



# January 2024

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The  
American  
LUTHERAN  
WINDOM, MN Church



## Inside this Issue:

Pastor's Message	2
Worship & Music	3-4
Christian Ed./ Youth & Family	5-6
Church Activities	7-8
Good to Know	9-10
GLOW	11
Church Council	12
For The Record	13
Shetek Canews	14

## 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.

## Wednesday, January 3rd

6:30 PM Wednesday Worship

## Saturday, January 6th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

## Sunday, January 7th

*Baptism of our Lord*

9:00 AM Worship w/ Holy Communion

## Wednesday, January 10th

5:30 PM Wednesday Worship w/Holy Communion & Noisy Offering

## Saturday, January 13th

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

## Sunday, January 14th

*2nd Sunday of Epiphany*

Second Sunday Noisy Offering

9:00 AM Worship w/ Noisy offering

## Wednesday, January 17th

6:30 PM Wednesday Worship

## Saturday, January 20th

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/ Holy Communion

## Sunday, January 21st

*3rd Sunday of Epiphany*

9:00 AM Worship

## Wednesday, January 24th

6:30 PM Wednesday Worship

## Saturday, January 27th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

## Sunday, January 28th

*4th Sunday of Epiphany*

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

10:00 AM Annual Meeting

## Wednesday, January 31st

6:30 PM Wednesday Worship



## Pastor's Message

Our Partners in the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa have a *watchword* for the year. In 2023 it was *the God who sees me*, based on Genesis chapter 16 where Hagar the Egyptian slave, who was running away from her mistress Saria was seen by God. God saw her distress. God saw her predicament and helped her.

It's not a small thing to be seen – to know that somebody notices what you're experiencing. And how much more if that somebody is God, the maker of the universe?! This verse has brought encouragement to our Partners, and to us if we take it to heart.

What kind of *watchword* might orient us in 2024? As the new year opens, there are so many opportunities before us. If you're like me, you're hoping this time around to get it right 😊 **The things that didn't go well last year we hope to leave behind.** The unrealized hopes and intentions we go after with renewed fervor.

Who can help us? What tools will keep us accountable?

There was a time when Jesus was teaching about the bread that you can eat and be hungry again, and then bread that lasts. Then he said, "I am the bread of life". He was saying that it is he Jesus, that is the bread that we need! Not everybody liked the claims he was making, especially when he said "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them." They said, "This teaching is difficult' who can accept it?" John 6.60 Many left and no longer went about with him, so Jesus asked his twelve disciples "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, ***"Lord to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."*** John 6.58

Peter understood. He didn't always, but in that moment, Peter understood in whose presence he was standing. He wasn't going anywhere that would take him away from Jesus, the one who meant to him life as God intended it, whether in heaven or on earth.

What is this *eternal life*? Eternal life means life with God that starts now and can't be taken from you even by death - or unemployment, or addiction, or debt, or health problems, or climate change or relationship troubles or any of the other problems that afflict us on a personal or global scale. We find this eternal life in Jesus. In him we have the bread that we need. We're not going anywhere either!

I just had a conversation with a community member who spoke about all the good things we have going right here in our community, especially compared to so many other places. I agreed saying "We do have it good. Now if we could just get to bottom of our human problem with sin." Without hesitation he said, "That's what we've got Jesus for." Of course, it is!! Where else would we go? Jesus is the one who speaks life to us, and promise.

Let's make it our aim to not go anywhere, except where Jesus leads us. Happy New Year, 2024!

Pastor Sarah





# Worship and Music Notes

## January, 2024

**Jane Cartwright, Coordinator**



Epiphany, an eye opening experience, is celebrated January 6, 2024. This is the day marked by the 3 Magi, Kings or Wise Men's, arrival after following the star which lead them to the baby Jesus. Jesus is revealed to the world,



**Jan. 3-7, 2024**

Genesis 1:1-5,  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11



**Jan. 10-14**

1 Sam. 3:1-10 [11-20]  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Cor. 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51



**Jan. 17-21**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Cor. 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20



**Jan. 24-28**

Deut. 18:15-20  
Psalm 111  
1 Cor. 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

### Service Notes:

#### Ushers:

Don Boltjes, Juhl Erickson, Greg Hanefeld, Rahn Larson, Rick Quade, Todd Schumann

#### Holy Communion:

Wednesday, Jan. 3 6:30pm  
Sunday, Jan. 7 and Jan. 28 9:00am

#### Noisy Offering:

- GLOW quilts! The quilts made by
- GLOW members are sent locations in
- the US and overseas.

### A visit from Missionary!

Carolyn Schneider, the missionary we support, will share at our worship services on Jan. 27/28. She has been in Jamaica and is transitioning in February to Guyana, South America.

**Annual Meeting will follow worship on January 28th. Plan on attending.**

**Check out the Worship Bulletin board**

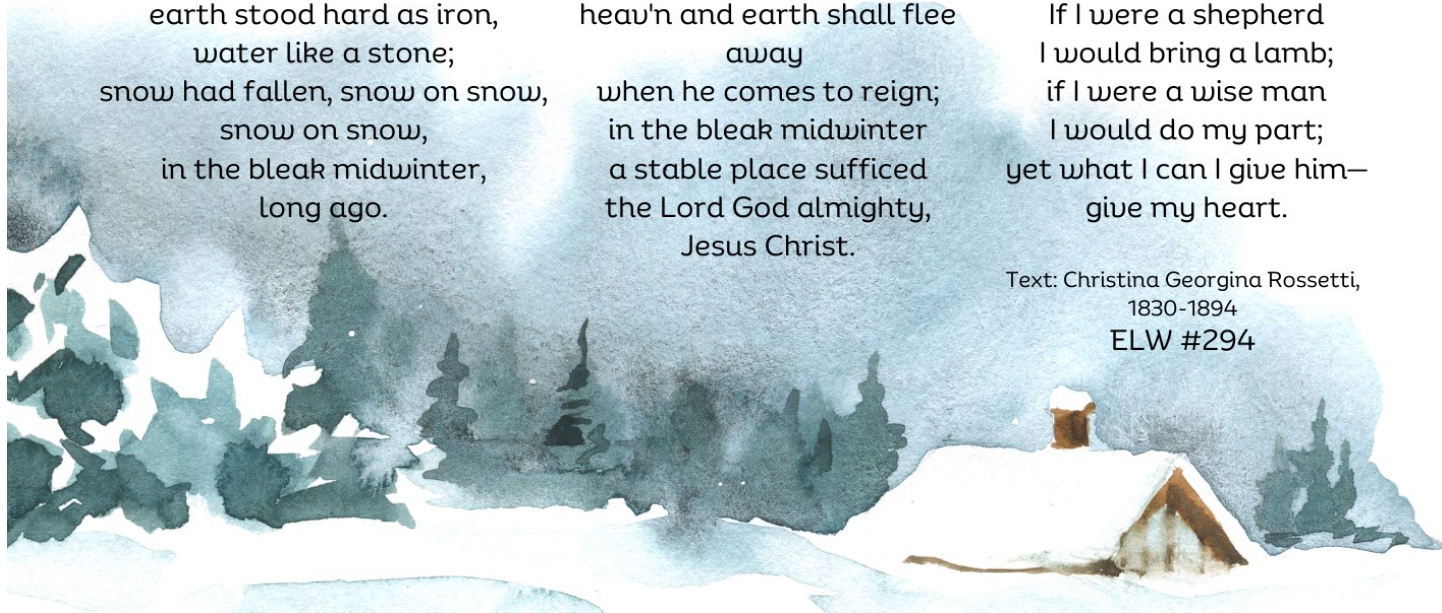
Scripture readers  
Holy Communion Assistants  
Sign up is available.

In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter,  
long ago.

Heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heav'n and earth shall flee  
away  
when he comes to reign;  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God almighty,  
Jesus Christ.

What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man  
I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him—  
give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti,  
1830-1894  
ELW #294



January



## Worship and Music



2024

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.



### Noisy Offering this Month:

#### GLOW-Quilts

Helping Hands is a fund here at the American Lutheran Church that allows us to provide help for individuals in need. Thank you for your support!



### Ushers & Greeters



**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.

### 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.



### 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:

5:30– 6:15 PM - ALC Choir Practice

5:00– 6:15PM - Wednesday Night Supper

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

## WORSHIP MEDIA

The Technology team at ALC is looking for additional help! We need a few volunteer computer operators to run the sound and video boards. The technology team will train and mentor you. It takes just a few basic computer skills to do these tasks. It is a great opportunity to support worship, once or twice a month, on Sunday morning. We offer a flexible schedule. If you are interested, talk with Lindsey or Jane Cartwright, or just come up to the balcony any Sunday morning to see how these positions are such "key players" in the worship service. The Technology team truly hopes you will prayerfully consider this opportunity!



# Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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

## Looking for Legos!

Tera is looking for donations of Legos for a special Wednesday/Sunday School Lesson Day planned for this winter! 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!**



For God So Loved The World  
that God gave us...

## LEGOS & LOGOS!

Did you know that the word  
LOGOS means WORD???

It's True!

God gave us LEGOS  
and  
God gave us LOGOS  
and  
we can use BOTH to build!

All Wed/Sun School Students are to  
meet in Fellowship Hall during their  
class times on Jan 24th/28th for this  
fun special day!

Jr High/Sr High Youth Group  
7th-12 grade

## Winter FUN DAY!

**Sunday, January 21st**

Open Skating *and/or* Learn How to  
Play Racquetball/Racquetball Games

2:30-4:30pm  
Windom Arena  
Cost: FREE!  
FRIENDS WELCOME!

Senior High  
10th-12th Grade

## TACOS & TRIVIA!

JOIN TERA IN THE YOUTH ROOM  
FOR TACOS & BIBLE TRIVIA!  
(AND YES! THERE WILL BE PRIZES!)

**Sunday, January 14th | 6-8pm**

American Lutheran Church  
Windom

Contact Tera to let her know you're coming!

## SHETEK LUTHERAN MINISTRIES CAMP DAYS AT ALC!

**JAN 31 & FEB 4!**

DID YOU KNOW THAT ALC  
PAYS \$100 TOWARDS MINI-  
CAMP AND \$200 TOWARDS  
FULL-WEEK & FAMILY CAMP?

FROM NOW UNTIL MARCH 12TH -  
ENTER YOUR CHILD'S NAME INTO A DRAWING  
FOR A FREE WEEK/MINI-WEEK AT  
SHETEK LUTHERAN MINISTRIES!

TO REGISTER - EMAIL TERA WITH YOUR CHILD'S  
NAME/GRADE AND INDICATE WHICH DRAWING (FULL  
WEEK OR MINI) YOU'D LIKE HIM/HER ENTERED.  
DRAWING WILL BE HELD VIA FB LIVE AT NOON ON  
MARCH 13TH!

## Acolyte Schedule January 2024

Wednesday, Jan. 3rd—Addison Evans, Makayla Whiting

Sunday, Jan. 7th—Lilly Derickson, Abby Friewald

Wednesday, Jan. 10th—Miranda Peterson, Bella Borer

Sunday, Jan. 14th—Sadie Tjentland, Ruby Baloun

Wednesday, Jan 17th—Jocelyn Frank, Gretta Smith

**\*\*If you are unable to acolyte on a date, please switch with someone. Please notify Tera of any changes.**

Sunday, Jan. 21st—Addison Spielman, Ruby Heggeseth

Wednesday, Jan 24th—Jemisyn Flute, Olivia Joyce

Sunday, Jan. 28th—Theora Ahnupkana, Hailee Hilbrands

Wednesday, Jan. 31st—Addison Evans, Lillian Doescher

# LUTEFISK SUPPER



**Saturday, January 06, 2024**

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Serving 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

906 Prospect Avenue

Windom, MN

(parking lot on the corner of Miller Ave. & 10th Street)

MENU INCLUDES: LUTEFISK, MEATBALLS, LEFSE AND MORE  
SECONDS TABLE WILL BE OFFERED

RESERVATIONS ENCOURAGED BY JANUARY 2ND

Limited tickets available at the door

**Adults \$15.00 --- Ages 12 and under \$5.00**

Tickets available following church services on Sunday's  
or by calling the church office at 831-1794





Lefse Making for the Lutefisk supper will take place on **Wednesday, Jan. 3rd at 8am**. If you are available, your help would be greatly appreciated. If you have lefse making equipment, please bring that as well!

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



#### 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!!

**Altar Guild will be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:00pm. Next meeting is January 9th 2pm! All are welcome.**

**Sunday, January 28th**— Annual Meeting immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be provided.

**Wednesday, January 31st and Sunday, February 4th**—Board Members will be installed during worship services.

**Wednesday, January 31st** will be Mentor Night for 8th and 9th Grade Confirmation students.



### **glow**

GLOW Women will be starting up their sewing days again! Join them in the Fellowship Hall on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month starting January 2nd; 9am-2pm-ish. This will go through April.

## Men's Group

### Cribbage and Pizza!

Thursday, January 18th at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall! **ALL MEN ARE WELCOME!**  
Gather for fellowship with the guys and pizza!



Please let Pastor Adam know if you plan on attending so he knows how much pizza to order



### Wednesday Night Supper

#### Menu for January

**January 3rd**—Scalloped potatoes w/ham, corn, bread, dessert

**January 10th**—Sloppy jo, baked beans, chips, dessert

**January 17th**—Creamy chicken, mashed potatoes, bread, carrots, dessert

**January 24th**—Tatortot hotdish, bread, corn, dessert

**January 31st**—Beef stroganoff, egg noodles, green beans, bread, dessert

# Good to Know

## A FEW NOTES FROM THE SOGGE HOME!



**MANY THANKS:** Rick Frederickson, Campus Director of Ministry at the Sogge Home, extends his gratitude and thanks for such a successful response with the Christmas tags that were collected off of the tree and the gifts that were returned. Christmas will be a little brighter for them because of your generosity!

**PETS & SOGGE-** Chaplain Rick Frederickson mentioned that residents love it when people bring their pets. If you have a social and friendly pet, please consider bringing them to the Sogge Home to take a stroll through the hallway. You will not only brighten the residents' day, but you'll come away feeling great too.



### An update on our donations to the

#### Sharing Center:

Living Nativity brought in 123 pounds of food and \$271.15 of monetary donations.

The Community Christmas Cantata brought in 154 pounds of food and \$350 of monetary donations.

Thank you so much for your generosity.



As the weather gets colder and the chance of snow becomes greater, please remember to listen to KDOM or check the church Facebook page for weather related announcements! As far as Wednesday Evening activities, if school is canceled or gets out early that day due to weather, then all Wednesday evening activities are also canceled.



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS** wish list! If any congregation members would like to help out by donating food items we would SO GREATLY appreciate it! This is an ongoing wish list but will be reposted frequently.

#### **Anytime donations include:**

Hamburger	Ham
Shredded cheddar cheese	
Chicken breasts	Tator Tots
Garlic bread sticks	Egg Noodles
Hot dogs	Cream of celery soup
Cream of chicken soup	
Cheddar cheese soup	Taco seasoning

#### **Weekly donations include:**

Milk	Bread	Cookies
(can be store bought)		

Any Meat, garlic bread, and tator tots can be put in the large freezer in the storage room. Dry goods can be put on the counter in the kitchen labeled "Wednesday night suppers". Cheese and milk can be put in the fridge in the kitchen. Thank you for your support of this wonderful program!

#### **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

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.



## Good to Know

**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!

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.



Have you recently cancelled your telephone landline or changed your cell phone number? Please let the church office know, so that we can stay in touch with you!

If you 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.

### LSS Meals | Windom



Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

**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.



**S H E T E K**  
LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

### Annual Meeting

On Sunday, December 3, 2023 Jackie and Kevin attended the Shetek Lutheran ministries annual meeting. We are delegates from ALC to attend the annual meeting. This year at Shetek they had a dedication for the new lodge, which is now called the Eagle's Nest. The annual meeting consists of reports from staff, various committees, and approval for the 2024 budget. Some highlights from the year are: This summer served 770 total campers, "Building on the Foundation" capital campaign continued to raise money/pledges for the next challenge goal \$2,000,000. The property committee & board are working on plans for the 1st new cabin and hopefully begin construction in the spring.

Jackie Turner and Kevin Heggeseeth American Lutheran Church SLM Delegates

### 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.



**THRIVENT**  
FINANCIAL®

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.



### 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

### 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).

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

## Good to Know

### Equipping Congregations Report from Pastor Sarah

#### **Equipping Congregations** “*Living in the Word Today*”

On Saturday, December 2nd the Southwestern MN Synod hosted the Equipping Congregations Day at Vinje Lutheran Church in Willmar. Noel and Pastor Sarah Tadé were in attendance.

Professor Rolf Jacobson from Luther Seminary was the keynote speaker. His message was that the Holy Spirit (the shy member of the Trinity) is loose in the world, meaning that the Spirit is doing things, inside and outside the church. Our primary Spiritual Practice should be *discerning what the Spirit is up to, and getting on board!* As we discern what the Spirit is doing and name it, we are bound to sometimes get it wrong given our sinful nature, and our own self interest, but we look for signs, remembering that the will of the Triune God is **life, redemption and salvation**. The Spirit works toward this intent. We test what we are discerning by reading the Bible. Ralph also talked about spiritual gifts. What your spiritual gifts are now does not mean that God can't give you new ones to face new circumstances.

Sarah attended two workshops:

**Fostering Accompaniment: 2023 SW MN synod - SouthEastern Diocese of the Lutheran Church in Southern Africa Visitor Exchange.** Pr. Janet Adams (Trinity Lutheran Church, Madelia) and Lindsey Scheid (Green Lake Bible Camp) reported on their trip in November visiting our partners in South Africa.

**Loving your Neighbor - Practical Things We Can Do** Jenny Groen a Willmar native and a Christian along with Fatuma Yussuf, a native of Somalia and a Moslem told the story of how they became friends and eventually came to work together in the non-profit Arrive Ministries which provides welcome and services for newly arrived immigrants to their community.

Noel attended two workshops:

**Insights to Better Understand Farming Culture and Mental Health** led by Ted Matthews, [www.farmcounseling.org](http://www.farmcounseling.org), a mental health practitioner with over 30 years in mental health. He named a challenge of farming as being that farmers work by themselves, and don't easily share the personal obstacles that they are facing. They can find themselves isolated, and it takes a long time for them to seek help, if they are facing a mental health crisis. He sees some improvement as women are becoming more involved in farming, and the pressure for the man to provide everything is less than it was before.

**QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer - the 3 simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide.** Forrest Rice, [www.woodlandscenters.com](http://www.woodlandscenters.com) shared how he lost a child. For two weeks people were great surrounding him and his family, but after that he was alone. He was inches from taking his own life, when a text message came up on his phone from a friend reaching out, which stopped him from pulling the trigger. He now offers training on how to be in relationship to help people in crisis.

Equipping Congregations is a chance to learn new things, and meet people from across the Synod. It's a time to exchange stories, experiences and ideas to bring back to your own congregation. Consider attending next year!



LSS Meals Windom has been holding a pop-up meal distribution once a month for adults in our community who are 60 years and older. Adults who attend and fill out a one-time registration for our program receive a bundle of 10 frozen meals and a packet of coca & crackers(per meal). Donations for these meals are welcome but not required. This pop-up meal event will continue in 2024. Meals will be distributed at the BARC building in the north parking lot from 10:00am-10:30am. 30 bundles will be available on a first come-first served basis. The following dates are when the distribution will be happening: Jan. 11, Feb. 8, Mar. 14. Call Kelly at 507-831-6161 with any questions.



GLOW

# GLOW in January

Gals Living our Witness

## Let us Sew!

1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
January - April

Starts @ 9:00am until 2-ish  
January 2 & 16

Come sew or pack kits for Lutheran World Relief.

**Can you thread a needle and tie a knot?  
Then you can help!**

**We serve the world and have FUN too.**

Come for an hour or bring a sack lunch.

Questions? Call  
Jackie Turner 822-1633

## Bible Study

Thursday, January 18 @ 2:00 pm  
ALC Meeting Room

Jan/Feb Gather Magazine

See Melanie in the office for a copy of the  
January Bible Study



It is hard to believe that we are already taking orders for Easter  
flowers! Easter is early this year!

## EASTER FLOWERS ORDER FORM

A variety of flowers will be used as a part of our Festival Easter Worship.

The choices of flowers available are listed below. Please fill out and  
return the order form to the church office by

**Noon, Friday, February 2nd, 2024**

THANK YOU!

← (Make checks payable to the American Lutheran Church) →

### THE WORDING OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In MEMORY of \_\_\_\_\_

In HONOR of \_\_\_\_\_

Enter a quantity (number) in front of the plant(s) you would like to order.

\_\_\_ Begonia \$17.00

\_\_\_ Hydrangea \$35.00

\_\_\_ Tulip \$14.00

\_\_\_ Cyclamen \$17.00

\_\_\_ Kalanchoe \$17.00

\_\_\_ Calla Lily \$30.00

\_\_\_ Daisy Mum \$20.00

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Donation towards whatever  
flowers may be needed.

\_\_\_ I will pick up my plant(s) after the service.

\_\_\_ I will NOT be picking up my plant(s).

Total Paid: \$\_\_\_\_\_





**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM**  
**December 12, 2023 MEETING**

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

The December 12, 2023, ALC of Windom Church Council meeting was called to order by President John Shamp at 7:59 pm.

In attendance: Pastor Sarah, Pastor Adam, John Shamp, Kevin Heggeseeth, Cory Pohlman, Wendy Ahnupkana, Sheryl Hanefeld, Sharon Thompson, Karen Skarphol, Linda Jaakola, Steve Johnson, Kay Evers, Bri Miller, Brady Mickelson

Devotions and opening prayer were provided by Pastor Sarah.

No correspondence notes to share.

The secretary's report for November was approved as printed. MM/S/C (Steve, Cory)

The treasurer's report for November was approved as printed. MM/S/C (Kay, Sharon)

The Pastor's reports were reviewed.

**Old Business:**

Annual Meeting Updates - food and childcare is yet to be determined, zoom link will be made available, agenda will developed at the next council meeting

Equipping Congregations Update by Pastor Sarah - First Saturday in December, Ralph Jacobson was the main speaker speaking under the theme "The Spirit is at Loose in the Whole World" and the role of the church is to "get on-board" with the Spirit

Contract Agreement with Bethany - the revisions were discussed and determined to remove the specific names of Sarah Tade and Adam Roberts on the 6th line of the contract revisions presented and will be changed to read "We have a Letter of Call with a Lead Pastor and a Pastor." A motion was made and passed to accept the revisions with the updates to line 6. MM/S/C (Kevin, Sharon)

**New Business:**

2024 Budget - A draft of the 2024 budget is \$624,581. A motion was made and passed to accept the preliminary budget at this time. MM/S/C (Linda/Sharon)

Nominating Committee Update by Pastor Adam - there are still openings on various boards

House Expense Designation for Lead Pastor (tax related) - A motion was made and accepted to designate \$3000 of Pastor Sarah Tade's salary for the year 2024 as Housing Allowance for housing expenses and furnishings in the parsonage that may incur. MM/S/C (Kevin/Karen)

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting Update by Kevin - shared on the new building and the recognition of American Lutheran Church as part of the naming of this lodging, the budget was approved with a deficit of \$15,000 for 2024

**Board Reports:**

1. **Worship & Music** - all the upcoming holiday activities were shared, The Citizen will have times listed for all the services
2. **Spiritual Life & Fellowship** - Lutefisk supper Saturday, January 6th
3. **Discipleship/Marketing & Stewardship** - Venmo is a work in progress, PayPal will also be considered, the \$453 in donations obtained through the pancake feed will be given to Youth & Family
4. **Properties** - the board did not have a quorum, the idea of getting parking lot estimates was suggested
5. **Budget & Finance** - discussed the 2024 draft and the overages to start the 2024 year
6. **Christian Education** - Program went well and the offering brought in \$1000. Goodie bags went out to all kids involved. 2nd semester program is underway. Singing at Sogge is TBD due to increased Covid cases at the home.
7. **Youth & Family** - recent youth activities were shared, the 5 kids going to the national youth gathering are working hard to raise money for their trip, upcoming events for the new year were also shared
8. **Church in Society** - The Sogge home Christmas tree was a success, \$1000 for Sharing Center was raised at Thanksgiving as well as 250 lbs of items
9. **GLOW** - the annual Christmas gathering went well, quilting starts in January

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

The American Lutheran Church books for 2023 will close at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. Please be sure to get all 2023 contributions in by this time.



Let's work together as a congregation to achieve the goal of meeting all of ALC's 2023 commitments. Thanks to all of you who help in reaching this goal!

RECORDS:

**Baptisms:** Bridger Gheralt Pohlmann, son of William & Jamie Pohlmann.



**Deaths:** Mark Schoenenberger

Beverly Jean Phillips

Richard Elness

Stanley Larson

MEMORIALS:

**General Fund** – In memory Beatrice Steen.



**Renovation Fund** – In memory of Clara Johnson.

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.

2023 Augustana University Association Meeting

Lindsey and Jane Cartwright, delegates elected from the SWMN Shetek Conference, attended the Augustana Association Annual Meeting on Friday, December 1, 2023. There were several highlights of the day. During the opening worship service in the Chapel of Reconciliation, Julie Radtke, a Biology and Environmental Studies major, from Northfield, MN provided the message. Afterwards, we assembled to hear about how Augustana educates students for service in a diverse world, and through many exchange programs, how students develop an understanding and connection to diverse communities. Three students shared their experiences as they utilized Augustana's "study away" opportunities. Each shared how their faith communities have grown, developed, and expanded during these adventures.

President, Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, provided highlights of Augustana's 100 years as an Educational Institution, from Homecoming events to the launching of the Augustana Hockey program. Augustana had the largest fall enrollment, 2,158 students, in four decades. 454 students were incoming First-year students. The student body is quite diverse; 214 students (11.2%) represent 57 countries. She believes having a plan designed with excellence leads to building leaders with excellence. There are many experiential learning opportunities, intercultural engagements, and new academic programs. Augustana announced this fall, the Buntrock Scholarship Program for students who are from Midwest ELCA churches. Thirty students will be selected, from applications, to receive a sizable portion of their tuition paid. It would be wise to encourage students to explore this scholarship and many others that are offered through Augustana.

The evening highlight was Christmas Vespers. . . and a Little Child Shall Lead Them. The School of Music production included seven choral and instrumental ensembles sharing wonderful Christmas selections.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane and Lindsey Cartwright  
Shetek Conference Delegates, 2023



**January 2024**



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

## Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers



*Join us for our Winter Family Camp*

*Or just come out and see the beauty of the season here.*

### Wish List

- Vest style life jackets
- Extension Cords
- Volunteers
- **Summer Staff -**

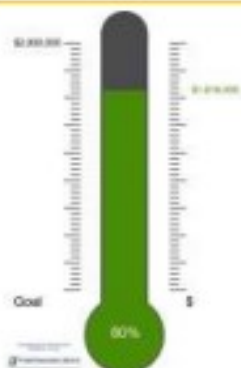
<https://shetek.org/work-at-shetek/>

### Mark your Calendar

- January 17-21 Quilt and Craft Retreat
- February 23-25 Winter Family Camp
- Register at [shetek.org](https://shetek.org) or

Call 507-763-3567 for more information

We met our Phase 1 goal!  
\$1,616,000 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/sim-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!**



**Shetek Lutheran Ministries**

**14 Keeley Island Dr.**

**Slayton, MN 56172**

**(507)-763-3567**

**camp@shetek.org**

**[www.shetek.org](http://www.shetek.org)**

**Executive Director – Marv Nysetvold**

**Program Director – Lexie Blaschko**

Greetings from your camp – Shetek Lutheran Ministries!

This summer we served 770 total campers, which includes our youth campers, cross-generational campers and our SOS campers. We are close to serving as many campers as before the pandemic. 2023 was a 24% increase in camper numbers over 2022 and about 94% of the campers we had in 2019. One of our greatest challenges continues to be finding young adults who are willing to serve for the summer. Our summer ministry team of 20 young adults served faithfully this summer and grew in their faith and in their leadership skills. We were blessed with 7 international counselors this past summer from the United Kingdom, Jamaica, Zambia, Mexico, Zimbabwe and two from South Africa. Shetek will be inviting several international counselors in 2024 also.

Our "Building on the Foundation" capital campaign continues with primarily the congregational phase. Several congregations have run successful campaigns in their congregations so far. We will be contacting all our 100 member congregations to give them the opportunity to participate. We continue to visit with prospective major donors, those who give or pledge \$5,000 or more for the campaign. We have met our phase 1 goal of \$1,500,000 and our total so far in cash and pledges is about \$1,613,000 as we work towards our challenge goal of \$2,000,000. The new lodge is done and is being used by a variety of different groups from scrapbooking groups, Scout groups, family gatherings and college students. The Property Committee and Board are working on plans for the first new cabin and we hope to begin construction in the spring.

Some improvements in 2023 – we upgraded the sound system in the chapel, replaced the reverse osmosis system in the Dining Hall, had to replace the motor on the pontoon, repaired the east wall of the chapel and painted it, painted 3 cabins along with the office, and removed several trees.

I am thankful for our year round staff who continue to work as a team to serve our guests and campers and provide great hospitality. Shetek welcomed Gaelyn Gernentz in March to our Housekeeping team, Deb Ness in June to our Summer Food Service, Joe Koenigs in June to our Maintenance team, and Alexandra Cowell began in September on our Housekeeping team.

We are so grateful for the many campers and guests that came this year. Shetek has impacted so many lives over the years. One of our Counselors in Training (CIT) had this to say about last summer.

*"I feel closest to God when I am at camp. I consider camp to be my second home during the summer. This summer, I felt called and was able to have the opportunity to spend about 6 weeks volunteering at camp and I learned a lot. I learned how to respond to stressful situations better, I was able to make, renew, and grow friendships, and I strengthened my leadership skills by helping lead activities like games, worship, reading scripture, and more. I feel that I grow in my faith on a deeper level and grow closer to God everyday there."*

Shetek continues to receive estate gifts periodically, which we are very thankful for. Over the years, these thoughtful gifts have really benefitted the ministry at Shetek. If you're interested in finding out more about how to support Shetek in this way, please let us know. We have access to a gift planner at no cost to our donors.

Thank you for your support and prayers!

Marv Nysetvold, Executive Director

Shetek's Board of Directors in 2023 – Ashley Benson, Lindsey Cartwright, Tyler Egge, Pastor Bailey Landa, Logan Gooch, Sarah Kirchner, Pastor Jeanette McCormick, Leon Mortland, Pastor Elizabeth Pagnotta, Pastor Juanita Parker, Pastor Michael Stangeland.

Shetek's staff in Dec. 2023 – Lexie Blaschko, Sandy Carlson, Tom Carlson, Katie Chapman, Alexandra Cowell, Nora Dahlhoff, Michelle Flanagan, Gaelyn Gernentz, Sharon Haugen, Mike Kastner, Joe Koenigs, Jean Larson, Deb Ness, Marv Nysetvold, Jessica Van Dam, Jane Wahl.