



April 2024

906 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 188
Windom, MN 56101
Phone: 507-831-1794
Fax: 507-831-1795

The American LUTHERAN Church WINDOM, MN



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Our Staff:

Sarah Larsen Tadé, Lead Pastor: pastorsarah13@gmail.com
Adam Roberts, Pastor: pastoradamcroberts@gmail.com
Tera Elness, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries:
teraalc@gmail.com
Jane Cartwright, Worship & Music Coordinator: cartj58@gmail.com
Wendy Pigman, Financial Secretary: wendyalc@windomnet.com
Melanie Shamp, Administrative Assistant: winalc@windomnet.com
Steve Anderson, Custodian
Email: winalc@windomnet.com * Website: www.alcofwindom.com

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!

Wednesday, April 3rd

6:30pm Worship w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, April 17th

6:30pm Worship

Saturday, April 6th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Saturday, April 20th

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/ Holy Communion

Sunday, April 7th

Second Sunday after Easter

9:00 AM Worship w/ Holy Communion

Sunday, April 21st

Fourth Sunday after Easter

9:00 AM Worship

Wednesday, April 10th

6:30 PM Worship w/Noisy offering

Wednesday, April 24th

6:30 PM Worship

Saturday, April 13th

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

Saturday, April 27th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, April 14th

Third Sunday after Easter

Second Sunday Noisy Offering

9:00 AM Worship w/ Noisy offering

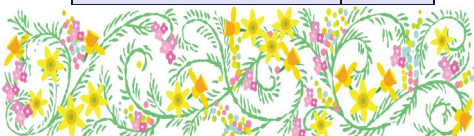
Sunday, April 28th

Fifth Sunday after Easter

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, April 17th

6:30 PM 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

But when Cephas (Peter) came to Antioch, I (Paul) opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned..." -Galatians 2:11

At both Q&A With Pastor A sessions the topic of abortion came up. I'm not going to talk about it here, if you want to know the ELCA's stance go to google, type in "ELCA social statement abortion," it will pop right up. There's the whole statement and also a summary which is pretty good.

What really caught me was this excellent follow-up question: if we're not to judge, and if judgment is between God and a person alone, why should the Church/anyone say anything?

Jesus died to bring new and better life for everyone. The Church is the body of Jesus which is all of us Christians. There is no such thing as a lone Christian; we are all connected. Jesus (the Church) wants all to have the best and most joyful life possible. Jesus spends his life teaching how to do this and the Bible, as a whole, furthers God's teachings so that we Christians not only have the wisdom to obtain the best life for ourselves, but also for everyone around us. We Christians also want others to be as joyful as Jesus makes us.

All of us are corrupted by sin which fights against God's ways and makes us miserable. Sin and the devil are so cunning that we don't even realize how much they're hurting us. So it's the Church's job to show what sin is, is doing, and how it is hurting us and others. It's much like a group of people holding an intervention for an addict. The addict lies to themselves that they have their addiction under control. An intervention is a group of loving people who try and show how that addiction is destructive to the addict and everyone around them while lovingly trying to show this person a new way to live. Interventions are a delicate process. So too should it be when the Church calls out sin.

In Galatians two Paul says he had to call out Peter. Peter used to eat with non-Jewish Christians but he quit eating with them once Jewish Christians showed up. This disrupted the community because they didn't know if what Peter was teaching about being able to eat unclean food was now true or not. The non-Jewish Christians were also wondering if they weren't as good as the Jewish ones, or if Peter was embarrassed by them. Peter, unknowingly, was causing hurt to others (and himself), and Paul called him out on it to heal the Church (the body of Christ).

Female pastors tell stories of members making unwanted sexual comments towards them. When called out such members often say things like, "Oh, I was just joking, it's not that big of a deal," and they keep doing it. What they may not realize is they're not only hurting their pastor, but also other church members who feel the pastor's pain. It's the Church's job to lovingly, with forgiveness, kindness, and tact, to let him know it's not ok and needs to stop for the good of the person making the comments, and everyone else. God willing, he changes. If not, the Bible is also clear that blatantly unrepentant and disruptive people should be asked to leave the Church.

The process of naming sins is difficult and delicate because we're all sinners and nobody wants to be called out for what we do. The trick is for the Church to simply teach what is sinful so that people just know. That way they can be repentant and seek forgiveness without having to be called out like Peter. It's when they're unrepentant, or don't know what they're doing, when the Church, in a very delicate, tactful, forgiving, and merciful way, steps in for their own good, and for the good of the entire body. Not to be judgmental and condemning, but in the hope that they repent, change, and that the Church can get back to being a harmonious, life-giving place.

Pastor Adam



Worship and Music Notes

April, 2024

Jane Cartwright, Coordinator



Apr. 3/7, 2024

Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1-2.2
John 20:19-31

Apr. 10/14, 2024

Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

**Wednesday -
Sunday
Scriptures**

Apr. 17/21, 2024

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10: 11-18

Apr. 24/28, 2024

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22: 25-31
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8



Easter Season Journey

For seven weeks we will celebrate Easter! Over these weeks, the risen Christ makes appearances to many disciples and believers. His disciples begin to understand the meaning of his suffering, death and resurrection through images. Images of a shared meal, and of a shepherd / sheep, will once again remind us of his love, and how we, too, can go out into the world and care for others. In another familiar image, Christ is the vine, and we are the branches. Through His nourishment, all begin to bear fruit. Collectively, these images guide disciples and believers to become one in Christ.



This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me
rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and
seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily
white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him
pass;
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

3 This is my Father's world;
oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems
oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;
God reigns, let earth be glad!
ELW #824

Worship Notes:

Ushers: John Berge, Keith Bloomgren, Travis Freiwald, John Holt, Jay Mickelson, Steve Nasby, Kermit Twait

Holy Communion:
Wednesday Worship, Apr. 3, 6:30 pm
Saturday, Apr. 13 and Apr. 20, 5:30pm
Sunday, Apr. 7 and Apr. 28 9:00am

Noisy Offering: Apr. 10th, 13th and 14th
Noisy Offering collection this month goes toward The Banquet. ALC travels to Sioux Falls in July, for an evening of serving a meal to those in need.

We welcome, Isaac Armstrong, to worship on April 10th as part of his Senior Eagle Achievement project.

**Check out the
Worship Bulletin board!**
Scripture readers,
Holy Communion Assistants
Sign up is available.



April

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

2024

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

Winter is almost gone and spring is almost here! We have something that just might make you CHEER!

All of our cars will need a good wash after winter and our youth have just the thing for you! KWIK TRIP CAR WASH CARDS! The 5 youth going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July are selling them and by purchasing one, you are helping them financially with their trip! Cards will be \$35 each and will have 5 Ultimate car washes on them. At regular cost, an Ultimate car wash is worth \$10 each! You will be saving \$15! Each youth is only selling **8 cards each!** You can catch them on Wednesdays and Sundays before and after service! Braxton Pohlman, Divia Henderson, Eric Heggeseeth, Marissa Newman, or Xavier Roberts would love to sell to YOU!

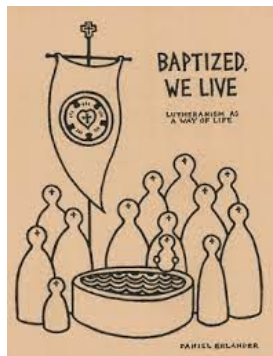


Baptized We Live - Affirm your Faith! Do you know of couples that have renewed their marriage vows? That brings some good energy to the couple and family, and a reason to celebrate! We can reaffirm the faith of our baptism in the same way. Affirmation of Baptism is a fancy way of saying “getting confirmed” and you can do it more than once over your lifetime. In fact, it's basically what New Members do when they join a congregation.

Pastors Sarah and Adam will be leading two sessions on April 14th and 21st from 5-6:30. We'll use a great little book with lots of illustrations, Baptized we Live, Lutheranism as a Way of Life by Daniel Erlander. There will be food and childcare provided, just RSVP to either pastor by Wednesday April 10.

Here's a few reasons why you might want to participate:

- Get to know other people in your faith community better.
- Support one another, wherever you are in your journey of faith.
- Grow in your understanding of what Lutherans are all about.
- Affirm the faith of your baptism!



This class is open to any and all! It's going to be good. We hope to see you there!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Stayin' Alive ...SURVIVING THE WAIT

TUESDAY, APRIL 2ND
5:30-7:30PM
AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WINDOM
PLEASE BRING AN APPETIZER TO SHARE!

one night session written & led by Tera Elness

6th-8th grade girls
Girls Night!

SATURDAY
APRIL 27TH, 2024
5:30-9:30PM- SUPPER SERVED!
AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
FRIENDS WELCOME!

contact tera to sign up!

April

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

2024

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

Hello April!

WS/SS Calendar April 2024!

April 3rd/7th For God SO Loved The World That God Gave Us...FUN & GAMES!
<4th gr. craft Wed/3rd & 4th gr. craft Sun>

April 10th/14th Lesson: "A Storm"
<Matthew 8:23-27> <6th Grade Craft>

April 17th/21st For God SO Loved The World That God Gave Us...
PRAYER PARTNERS!

April 24th/28th For God SO Loved The World That God Gave Us...
THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT!

For God So Loved The World That God Gave Us... FUN & GAMES!

IN YOUR REGULAR CLASSROOMS DURING WED. SCHOOL/SUNDAY SCHOOL

APRIL 3RD/7TH!



Parents, Please let Tera know if you would like to loan us a game from home for the kids to play during their classtime!

For God So Loved The World That God Gave Us...

THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT!

Wednesday School
April 24th
Sunday School
April 28th

Students should plan to meet their Teachers in Fellowship Hall for this special lesson day!



WED/SUN SCHOOL PRAYER

2024

PARTNER PARTY!

Wednesday School
April 17th
Sunday School
April 21st
during regular classtimes!



April

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

2024

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



AGAPE*

MUSIC
WORSHIP
DANCING
STORYTELLING

IN CONCERT

RACHEL KURTZ



AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

906 PROSPECT AVE. WINDOM, MN

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15, 2024

WORSHIP 6:30 - 7:15 PM

OPEN TO PUBLIC

YOUTH ONLY EVENT

7:30 - 8:30 PM

Pizza Supper
 Serving 5 -6:15 pm
 ALC Fellowship Hall
 Sponsored by
 Christian Ed
 All are invited!

Good to Know



Shetek Conference Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Jasper Evangelical Lutheran Church
101 So. Spicer Ave., Jasper, MN 56144
(church is handicap accessible)

9:30 am – Coffee/Registration

10:00 am – Opening Session
Followed by a noon luncheon

\$12 - Registration/Food

Gathering Offering: 50% to SW MN Women of the ELCA
 25% to Southwest Crisis Center
 25% to Hope Harbor, Marshall

Program: “Human Trafficking” – Stephanie Darnell

ALL Units are encouraged to send their Unit Offerings

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.



SCRAPBOOK/CRAFTING RETREAT! Bring your favorite crafting past time, and hangout with others that love to craft and enjoy some good snacks/food. **Friday, April 5th 9am - Midnight & Saturday, April 6th 9am - 7pm.** Registration fee is \$40 for 1 day or \$60 for both days. That fee includes coffee, water, a nice meal on Friday evening with a late night homemade brownie snack, complete with ice cream and homemade chocolate sauce, and also a wonderful brunch on Saturday morning. You also get a large work area and access to an electrical outlet. Come a day early on Thursday, April 4th from 1pm-10pm for only \$10 more! All Proceeds will go to the ALC Youth! Contact Mary Mohlencamp for more information marymohl@rconnect.com or 507-822-1179. **If you missed the registration deadline (March 29th) give us a call, we can probably fit you in!**

LSS Meals | Windom



ALC Day at LSS Meals!

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 LSS Meals 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.

Acolyte Schedule April 2024

Wednesday, Apr. 3rd —Caelen Ralston, Wyatt Knutson

Sunday, Apr. 7th—Eli Muske, Kieran Anderson

Wednesday, Apr. 10th —Jack Elness, Mason Chester

Sunday, Apr. 14th—Shaun Schunk, Soren Nielsen

Wednesday, Apr. 17th—Carson Wiens, Bryson Marsh

Sunday, Apr. 21st— TBD

Wednesday, Apr. 24th—Henry Visker, Jonah Lohse

Sunday, Apr. 28th—Max Brodin, Corbin Anderson

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

Wednesday Supper Schedule

Menu for April

April 3rd—Mac & Cheese, hot dogs, fruit

April 10th—Spaghetti Hotdish, green beans, breadstick

April 17th—Scalloped potatoes w/ham, corn, bread

April 24th—Sloppy jo, baked beans, chips

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



In February a group met for dinner and conversation at Jack Slade's with Pastor Adam where they could ask any church question they wanted. Topics ranged from abortion, the feeling that ELCA leadership isn't listening to regular people, the ELCA's stance on gun control, to the ELCA's stance on Gaza and Israel. The group wanted to meet again so Adam will be at Jack Slade's in the Fireplace Room on **April 25th from 6 to 7:30 pm**. Grab a drink and a bite to eat, bring questions or just come to listen and chime in. Come on time or come later. Come for the whole time or for ten minutes. Either way, you are welcome and so are your questions.

Men's Group

Cribbage and Pizza!

Thursday, April 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



Spring Yard Clean Up!

Would you or someone you know like assistance with yard work?

Church In Society Board would love to help!

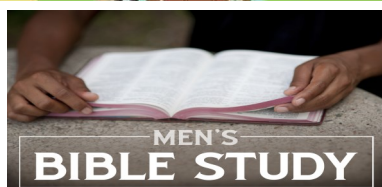
End of April & Month of May

Please Contact the Church 831-1794

God's work. Our hands.

God's Work Our Hands Sunday

Church in Society is joining with Discipleship, Marketing, and Stewardship to help clean up our community. DSM has adopted a mile of Highway 71 right past Smith Auto and we'll get that stretch of land into shape on April 21st at 10:15 (right after worship). Everything will be provided, although if you bring work gloves that would be helpful. All we really need though are some extra hands of anyone fourteen years old and older. Please let Pastor Adam or the office know if you'll be there as space is limited.



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!!

GLOW

GLOW in April

Gals Living our Witness...



Glow Meeting
May 5 @ 10 a.m.

ALC Conference Room

Please Attend!
All women welcome!

Sewing and Kits!!!

Tuesdays, April 2 & 16

9am to 2-ish

Tie knots, assemble kits
PLUS Coffee and Laughter!!!
Bring a sack lunch if you
stay until 2:00!

Bible Study
April 18 @ 2 p.m.

ALC Meeting Room
March/April Gather
Magazine pg. 32
Get a copy in
the Church Office

**May Day Party at
Sogge on May 1**

Plans are being made.
Watch the Bulletin and Facebook
for more information.

Shetek Conference
Spring Gathering

April 20 - 9am - Noon
Jasper Evangelical
Lutheran Church

Registration \$12 (Paid by GLOW)
Program by Stephanie Darnell
"Human Trafficking"
See Bulletin across from
Church Office for details.

SWMN Women of the
ELCA Synod
Convention

May 4

Gloria Dei, Redwood Falls

Registration \$40
(GLOW will pay HALF)

For more information on the
Gathering and Convention, Contact
Karen Skarphol: 507-822-0785
Jackie Turner: 507-822-1633

A Women's Ministry of the American Lutheran Church 2024

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM
March 12th, 2024 MEETING

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

The March 12, 2024 ALC of Windom Church Council meeting was called to order by Vice-President Sheryl Hanefeld at 8:03 p.m.

Attendance: Brandon Roskamp, Cory Pohlman, Keith Pohlman, Cheyenne Beck, Pastor Adam Roberts, Pastor Sarah Tade, Karen Skarphol, Kevin Heggeseth, Robin Rahn, Nick Trotter, Kathy Hiley and Sheryl Hanefeld

Pastor Tade provided the council with devotions.

Correspondences:

1. Thank you from the First Presbyterian Church for hosting the Bruce Gross funeral.
 2. Thank you from the Cottonwood County DAC for collecting shoe boxes.
- Thank you for the recent gift of \$125.00 to Luther Seminary.

The Secretary's Report was approved as read.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read. Corey P./Karen S. (MM/S/C)

Old Business:

1. Reminder of Mid-Year Meeting on July 21, 2024.

Signed Ethics Policy and Updated the Council's roster and contact information.

New Business:

1. Rachael Mathers was approved as a new member. Kevin H./KarenS.(MM/S/C)
2. Read Chapter 12 of the Constitution.

Board Reports:

1. **Worship and Music Board** No 11 am service on Easter. ALC will have a 7am and 9 am service. Jane Cartwright will be attending the Church Musicians Retreat at Shalom Hill Farm, April 11-13. Cost will be \$175.00.

Third Sunday in June, the hope is that ALC will have a service at Cottonwood Lake.

2. **Spiritual Life and Fellowship** - Absent
3. **Discipleship/Marketing and Stewardship** They are going to let Venmo expire.
4. **Properties Board** Insurance quote is potentially at \$11,000.00. Getting quotes for the parking lot.

Motion brought forward: ChordHustlers have requested to use ALC for storage and practice. It was decided they will be using Room 104, but have not settled a contract on usage yet.

5. **Budget and Finance** Informed that they passed a motion to help the budget. **Motion: Budget and Finance to request the Trust Fund to give \$10,000.00 to help fund the CYFM Director position.** (Nick Trotter and Kevin Heggeseth will approach the Trust Fund and get on their agenda for May.)
6. **Christian Education** Bible Study planned for April Palm Sunday - Egg Hunt
7. **Youth and Family** Puzzle Race/Potato and Sundae Bar fundraiser for National Youth Gathering Faithfest at Augustana - Tera took 17 youths. Embroidered Towels for Seniors. GAC leadership event - Tera took 9 youths. Upcoming Kwik Trip Card Carwash fundraiser. Fat Tuesday was successful. Scrapbook Retreat
8. **Church in Society** Lenten Challenge \$1500.00; half to Sharing Center and half to Ukraine. The Banquet tentatively set for July. August 21st Block Party. Yard cleanup will take place at the end of April into early May.
9. **GLOW** Bath Towels for personal care kits and baby kits.

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 3/25/24:

Income: \$ 132,968.70

Expenses: \$ 132,967.61

Borrowed: \$3,000



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

CHURCH RECORDS:

Deaths: *Donald "Don" Fossing*

Cheryl Nelson

Kevin Johnson

Susan "Sue" Visker

Joyce Wilkin

Rita Sell

Baptisms: *Archer Olson Pohlman, son of Ike & Megan Pohlman.*

*Joseph Benjamin Mathers & Rebecca Juanita Barefoot,
children of Robert Barefoot and Rachael Mathers.*



MEMORIALS:

General Fund – *In memory of Bruce Gross.*

Renovation Fund – *In memory of Susan Visker, Adaline Rossow & Donald Fossing.*

Video/Media Fund – *In memory of Adaline Rossow, Donald Fossing, Kevin Johnson & Susan Visker.*

Bus/Van Fund – *In memory of Susan Visker.*

Youth Fund – *In memory of Susan Visker.*

Youth Bibles – *In memory of Kevin Johnson.*



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



Did you know that you can see services on the **ALC WEB-SITE**? Don't miss out. Go to <http://www.alcofwindom.com/> and click on the Media tab to watch a service that you might have missed.

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.



April 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



- Apply to work at camp.
<https://shetek.org/work-at-shetek/>

Happy Spring!

Wish List

- Glue and Glue Sticks
- Extension Cords
- Mini Vans
- Volunteers

Mark your Calendar

- April 19-20 Confirmation Retreat
- April 22-25 Quilt & Craft Retreat
- May 4 Spring Cleanup
- May 11 Spring Cleanup
- Register at shetek.org or

Call 507-763-3567 for more information

We met our Phase 1 goal! \$1,627,000 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!

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.

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



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear friends and co-workers in Christ,

March 3, 2024

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I write to you from an apartment in New Amsterdam, Guyana, where the windows are buzzing and the floors throbbing from the street party going on outside to celebrate Mashramani, a national holiday in Guyana in honor of the country's status as a republic since 1970. The word is in the Arawak language and refers to the traditional communal festival held by the indigenous Taino people after completing a difficult task together.

The task that I have been sent here to do in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (ELCG) is to revitalize its Lay Academy and other leadership training programs to meet the church's need for more trained leaders. Currently, there are more than 40 congregations divided into 13 parishes, but there are only six pastors and six deacons serving them. Most of the congregations are very small, such as St. Timothy, where I worshiped earlier today.



St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Stanleytown, Berbice



If you look very closely, you will see a white swan against a blue background above the door of the church building. This is the identifying mark of every Lutheran congregation here. It was the image used by Martin Luther's followers to identify him as the successor of the Czech reformer Jan Hus, whose symbol was a white goose. The swan appears also on the ELCG's logo, along with the date of the church's establishment in 1743.

Although most Guyanese today live along Atlantic coast of the country, which is where the current capital city, Georgetown, is located, the Lutheran Church was founded in an interior rural area and is today headquartered in New Amsterdam, about a three-hour drive from Georgetown. My vibrating apartment is in the "Lutheran Courts", next to the mother church, Ebenezer. In the photo below, it is the house on the right with the green roof. The church offices, where I work, are in the building on the left with the green roof.



Ebenezer Lutheran Church in the middle, with my house (green roof) on the right and the church offices (green roof) on the left.

I have been here almost one month now, and have been very warmly received by the ELCG. People have gone out of their way to make me as comfortable as possible in my new surroundings and to help me get the necessary official paperwork done, have various services installed at the house, and get to know the town and where to go for what. Let me introduce you to three such hospitable souls: Elocia Smith, the Secretary of the ELCG (on the right); Liz Paduman, the Administrative Assistant for the church (in the middle); and Jenny George, who manages resources for the church's work in Christian education at all levels (on the left). I am grateful to be here and grateful to have your companionship with me!



Carolyn

Lutheran Identity
Professor and Pastoral
Ministry Advisor in
Guyana

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 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:
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