

SEPTEMBER 2026

NEWSLETTER



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"Thank you for the Harvest"

Lord of the Harvest, thank you for your generosity to us. For all the good things that you have given to us. From the plants that grow, to the foods we eat, and those who sit alongside us.

Help us to share what we have, being generous as you are generous to us.

Thank you for the harvest.

Your mercy endures forever.

“God Pause”

Bobcat Raffle: You could win a Bobcat UV34!

Tickets will be sold for this side-by-side at various locations around Gwinner and by some members of GA Church. Each ticket is \$50 and proceeds will go towards replacing the shingles on the church roof. Each ticket purchased ensures that the next generation can enjoy and benefit from all that GA offers. Tickets are available at all the locations listed in the photo and Aunt BE's Cajun Bakery and Elevated Grounds. We are deeply grateful for your contribution. Need not be present to win.



Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Sept 01: Blood Drive 1:30-5:30PM

Sept 01-07: Pastor Jaime Decker Off: Non-Contracted Time

Sept 06: 9:30am Worship with Communion—Leader Pam Maloney

Sept 10: 2:30pm Ruth Circle

Sept 12: Shane Johnson Wedding

Sept 13: 9:30am Worship with Communion—Pastor Jaime Decker (Live Stream Resumes)

Sept 16: Church Council Meeting 6:00pm

Sept 20: 9:30am Worship with Communion—Pastor Jaime Decker

Sept 21: October Newsletter Deadline

Sept 25-27: Cast Aways Camp—Fall Youth Retreat—Pastor Jaime Decker attending

Sept 27: 9:30am Worship with Communion—Leader Betty Maly



Venmo: GA Church has Venmo! If you would like to use Venmo to place your Weekly, Monthly, and Annual Offerings or any other donations please do so!! Just scan the QR Code. Thank you!

Blood Drive: GA will be hosting a Blood Drive on Tuesday, September 1st from 1:30-5:30pm. Blood drives are very important to the support of our local hospitals. Thank you in advance for your help!

Meal Fundraiser: GA church is looking for people who are interested in organizing and planning a meal/event on the evening of October 25, 2026. This event will be a fundraiser, and proceeds will go towards the needs of GA church. Please let a council member know if you are willing to help with this. Thank you.

VBS: As our Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School has come to an end, we want to extend a big thank you to everyone who gave their time and energy to make it so special. Thank you to Alannah, Karla, Nancy, Kirstin, Trudy, Angong, Ava, Aleaha, Kaitlyn, Journey, Mackenzie, Dakotah, Kris, Michael, and every parent who sent their child to VBS this year. Whether you prepared crafts, provided snacks, played games, decorated the church, or helped behind the scenes, you made a difference. Because of your kindness, our kids experienced three nights of fun and the reminder that God is our Creator, God is our Safe Place, and God is Forever! We truly could not have done it without you. Izabelle, Samantha, Emma, and Ashley (Dr. Flutterby)

Thank You: Council would like to give a great big thank you to all the adult leaders and high school helpers for this year's Vacation Bible School, which took place in August. There were about 25 kids who attended each day, and this group of volunteers did a fabulous job! Thanks so much to all who helped with VBS and for the fun, friendships and faith building you made happen for this group of kids.

Castaways Camp: "Imagine More" fall youth retreat Sep 25-27 in Detroit Lakes, MN for grades 6-10. To sign up and/or for more information, contact Masyn Stahl (701-680-5603), Caleb Adams (701-238-9584), or Pastor Jaime (701-680-2637). Deadline to sign up is September 9th!

Affirmation of Baptism: The service for 10th graders will be held on Sunday, October 4th during worship service. We invite you to come, witness, and celebrate with these young adults as they affirm their baptismal promises and faith in Jesus the Christ.

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



Food Pantry: The Gwinner location of the Sargent County Food Pantry Ongoing Needs: Any shelf-stable, non-perishable Items are needed. Suggested items: Canned items, ready-meals (hamburger helper, mac-n-cheese, stuffing mix), pasta & pasta sauce, pancake mix & syrup, shelf-stable juice, cereal, peanut butter. We also can use household items (toilet paper, paper towels, kleenex, laundry soap, dish soap) and personal items (shampoo, body wash, bar soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, tooth-paste). Monetary donations are also appreciated, they can be sent to PO Box 101, Forman ND 58032. Monetary donations are used for: vouchers for the grocery store for perishable items (milk, eggs, bread, potatoes, fresh vegetables and fruit). Drop off places in Gwinner are GA Lutheran Church, Zion Lutheran Church, or you can drop off items at the Food Pantry located in the Gwinner Community Center: 104 Main St., every Tuesday, 1:00-4:00pm. Thank you for your continued support and generosity! If you or anyone you know are in need, feel free to stop by the Gwinner location on Tuesdays from 1-4pm and pick up some supplies. Food Pantry Phone #: 701-680-7049.

Bulletin Donations: The bulletin donation sheet for the 2026 Church year is available on the table in the narthex. Bulletins cost \$15.00 per worship service to sponsor, please give payments to Carrili. Thank you!

Thrift Store Update: From Brenda Schreiner: Hello! Please thank your councils and congregations! Grace and Goods Thrift Store was able to donate \$202.00 to the Kedish House for the month of July!

New Custodian: GA has hired a custodian, so if you see Shonah Bonogofsky at the church please make her feel Welcome here at GA.

Assistant Schedules: The 2026-2027 Worship Assistant Schedules are available on the table in the Narthex. They have also been emailed out. Thank you to all who help make worship services here at GA run smoothly.

Thrivent Members: If you are a Thrivent member, don't forget that you can apply for a Thrivent Action Team. All you need to do is have a purpose for spending \$250 that will either impact a family, the community, or the church. You need to log into your Thrivent account, fill out the action form, and wait to see if you have been approved. If your project gets approved, you will receive a \$250 action card that may be used towards your service project. Each Thrivent member may receive two of these cards per year. Some great ideas to use them for are fundraisers, community projects, and benefits for families in need. Any questions ask Kirstin Kempel.

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

Looking Ahead!

October 04: Affirmation of Faith for Confirmands

October 10: Baby Shower for Darby Swanson Mittag

October 31: Trunk or Treat 5:30pm



Senior Meals: Gwinner now hosts a Senior Meal at Noon at the Community Center on Main Street, Monday –Friday. Call 701-678-3815 to sign up.

Baby Shower: October 10th 2-4pm at GA church for Darby Swanson Mittag. All are welcome to come. They are having a Boy! One small request! We hope it's not too hard: Please bring a book instead of a card. You can sign the cover with a note from you. Your book will be cherished, whether old or brand new.

Temporary Change of Hours: Our church secretary, Carrili Larson, has stepped into a role at the North Sargent school teaching 7-12 Science. Her office hours will vary at this time, but she is always available by email or text/call. She appreciates your understanding as she embarks on this new journey. During the summer she will resume regular office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

September-October WELCA Action Group

Co-Chairs: Barb Melroe

Becky Salberg

Sharon Beckstrom

Traci Hanson

Melinda Morlock

Sharon Peterson

Ashley Hansen

Michelle Goettle

Linda McFarland

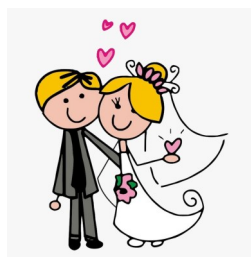
Peggy Olson

Mary Rotenberger



September Birthdays

- 1 Troy Olson
Jadilyn VanBeek
- 4 Dean Anderson
Zoey Boren
Terry Euscher
- 5 Jackie Meyer
- 6 Kristy Mairs
- 7 Courtney Steichen
Adam Wrage
Sofya Herman
- 10 Eugene Hajek
Elisha Otonichar
- 11 Donna Anderson
Bryer Crandall
Mara Edman
David Hansen
- 15 Kyle Potts
- 16 Parker Melroe
- 17 Shirley Fuss
Barb Melroe
- 18 Dylan Sorenson
- 19 Karlie Shockley Odegard
- 20 Susan Geidt
Kaylee Otonichar
- 21 Robin Rehborg
- 22 Alannah Beck
Jace Dux
- 23 April Gode
Darren Benneweis
- 24 Taylor Goettle
- 25 Denise Dahl
Sharon Peterson
Janae Sherlock
Becky Sitz
- 27 Lynnae Decker
Brian Johnson
Kyle Johnson
Nick Witchey
Linde Zetocha



***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 con-
tact the church office at
678-2552 or email us at***

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

Thanks!

- 28 Carolyn J. Jacobson
Larry Johnson
Amy McGuire
Jack Mairs
- 29 Heidi Gleason
- 30 Paetyn Hamann
Sarah Bleecker
Mason Nicholson
Robbin Witkowski
Timothy Peterson
Amber Kempel

September Anniversaries

- 4 Linda & David McFarland
- 6 Sara & Zachary Anderson
- 7 Ashley & Gage Hansen
- 8 Karla & Randy Waloch
- 10 Megan & Walter Wrage
- 14 Kari & Brian Gilje
Kandyce & Gene Sandstrom
- 20 Janelle & Robbie Mairs
- 26 Amanda & Jesse Anderson
- 28 Jericho & Kaleb Brockman
- 29 Brandi & Sam French
- 30 Barb & Steve Melroe

September Worship Assistants

Communion Assistants

If you feel called to help offer God's gift of Holy Communion to God's people, please let Pastor Jaime or the ushers know before worship service or come forward when Pastor Jaime asks for communion assistants. All ages are welcome to assist with Holy Communion.



Sound System

Sound System is now a Paid Position.

Contact Kris Beck if you are Interested in learning how to operate it.



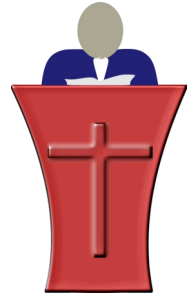
Mowing Schedule

Aug 30- Sept 05	Martin Potts
September 06-12	Mike & Tucker Larson
September 13-19	Adam Wrage
September 20-26	Brian Gilje
Sept 27 – October 03	Walter Wrage



Readers

06 Val Bjork
13 Joan Peterson
20 Nancy Wrage
27 Kirstin Kempel



Greeters

All Members of GA Are Invited To Welcome our Visitors and Each Other.



Ushers

<u>September 2026</u>
Captain: Steve & Barb Melroe
Kaleb & Jericho Brockman
Jackie Meyer
Gage & Ashley Hansen
Ashlee Lien



Church Council: Meeting Minutes 8/19/26 Written by Walter

Members present: Kirstin, Trudy, Lori, Keith, Sharon and Walter.

Meeting called to order: Pres. Kirstin called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Devotions and Prayer: Did not have at this meeting.

Adopt the agenda: Any additions:

1. cushions on the pews

2. Parsonage A/C

Kirstin called for a motion to approve the agenda, Sharon made the motion and Lori 2nd.

Secretary Report: Discussed report. Sharon called for a motion to approve the report, Lori made the motion, Trudy seconded.

Pastor Report:

August 2026 Pastor Report

August 1-16: non contracted/vacation

Coming up:

August 31 - September 7: non contracted time

September 14-15: synod fall retreat at Fair Hills in MN

September 25-27: Castaways youth retreat in MN

October 4: Affirmation of Baptism for 10th graders during worship service

Work Group reports:

Property and grounds: Speaker in the Fireside Room, lights in the 1st SS room. The backdoor comes open on its own sometimes, the shadow is the reason for the door opening. The parsonage a/c was acting up, Keith went and checked out. Found the a/c had been dripping water and was not keeping. The HVAC tech was called and came and looked at it. Topped off the a/c, he said the condenser needs cleaning and some maintenance. He will come back in the future.

Welca: No report.

Men's Group: Committee meet about the October supper/fundraiser. The mens group needs to meet and decide certain things about the meal.

Yoga: No report.

Education: The vacation bible school was a success, average of 24 kids per night with a big turn out for the programs.

Alter Guild: No report

Worship and Music: No report

New Business:

Carrilli is taking a new position at the school for the science position. She will not have set hours but will continue to do the administrative assistance's job.

Approximate date for the start of the roof replacement.

Pastor Jaime's vacation/non-contracted days are filled until January. We now have 3 women who are SAMS and are authorized to administer communion.

Thank you: Dennis Dahl and Keith for replacing tiles/floorboards.

Old Business:

Update on finances for the roof fund.

Pamphlet about GA Foundation is close to being completed.

The custodian job is filled.

Dennis and Keith replaced the tiles/baseboard.

Raffle for the bobcat side by side.

The committee for an October dinner fundraiser met on Aug. 4th.

Treasure's Report: Kirstin called for a motion to approve, Walter made a motion to approve, Sharon 2nd.

Adjournment: Kirsten moved to adjourn the meeting, Keith made the motion, Lori 2nd. Time 7:25.

Lord's Prayer: Kirstin lead the Lord's prayer.

Next meeting: 9/16/26 @ 6pm

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		01 Blood Drive 1:30-5:30 Pastor Jaime off Non-contracted time	02 Pastor Jaime off Non-contracted time	03 Pastor Jaime off Non-contracted time	04 Pastor Jaime's Sabbath	05 Pastor Jaime's Sabbath Pastor Jaime off Non-contracted time
06 9:30 Worship w/Communion Leader: Pam Maloney Pastor Jaime off Non-contracted time	07 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Pastor Jaime off Non-contracted time	08	09	10 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Ruth Circle 2:30PM	11 Pastor Jaime's Sabbath	12 Johnson Wedding Pastor Jaime's Sabbath
13 9:30 Worship w/Communion Pastor Jaime Decker	14 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	15	16 Council Meeting 6:00pm	17 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	18 Pastor Jaime's Sabbath	19 Pastor Jaime's Sabbath
20 9:30 Worship w/Communion Pastor Jaime Decker	21 October Newsletter Deadline 	22	23	24 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	25 Pastor Jaime's Sabbath Castaway Camp Pastor Jaime Decker with Youth	26 Pastor Jaime's Sabbath Castaway Camp Pastor Jaime Decker with Youth
27 9:30 Worship w/ Communion Leader Betty Maly Castaway Camp Pastor Jaime Decker with Youth	28	29	30			

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.
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PO Box 176
Gwinner, ND 58040-0176



2026 September 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..... SHONAH BONOGOFKY
COUNCIL PRESIDENT.....KIRSTIN KEMPEL
SCS SUPERINTENDENT.....
YOGA LEADERS.....MASYN STAHL & CALEB ADAMS

PHONE NUMBERS

CHURCH.....(701) 678-2552
JAIME CELL.....(701) 680-2637
SECRETARY CELL.....(701) 680-1 190

EMAIL ADDRESSES

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS

KIRSTIN KEMPEL (PRESIDENT), PAUL WHITE (VICE PRES.),
WALTER WRAGE (SECRETARY), LORI WIEDERHOLT,
SHARON BECKSTROM, TRUDY PETERSON, KEITH BEAVER