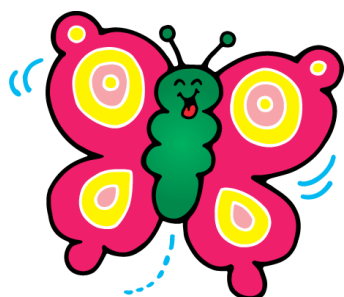


MAY 2023

NEWSLETTER



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

FRONT COVER	1
GOD PAUSE	2
KEEPING YOU IN THE GA LOOP	3
KEEPING YOU IN THE GA LOOP	4
KEEPING YOU IN THE GA LOOP	5
MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES	6
MAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	7
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES	8
MAY CALENDAR	9
G.A. CONTACT INFORMATION PAGE	10



Important Events in May

May 7th: Confirmation Sunday
Sunday School Sings

May 14th: Senior Graduate Recognition
Last Day of Sunday School



“God Pause”

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



John 10:1-10 (NRSV)

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. Verse²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. Verse³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. Verse⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. Verse⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Verse⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. Verse⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. Verse⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. Verse⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. Verse¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Devotion

From time to time I have heard the comment, "Well pastor, what we talk about here at church is fine but things work a little differently out there in the real world." The real world has always had plenty of thieves and bandits, as Jesus calls them. And if we are to be truly honest, we must also admit our own complicity in the ways of the real world. How easily the voices of fear and conflict and self-preservation can drown out the voice of God. But that will never stop the voice of Jesus the shepherd from calling us by name and leading us to the abundant life God has to give us. We must listen for that voice. We must take time to pay attention so that we can tell the difference between the voice of the imposter and the voice of God. Those who hear the voice of the shepherd know that the real world belongs to God.

Prayer

God of loving patience, tune our hearts to your voice that we may hear you calling our name and leading us to the abundant life you have to give us. Calm our fearful hearts as we trust in your promise of salvation for the real world that you love. Amen.

Loren Barker '84 M.Div. Retired, Menomonie, Wisconsin

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

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

UPCOMING *Mark Your Calendars* EVENTS



May 06: 2pm Jesse Utecht Funeral

May 07: 9:30am Worship Service with Communion—Sunday School Sings—**Confirmation Sunday**

May 11: 2:30pm Ruth Circle

May 11: 5:00pm Music & Worship Meeting

May 14: 9:30am Worship Service with Communion—**Senior Recognition Sunday**

May 14: Church Council Meeting after Worship

May 20: 10am-Noon Bridal Shower for Darby Swanson

May 21: 9:30am Worship Service with Communion

May 22: June Newsletter Deadline

May 28: 9:30am Worship Service with Communion

May 31: 5:30pm Altar Guild Meeting

Venmo: GA Church now has Venmo! If you would like to use Venmo to place your Weekly/Monthly/Annual Offerings please do so!! Our account is @GustafAdolf-LutheranChurch or scan the QR Code. Thank you!



venmo



The "Burger / Brat": fundraiser was a success with 86 people served. The Men's Group would like to thank Paul White and Jody Zieske for organizing the event, making the beans, providing the brats, Casey Decker for providing the burgers, Duane Johnson for the use of his grills and cooking skills, Carrili Larson, Stacy McKeever, Nancy Wrage, Denise Dahl for the salads, Janae Sherlock for the bars and to YOGA and those who worked. The event brought in \$1,023.30. Proceeds will be used towards replacing the exterior door in the fellowship hall.



Leaders Needed: Worship Leader(s) are needed on the following dates as Pastor Jaime will be off. If you are interested in taking any of these dates please let Carrili know. June 4th, June 18th, July 2nd, July 9th. Thank You!



Palm Sunday Dinner: From the WELCA Palm Sunday Dinner crew – Thank you so much for supporting our Palm Sunday Dinner. Maybe you attended and ate the delicious food, or maybe you provided a dessert, donated money to help cover expenses, or worked and washed dishes – we want to give you a great big thumbs up for whatever you did for us! We served nearly 100 people, and took in \$1,073.20. This money will allow us to support other organizations, like our synod, women in poverty, bible campers, the state hospital, and food banks.

Thank You: Thank you to whomever installed the drawer dividers in the kitchen utensil drawers. They are greatly appreciated and will help with organization and safety of those who use the kitchen.



YOGA Breakfast: Thank you to all who helped out with and attended the Easter Breakfast! Your support of the youth is greatly appreciated. A total of \$745.00 was raised for our youth.

Lily Sales: Thank you to everyone for purchasing an Easter Lily and making our church look and smell so beautiful on Easter Sunday! The support from all of you is very much appreciated!! Thanks again, GA YOGA.

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Our Sympathies : Go out to the family and friends of: Kim Beckstrom and Roger Klemetson 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: Canned fruits/veggies, Cereal, Paper products, Juice, Condiments.** 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 and click on the Donate Now tab. As always your donations to GA are greatly appreciated! Thank you.



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.



Office Hours: Pastor Jaime has changed her office hours, New hours are: Monday- 9:30-11:30am, Tuesday-9:30-11:30am, Wednesday-1:00-3:00pm. She is also available by cell 701-680-2637. Friday will still remain her day off.



Senior Sunday: Senior Graduate Recognition will be held Sunday, May 14th. Please come and help us as we wish our Senior Graduates well and bless them on their future endeavors. Bits N' Stitches will also present each graduate with a hand-made quilt. Our Seniors this year are, Claire Anderson, Kennedi Faber, Carter Gilje, Karlie Shockley, Lily Walth and Sage Turchin. Congratulations Graduates!



Confirmation Sunday: Affirmation of Faith for the 8th Grade Confirmation students will be held Sunday, May 7th. Confirmands please be at the church by 9:00am to get ready and take photos. Thank you.



Church Finances: For the month of March 2023: Thank you for all you do for Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church!
Starting: \$34,271.48 - Debts \$19,773.67 + Deposits \$23,157.58
= End \$37,655.39

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



This year for Sunday School music we are going to be singing **1 Sunday a month**. We will try and sing on the **2nd Sunday** of each month as that is the "youth" Sunday, as long as the schedule allows. There are a few Sundays that will not be on the 2nd Sunday of the month. **ALL CHILDREN** ages 4 years thru 6th Grade are welcome to join us! For the 2022-2023 school year they will sing on the following Sundays: **May 7th** Please try and have your child/children here as many Sundays as possible thru the year to practice, so that come the performance days we actually know the words. I understand that not every Sunday everyone can be here, but please try and come to as many as possible. **May 14th Is the LAST DAY of Sunday School.** Sincerely, Carrili Larson- Music Instructor.



Volunteer Needed: Church Council has 1 spot vacant that needs a volunteer to fill it. It will just be for 1 year to finish a term of a member that has stepped down. If interested please let Kris or Carrili know. Thank you!



Mowing List: The mowing list IS COMING SOON!! If you would like to be added to the list and or removed from the list please let Carrili know ASAP. Thank you SO MUCH for helping keep our church looking beautiful this summer season.



Congratulations: There were 9 youth who had First Communion on April 6th. God Bless Elijah Hanson, Anthony Ferderer, Ava Ferderer, Jaylene Ferderer, Jaila LaTraille, Jax Johnson, Jayden Johnson, Tucker Meyer, Landon Meyer.



Sunday School: The Sunday School kiddos will sing Sunday May 7th, and then Sunday May 14th will be the last day of Sunday School for the year. Enjoy the Summer and THANK YOU! to all the teachers for a great year.



Wednesday Services: Wednesday services and education are completed for this spring and will start again next fall.

May/June Action Group

Co-Chairs: Joan Peterson
Donna Hansen

Jeannette Beckstrom

Shirley Christensen

Kari Gilje

Jeanie Stahl

Betty Melroe

Kay Swanson

Deb Thorsness

Linda Johnson

Denise Dahl

Lynn Anderson

Peggy Erickson

Shirley Fuss

Connie Kracht

Kyla Temple



May Birthdays

PAGE 6

- 1 Jeff Anderson
Graeme Jacobson
- 2 Doug Hanson
- 3 Tristen Peterson
- 4 Kallie Decker
- 5 Joan Peterson
- 6 Paula M. Hansen
Jaila LaTraille
- 7 Trudi Christensen
- 8 Dennis Decker
Jessica Griggs
- 9 Joel Asche
Nate Hansen
Nick Hansen
Jeanie Stahl
- 11 Riley Taliaferro
James Goettle
- 14 Carrie Herberg
Neairah Netterville
- 15 Peggy Olson
Karen Euscher
Justen Kleingartner
- 16 Jace Faber
- 18 Eric Beem
Lily Walth
- 19 Dale Johnson
Kendra Euscher
Nikki Sims
- 20 Hudson Lien
- 21 Macy Mairs
- 22 Linda Johnson
- 23 Carter Gilje
Jax Johnson



- 24 Mike Kleingartner
Gloria Smith
Karla Waloch
- 27 Nick Vincent
Corey Jacobson
- 28 Samuel Waloch
- 29 Tanaya Crellin
David McFarland
- 31 Dan McKeever



May 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 Brendan & Michelle Ciesynski
- 3 Chance & Katelyn Diegel
- 4 Chuck & Barb Klemetson
Dan & Stacy McKeever
- 8 Mike & Jenny Kleingartner
- 9 Doug & Trudi Christensen
- 28 Tom & Robin Rehborg

May Worship Assistants

Acolytes

07 Moxynn Hamann
Maddilyn Faber
14 Tristen Peterson
Jaela Nerison
21 Brea Johnson
Braylyn Nelson
28 Aryanna Nerison
Jaila LaTraille



Readers

07 Joan Peterson
14 Kirstin Kempel
21 Karla Waloch
28 Carrili Larson



Communion Assistants

07 Julie Johnson
14 Barb Melroe
21 Mike Larson
28 Shirley Waloch



Greeters

07 Sean & Dawn Anderson
14 Karlie Shockley
Lily Walth
21 Shirley Christensen/Betty Melroe
28 Martin Potts & Julie Waswick



Sound System

Volunteers Needed
To Learn
The New System



Ushers

Captain: Brian & Val Bjork
Richard & Peggy Olson
Paul White
David & Linda McFarland
Heidi Gleason



2nd Sunday

Halle Lien
Karlie Shockley
Marshall Weigelt
Brea Johnson

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

Council Meeting Minutes for April 15, 2023

In Attendance: Martin Potts, Mike Larsen, Kris Beck, Barb Melroe, Paul White, Pastor Jaime,

Meeting called to order at 12:40 pm Opening prayer and devotion Approval of Meeting Agenda by White/ Larson. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report –Potts/ White. Motion carried to accept.

Pastor's Report – Palm/ Passion Sunday with multi-generational reading of the Passion of Christ. Had 9 children complete First Communion class and 7 received First Communion on Maundy Thursday. Services held Good Friday, Sunrise and 9:30 services on Easter Sunday. Delivered cookies and cards made by YOGA to community members. Held funeral service for Roger Klemetson with service for Kim Beckstrom and Jesse Utecht pending. Will be attending Renew conference April 23 and 24. Taking confirmation class and any YOGA members who would like to attend to LaMoure for suicide prevention meeting April 26. Mentor program for confirmation students wrapped up and Confirmation scheduled for May 7. April 27 will be attending Joint Theological Day.

Committee Reports

WELCA – Palm Sunday dinner raised over \$1,000. 96 people served.

Men's Group – Burger and Brat feed raised over \$1,000. Plan to host car club and corn feed August 9.

Property and Grounds- Roof cleaned off by Karson Beckstrom and Dylan Odegard. Leaks stopped for now. Discussed need for roofing, possibly steel. Tabled at this time. Mike will contact Chris Ferderer for quote to repair water damage in the church. He will also get a price on storage building that is for sale.

Altar Guild- Polished all brass before Easter. Sanctuary was beautiful. Thank you to the Urbachs and Nelsons for the crosses they made and installed.

Sunday School – No change

YOGA – Easter Breakfast raised over \$700. Planning mission trip to Harrisburg, PA in June. 5 youth have signed up.

Music and Worship – Meeting 4/17/23 to plan May worship and possibly through the summer.

Old Business

3 more Wednesday night programs. Group will get together to discuss changes for next year.

Will continue to try to find someone to fill vacant council seat.

New Business


A. A huge thank you to everyone who assisted with snow removal in the parking lot, sidewalks and roof. It was much appreciated. B. Council attended retreat at Pastor Jaime's house on April 15, 2023 led by Pastor Jule Laney-Ballinger. Very informative and motivational.

Treasurer's Report – Moved to approve- Melroe/ Larson

Next Council Meeting- May 14, 2023 after church service.

Motion to adjourn- White/Potts

MAY 2023

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	01	02	03	04 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	05 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	06 Jesse Utecht Memorial 2pm
07 9:30 Worship Sunday School S.S. Sings Confirmation Sunday 2pm Cinema Sunday	08	09	10	11 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Ruth Circle 2:30PM Music & Worship 5pm	12 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	13
14 9:30 Worship Sunday School Senior Sunday Make-A-Change Council Meeting	15	16	17	18 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	19 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	20 Swanson Bridal Shower 10am
21 9:30 Worship Cinema Sunday 2pm	22 June Newsletter Deadline 	23	24	25 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	26 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	27
28 9:30 Worship Cinema Sunday 2pm	29	30	31 Altar Guild Meeting 5:30 PM			

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



2023 May 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.....MARKIE TOSO & RACHEL NELSON
YOGA LEADERS.....

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.),
BARB MELROE (SECRETARY), MIKE LARSON (TREASURER),
PAUL WHITE, AUSTON CREECH
AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE