



October 2025

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

The American LUTHERAN WINDOM, MN Church



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Our Staff:

Adam Roberts, Pastor: pastoradamcroberts@gmail.com

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Tera Elness, Director of Children, Youth, & Family Ministries:
teraalc@gmail.com

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Melanie Shamp, Administrative Assistant: winalc@windomnet.com

Jake Voth, Custodian

Email: winalc@windomnet.com * Website: www.alcofwindom.com

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.

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!

Worship Schedule

Wednesday, October 1st

6:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion

Saturday, October 4th

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Healing
Prayers following service

Sunday, October 5th

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion
w/Healing Prayers

Wednesday, October 8th

6:30 PM Worship w/Noisy Offering

Saturday, October 11th

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

Sunday, October 12th

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Noisy Offering
9:00 AM Worship w/Noisy Offering

Wednesday, October 15th

MEA BREAK
NO WEDNESDAY PROGRAMMING

Saturday, October 18th

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy
Communion

Sunday, October 19th

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 AM Worship

Wednesday, October 22nd

6:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion &
Healing Prayers

Saturday, October 25th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, October 26th

Reformation Sunday
9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion
10:45 AM Confirmation Service

Wednesday, October 29th

6:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion



Pastor's Message

Walking Together in the Call Process

As of the time of this writing, American Lutheran Church of Windom is about to take an important step in our life together. Presumably by the time this newsletter goes out, you will have elected a Call Committee. These siblings in Christ have accepted the responsibility of discerning, with the whole congregation, who God may be calling to serve as our next pastor. Their willingness to serve is a gift, and I encourage you to thank them personally when you have the chance.

Before their work begins in earnest, there are a few steps still to come. The Call Committee will receive orientation and training from Pastor Heather Culuris at the synod office. This training ensures that our process is consistent with the wider church, transparent, and grounded in prayer. It also provides guidance for the committee members about how to carry out their work faithfully and wisely, both in listening to the congregation and in interviewing candidates. This means there will be a short pause between now and when the committee begins its official work. That pause is not wasted time—it's an opportunity for the whole congregation to prepare our hearts.

A few months ago, I invited you into intentional prayer for this season. I want to reiterate and renew that call. The call process is not only about résumés and interviews; it is about discerning God's movement among us. That means prayer is essential. We pray not only for the Call Committee, but for the candidates who may one day become part of our lives, for the leadership of our congregation, and for the Spirit's guidance in the life of this whole church.

I encourage you to set aside a regular time each week to pray for the call process. Maybe it's during your morning devotion, or as you drive to work, or when you sit down at the dinner table. You don't need elaborate words. Something as simple as, "Lord, guide our Call Committee and prepare the pastor you are sending," is enough. Over time, these prayers knit us together as a congregation that trusts in God's leading.

The call process can sometimes feel slow, especially in these early stages when much of the work is preparation. But let us remember that waiting on the Lord is also an act of faith. The psalmist reminds us: "*Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!*" (Psalm 27:14). Our waiting is not passive; it is a time to strengthen our life together, to encourage one another, and to trust that God is indeed at work.

In the months ahead, you will hear updates as the Call Committee begins its work. For now, let us commit ourselves again to prayer, gratitude for those who serve, and patient trust in God's timing. Together, we place our hope in the One who has called us already to be his people.

In Christ,
Pr. Steven

Worship and Music

Worship and Music Notes October, 2025

Jane Cartwright, Coordinator

October thoughts. . .

smells of bonfires and crisp Fall air. . .
brightly colored trees . . .
prayers for those who work the fields. . .
prayers for a safe harvest. . .
faith building experiences . . .
Jack o'lanterns burning brightly. . .
sharing faith statements. . .

How does God interact with you
on your daily faith journey?

How will your light shine this October?

Oct. 1- 5

Luke 17:5-10

Healing Prayers - Sat. / Sun
Holy Communion
Wednesday and Sun.
Remember your World Hunger
envelope

Oct.8-12

Luke 17:11-19

Noisy Offering -
Windom Area Schools Backpack
Program
Holy Communion -
Sat. Chapel

Oct.15 -19

Luke 18:1-8

No Wed, Worship Oct 15(MEA)

Sat. Chapel 5:30 pm -
Holy Communion

Sunday 9:00am

World Hunger

Offering is collected
the first service of
the month

Ushers: Bryan Carlson,
Darin Motz, Keith
Pohlman, Braxton
Polhman, Dean Willaby,
Jerry Hochstein

Oct. 22-26

John 8:31-36

Healing Prayers - Wed.
Holy Communion -
Wednesday and Sunday
9:00 am - Reformation Service
10:45 am Confirmation Service

Oct.29- Nov. 2

Luke 6:20-31

All Saint's Day

Tolling of the bell for those saints
who have passed in the last year.

Oops
We Goofed!

Well. Melanie goofed! Bell choir did not make it on the October calendar, but rest assured there will be bell choir each Monday at 6:30pm(the second Monday of the month it will be at 7pm).

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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

Congratulations to our Confirmands!



Corbin Anderson	Elianna Kleven
Kieran Anderson	Wyatt Knutson
Ruby Baloun	Jonah Lohse
Bella Borer	Nevaeh Ott
Lillian Doescher	Suchin Kruse-Sayavong
Abigail Friewald	Melinda Schunk
Ruby Heggeseth	Gretta Smith
Olivia Joyce	Makayla Whiting



Confirmation Service



Sunday, October 26th
10:45 am

Students are to arrive at 9:15am.
Pictures will be taken prior to service.
Rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, October 22nd
at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary.
A letter will be mailed to parents and confirmands
with detailed information.

JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

PUMPKIN PAINTING!

6:00PM - 8:00PM
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

SNACKS * FRIENDS * FAITH * FUN

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WINDOM

CONTACT LILLY DERICKSON OR TERA ELNESS
WITH ANY QUESTIONS!

WOMEN'S EVENING
BIBLE STUDY

ROCK THE BOAT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9TH
5:30-7:30PM
AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH WINDOM
-SKYLIGHT COURT-
BRING YOUR BIBLE,
A PEN AND JOURNAL/NOTEBOOK,
AND AN APPETIZER TO SHARE!
BOTTLED WATER PROVIDED.

THIS STUDY IS WRITTEN AND LED BY TERA ELNESS

Christian Ed/Youth & Family

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



HALLOWEEN PARTY

Calling All 1st-3rd Graders!
Join Us For An After-School Halloween Party!
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28th
3:15-5:00pm
The ALC Van Will Pick Up Kids After School!
Please email Tera to sign up your child!
teraalc@gmail.com

American Lutheran Church
906 Prospect Ave
Windom



BOO! SUPPER & BINGO!

Sunday, October 26th
Scary Supper starts at 5:00
Boo Bingo 5:30 - 6:30 pm

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

Supper is \$10/adult, \$5/children
and there is no cost to play Bingo!
Best Costume Winners Announced
before final Bingo Game!
ALL ARE WELCOME!

**American Lutheran Church Windom
Fellowship Hall**



Looking for PUMPKINS!

Seeking donations of
PUMPKINS
for **both** our our 1st-3rd Gr.
After-School Halloween Party
and our **October Youth Group!**
Small & Medium Size
Pumpkins
are the perfect size
for what we have in mind!
THANK YOU for considering!
Please drop off to Tera or in the
Church Office no later than
October 19th!



OCTOBERFEST

OCTOBER 17-18, 2025

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

Starts at 6:00pm Oct.17 and concludes at 6:00pm Oct. 18.
Come and learn about God's love, partake in fun fall activities, enjoy a s'more, and being outdoors with other youth!
For more information visit www.shetek.org or call 507-763-3567!

Details: For 3rd-6th graders, October 17-18
What to bring: Follow information including what to bring and health form will be sent once your registration is received.
Cost: \$55

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

Register online at www.shetek.org OR complete the above information and send it in with a \$20 deposit by October 3rd, 2025
Shetek Lutheran Ministries/14 Kestley Island Dr./Slayton, MN 56172

Good to Know

October Acolyte Schedule

Wednesday, October 1st—Cameron Grant, Joe Elston

Sunday, October 5th—Graham Miller, Jake Luebben

Wednesday, October 8th—Tristan Ralston, Draetyn Markus

Sunday, October 12th—Wyatt Soderholm, Karter Meyeraan

Sunday, October 19th—Carter Knutson, Jake Luebben

Wednesday, October 22nd—Cameron Grant, Joe Elston

Sunday, October 26th—9am—Tristan Ralston, Maci Jurgens

10:45am—Gracyee Baloun, Karter Meyeraan

Wednesday, October 29th—Tristan Ralston, Draetyn Markus

Thank
you

Wednesday Night Suppers

OCTOBER 1ST – Sloppy jo, chips, baked beans

OCTOBER 8TH – Chicken Wild Rice Soup & Chicken Noodle Soup, bread, dessert

OCTOBER 15TH - MEA BREAK, NO SUPPER

OCTOBER 22ND - Tator Tot Hotdish, corn, bread, dessert

OCTOBER 29TH - Beef Stroganoff, egg noodles, green beans, bread

HEY CHURCH! CAN YOU HELP?

We are always in need of donations of hamburger, chicken breasts, milk, bread, spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce, & cookies. We are good for now on soup & ham.

P.S. Hy-Vee has milk 3/\$11 on Mondays!

1996



Handbell Choir

2004



Handbell Choir

Help us in celebrating Jane! Jane has been directing the Bell Choir for 40 years! Thank you for all of your years of dedication to the Bell Choir and this church!

2024



GOOD TO KNOW



**FALL
QUILTING &
CRAFTING
RETREAT**

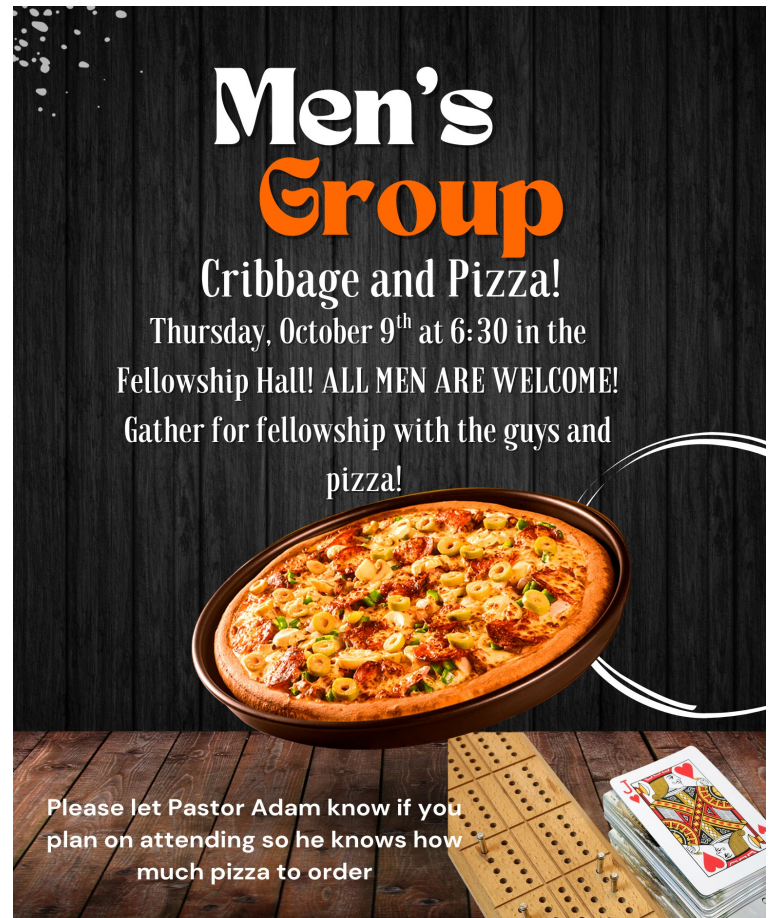
FOOD • FUN • FRIENDS

OCTOBER 20 - 23, 2025

REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES PRIVATE HOUSING, MEALS & SNACKS. YOU PROVIDE THE PROJECTS AND CREATIVITY

CONTACT JEAN @ 507-763-3567 OR JEAN@SHETEK.ORG

SHETEK LUTHERAN MINISTRIES, 14 KEELEY ISLAND DR.,
SLAYTON, MN 56172



Men's Group

Cribbage and Pizza!

Thursday, October 9th 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

Please be looking in the bulletin for future dates!

GIFTS FOR GRADS

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

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

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

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.

Altar Guild will be meeting on the **second Tuesday** of each month at 2:00pm. Next meeting is **October 14th** at 2pm! All are welcome.

BELL CHOIR Practices on Monday evenings at 6:30pm. The **second** Monday of the month, practice is at 7:00 pm.



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!!

Holiday Fair!



HEARTS and PINES HOLIDAY FAIR



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025

9:30am-1pm

ALC will be hosting our 19th HOLIDAY FAIR on November 8th and we want you to be a part of it! HOW? There are many ways to participate. **CRAFTS:** crochet, knit, sew, quilt, wood working, making ornaments, etc. We'd love for you to share your talents. Questions? Contact Kathy Hiley, 822-1046; Jane Cartwright, 830-0299; or Beth Scrivens, 822-6246. **BAKERY:** Homemade breads, rolls, cookies, cakes, bars, pies, specialty items, candies, jams, jellies, snack mixes, pickles and other canned items. We ask you to package rolls, cookies and bars in groups of 6 or 12. We have some nice containers available at church if you would like to come and take a look. Additional questions? Contact Jackie Turner, 822-1633 or Kay Evers, 830-1422. **LEFSE:** We will be making lefse every Tuesday in October from 8 am to noon. Come when you can and stay as long as you wish. For questions contact Karen Skarphol at 822-0785.

NEW & NEARLY NEW: This is the "rummage" part of the Holiday Fair and will be handled by the youth and their advisors and parents. If you have some nicer items you no longer want and are still useable, here is the place to bring them. Please have items clean and in good condition. **WE CANNOT USE: CLOTHES, SHOES, ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, REFERENCE BOOKS OR FURNITURE. We will be accepting items November 3rd, 4th, & 5th. Do not bring items after November 6th.** Questions? Tera Elness, 831-1794.

Morning coffee, coffeecake, pie and lunch will begin at 9:30 am. We will be serving coffee, coffeecake, pie, hot turkey sandwiches, vegetable soup, crackers, pickles, orange drink and milk. **IN HONOR OF VETERAN'S DAY, ALL VETERANS WILL RECEIVE A FREE SLICE OF PIE WITH THEIR MEAL!**

HOW CAN YOU HELP??? We need you to donate, work and shop! We will need several workers for various departments throughout the morning (1½ hour shifts), workers to set up and take down (Friday and/or Saturday afternoons), donations of cooked turkeys and soup ingredients, and buyers!

Funds raised will be distributed as follows: 25% Shetek Lutheran Ministries Capital Campaign, 15% Van maintenance, 10% Lutheran Youth Organization, 10% Shetek Ondini Partnership, 10% Lutheran Disaster Response, 10% Windom Sharing Center, 10% ALC Building Maintenance Fund, 10% Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

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

SPREAD THE WORD!!! HOLIDAY FAIR IS NOVEMBER 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sign-up sheets for donations and work times are posted on the bulletin board across from the office.



GLOW and More!

Let's Make the Lefse !!!

Every Tuesday in October:

7, 14, 21, 28

8 a.m. - Noon

Holiday Fair Nov. 8

**No experience needed.
We will train you!
Come for an hour or all morning!**

**GLOW invites the women of ALC
on a trip to visit Pastor Sarah!**

Road Trip

Destination Granite Falls

Thursday, October 23

**We will leave the church at 9:45 AM
and be back in Windom about 5:30 PM**

We will be visiting with Pastor Sarah and see her church in Granite Falls and go out for lunch and shopping. At 2:30 we will meet with the Granite Falls women's "Espresso" group, lay lead Bible Study based on Christ in our Home

Bring money for lunch and shopping!**Only 11 spots available.**

**Signup on the bulletin board across
from office by October 20**

**Trip Cost
\$5 to the
church office.**



GLOW
OCTOBER
— BIBLE STUDY —
**2ND THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 9
2 P.M.**

**Gather Magazine
Sept/Oct/Nov issue**

Session 2:
Page 37: Stewardship
How do we tend our treasure?
Copies of the Bible Study are available
in the Church Office.

GLOW IS A WOMEN'S MINISTRY
OF THE
AMERICAN LUTHERAN
CHURCH 2025

WANTED
Holiday Fair

Needs your crafts !!!**Are you a**

- *Crafter *Woodworker
- *Maker *Sewer
- *Knitter *Quilter
- *Stitcher *Sign Maker

?????????

**Please consider using your
passion and make something(s)
for the Craft Room !!!**

Questions?
Contact Kathy Hiley @ 507-822-1046 or
Beth Scrivens @ 507-822-6246

Holiday Fair November 8

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 2025 MEETING

In attendance: Pastor Adam, Interim Pastor Steven Rye, John Shamp, Kim Armstrong, Kevin Heggeseeth, Kelsey Edwards, Wendy Newman, Kristy Mickelson, Keith Pohlman, Paula Larson, Brandon Roskamp, Nick Trotter, Kay Evers, Karen Skarphol.

Devotions and opening prayer were provided by Pastor Steven.

No correspondence was shared.

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

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

The Pastor's reports were reviewed.

Old Business

1. MSP was approved with recommended changes. MM/S/C (Brandon, Kevin).
2. Call Committee recommendation was approved with Chair Bob Johnson, Linda Staples, Donny Boltjes, Colin Wilson, Angie Erickson, Melissa Dardis, Keith Newman, Brianne Miller, Youth Representative Max Brodin and Bethany Representative Garen Paulson which is non-voting position. MM/S/C (Nick, Kevin). The congregational meeting to vote on the members of the Call Committee will be after worship on September 28, 2025.

New Business - none

Board Reports:

1. Worship & Music – upcoming events discussed.

2. Spiritual Life & Fellowship – serving a Saturday night supper September 27th, met with Church & Society to plan the lunch for the Holiday Fair, received a Thrivent action grant for the Holiday Fair, Lutfisk Supper will be January 10, 2026.

3. Discipleship/Marketing & Stewardship – raised \$190 from noisy offering to help with shipping cookies to college kids, talked about newsletter from our Missionary Carolyn Schneider.

4. Budget & Finance – paid bills on hold, August was a profitable month.

5. Properties – met with Lindsey Cartwright about Ron's Electric recommendation to fix the lights in the Sanctuary, discussed installing a dividing curtain across the Fellowship Hall, phone system was upgraded.

6. Christian Education – Tera Elness and Kelsey Edwards going to Shetek on October 2nd for Rhythms of Faith to brainstorm on family and faith formation, held a successful Bible drive, nursery and 3rd grade Bibles will be given at worship services, 1st - 3rd grade after school Halloween Party will be October 28th.

7. Youth & Family – reviewed August activities, Tera Elness is working with Lily Derickson on Senior High Youth Group, Boo Bingo will be October 26th with a spooky supper, beef commercial drive through fundraiser will be October 12th, the first meeting for Senior Quilting will be September 14th, child protection policy will be reviewed and updated, National Youth Gathering will be 2027 in Minneapolis.

8. Church in Society – planning something for Halloween.

9. GLOW – packing backpacks on October 23rd at 9 am, Jackie Turner and Karen Skarphol going to the Shetek Women's Conference on October 27th, lefse making starts September 30th and will be every Tuesday from 8 am-noon.

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

As of September 22, 2025:

Income: \$421,308

Expense: \$420,577

Borrowed to date: \$18,000



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

CHURCH RECORDS:Deaths: *LaVerne Sell**James Caraway*Baptisms: *Sutton Grace Morpew, daughter of Jarad Morpew & Gina Hauge.***MEMORIALS:**Renovation Fund: *In Memory of LaVerne Sell*Music Fund: *In Memory of Jim Caraway***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.

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

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



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.



October 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



Come join us for a FUN Fall event! 🍁

Wish List

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



Hiking Club October 12

Octoberfest - October 17-18

Fall Quilt & Craft Retreat - October 20-23

Confirmation Retreat November 7-8

Hiking Club November 16

Owls in the Night November 22

Register online at Shetek.org or

Call 507-763-3567



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!