Worship Opportunities

**Come Join Us**





## Worship and Music



Presenting  
**Glenn Henriksen,**  
pianist & organist  
from Armstrong, Iowa

Join us for a  
**Hymn Sing**  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8  
2:00 P.M.

Free Will  
Donation

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Third Avenue & 11th Street, Windom

*Everyone is welcome!*



### 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.



*Familiar  
Carols of Christmas*

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE  
IN A COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA  
ALL AGES!

REHEARSALS BEGIN  
6:30 PM, SUNDAY, OCT. 15TH  
AT THE  
AMERICAN LUTHERAN  
CHURCH OF WINDOM  
906 PROSPECT AVE.



CHRISTMAS CANTATA WORSHIP  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023  
AT 7:00PM

For more information contact:  
Jane Cartwright  
ALC 507-831-1794




*Give it a try!*

**Singers!**  
**Guitar players!**  
**Instrumentalists!**  
**Come to practice**  
**5:45 pm Wednesdays**  
**ALC Sanctuary**  
**Worship is at 6:30pm**

*Praise Band  
Worship Team*



# Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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

## Women's One Nite Bible Study

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

5:30-7:30PM

BRING AN APPETIZER  
TO SHARE!

Questions?  
Contact Tera!  
507-822-3377  
teraalc@gmail.com

## Confirmation Sunday



Sunday, October 29th

10:45 AM

Confirmation Rehearsal will be held on  
Wednesday, October 25th at 7:30pm in the  
Sanctuary. A letter will be mailed out to  
Confirmation Students and parents with detailed  
information

Shetek Lutheran Ministries

## OCTOBERFEST!

3RD - 6TH GRADERS!

MEA BREAK!

OCTOBER 20-21!

Leaving ALC at 5pm on Friday and  
returning home on Saturday at 7pm!

ALC Christian Ed. Board will be  
paying *HALF* of the  
\$50 fee for all students wishing  
to attend!

**MUST CONTACT TERA TO SIGN UP  
YOUR CHILD!**

**REGISTRATION**

**DEADLINE:**

**OCT. 4th**



OCTOBER  
20-21,  
2023

OCTOBERFEST



Welcoming all 3rd-6th graders to join us for a fun fall  
retreat!

Starts at 6:00pm Oct.20 and concludes at 6:00pm Oct. 21.  
Come and learn about God's love, partake in fun fall activities, enjoy a s'more,  
and being outdoors with other youth!  
For more information visit [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org) or call 507-763-3567!

Details: For 3rd-6th graders, October 20-21

What to bring: Follow information including what to bring and health form will be sent once your  
registration is received.

Cost: \$50

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_ Cabin Mate Request: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature for Participation: \_\_\_\_\_

Register online at [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org) OR complete the above information and send it in with a \$20 deposit by October 4th.



# Christian Ed/Youth & Family

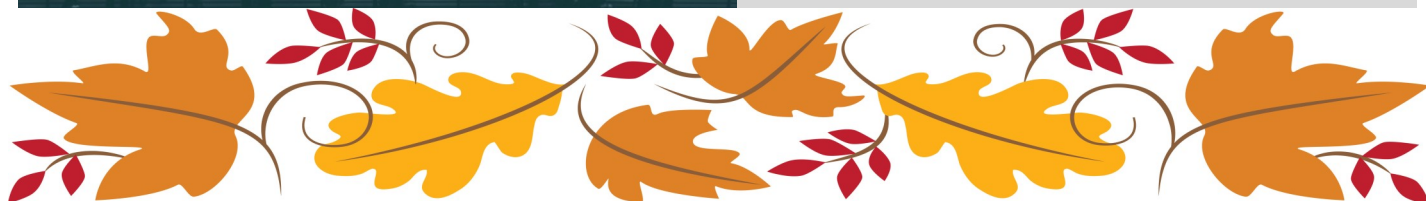
From Tera Elness, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries (822-3377)



## ELCA National Youth Gathering an experience like no other!

The Gathering is a once in a lifetime opportunity for young adults growing in their faith. The Gathering will be held in New Orleans July 16 – 20, 2024. Youth currently in 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Grade during the 2023-2024 school year are eligible to attend!

**The deadline to register and place your deposit is October 15.** This seems early, but it allows us to have priority in choosing hotels and activities. We will also get moving on fundraising – we want this experience to be attainable for anyone wanting to attend. Need more details? Contact Pastor Adam or Tera for additional information.



**7TH-9TH GRADE SWMN SYNOD  
JR HIGH YOUTH GATHERING**

**NOVEMBER 17-18**  
**WILLMAR, MINNESOTA**

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**WHERE GOD GUIDES.  
GOD PROVIDES.  
ISAIAH 58:11**

**SIGN UP  
DEADLINE:  
OCTOBER 20TH**

**\$80/PERSON**

**ALC WILL COVER HALF THE FEE FOR ALL  
YOUTH WANTING TO ATTEND MAKING THE  
FEE JUST \$40.**

WE WILL LEAVE CHURCH AT 3:30PM THAT FRIDAY,  
AND RETURN HOME APPROXIMATELY 3:00PM ON SATURDAY.

**BOO!  
BINGO**

**Sunday, October 22**  
**Scary Supper starts at 5:00**  
**Boo Bingo 5:30 - 6:30 pm**

**PUT ON YOUR FAVORITE COSTUME AND  
JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN!**

**Scary Supper - \$5.00 per person**  
**Boo Bingo - \$5.00 per person**

**Best Costume Winners will be Announced  
before final Bingo Game!**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**American Lutheran Church - Fellowship Hall  
YOUTH FALL FUNDRAISER KICKOFF!**

# Christian Education

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

## 4TH-6TH GRADE GIRLS NIGHT!

**SUNDAY,  
OCTOBER 29TH**

**5:00-7:00PM  
SUPPER SERVED**

PLEASE CONTACT TERA  
TO SIGN UP YOUR GIRL!  
507-822-3377  
TERAALC@GMAIL.COM

## HALLOWEEN PARTY

**Calling All 1st-3rd Graders!**

Join Us For An After-School Halloween Party!

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 16th**

**3:15-4:45pm**

The ALC MiniBus Will Pick Up Kids After School!

Please email Tera to sign up your child!



American Lutheran Church  
906 Prospect Ave  
Windom



**3<sup>rd</sup> Graders & their Parents**  
*"Get to Know Your Bible Class"*

Wednesday School Students – October 11th  
Sunday School Students – October 15<sup>th</sup>

Meet Tera in the Skylight Court during your regular  
Wednesday School time or  
Fellowship Hall during your regular  
Sunday School time  
for a special class for kids AND their parents  
geared towards learning more and  
becoming familiar with your brand new bible!  
(Pssst...there'll even be treats!)

## 7TH - 9TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

**COMBINED CLASS**

**October 25th, 2023**

**7:30-8:30pm**

**Special Guest:**

**Coach Mitch Boeck**



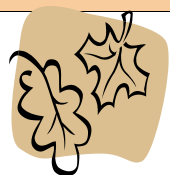
**PLEASE MEET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**Parents are encouraged to attend!**



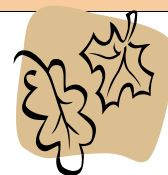
October

2023



# Church Activities

## Fall Programming Schedule



### Sunday Schedule:

**9:00– 10:00 AM** - Worship  
**10:00 AM** - Skylight Court Café - Coffee Hour  
**10:15-11:00 AM** - Sunday School  
**10:30 AM** - Broadcast of Worship Service on  
 KDOM 103.1 FM

### Wednesday Schedule:

**5:00– 6:15PM** - Wednesday Night Supper  
**5:30– 6:15 PM** - ALC Choir Practice  
**5:30– 6:15 PM** - Wednesday School  
**6:30– 7:15 PM** - Wednesday Worship  
**7:30– 8:30 PM** - Confirmation (7th, 8th, & 9th Grade)

### Saturday Schedule:

5:30 PM Chapel Worship Service



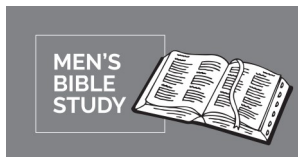
Men, do you like cribbage and pizza? If so, join us in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, October 26th at 6:30pm for cribbage, pizza, fellowship, and a devotion. Feel free to bring a friend whether they're members or not! All are welcome! If you have ideas about more activities that you would like to do, please contact Pastor Adam.

### Lefse Lefse Lefse!

It's time to make lefse again! Every Tuesday in October and the first Tuesday in November we will be making lefse for the Holiday Fair which will be on November 11th. We need all kinds of help. We even have sit down jobs! Bring your grills, covered boards, and rolling pins if you have them. If you have time, come at 8:00am or whenever you can get here. We will hopefully be done by noon. This is a great fundraiser. Karen Skarphol has been accepted to receive a \$250 credit card from Thrivent to purchase the ingredients so it should be 100% profit! Any questions, contact Karen Skarphol at 507-822-0785.



### 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!!

# Good to Know

## Looking for Legos!

Tera is looking for donations of Legos for a special Wednesday/Sunday School Lesson Day planned for this year! Do **you** have some Lego bricks at your house that no one plays with anymore?

We are not looking for complete sets, simply donations of random Lego bricks! Please contact Tera (teraalc@gmail.com) or drop off at the Church if you do!

**THANK YOU SO MUCH!**



Did you know that you can see sermons on the ALC **WEB-SITE**? 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.

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.



This year's Wednesday School and Sunday School offering has been designated to the Windom Area Schools Backpack Program! Thank you for donating!



## HOLIDAY FAIR 2023

**WHAT:** The 18<sup>th</sup> ALC Holiday Fair is coming!!!

**WHEN:** Saturday, November 11, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** American Lutheran Church

**WHO:** Thanks to the following committee chairs:

**BAKERY** – Jackie Turner & Kay Evers

**CRAFTS** – Jane Cartwright, Kathy Hiley, Beth

Scrivens

**LEFSE** — Karen Skarphol

**LUNCH** – Jean Johnson & Sharon Erpestad

**PUBLICITY** – Penny Raia

**NEW & NEARLY NEW** – Youth fundraiser

**WHO ELSE? EVERYONE!!!** We need you to donate, work and shop! The time is now to plan what you might like to donate – jams, jellies, pickles, candies, baked goods, crafts, rummage sale items (no large appliances, encyclopedias, reference books, or clothing, please) – AND where you might like to work. Volunteers will be needed to help set up and work in each area.

**WHY:** To raise funds for worthy causes and enjoy fellowship with each other and our neighbors.

The Church Council approved the following distribution of funds:

25% - Shetek Lutheran Ministries Capital Campaign

25% - ALC bus/passenger van

10% - Shetek Ondini Partnership

10% - Lutheran Disaster Response

10% - Windom Sharing Center

10% - ALC Building Maintenance Fund

10% - Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

The New and Nearly New (Rummage Room) is a fundraiser for the youth.

**SPREAD THE WORD!!!**

**HOLIDAY FAIR IS NOVEMBER 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

*Sign-up sheets for donations and work times will be posted in October.*

## Good to Know

### Wednesday Night Supper

#### Menu for October



October 4th—Scalloped Potatoes  
w/ham, corn, bread, dessert

October 11th—Sloppy Jo, baked beans,  
chips, dessert

October 18th— No Supper-MEA break

October 25th—Creamy Chicken, mashed  
potatoes, carrots, dessert.



### Reformation Worship

Sunday, October 29th,  
9am

On *Reformation Sunday*, we return to the core of our faith: God loved us first, and God continues to shower us with grace and mercy.

**REFORMATION SUNDAY**



Do you enjoy crafting or quilting? If so, consider going to Shetek Lutheran Ministries Quilt and Craft Retreat! Enjoy quilting and crafting in a relaxed Christ-Centered environment, bonding with others and enjoying delicious food. Participants will stay in the Lakota Retreat Center, which will also serve as the main "creation station". The retreat will take place October 23rd through October 26th. You can arrive anytime after noon on Monday, the 23rd or arrive anytime on Tuesday. You can register online at [www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org) or stop in the church office for a registration form and more information!



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.



## Good to Know

### LSS Meals | Windom



#### 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, there is a suggested donation of \$5-\$8.75 per meal, or what you can afford. For those younger than 60, 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.

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!

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 will be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:00pm. Next meeting is October 10th at 2pm! All are welcome.**

THANK YOU for your donations of product and Noisy Offering for the Comfort Cupboard. We learned there was a big need for deodorant so 70 deodorant sticks for gals and guys were purchased. Along with the deodorant, donations of shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and dental floss were delivered to the High School/Middle School for staff to distribute as needed. We were met with a big THANK YOU for our generosity and for caring for students in this way.



**ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE ALC CHOIR!**  
Practices are Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm!



#### BELL CHOIR

Practices on Monday evenings

at 6:30pm. The **second** Monday of the month, practice is at 7:00 pm.

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.

No Wednesday night programming on Wednesday, October 18th due to MEA



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!

### 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" border 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.

# GLOW

Gals Living Our Witness

*in October*

## BIBLE STUDY

THURSDAY, OCT. 19 @ 2 P.M.

MEETING ROOM ACROSS FROM THE OFFICE

September/October Gather Magazine

Page 34, Session TWO: Sanctuary

See Melanie in the office for a copy and join us!

## Holiday Fair

Saturday, November 11

9:30 - 1:00

**VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE, BAKE AND WORK!**

MAKE LEFSE EVERY TUESDAY IN OCTOBER 8:00 A.M.

**Sewing Days begin on January 2, 2024 !!!**

## GLOW MEETING

SUNDAY, OCT. 1 @ 10:15 A.M.

ALC MEETING ROOM

**Please  
Join Us!**

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

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM September 12, 2023 MEETING

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



- Update on the July Treasurer's Report: As it stands the amount had already been brought in to a previous month and put into a designated fund. Everything balanced out in the end.
- MM/S/C by Kevin Heggeseeth and Cory Pohlman to transfer the signature rights from Gina Hauge to Melanie Shamp. Motion was approved. Melanie Shamp is the new Administrative Assistant at American Lutheran Church.
- Stewardship in a Box Program presented to Steve Johnson and Pastor Sarah in a webinar by Grace Pompero. It was provided by Lutheran Seminary and approaches stewardship from a Midwestern perspective. The theme of this program is "You've Heard It Said." The purpose of this program is to help people understand what their money goes for during the week. Possible ideas would be to spread stewardship throughout the year instead of lumping it all together in the month of November during Stewardship month. MM/S/C by Steve Johnson and Kay Evers. The Budget and Finance Board also approved the Stewardship in a Box program and will pay \$289.00. This will include material for rebranding for flyers and mailers.
- Update given by Lindsey Cartwright and Chris Tailorwright on the Security Cameras on the church campus. The cameras: Are covering entries and exits, and are there for the purpose of security and safety. There are nine cameras, they are always on but only records when there is a detection. Roles for the security system, as proposed by the Technology Committee. Administrator - Chris Tailorwright, Secondary Administrator - Ryan Evers, Viewers - Chair of Technology Committee, Administrative Assistant and Lead Pastor. Most likely the program for viewing will be placed on the Administrative Assistant's Computer. The next step is to get control of the Wifi usage. Currently, we have no access to the Wifi connection in the church. Discussion and questions were asked by the Council regarding whether volunteer janitors have access to surveillance when closing the building. Also, the idea of posting a sign at each entry regarding, "This building is under video surveillance." Lindsay Cartwright wanted to stress the message, "We are not out to get people, but rather to provide safety and security."
- Other - A reminder to the boards that if they have something that they are thinking about raising money for, they can place it on the Memorial Board. Contact the Budget and Finance Board to get your board's fundraising idea on the board.

### Board Reports

- ♦ **Worship and Music:** New Coffee Maker is coming for Skylight Court, Dec. 3 starting with common lectionary, Other Upcoming events/dates were shared.
- ♦ **Spiritual Life and Fellowship:** Upcoming events/dates were shared.
- ♦ **Discipline/Marketing and Stewardship:** Still working to set up a Venmo account.
- ♦ **Properties:** The Lighted Cross is going up on Thursday. Negen will no longer be doing snow removal. We are working to find a new contractor. Devin Nielsen will be starting the landscaping project next week.
- ♦ **Budget and Finance:** Approved the Stewardship in Box Program. Will be talking in church to the congregation about the Memorial Board.
- ♦ **Christian Ed:** 60 Confirmation Students, 100 Wednesday and Sunday School Students (K-6), Rally Day was a huge success.. Approved volunteers for Sunday/Wednesday School teachers, confirmation small group guides. Upcoming events/dates were shared.
- ♦ **Youth and Family:** Upcoming events/dates were shared. \$721.00 was raised through fundraisers this summer. National Youth Gathering more information and fundraising is coming.
- ♦ **Church in Society:** September 23rd is Rebuilding Day - fixing up homes in Windom. Meet at 7:30 at Cottonwood Lake if interested in helping out.
- ♦ **Glow:** November 11th Holiday Fair, Karen Skarphol will be attending the Triennial Convention WELCA Gathering in Phoenix, AZ from September 19-24th.





### ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 10/21/23:

Income: \$351,118

Expenses: \$421,595

Borrowed to date: \$25,000

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

### RECORDS:



**Baptisms:** Theodore Calvin Lee Morrison & Lydia Lee Ann Morrison,  
son & daughter of Jeffrey Morrison & Danielle Engler.

**Deaths:** Gregory Carlson

*In Loving  
Memory*

**MEMORIALS:** Campership Fund – In memory of Gayleen Woizeschke and

In honor of Kermit & Betty Twait's 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.



### 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.

October 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



"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." **Ecclesiastes 3:1**

### Wish List

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

### Mark your Calendar

October 20-21 – Octoberfest

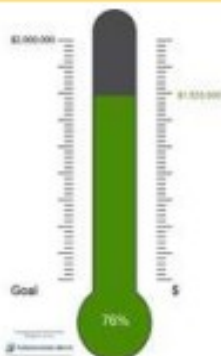
October 23-26 – Quilt & Craft Retreat

November 3-4 Confirmation Retreat

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

Call 507-763-3567 for more information

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!

## BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST



Agrippa is the chair of the  
Of the partnership committee  
In the SE Diocese

Akhona is the  
Executive Sec  
to the Bishop

Pastor Thabani is the  
diaconal minister  
and part-time pastor

Pastor Celiwe is working to  
re-establish the seminary  
at Umphimulo

We are privileged to meet and host our visitors in the Shetek Conference during their visit. They are beginning their visit in conferences in the northern part of the synod and will be with us as follows:

1. Members of the SW Synod Partnership Committee will be holding a welcome and potluck in Redwood Falls on September 26.
2. We will welcome three of the four delegates to Shetek Lutheran Ministries from October 2 – 4. There will be an open partnership potluck meal & meeting on Monday, October 2 starting at 5 PM. All are welcome & stay tuned for more details. The delegates will also visit Shalom Hill Farms while at Shetek along with other historical sites. Pastor Mike Stangeland who is the Dean of the Shetek Conference will host this visit.
3. We will be hosting Akhona from October 6-8. Plans are being developed to introduce Akhona to our communities and churches. We are tentatively planning on having Akhona at American Lutheran in Windom on Saturday, October 7 at their 5:30 Chapel Service. On Sunday, October 8, Akhona will be at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Lakefield at the 9 AM service and First Lutheran Worthington 9:30 service and American Lutheran in Worthington at the 10:15 am service. All are welcome to attend these services to meet and hear about the ministry in the SE Diocese of the Evangelical Church in Southern Africa.
4. Agrippa will be visiting Bethlehem in Hills on Friday, October 6-Saturday, 7. Bethlehem at Hills has a connection to a circuit in SE Diocese and will be celebrating this partnership.

*What an opportunity to learn from each other and grow in friendship and in faith in the one Lord Jesus Christ! The Shetek Conference Partnership Committee invites the members of the congregations of the Shetek Conference to pray for this important visit and take part as each are able.*





# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear friends and partners in global ministry,

September 2023

This is the time of year when many of us head back to school to teach and learn, and even those of you who don't go back to school support and pray for us who do. All such support and prayers are welcome and received with gratitude! Here at the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI), where I teach church history to students preparing for ministry in various churches of the Caribbean, we have just completed our first week of the semester with a batch of new, eager students.

I am pleased to have the company of another Lutheran on campus this semester. The Rev. Danielle Dokman from Suriname is here, taking a course in contextualizing theology for the Caribbean as part of her studies toward a PhD from Luther Seminary in Minnesota. She plans to write her dissertation in the area of Old Testament Studies, discerning the message that the minor prophets, Haggai and Zechariah, have for Caribbean peoples. These prophets wrote at a time when the Jews who had returned from exile in Babylon were trying to rebuild their temple and their shattered community after its experience of defeat, trauma, and displacement in exile.

Constructing a community of love in the midst of hardship is no easy task, but it is a necessary task, and one to which Jesus has called us as Christians. That was made clear to me in our first event of the school year here at UTCWI. We started off the semester by worshiping together with a local congregation, the Hanover Street Baptist Church in downtown Kingston, where one of our alumni, Rev. Franklyn Small, serves as pastor. It is a congregation with an important history now loving people in a rough, impoverished neighborhood. The sermon was about the command that Jesus gave his disciples



*Rev. Dokman next to a map of Jamaica*

in chapter 15 of John's gospel just before his arrest. He said that they should be a community in which people loved each other, as Jesus himself demonstrated that evening by washing the feet even of Judas, who would betray him, and Peter, who would deny even knowing him. The love for which the community should be known, Rev. Small insisted, is not a feeling but is instead an action, a way of putting ourselves out for the benefit of others. We saw such love in action as each person present in worship that day was treated as a VIP: Visitors were recognized as they stood to receive a welcome; people celebrating birthdays and wedding anniversaries received congratulations, songs, and words of encouragement; children recited memory verses from the scriptures; and people returning from a time of absence along with those who had just carried out some special project on behalf of the congregation were lifted up publicly and with joy. Our president, Rev. Dr. Oral Thomas, greeted the congregation, two of our new students read the scripture lessons, and Sister Alicia Steele, second-year Methodist student from Guyana, sang a beautiful rendition of "How Great Thou Art." We were there for three and a half hours, and worship was still going on when we left.

This congregation has been shaping community out of hardship for centuries. It has a venerable history. It is the heir to the first Baptist church in Jamaica, a congregation founded by George Leile in 1784. George Leile had been living in slavery in South Carolina until he was freed to serve as pastor of a black congregation near Savannah, Georgia. This area was held by the British during the Revolutionary War, and the congregants were offered their freedom if they did not side with the rebels. But when the rebels won, the black people who had taken the British side had to flee. George Leile fled to Jamaica and started several Baptist churches, the first of which was Windward Road Baptist Church. When the congregation outgrew the building, they constructed the Hanover Street Baptist Church in 1822, a remarkable achievement, since most of the members were still in slavery at that time, awaiting emancipation, which finally took place in 1838. I hope their example is an encouragement to you who work hard at building communities of love.



*Alicia Steel singing "How Great Thou Art" at Hanover Street Baptist Church*

Take heart! Your labor is so important that it was the last thing Jesus talked about with his disciples before he died.

Christ's peace to you.

*Carolyn*

Carolyn Schneider—Lutheran Warden-Tutor

UTCWI

7 Golding Avenue

Kingston 7, Jamaica

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](http://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](http://ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving) or calling 800-638-3522.