

*Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church
Gwinner, North Dakota*

SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



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Blood Drive

GA is once again hosting a Blood Drive. It will be Tuesday, September 3rd from 1:15-5:30pm. If you would like to donate, please call 701-361-2142.

Carrili will also need a few volunteers to help with signing-in donors the day of the drive. If you are interested in helping out please let her know.

Thanks!

“God Pause”

Psalm 34:15-22

¹⁵The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry. Verse¹⁶The face of the Lord is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

Verse¹⁷When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles. Verse¹⁸The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.

Verse¹⁹Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all.

Verse²⁰He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken. Verse²¹Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. Verse²²The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

DEVOTION

I like puzzles. Like many these days, I begin my day with trying to solve “Wordle” and “Connections,” partly because they are fun, but also to give my mind a bit of a “stretch workout” in hopes of staving off the sluggishness of thought that so many fear these days. Psalm 34 is an alphabet acrostic, a “word puzzle” of Thanksgiving to God. While the aphorisms of the psalm are confident, they also acknowledge the mystery of faith and life. God is near, but spirits can still be crushed. God rescues, but that does not mean all afflictions are removed. Life remains even for the faithful a puzzle to be continually worked on, with good days and bad ones. What remains constant is the presence of a God who gives us thought, thanksgiving, and challenge.

PRAYER

God, I do not ask that life be made easy, but rather that life remain wondrous! Be with me in its ups and downs, and gift me with insight each and every day. Amen.

Merle L. Brockhoff '85 M.Div.Retired, Transitional Ministry Consultant, Kansas City, MO

A daily devotion brought to you by the alumni of Luther Seminary: <https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/>

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



- Sept 01:** 9:30am Indoor worship service, no communion - Julie Johnson
- Sept 01:** Pastor Jaime on Vacation Aug 30th thru Sept 7th
- Sept 03:** 1:00-5:30pm Blood Drive at GA
- Sept 08:** 9:30am Worship service, With communion, Make-A-Change Sunday - Pastor Jaime
- Sept 08:** YOGA Meeting
- Sept 08:** EaND Synod Fall Conference at Fair Hills, Pelican Lake MN, Sept 8-11 Pastor Jaime Attending
- Sept 11:** 5:30 PM Church Council Meeting
- Sept 12:** 2:30pm Ruth Circle
- Sept 15:** 9:30am Worship service, With communion, Baptism - Pastor Jaime
- Sept 15:** Congregational Meeting following Worship
- Sept 20:** Castaways Youth Retreat Sept 20th thru 22nd, Pastor Jaime Attending
- Sept 22:** 9:30am Prayer and LAST Supper—Lunch Provided by Council
- Sept 23:** October Newsletter Deadline
- Sept 29:** 9:30am Worship service, With communion, Baptism - Pastor Jaime
- Sept 29:** Altar Guild Meeting after Worship Service



Venmo: GA Church now was 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!

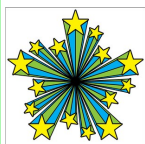


Book Study: We are taking a break for the month of July and will resume book study in September. Date and book yet to be determined. Contact Pastor Jaime with any questions.

Thank You: Thank you all for coming out and supporting YOGA during the car show. Due to weather, I know we were lacking in cars, but we were not lacking when it came to the attendance of the people in our community. YOGA would like to thank you for all your support.

Church Watering: A BIG Thank You to everyone who helped water the church landscape plants this Summer. Between your help and the beautiful rains, they have flourished. Thanks again for helping keep GA Beautiful.

Assistant Schedules: The 2024-2025 Worship Assistant Schedules are available on the table in the Narthex. They have also been emailed out to those who have an email on file with the church. Thank you to all who help out with worship services here at GA.



Congregational Meeting: Sunday, September 15th: Congregational meeting following worship service. This meeting will be held to discuss the opportunity for us to lease space in our church building for a daycare. There needs to be a quorum of a minimum of 25 voting members present at this meeting. So please plan to attend. Thanks!

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop



Our Sympathies : Go out to the family and friends of: Steve Jacobson. May God’s loving embrace help you through this difficult time, and may the many happy memories ease your pain.



The Gwinner location of the Sargent County Food Pantry **Top Needs:** Canned fruits, veggies, beans and soups, paper products (toilet paper, Kleenex, paper towels), pasta, sugar, cooking oil. Monetary donations are also appreciated. 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, potatoes, 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.

Teals Receipts: YOGA is once again collecting Teals Grocery receipts to turn in to help fund their educational trips & events. If you would like to help them out all you have to do is save your Teals receipts and turn them into the church office. Thank you in advance for your help.

Speaker Event: Wednesday September 4th 6:30-8:30PM at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cogswell. The topic will be Christian Nationalism, and the Speaker is Pastor Robert Franek. Please see the poster on the sanctuary door for more information.



L.A.S.T. Supper Sunday: Sunday, September 22: L.A.S.T. Supper Sunday. This Sunday we will gather to worship through Learning And Service Time, followed by a meal provided by the council. We will begin our time together with a prayer at 9:30am and then move into our service time. There will not be a traditional worship service this Sunday. Our building and grounds are in need of some loving care, such as: window cleaning, small outside paint jobs around windows, organizing the storage shed and Sunday school rooms/hallway, etc. Please bring ladders and painting supplies if you have them. We hope you join us in showing our gratitude for having a beautiful building to worship, fellowship, learn, serve, and grow together.

Extending outdoor worship services - due to a hot and humid July and August, we were not able to hold worship services outdoors. So, we will be extending outdoor worship services throughout September, weather permitting.

Church Finances:

For the Month of July 2024:

Beginning Balance: \$46342.99, Deposits: \$5941.62, Payments: \$16714.03

Ending Balance: \$35570.58

2024 Year to Date Giving:

GA 2024 Budget: \$210,770.00

Giving to Date: \$78,676.00

Giving Needed by 12-31-24: \$132,094.00



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

Keeping You in the G.A. Loop

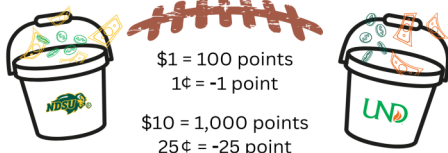
2024 Mowing Schedule

September 01-07	Martin Potts
September 08-14	Mike & Carrili Larson
September 15-21	Adam Wrage
September 22-28	Brian Gilje
Sept 29 - October 5	Walter Wrage
October 6-12	Mike & Carrili Larson
October 13-19	Kent & Julie Johnson
October 20-26	Dennis Dahl
October 27-Nov 02	Kenwood Peterson
November 03-09	Shawn Beck
November 10-16	Martin Potts
November 17-23	Jerrod Sandness

WELCA Workgroup: The Sept/Oct work group letters have been mailed. If you are a member of this workgroup please check to see when you are scheduled to serve. Our workgroup is also responsible for cleaning the Sunday School rooms. Please see the letter for more info. We need to have them cleaned by Sept 15th. Thanks Becky & Barb.

Thank You: From Sargent County Food Pantry to the Steve Jacobson family for suggesting donations for Food Pantry in lieu of cards at funeral. We received 187 pounds of non-perishables!! It is much appreciated and needed!

Pastoral Coverage: Pastor Ella and Pastor Nancy from Trinity in Lisbon, along with Pastor Julie from Forman will be covering emergency pastoral care while Pastor Jaime is on vacation Aug 30th thru Sept 7th.



Dollars (and checks) are worth **positive** points
 Coins are worth **negative** points

Put your dollars in your team's bucket!
 Put your coins in the opposing team's bucket!
 The team with the most points wins*!
 *the real winners are our synod's campus ministries who will split the donations!
Make your donation anytime Sept. 15-Sept. 29
 Winner announced in worship on October 6!



Looking Ahead! :

G.A.S.P. (Gwinner After School Program) begins: October 2nd
Sunday School Starts: October 6th

September-October WELCA Action Group

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

- Sharon Beckstrom
- Michelle Goettle
- Traci Hanson
- Linda McFarland
- Melinda Morlock
- Peggy Olson
- Sharon Peterson

- Mary Rotenberger
- Ginger Utecht
- Ashlee Lien
- Kris Nerison
- Crystal Taylor
- Alison Booth



September Birthdays

- 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 Zetocho



- 28 Carolyn J. Jacobson
Larry Johnson
Amy McGuire
Jack Mairs
- 29 Heidi Gleason
- 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 con-
tact the church office at
678-2552 or email us at***

***[galutheran-
church@outlook.com](mailto:galutheran-church@outlook.com)***

Thanks!

September Worship Assistants

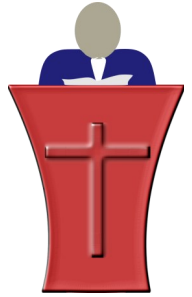
Communion Assistants

- 01 Paul White
- 08 Michelle Goettle
- 15 Kirstin Kempel
- 22 Dennis Dahl
- 29 Kent Johnson



Readers

- 01 Val Bjork
- 08 Joan Peterson
- 15 Nancy Wrage
- 22 Volunteer Needed
- 29 Kirstin Kempel

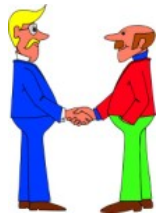


Mowing

September 01-07	Martin Potts
September 08-14	Mike & Carrili Larson
September 15-21	Adam Wrage
September 22-28	Brian Gilje
Sept 29 - October 5	Walter Wrage

Greeters

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



Ushers

Captain: Gage & Ashley Hansen

Kaleb Brockman & Jericho Qualley

Jackie Meyer

Rodney & Ginger Utecht

Ashlee Lien



Sound System

Sound System is now

A Paid Position.

Contact Kris Beck if you are Interested.



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

SEPTEMBER 2024 ISSUE 9

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Council Meeting – August 25th, 2024, Members present: Kris, Paul, Sharon, Austen, Martin, Mike, and Kirstin. Others present: Pastor Jaime and Jericho Qualley

Kris called the meeting to order. Devotion and Prayer led by: Pastor Jaime

Approve agenda: Austen/Paul Secretary's Report: Martin/Mike

Pastor's Report: Summer Reading Camp was held throughout July with 12 kids attending. VBS was led by Jericho Qualley and Kaleb Brockman with 17 attending. Christmas in July was held July 21st and the YOGA canoe trip had 11 kids attend with 4 adult leaders. In August there was a Baptism and a funeral service. Coming in September is the EaND Fall Pastor Conference, 2 Baptisms, Castaways Youth Retreat, and a wedding which will be held in Wahpeton.

Church Work Groups:

1. Property and Grounds: There are jobs that need to be done before winter such as raise/lower sump pump, add heat tape, scrape and paint windows, window washing, and cleaning the gutters. On Sunday, Sept. 22nd we will have a gathering in the church for a short service, followed by a GA clean up day, and afterwards a meal will be provided by the council members.
2. WELCA: They will meet in the fall. Items to discuss are updating the WELCA book and discuss deep cleaning of the church by the work groups.
3. Men's Group: No report.
4. YOGA: Leaders and members meet on August 25th to plan their year.
5. Education: (This info. is under New Business)
6. Altar Guild: Meetings are now changed to the last Sunday of the month following church. Dennis is starting to make the new Baptismal font.
7. Worship and Music: No report


Old Business: Kris is looking into quotes for the west door in the Fellowship Hall which needs to be replaced. She will call Red River Glazing for a steel door.

New Business: 1) Grotberg inspected the furnace and replaced a pressure gauge. 2) New approach to teach Sunday School was proposed by Pastor Jaime, as the traditional way is not working. It would involve our H.S. youth as paid positions. They would be under contract teaching a new curriculum for a 7 week session which includes attending church first. This idea came from a pastor in VA that has had excellent results. Paul made a motion to try this new Sunday School style and pay each youth \$15/hr. Martin seconded it. 3) Daycare discussion was proposed. Jericho Qualley gave us her background in daycare. There is a great need in our community and the council would like to help with that problem by renting out our building as a proposed site. It would start small, and when Jericho gets licensed, it could lead to a larger daycare with more employees. GA would waive the first couple months of rent while Jericho gets the daycare up and running, but after that a lease would be written up. There will be a church discussion on this following the service on September 15th. A preliminary motion was made to approve the daycare made by Kirstin. Martin seconded it. 4) GA plans on starting an elementary After School Program in October. We received a grant from Waste Management that will cover costs. The focus will be on homework help and music instruction, taught by Indy Husted. This is a paid position, and we are proposing \$25/hr. Volunteer helpers will be needed for the homework help time. Two sessions of music will be held, which alternate with the homework time. Paul, Kirstin, Kris, and Pastor Jaime will meet as a committee for further planning. 5) Pastor Jaime is contemplating changing the style and years of confirmation. She has the council's full backing to try something new. Paul made a motion and Mike seconded it.

Treasurer's Report: Paul made a motion to accept and Mike seconded it.

Adjourn: Mike/Paul Lord's Prayer Next meeting is September 11th

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<p>01 9:30 Indoor Worship No Communion Pastor Jaime on Vacation</p> <p>08 9:30 Worship w/ Communion Make-A-Change Sunday YOGA Meeting</p> <p>15 9:30 Worship w/Communion Baptism Congregational Meeting After Worship</p> <p>22 9:30 LAST Supper Service Day Church Cleanup Castaway Trip: Jaime Attending</p> <p>29 9:30 Worship w/Communion Baptism Altar Guild Meeting after Worship</p>	<p>02 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Pastor Jaime on Vacation</p> <p>09 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline Jaime at Fall Conference</p> <p>16 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>23  October Newsletter Deadline 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>30 12 Noon Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p>03 Blood Drive 1-5:30pm Pastor Jaime on Vacation</p> <p>10 Jaime at Fall Conference</p> <p>17</p> <p>24</p>	<p>04 Pastor Jaime on Vacation</p> <p>11 Church Council 5:30pm Jaime at Fall Conference</p> <p>18</p> <p>25</p>	<p>05 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Pastor Jaime on Vacation</p> <p>12 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon Ruth Circle 2:30</p> <p>19 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon</p> <p>26 Bits 'N Stitches Quilting 9am to Noon</p>	<p>06 Jaime's Sabbath Pastor Jaime on Vacation</p> <p>13 Jaime's Sabbath</p> <p>20 Jaime's Sabbath Castaway Trip: Jaime Attending</p> <p>27 Jaime's Sabbath</p>	<p>07 Jaime's Sabbath Pastor Jaime on Vacation</p> <p>14 Jaime's Sabbath</p> <p>21 Jaime's Sabbath Castaway Trip: Jaime Attending</p> <p>28 Jaime's Sabbath</p>

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



2024 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.....TRUDY PETERSON
COUNCIL PRESIDENT.....KRIS BECK
SCS SUPERINTENDENT.....
YOGA LEADERS..... AUSTON CREECH

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.),
(SECRETARY) KIRSTIN KEMPEL, MIKE LARSON,
SHARON BECKSTROM, PAUL WHITE, AUSTON CREECH
AND YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE