



October 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.



Wednesday, October 2nd

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

Saturday, October 5th

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Healing Prayers to follow worship

Sunday, October 6th

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion & Healing Prayers

Wednesday, October 9th

6:30 PM Worship w/Noisy Offering

Saturday, October 12th

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

Sunday, October 13th

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Second Sunday Noisy Offering Pastor/Clergy Appreciation

Sunday

9:00 AM Worship w/Noisy Offering

Wednesday, October 16th

No Worship-MEA Break

Saturday, October 19th

5:30 PM Chapel Service w/Holy Communion

Sunday, October 20th

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Harvest & Home Sunday

9:00 AM Worship

Wednesday, October 23rd

6:30 PM Worship w/Holy Communion

Saturday, October 26th

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, October 27th

Reformation Sunday

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

10:45 AM Confirmation Service w/ Holy Communion

Wednesday, October 30th

6:30 PM Worship

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and Earth...

-The Apostles' Creed

We say the Apostles' Creed at just about every worship service. New members and parents having their kid baptized are asked to profess it and it is taught in confirmation from the Small Catechism. Yet, it's one of those things that I know I say without thinking about what I'm saying. I also realize that the language in there is fairly churchy and I wonder sometimes how many people in the pews actually know what we're saying and why.

A creed is what a person believes. The early Church came up with the Apostles' Creed so that Christians knew the basics of their faith. Basically, they crammed the main themes of the Bible into a short saying. Martin Luther found out in his time five hundred years ago that, even though families may have known the creed, they didn't actually know what it meant. He then wrote the Small Catechism to explain it so that families would be better able to understand what we believe.

The Small Catechism is worth everyone reading once a year. It's something you can read in a sitting. I have placed some at the back of the church. They're free. Take one. Read it. Read it out loud as a family.

What's great about the early Church creating this statement of beliefs is that when we make it foundational in our lives, when we know it and know what it means, it speaks to us in pretty much every situation we face. (For the record, the Bible does too and in a much better way, but the Creed condenses and simplifies the Bible. Please, read your Bibles and know scripture too, but if not, bare minimum, know the Small Catechism and the meanings).

It starts with reminding us God created everything. If you ever feel worthless, be reminded that God is awesome, loving, perfect, and that God created you. If you feel you're trapped with nowhere good to go, be reminded that if God can create everything from nothing, then God can create a new path for you to a better life.

The second part is about God becoming a human where we're taught that God knows exactly what it's like to have a parents, go through puberty, and the struggles of being twenty firsthand. We learn that even as God, even as a kind helper to everyone, that Jesus was lied about, falsely accused, and killed, telling us that even when we love and serve God and do everything right, evil may still happen to us. And we learn that that's never the end because we're told that God raised Jesus from the dead and put him in the most powerful position ever. We're basically being told that in time God rights wrongs and vindicates us when evil things happen to us. We're told Jesus is the final judge and everything will come to light, so we don't have to worry about what anyone says about us or does to us.

It ends by telling us that we are not alone. We are part of a catholic (all Christian denominations together) family that is to support one another. Our congregations help us by helping raise our kids (Sunday school), gives us wisdom from our elders, with the younger lending their strength to help the weaker. It's a place where we pray for each other, have shoulders to cry on, give and receive encouragement, etc. We commune, meaning we are all one body working together to serve Jesus to make the world better. We are always forgiven no matter what. We don't have to fear death because we'll rise again so we can live courageously and generously.

Take a catechism, learn the creed and what it means because it is a powerful tool and a powerful piece of a Christian's foundation for living.

Pastor Adam

Worship and Music Notes

October, 2024

Jane Cartwright, Coordinator

Oct.2-6

Mark 10: 2-16
 Healing Prayers Offered
 Holy Communion
 Wednesday and Sun.

Oct.9-13

Mark 10:17-31
 Noisy Offering - Windom Area
 Schools Backpack Program
 Holy Communion - Sat. Chapel

Oct.16-20

Mark 10: 35-45
 No Wed, Worship (MEA)
 Sat. Chapel 5:30 pm -
 Holy Communion
 Sunday 9:00am
 Harvest and Home:
 We welcome back,
 Pastor Greg Hall,
 who will provide the message today.

World Hunger

Offering is
 collected the first
 service of the
 month

Ushers: Bryan Carlson,
 Darin Motz, Keith
 Pohlman, Noel Tadé, Dean
 Willaby,

Oct. 23-27

Mark 10:46-52
 Holy Communion - Wednesday
 and Sunday
 9:00 am - Reformation Service
 10:45 am Confirmation Service

Oct.30- Nov. 3

Mark 12:28-34
 All Saint's Day
 Tolling of the bell for those saints
 who have passed in the last year.

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?

with



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



Looking for PUMPKINS!

Seeking donations of
Pie Pumpkins
for our 1st-3rd Gr.
Halloween Party
on October 14th!
PIE 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!



HALLOWEEN PARTY

Calling All 1st-3rd Graders!
Join Us For An After-School Halloween Party!
MONDAY, OCTOBER 14th
3:15-5:00pm
The ALC MiniBus Will Pick Up Kids After School!
Please email Tera to sign up your child!

American Lutheran Church
906 Prospect Ave
Windom



MEABREAK!

No Wednesday Night activities
or programming on October 16th
and No Sunday School
on October 20th



Shetek Lutheran Ministries
OCTOBERFEST!
3RD - 6TH GRADERS!
MEA BREAK!
OCTOBER 18-19!

Leaving ALC at 5pm on Friday and
returning home on Saturday at 7pm!
ALC Christian Ed. Board will be paying
\$25 of the \$55 fee
for all students wishing to attend!
**MUST CONTACT TERA TO SIGN UP
YOUR CHILD!**
REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
OCT. 6th
**Justin & Melissa Dardis will
be taking & staying with the
students this year!**

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

Confirmation Class
GUEST SPEAKER
 GREG SCHEITEL



 **OCT 23RD**

 **7:30PM**

 **FELLOWSHIP HALL**

7TH-9TH CONFIRMATION STUDENTS AND PARENTS
 *THIS SPECIAL JOINT NIGHT WILL BE IN PLACE OF
 STTUDENT'S REGULAR CLASS TIME*



Confirmation Service



Sunday, October 27th
10:45 am

Students are to arrive at 9:15am.
 Pictures will be taken prior to service.
 Rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, October 23rd
 at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary.
 A letter will be mailed to parents and confirmands
 with detailed information.

2024 CONFIRMANDS -

**Join Tera for
 Doughnuts
 & Juice
 Prior to Service.**



CONFIRMATION
 SUNDAY,
 OCTOBER 27TH
 FELLOWSHIP HALL

*Congratulations to
 our Confirmands!*



Theora Ahnupkana	Max Brodin
Lilly Derickson	Jack Elness
Addison Evans	Jocelyn Frank
Eli Muske	Miranda Peterson
Braxton Pohlman	Caelen Ralston
Shaun Schunk	Addison Spielman
Sadie Tjentland	Carson Wiens
Henry Visker	



Confirmation

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



3rd Graders & their Parents

"Get to Know Your Bible Class"

Wednesday School Students – October 2nd – Skylight Court
Sunday School Students – October 6th - Fellowship Hall

Meet Tera during your regular
Wednesday or Sunday School class time
for a special class for 3rd grade students *AND* their parents
geared towards learning more and
becoming familiar with your brand new bible!

(Pssst...there'll even be treats!)

**BOO!
BINGO**
Sunday, October 27th

SCARY SUPPER STARTS AT 5
BOO BINGO STARTS AT 5:30pm-6:30pm

*Put on your favorite costume and
join us for an evening of fun!*

Scary Supper - \$5
Boo Bingo - \$5

**Best Costume Winners will be announced
before the final game of bingo!**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Hosted by the Youth and Family Board
Proceeds will go to benefit youth
activities.

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
906 PROSPECT AVE.
WINDOM, MN

**ARE YOU A
THRIVENT MEMBER
WITH ACTION
DOLLARS TO USE?**

DCYFM TERA WOULD LOVE TO VISIT
WITH YOU ABOUT SOME
CHILDREN & YOUTH POSSIBILITIES!



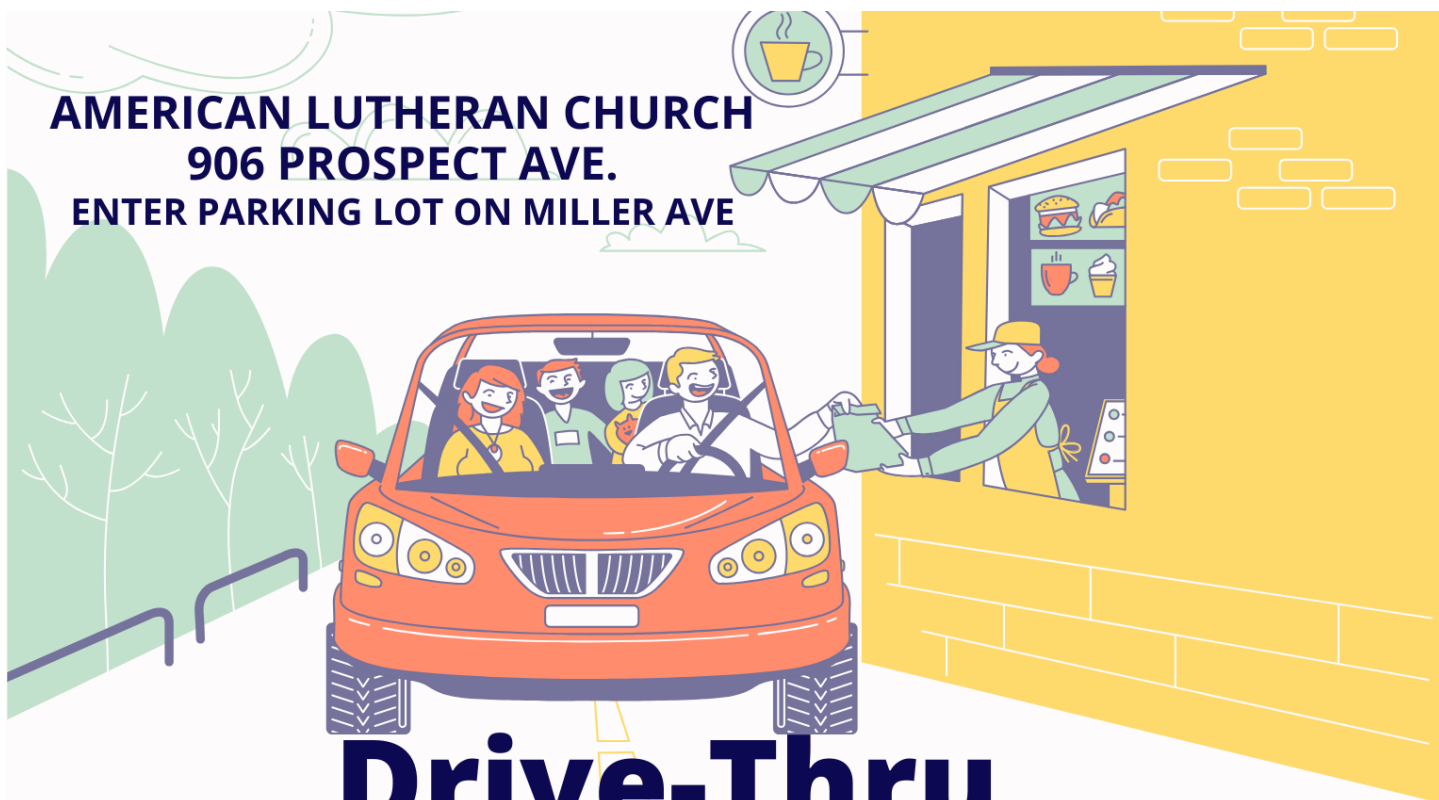
YOUTHWORKS
est. 1991

ST. LOUIS, MO
Fall Retreat

Hey Church Family!
Would you like to help in sending
our youth to St.Louis over MEA break?
We would welcome any & all donations!
THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING!

YOUTH

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
906 PROSPECT AVE.
ENTER PARKING LOT ON MILLER AVE



Drive-Thru Beef Commercial Supper \$12

***PREMIUM SHREDDED BEEF IN GRAVY, BREAD SLICE,
REAL MASHED POTATOES (NO INSTANT STUFF!), CORN, AND PUMPKIN BAR!***

Please follow the signs and cones to drive up to the **parking lot doors**.
Tell our host how many meals you would like and
one of our youth will bring it out to you!

**Youth Fundraiser for our
St. Louis YouthWorks Mission Trip
to take place over MEA Break!**



**SERVING
HOURS
4:30PM-6:00PM***

**OR UNTIL GONE!*



**SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 13
CASH OR CHECK**

Checks payable to ALC Youth

Church Activities



Altar Guild will be meeting on Tuesday, October 8 at 2pm.

Photo Directory update-

If you did not already specify when taking your directory photo that you would like a printed directory, please let the church office know if you would like a printed copy by Friday, October 18th. Deadline to submit photos is Friday, October 18th. We will be sending to get it printed by the end of October. You can always add a picture after this date, but it will not be in the printed directory, only online. Please contact the church office if you have any questions!

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
 JOIN US ON SUNDAY OCTOBER 13
 AFTER THE SERVICE FOR A

**PASTRIES &
 COFFEE
 HOUR**

FREEWILL DONATION



The Discipleship, Stewardship & Marketing Board will be hosting Coffee Hour with multiple pastries to pick from as a fundraiser to help support the work of our missionary, Carolyn Schneider in Guyana.

Quilting for Graduating Seniors-If you missed the initial quilting for graduating seniors meeting but would still like to be involved, please contact the church office! 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!

Decorated Tables
 needed for

GLOW
 Christmas
 Dinner

**Dec 5
 6pm**

Would you like to decorate a table for GLOW's annual Christmas Dinner on December 5. Eight Tables are needed. You would provide a round table cloth (There are red, green, and white ones available), napkins, centerpiece and dishes for 7 place settings. Please sign up on the Bulletin Board across from the office.

CONTACT
 KATHY HILEY 822-1046
 FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Pastor
 APPRECIATION**

Sunday, October 13th is Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday! Please join us in sharing our appreciation for Pastor Sarah and Pastor Adam and all they do for us!

Good to Know



Wednesday Night Suppers

OCTOBER 2ND– Sloppy joes, baked beans, chips

OCTOBER 9TH– Tator Tot Hotdish, corn, bread

OCTOBER 16TH–No Supper– MEA

OCTOBER 23RD–Beef Stroganoff, egg noodles, green beans

OCTOBER 30TH–Creamy Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots



No Wednesday night programming on Wednesday, October 16th due to MEA



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.



Don't miss the Bethany Bazaar!

Saturday, October 5th from 10am-1pm!
 Bake sale will include lefse, donuts and many other delicious homemade goodies!
 Lunch will consist of hot chicken sandwiches, chips, beverage, and of course homemade pies! Please come and enjoy!

HARVEST AND HOME -SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

Pastor Greg Hall will be our guest preacher for Harvest and Home! We are excited to welcome Pastor Greg back to ALC! We will also be collecting a special offering. Please be looking for a letter with more details to be coming in the mail!

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.



you're invited



Please join us for an 80th Birthday Open House for Priscilla Jacobson Saturday, November 2; 2:00-4:00 p.m. Skylight Court

Tune in to ALC's Worship Broadcasts:

Sundays at 10:30 AM on KDOM 103.1 FM
 Thursdays at 10:00 AM & 6:30 PM on Windom Cable TV, Channel 22

GLOW

GLOW

Gals Living Our Witness

IN OCTOBER

OCT
1 & 15**Quilting for Christmas Cheer Box**
9 am - 2pm
1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Can you thread a needle? Tie a knot?
Enjoy fellowship and laughter?
Then this is for you!
Join us for an hour or bring a lunch!
Quilts will be donated to the
Women of Today's Cheer Box in December.

OCT
17**BIBLE STUDY @ 2PM**

Sept/Oct Gather Magazine, page 30
Receiving Grace: A study of Ephesians
Session 2: God's power works in us.
Copy of Bible Study available in the office.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR**NOV 3****GLOW MEETING @ 10:15 AM****DEC 5**

GLOW CHRISTMAS DINNER @ 6PM
Sign up on Office Bulletin Board
to Decorate a Table!

Prayers

As we approach **Reformation Sunday on October 27th**, Martin Luther wrote two short prayers for individuals and families to use in the morning after waking and in the evening before going to sleep. These lovely prayers, taken from Dr. Luther's Small Catechism, can help you begin and end each day with the Lord.

Great prayers for all ages.



Reformation Worship

Sunday, October 27th, 9am

On *Reformation Sunday*, we return to the core of our faith: God loved us first, and God continues to shower us with grace and mercy.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.



LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen



CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FROM
September 2024 MEETING

The September 10, 2024, ALC of Windom Church Council meeting was called to order by President John Shamp at 8:00 PM.

In attendance: Pastor Sarah, John Shamp, Pastor Adam, Sheryl Hanefeld, Kevin Heggseth, Nick Trotter, Brandon Roskamp, Keith Pohlman, Cory Pohlman, Tina Mesner, Loren Anderson and Lori Mickelson.

Devotions and opening prayer were provided by Pastor Adam.

One correspondence note was shared from SWMN Synod.

The Secretary's Report for August was approved as printed. MM/S/C (Cory/ Nick)

The Treasurer's Report for August was approved as printed. MM/S/C (Cory/Keith)

Pastor Sarah and Pastor Adam's Reports were shared as printed. Pastor Sarah stated that the new fence around the parsonage sure has added a new look.

Old Business:

1. President Shamp shared the document for ALC for Safety and Response Procedures. The document is in the editing phase of the process.
2. President Shamp stated that further addition to the Safety and Response Procedures plan will identify members of our ALC congregation that include EMT, Health Care Professionals, and Doctors; along with asking the Properties Board to identify Safe Rooms within the church.

New Business:

1. Approved new members: Kim and Terry Anderson; Jacob and Elisabeth Johnson.
2. Brandon Roskamp spoke to the Building of a Culture of Generosity virtual meetings.
 - a. Next Zoom Session will be September 19th.
 - b. Session 1 addressed why do people give to a congregation. Members give because of what we do not for the sake of a budget.
 - c. Plan is to issue "Intent Cards" not pledge cards on Nov 17th and 20th.
 - d. We will also be asking for "Impact Stories" as to why you give from the Council members.

Board Reports:

Worship and Music Bd: Not Reporting

Discipleship/Marketing & Stewardship Bd: Ice Cream Social Sept 25 raising funds for Carolyn Schneider

Spiritual Life & Fellowship Bd: 8 different dates have been established for taking pictures for the church directory from September 19th through October 6th. Directory site would be password protected.

Properties Board: Bell Tower Sealant received an estimate of \$5827.00. Working on a checklist and sign out forms for drivers of the church bus. Goal is to implement this by January, 2025.

Budget and Finance Board: Borrowed to date: \$60,000.00. Also, they are working to help prepare for the "Challenge Gifts" program as part of the Culture of Generosity.

Christian Ed Board: Rally Day had 213 people attend. Bible Drive is going well: we have ordered 40 more Bibles with 28 already paid for. Working on partnering with Carolyn Schneider by zooming with her students and her with our Wednesday/Sunday School kids. Working to make it live.

Church in Society Board: 80 people at Block Party and went very well. Upcoming they are working on Halloween Church Activity ideas.

GLOW: Not reporting

ALC FINANCIAL UPDATE

 OCTOBER

As of 9/23/24:

Income: \$386,078

Expenses: \$444,308

Borrowed: \$68,000

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

CHURCH RECORDS:

Deaths: Bernetta Maras

Baptisms: Lorelei Leigh Johnson

**MEMORIALS:**Renovation Fund: *In memory of Milo Holmen.*

 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, scan the QR code to the right, 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.

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.

October 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



Welcome to the new Shetek Hiking Club - our monthly gathering to explore trails all across southwest Minnesota! Hike with us once a month throughout the year to meet new friends and explore our region. Hikes range from easy to strenuous, and include state parks and trails, county parks, and more. Let's move and learn together! Contact Katie at Katie@shetek.org or 507-763-3567 for more information.

Please join us for our Fall events.

Mark your Calendar

October 18-19 - Octoberfest

October 21-24 - Quilt & Craft Retreat

November 1-2 - Confirmation Retreat

Wish List

- Volunteers
- New Vacuum
- Keurig

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/>

Goal	Current Amount	Percentage
\$2,000,000	\$1,627,000	01%

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!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Dear friends and partners in mission,

September 2024

School has re-started after the summer break both here in Guyana and in the United States! On the Sunday before the first day of school in Guyana, Pastor Amanda Singh invited the children of Hope Lutheran Church, in the village of Ross, to receive words of encouragement and blessing as she laid her hands on each of their heads and prayed for them. The streets were buzzing with energy and excitement the next day as children reconnected with teachers, friends, and lessons. I pray that you have experienced similar blessings and energy in your congregations and towns at the start of the new school year.

It is not only children who have gone back to school in Guyana, but also adults, especially those identified as leaders by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (ELCG). Fourteen of them have begun their studies in the Lutheran Lay Academy, which has re-opened after years of inactivity. Helping the ELCG to get the Lay Academy up and running, and establishing it on a firm footing so that it can continue is the main responsibility to which I have been called.

Students in the Lutheran Lay Academy choose one of three tracks to follow: They can prepare to be voluntary lay leaders in the church (a one-year track), deacons (an 18-month track), or pastors (a two-year track). There are two terms each year, and students take two courses per term. Right now, students of all three tracks are exploring Biblical Studies with Pastor Roy Thakurdial, a Guyanese pastor serving a congregation in Canada, and Worship and Liturgy with Pastor Leroy Nicholson, who serves the Ebenezer parish of the ELCG. Pictured are the students in their Worship and Liturgy class.

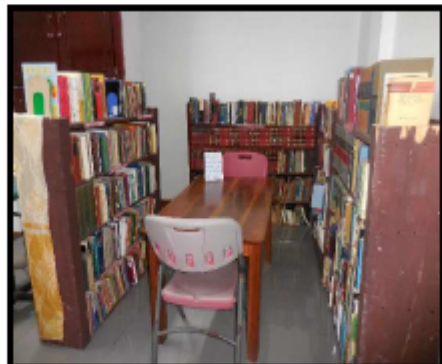
Each course meets once a month online and once a month in person. The photo is of an in-person class, but as you can see, some of the students are online because the class meets simultaneously in two locations: at the church office in New Amsterdam (where I live), and at Calvary Lutheran Church in the capital city, Georgetown. Students attend class at whichever location is most convenient for them.



The current students of the Lutheran Lay Academy during their Worship and Liturgy class in New Amsterdam with Rev. Leroy Nicholson (in back, next to the screen). From left to right, those present physically in the room are Marika Grimmond, Elizabeth Paduman, Abiola Henry, Malissa Ramsarran, Nalini Benjamin, and Adiola Bruce. Online are Shelon Bruce, Vanessa Williams, Selena Lepps, Nathan Balak, Dynutha Adonis Williams, and Bevon Cummings.

The students tell me that they are excited about learning new material and learning new ways of thinking about the familiar activities of reading the Bible and worshiping, although there are certainly challenges for them. Some have not been to school in a while, and they are running to catch up. Others are trying to balance their time between the work they do for a living and their coursework. Any of you who have gone back to school as adults can probably identify with those who face these challenges. The Lutheran Lay Academy Committee that oversees the program is considering ways that we can support the students better in handling these challenges successfully. It is a work in progress.

One thing we have done is set up a little library and study area in each of the locations where the classes meet. I use these resources myself whenever I have a sermon to prepare or a workshop to lead.



The little library and study area in New Amsterdam



Rev. James Patrick Jones of Calvary Lutheran Church and Ms. Elocia Smith, a member of Calvary and secretary of the ELCG, set up the classroom in Georgetown.

As we continue to build up the church by training its leaders, I ask for your prayers for the students, teachers, Lay Academy Committee, and the ELCG, that the Spirit of God would guide the process we are going through together to make it wise and good, healthy and constructive, so that the Lutheran Lay Academy can serve the church for years to come. Many thanks to you for sharing our work in this way.

Carolyn

Rev. Dr. Carolyn Schneider
Lutheran Identity Professor and Pastoral Ministry Advisor
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in partnership with
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana

Email: Carolyn.schneider@elca.org

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:
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009
3. Make an individual gift by credit or debit card by visiting ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving or calling 800-638-3522.