



August 2025

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

The American LUTHERAN WINDOM, MN Church



Inside this Issue:

Pastor's Message	2
Worship & Music	3
Christian Ed./ Youth & Family	4-7
Good To Know	8-9
Block Party!	10
GLOW and More!	11
Church Council	12
For The Record	13
Shetek Canews	14

Our Staff:

Adam Roberts, Pastor: pastoradamcroberts@gmail.com
Steven Rye, Interim Pastor: stevenjrye@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: wendyale@windomnet.com
Melanie Shamp, Administrative Assistant: winalc@windomnet.com
Jake Voth, 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!

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.

Worship Schedule

Saturday, August 2nd

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, August 3rd

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Saturday, August 9th

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion, & Noisy Offering-in the Sanctuary

Sunday, August 10th

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Noisy Offering

9:00 AM Worship at the Lake

Saturday, August 16th

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy

Sunday, August 17th

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

Saturday, August 23rd

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, August 24th

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Worship

Saturday, August 30th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, August 31st

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Worship



Pastor's Message

A God Pause in the Interim

By Pastor Steven Rye

August often feels like a deep breath before the busyness of fall begins. The gardens are full, the days are long, and many of us squeeze in one last trip to the lake or a late-summer vacation. It's a season that invites us to pause....to rest, to pray, and to take stock.

In this season of interim ministry at American Lutheran Church, I want to encourage all of us to take what I call a "God Pause." It's something I used to teach when I served as a backpacking guide in the Colorado mountains: don't rush past the beauty. Pause. Take in the view. Notice what God is doing in the moment. And let that moment shape you.

This interim time is a kind of spiritual pause for our congregation. We are not standing still but we are invited to be thoughtful. Prayerful. In conversation with each other about where we've been. And hopeful about where we are going.

My father, who was ordained as a pastor back in 1958, used to say something to me that still rings true today:

"A congregation is a business. A congregation is a family. And if one or the other of those truths is forgotten — trouble will be the result."

Wise words.

There *is* a business side to congregational life. We're entering a season where important business-like tasks lie ahead: formalizing a new committee, finalizing and submitting paperwork, organizing for interviews. In many other settings, we'd call that a *hiring process*. But the church is different. We don't just hire a pastor, we *call* a pastor. And that word "call" reminds us that there's something deeper going on here: a spiritual process, grounded in prayer, discernment, and trust in the Holy Spirit.

Because at our core, we are not just an organization. We are a *family of faith*. And families don't simply fill a vacancy. They prepare their hearts to receive someone new into their shared life. In this case, a person who will immediately assume a central place in the midst of the family from the moment they are called to be the Lead Pastor.

So in this season of transition, I invite you to pause and reflect:

- *How are we preparing our hearts to welcome this new person into the center of our faith family?*
- *What habits of grace, forgiveness, and hospitality can we strengthen now so that we're ready to receive and support the next chapter of this church's life together?*

What might God be asking us to notice during this pause about ourselves, our mission, our hopes?

And I invite you into conversation with each other about these things.

August is a good month to pause. Let's use this time well.

In Christ,

Pastor Steven

Worship and Music

Worship and Music Notes

Jane Cartwright, Coordinator

August 2-3, 2025

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14;
2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

Worship Notes:

VBS Students sing at 9:00 am worship
Recognition of VBS staff
Saturday, 5:30 pm - Chapel Worship
Sunday, 9 AM - Holy Communion

Worship Notes: Worship at the Lake!

Saturday: Recording worship for KDOM.
Noisy Offering for College Cookies and Treats!
Temple Talk: ALC Block Party Info
Saturday, 5:30 pm- Chapel, Holy Communion

August 9-10, 2025

Genesis 15: 1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 16-17, 2025

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29 - 12:2
Luke 12:49-56

Worship Notes:

Saturday, 5:30 pm - Holy Communion,
Sunday 9 AM- Worship

Worship Notes:

Saturday, 5:30pm - Chapel Worship
Sunday, 9 AM - Holy Communion

August 23-24, 2025

Isaiah 58: 9b-14
Psalm 103: 1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 30-31., 2025

Proverbs 25: 6-7a
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16
Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Worship Notes: Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, **6 pm** - Chapel Worship
please note adjusted time
Sunday, 9 AM - Holy Communion

Ushers:

Jay Mickelson
group

Noisy Offering:

College
Cookies and
Treats

*It's Vacation Season, please consider signing
up on the Worship / Music bulletin board for
Special Music, Readers
Holy Communion Assistants*

Tune in to ALC's Worship Broadcasts:

Sundays at 10:30 AM on KDOM 103.1 FM

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

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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



We're having a BIBLE DRIVE!

Do you love to share God's word with children?

The Christian Education Board is looking for Bible Sponsors for our youth who are being baptized, entering nursery or 3rd grade, and the 7th - 9th grade confirmation classes in the 2025-2026 school year. Bibles are \$25 each and will be presented to students this fall. Shown below are the bibles we purchase with the donations received! ♥



Baptism



Nursery



3rd Grade



7th-9th Grade

Please return the bottom portion to the church office with your donation.

Sponsor's Name _____
(As you would like it to appear in the Bible as the sponsor)

Number of Bibles Sponsored _____ x \$25.00 = _____

Thank you for sharing in God's work at American Lutheran Church!

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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

HI CHURCH!
**WEDNESDAY SCHOOL/
 SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS
 ARE NEEDED FOR OUR
 NEW SCHOOL YEAR!**

CAN YOU HELP? ♥

Please contact Tera at
 507-822-3377 or
teraalc@gmail.com

THANK YOU!



Those entering 7th-12th next school year

ARNOLDS PARK

sunday, august 17th
 leaving after church at 10am - back at 4pm

\$25
INC TICKET & TRANSPORTATION

ACCT.\$ MAY BE USED!

FRIENDS WELCOME!

SIGN UP WITH TERA BY AUGUST 3RD
 507-822-3377 | teraalc@gmail.com



WED/SUN SCHOOL 2025-2026!

GOD ROCKS!!

Registration is now OPEN on the
 Church Website under the
 Children & Youth Ministries Tab
www.alcofwindom.com



Teen Summer Breakfast Club



Let's have Breakfast & Bible Study!

Second Wednesday Morn of Each Summer Month

June 11 * July 9 * August 13

8:00-9:00am

SKylight Court

RSVP to Tera * Friends Welcome!

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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



Incoming 7th Grade
Confirmation Students!

Movie Night at Tera's House!

Monday, August 11th
6:30-9:00pm!

Let Tera know if you can make it!
Popcorn & Drinks Provided!



**YOUTH GROUP
BACK TO SCHOOL
GRILLOUT!**

BURGERS! HOT DOGS!
MUSIC! YARD GAMES!

Friends Welcome!
RSVP to Tera!

Kent & Tera Elness House
725 Verona Avenue
Sunday, August 24th
5-7pm

**RALLY DAY AT
THE LAKE!**

JOIN US AS WE WORSHIP & KICK OFF
A BRAND NEW WEDNESDAY SCHOOL/
SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR!

Sunday, September 7th
9am Worship
Pancake Breakfast served by the
Lions Club to follow!
Bring your lawn chairs!
It's gonna be FABULOUS!

**10TH GRADE
FAITH STATEMENT
PREP**

NEXT YEAR'S SOPHOMORES ARE
INVITED TO TERA'S HOUSE THIS
SUMMER FOR A SPECIAL
SET APART TIME TO WORK ON
THEIR FAITH STATEMENTS
ALONGSIDE THEIR CLASSMATES -
AND WITH FOOD AND DRINKS!

DATES AVAILABLE
Thursday, August 7th 9:00-10:30am
OR
Friday, August 8th 9:00-10:30am
Text Tera 507-822-3377

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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

2025 SUMMER ALC YOUTH FUNDRAISER YOU'RE ONE IN A MELON SCRAPBOOKING & CRAFTING RETREAT

MARY MOHLENCAMP & THE ALC YOUTH ARE
HOSTING A TWO-DAY RETREAT FOR ALL
CRAFTERS AND STAMPERS/SCRAPPERS

****ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT
THE ALC YOUTH PROGRAM!****



Retreat Itinerary:

****Friday Night:**

Supper at 6PM

**Brownies and Ice Cream
for a late night snack!**

****Saturday Morning:**

**Brunch at 10am, water
and coffee provided.**

**Please bring snacks
to share.**

**There will be door prizes!
Electrical outlets will
be available.**



**FRIDAY, AUGUST 22ND
9AM-MIDNIGHT**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23RD
9AM-7PM**

**\$40 for one day
or \$60 for BOTH days**

Want to come early?

*Join us Thursday, August 21st
1pm-10pm for an additional \$15*

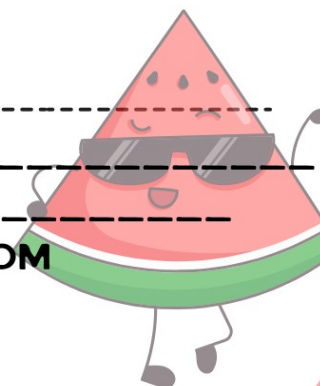
**IF YOU NEED LODGING, PLEASE LET US KNOW WITH
YOUR REGISTRATION. WE WILL CONTACT YOU.
WE HAVE 2 OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR LODGING.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT
MARY MOHLENCAMP AT
MARYMOHL@RCONNECT.COM
(507)822-1179**

**PLEASE FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM BELOW AND MAKE CHECKS
PAYABLE TO ALC YOUTH
MAIL TO THE ADDRESS SHOWN**

✂️
NAME: _____ PHONE: _____ ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ ZIP: _____ EMAIL: _____

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WINDOM
906 PROSPECT AVE. (PO BOX 188)
WINDOM, MN 56101 (507) 831-1794**



GOOD TO KNOW



BAKING COOKIES or BARS FOR JUDGING AT THE COUNTY FAIR?

As we anticipate the County Fair season, Skylight Court would like to invite bakers to bring a *dozen* cookies or bars on Sunday, August 3rd to serve during coffee hour.

We would love to sample your selections. Want to share your recipe? Drop off a copy at the church office or bring it that day. Let Jane Cartwright or Sharon Thompson, or the church office know what you are bringing!

Jane Cartwright. 507-831-5032
Church Office: 507-831-1794



WORSHIP AT THE LAKE!

We will be worshipping at
Tegel's Park / Lion's Pavilion this summer!
Find your way out to Cottonwood Lake for 9:00 am worship.
Sunday, August 10th
September 7th - Rally Sunday
Bring a chair or sit at a picnic table.
A special thank you to those individuals who have
sponsored these worship dates!

thank you

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to those who donated their time and who donated items for VBS this year!

Teachers, Leaders, & Helpers:

Melissa Dardis, Amanda Wilson, Eugene Hanchett, Lindsey & Jane Cartwright, Page Kern, Gayle Derickson, Karen Skarphol, Jake Voth, Kelly Kleven, Elie Kleven, Gretta Smith, Linda Jaakola, Jack Elness, Ember Struck, Melanie Shamp, Ali Dahna, Eva Borer, Tina Burns, Kristina Olson, Grace Scheitel, Ava Scheitel, Addison Spielman, Miranda Peterson, Zadie Johnson, Kenzie-Ella Johnson, Natalie Hodgins, Kristy Mickelson, Natalie Burmeister, Lilly Derickson, Kelsey Edwards, Tina Mesner, Macie Carlson, Hadley Dardis, Lillian Doescher, Gracee Baloun, Ruby Baloun, Macy Boeck, Rose Meyers, Maci Jurgens, Bella Borer, Olivia Joyce, Kenzie Whiting, & Kayla Whiting.

Those who provided donations:

Eva Borer, Mandi Borer, Amanda Wilson, Amanda Mattson, Carolyn Torkelson, Judy Lindvall, Cathy Vonk, Leah Bussa, Jane Cartwright, & Jodi Johnson.

We cannot thank you enough for your support of these programs that keep us thriving!

GOOD TO KNOW

Thank You!

Church in Society would like to give a huge "THANK YOU" to everyone who donated socks to bring to the Banquet, to all who donated financially, and to all that signed up to make the trip to serve at the Banquet! Because of these volunteers, 280 people were served a good meal!



**Church
Softball
Tourney!**
At Bergen Ballfield



Starting Friday, August 1st and going through Sunday, August 4th!

Come and enjoy the games and the amazing concessions that will be available!

Who?



How?

Q&A

with Pastor Adam



Ask me a question about...



Join Pastor Adam and others for dinner and conversation at Jack Slade's. Topics have 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 many other things. The group will meet again at **Jack Slade's in the Fireside Room on Thursday, August 21st 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.

What is?



Why?

Block Party!

JOIN US

FOR A

BLOCK PARTY

'Free!'

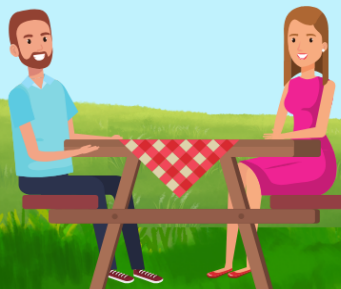
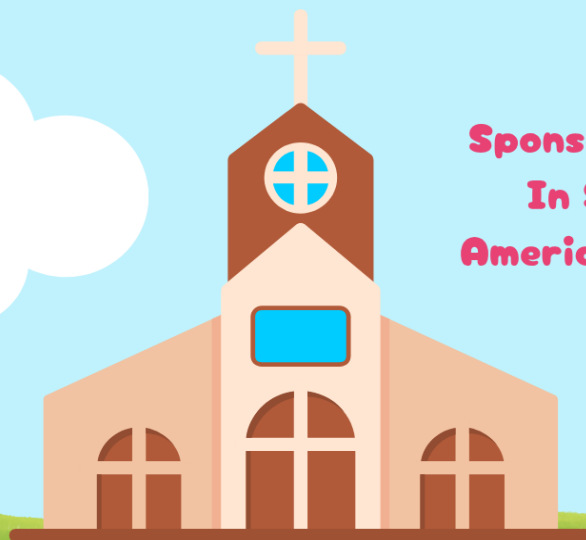


In the parking
lot!

Yard games!

**Burgers, Hot
dogs, chips,
cookie and
drink!**

**Sponsored by The Church
In Society Board of
American Lutheran Church**



SUNDAY
AUG. 17

AMERICAN
LUTHERAN CHURCH
906 PROSPECT AVE.
WINDOM, MN

5-7PM

GLOW and More!

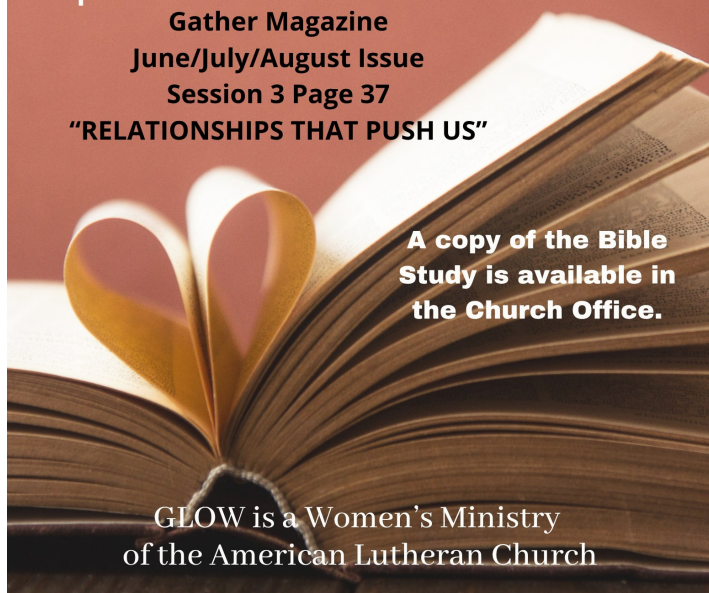
GLOW Gals Living Our Witness
Bible Study

Thursday, August 14 @ 2 p.m.
 2nd Thursday of the Month
 Skylight Court

Gather Magazine
 June/July/August Issue
 Session 3 Page 27
 "RELATIONSHIPS THAT PUSH US"

A copy of the Bible Study is available in the Church Office.

GLOW is a Women's Ministry of the American Lutheran Church



School Supply Drive for Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Our goal is to pack 100 school kits that will be distributed to those in need around the globe.

To reach our goal the following supplies are still needed:

- Pencil Sharpeners
- Blue or Black Ballpoint Pens
- Unsharpened Pencils
- Kid's Blunt point Scissors
- Boxes of 24 count Crayons

Place purchased supplies in Donation Box in the Skylight Court

Cash Donations would be appreciated and will be used to buy needed items to complete the kits.

Place donations marked "LWR School Supplies" in the offering plate or bring to the church office.



Men's Group

Cribbage and Pizza!

Thursday, August 7th 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



QUILTING FOR GRADUATES

First session will be on Sunday, September 14th from 1pm-3pm

PLEASE BRING ANY FABRIC OR PATTERNS YOU LIKE TO OUR FIRST SESSION

GIFTS FOR GRADS

We want to give our graduates a gift from the hands and hearts of their congregation.

How can you help? ANYONE can help with putting together the quilts! There is cutting, ironing, and tying to do.

If you cannot help in person, monetary donations and fabric are great!



CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM JULY 2025 MEETING

In attendance: Pastor Adam, Pastor Steven, John Shamp, Kim Armstrong, Kevin Heggeseeth, Kelsey Edwards, Kristy Mickelson, Keith Pohlman, Nick Trotter, Karen Skarphol, Kay Evers, Penny Raia, Paula Larson, Brandon Roskamp and Jodi Johnson

Devotions and opening prayer were provided by Pastor Steven.

No correspondence was shared.

The secretary's report for June was reviewed and approved. MM/S/C (Kevin, Nick).

The treasurer's report for June was reviewed and approved. MM/S/C (Nick, Kevin).

Pastor reports were reviewed.

Old Business

1. Update on call process – Only 40 pastoral search surveys have been returned. Board members are encouraged to complete one. Pastor Steven and Heather Culuris from the Synod are reviewing the MSP draft and will be working on next steps. We are still looking for volunteers for the Call Committee.
2. Funeral fees – Fees were accepted and our pastors are empowered to waive fees at their discretion. MM/S/C (Kim, Nick).
3. Holiday Fair will be Saturday, November 8, 2025. Penny Raia will do publicity. CIS and Spiritual Life are managing the brunch and lunch. Jackie Turner and Kay Evers will coordinate the bake sale. Karen Skarphol will lead lefse making. Beth Scrivens will be asked about craft sales. Youth will do new and nearly new sales. The youth will retain their funds raised. The rest of the profit will be split: 25% Shetek Lutheran Bible Camp, 25% minivan fund, 10% Shetek Ondini Circuit, 10% Lutheran Disaster Relief, 10% Sharing Center, 10% ALC Buliding/Maintenance, 10% Lutheran Refugee Service. MM/S/C (Nick, Kevin).

New Business

1. Mid-year meeting will be July 20, 2025. Agenda items will include the state of the church, an update on the call process and notes from the annual meeting in January.
2. Mutual Ministry will discuss increasing hours for the Part-Time Custodian.

Board Reports:

Worship & Music – Discussed the cost to use Tegels Park for Worship. Nick will contact Tim Hogan at the City about the fee and liability. Purchased ELW Guitar Accompaniment Edition of Service Music & Hymns.

Spiritual Life & Fellowship – Rootbeer floats will be served after Worship at Tegel's Park on August 10th.

Discipleship/Marketing & Stewardship – Will be doing a Temple Talk on estate planning event in November. Working on a brochure to hand out at the Windom Area Health's Health Fair booth on July 23rd.

Budget & Finance – Paid bills on hold.

Properties – Bell tower sealing will be done next week. Working with Kato Roofing on patching roof. Holtz Cleaning will clean the carpets before VBS.

Christian Education – Preparing for VBS. Offering will be split ½ to World Hunger and ½ to Sharing Center. 2025-2026 Wednesday School and Sunday School theme is "God Rocks!" Rally Day is September 7th.

Church in Society – Served at The Banquet on Monday, July 7th. Block Party is August 17th.

Youth & Family – Reviewed graduation activities and the Duluth Mission Trip. Summer Youth Group is getting off the ground with leadership from Lilly Derickson. Summer Breakfast Club is monthly. Boundary Waters Trip is July 13-18. Youth are going to Arnold's Park on August 17th and will be back in time for the Block Party.

GLOW – Three members went on a bus trip on June 16th to Lutheran World Relief and Global Health Ministries. Bible Study on July 16th at 2 pm.

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of July 24, 2025:

Income: \$313,815

Expense: \$324,877

Borrowed to date: \$18,000

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

CHURCH RECORDS:

Deaths: Marilyn Sell

Baptisms: Rudy Mitchel Boeck, son of Mitch & Cheyenne Boeck.

MEMORIALS:

Renovation Fund – In memory Marilyn Sell.



In
Loving
MEMORY

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. 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.

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.

This is an example of a
¼ inch trim around
the stamp.

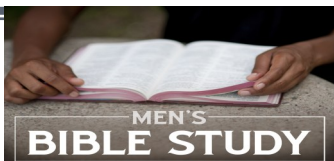


CONTINUE to remember the Windom Area Sharing Center in the coming months. Monetary gifts may be sent to 1156 4th Ave, Windom. Contributions may be left here at the church or at the Center on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 am to 1 pm. Call 822-7210,

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.

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!!



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.

August 2025



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

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers



**Thanks for another successful
Quilt Auction!!**



Thanks for a great summer!

Wish List

- Adding Machine
- Office Supplies – Dry Erase Markers, Paper
- Spark Bibles
- Board Games
- Volunteers
- Extra Refrigerator

**Come see us at the
Murray County Fair
August 13-16**



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!