Messenger

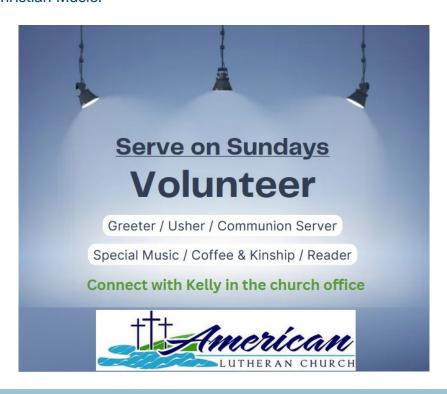
Summer Worship at American Lutheran

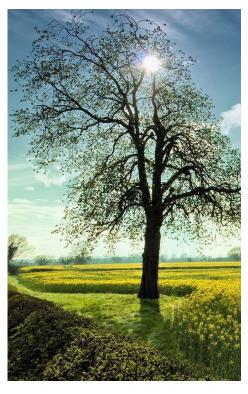
The months of June, July, and August are the season for our summer worship schedule. From the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend until the Sunday of Labor Day weekend, our worship service times are adjusted slightly.

Summer months brings unity to our worship life. The same worship service (liturgy, prayers, and songs) happens at both the 8:00am and the 10:00am services. At each service there will be a children's message and the Lord's Supper will be celebrated. Here is the Sunday morning schedule:

8:00am, First Word Worship 9:00am, Coffee & Kinship 10:00am, Journey Worship

****June 4 @ 9:00-10:00am | Contemporary Coffee Hour in the Gathering Space with Coffee, Conversation and Contemporary Christian Music.





Inside this issue

Summer Schedule 1
Summer Celebration Worship 2
Living Lutheran3
Prayer Shawl 3
Lutheran Relief 4
ELCA Global Mission4
Because of You5
Shetek Conference 6
Operation Christmas Child 7
Children, Youth, & Family8-9
Lutheran Women10
Volunteer Schedule12

Special points of interest

- Summer Reading Ideas
- 2023 SWMN Synod Assembly
- Shetek Lutheran Ministries

Summer 2023

CELEBRATION WORSHIP

Information for all services.

One worship service at 10am. Lunch will follow. Accessible locations. All sites are in Worthington. Worship services recorded for a later broadcast.



June 25 "Around the Town"

10am, Worship Location: Downtown Pavilion Lunch follows worship

July 16 "At the Lake"

10am, Worship Centennial Park Shelter Lunch follows worship





August 27 "On the Farm"

10am, Worship Al Oberloh's Barn Lunch follows worship

Freewill Lunch Offering

A freewill offering will be taken at each worship during lunch to support the new Youth Director.





Detailed information available in the worship bulletins

Summer Celebration Worship

Each of these Celebration Worship services will be unique.

- Different Worthington location
- Three different menus
- New perspectives on faith and life.

Each of these Celebration Worship services will have similarities

- Same time. 10am.
- All are accessible.
- Meal follows each worship service
- Bring a guest or friend.
- Freewill donation taken as a way to financially support the new Youth Director Position.

Details for "Around the Town" on June 25.

Location in the downtown Worthington Pavilion. (Corner of 10th St. and 2nd Ave.) This is where the Tuesday Farmer's Market occurs. It is across from Wells Fargo Bank.

Restroom facilities are nearby as well as ample parking. Consider bringing your own lawn chair for comfort.

Menu will be published closer to the event date.

Summer Prayer Shawl Ministry



Join the circle of knitters and crotchiers as we share conversation and laughter as we let the work of our hands create comfort for others.

Connect with Pr. Anne if you have questions.

LIVING LUTHERAN: A 2-SESSION IMMERSION ABOUT LUTHERANS

On Sunday, June 25 and Monday, June 26, Pastors Anne and Jeremy will be hosting a two-session immersion of Lutheranism in today's context. We will be using the "Dinner Church" concept of gathering before the meal to prepare the



evening supper together while sharing conversation. Supper will be served and will be followed by a guided time of learning. The evening concludes with prayer and dishes.

Who: Anyone new to Lutheran theology or anyone interested in rediscovering what it means to be Lutheran today. Anyone interested in becoming a member of American Lutheran, this is the first step of the journey.

Age: High School and Up

Cost: \$15 for single participants. \$25 for families for both sessions. Cost includes materials and meal expenses. If the cost is prohibitive, talk with one of the pastors. Child Care will be available by request. Talk to Pastor Jeremy if you need childcare.

Schedule:

5:00pm, Prepare supper

6:00pm, Supper & conversation

6:30pm, Time of shared learning

7:30pm, Sending prayer and doing the dishes.

RSVP: Please register by June 18. Complete the registration form found at www.worthingtonalc.org. Click on "Life Long Learning." A paper form is available at the Welcome Center in the new addition. Materials are available upon registration in the Church Office on weekdays or from the pastors on Sundays.

ELCA Global Mission

The Stewardship
Ministry Team at ALC
is the group that
connects us with ELCA
Global Mission
ministries across the
globe.

This month two ministries of ELCA Global Missions are highlighted in this edition of "The Messenger"

First, recall when ALC participated in the Lutheran World Relief Farmers Market Coffee program. There is a possibility we would reignite that ministry at ALC. Refresh your memory and learn anew about this impactful mission.

Second, Shetek Conference has a companion synod partnership with the Ondini Circuit in South Africa. (See page 6) This partnership is being revitalized after the COVID-19 pandemic which hindered working together and supporting the sharing of the gospel. God is at work among us. There is opportunity for involvement. See Pr. Anne for details.

Lutheran World Relief Farmer's Market Coffee

Fact: The hardworking farmers who grow your coffee are often the ones who profit the least from it. But there's a better way! For every bag of rich, delicious LWR Farmers Market Coffee you buy, a farmer receives a strong, up-front price for their coffee beans and shares in the profit of the final sale.

With LWR Farmers Market Coffee, farmers aren't just suppliers of coffee beans, they are *partners* in the coffee business. Offered in a balanced medium roast, a classic dark roast or a smooth decaf, LWR Farmers Market Coffee is available in 12oz bags for your home or in bulk for your congregation. Serve it at your congregation's coffee hour. Or sell it for a fundraiser or as an educational opportunity. You can even sign up for a home subscription to enjoy during your morning routine. (Source: https://lwr.org/coffee)



With LWR Farmers Market Coffee, farmers aren't just suppliers

of coffee beans, they are partners in the coffee business.

#SIPBOLDLY

BECAUSE OF YOU by the Stewardship Ministry Team

This past school year, ALC responded to the call within the community and focused our generosity toward the Intermediate School. We did that in three significant ways: by participating in the Every Meal program, by treating the school staff with delicious

goodies and by collecting classroom supplies. Because of you, the lives of many students and adults were graciously impacted!

As of May 18, we will have completed a successful school year of partnership with Every Meal and the Worthington Intermediate School. Throughout District #518, about 675 students received a bag of ethnically specific food bags each week. Of that number,



we, the volunteers from American Lutheran, distributed 191 meals weekly into the registered kids' lockers at the Intermediate School. The Every Meal program was honored with the "Friends of Education Award" this spring by the Worthington Education Association. (Pictured above: Pastor Angel and Lourdas Franco, Pam and Harlan Handevidt, Pastor Jeanette McCormick)

A huge thank you to the many volunteers who so willingly helped with the weekly distributions. They are: Deb Andersen, Sarah Anderson, Marcia Basche, Jean Bastian, Gary and Mary Brandt, Donna Cargin, Dale and Joanne Carlson, Lori Dudley, Judy and Arnie Fischer, Dennis and Dee Hale, Harlan and Pam Handevidt, Lois Harberts, Les Johnsnon, Karla Kirkeby, Tammy Koller, Kieth and Marj Olson, Lisa Peterson, Karen Pfeifer, Nick Raymo, Jerry and Mavis Sandstrom, Mike Stoll, Jerry and Beve Vajgrt, and Lyle and Connie Voss.

The idea of supporting the staff at the Intermediate School during its first year of operation actually percolated within our own ALC staff. Back when Mary Anne Parker served our congregation, she suggested we do something special for the 150 teachers and other staff members, in addition to the students being served through the Every Meal program. Purchased treats and goodies made by many of the congregation were delivered to the school once a month as a measure of the community's appreciation. Thank you to many of you who assisted and demonstrated that we care about Worthington educators!

In the fall of last year, ALC became aware of a classroom supply need that usually surfaces mid-year at the elementary schools. In January when students typically begin to run out of the supplies purchased for the beginning of the school year, teachers often dip into their own pockets to keep some students supplied. Because of you, ALC responded to that need and collected classroom items during December and January such as markers, pencils, Kleenex, folders, erasers, glue, ziplock baggies, hand sanitizer, and much more. In fact, through your generosity, a total of 2,385 items were donated to both Prairie and the Intermediate School in February! You responded with such enthusiasm!

THANK YOU for delivering, purchasing, baking and most of all for caring! BECAUSE OF YOU...students and staff at the Intermediate School were cared for this school year.

Shetek Conference-Ondini Circuit South African Partnership "Walking Together with Christ"

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PARTNERSHIP?

The Shetek Conference—which involves congregations in Jackson, Cottonwood, Nobles, Murray, Rock, & Pipestone counties (SW MN Synod of ELCA) & the Ondini Circuit (SE Diocese of ELCSA) that



2017 participants of trip to Ondini

encompasses 60 congregations and 12 parishes are walking together and partnering for the sake of the Gospel to:

- Build mutual understanding and support as brothers and sisters in Christ across the globe from one another. We walk with our partners to teach, mentor, share our time and talents and money resources. We do this because of our love for Christ and desire to work together to learn, better their lives and broaden relationships;
- Learn from one another; Assist in creating sustainability in gardens and other projects that can help fund various needs including assisting with pastors salaries
- Establish small-scale community agricultural projects in the Ondini Circuit for the health and well-being of their communities in partnership with the Zamani Garden Project in the Ondini Circuit. This partnership is active and projects are successful and continue to grow in two key locations. Expansion is a goal to other parishes. They are working together with several resources to enhance their projects and are working to become accountable and sustainable. They have told us "You will not catch us sitting down!" This partnership committee is also responsible for the administration of the Kwazamokuhle Diaconal Center which includes a special school for handicapped children;
- Help fund school uniforms for school children in the Ondini Circuit (a school uniform warm and cold weather and gym clothes can cost @\$100);
- Assist in lay pastor training; and
- ♦ Assist with health and wellness groups including HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Diabetes to improve health.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Pray for guidance and continued work in this mission partnership.
- Have a representative from your congregation on the Shetek Partnership Committee.
- Support Mission Sundays.
- Support the partnership by sending your contributions to the Shetek Conference Treasurer Carol Serfling. If writing a check, please write Shetek- South African Partnership in the memo line. 100% of the money given goes directly into the partnership account to be used for designated projects.

THE SHETEK-ONDINI PARTNERSHIP LEADERSHIP INCLUDES:

Andy Busman, Chair busman.farms.inc@gmail.com Good Shepherd Luth., Lake Wilson, MN 507-227-7258; **Carol Serfling,** Treasurer jw_46@hotmail.com PO Box 293, Adrian, MN 56110-0293 507-483-2169; **Bonnie Frederickson,** Secretary kbfred@federatedwildblue.com 42990 900 th St, Heron Lake 507-370-2850

Communicating with Church Staff Directly

It is not uncommon that church staff receive various kinds of anonymous notes, letters, and packages. This happens across denominations. It is not unique to American Lutheran Church.

Best practices for the ALC staff is that any and all unsigned communication will not be read or responded to. If the communication is perceived as threatening, the appropriate channels will be followed to insure a safe environment.

Transparency is vital to our life as a congregation. Direct communication is fundamental as we walk in the faith of Jesus.

Questions? Please connect with one of the pastors or the congregational president.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD/SHOEBOX MINISTRY

Our Lutheran Women's Organization has answered the request to coordinate the **Operation Christmas Child/ Shoebox Ministry** here at ALC. Throughout the summer months, **ALL ALC MEMBERS** will have the opportunity to help with this project by donating items to fit in the Shoebox. Look for the red wagons located by the main entrances to the church where you can place your donations. A list of basic, useful items to donate will be provided or you can use your own imagination. Another option is to pick up a Shoebox and fill it on your own as you please. Monetary donations will also be welcomed to help with the purchase of needed items. Please consider helping to bring joy to children around the world with your generosity!

CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY SURVEY UPDATE

Director of Evangelical Mission of our Synod, Pr. Troy Pfibsen lead the council in a reflection and discussion of the results of the congregational survey taken in late March-early April.

Next Steps: At the June council meeting, council leaders will begin planning a one-page executive summery of the survey to share with the congregation and ways to have conversation beyond the council. The survey gave a realistic snapshot of ALC as a vibrant congregation learning how to go forward in mission. **More to come!**

2023 SOUTHWESTERN MINNESOTA SYNOD ASSEMBLY

On June 9-10, voting members from synod congregations will gather at Gustavus Adolphus College for the annual assembly. The theme for this year's gathering is "Embody the Word." Our delegates are Pastor Anne, Pastor Jeremy, Arvid Nielsen, Brenda Baerenwald, Gary Brandt, Mary Brandt, Donna Cargin, with alternates of Gary and Lola Lindquist.

A synod assembly report will be shared on Sunday, June 11 during Sunday worship services. Your prayers for the ALC voting members as well as those throughout the synod would

be welcome. Please include in your prayers safe travel for all, common sense wisdom during business sessions, and faithful connections through the assembly.



Children & Family



We can't wait to see you at Kids' Camp!

Thank you to all who have given gifts of time and money to make this programming possible.

Look for an update, with pictures, in next month's Messenger.

Thank you to the many teachers and youth assistants who helped with Children's Ministry this year. Our programming is successful because of your helping hands and caring

hearts!





Pastor Jeremy recommends: Wisdom of the Ages by Jim Stovall

"I am recommending this book because it wrestles with a great question. What kind of legacy do you want to leave behind? This book invites its readers to hear the wisdom of a teacher, physician, banker, soldier, farmer, priest, scientist, laborer, and others as a king wrestles with what he wishes to leave behind to serve as a memorial to his rule. It's a wonderfully written and deeply engaging story that everyone should read!"

Karen Pfeifer recommends: In the Sanctuary of Outcasts by Neil White.

I am recommending this book because of its portrayal of humanities ability to change. This is a true autobiographical story of a business man found guilty of white collar crime and sentenced to federal prison in Carville, LA. During his incarceration, Neil realized the facility had served as a leprosarium for over 100 years, and grew to admire the residents for their grace and perseverance, he vowed to become a better man for the friendships and advice he had gained.

Coming in July: Pastor Anne' recommendation and more. . . .

Council Action: Full-Time Youth Director Update

On Thursday, April 20 at the regular monthly meeting, ALC's church council, after discussion and reflection, made the motion to call a full-time Youth Ministry Director. This vote was unanimous for this action to move forward.

Plan moving forward:

- ⇒ The Congregational Council and Pastors will begin a process of developing fundraising goals.
- ⇒ Pastor Jeremy, along with staff, have begun the work of developing a job description to meet the needs of the program.
- ⇒ Once a job description has been formatted, we will meet with Personnel Committee to move the process forward.
- ⇒ The process of forming an interview committee and interviews will begin in the next month or two.

There is \$25,000 allotted in the 2023 congregational budget for this position. Additional funding for the 2023 program year will need to be raised to support this position. Questions, ideas, and concerns can be directed to the pastors and council members.

Please continue to hold these next steps in your prayers as we faithfully move forward into our future together as a congregation. This is an exciting time in our congregation as we keep moving into a promising future.

WHAT'S HAPPENING
IN YOUTH
MINISTRY?

June 5-8 Community Kids' Camp (VBS) BRAND NEW & coming to a church near you! Where: First United Methodist Church When: 5:30 p.m. MEAL / 6-8:30 p.m. CAMP FUN! Who: Preschool-5th grade students RSVP: children@worthingtonalc.org (More details to come)

June 30th, 6-10 pm.– High School Bonfire at the Hallquist House. Join us for a bonfire, smores, and a chance to check in. Bring a lawn chair and a friend. We will have some yard games and conversation. 6-10pm. Address: 1964 Willow Ave, Worthington.

July 12th– Youth Group. Join us for a night out. We will be using Wild Goose Chase and having a scavenger hunt around town! Join us from 6-9pm. We will need a few parent drivers for this event. Talk to Jeremy asap if you plan to attend!

July 14th- 22/23 Mission Charleston, WV 6th- 12th graders will be heading on a mission trip to Charleston, WV. There are spaces available. Talk to Pastor Jeremy ASAP!

July 30th to Aug 4th– Confirmation Camp. Students are invited to sign up for Confirmation Camp at Shetek. Once you sign up, please email Pastor Jeremy so we can help with costs!

LUTHERAN WOMEN

June 2023

Scandinavian Smorgasbord

Plans will soon be underway for the 37th Annual Scandinavian Smorgasbord Fundraising Event, which will take place during the month of October. A team will soon be established to begin organizing this event. Working as a team makes this a very doable process! Please prayerfully consider saying "yes" when asked to help! Watch for more information soon.



Congratulations, Seniors!

Twelve high school graduates were honored on Sunday, May 21st during the 10:15 worship service. At 9:00, during Coffee and Kinship, an open house reception with cake and refreshments was held to congratulate them on their accomplishments and wish them the best for the future. Our Lutheran Women's organization provided the graduates with corsages and boutonnières to adorn their gowns in honor of their big day. *Congratulations graduates! God's blessings to you in the future!*

Cute Theme Basket for Quilt Auction

"This and That" could best describe the theme basket donated by our LW Organization for the annual Shetek Quilt Auction being held on Saturday, June 24th. Assembled by our Shetek Quilt Auction Committee, the basket includes many useful items, including kitchen dish cloths and embroidered dish towels, a crocheted kitchen hand towel, a handmade table runner and handmade greeting cards. A monetary donation of \$300 will also be included as a part of our donation. Thanks so much to our Shetek Quilt Auction Committee for putting together our basket! Plan to check it out at the Auction on June 24th!

Thank You, Lori & Steve Dudley!

The Dudley's recently delivered a big load of quilts made by our quilters to the Lutheran World Relief Warehouse in the Twin Cities! Over the years, many wonderful volunteers such as the Dudley's have offered to make these deliveries, saving us the cost of shipping them. All are greatly appreciated – thanks so much!

New Mission Action Project Operation Christmas Child/Shoebox Ministry.

At our LW Board Meeting in May, a decision was made to answer the request to help coordinate the Operation Christmas Child/ Shoebox Ministry here at ALC. Throughout the summer months, all ALC members will have the opportunity to help with this project by donating items to fit in the Shoebox. Look for the red wagons located by the main entrances to the church where you can place your donations. A list of basic, useful items to donate will be provided or you can use your own imagination. Help to bring joy to children around the world with your generosity!

Shetek Quilt Auction

Plan to attend the 37th Annual Shetek Lutheran Ministries Quilt Auction Fundraiser on **Saturday, June 24th!** Below is a brief schedule of events:

- Friday, June 23rd Quilt preview in the Activity Center, 5:30 8:00 p.m.
- Friday, June 23rd Picnic meal of burgers, brats and extras, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 24th Pelican 5K Run/Walk, 7:30 a.m.- 9:00 a.m.
- Saturday, June 24th Quilt preview in the Activity Center, 8:30
 10:00 a.m.
- Saturday, June 24th Quilt Auction Fundraiser, 10:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m.

Many other fun events for the whole family are planned in conjunction with the auction on Saturday, including a delicious lunch!

All proceeds form the auction go toward Summer Camp Ministries. The camp is located 8 miles north of Slayton on Hwy 59, then 2 miles east on Valhalla Road.

Summer Salad Buffet



"Growing through Adversity" is the theme of our annual Summer Salad Buffet scheduled for Thursday, June 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Worthington native, Jill Koopman, will be sharing her story of perse-

verance, character and hope during a challenging season of her life. Jill currently works in the Graphics Prepress department at Bedford Industries. She enjoys sketching and spending time outdoors golfing, hiking and paddle boarding. All women are invited to join us for this inspirational evening of good food, fellowship and the opportunity to hear what Jill has to say! Salads and breads will be provided by members of our Circles and our Executive Board, so there is no need to bring anything – just come and enjoy the evening! There is no cost for the meal, however, a free will offering will be collected at the tables with Project Morning Star as the recipient. Please plan to join us for this special evening to enjoy a great program and a delicious salad meal – and bring a friend!

Dates for Your Summer Calendar

- Thursday, June 22nd Summer Salad Buffet, 6:00 p.m.
- Friday & Saturday, June 23rd & 24th 37th Annual Shetek Lutheran Ministries Quilt Auction Fundraiser
- August (date to be determined) Friendship Club hosted by Esther Circle

Next Lutheran Women's Board Meeting

July 10, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

June 2023



14 Keeley Island Drive Slayton, MN 56172 507-763-3567 camp@shetek.org www.shetek.org

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers

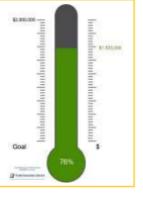


Work at camp this summer! - shetek.org/work-at-shetek



Check out our quilts online at Shetek.org

We met our Phase 1 goal! \$1,533,000 in gifts and pledges! Our challenge goal is \$2,000,000 and with increased costs, our budget has changed for our different phases. More info on our website. https://shetek.org/slmmaster-plan/



Mark your Calendar

- June 11 First Day of Camp
- June 19 Golf Tournament 8:30 a.m.
- June 23 Quilt Preview 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- June 23 Picnic Supper 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- June 24 Pelican 5K Walk/Run 7:30 a.m.
- June 24 Quilt Auction 10:30 a.m.
- June 24 Pulled Pork Dinner 11:00-1:00
 Register at <u>shetek.org</u> or

Call 507-763-3567 for more information

Wish List

- 17 foot Aluminum canoe
- Vest style life jackets
- Office supplies reams of paper
- Good Vacuums
- Volunteers

Help send kids to Camp...Become a
Pelican Club or Timber Society member
today. Pelican Club members support
the ministry with a gift of \$100 - \$499 a
year and Timber Society members give
\$500 or more a year. Thanks for your
support!

JUNE WORSHIP HELPERS AND LEADERS

<u>Ushers 8:00 AM</u> (Team 3) Shauna Carroll, Laura Hoffman, Russell Obermoller, Dave Nerem

Ushers 10:00 AM (Team 5) Randy Thompson, Mark Prunty, Kay Prunty, Darren Ponto,

Nicholas Raymo

Altar Committee: Marj Olson, Shirly Wieme, Deb Stoll, Sue Rose

Busy Bag Monitor: Diane Levine **Church Lockup**: Harlan Handevidt

<u>Financial Counters</u>: Team 1- Jean Bastian, Nancy Marco, Pat Remme, Mary Turner

Communion Server:

8:00 - Harlan & Pam Handevidt, Connie Voss
10:00- Steve & Lori Dudley, Karen Pfeifer
11th 8:00 - Grant Sorensen, Marv Isder, 2 Youth

10:00- Greg & Barb Raymo, 2 Youth

18th 8:00 - Dennis & Dee Hale, Lola Lindquist, Diana Kvilhaug

10:00- Mark & Kay Prunty, Mary Turner, Jill Cuperus

25th 8:00 - No Service- Only 10:00 @ Pavilion 10:00 - Bruce & Karen Juber, Karen Hanbury @ Downtown Pavilion

Greeters:

4th	8:00 - Jean Bastian		
	10:00 - Kieth & Marj Olson		
11th	8:00 - Aubrey Brake		
	10:00 - Greg & Barb Raymo		
18th	8:00 - Bruce & Karen Juber		
	10:00 - Paul & Karen Hanbury		
25th	8:00 - Laura Hoffman		
	10:00 - Marchelle Jorgensen		

Worship Date	Worship Participants In-Person 8:00 am 10:15 am Online			
April 30	92	60	347	
May 7	81	88	244	
May 14	107	101	294	
May 21	90	83	264	

April Monthly Donations		
Gift Card Income	\$	5,750.00
Parish Ed Income	\$	350.00
Youth Fund Income	\$	1,075.00
Hospitality Income	\$	440.92
Box 1 Income	\$	27,018.00
Box 1 Income-Non Synod	\$	500.00
Box 2 Income	\$	7,293.23
Thrivent Donations	\$	210.00
Box 3 Income	\$	708.00
EJ Schol/ALC Schol/Col Lea	rn \$	725.00
Lenten Suppers	\$	494.00
Holiday Offering	\$	8,640.00
Lutheran Women	\$	499.00
Memorials	\$	25.00
Food Shelf	\$	1,090.00
Endowment	\$	550.00
Mission Grant from Synod	\$	3,000.00
Lenten Books	\$	14.00
a =-		

Operating Finances April, 2023

Income \$ 58,382.15 Expenses \$ 74,748.96 Net Loss \$ (16,366.81)

Debt as of 1/1/23 \$ 790,148.37 Interest paid March 2023 \$ 2,634.38

Current Building Fund debt \$ 641,448.37