



How do you experience “courage: in your own life?” Do you experience “courage in your life of faith?” Is there a biblical character that is courageous that speaks to you?

Each of the people encountering Jesus during our Lenten Sunday worship series are people of courage. The mid-week Lenten speakers are also courageous as they stand before friends and strangers talking how their encounters with Jesus have shaped their faith.

In what areas of your life do you need to hear a word of “courage?” Take a moment to write a prayer for courage or ask a friend-in-faith to pray with and for you—for courage.

<b>3rd Sunday in Lent</b> A MAN BORN BLIND March 3  Focus Scriptures: Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9: 1-41	
	<b>4th Sunday in Lent</b> MARY, MARTHA, AND LAZARUS March 10  Focus Scriptures: Romans 8:6-11, John 11: 1-45
<b>5th Sunday in Lent:</b> PETER ENCOUNTERS JESUS March 17  Focus Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13: 1-17, 31b-35	
<b>Sundays in Lent Worship Series</b> <b>LIFE IN JESUS' NAME</b>	

# Worship

## Lenten Services

2024

*Joyous  
Light*

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT**

**5:00 - MEAL - FREE WILL OFFERING**

**6:30 - WORSHIP - OFFERING TO UCAP**

### Speakers

Community Speakers sharing  
their faith stories.

**MARCH 6- KARRIE OLMANSON**

**MARCH 13- PHILLIP BENSON**

**MARCH 20- DANIEL BERNSTROM**

### American Lutheran Church

915 Winifred St.  
Worthington, MN 56187  
507-376-5264

JOIN  
US

## ECUMENICAL LUNCHEONS LENTEN WORSHIP & MEAL

### DATE / LUNCHEON HOST

THURS. MARCH 7 - FIRST LUTHERAN

PRESIDING PASTOR - AMERICAN LUTHERAN

THURS. MARCH 14 - FIRST UNITED METHODIST

PRESIDING PASTOR - FIRST LUTHERAN

**12:00/Noon- 30 Minute Service**

**12:30- Luncheon**

*You are invited  
to continue  
your Lenten  
journey through  
the mid-week  
Lenten meals  
and worship  
services at  
ALC.*

*The Thursday  
Ecumenical  
Worship and  
Luncheon  
series  
continues, as  
well.*



## Holy Week

One Worship Service from Palm Sunday to Easter  
March 24-31, 2024

### Palm Sunday

Holy Week Begins.  
March 24, 2024  
8:00am First Word Worship  
9:15, Coffee & Sunday School  
10:15am Journey Worship

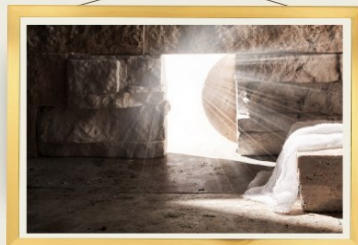


### Maundy Thursday

Holy Week continues. .  
March 29, 2024  
Jesus kneels at his friends' feet  
6:30pm, Holy Communion

### Good Friday

Holy Week continues . . .  
March 29, 2024  
Jesus Final Words  
6:30pm



### Easter Sunday

New Life begins....  
March 31, 2024  
6:00am, Sunrise Worship  
Coffee & More  
8:00am, Festival Worship  
Coffee & More  
10:15am, Festival Worship

**That You May have Life in Jesus' Name**

**Holy Week  
Is one  
continuous  
Worship service  
from the words**

***Hosanna, Blessed is He  
who comes in the  
name of the Lord***

**To**

***He is Risen!  
Christ is Risen  
Indeed!  
Halleluiah!***

We continue to explore how followers of Jesus receive life in his name as Jesus lives his final days on earth.

This week is full of how God saves us by giving Jesus' followers health, healing, and wholeness in Jesus' name.

For each of these worship services, please consider volunteering as Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants, Acolytes, as well as assisting with the "Easter Coffee & More" hospitality time in the Fellowship Hall before and after the 8am Festival Worship service.

Contact the Church Office for details.





## Grief Support Group

*Help and encouragement  
after the death of a loved one*

At a GriefShare group, you'll find understanding, guidance, relief, and a safe place to navigate the challenges of grief. Come join us!

Tuesdays, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

March 5 - May 28, 2024

First Lutheran Church

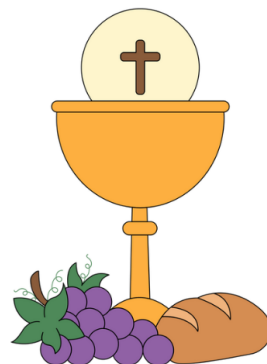
1200 4th Avenue, Worthington, MN 56187

To register, call 507-376-6148

[griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org)

### **Reminder of Annual Communion Registration –**

The Southwestern Minnesota Synod requests a count of American Lutheran members who commune at least once during the year. To do this, please fill out the Communication Form slip included with your bulletin with your name, date and indicate that you have received communion. This is necessary to do only once a year and can be done at any time of the year. Thank you. The Worship & Music Ministry Team







## Card Making Saturday, March 2nd

10:00am-12:00pm

**MAKE 10 CARDS FOR \$20**

- Sign up by **Sunday, Feb 11th** at the Welcome Center or  
Call the office and talk to Kelly.
- You can pay the day of the class.
- Create a few cards for Easter Lily Delivery.

### **AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**

915 Winifred St  
Worthington, MN 56187

Card styles may vary but will include a variety of sentiments such as:  
Thinking of you, Best Wishes  
Hello, Thank You, Happy Birthday

Some of the cards made at this art event, sponsored by the Stewardship Ministry Team will be shared throughout the congregation as a part of the Stewardship's outreach to those in our congregation who have known loss and illness since Christmas. On Saturday, March 23, a group of volunteers will be delivering flowers and cards throughout the neighborhoods. In addition, cards are sent to those men, women, children, and families that we have been praying for since Christmas.

This bi-yearly ministry of the Stewardship Ministry Team is one way this group stewards and holds others in hope.



*Because of you.....children in our community have food to eat at home.*

ALC members continue to be the hands and feet of Jesus as they partner with The Every Meal program to provide meals for up to 674 students throughout Independent School District #518. They specifically deliver ethnically diverse bags of food which are chosen by their families. They deliver these bags weekly to 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at the Worthington Intermediate School. These bags contain 4-5 pounds of nutritious, non-perishable food including a variety of fruits, vegetables, proteins, grains, and soups/entrees. Thank

you to the following volunteers who put their time and effort into ensuring that these students have nutritious food at home; Lori Dudley, Judy and Arnie Fischer, Dennis and Dee Hale, Lois Harberts, Les Johnson, Karla Kirkeby, Mavis Sandstrom, Beve and Jerry Vajgrt, Lyle and Connie Voss, Marcia Basche, Jean Bastian, Kris Besel, Gary and Mary Brandt, Donna Cargin, Pastor Jeremy Hallquist, Harlan and Pam Handevidt, Sharon Johansen, Marchelle Jorgenson, John and Tammy Koller, Kieth and Marj Olson, Lisa and Mike Peterson, Karen Pfeifer, and Mike Stoll.

## ***Stewardship Corner***

*The night of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. He rose from the table, got a basin of water, and proceeded to wash his disciples' feet. They were embarrassed, for this was the task of a servant, not their Lord. But he insisted. We, stewards, must ask ourselves if we, too, are willing to do the lowly, the distasteful, the unappreciated, even the misunderstood in order to fulfill Christ's command, "Feed My Sheep" (John 21:17)*

**March is Manna Food Pantry Drive:** March is here, which means it is time for us to help restock the shelves of the pantry. American Lutheran will again be participating in the month-long drive to help the pantry continue its important work in the community as we care for our neighbors. Again this year, our gifts to the pantry will be matched by the Worthington Regional Health Care Foundation with a dollar-for-dollar match. What a blessing to see our gifts double!

Here are some significant facts about the pantry's work in 2023:  
 14,637 individuals were served. 676 households were served.  
 176,496 pounds of products were dispensed.  
 324 new families have registered in the last six months which includes 2,000 people.



**When to make your gift:** From February 26–April 6

## **How to make your gift:**

*There is a change this year!* The only way to make your gift to the Manna Food Pantry is by using the designated envelopes: 1) Found in your March newsletter, 2) Found in the baskets at entrances to the sanctuary

Please write your check to American Lutheran Church with "Food Pantry" in the memo line. Your gifts will be received until April 6<sup>th</sup>. Envelopes may be placed in the offering plate or given to the church office. Thank you for bringing hope to many through your gifts! together we serve our neighbors with glad and generous hearts.

*Stewardship Ministry Team*



## Noisy Offering

The Mission and Ministry Team is behind the "Noisy Offering" on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month.

Donations will be dedicated to ALC's support of the Every Meal program served weekly at the Intermediate School.

Bring your change and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

## 4th Sunday Noisy Offering

March 24

Our noisy offering will support Every Meal. A weekend food assistance program that helps feed Worthington students.



Bring your  
change  
for a great cause!



Week  
Days



Sundays

Grow

ADULT FAITH FORMATION |



**Lenten Adult Bible Study** This Adult Bible study meets on Tuesdays at 1pm in the Conference Room. It is lead by Kris Besel. You are invited to join this study at any time. It will meet on March 5, 12, and 19.

**Genesis to Revelation Bible Study** This on-going Adult Bible study meets on Tuesdays at 1pm in the Conference Room. It is lead by Kris Besel. This study is in its final weeks. The upcoming sessions are on April 16, 23, 30, May 7, and 14.

**Men's Bible Study** This on-going Adult Bible study meets on Tuesdays at 7:45am in the Conference Room. Various Books of the Bible and topics related to faithful living are explored in depth. Connect with Pr. Jeremy if you are interested in this time of fellowship and biblical studies.

**Women's Circles** Each month in homes and at church there are several women's Bible Studies held. The Bible study comes for the WELCA monthly magazine called *Gather*. Connect with Kris Besel, Lori Dudley, Shirly Wieme, or Diana Kvilhaug if you are interested in joining of these groups for women's kinship and scripture study.

## MARCH WORSHIP HELPERS AND LEADERS

**Ushers 8:00 AM (Team 6)** Greg Kvilhaug, Scott Langerud, Alec Langerud, Pat Remme

**Ushers 10:15 AM (Team 4)** Bruce Juber, Marc Janssen

**Altar Committee:** Judi Hoevet, Connie Voss, Karen Pfeifer

**Busy Bag Monitor:** Kathy Sackett

**Church Lockup:** Paul Hanbury

**Financial Counters** (Team 2) Scott & Heidi Langerud, Maynard & Jeanene Townswick

### **Greeters:**

**3rd** 8:00- Paul & Marlys Busse  
10:15- Greg & Barb Raymo  
**10th** 8:00- Roxann & Alfred Polzine  
10:15- Paul & Karen Hanbury  
**17th** 8:00- Gary & Lola Lindquist  
10:15- Bill & Judi Hoevet  
**24th** 8:00- Jerry & Kathy Sackett  
10:15- Gary & Mary Brandt  
**31st** 8:00- Marv Isder  
10:15- Mary & Kay Prunty

### **Communion Servers:**

**3rd** 8:00- Bob & Sandy Demuth, Lori Ailts  
10:15- Roger & Clasine Lester, Judi Hoevet  
**10th** 8:00- Dave and Brenda Baerenwald, Rod Obermoller  
10:15- Mark & Kay Prunty, Nancy Marco  
**17th** 8:00- Dennis & Dee Hale, Paul Landberg  
10:15- Steve & Lori Dudley, Laura Hoffman  
**24th** 8:00- Harlan & Pam Handevitd, Russell Obermoller  
10:15- Greg & Barb Raymo, Jill Cuperus  
**31st** 8:00- Gordy & Lori Heitkamp, Grant Sorensen  
10:15- Mike & Lisa Peterson, Mary Turner

## **ALC BY THE NUMBERS:**

### **A SNAPSHOT IN TIME**

The report of the monthly budget reflects the income and expenses. Changes occur daily.

This budget is brief overview of our financial gifts to God's church. We continue to meet our fiscal obligations. Each one of us is encouraged to give to support God's ministries.

### **Operating Finances January, 2024**

Income	\$27,845.00
Expenses	\$35,774.39
Net Loss	\$(7,929.39)

### **Building Debt Reduction Ministry**

Debt as of 1/1/23	\$790,148.37
Interest paid January 2023	\$2,305.22
Current Building Fund Debt	\$321,356.53

Worship Date	Worship Participants			
	8am, In-Person	10:15am In-Person	Wed. Night	Online as 2/27
Jan 28	76	106	48	290
Feb 4	75	85	NA	278
Feb 11	80	70	134 & 77	347
Feb 18	72	86	147	388

Thanks for your generosity!



## Mission Quilts

*"Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God." Isaiah 40:1*

Imagine the comfort and care you feel when you snuggle under a comforter or wear a piece of clothing made or worn by a loved one. That's the feeling that is shared through a Lutheran World Relief Quilt! In a simple combination of fabric and thread, our faithful quilters here at ALC reach out to people in their time of need with a strong message of hope – "you are not alone." First and foremost, recipients use their LWR Quilts to shield against the cold and rain, and for warm bedding. But their versatility also makes quilts useful as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back. Many of the materials used by our quilters are donated. Following specific guidelines and dimensions suggested by LWR, practical and washable fabrics are pieced and sewn together and tied, with a backing and filler in between. Consistency in size is important for fairness as well as shipping. Our quilters gather together at ALC weekly on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m., with a goal of making 6 quilts each week! What an awesome ministry! Any one is welcome to join them – from cutting to sewing to tying, there are a variety of ways

## Kitchen Cleaning

On Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, six women gathered for our semiannual kitchen cleaning, hosted by our Lutheran Women's Organization. *Thanks to all who helped with this very important task to make our well-used kitchen sparkle!*

## Save the Date

Now is the time to put upcoming dates on your spring calendar:

- ♦ **Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.** – Shetek Conference Women of the ELCA Spring Gathering at Jasper Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jasper, Mn
- ♦ **Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** – 37<sup>th</sup> Annual SW MN Synodical Women's Organization Convention at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, MN
- ♦ **Thursday, June 20 at 6:00 p.m.** – Annual Summer Salad Buffet at ALC

## Next Lutheran Women's Board Meeting

Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30

## Shetek Conference Women's Spring Gathering

On Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, the Shetek Conference of the Women of the ELCA will hold their Spring Gathering at Jasper Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jasper, MN. The event begins at 9:30 a.m. with registration and coffee followed by the opening session at 10:00 a.m. Registration fee per person is \$12.00, which helps to cover expenses for the day. Because of a scheduling conflict with speaker Allen Bakke, our speaker will be Stephanie Darnell. She, along with Allen Bakke, works through the Southwest Crisis Center and will be speaking on Human Trafficking. There will be a short business meeting with reports and an election of Conference Board Officers. The event ends at noon with a luncheon being served by the Jasper Women. All women are invited to attend.

## Ecumenical Lenten Luncheon

On Thursday, February 22, ALC was host to the annual Ecumenical Lenten Worship Service and Luncheon. This noon worship service is open to community members of all ages and is followed by a luncheon. Our Lutheran Women's group organized and served the meal which included BBQ sandwiches, salads and bars. **Thank you so much for all who helped with the meal by donating food, working in the kitchen and serving the meal to make this a meaningful event!**

**Someone is Waiting – But when she told them that Jesus was alive and she had seen Him, they didn't believe her. Mark 16:11**

Can you see Mary running through the streets of Galilee to share the news? Jesus was alive! After everything He had done for her, she couldn't wait to tell the world. She went to those mourning His death, no doubt anticipating their joyous reaction. Instead, her words were met with disbelief as many people doubted, ridiculed or rejected the good news. A harsh reality then (and today) is that many people will never accept the gospel message. Even so, we must share the good news of Jesus – you never know whom God has prepared to listen! -Renee Gray-Wilburn



# CHILDREN & family

## Night at the Rink





## Confirmation Ministry– Lenten Expectations

Why is it important for young people to be present during Lent? This is a question I was asked as people wondered why make Lent a priority? How many of us wished that we had the perfect story of life? The house, the 2.5 kids, and the family pet. Yet, for many people, life doesn't always go that way. Life rarely plays out in the perfect way that we are taught and brought up to believe it should go.

Lenten faith stories invite us into the world of those around us. They help shape and open us to opportunities to worship and walk through the experiences of life with the openness that life is worth the hard days.

We hope you will join your kids in hearing about what God is up to, and the realness of life that happens when we live together in community. Come hear and share the life found in Christ this season! ~Pastor Jeremy

### March Confirmation Schedule:

- **Mar 6:** Lenten Supper/Worship/Faith Formation
- **Mar 13:** Lenten Supper/Worship/Faith Formation
- **Mar 20:** Lenten Supper/Worship/Faith Formation
- **Mar 27:** NO Faith Formation

## Mission 2024: Harrisburg PA!



**Spaces Available if  
you are interested in  
going! Please talk to  
Pastor Jeremy ASAP!**

Our 2024 Mission Trip has been posted! Join us June 16-21 (plus travel) in Harrisburg Pennsylvania. This trip is open to students who have completed 6th grade through 12th graders. Registration is on the youth board located in the Fellowship Hall. A \$100 deposit is due upon sign up to hold your spot. There will be a variety of fundraising options available for you to partake in. The money earned goes to your family account and can be used to help pay for the trip.

### ***Payment Schedule:***

- Deposit of \$100 due asap to hold your space. This is refundable until January 3rd.
- First Payment of \$150 due on January 29th, 2024
- Mid Payment of \$200 due April 10th, 2024
- Final Payment due June 2nd, 2024
- Student accounts can be used to pay any of these payments. Once a payment is made, it is nonrefundable.

## Easter Saturday: Help Needed

I am looking for some help on the Saturday before Easter Sunday. We are planning on sharing a fun message of Jesus but I need a few volunteers to help make this possible. If you are willing to help for a few hours, I will bring the pizza! We will meet Saturday, March 30th from 5-7pm. Please reach out to Pastor Jeremy for this ridiculous idea and a chance to have some fun! All ages are welcome to join us!

I can't give away all of the secrets yet, but I promise it'll make Easter Sunday a joy!



**March 2024**



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

## Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers



**Happy Easter!**



**Tapping Trees for Sugar Bush**

### Wish List

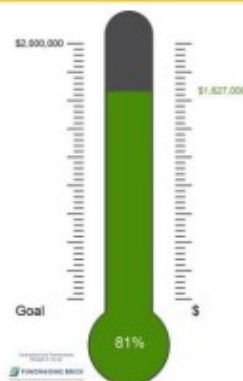
- Glue and Glue Sticks
- Extension Cords
- Volunteers
- **Summer Staff -**  
<https://shetek.org/work-at-shetek/>

### Mark your Calendar

- March 15-16 Confirmation Retreat
- March 24 Sugar Bush Pancake Breakfast & Square Dance
- April 19-20 Confirmation Retreat
- April 22-25 Quilt & Craft Retreat
- Register at [shetek.org](https://shetek.org) or

Call 507-763-3567 for more information

We met our Phase 1 goal!  
\$1,627,000 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/slm-master-plan/>



**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!**