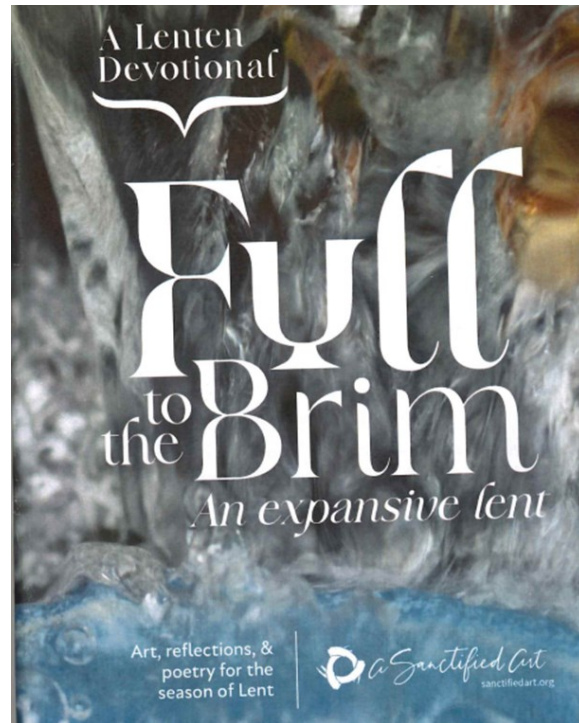


Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church
Gwinner, North Dakota

MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER



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The origins of Lent were that one was to leave their old life behind to fast and prepare to be baptized into a new way of living. In essence, this was a practice of stepping away from corrupt power, scarcity mentality, and empty rituals in order to live a more expansive and full life of faith. And so, our Lenten theme, Full to the Brim, is an invitation—into a radically different Lent, into a full life. It’s an invitation to be authentically who you are, to counter scarcity and injustice at every turn, to pour out even more grace wherever it is needed. When we allow ourselves to be filled to the brim with God’s lavish love, that love spills over. It reaches beyond ourselves; like water, it rushes and flows, touching everything in its path. As we journey through the season of Lent, we will find scriptures, poems, art, reflections, and hymns that are filled with promises of God’s abundant and expansive grace. Some of the stories you will encounter include: Jesus as a mother hen, a prodigal son welcomed home, a fig tree nurtured with care and hope, precious oil poured out lovingly and freely, and stones shouting out with praise. These sacred texts are brimming with a gospel of grace. We’ve done nothing to deserve or earn this grace, and yet, like water, it spills over.

Full to the Brim reminds us to live fully—as we pursue justice and hope, or express grief and gratitude. And so, this Lent, let us trust—fully—that we belong to God. Let us increase our capacity to receive and give grace. Let us discover the expansive life God dreams for us. *(A Sanctified Art LLC)*

“God Pause”

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



Luke 9:28-43

²⁸Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" -not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. ³⁷On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." ⁴¹Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴²While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ⁴³And all were astounded at the greatness of God. While everyone was amazed at all that he was doing, he said to his disciples,

Devotion

Has a guide led you along a mountain's precarious path? If so, you probably listened to the guide's directions knowing they could protect you. It would be treacherous to do otherwise. Those of us who are less adventuresome may simply have gotten lost in an unfamiliar place while traveling to an event. Perhaps we asked one of the people living in the area for directions. Having received their guidance, it would have been foolish to ignore it and just guess the way. Christ is our guide. The Transfiguration reveals Christ's divine wisdom and associations. Christ also has human experience and relationships. He lived among us and walked life's painful, treacherous journeys. The light Christ brought into the world can illuminate every person's challenging paths. God said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" (v. 34). It would be treacherous and foolish not to listen to our Guide!

Prayer

God who Speaks, thank you for sending your Son to guide us. Help us to faithfully follow him wherever you call us and anyplace he leads us. Amen.

Mary Simonson Clark: '07 M.A./MSW Temporary Community Outreach Worker, Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services, Cottonwood and Jackson Counties, MN

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

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

UPCOMING *Mark Your Calendars* EVENTS



- March 02:** 3:15 PM 5 & 6 Grade after school program
- March 02:** 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service
- March 06:** 9:30 AM Worship Service with Communion—Sunday School & YOGA to Follow
- March 06:** ANNUAL MEETING after worship service
- March 09:** 3:15 PM 5 & 6 Grade after school program
- March 09:** 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting
- March 09:** 6:00 PM Potluck, 6:30 PM Mid-Week Lent Service
- March 10:** 2:30 PM Ruth Circle
- March 13:** 9:30 AM Worship Service, No Communion—Sunday School Sings, YOGA & S.S. following
- March 13:** Brat & Burger Feed 11:00am-12:30pm
- March 16:** 3:15 PM 5 & 6 Grade after school program
- March 16:** 6:00 PM Potluck, 6:30 PM Mid-Week Lent Service
- March 20:** 9:30 AM Worship Service with Communion—NO Sunday School or YOGA
- March 21:** April Newsletter Deadline
- March 23:** 3:15 PM 5 & 6 Grade after school program
- March 23:** 6:00 PM Potluck, 6:30 PM Mid-Week Lent Service
- March 25-26:** Confirmation Retreat in Verona
- March 27:** 9:30 AM Worship Service with Communion—Sunday School & YOGA to Follow
- March 27:** Spring Fling Fun Day—Following Worship
- March 30:** 3:15 PM 5 & 6 Grade after school program
- March 30:** 5:30 PM Altar Guild Meeting
- March 30:** 6:00 PM Potluck, 6:30 PM Mid-Week Lent Service

amazon smile **Amazon Smile:** As you do your **ONLINE** shopping don't forget GA Church is now a section you can donate to if you shop on Amazon. Just go to 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 it's everyone's favorite time of year! REMINDER the Annual Meeting has been moved to March 6th, 2022. Thank you and see you there!



WELCOME: To the newly Baptized member of GA Church. Parker Scott Melroe, son of Corey & Shelby Melroe. who was baptized on February 13th. We welcome you and look forward to guiding you on your faith journey.



Brat & Burger Feed: The Men's Group will be putting on their "Burger and Brat Feed" Sunday, March 13th from 11:00 - 12:30. Proceeds to help defray cost of YOGA activities. Spread the word and see you there!

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Our Sympathies : Go out to the family and friends of: Donald Mathias and Crystal Meyer. 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: Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner, Body Wash and Paper Products.** 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 **Givelify** you can go to 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 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 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.



Library Remodel: The Library is getting a face lift! New flooring will be installed. Items have been cleaned out that are no longer needed and are on the table in the Narthex. **If you are interested in any of the items please feel free to help yourself, we just ask that you consider a donation to the renovation in exchange for the items.** Any questions please contact Barb Melroe or Mike Larson. 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 January 2022: Thank you for all you do for Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church! **Beginning Balance \$36205.28 - Debts \$25073.95 + Deposits \$15162.11 = End Balance \$26293.44**

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Book/Bible Study: Starting in March during our Lenten Season we will begin a Bible/book study to help us enrich our faith through readings and conversations around scripture. Please contact Pastor Jaime if you are interested in joining this study and/or have any questions. No details have been set yet. We will decide dates and times that will work best for the majority who plan to attend. I hope you join me in exploring, learning, and sharing our faith through scripture together. ~ Pastor Jaime



Thank You: I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mike Larson, Auston Creech, Luke Hartman, Kent Johnson, Alex Koepke, Lucas Melroe, Scott Melroe and Water Wrage for insulating over 400 feet of duct work on the south half of the church and to Denise Dahl and Julie Johnson for the delicious meal served afterwards. We are currently working with the lumber yard to get materials for the north half. ~ Dennis Dahl ~



First Communion: First communion class will be held the first week of April. This class is available to all ages as GA doesn't have a required age to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Parents and their child (ren) are left to decide when an individual is ready to receive Holy Communion. If you would like to sign up for this class or have any wonderings, questions, or concerns please contact Pastor Jaime. First communion will be during Maundy Thursday service on April 14th.

Ash Wednesday & Lent: Ash Wednesday service is at 6:30pm on March 2nd (no potluck), The following mid-week Wednesday services will begin with potluck at 6:00pm and services at 6:30pm.

March /April Action Group

Co-Chairs: Kris Beck

Nancy Wrage

Jackie Meyer

Michelle Ciesynski

Nicki Erickson

Betty Johnson

Barb Klemetson

Janae Sherlock

Della Teske

Judy Tyler

Kari Ulven

Karla Ulven

Patty Ulven

Shirley Waloch

Rhonda Weigelt

Kirstin Kempel

Kalea Melcher



March Birthdays

- 1 Nicki Erickson
- 2 Jolene Lauth
Brad Zetocho
- 3 Corey Odegard
MacKenna Sherman
- 4 Eric Dahl
Peggy Erickson
- 6 Dylan Goettle
- 7 Carter Anderson
Gracin Salberg
- 8 Kim Beckstrom
- 9 Morgan Heger
- 10 Tyler Vincent
Blayke Jacobson
- 12 Bobby Beckstrom
Aaron Flannery
Richard Olson
- 13 Patricia Creech
- 14 Jonathon McFarland
- 15 Ashlee Lien
- 17 John Crandall
Samuel Crandall
Casey Flannery
Lucas Jacobson
- 18 Jeremy Berreth
Tracy Nicholson
Wendy Swanson
- 19 Arlin Sandstrom
- 20 Darby Swanson
Rodney Utecht
Janelle Mairs
- 21 Hope Ciesynski
Allen Johnson
- 22 Daro Crandall
- 23 Emerson Beck
Addyson Hardy
Mike Richter
Hans Swanson
Vicki Osier



- 24 Shelly Beckstrom
- 25 Bridger Crandall
Diane Odegard
- 26 Charlene Smith
- 27 Samantha Kranzler
Scott Melroe
Lee Schwagel
Rhonda Weigelt
Natalie Otonichar
Beckett Hansen
- 28 Zasha Johnson
- 29 Bruce Holden
Kandyce Sandstrom
- 30 Keith Beaver
Michael Witkowski
Warren Seykora
- 31 Jeremy Griggs
Ryan Johnson



March Anniversaries

**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!

- 1 Ginger & Rodney Utecht
Anna & Bruce Holden
Carolyn & Roger Klemetson
- 9 Kirstin & Torey Kempel
- 17 Timothy & Jessica Peterson
- 21 Becky & Darrel Salberg

March Worship Assistants

Acolytes

- 02 Youth
- 06 Payten Herman/Easton Johnson
- 09 Youth
- 13 Tristen Peterson/MacKennzie Stubbert
- 16 Youth
- 20 Kyle Potts/Elliot Shockley
- 23 Youth
- 27 Ethan Weigelt/Ryan Engle
- 30 Youth



Communion Assistants

- 02 Shirley Waloch
- 06 Barb Melroe
- 09 Kris Beck
- 13 Steve Melroe
- 16 Dennis Dahl
- 20 Courtney Anderson
- 23 Michelle Goettle
- 27 Becky Salberg
- 30 Mike Larson



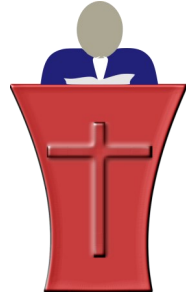
Sound System

Volunteers Needed
To Learn
The New System



Readers

- 02 Youth
- 06 Coleen Beaver
- 09 Youth
- 13 Michelle Goettle
- 16 Youth
- 20 Kari Gilje
- 23 Youth
- 27 Michelle Ciesynski
- 30 Youth



Greeters

- 02 Youth
- 06 Mike & Carrili Larson
- 09 Youth
- 13 Nate Hansen/Easton Johnson
- 16 Youth
- 20 Brendan & Michelle Ciesynski
- 23 Youth
- 27 Randy & Karla Waloch
- 30 Youth



Ushers

- Captain: Miles & Lannae Johnson**
- Torey & Kirstin Kempel
 - David & Donna Hansen
 - Terry & Karen Euscher



2nd Sunday

- Sage Turchin
- Jack Mairs
- Aleysha Sarith
- Morgan Temple

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

Not Available at Time of Publication

MARCH 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2 5th & 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service	3 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	4 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Jaime Off	5
6 9:30 Worship w/Communion S.S. Class & YOGA ANNUAL MEETING after Worship	7	8	9 5th & 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM Church Council Meeting 5:30 PM 6:00 PM Lent Service	10 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Ruth Circle 2:30 PM	11 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Jaime Off	12
13 9:30 Worship No Communion S.S. Class & YOGA Make-A-Change Sunday Sunday School Sings	14	15	16 5th & 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM 6:00 PM Lent Service	17 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	18 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Jaime Off	19
20 9:30 Worship w/ Communion NO Sunday School or YOGA	21 April Newsletter Deadline 	22	23 5th & 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM 6:00 PM Lent Service	24 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	25 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Jaime Off Confirmation	26 Retreat
27 9:30 Worship w/ Communion S.S. Class & YOGA SPRING FLING Fun Day	28	29	30 5th & 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM 5:30 PM Altar Guild Meeting 6:00 PM Lent Service	31		

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.
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2022 March Newsletter

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB AND FACEBOOK!

WWW.GALUTHERANCHURCH.ORG

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GALUTHERANCHURCH

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