

Messenger

September Ministry Notables



Sermon Series:

The “Restless Welcome Sermon Series” continues into September. We will explore how Jesus is restless with grace-infused joy to welcome all—us and those people into God’s Way of Life.

Sunday Worship

Sept 3, Worship remains at 8am & 10am
 Sept 10, Worship, only 8am for God’s work. Our hands.
 Sept 17, Worship at 8am and 10:15am until Memorial Day
 Sept 24, First Sunday School for Grades PreK –5.

Wednesday Koinonia (Community)

Sept 20, 5:30pm, Koinonia Meal
 Sept 20, Koinonia Worship
 Different sermon and liturgy than Sunday.
 All members are welcome.
 Holy Communion is served.

Adult Faith Formation

Genesis to Revelation Series
 Instructor: Kris Besel
 Starts on Tuesday, Sept 19 @ 1pm.
 Starts on Wednesday, Sept 20 @ 7pm.
 **It is the same class offered two different times. Materials and schedule can be found at the Welcome Center Desk.

Children, Youth, & Family

Sept 13, Parent Meeting for faith formation @ 6:30pm.
 Sept 20, Ignite, and Confirmation @ 7pm, after Koinonia Meal & Worship
 Sept 24, First day of Sunday School @ 9:15am.

Contemporary Coffee & Music

Sept 24, 9am in the Gathering Space



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Special points of interest

- God’s Work. Our Hands
- Confirmation Program

ALC Ministry | At A Glance

SEPTEMBER 2023

4, Labor Day-Office Closed
9, God's work. Our hands
10, God's work. Our hands
13, Parent Meeting
20, Wednesday Night Begins
24, Sunday School Starts

OCTOBER 2023

1, Thankoffering Sunday
8, Milestone: Gift of God's Word
8, Scandinavian Goods Sale
18, Faith Formation: Starry Night!
25, Fall Festival @ "The Barn"
29, Reformation & Confirmation Sunday

NOVEMBER 2023

3-4, Annual Craft Sale
5, All Saints Sunday
19, Stewardship Sunday
22, Thanksgiving Eve Worship
23, Thanksgiving Day
26, Christ the King Sunday

TBA~ 1st Communion Class begins.

DECEMBER 2023

1, Journey to Bethlehem
3, Advent 1
5, Christmas Salad Buffet
10, Advent 2 & 1st Communion @ worship
17, Advent 3
20, Longest Night Worship
24, Advent 4
24, Christmas Eve Worships
31, Sunday after Christmas

JANUARY 2024

1. Office Closed, holiday
5, Annual Reports due
3, Star Word Worship

FEBRUARY 2024

14, Ash Wednesday
18, Annual Meeting
21, Mid-week Lent supper and worship begins
25, Annual Meeting Snow Date

MARCH 2024

20, Last Mid-week Lent supper & worship
24, Palm Sunday
28, Maundy Thursday
29, Good Friday
30, Easter Sunday

APRIL 2024

1, Office closed--holiday
21, Rogation Sunday
24, Wednesday Year-end Party
22, Sunday School Year-end Party

MAY 2024

12, Ascension Sunday
19, Pentecost & Graduation Sunday
26, Holy Trinity Sunday
26, Memorial Worship--between services
27, Memorial Day--office closed

JUNE 2024

20, Summer Salad Buffet

Look for updates on the Youth Mission Trip and Community Kids Camp.

This **At-A-Glance Calendar** is intended to provide a brief overview of key ministry events from Sep '23 to Jun '24. For specific dates and to view monthly recurring ministry team and committee meetings, please see the monthly church newsletter, "The Messenger" or go to www.worthingtonalc.org for the most current calendar information.





Every Meal Volunteers Needed:

It is time to start scheduling volunteers for the Every Meal distribution in the Worthington Intermediate School for the 2023-2024 school year. An email will be sent to those who participated last year, urging participation again this year. More volunteers are needed, so please sign up on the sheet at the Welcome Center, or contact Pam Handevidt at 507-295-2672, or pam@centersports.net. Your one hour time commitment would be from 3:00-

4:00 on Thursday afternoons, starting in mid-late September. Typically the volunteers are scheduled 1-2 times per month, according to your preference. Last year we served 191 pre-registered children every week by providing ethnic specific food for the weekends. Please consider serving our local youth in this important way,

God's work. Our hands.

Two Days to Serve Our Community

Saturday, Sept 9 @ 8am, Meet at Centennial Park. Check with Pr. Jeremy for information. A sign-up with details was emailed to all members in late August.

Sunday, Sept 10 starting @ 8am: The day begins with worship at 8am in the Sanctuary, followed by various projects for different abilities, interests, and ages. Families are encouraged to serve together from 9am-12pm Potluck begins @ 12pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up to see what others are bringing. Questions can be addressed to Pr. Jeremy, Pam Handevidt, and Pr. Anne.

Personal Care Items

We continue to partner with Love INC. through the sharing of personal care projects and the making of laundry soap.

Watch for an announcement about the next time laundry soap will be made.

Personal care products can be dropped off in the church office during business hours.

Thank you for caring.



Mission & Service



You Are Needed!

Each week during the fall programming year, for all three worship services, between ten and twenty volunteers are needed to create a welcoming and enthusiastic worship experience to nurture those worshipping in-person and those on-line.

You as members are vital to empowering our worship of God.

All ages of people, younger to older, are invited in worship volunteers.

New Director of Worship and Music

In the late Spring, the council moved to change Sylvia Andersen's position title from Coordinator of Worship and Music to Director of Worship, Music, and Technology. The change was precipitated by the changes in the ministry area of worship and music and the within this ministry at ALC.

Note from Sylvia Andersen

"I am so grateful for the growth of our worship and music programming. We continue to respond to the worship and music needs of our congregation. This means leadership changed and adapted to best utilize our God-given resources. The job description that I worked under for the past several years for was "Worship and Music Coordinators." This title did not keep pace with our current reality and anticipated goals. In response with congregational leadership, my title has been updated to depict more accurately what the job duties are and potentially could be in the future. To reflect the update, the job title will change from "Worship and Music Coordinator" to "Director of Worship and Music". I look forward to a bright future in worship and music at ALC!"

P.S.> Note the date when the Sunday Worship Schedule changes to the Fall & Winter Schedule.

See you in Church and around Town!

Remember Sunday,

Worship Times

Sept 17 to May 2024
8am, First Word
10:15am, Journey



BECAUSE OF YOU... the floor in the Fellowship Hall sparkles!

Have you noticed the shiny floor in the Fellowship Hall and the clean chair cushions? The floor has been described by some as shiny as the reflection off a lake! Please take a look if you haven't already done so.

Of course, those improvements didn't just happen on their own! They were organized by ALC's diligent Maintenance Committee and carried out by them and a few other willing volunteers the last week in July. The local cleaning service Grothe Prosteam was contracted to do the work; but first in preparation, volunteers worked in-between worship services on Sunday, July 23rd to clear the hall. They folded up and moved all the tables into the hallway outside the kitchen and stacked up all 155 chairs there, as well.

The professional stripping and cleaning of the floor took place the next day on Monday, and two coats of waxing followed that same day. On Tuesday, the cleaners steam-cleaned the chair cushions and applied a protective coat of Scotch Guard. The blue metal-framed chairs in the new Conference Room were cleaned in the same manner. Later on Tuesday, members of the Maintenance Committee and a group of volunteers from the congregation brought all the tables and chairs back into the Fellowship Hall and arranged them without dragging or sliding, since the floor was still in the curing process.

THANK YOU to the Maintenance Committee (Members of the Maintenance Committee are David Baerenwald, Harlan Handevitdt, Jay Jensen, Les Johnson, Bruce Juber, Dave Nerem, Arvid Nielsen, Craig Pfeifer and Lyle Voss) for taking charge of this project, to volunteers who helped out, and to the congregation whose offerings made the cleaning possible. **Because of you**, the Fellowship Hall is ready to welcome members, friends and family this fall! Now it's up to all of us to keep that sparkling floor as long as possible. Please lift up your chair when moving and avoid dragging tables and chairs. The Maintenance Committee will thank you in return!

From the Stewardship Committee



WOMEN'S COFFEE

@HY-VEE

MEETS WEEKLY ON TUESDAY

10:00AM

JOIN WHEN POSSIBLE.
COME OFTEN AND BRING
FRIENDS.



SEPTEMBER



Prayer Shawl Meeting
Tuesday, Sep 19 @ 6:30pm
Wednesday, Sep 20 @ 1:00pm





A Snapshot of BeFriender Ministry from the BeFriender National Webpage

At times, everyone experiences difficult and transitional situations. BeFriender Ministry offers a caring companion to listen, empathize, and be a reminder of a loving and supportive faith community. A BeFriender is someone who listens with compassion, accepts people as they are, respects another's spiritual journey, and embodies the caring presence of God. BeFrienders provide pastoral care for people in all kinds of difficult and transitional situations. They are trained volunteers who extend the care of a faith community.

Interest has been expressed by members for a new training session. If you would like to have a conversation to discern if God is calling you into this ministry, please seek out Rich Besel, Pr. Jeremy and/or Pr. Anne. Training occurs via Zoom. You will be supported along with way. This is a vital ministry of our congregation. BeFrienders matter in people's lives daily.

Adult Faith Formation

There are a variety of options for Adult Faith Formation. New opportunities are and will be provided as the fall programming schedule is established.

Tuesday Men's Bible Study Fellowship

- Tuesdays @ 7:45am, meets in-person with a Zoom option.
- Connect with Marv Isder or Arvid Nielsen for details.

Lutheran Women Gather Bible Studies

- Different circles of women meet monthly for Bible Study using the *Gather* materials
- Connect with Kelly in the Church Office to connect you with a leader.
- Meetings occur in homes & church at various times of each month.

Gensis to Revelation Bible Study

- Meets weekly at church on Tuesdays @ 1pm and Wednesdays @ 7pm.
- Same topic is presented on Tuesday and Wednesday
- Leader is Kris Besel.

Sunday Adult Faith Forum

- Begins on Sunday, October 1 @ 9:15am

Art & Craft Fair November 4, 2023

You are invited to share your talents as a painters, bakers, crafters, wood workers, and more.

The Annual Art & Craft Fair is a fundraiser for our building debt reduction ministry.

This is a time to celebrate arts and crafts, as well as baked goods.

New This Year, we will serve BBQ Sandwiches.

Come browse , shop, and eat lunch with us.

Connie Voss is the leader for this event.

Please connect with her by phone 507-360-8362 or email her at cmvoss10@gmail.com

In 2022, we combined our resources in this event and were able to dedicate \$4,600 for debt reduction. We are excited to do that again.

*Thank you all
for all you do.
Connie Voss*

Scandinavian*Smorgasbord*Specialties*Sale



It's time for Lutheran Women's annual "**Scandinavian Smorgasbord Specialties Sale**"! This is our primary fundraiser that supports our ministry and mission projects locally and globally. Once again, during the month of October we will be asking you to participate in this popular event.

There will be **3 WAYS** to participate and support the many important ministries of the Lutheran Women's organization.

***CASH DONATIONS** – Look for the red envelopes in the October Messenger and at the entrances to the Sanctuary to use for cash donations. These envelopes will be available throughout the month of October. You can drop your donation in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

***SILENT AUCTION** – Stop by the special table in the Fellowship Hall and place your bid for some of your favorite Scandinavian specialty items throughout the month of October. The auction items are listed below:

One recipe **rice pudding**
One recipe **romme grot**
One recipe **peppernuts** (about 1 ice cream pail)
One recipe **gifta salad**

If you place the highest bid for an item by the end of October, you will win that item! You are welcome to stop by the table anytime throughout October, on Sunday mornings or weekdays during office hours to place your bid.

SCANDINAVIAN MEATBALL, LEFSE and PASTRY SALE** – On ***Sunday, October 8, a special one-day food sale will take place featuring these Scandinavian Smorgasbord favorites:

MEATBALLS	\$8.00/quart
LEFSE	\$8.00/18 pieces
PASTRIES	\$5.00/container of a half dozen
Rosettes, Sandbakkels or krumkakke	

Come to the Fellowship Hall on October 8 to purchase food for your next family gathering for the holidays! The sale will take place after both the 8:00 and 10:15 services until sold out. *If you are unable to attend, please make arrangements with a friend to purchase your items for you.*

Last year, we were extremely grateful and overwhelmed by your generous support totaling over \$7,405.

Thank you for your generosity throughout October! We hope you will continue to help support our Lutheran Women's organization and its many important ministries!

Mange tusen takk!

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP HELPERS AND LEADERS

Ushers 8:00 AM (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: Kris Besel

Church Lockup: Arvid Nielsen

Financial Counters (Team 4) Linden Olson, Grant Sorensen, Dave Skog, Karen Skog

Greeters:

3rd 8:00- Pam & Harlan Handevitd
10:15- Bill & Judi Hoevet

10th 8:00- Dennis & Dee Hale
10:15- Kieth & Marj Olson

17th 8:00- Bob & Sandy Demuth
10:15- Greg & Barb Raymo

24th 8:00- Lori Glawe
10:15- Paul & Karen Hanbury

Communion Servers:

3rd 8:00- Connie Voss, Marcia Basche,
Jean Bastian, Lola Lindquist
10:15- Bruce & Karen Juber, Mary
Turner, Jill Cuperus

10th 8:00- Dennis & Dee Hale, Marv Isder
10:15- Greg & Barb Raymo, Nancy
Marco

17th 8:00- Diana Kvilhaug, Rod Obermoller,
Grant Sorensen
10:15- Steve & Lori Dudley, Judi Hoevet

24th 8:00- Bob & Sandy Demuth, Lori Glawe
10:15- Jay & Melissa Jensen, Karen Pfeifer

ALC BY THE NUMBERS:

A SNAPSHOT IN TIME

The report of the monthly budget reflects the income and expenses at the end of July. 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 encourage to give to support God's ministries.

July Monthly Donations

Gift Card Income	\$5,400.00
Parish Ed Income	\$434.00
Youth Fund Income	\$800.00
Hospitality Income	\$381.93
Box 1 Income	\$26,398.80
Box 1 Income-Non Synod	\$600.00
Box 2 Income	\$9,826.19
New Youth Director Gifts	\$1,590.00
Box 3 Income	\$800.00
EJ Scholarship	\$10.00
ALC Scholarship & Correction	\$25,800.00
Endowment Fund, Correction	\$(15,000.00)

Operating Finances June, 2023

Income	\$57,040.92
Expenses	\$77,873.08
Net Loss	\$(20,832.16)

Building Debt Reduction Ministry

Debt as of 1/1/23	\$790,148.37
Interest paid June 2023	\$2,528.67

Current Building Fund Debt \$628,248.37

Worship Date	Worship Participants		
	8am, In-Person	10:00am In-Person	Online as of 8/22/2023
July 23	81	65	137
July 30	70	66	235
August 6	67	46	170
August 13	73	50	194
August 20	67	70	134

LUTHERAN WOMEN

September 2023

Join a Circle This Fall!!

All women are encouraged to join or continue participating in a Circle this fall. Here are some good reasons to join:

- Join for more Bible study in your life.
- Join to get to know more women.
- Join to get more involved in ALC activities.
- Join to experience what Lutheran Women can add to your life!

Pick from one of the three Circles listed below that works well with your schedule and just come, or call one of the co-chairs to find out more.

CIRCLES

- ♦ **Martha Circle:** Meets the first Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at the church. Co-chairs: Karen Pfeifer (360-1316) and Kris Besel (360-5797)
- ♦ **Mary Circle:** Meets the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in homes. Chair: Diane Chapa (376-6845)
- ♦ **Esther Circle:** Meets the second Monday of the month at 3:00 p.m. at the church. Co-chairs: Marj Olson (360-1968) and Shirley Wieme (372-7126)

You're welcome to join any of the Circles! The Bible Study found in the *Gather* magazine is usually what is used. If you are unable to participate in the Circle at this time, you are encouraged to continue the Bible Study on your own. *Gather* magazine subscriptions are available using the following methods: calling 1-844-409-0576; online at www.gathermagazine.org; by mail at Gather, P.O. Box 336, Congers, NY. 10920-9902.

New Yearbook

Your new Lutheran Women's yearbook is included in this Messenger! Take a look! Be sure to keep your yearbook in a handy spot so you can refer to it throughout the year. Included in the yearbook are important schedules for some of our committees, lists of Funeral Teams, information about Circles and Lutheran Women events for the year.

Also, many thanks are in order for the preparation of the new yearbooks. Thanks to:

- Our office manager, Kelly, for tabulating the Time and Talent sheets, gathering the information and contents to be included in the book, typing and layout work
- Kris Besel and Karen Pfeifer for overseeing the contents
- Committee chairs for making worker schedules
- Mission Growth reps under the direction of Karen Pfeifer for planning the year's programs
- Willing volunteers who assembled the books
- All women who offered to be involved in 2023-2024.

Next Lutheran Women's Board Meeting
Monday, September 11th at 4:30



Scandinavian*Smorgasbord*Specialties*Sale

ALC's 38th Annual Lutheran Women's Fundraiser will be taking place during the month of October, and once again, we will be asking for your help. We are extremely grateful for your generous support in the past and hope you will help us out again this year! Below is a list of opportunities to participate in to help support our organization and its many important ministries.

Cash Donation – Use the specially designated red envelopes found in the Messenger and at the entrances to the Sanctuary for your cash donations throughout the month of October. Drop them in the offering plate or return to the church office.

Silent Auction – Stop by the special table in the Fellowship Hall to place your bid on some of your favorite Scandinavian specialty items – *rice pudding, romme grot, peppernuts and gifta* – throughout the month of October. The highest bidder of each item (by the end of October) will be the winner.

Scandinavian Food and Pastry Sale– Come to the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, October 8th between 9:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. and again at 11:15 a.m.** to purchase *meatballs, lefse, krumkaka, rosettes and sandbakkels*. Please note this food sale will take place on October 8th only. If you are unable to attend on this day, consider having a friend purchase for you.

Thank you for your generosity in the past and we hope you will continue to help support our Lutheran Women's organization and its many important ministries! **Mange tusen takk!**



Thankoffering Sunday

Please put Sunday, October 1st on your calendar and plan to attend our annual Thankoffering worship service. This special service gives us an opportunity to give thanks for the many blessings and gifts God has given us! A special offering, designated to go to the Women of the ELCA to support its ministries, will be collected.

Friendship Club

On Wednesday, August 23rd, Esther Circle was host to the Friendship Club, a community activity for our neighbors who live in Group Homes. ALC hosts this dinner every two years and served a delicious meal of tator tot hot dish, coleslaw, buns, lemonade and ice cream dixie cups to about 100 guests. Thanks to all who helped with this important event by sharing God's love to our neighbors!

Mobile Meal

September 5-15 are the dates for ALC to help with the Mobile Meals program. If you have not already done so, please consider helping by giving Jeanne Goettsch (372-5697) or Margaret Willardson (360-3627) a call. Thanks for your help!

Dates for Your Calendar

- * Fall Kitchen Cleaning – Hosted by Mary Circle
- * Sunday, October 1st – Annual Thankoffering Worship Service
- * Month of October – 38th Annual Scandinavian Smorgasbord Fundraiser

Children & Family



If you missed the Fall Kick-Off at the Barn, there's still time **to register** your child for Faith Formation, **Simply scan the QR code:**

AND...

For pre-k to 5th grade families, stop by the Welcome Center (in the main lobby) to grab your **Children & Family Ministry Handbook**



*Children &
Family Ministry*

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

A sneak peek at the fun year ahead...

September:

September 13:

Parent Information Night
(Confirmation/Ignite)

September 20:

Wednesday Faith Formation begins

September 24:

Sunday school begins

Fall Festival

Food | Games | Crafts

Pumpkin Bowling	Cookie Painting
Scarecrow Contest	Gel Printing
Roasting Marshmallows	Candy Corn Floats
Face Painting	Scarecrow Tag
	Ring-a-Pumpkin

25 **5:30-8pm**
October 2022 Meal, followed by activities for ALL AGES!

Free

At The Barn - 1815 East Avenue

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1
5:30-8:00PM

Starry Night!

Wednesday, October 18

5:30pm Galaxy Meal (with devotion)
6:30pm Fellowship & Fun!

Let's celebrate the God of the universe!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

WINTER WONDERLAND PARTY

5:30pm Themed Meal
6:30pm Fellowship & Fun!
(FOR ALL AGES)

NIGHT AT THE RINK

FEBRUARY 7, 6-8PM

REFRESHMENTS & SKATE
RENTALS PROVIDED

Confirmation Ministry

We are gearing up for fall! This year, our confirmation program will be walking through the 10 Commandments, Creed, and Lord's Prayer. These are beautiful opportunities to think about the Lutheran question: "What does this mean?" These great instructions for living a life invite us to

see how complex our walk of faith, and life together can really be. We

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, October 29th at 10:15am



10th Graders and their families will have a chance to confirm their faith at a special Confirmation Service! We invite you to join us as we celebrate our young people!

Fall Dates:

- **Sept 13th:** 5:30 Supper/6:30 Parent Meeting
- **Sept 20th:** Kickoff
- **Sept 27th:** Faith Formation
- **Oct 4th:** Faith Formation
- **Oct 11th:** Faith Formation
- **Oct 18th:** Faith Formation
- **Oct 25th:** Fall Festival: At The Barn

Youth & Family Ministry

SAVE THE DATES:

- Sept 29th: CLUB 345.
- Oct 25th: Fall Festival for all ages.
- Oct 20th– Hang Night 6-12th grade.
- Confirmation Sunday: Oct 29th @10 am Service.
- Nov 17th-18th. Junior High (6-8th Grade) Youth Gathering.

This year you can expect a number of fun opportunities for youth to connect. Students can sign up on the youth bulletin board for any of these events. We are asking for help this year so we can plan accordingly for numbers and ensure that these events can happen. All events are open to friends.

We will have a variety of events for all ages this year and opportunities to get connected. We invite you to consider saving the dates and signing up on the youth bulletin board!

6-12th Grade Hang Night

October 20th
6-10 pm

We want to invite our 6-12th grade students and friends to join us for a night at ALC. We will plan to have some chaos games, board games, food, laser tag, and much more. Sign up on the Youth Board to let us know you are coming!

CLUB
345

Calling all
3rd, 4th, and 5th Graders!

Join us for a fun night at Church and a chance to get to know Pastor Jeremy! We will play tag games, eat pizza, and have a great time! Friends are welcome.

Sept 29th. 6-9 pm

September 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



Thank you for your part in sending kids to camp. We had a great summer!

Wish List

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

Mark your Calendar

September 30 – Pre-Marriage Retreat

September 30 - Shetek WELCA

Conference at SLM

Octoberfest – October 20-21

Register at shetek.org or

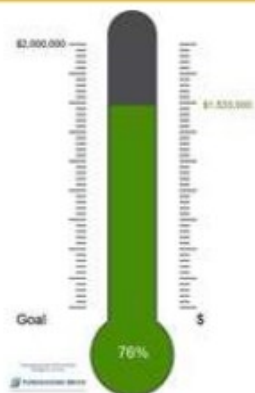
Call 507-763-3567 for more information

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/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!