

SEPTEMBER 2023

NEWSLETTER



Homecoming Sunday

Sunday, September 24th

Let's kick off the fall with a Celebration to Welcome Everyone Back from summer vacation. Kickoff begins at **9:30 am** with worship service, followed by tailgating - games, hayrides, & food.

Sunday October 1st: Pre-K to 6th grade education begins after worship service. See You There!!

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“God Pause”

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



Matthew 16:13-20 (NRSV)

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" Verse¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." Verse¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Verse¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Verse¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. Verse¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. Verse¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Verse²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah

Devotion

Who are you, really? Answers might include our relationships, work, joys and hobbies, our passions and interests. We remember our stories and our heritage. Life's successes and joys live alongside our failures and hurts.

But asking what others think of us? That always ends up short. Polite answers we hope. Yet others know little compared with an inner world that is ours alone. That is a humble focus. We don't fully know others. Yet we are quick to put others in categories.

It's a bit risky for Jesus to ask such an open question. The answers have difficulty looking deeper than the surface, trying to put Jesus in a container that easily defines him. Peter finally breaks through to a surprising answer that's infinite, without boundaries. He points to a savior in relationship with a lively God, a bringer of shalom. A living God knows all of us, sinner and saint. That's the key to life.

Prayer

Help us, God of truth, to be the truth that speaks of your love. Help our minds to seek those higher ways of grace and love, to uplift our world. Amen.

Mark R. Peterson '81 M.Div.Retired, Seattle, WA

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

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

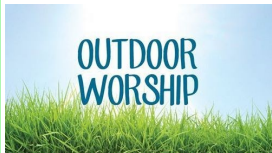
UPCOMING *Mark Your Calendars* EVENTS



- Sept 03:** 9:30AM Outdoor Worship Service with Communion—Pastor Jaime
Sept 05: 1:45-6:00 PM Blood Drive at GA Church
Sept 10: 9:30AM Indoor Worship Service with Communion—Tom Holtey
Sept 14: 2:30PM Ruth Circle
Sept 17: 9:30AM Indoor Worship Service without Communion—Gretchen Christenson
Sept 18: October Newsletter Deadline
Sept 24: 9:30AM Indoor Worship Service with Communion—Pastor Jaime, **Rally Sunday**
Sept 27: 5:30 PM 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!



Summer Outdoor Service: We will be holding all Sunday worship services outside (weather permitting). Services will be held at 9:30am as normal, bring a chair and join us. We will return to Indoor services **September 10th**.



Sunday Worship Service Assistant Lists: The 2024 Worship Assistant lists have been emailed out, there are also printed copies available on the table in the Narthex, and they are also available on the church website. Thank you in advance for helping GA Church worship services flow smoothly.



Bulletin Donation Sheet: The bulletin donation sheet for the 2024 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.



Sound System: A Motion was made and passed by Church Council to pay the sound/video tech \$67.00 per service. This motion was made in hopes it will encourage others to step up and learn the system. Spread the word and Thank You in Advance for helping out!

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Our Sympathies : Go out to the family and friends of Bryan Sukut and Brynlee Netterville. 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, Personal Care Items.** 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.



Blood Drive: Tuesday, **September 5th**, GA Church will be hosting a blood drive from 1:45-6:00 PM. If you are interested in donating contact Carrili at 701-680-1190, or register online at Vitalant.org-DonateNow. Also, if you are willing to help out at the event with registration or in the kitchen please let Carrili know. Thank you.



Church Finances: For the Month of July 2023

Beginning Balance: \$44,323.78 - Debts:\$37,755.43
+ Deposits:\$15,137.44 = Current Balance:\$21,705.79

Thank you for all you do to help support GA Church

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Welcome Newly Baptized: Recently Baptized at GA Church: Lucas Allen Christensen baptized July 29th, 2023. Maeve Olivia Lesmeister baptized August 27th, 2023. We welcome you into the GA Family.



Looking Ahead To October:

1. We will be starting Sunday School Oct 1st
2. Lutfisk Supper will be held Oct 29th
3. Trunk or Treat will be held Oct 31st
4. Confirmation will start, stay tuned for details

September/October Action Group

**Co-Chairs: Barb Melroe
Becky Salberg**

Sharon Beckstrom

Traci Hanson

Melinda Morlock

Sharon Peterson

Ginger Utecht

Kris Nerison

Alison Toepke Booth

Michelle Goettle

Linda McFarland

Peggy Olson

Mary Rotenberger

Ashlee Lien

Crystal Taylor



September Birthdays

PAGE 6

- 1 Troy Olson
- 4 Jack Hanson
Dean Anderson
Zoey Bauer
Terry Euscher
- 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 Frederick
- 19 Karlie Shockley
- 20 Susan Geidt
Kaylee Otonichar
- 21 Robin Rehborg
- 22 Alannah Beck
Jace Dux
- 23 April Johnson
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



- 28 Carolyn J. Jacobson
Larry Johnson
Amy McGuire
Jack Mairs
- 29 Heidi Beck
- 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
- 13 Gail & Bob Krause
- 10 Megan & Walter Wrage
- 14 Kari & Brian Gilje
Kandyce & Gene Sandstrom
- 20 Janelle & Robbie Mairs
- 26 Amanda & Jesse Anderson
- 29 Brandi & Sam French
- 30 Barb & Steve Melroe

***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!

September Worship Assistants

Acolytes

03	Cyprian Johnson
	Skylar Peterson
10	Moxxy Hamann
	Jaylene Herman
17	Athena Erickson
	Lando Decker
24	Hudson Lien
	Jace Faber



Readers

03	Val Bjork
10	Joan Peterson
17	Nancy Wrage
24	Joleen Hardy



Communion Assistants

03	Paul White
10	Michelle Goettle
17	Joleen Hardy
24	Dennis Dahl



Captain:

Greeters

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



Ushers

Rodney & Ginger Utecht

Jeannette Beckstrom
Jackie Meyer
Gage & Ashley Hansen
Ashlee Lien



Mowing

<u>July 30-Aug5</u>	Kenwood Peterson
<u>Aug 6-12</u>	Kent Johnson
<u>Aug 13-19</u>	Dennis Dahl
<u>Aug 20-26</u>	Walter Wrage
<u>Aug 27-Sept 2</u>	Shawn Beck

Sound System

Sound System is now

A Paid Position.

Contact Kris Beck if you are Interested.



2nd Sunday Ushers

Kyle Potts
Tristen Peterson
Ethan Weigelt
Braylyn Nelson

Reminder: If you are unable to fulfill your duties it is up to you to find a replacement. Thank you!

August 14, 2023

President Kris Beck, called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Council members present Kris Beck, Barb Melroe, Martin Potts, Mike Larson, Paul White, Auston Creech, and Joleen Hardy. Also present, Pastor Jaime Decker.

Devotion and prayer led by: None

Secretary's Report. Motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Hardy/Larson. All in favor, motion carried.

Pastor's Report: July 1-10 on vacation, July 16 burials of Chuck and Carol Holmstrom and Colleen McCall. July 17-17 VBS. July 23 Christmas in July service held outdoors. July 25-27 YOGA canoe trip turned into Otter Tail Lake camping trip due to extreme heat and low river level. July 28 burial of Sandy Chapin, July 29 baptism of Lucas Christensen. August 1-14 on vacation.

Church Work Group Reports:

1. **Property and Grounds** –
2. **WELCA** –
3. **Men's Group** –
4. **YOGA** – Car show with corn on the cob, burgers, and hotdogs. They took in about \$1200.
5. **Education** – Rally Sunday is set for Sept. 24, VBS went great.
6. **Altar Guild**
7. **Worship and Music** – Will meet at the end of the month.

Old Business and New Business:

We need to get an estimate from a contractor on the repairs needed to the church due to ice damns. The stewardship committee is meeting Aug. 30 to finalize the building a community of generosity campaign which is planned to kick off Sept. 24.

Motion to purchase a storage shed from Hansen Lumber. Melroe/Hardy. All in favor, motion carried.

Auston is going to help Jeremy remove carpet and sheetrock in the parsonage basement due to water damage.

Yard work at the church and parsonage will be held August 27 starting at 2:00 pm with supper at about 6:00 pm.

The car show was well attended and a thank you to Auston, Jess & Tim, Duane J. and all the YOGA kids who helped pick, cook, and serve the meal.

Discussion was held on events at the church and the lack of help from the congregation as a whole. So, why do we hold events? What the church will look like in 5/10 years? Discussion about members needing to engage others when they are in our church or outside of the church. We need to make everyone feel welcome, invite others to join in. We discussed possible renting the kitchen out to Sohn from Havana, and maybe other parts of the church to utilize the space.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept. Creech/White. All in favor, motion carried.

Adjournment. Motion to adjourn meeting. Creech/White. All in favor, motion carried.

Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: September ????

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					01 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	02
03 Outdoor 9:30 Worship with Communion	04	05 Blood Drive 1:45-6:00 PM	06	07 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	08 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	09
10 Indoor 9:30 Worship With Communion Pastor Jaime Off	11 Pastor Jaime Off	12 Pastor Jaime Off	13 Pastor Jaime Off	14 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Ruth Circle 2:30PM	15 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Pastor Jaime Off	16 Pastor Jaime Off
17 Indoor 9:30 Worship No Communion Pastor Jaime Off	18 October Newsletter Deadline 	19	20	21 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	22 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	23
24 Indoor 9:30 Worship With Communion RALLY SUNDAY	25	26	27 Altar Guild Meeting 5:30 PM	28 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	29 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	30

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



2023 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.....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), JOLEEN HARDY
PAUL WHITE, AUSTON CREECH
AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE