

*Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church
Gwinner, North Dakota*

FEBRUARY 2022

NEWSLETTER

February



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Important February Dates

Feb 1: Financial Reports Deadline

Feb 6: Special Offering for Indy

Feb 10: Giving Hearts Day

Feb 13: Sunday School Kiddos Sing

Feb 14: Annual Reports Deadline

See you all at Worship!

9:30 AM Sunday

YOGA & Sunday School Follow

“God Pause”

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



Luke 4:21-30

²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Devotion

Lent is coming, when once again we will embark on our Lenten journey of repentance and new life. We hope our journey ends well, but what if Jesus were to show up and mess up our neat plans? I'm sure Jesus' audience, the gathered faithful that day in Nazareth, were doing their best to be God's people. But then Jesus showed up to point to the truth through the prophet's words. In the same way the truth confronts us. Gun violence, racial enmities, a tottering climate, a divided country, a hungry world—all shake our fragile security and the illusion of our righteousness. We have ways to deal with those who tell us what we don't want to hear. But not yet. Jesus slips our grasp. Our Lenten journey has its purpose. Jesus will find us again dying for the sake of a broken world—for you and me. But this time everything will change. "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Prayer

Jesus, Son of God, when you enter our lives, it is not always to affirm and comfort us. You also show us the life of faith can be disruptive, challenging and changing us in ways that at first we do not welcome. May we hear and trust the good news which comes to renew and bring us to repentance. Through Christ our Light, Amen.

Rolf G. Morck '82 M.Div.

Central Lutheran Church, Mondovi, WI

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

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

UPCOMING *Mark Your Calendars* EVENTS



- Feb 01:** Deadline for Financial Reports for Annual Meeting Auditing.
Feb 02: 3:15 PM 5th & 6th Grade After School Program, 6:30 PM Confirmation
Feb 06: 9:30 AM Worship Service with Communion—Sunday School & YOGA to Follow
Feb 09: 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting
Feb 09: 3:15 PM 5th & 6th Grade After School Program, 6:30 PM Confirmation
Feb 10: 2:30 PM Ruth Circle and Giving Hearts Day
Feb 13: 9:30 AM Worship Service with Communion, SS Kids Sing—Sunday School & YOGA Follow
Feb 14: ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE for ALL Financial and Presidential Reports
Feb 16: 3:15 PM 5th & 6th Grade After School Program, 6:30 PM Confirmation
Feb 20: 9:30 AM Worship Service with Communion—NO Sunday School & YOGA
Feb 23: 3:15 PM 5th & 6th Grade After School Program, 6:30 PM Confirmation
Feb 23: 5:30 PM Altar Guild Meeting
Feb 27: 9:30 AM Worship Service with Communion—Sunday School & YOGA to Follow
March 2: Ash Wednesday 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 shop. Amazon gives. 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 6th, 2022. The deadline to turn in reports to Carrili is **February 14th, 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.



Special Offering: Indy Husted, our pianist for GA, is home recovering from surgery. She will not be able to drive for 6 weeks, so that will keep her from working at the school and here at GA. We are collecting a special offering Sunday February 6th to help her out with additional expenses. If you are interested in donating, please leave your offering in the labeled plate in the back of the church. Indy will have some other needs as well, such as rides and meals. If you would like to assist her with any of this, please contact Kirstin Kempel. Thank you.



Giving Hearts Day: February 10th is Giving Hearts Day. Giving Hearts Day continues to grow as a vital avenue to support synod ministry. These funds allow us to walk with congregations and leaders in a variety of ways, including call process and transitions, candidacy, and pastoral care. We hope that you will participate in this year's Giving Hearts Day. Our goal is to raise \$100,000! You can donate by going to GivingHeartsDay.org

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Our Sympathies : Go out to the family and friends of those who have lost a loved one. 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 **live streaming** 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.



Leader Needed: We will need pulpit supply for **Sunday March 13th, Sunday March 20th** and Wednesday Lenten service on **March 16th**. If you are interested please contact Jaime and or Carrili and let them know. Thanks so much!



Donation: The Sunday School hallway is in need of some organization. Fabric storage bins will be purchased to store the Sunday School supplies on the shelves that are already there. The total cost of the bins will be about \$75. If you are interested in giving a monetary donation towards the purchase of the bins, please contact Kirstin Kempel or Carrili. Thank you for your support.



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.



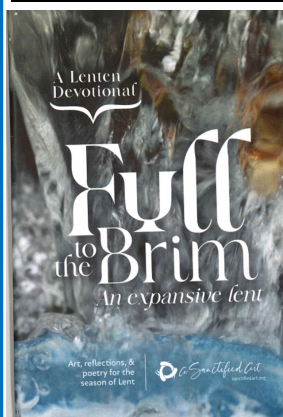
Church Finances: For the month of December 2021: Thank you for all you do for Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church! **Beginning Balance \$33439.46 - Debts \$25568.52 + Deposits \$25071.08 = End Balance \$32942.02**

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

Upcoming in March: *Ash Wednesday March 2nd*, and weekly Wednesday Services after that.



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)

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



February Birthdays

PAGE 6

- 2 Kelsey Beckstrom
Mike Larson
- 3 Janet Orn
Sam Gebeke
Marshall Weigelt
- 7 Clarmont Ulven
- 8 Kris Beck
Tayler Hansen
Sage Turchin
- 9 Chase McFarland
- 10 Jasmine Sherlock
- 11 Kirstin Kempel
- 12 Katelyn Decker
Dawson McKeever
Justin Rodine
- 13 Betty Melroe
Jennifer Kleingartner
- 14 Laura Thurston
- 16 Brian Tyler
Galen Metz
Kari Ulven
- 17 Sylvan Anderson
Lando Decker
- 18 Myrna Anderson
- 19 Michelle Ciesynski
- 20 Randy Holden
Kenwood Peterson
Jewel Jones-VanTassel
Trista Weigelt
- 21 Shirley Christensen
Preston Odegard
- 22 Dennis Peterson
- 23 James D. Johnson
Lucas Lautt
- 24 Dennis Dahl
Sierra McKeever
- 25 Logan Peterson
Chad Vincent

- 26 Kristy Hohnadel
- 27 Terry Beckstrom
- 28 Aidan Anderson
- 29 Dawson Peterson



February 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!

February Worship Assistants

Acolytes

06	Hunter Lien
	Jaela Nerison
13	RayLee Odegard
	Athena Erickson
20	Maddilyn Faber
	Lando Decker
27	Brea Johnson
	Elijah Hanson



Readers

06	Joleen Hardy
13	Carrili Larson
20	Kirstin Kempel
27	Julie Johnson



Communion Assistants

06	Steve Melroe
13	Jessica Peterson
20	Shirley Waloch
27	Michelle Ciesynski



Greeters

06	Shirley Waloch/Betty Melroe
13	Auston Creech & Family
20	Casey & Jaime Decker Family
27	Dennis & Denise Dahl



Sound System

Volunteers Needed
To Learn
The New System



Ushers

Captain: Darrel & Becky Salberg
Sean & Dawn Anderson
Chris McFarland
Jon & Wendy McFarland
Dan & Stacy McKeever



2nd Sunday

Ryan Enge
Nick Hansen
Kennedi Faber
Alexis Saryth

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

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church Council Minutes

FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUE 2

January 12, 2022, 5:30 pm

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CALL TO ORDER Time: 5:35pm Present: Kris Beck, Paul White, Martin Potts, Jaime Decker, Sheridan McKeever, Mike Larson, Courtney Anderson, Barb Melroe, Jessica Peterson: **DEVOTION AND PRAYER: Pastor's Report: 12/6-12/2021 – Vacation, 12/12/2021 – Live Nativity and YOGA soup/sandwich/auction followed positive response from community, 12/16/2021 – Wahpeton Conference in Milnor, discussed conference dues, 12/19/2021 – Baptism of Jasmine Seykora, daughter to Melissa and Aaron, Ugly Sweater Sunday, Family Festivities Funday Sunday – Christmas crafts and projects for kids and parents, Blue Christmas Service @5pm, 12/22&23/2021 – Prayer Service and funeral for Gelene Hemminger, 12/24/2021 – Christmas Eve service – 150 attended, gift bags for kids, Confirmation students helped me fill 120 Christmas gift bags filled with popcorn, fruit snacks, goldfish crackers, candy, church calendar and devotion which were delivered by YOGA to residents living in various apartment buildings throughout the community as an outreach project. 5th & 6th grade after school program is going well. Consistently have about 8 students attending. Confirmation students have been helping assist Sunday worship services as part of their confirmation requirements. Positive feedback has been received from various people. 1/9/2022 – Worship & music meeting – Preparing for Lent 1/24/2022-2/3/2022 – Israel Trip – using as continued Ed 1/30/2022 – Joleen Hardy will be covering for me as pulpit supply. Kirstin Kempel to cover for confirmation that week also. Synod Assembly is being changed to 6/4&5/2022: Items to be added to Agenda, Indy – need to discuss backfill options, Updating Library, Mission Statement, Mission Support. Adoption of the Agenda, Moved to Approve Agenda Barb Melroe Second Sheridan McKeever**

MC Yes : **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Moved to Approve Minutes Courtney Anderson Second Mike Larson MC Yes

CHURCH GROUP REPORTS: Property and Grounds – heat tape needs to be replaced, Grotberg is moving GFI to one of the columns and out of the soffits to the breaker box and in the furnace room. Mike Larson looking at installing Copper chucks for sewage vent to prevent freezing - Paul White Moved to approve and Martin Potts second – Motion Carried. Snow removal from parking lot – proceeding as usual. WELCA – Served Gelene Hemminger funeral and cider for live nativity, Men's Group – Oysters for annual meeting have arrived for 1/30/2022 at 5pm, YOGA – Did Poinsette sale, soup and sandwich action – Rachel has total count; less than previous year auction was held. Rachel is working on registration for Minneapolis trip deadline coming up 1/21/2022. Education – Set last date for Sunday School is 5/8/2022. Still looking for someone to volunteer for Sunday School Superintendent. Altar Guild – Candles in sconces have been replaced and look great! Christmas decorations have been taken down. Figuring out which paraments to order. Worship and Music – Met on Sunday, 1/9/2022, to pick out music for Lent. Looking to have more interaction with possible Choir. Need to determine if we will have Potluck for Lent season. Indy's replacement – will most likely be out for quite some time. Jamie has reached out to see if there is anything we can assist with. Jamie talked to Becky, she may help with some recordings, but realize we need to be open and understand there may be some services where we do not have music. May try doing recorded music or have band class play a song or two during service. Funeral we may need to reach out – funeral homes are generally good about providing music. For Lent services we maybe only have recorded music. Drive Thru – signs are ordered, Mike will get holes drilled and prepped for signed to be installed. Covid 19 – Will continue to monitor numbers and determine if we need to update. **OLD BUSINESS:** Reminders – not sure who is doing, Rental/Event calendar – leave in the office, Removal of table in narthex – pamphlet holders here, and need to be installed, Stuff in pews – confirmations kids did put paper and pens in, Wireless mics – ordered, seeing if Austin or Shawn can install. TV screen for Jaime to see - ordere Signs for drive thru. **NEW BUSINESS:** Basement at the parsonage – Jessica called a company to look at it and they will be here on January 18th, Ricks jobs list – Do we need to look at having work groups to assist? Or possibly a day to divide the areas up and get everything cleaned. Paul White will bring up to Men's group to do floors in Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Insulation needs to be installed. Need to discuss having it hired done; going to reach out to Austin Creech or Comstock gave a number for Cullins to possibly assist. Need to get insulation done within the next month. Mike will talk to Austin Creech and Dennis Dahl. Paul White will reach out to Walter Wrage and Luke Hartmann. Kris will also reach out to Mid-West Pest Control. Discuss and approve the 2022 budget – Jessica found and error in formulas and has since updated. Need to sit down and talk about Carilli's salary, Kris plans to meet with Carilli and council will meet after, as this could change the budget. Need to look at getting updated computer for Michelle, as well as updated QuickBooks software. Insurance has increased, as expected. Rent for parsonage has gone up as of 1/1/2022. Will approve final budget in February. Is there anything we need to add to the annual meeting agenda? – Decide after budget is determined if we need to look at Jamie doing ¾ of the time. Jamie would like to have Mission Statement added; Jamie has Julie Waswick working on some different logos, for letter head, attire, etc. Would like to get mission statement reviewed prior to Annual Meeting for congregation's review. Committee for member list; trying to create this as more of a dialogue for updated directory. Committee for events held at the church – funerals (lunch pricing, etc.), weddings (fees for use, pianist, pastor, what is expected of renter, etc.) Determine if there's a deposit fee. Fee for Members/Non-Members. Kirstin Kempel and Nancy Wrage are planning on heading up a Wedding Coordinator Committee. Increase for Secretary Salary – Kris is going to talk to Carilli. Updating the Library – need to do new flooring, furniture, some paint, updating artwork. Being YOGA's domain would like to have their help with updates, physically and monetarily. Wedding planned for 6/18 – Library tends to be used for weddings so trying to keep that date in mind. Books, miscellaneous items will be looked at and then listed in newsletter for anyone wanting those items. Letter from Jessica Miller – She is asking for prayers for their ministry as they supply a lot of food to individuals in their area, and if our congregation would be willing to pledge, asking for pledges ranging from \$500-\$5,000. If interested could we look at just donating, special offering, direct donation, etc. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Moved to Approve Report Courtney Anderson, Second Paul White MC Yes. **LORD'S PRAYER, ADJOURNMENT** Moved to Adjourn Sheridan McKeever Second Mike Larson MC Yes Time: 7:15pm Next Meeting: February 9, 2022 at 5:30 pm

FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 Deadline for Financial Reports	2	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	7	8	9 5th & 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting 5:30 PM	10 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Ruth Circle 2:30 PM GIVING HEARTS DAY	11 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Jaime Off	12
13 9:30 Worship w/ Communion S.S. Class & YOGA Make-A-Change Sunday Sunday School Sings	14 ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE 	15	16 5th & 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM	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 March Newsletter Deadline 	22	23 5th & 6th Grade Meets 3:15 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM 5:30 PM Altar Guild Meeting	24 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	25 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Jaime Off	26
27 9:30 Worship w/ Communion S.S. Class & YOGA	28					

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.
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2022 February 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

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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