

OCTOBER 2020

NEWSLETTER



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| FRONT COVER | 1 |
| FROM THE PASTOR | 2 |
| KEEPING YOU IN THE GA LOOP | 3 |
| KEEPING YOU IN THE GA LOOP | 4 |
| KEEPING YOU IN THE GA LOOP | 5 |
| OCT BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES | 6 |
| OCTOBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS | 7 |
| SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES | 8 |
| OCTOBER CALENDAR | 9 |
| G.A. CONTACT INFORMATION PAGE | 10 |

October 4th will be the FIRST DAY BACK for Sunday School!!

Exciting News! Sunday School has a start date! We will be doing in-person Sunday School starting Sunday, Oct. 4th. It will look a little different this year, but let's stay positive!! This years theme will be Family Faith Formation! **All students and parents will be participating together in the sanctuary**, so children and parents, please stay seated while the rest of congregation is ushered out after church service. If you are unable to attend church service, please wait for the congregation to be let out, before entering for Sunday School. **Start time will be around 10:30AM**, and it will last roughly 30 min! Masks are required by all participating. We will be asking parents to sit with their children during this time! Thank you and see you Soon!

From The Intern Pastor

Unity. United. What does it mean?

This last week I started my fall semester of seminary classes. One of my classes is the New Testament- Galatians and Corinthians. We are studying Paul's letters. These last couple days of classes we have been reading, reflecting, and conversing about the message that was emphasized in Paul's letter to the Galatians. Paul repeatedly emphasizes the importance of one in Christ Jesus. Unity in Christ.

So what does this mean to be one in Christ Jesus? Does it mean that we all have the same ethnic, social, and sexual origins? That we are all the same and these categories no longer exist? Nope! Being united in Christ does not do away with these differences but rather it makes these differences irrelevant before God. A commentary by Charles B. Cousar states, "Paul declares that unity in Christ destroys the barriers, the hostility, the chauvinism, and the sense of superiority and inferiority between these differences/ categories." Our identity is not determined by the law but by our faith in Christ which unites us together as a community, as brothers and sisters who are included in the fulfillment of God's promise. The fact that these differences are irrelevant, they no longer matter, in the unity of Christ means we are to treat each other in this light (without hostility, barriers, chauvinism, superiority, inferiority) in the total affairs of life.

Faith in Jesus Christ gives us freedom. Freedom to be in relationship with people who are different from ourselves, freedom to risk loving one another, freedom to carry each other's burdens and hardships, freedom to change our minds, values, and beliefs when those thoughts, values, beliefs no longer fit into the the box that we have drawn around ourselves or the one we try to place around God. Jesus Christ's love for us unites us together and gives us the freedom to "come towards" a brother or sister in Christ whose values are deeply at odds with our own. Unity in Jesus Christ gives us freedom to face our differences not out of fear but out of love, gratefulness, and mutual respect.

The Spirit of Christ opens a future for us to be drawn into relationships based on love and freedom. Today, in the United States of America where the nation seems more divided than united how does being one in Christ Jesus, where barriers, hostility, chauvinism, superiority, inferiority are destroyed, transform our conversations and interactions with our loved ones, friends, neighbors, community members, church members whose values are deeply at odds with our own? How or where is the Holy Spirit drawing us into relationships that unite us as brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus?

Your sister in Christ Jesus ~ Intern Pastor Jaime

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

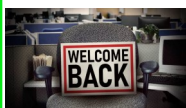


- October 04:** 9:30AM Worship Service No Communion—Gretchen Christenson
- October 04:** 10:30 AM First Day Back to Sunday School
- October 08:** 2:30 PM Ruth Circle
- October 11:** 9:30AM Worship Service with Communion—Pastor Norm Anderson
- October 11:** Make-A-Change Sunday
- October 14:** 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting
- October 14:** 6:45 PM Confirmation Class
- October 18:** 9:30AM Worship Service with Communion—Jaime Decker
- October 18:** Affirmation Sunday for Last Years 8th grade Confirmands
- October 19:** November Newsletter Deadline
- October 21:** No Confirmation Class
- October 25:** 9:30AM Worship Service No Communion—Lance Griese
- October 28:** 5:30 PM Altar Guild Meeting
- October 28:** 6:45 PM Confirmation Class
- October 31:** 5:00-6:00 PM Trunk of Treat in the GA Parking Lot

amazon smile Amazon Smile: As you do **ONLINE** back to school shopping don't forget GA Church You shop. Amazon gives. is now a selection 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. Year to date GA Church has received **\$199.88** from Amazon smile purchases. Thank you!



Sunday School Director: GA Church is looking for a new Sunday School Director as Kim Schubert has stepped down from the position. If you are interested please contact the church or Kim. Thank you in advance for helping our youth on their faith journey.



Back In Office: Carrili has returned to her normal office hours at the church if you need to reach her. Please let her know if there is anything you need in the announcements or newsletter. Thank you!



Affirmation of Baptism: Affirmation for last years 8th Grade Confirmands will be on October 18th during worship service. Confirmands please be here at 9:15am to get ready. Thank you!



Confirmation Class: Confirmation class for this years 7th & 8th graders will be starting on October 14th at 6:45 PM. Please check your mail for a letter from Jaime with more information. Thank you.



Christmas Cantata: The Christmas Cantata has been cancelled for this year, they are hoping to possibly do an Easter Cantata, we will keep you posted as we know more. Thank You.

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Our Sympathies : Go out to the family and friends of: All 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: Canned Fruit, Packaged Meals, Pasta & Sauce, baked beans, cereal, juice.** 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 places in Gwinner are GA Lutheran Church, or Teals Market. 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. Any questions please feel free to call Carrili.



Lutefisk Supper: At this time the Lutefisk Supper is postponed until a later date. We will keep you updated as we make decisions for this years meal. Thank you for your understanding. ~Men's Group~



Communion: If there is communion during service we will be taking it from our pews. The church has purchased single serve communion cups and they will be on a table in the back by the ushers. Please if you see them grab one and take it to your seat so you have the elements at the time of communion. Thank you for your assistance.

Trunk or Treat: GA Church will once again be hosting a Trunk or Treat event for Halloween on October 31st in the church parking lot from 5:00-6:00 PM.

Come and make One stop for lots of great Treats! Open to Anyone to attend.

If you're interested in providing a decorated trunk or making a candy donation contact Kim Schubert 701-899-2240 or GA Church 701-678-2552

All trunks need to be parked & ready to go no later than 4:45 PM

BRING LOTS of CANDY!

**MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING
ARE ENCOURAGED!**



Church Finances: For the month of August 2020: Thank you for all you do for Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church! **Beginning Balance \$42216.80 - Debts \$21218.31 + Deposits \$46766.68 = End Balance \$67765.17**

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

2020 Mowing List: if you would like to be added to the list, and or removed, please let Carrili know. This is the schedule for 2020 if you can't mow on your date please find someone to trade and or cover for you. Thanks so much for helping keep GA looking GREAT!!



| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Sept 27- Oct 03 | Brian Gilje |
| Oct 04-10 | Jeff Anderson |
| Oct 11-17 | Mike & Carrili Larson |
| Oct 18-24 | Kent & Julie Johnson |
| Oct 25-31 | Dennis Dahl |
| Nov 01-07 | Volunteer Needed |
| Nov 08-14 | Shawn Beck |
| Nov 15-21 | Martin Potts |
| Nov 22-28 | Jerrod Sandness |



Drive-Thru Donations: If you are interested in donating to the sidewalk/drive-thru project, you can do so by just dropping your donation in the offering plate. Please make sure to put a note or mark the memo that it is for the Drive-Thru project. Thanks so much!

Changes to Usher Duties: First off thank you to everyone who helps with ushering at GA your help is greatly appreciated. With the impact of COVID-19 the ushering duties have changed just a little bit, the following list includes the new duties:

1. Prop front door open with door stop to prevent everyone touching it (before and after service) please shut it during service to keep bugs out
2. Ushers please direct people into the sanctuary, no loitering in the narthex, before and after service
3. Ushers will still hand out bulletins, church will provide gloves if needed
4. If there is communion there will be a table with the single serve cups set out in the back, just encourage everyone to take one on the way into service.
5. Offering tray will be set in the back of sanctuary just point it out for people to drop off their offering on way in or out.
6. Usher out a single row at a time when service is done to help with maintaining social distancing and reduce congestion.

September/October Action Group

Co-Chairs: Barb Melroe
Becky Salberg

Sharon Beckstrom

Michelle Goettle

Traci Hanson

Linda McFarland

Melinda Morlock

Peggy Olson

Sharon Peterson

Mary Rotenberger

Ginger Utecht

Ashlee Lien

Kimberly Schubert

Kris Nerison

Vicki Osier

Crystal Taylor



October Birthdays

PAGE 6

- 2 Teagan Beck
Jaime Decker
Ellie Schroeder
- 3 Shane Johnson
Larry Swanson
- 4 Sasha Jensen
Hailey Salberg
- 5 Courtney D. Anderson
Dewey Johnson
Chance Noonan
- 11 Izabelle Beck
- 12 Duane M. Johnson
- 13 Melinda Morlock
Raymond Stahl
- 14 Jeannette Beckstrom
- 15 Brea Frederick
- 16 Eric Johnson
- 17 Riley Christensen
Marie Odegard
- 18 Dillon Morlock
- 19 Drew Krause
Aleysha Sarith
- 20 Sara Anderson
Lee Falk
Brittney Hansen
Darrel Swanson
Gerad Nerison
- 22 Betty Johnson
- 24 Karissa Kempel
- 25 Pete Sherlock
- 26 Cole Turchin
- 27 Hailey Decker
Carolyn R. Jacobson
- 29 Zander Bauer
Ryan Enge
Cyprian Johnson
Steve Melroe
Kay Swanson
DeAnna Youle



- 30 Maggie Rasmussen
Chris Johnson
- 31 Avery McFarland

October Anniversaries



- 10 Linda & Dennis Golts
- 18 Riley & Justan Taliafero
- 19 Paula & Derrick Hansen
- 21 Deb & Steve Johnson
- 22 Wendy & Darrel Swanson
- 27 Rosi & ElRoy Odegard

***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!

October Worship Assistants

Acolytes

04 Emerson Beck
Elijah Hanson
11 Rayna Decker
Elliot Shockley
18 Jaila LaTraille
Cyprian Johnson
25 Kyle Potts
Hunter Lien



Communion Assistants

04 Courtney Anderson
11 Kris Beck
18 Mike Larson
25 Joleen Hardy



Sound System

04 Kent Johnson
11 Youth Member
18 Brendan Ciesynski
25 Mike Larson



Readers

04 Val Bjork
11 Michelle Ciesynski
18 Barb Melroe
25 Kari Gilje



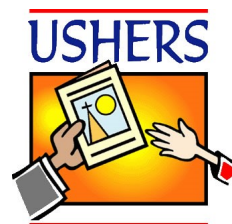
Greeters

04 Timothy & Jessica Peterson Family
11 Sheridan McKeever & Alannah Beck
18 Jeannette Beckstrom & Chad Crandall
25 Kent & Julie Johnson



Ushers

Captain: Chad & Kate Decker
Jeff & Donna Anderson
Dean & Verna Anderson
Kim & Sharon Beckstrom
Duane & Betty Johnson



2nd Sunday

Jasmine Sherlock
Masyn Stahl
Ava Mairs
Macy Mairs

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

Council Meeting Minutes for September 9th, 2020

In Attendance: Jaime Decker, Kris Beck, Joleen Hardy, Courtney Anderson, Kim Schubert, Martin Potts, Mike Larson, Jess Peterson

Meeting called to order at 5:30PM

Approval of Meeting Agenda by Anderson/Hardy

Secretary's Report – approval of August 12th, 2020 Meeting Minutes at last meeting by Anderson/Hardy

Devotion and Prayer Led by Jaime Decker

Pastor's Report

August 14 – 16th synod assembly held over Zoom. Martin, Kris and I attended online. Tessa Moon-Leiseth elected new bishop. Installation is planned for end of Oct.

September 5th – Jackie Wrage & Mike Kleinsasser wedding @ Wrage's Place

September 12th – Baptism at Silver Lake

September 13th – Lead Service with back to school and backpack blessing

September 18th – 25th Fall semester begins with intensives

September 27th – Lead Worship... 3rd Grade to receive Bibles

October 7th – plan to start confirmation

October 18th – Rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

Service to be heard over transmitter – If so, need to designate congregation member each week. Add to duties for sound system. Possibly put sign on what microphone to use during readings.

Church Work Group Reports:

Drive-thru Committee – Discussed moving wall back.

WELCA – Discussed cleaning of church.

Men's Group –

Property –

Altar Guild – still using single serving cups

Sunday School – Meeting with Rachel Nelson this Sunday after service.

YOGA –

Music and Worship –

MIDivX Program Internship Committee –

Hope in the Heartland Committee –

Covid-19 Committee –

Old Business:

Insulation of church roof – waiting for it to cool off

New Business:

Contract for weddings drawn up, Jaime will look into this

Treasurers Report approval by Potts/Larson

Next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14th at 5:30PM

Adjournment by Peterson/Anderson

Lord's Prayer



OCTOBER 2020

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thurs</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|--|--|------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | 1 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon | 2 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline | 3 |
| 4 9:30 Worship No Communion First Day of Sunday School | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Ruth Circle 2:30 PM | 9 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline | 10 |
| 11 9:30 Worship Holy Comm. Make-A-Change Sunday | 12 | 13 | 14 Church Council Meeting 5:30 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM | 15 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon | 16 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline | 17 |
| 18 9:30 Worship Holy Comm. Affirmation Sunday | 19 November Newsletter Deadline  | 20 | 21 No Confirmation | 22 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon | 23 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline | 24 |
| 25 9:30 Worship No Communion | 26 | 27 | 28 Altar Guild 5:30 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM | 29 | 30 | 31 Trunk or Treat 5-6 PM |

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



2020 October Newsletter

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB AND FACEBOOK!
WWW.GALUTHERANCHURCH.ORG
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GALUTHERANCHURCH

CHURCH STAFF

INTERN PASTOR.....JAIME DECKER
SECRETARY.....CARRILI LARSON
TREASURER.....MICHELLE GOETTLE
CUSTODIAN.....RICK GRIEGER
COUNCIL PRESIDENT.....KRIS BECK
SCS SUPERINTENDENT.....
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

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS

KRIS BECK (PRESIDENT), JOLEEN HARDY (VICE PRES.),
JESSICA PETERSON (TREASURER), KIM SCHUBERT (SECRETARY),
MIKE LARSON, MARTIN POTTS, COURTNEY ANDERSON,
AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE