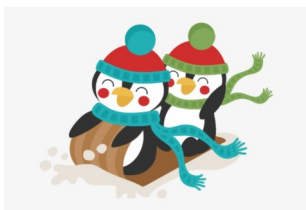


Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church  
Gwinner, North Dakota

# JANUARY 2022

## NEWSLETTER



Hello  
2022  
Happy New Year

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**NEW YEAR PRAYER:**

Thank You Lord for giving me  
 The brand new year ahead.  
 Help me live the way I should  
 As each new day I tread.  
 Give me gentle wisdom  
 That I might help a friend,  
 Give me strength and courage  
 So a shoulder I might lend.  
 The year ahead is empty,  
 Help me fill it with good things  
 Each new day filled with joy  
 And happiness it brings.  
 Amen.

# “God Pause”

**A daily devotion brought to you by the alumni of Luther Seminary**



## **John 1:(1-9), 10-18**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 6There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. 9The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. 10He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. 11He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. 14And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. 15(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") 16From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

## **Devotion**

A favorite tradition throughout my ministry included reading this gospel at the close of Christmas Eve services. As the candle lighting began from my candle and then spread throughout the congregation, the sanctuary lights were gradually dimmed until completely out. At the same time, I read these verses, followed with everyone singing "Silent Night." I never got tired of it. Sure, there was a warm, cozy, sentimental feeling to it. Sure, there was recognition that the church would not be so full again until Easter. Sure, there were concerns over spilled wax or someone's hair accidentally catching fire. But what I most remember is seeing the light reflected in the glowing face of each candle bearer among a sea of other faces. It seemed as if all of us were unmasked for those few minutes. No matter how one came dressed, no matter their life story, all that faded in the surrounding darkness. What remained were glowing faces. Faces awash in the light of Christ.

## **Prayer**

Light of the world, thank you for illuminating our darkness. May our faces and lives reflect you, O Christ. Amen.

Gary Andersen '91 M.Div.

Retired, Shakopee, MN

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/>

# Keeping You in the G.A. Loop


## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars



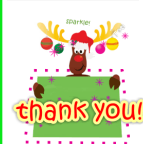
- Jan 02:** 9:30 Worship, No Communion and No Sunday School or YOGA
- Jan 05:** 3:15 PM 5th & 6th Grade afterschool, 6:30 PM Confirmation.
- Jan 09:** 9:30 Worship with Communion, Make a Change Sunday, Sunday School & YOGA follows
- Jan 12:** 3:15 PM 5th & 6th Grade afterschool, 6:30 PM Confirmation.
- Jan 12:** 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting
- Jan 13:** 2:30 PM Ruth Circle
- Jan 16:** 9:30 Worship with Communion, Sunday School Kiddos Sing, Sunday School & YOGA follows
- Jan 19:** 3:15 PM 5th & 6th Grade afterschool, 6:30 PM Confirmation.
- Jan 23:** 9:30 Worship with Communion, Sunday School & YOGA follows
- Jan 24:** February Newsletter Deadline
- Jan 24:** Jan 24-Feb 3 Pastor Jaime is off
- Jan 26:** 3:15 PM 5th & 6th Grade afterschool, 6:30 PM Confirmation.
- Jan 26:** 5:30 PM Alter Guild Meeting
- Jan 30:** 9:30 Worship, No Communion, LEADER NEEDED, Sunday School & YOGA follows


**amazon smile** Amazon Smile: As you do your shopping don't forget GA Church is now a selection you can donate to if you shop on Amazon. Just go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) login as you normally do and choose GA Church as your donation choice and then just shop! Amazon.com will then donate 0.5% of any qualifying purchase to GA Church! There is no cost to sign up for this and it doesn't change how you shop, it's a very easy way to help support GA. GA Church has received **\$345.09** from Amazon smile purchases. Thank you!

 **Annual Meeting:** That's right its everyone's favorite time of year! REMINDER the Annual Meeting has been moved to March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The deadline to turn in reports to Carrili is **February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022**. If you have any questions please contact her. She needs reports from all church group leaders and financial reports from all church groups. Thank you in advance for your expeditious cooperation.

 **Thank you:** To everyone who donated a Poinsettia to help decorate our worship space for the Christmas Season. They were beautiful!!

 **Thank You:** To Randy Waloch, Martin Potts, Darrel Salberg and Mike Larson for scooping the snow off the church roof. Your help and time is greatly appreciated!

 **Christmas Program:** Thank you to all who helped out with the Christmas program and to all the parents for getting your kids to practice. We had a GREAT attendance of 135 people at the event. A recording of the Live Nativity is available on the church website. Thanks again to everyone!

 **YOGA Auction:** YOGA would like to thank everyone for all of their support at the Soup and Sandwich and Auction. We had a great turnout and it was so amazing to see all the people. Thank you to everyone for all the donations, whether it was food, time, monetary, or auction items. Your help is always greatly appreciated. Thanks again!!

# Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



**Our Sympathies :** Go out to the family and friends of: Gelene Hemminger and Keith Morlock. May God's loving embrace help you through this difficult time, and may the many happy memories ease your pain.



**The Sargent County Food Pantry:** The Gwinner location of the Sargent County Food Pantry is in need of the following items at this time: **Top Needs: Paper towels, Kleenex, Laundry soap, Dish soap, Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, bar soap, Toothpaste and toothbrushes.** As always, monetary donations are always appreciated. Please Send them to PO Box 101, Forman ND 58032. Monetary donations are used for: vouchers for the grocery store for perishable items (milk, eggs, butter, bread, cheese, fresh vegetables and fruits). At Christmas and Easter, we purchase and distribute food boxes to many residents of Sargent County. Drop off in Gwinner at GA Lutheran Church. You can also drop off items at the Food Pantry, located in the Gwinner Community Center, every Tuesday, 1:00-4:00. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!! Check out their Facebook page too! <http://www.facebook.com/scfpnd>



**Online Giving:** GA Church now has online giving available you can download the Givelify App or you can go to [www.galutheranchurch.org](http://www.galutheranchurch.org) and click on the Donate Now tab. As always your donations to GA are greatly appreciated! Thank you. Any questions please feel free to call Carrili.



**Church Services:** If you would like to watch church service live from home you can do so on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) just search for GA Lutheran Church on YouTube, a link is also available on the church website on the page with the bulletins. The bulletin for each Sunday will be posted on the church website [www.galutheranchurch.org](http://www.galutheranchurch.org) if you would like to view it while you listen to the service. If you miss the live service a recording will also be posted on the church website which you can view at anytime. Any questions ask Carrili or Kris. Thank you and spread the word.



**Thank You:** Thank you to everyone who participated in and helped with the Family Festivities Funday Sunday on December 19th. We have some creative artists. We look forward to doing it again next year.



**Leader Needed:** Jan 30th we are in need of a leader for worship. If you are interested please let Jamie or Carrili know. Thank you!



**Bulletin Donation Sheet:** The bulletin donation sheet for the 2022 church season is on the table in the Narthex. If you would like to donate/sponsor a bulletin for a Sunday please mark it down and get your payments to Carrili. Bulletin donations are \$15.00 per Sunday. Thank you for your support.



**Church Finances:** For the month of December 2021: Thank you for all you do for Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church! **Beginning Balance \$33089.87 - Debts \$18552.81 + Deposits \$18184.10 = End Balance \$32721.16**

# Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



**Welcome:** We welcome our Newly Baptized Member Jasmine Ann Seykora, who was baptized into our family here at GA Church on December 19th, 2021. We welcome you and look forward to helping you on your faith journey. She is the infant daughter of Melissa & Aaron Seykora.

**Poinsettia Plants:** A Jingle Bell Poinsettia was donated by Rosi Odegard in Memory of ElRoy Odegard, A Red Poinsettia was donated by Gene Hajek in Memory of Mavis Hajek, A White Poinsettia was donated by Joleen Hardy in Memory & Honor of all descendants of AJ & Liz Anderson, A Red Poinsettia was by Tracey Waswick in Memory of Roger & Connie White, A White Poinsettia was donate by Geneva Waswick in Memory of Corwin Waswick, A Pink Poinsettia was donated by Michelle & Brendan Ciesynski in Memory of departed loved ones, A Jingle Bell Poinsettia was donated by Kirstin Kempel and Family in Honor of their Parents and Grandparents, A White Poinsettia was donated by Lisa Jensen & Family, Jeff Odegard & Family, Janel Erickson & Family and Corey Odegard & Family in Memory of ElRoy & LaVelle Odegard, A White Poinsettia was donated by Julie & Olivia Waswick in Memory of Corwin Waswick, A Jingle Bell Poinsettia was donated by Connie, A White Poinsettia was donated by Betty & Duane Johnson in Memory of Elaine & Lloyd Johnson, A Jingle Bell Poinsettia was donated by Shirley Christensen in Memory of Cody Christensen & Darrell Swanson, A Red Poinsettia was donated by Shirley Christensen in Memory of Don Christensen, A Red Poinsettia was donated by David & Linda McFarland in Memory of Karen McFarland and Dwight Hanson, A Red Poinsettia was donated by Jeannette Beckstrom & Families in Memory of Gerald Beckstrom, A Jingle Bell Poinsettia was donated by Kent & Julie Johnson in Honor & In Memory of their Grandchildren, A Red Poinsettia was donated by Roger & Carolyn Klemetson in Memory of Sherri Klemetson Ormonde, A Red Poinsettia was donated by Dan & Stacy McKeever family in Memory of Manny Hegle & ElRoy Odegard, A Pink Poinsettia was donated by Betty Melroe & Family in Memory of Stan Melroe, A Red Poinsettia was donated by Steve & Deb Johnson, Dewey & Joan Johnson and Dan Johnson in Memory of LaVerda Colburn, Johnny Johnson, Donnie Colburn, A Red Poinsettia was given by Norma Lacher & Gloria Smith in Memory of Grant, Marie & Gerald Beckstrom. Thank you to all who donated plants to help make our worship space beautiful.

## January/February Action Group

**Co-Chairs: Rachel Nelson**

DeAnna Youle

Dawn Anderson

Karen Anderson

Paula Mae Hansen

Carolyn Klemetson

Jaime Decker

Nicole Shockley

LaVon Stopplesworth

Tanya Walth

Laurie Lee

Karla Waloch

Janelle Mairs

Kristy Mairs

Sandra Nerison

Jessica Peterson



# January Birthdays

- 1 Bryan Christensen  
Jackson Odegard
- 2 Kylie Anderson
- 3 Athena Erickson  
Deb Johnson  
Ashley Hansen  
Peyton Vincent
- 4 Kent Johnson
- 5 Austin Johnson  
Matthew Stubbert
- 6 Ryan Holden  
Jenna Johnson  
Norma Lacher
- 8 Jan Melroe
- 9 Doug Anderson  
Chloe Beck
- 10 Raymond Johnson
- 11 Jason Bauer  
TJ Johnson
- 12 Jan Bjork  
Troy Jacobson
- 14 Masyn Stahl
- 15 Bret Buckingham  
Morgan Temple
- 16 Angelica Olson
- 17 Karla Frederick  
Elijah Hanson
- 18 Charles Klemetson
- 20 Amanda Tufty
- 21 Logan Decker  
Jaden Gilje  
Della Teske  
Jeremy Walth
- 22 Elizabeth Hardy  
Scott Udem
- 23 Marissa Hanson  
Victoria Sandness
- 24 Alyssa Tindell



- 26 Lucas Osier  
Jessica Peterson
- 27 Shelley Anderson  
Richard Jacobson  
Karah Sandness  
Helen Mairs
- 28 Skylar Peterson
- 29 Nicole Flannery  
Karla Ulven
- 30 Payten Herman



# January Anniversaries

- 3 Lynnae & Dennis Decker
- 12 Carolyn & Steve Jacobson
- 25 Lynn & Troy Jacobson
- 28 Peggy & Richard Olson

***Have you been left out of  
the birthday and  
anniversary page?***

***Or is the date always  
wrong?***

***If you have noticed any  
mistakes in the monthly  
newsletters,***

***please contact the church  
office at 678-2552 or***

***email us at [galutheran-  
church@outlook.com](mailto:galutheran-church@outlook.com)***

***Thanks!***

# January Worship Assistants

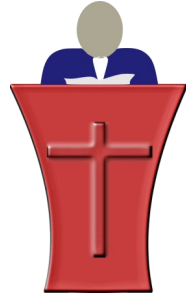
## Acolytes

- 02 Sawyer Toepke
- Ryan Enge
- 09 Teagan Beck
- Brea Johnson
- 16 Kyle Potts
- Cyprian Johnson
- 23 Ethan Weigelt
- Jaylene Herman
- 30 Jakob Creech
- Mackenzie Stubbart



## Readers

- 02 Joan Peterson
- 09 Nancy Wrage
- 16 Steve Melroe
- 23 Karla Waloch
- 30 Carrili Larson



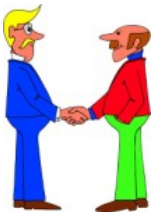
## Communion Assistants

- 02 Kirstin Kempel
- 09 Joan Peterson
- 16 Courtney Anderson
- 23 Mike Larson
- 30 Becky Salberg



## Greeters

- 02 Kent & Julie Johnson
- 09 Ryan Enge & Trista Weigelt
- 16 Rosi Odegard
- 23 Jeremy & Jackie Meyer
- 30 Mike & Carrili Larson



## Sound System

Volunteers Needed  
To Learn  
The New System



## Ushers

- Captain:** Jerrod & Becky Sandness
- Dale & Coleen Beaver
  - Scott & Jan Melore
  - Steve & Barb Melroe
  - Troy & Lynn Jacobson



## 2nd Sunday

- Carter Gilje
- Nate Hansen
- Lily Walth
- Alannah Beck

**Reminder:** You are responsible to find your own replacement if you can't fulfill your duties. Thanks!

**Minutes****December 8, 2021**

President Kris Beck, called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Council members present Kris Beck, Martin Potts, Jessica Peterson, and Mike Larson.

**Devotion and prayer led by:** None

**Secretary's Report.** Motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Larson/Potts. All in favor, motion carried.

**Church Work Group Reports:**

**Property and Grounds** – heat tape needs to be replaced, Groberg is moving the GFI outlets into the breaker box and into the furnace room for easier access, insulation needs to get put in the attic and out of the altar guild room

**2. WELCA**

**3. Men's Group**

**4. YOGA** – poinsettia sales went well again this year

**5. Education** –

**6. Altar Guild** - new candles are in the sanctuary candle holders along the north wall

**7. Worship and Music** – getting the choir active again, looking forward to beauty music

**8. Drive Through**

**9. Covid 19**

**Old Business and New Business:**

Reminders need to be sent out for worship assistants, not sure who will be doing this.

Rental/event calendar need to make sure there is always 1 in the office at all times.

Removal of table in the narthex. Working on getting the pamphlet holders installed

Stuff in the pews – confirmation kids have been cleaning and replacing paper, tissue, etc.

Wireless mics are on backorder, so waiting for them so they can be installed along with the TV screen for the leader to be able to see and follow along

Signs for the drive thru are also ordered

Live nativity is coming up.

Basement needs to be looked at in the parsonage

Gifts for employees and gifts for those providing animals for the live nativity

**Treasurer's Report:.** Motion to accept. Potts/Peterson. All in favor, motion carried.

**Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn meeting. Larson/Peterson. All in favor, motion carried.

**Lord's Prayer**

**Next Meeting:** January 12, 2022 at 5:30 pm



# JANUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 Worship No Communion <b>No S.S. or YOGA</b>	3	4	5 <b>5th &amp; 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM</b>  Confirmation 6:30 PM	6 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	7 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline <b>Jaime Off</b>	8
9 9:30 Worship w/Communion <b>S.S. Class &amp; YOGA</b>  <b>Make-A-Change Sunday</b>	10	11	12 <b>5th &amp; 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM</b>  Confirmation 6:30 PM  Church Council Meeting 5:30 PM	13 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon  <b>Ruth Circle 2:30 PM</b>	14 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline <b>Jaime Off</b>	15
16 9:30 Worship w/ Communion <b>S.S. Class &amp; YOGA</b>  <b>Sunday School Sings</b>	17	18	19 <b>5th &amp; 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM</b>  Confirmation 6:30 PM	20 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	21 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline  <b>Jaime Off</b>	22
23 9:30 Worship w/ Communion <b>S.S. Class &amp; YOGA</b>	24 <b>February Newsletter Deadline</b>  	25 <b>Jaime Off</b>	26 <b>5th &amp; 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM</b>  Confirmation 6:30 PM	27 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon <b>Jaime Off</b>	28 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline <b>Jaime Off</b>	29 <b>Jaime Off</b>
30 9:30 Worship No Communion <b>S.S. Class &amp; YOGA</b>  <b>Jaime Off</b>	31 <b>Jaime Off</b>		5:30 PM Altar Guild Meeting <b>Jaime Off</b>			

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.  
207 1st St SE  
PO Box 176  
Gwinner, ND 58040-0176



2022 January Newsletter



**CHURCH STAFF**

PASTOR.....JAIME DECKER  
SECRETARY.....CARRILI LARSON  
TREASURER.....MICHELLE GOETTLE  
CUSTODIAN.....RICK GRIEGER  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT.....KRIS BECK  
SCS SUPERINTENDENT.....JAN MELROE & BARB MELROE  
YOGA LEADERS.....DAWN ANDERSON & RACHEL NELSON

**PHONE NUMBERS**

CHURCH.....(701) 678-2552  
PARSONAGE.....  
JAIME CELL.....(701) 680-2637  
SECRETARY CELL.....(701) 680-1190

**EMAIL ADDRESSES**

PASTOR.....JAIMEDECKER4@GMAIL.COM  
CHURCH OFFICE.....GALUTHERANCHURCH@OUTLOOK.COM

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

KRIS BECK (PRESIDENT), MARTIN POTTS ( VICE PRES.),  
COURTNEY ANDERSON (SECRETARY), JESSICA PETERSON (TREASURER),  
PAUL WHITE, MIKE LARSON, BARB MELROE  
AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE