

December 2024

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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.

December

Sunday, December 1st First Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 4th

6:30 PM Worship w/ Holy Communion & Noisy Offering

Saturday, December 7th

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

Sunday, December 8th Second Sunday of Advent Second Sunday Noisy Offering

9:00 AM Worship w/Noisy Offering

Wednesday, December 11th NO WORSHIP-LIVING NATIVITY

Saturday, December 14th 5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy

Sunday, December 15th Third Sunday of Advent 9:00 AM Worship

Communion

Wednesday, December 18th

7:00 PM Sounds of Christmas– Festive Community Christmas Event

Saturday, December 21st

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, December 22nd Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 24th Christmas Eve

3:00 PM Candlelight service 5:00 PM Candlelight Service 10:00 PM Candlelight Service w/ Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 25th



<u>Saturday, December 28th</u> 5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, December 29th First Sunday of Christmas 9am Worship

Pastor's Message

And as [Jesus] sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

-Mark 2:15-16

The election is over and a lot of people are excited and hopeful with Trump being elected president. There are a lot of people who are despairing and terrified. In all the elections I've been voting in, this one has had the largest emotions tied to it.

Regardless of how we feel, he is going to be our president. Knowing that, the question for us is: what are we going to do now?

The first presidential election I voted in was between Bush and Gore in 2000. I'm sure it was going on before then but I recall an attitude from the Democrats that they almost wanted him to fail and were happy when he made mistakes. I noticed the same attitude from Republicans when Obama was president. It feels to me as if that attitude has only gotten worse. This feeling of, "my team lost, now I want the winning team to fail so I can say I told you so."

These feelings were around in Jesus' time too. Some Jews got jobs collecting taxes for Rome and probably started off thinking, "Someone has to do it, it might as well be me." They were branded traitors by the pharisees (the higher ups in the church). I'm sure the pharisees loved pointing at the tax collectors as the ones who were destroying their country.

Everyone during that time also knew that many of the pharisees were hypocrites and just as destructive to the country. I'm sure the tax collectors loved to make that known too creating a nice system of animosity where each side wants the other to fail and nothing good gets done.

Jesus basically says to heck with such systems. Instead of animosity he goes and has a meals with both. He goes in without judgement. He goes in without saying why they're evil. He simply goes in to be with them and listen to them with an open mind. Scripture doesn't give us the entire conversations but I can see Jesus asking, "What do you like about what you do? Some think this is what you're doing, what do you think about that?"

Jesus doesn't get the whole country to change, but he gets some tax collectors to stop stealing (Luke 19:8) and he gets some pharisees to start speaking up for Christians (Acts 5:33-39) when it was dangerous for them to do so.

We all are sinners and are bent on using the works of the flesh (Gal 5:19-21) to accomplish our goals, anger, quarrels, dissension, strife, and quarrels to name a few. This is not what we're called to use. As reborn Christians we use the fruits of the spirit, which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

For those who are excited for Trump's presidency, use those fruits when talking with those who are against Trump. Ask them how they're feeling, why, and where they're coming from. Try and find some common ground and ways to work together and let them know you care for them.

For those who are devastated by Trump's presidency, use those fruits when talking with those who are excited for it. Ask why they feel that way and what their hopes are. Share your concerns, try to find some common ground, and let them know that you care for them.

Jesus and the Holy Spirit's ways change hearts and minds. God has given us the perfect example and all the spiritual tools (fruits) we need to make good change in the world. Let us daily drown the works of the flesh in our baptism and go out into the world, every day, armed with the fruits of the Spirit to care for others and make good change.

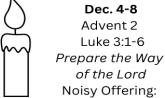
Worship and Music





Nov. 30-Dec 1

Advent 1 Luke 21: 25-36 *Be Alert!*





Helping Hands

Luke 3:7-18 Powerful One is Coming!

Dec. 18-22 Advent 4

Luke 1:39-55 Magnificat

Dec. 28-29

Christmas 1 Luke 2:41-52 *Wisdom*

of boy Jesus

Worship and Music Notes

Jane Cartwright, Coordinator December, 2024

We light the candles on the Advent wreath to mark the weeks of waiting.

Each week we hear the prophets foretelling a babe is be born.

A "Great One" who will lead the way.

One, who will be the "Light of the World"

Christmas blessings!



Windom's Community Choir

The Sounds of Christmas

Dec. 18, 2024
7:00 PM
Bring a
monetary gift
or
non-perishable
item for the
Food Shelf.



... Living Nativity

... Christmas Eve services

... worship services

Check out the signup sheet on my bulletin board.
Fill someone's heart with song!



CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024 3:00 PM 5:00 PM 10:00 PM - Holy Communion

The Christmas Story Luke 2: 1-20

Receive the gift of Jesus



Needed:

Usher Crew:

Jay Mickelson

Readers Holy Communion Assistants

Find our worship services on our Facebook page, ALC website, KDOM 103.1FM, Cable CH 22 Thursday, 6:30 PM

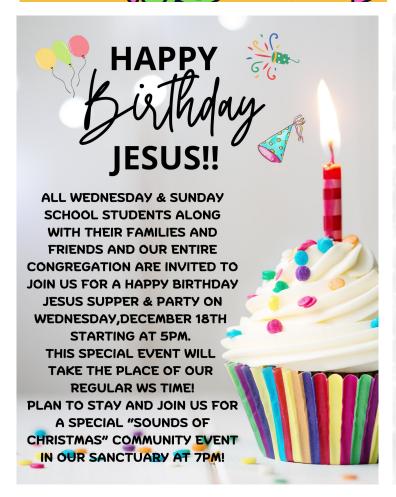
Noisy Offering, in Dec., is collected to support the efforts of "Helping Hands" fund. This fund supports people who experience tough situations. Contact one of the pastors for more information.

Christian Ed

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









Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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



December Acolyte Schedule

Sunday, December 1st—Graham Miller

Wednesday, December 4th — Wyatt Soderholm

Sunday, December 8th—Corbin Anderson

Wednesday, December 11th-Living Nativity

Sunday, December 15th—Carter Knutson, Wyatt Knutson

Wednesday, December 18th - NO WORSHIP

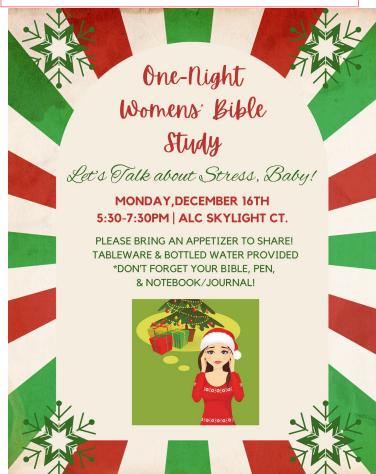
Sunday, December 22nd-Mason Chester

Tuesday, December 24th—3pm—TBD, 5pm—TBD, 10pm—TBD

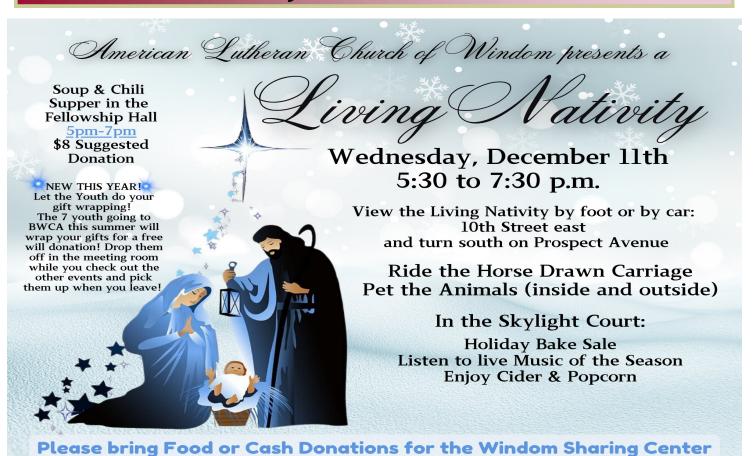
Sunday, December 29-TBD

Quilting for Graduating Seniors-If you have missed the few meetings for quilting for graduating seniors but would still like to be involved, please join us! As a reminder, you do not have to have quilting experience. There are people willing to teach you OR if you would just like to help and not learn how to sew and quilt, there is cutting and ironing and many other things that you can help with! Please don't be shy to join! It will be a great time of community and fellowship! Our next meeting is Sunday, December 1st from 3pm-6pm. Come when you can, stay as long as your would like!





Youth Fundraisers







Church Activities



Let's Learn Together!

Adult Learning

MAKE A STATEMENT!

Join your pastors and others from your congregation to study and discuss the ELCA Social Statements one by one!

UPCOMING DATES AND TOPICS

11/24 Abortion-Pastor Adam

12/22 Creation Care-Pastor Adam

If you like you may read the statement ahead of time at:

https://www.elca.org/Faith/ Faith-and-Society/Social-Statements



<u>Dates:</u> 11/24 & 12/22 <u>Time</u>: 10:15am <u>Place</u>: Meeting Room





Good to Know



Wednesday Night Suppers

DECEMBER 4TH- Goulash, corn, bread, dessert

DECMEBER 11TH—LIVING NATIVITY-Soup supper

DECEMBER 18TH—BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS! Hot dogs, chips, baked beans, punch, & cupcakes!

DECMEBER 25TH—MERRY CHRISTMAS



Did you know that you can see services on the ALC WEBSITE? 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.

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.



DO YOU HAVE A THRIVENT POLICY?

ALC Day at LSS Meals!

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.

LSS Meals | Windom



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.

Sharing Christmas Joy with Sogge Residents

Sogge Home is asking Windom to remember the residents at Sogge. Staff at Sogge have asked residents for a Christmas list and asked local congregations to buy each resident something from their list (items might be slippers, word finds, hand mirrors, etc.). Church in Society will be setting up a Christmas tree with these anonymous lists hung on it around Thanksgiving time. If you'd like you could grab a list, buy an item, wrap it, and drop it off at the church and we'll make sure it gets to that resident. Let's spread some Christmas Joy!

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

Altar Guild will be meeting on Tuesday, December 10th at 2pm.





Enjoy an evening of fellowship, laughter, and delicious food. All you can eat buffet of Lutefisk, Meatballs, Lefse, and more!



\$22.50 all you can eat!
We need advanced paid registrations.

Reserve your plate by December 2nd!

Head over to www.shetek.org, email camp@shetek.org, or call (507)763-3567 for more information!

Photo Directory update-

The printed photo directory will be available after the first of the year! The online version will be launched then as well. We will have an instructions at that time on how to access the online version!

GLOW



GLOW Christmas Dinner Party

Dec. 5 @ 6:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

\$15 Tickets need to be purchased by Dec. 1st

Bible Study

Thursday Dec. 19 @ 2 pm - ALC Meeting Room Nov/Dec Gather Magazine: Pg. 32 Advent Devotional Copy of the Devotional available in the Church Office.

JAN

Lutheran World Relief Quilt & Kit Assembly

1st & 3rd Tuesdays - January 7 & 21 9:00 am - 2-ish pm

Come in out of the cold and find warm fellowship amongst our Quilters and Kit Makers!
No experience necessary!

Come for an hour OR bring a sack lunch and come for the day.

Ouestions? Contact Jackie Turner 822-1633



A Women's Ministry of The American Lutheran Church 2024

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM November 2024 MEETING

In attendance: Pastor Sarah, Pastor Adam, John Shamp, Sheryl Hanefeld, Wendy Ahnupkana, Kevin Heggeseth, Nick Trotter, Melissa Dardis, Brandon Roskamp, Kay Evers, Keith Pohlman, Nick Trotter, Cory Pohlman, Gayle Derickson, Paula Larson

Devotions and opening prayer were provided by Pastor Adam .

Two correspondence notes were shared.

The secretary's report for October was approved with a change. A motion was made to change #4 of Old Business to say "51% of the giving units". MM/S/C (Cory/Kevin)

The treasurer's report for October was approved as printed. MM/S/C (Cory/Keith)

The Pastors' reports were not reviewed.

Old Business

1. Building a Culture of Generosity - Please plan to turn in your intent cards; Wed. Nov. 14, Sat. Nov. 16th, or Sun. Nov. 17th

New Business

- 1. Living Nativity December 11th, 2024 (Board Assignments)
- 2. Approval of Craig Zimmerman, John Shamp, and Jamie Frank for nominating committee A motion was made to approve Craig Zimmerman, John Shamp, and Jamie Frank for the nominating committee. MM/S/C (Kevin/Kay)
- 3. List of board seats that need to be filled from nominating committee each committee spoke of the numbers of seats needed to be filled
- 4. Annual meeting date will be 1/26/2025 with a back-up/weather alternative date of 2/2/2025, Mid-year meeting date will be 7/20/2025 both will take place after worship.
- 5. The agenda will be set up by the executive committee in the near future.

Board Reports:

- 1. <u>Worship & Music</u> reported on the success Harvest & Home and Confirmation as well as the upcoming Christ the King Service as well as the Wednesday night service on 11/27/24 with Thanksgiving pie social to follow (no Wednesday School that week)
- 2. <u>Spiritual Life & Fellowship</u> reported on the Thanksgiving pie social, serving hot apple cider at Living Nativity, and the Lutefisk Supper on Saturday, 1/11/25, the new church directories are looking good
- 3. <u>Discipleship/Marketing & Stewardship</u> reported on the intent cards which went out in the mail last week, Carolyn Schneider zoom'ed with the Wednesday/Sunday School kids this past week
- 4. <u>Properties</u> reported that Nielson will be used again for snow removal, the bus will potentially be sold and then the hope is to purchase a used 15-passenger van, Kato roofing will be coming to checkout the roof
- 5. <u>Budget & Finance</u> reported that there will be a Sharing Center collection before the 11/27/24 Wednesday night service, salary recommendations of 3% increase for all except 1.5% increase with 1 week extra vacation for the DCYFM. A motion was made that the Lead Pastor be given the empowerment to hire additional custodial help for \$15/hour with a maximum of 10 hours per week. MM/S/C (Nick/Kevin)
- 6. <u>Christian Education</u> also reported about the positive interactions of the children with Carolyn Schneider as well as the offering footprints for every \$5 that the students bring in, Greg Scheitel's talk for the confirmation classes was successful, and working on 2nd semester education planning
- 7. <u>Youth & Family</u> reported that the St. Louis trip was a success, the meal drive-thru went well/sold out within an hour making \$3500, 65-70 people attended Boo Bingo, quilts for seniors is moving along, as well as many other upcoming activities
- 8. <u>Church in Society</u> reported that there were 116 trick or treaters at the church on Halloween, helping with collections for the Sharing Center on Thanksgiving Eve, will have a tree for residents at Sogge and Mickelson, helping with Lutefisk supper in January
- 9. **GLOW** reported that their Christmas party is Thursday, 12/5/24, Lutheran World Relief Projects will be continued, donuts will be provided every 2 months

ecemb

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of 11/22/24:

Income: \$482,284

Expenses: \$539,574

Borrowed: \$68,000

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

Let's work together and meet all 2024 commitments here at ALC. No gift is ever too small.

Approximately \$110,000 is needed.

The American Lutheran Church financial books for 2024 will close at noon on

Tuesday, December 31, 2024. The office will be closed in the afternoon. Please be sure to get all 2024 contributions in by this time.

CHURCH RECORDS:

Deaths: John Holt

Leland Johnson

Baptisms: Beckham Lee Powers, son of Bramer and Michelle Powers.

MEMORIALS:

Music Fund: In honor of Priscilla Jacobson's 80th Birthday.

General Fund: In memory of Duane Pingeon.

Youth Fund: In memory of Duane Pingeon.

Renovation Fund: In memory of Wanda Turner.

Altar Guild: In memory of Wanda Turner.

OFFERING OPTIONS:

The ministry of our congregation continues in many ways! The options remain open for ways of contributing your offering. You may use on-line giving on our website alcofwindom.com, mail in your offering to PO Box 188, Windom, drop it off at the church or simply place it in the offering plate. You can also scan the QR code listed here. If you have any questions regarding these options, please contact Wendy Pigman in the church office.





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.

December 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



Don't forget you can do your Christmas 'shopping at https://shetek.org/store/

Wish List

- Volunteers
- New Vacuum
- Keurig
- Spark Bibles
- Board Games
- Office Supplies Staplers, dry erase markers, paper



Please join us for our upcoming events.

Mark your Calendar

December 8 Annual Meeting 3:30 p.m.

December 8 Scandinavian Dinner 5:00 p.m.

December 9 Hiking Club

December 22 Campfire Christmas

January 12 Hiking Club

January 15-19 Winter Quilt Retreat

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!