

*Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church
Gwinner, North Dakota*

APRIL 2025

NEWSLETTER



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HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 13: Palm Sunday 9:30am

Palm Sunday Dinner 10:45am

April 17: Maundy Thursday 6:15pm

April 18: Good Friday 6:15pm

April 20: Easter Sunrise 7:00 AM

YOGA Breakfast: between services

Easter Traditional Service: 9:30 AM

“God Pause”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:16–21 (NRSV)

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. Verse¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! Verse¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; Verse¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. Verse²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. Verse²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

DEVOTION

New creation. This phrase is perhaps familiar, or not. We hear it when a child or an adult is baptized. Maybe we hear it occasionally in a sermon. We certainly hear it in Paul's letters. But what is it? The last couple of days, God's promise has been the focal point of these devotions. God's promise opens up or introduces us into God's renewal of creation. Through the promise—God's steadfast love always offered—God invites us into new creation. God invites us into God's on-going activity, which is reconciling the world, reconciling all humanity, all creation to God's self. We are invited to participate in this work—to be ministers of reconciliation. Don't hide behind the walls created by society, whether they be boundaries of race, gender, class, etc. Living in those categories is old creation. God always invites us into the new beginnings of freedom, love of neighbor, and care of creation.

PRAYER

God of disruption, you break down the barriers that divide; your promise reconciles all peoples. Dismantle within us all those barriers we build, so that your good intent, your new creation, may be revealed. Amen.

Dirk G. Lange Professor of Worship and Frederik A. Schiotz Chair of Christian Missions, Luther Seminary

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

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



April 02: GASP 3:30pm

April 02: Lent Worship 6:15pm - No Meal

April 06: 9:30 Worship with Communion—Pastor Jaime Decker—Baptism Hattie Kempel
Sunday School after Worship

April 07: Holy Communion Class—**Time TBD**

April 09: GASP 3:30pm

April 09: Soup & Sandwich 5:00pm—Lent Worship 6:15pm

April 10: Ruth Circle 2:30pm

April 13: 9:30 Palm Sunday Worship with Communion—Pastor Jaime Decker—Make A Change Sunday
Sunday School after Worship (Last day of Sunday School)

April 13: Palm Sunday Dinner 10:45-12:30pm

April 16: GASP 3:30 PM—Last Day

April 17: Maundy Thursday Service 6:15pm—Recognition of Holy Communion

April 18: Good Friday Service 6:15pm

April 20: Sunrise Easter Service 7:00am

April 20: YOGA Easter Breakfast—Served between worship services

April 20: Easter Traditional Service: 9:30 AM

April 21: May Newsletter Deadline

April 22: Book Study 6:30pm

April 26: Church Council Retreat

April 27: 9:30 Worship with Communion—Pastor Jaime Decker—Altar guild meeting after worship

April 27: Burger & Hotdog Feed: 11am-1pm, open to all to attend

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!

Easter Lilies: The GA Altar Guild is looking for donations of 12 lily plants for this year's Easter service. We will be hanging the 2 wooden crosses made by Terry Urbach, and each cross holds six Easter lilies. If we receive more than 12 lilies, we will also be able to decorate the altar area in the sanctuary. For those willing to donate a lily, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. Plants may be delivered to church the week before Easter so altar guild can prepare the sanctuary for our Easter service. Thank you.



venmo

Easter Breakfast: YOGA will be serving their annual Easter Breakfast April 20th between the 7:00am Easter Sunrise Service and 9:30 Easter Service. Spread the word and see you there!

Palm Sunday Dinner: Sunday April 13th at GA ~ 10:45am-12:30pm. Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Bun, Corn, Coleslaw and Dessert. Free Will and all are welcome to attend, so please spread the word!

Book Study: Our next book pick for April is "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig. Grab a copy of the book, read it entirely, and we will meet on Tuesday, April 22 at 6:30 pm for discussion. This book study is open to the public. Please contact Pastor Jaime for more information.

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Our Sympathies : Go out to the family and friends of: Myrna Anderson, Phil McDaniel and Tom Devitt. May God's loving embrace help you through this difficult time, and may the many happy memories ease your pain.



Food Pantry: The Gwinner location of the Sargent County Food Pantry Top Needs: Prepared meals (hamburger helper, stuffing mix, etc.), Pasta (preferably no spaghetti) & pasta sauce, Flour, sugar, cooking oil, Pancake mix & syrup, Baked beans & pork 'n beans, Shelf stable juice, Cake & cookie mixes, Soups (preferably cream soups), Coffee, Household items (toilet paper, paper towels, kleenex, laundry soap, dish soap), Personal items (shampoo, body wash, bar soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste). 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, butter, bread, cheese, fresh vegetables and fruits). 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.

Snow Removal: THANK YOU to all who helped with Snow Removal this winter season. Your help in keeping the church safely accessible is greatly appreciated!

Holy Communion Class: will be offered on Monday, April 7th. This class is available for anyone, any age, who wants to learn about or even be reminded of this mysterious and wonderful gift that God offers to us. Contact Pastor Jaime to sign up and/or if you have any questions. Time of class to be determined.

Mowing List: Spring will soon be upon us!! If you would like to be added to the mowing list, and or removed, please let Carrili know by April 10th. Thank you in advance to all who help keep the church lawn looking great!

Burger & Hotdog Feed: The Men's group will be holding their Annual Burger Feed on Sunday April 27th from 11am-1pm. It is a Free-will event. Open to the Public to attend, so please spread the word and hope to see you there!

Church Finances: For the Month of February 2025:

Beginning Balance: \$-----, Deposits: \$----- Payments: \$----- Ending Balance: \$-----

2025 Year to Date Giving:

GA 2025 Budget: \$232,550.00 **2025 Giving to Date:** \$ 26,920.36 **Giving Needed:** \$205,629.64

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!



Because you give...we worship, fellowship, learn, serve & grow. Thank you for your generosity.

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

Looking Ahead:

May 4: Earth Day/Celebration of Creation

May 04: Embodied Baptism Celebration: Confirmation students will be presenting their projects to the congregation. A celebration dinner will be held following the presentations.

May 18: Senior Sunday & Quilt Blessing



Bulletin Donation Sheet: The bulletin donation sheet for the 2025 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 give your payments to Carrili. Bulletin donations are \$15.00 per Sunday. Thank you for your support.

WELCA Roundup: EaND Synodical Women's Organization 2025 Spring Roundup "Rooted In Hope" Saturday, April 26, 2025 9:00am-3:30pm. Come for the full day or part of the day. Stump Lake Village Located 12 Miles South of Lakota, ND. Speakers! Vendors! Fellowship! No Registration Fee Coffee & Refreshments Noon Meal \$20. See poster for more information.

Installation of GA Council Members: was held during worship service on Sunday, March 16th. We give thanks to God for their acceptance of God's call to be leaders of the church. GA Council members: Sharon Beckstrom, Kirstin Kempel, Mike Larson, Martin Potts, Emma Waloch, Paul White, Walter Wrage and youth representative, Jakob Creech.

March-April WELCA Action Group

Co-Chairs: Kris Beck

Nancy Wrage

Michelle Ciesynski

Betty Johnson

Janae Sherlock

Judy Tyler

Karla Ulven

Shirley Waloch

Kirstin Kempel

Jackie Meyer

Nicki Erickson

Barb Klemetson

Della Teske

Kari Ulven

Patty Ulven

Rhonda Weigelt

Kalea Johnson



April Birthdays

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- 1 Karson Beckstrom
Kari Gilje
Paul White
- 2 Ethan Weigelt
- 3 Nancy Comegys
Tysen Hansen
Benjamin Odegard
- 4 Ginny Margolis
- 5 Jaylene Herman
- 6 Kristin Witkowski
- 7 Kris Nerison
- 8 Dawn Anderson
- 9 Jerry Fuss
- 10 Lynn Anderson
- 11 Marah Wittenburg
Shalon Benneweis
Benett Brintnell
- 12 Chelsey Anderson
Chad Crandall
- 13 Tyler Beckstrom
Lynn Jacobson
Maeve Lesmeister
- 14 Shawn Beck
Treana Berreth
Ben Hanson
Olivia Waswick
Ken Wiederholt
- 15 La Von Stoppleworth
Sawyer Toepke
- 17 Joshua Crellin
Brandon Holden
James Johnson
Sheridan McKeever
- 19 Randy Christensen
Jason Nelson
- 20 Jared Crellin
Emma Osier
Cody Huffar
- 21 Chris Tufty
- 22 Marsha Murphy
Nancy Wrage



- 23 Steve Johnson
Kyle Sanchez
Dalton Melroe
- 25 Rodney Hansen
Carolyn Klemetson
- 26 Val Bjork
Joey McGuire
Max Schroeder
- 27 Kaitlyn Diegel
- 28 Kristi Beaver
Jaxyn Christensen
- 30 Richard Olson
Karlie Shockley

***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!

April Anniversaries

- 02 Rachel & Jason Nelson
- 08 Karla Ulven & Craig Beedy
- 09 Shalon & Darren Benneweis
- 12 Val & Brian Bjork
- 18 Jolene & Tim Christensen
- 19 Darci & Roger Asche
Karen & Terry Euscher
- 28 Carolyn & Richard Jacobson

April 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.



Mowing Schedule

Spring will soon be upon us!! If you would like to be added to the mowing list, and or removed, please let Carrili know by April 10th. Thank you in advance to all who help keep the church lawn looking great!



Sound System

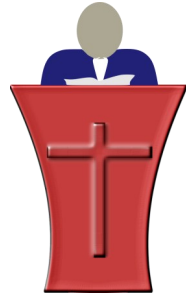
Sound System is now

A Paid Position.

Contact Kris Beck if you are Interested.

Readers

- 02 Volunteer
- 06 Barb Melroe
- 09 Volunteer
- 13 Volunteer—Palm Sunday
- 17 Volunteer
- 18 Volunteer
- 20 Sunrise—Youth
- Late—Kirstin Kempel
- 27 Nancy Wrage



Greeters

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



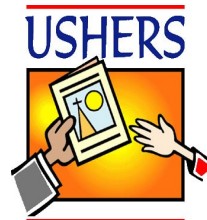
Ushers

Captain: Dennis & Denise Dahl

Pete & Janae Sherlock

Shawn & Kris Beck

Timothy & Jessica Peterson



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

Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church Council Minutes

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Council Meeting-March 9th, 2025: Members Present: Mike, Walter, Kirstin, Kris, Sharon, and Emma. Also present Pastor Jaime.

Kris called the meeting to order at 6:36. Pastor Jaime opened with devotions and prayer.

Adopt the agenda: Kirstin made a motion. Mike seconded it.

Secretary's Report: Kirstin read the report. Sharon made a motion to approve. Walter seconded it.

Pastor's Report: *March 2nd was the annual meeting, *March 3rd was the final book study session. Starting a new book-Midnight Library, and it will be discussed in one meeting on Tuesday, April 22nd at 6:30pm. All are welcome to join. *March 5th -Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent and Wednesday evening services with the theme, "Unbroken: A Living Faith." The theme for Sundays is "Broken and Beloved: Stories of God's Steadfast Love." *March 6th was the funeral service for Myrna Anderson *March 11th is the Worship and Music Committee meeting *March 12th is a YOGA meeting. *GASP will continue until the end of April *Confirmation students are working on service projects and devotion/reflections with their mentors. They meet 1-2 times/month with Pastor Jaime. *Upcoming dates include Apr. 6th-Baptism of Hattie Kempel, Apr. 13th-last day of SS, Apr. 13th-Palm Sunday Dinner and start of Holy Week, Apr. 20th - Easter Sunday, and May 4th-Confirmation students present their projects to the congregation w/a meal. All are invited.

Church Work Groups:

Property and Grounds-(Mike and Martin)-Light bulbs on west side were replaced. We need to get gutters on the west side of church. Mike will call to inquire on that. We are in the process of giving away the daycare supplies that we got free from the city years ago and are taking up storage space. We need to check on our geothermal system to see if it is turned on.

WELCA-(Sharon)-Palm Sunday Dinner is being planned.

Men's Group-(Walter)-Lutefisk Supper supplies are still in hallway. Walter and Mike will put them into the storage unit after meeting. Brat and Burger Feed needs to be discussed and scheduled.

YOGA-(Emma)-Krista Peterson and Auston Creech are leaders. YOGA plans on meeting every other Wednesday evening.

Education-(Emma)-GASP ends in April and SS ends on April 13th. SS will choose the way to spend the Make a Change Offering from the ELCA Good Gifts catalog.

Altar Guild-(Kirstin)-Meets the last Sun. of each month after worship. Polishing silver in March.

Worship and Music-(Paul)-No report

New Business: *Lutefisk Supper was discussed at the annual meeting and will now be a church wide event. A committee is being formed, led by Walter, Sharon, and Mike with multigenerational and diverse members to discuss what change will take place.

*GA Foundation Committee asked if there were church building repairs or plans. Kris suggested adding a bigger door and handicap accessible men's bathroom. This was tabled.

*Make a Change Offering will be donated to ELCA Good Gifts. We have a family, who would like to remain anonymous, who would like to match the offering that's been collected.

*Council Retreat to be held on April 26th at Pastor Jaime's home from 9:00am-3:00pm

Old Business: *Wedding Policy needs an update: change "Pastor Compensation amount" to say, "to be determined by pastor".

*Constitutional Updates: Remove treasurer because we have a paid staff treasurer, change the number of council members to 7, and change date of annual meeting to the 2nd Sunday in Feb. These constitutional changes require 2 congregational meetings before a vote.

Election of Officers: Kris will be going off council, but the remaining members would like her to continue helping Michelle Goettle with the budget and finances, entering offering totals into the computer. Nominations: Kirstin nominated Martin for president, Walter nominated Kirstin for Vice President, and Sharon nominated Emma for Secretary. Walter made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot. Emma seconded it. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as of today: \$43,784.65

Dedicated Savings: \$26,612.43


Savings: \$28,129.92

Mike made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Kirstin seconded it. Motion carried.

Walter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sharon seconded it. Meeting adjourned.

Ended in Lord's Prayer.

APRIL 2025

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		01	02 6:15pm Lent No Meal 3:30pm GASP	03 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	04 Jaime's Sabbath	05 Jaime's Sabbath
06 9:30 Worship w/ Communion Sunday School Baptism Kempel	07 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Holy Commu- ion Class	08	09 3:30pm GASP 5:00pm Meal 6:15pm Lent	10 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Ruth Circle 2:30pm	11 Jaime's Sabbath	12 Jaime's Sabbath
13 9:30 Worship w/ Communion Sunday School (Last Day of SS) Make-A-Change Palm Sunday Dinner	14 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	15	16 3:30pm GASP 5:00pm Meal 6:15pm Lent	17 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Maundy Thursday 6:15pm	18 Jaime's Sabbath Good Friday 6:15pm	19 Jaime's Sabbath
20 7:00 Sunrise Service YOGA Breakfast 9:30 Worship w/ Communion	21  May Newsletter Deadline 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	22 Book Study 6:30pm	23	24 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon	25 Jaime's Sabbath	26 Jaime's Sabbath Church Council Retreat
27 9:30 Worship w/ Communion Holy Humor Sunday Burger Feed Altar Guild Meeting	28 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline	29	30			

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



2025 April 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.....ADALEE HILL
COUNCIL PRESIDENT.....KIRSTIN KEMPEL
SCS SUPERINTENDENT.....
YOGA LEADERS..... KRISTA PETERSON & AUSTON CREECH

PHONE NUMBERS

CHURCH.....(701) 678-2552
JAIME CELL.....(701) 680-2637
SECRETARY CELL.....(701) 680-1190

EMAIL ADDRESSES

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS

KIRSTIN KEMPEL (PRESIDENT), MARTIN POTTS (VICE PRES.),
EMMA WALOCH (SECRETARY) , MIKE LARSON,
SHARON BECKSTROM, PAUL WHITE, WALTER WRAGE
AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE