February 2021

January '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

March '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3 3:45 7th & 8th Confirmation	4	5	6
7 9:30am Worship/Communion 10:30am Sunday School 5:30 High School Youth Group 7:00 Worship/Communion	8	9	10 3:45 7th & 8th Confirmation 8:00 Church Council	11	12	13
14 **VALENTINE'S DAY** 9:30am Worship/Communion 10:30am Sunday School 7:00pm Worship/Communion	15 **PRESIDENTS' DAY**	16	17 **ASH WEDNESDAY** 3:45 7th & 8th Confirmation 7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship with Holy Communion 	18	19	20
21 9:30am Worship/Communion 10:30am Sunday School 5:30 High School Youth Group 7:00 Worship/Communion	22 1:30pm Operation Love	23	24 3:45 7th & 8th Confirmation 7:00 Lenten Worship	25	26	27
28 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 7:00pm Worship	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	Notes Church Phone - 854-3684 Parsonage Phone - 854-3745 Church Email - americanlutherandesmet@mchsi.com Pastor Jonathan Email - pastor@americanlutherandesmet.org Church Website - americanlutherandesmet.org				

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https://www.vertex42.com/calendars/

Pastor, What Did You Do on Paternity Leave?

That was the most common question I received from folks after they greeted me on my first Sunday back. It's a fair question. It has been many, many years since ALC has had a First Call pastor and just starting a family. In fact, you'd have to go back to Pastor Sterling Simonson who served ALC from 1942 – 1946. In 1944, their oldest child Alice was born. Of course, back then (minus the women who worked because of WWII), it was uncommon that a wife was working outside the home. But now, in the 2020's, it is uncommon to find only one parent working. In other words, to have a moment in time to stop, slow down and only worry about spending time with my children was stressful and amazing at the same time.

As you all know, I started my Paternity Leave a few days early because my brother-in-law tested positive for COVID-19 two days after arriving at the parsonage. Lisa and I planned on having her mom and dad, one sister and one brother with us for Christmas. But even four people turned out to be too many. It grieved me deeply that I was unable to celebrate Christmas with you all. Lisa's sister Noelle also quarantine with us. Her job has been working from home since the pandemic began and thus she stayed almost an entire month. This was great because Anastasia and Etta got to interact with Aunt Noelle too!

Now, when our quarantine ended and though I was on Paternity Leave, I still sent the girls to daycare a minimum of twice a week to keep them in the routine of daycare. This was especially important for baby Etta who had only recently started to get used to such routines. But, they spent many hours with Noelle and I. Lisa, as you know by now, works nights as a Labor and Delivery Nurse at Brookings Hospital. So she slept many times during the day.

As a product of the millennial generation, I did of course play a good amount of video games. Generally, when the girls were sleeping or at daycare. Since those in the parish under 40 might want to know what games I played; I finally started and completed Red Dead Redemption II and started playing Red Dead Online; I am about 2/3 of the way through Cyberpunk 2077 and played a good amount of Call of Duty: Warzone. Yes, pastors are people too. Noelle, Lisa and I also watched all six of The Lord of the Rings/The Hobbit films, as well as, other films that Noelle had never seen but wanted to watch. Plus, there were countless hours of Disney movies, Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood, Barney and Friends and Sesame Street with Anastasia.

All in all, my Paternity Leave was so welcomed. It truly is a gift to be serving a congregation that values the opportunity to have paid Paternity Leave to share in the precious moments of early childhood development. It was so rejuvenating for my ministry to spend so much time with the girls. I'm so excited to be back with you all as we continue to journey together in Christ.

Pastor Jonathan David Dolan

KINGSBURY COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

If you would like to donate to the food pantry directly at the food pantry on Tuesdays. If you are unable to drop off items, our collection team would be happy to pick up your items on Tuesday mornings between 11:00-1:00. Just call Mary or leave a message at the church on Monday afternoon. For no-contact pickup just hang your contribution on your front door! 605-854-3684.

If you are unable to shop for items call Maynards on Tuesday mornings and they will deliver to the Food Pantry! 854-3432

In November we served 37 families, a total of 60 people. In December 23 families were served totaling 47 people. In November 98 backpacks went to De Smet School and 78 went to Lake Preston School. For December 93 backpacks went to De Smet School and 80 to Lake Preston School.

Some of the needs at the pantry are: Family size & regular size soups, Ramen Noodles, Ravioli, Spaghetti-Os, individual packs of flavored oatmeatl, juice, canned fruit, all kinds of pasta, pasta sauce, canned tuna, chicken and Spam, all types of crackers, cleaning supplies, Kleenex, paper towels, dish soap, laundry soap, liquid hand soap, garbage bags, shampoo & conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, disposable razors and shaving cream.

Monetary gifts may be sent to: Kingsbury County Food Pantry, PO Box 202, De Smet, SD 57231

Thank you to all who donate!

BIRTHDAYS

Jared Baszler	2/1	Jacie McCune	2/17
Carol Geyer	2/1	Slayten Wilkinson	2/17
Brantlee Doyle	2/2	Aspen Aughenbaugh	2/15
Martina Albrecht	2/3	Betty Vincent	2/19
Jackie Brown	2/6	Chad Abrahamson	2/20
Blake Hojer	2/7	Alaina Albrecht	2/20
Amy Scofield	2/7	Samantha Schaefer	2/20
Ella Baszler	2/8	Jeff Albrecht	2/22
Megan Dylla	2/9	Jon Albrecht	2/22
Ivy Albrecht	2/10	Alexa Martens	2/22
Hunter Wipf	2/10	Shane Roth	2/22
Tyler Albrecht	2/11	August Mundhenke	2/23
Lynne Lee	2/14	Greg Skyberg	2/23
Arabel Aughenbaugh	2/15	Sutton Bjorkman	2/24
Myrna Knadle	2/15	Craig Bjordahl	2/25
Anastasia Dolan	2/16	Desa Rae Cleveland	2/25
Jennifer Hojer	2/16	Alan Hojer	2/28

FEBRUARY BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Sullivyn Siver	2/2
Landen Warner	2/10
Adilynne Schaefer	2/12
Brooks Baszler	2/13
Rogan Albrecht	2/14
Cortney Smith	2/15
Brydon Voeltz	2/16
Ethan McCune	2/17
Nash Clubb	2/19
McKenzie Wendel	2/21

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Glen & Janet Davis	2/12
Neil Donna Palmlund	2/16

God's love was revealed to us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.
1 John 4:9-12

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Phone 605-854-3684 **Parsonage Phone** 605-854-3745

Church email: americanlutherandesmet@mchsi.com

Pastor's email: pastor@americanlutherandesmet.org

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVICES

Altar Guild—Dianne Mollner

Date	Projection
February 7 Communion	Amy Hoefert
February 14 Communion	Cheryl Palmlund
February 17 (Ash Wednesday) Communion	
February 21 Communion	Bonita Albrecht
February 24 (Wednesday/Lent)	
February 28	Sharry Knock

COMFORT

We express our Christian sympathy to the family of Roger Knock. Please keep his family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

SERMONS ON THE WEBSITE

Worship service at American Lutheran sermons are recorded and can be listened to from the website:

americanlutherandesmet.org

Help Needed for Altar Guild

We are in need of new members for the Altar Guild as we move forward in 2021. Members take turns on a monthly basis with openings currently available in **January and November**. Please contact the church office to volunteer for this important ministry of our church. Thank you!

American Lutheran Church
Regular Council Meeting – January 13, 2021

Pastor: Jonathan Dolan
Officers of the Congregation: President **Wade Hoefert**, Vice-President **Lindsay Nolte**, Treasurer **Amy Hoefert**, Secretary Robin Gigov

Board of Trustees: **Alan Hojer, Greg Noem**, **Bill Wilkinson,** Amy Zell, Rich Abrahamson

Board of Parish Education: Co-Chair **Desa Rae Cleveland**, Co-Chair **Vicki Dylla**, **Dianne Mollner**, Monica Roth, Darcie Tolzin

Board of Deacons and Deaconesses: Rustin Albrecht, Craig Bjordahl**, Glenda Haines**, **Kathy Heller, Pam Hojer**, Andrew Holland, **Lindy Holland**, Brooke Johnson, **Gordie Skyberg, Greg Skyberg**

Visitors: none

President Vice-President **Lindsay Nolte** called to order the regular monthly meeting of American Lutheran Church Council on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 8:00 PM.

Devotion: None

Agenda: Bill Wilkinson made a motion to approve the agenda. **Gordie Skyberg** seconded. The motion passed.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the previous meeting (12/11/20) were presented. **Bill Wilkinson** moved to approve the minutes. **Lindy Holland** seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer Report: The treasurer's report for the month of December 2020 was presented. **Greg Skyberg** moved to approve the report as presented. **Greg Noem** seconded. The motion passed.

Pastor's Report: None – Pastor Jonathan is on paternity leave until January 23

Old Business

1. Wellness Committee: none
2. Deacon's and Deaconesses:
    a. No changes to service format; COVID procedures are in place
    b. Positive feedback has been received for Pastor Gary Anderson who is filling in while Pastor Jonathan is on leave.
    c. There will be no spaghetti dinner following the annual meeting- looking toward a meal this spring
3. Trustees
    a. A wireless mic is here and working well; a Bluetooth system is still in progress
    b. Screens covering the organ pipes in the balcony will be repaired with screen donated by CMI
    c. Wheelchair lift is still in the planning stage along with a renovation to the men's bathroom in the education wing
4. Board of Education
    a. Christmas Program Recap
        i. 33 students attended; lots of compliments; lots of views on YouTube

b. Scholarship applications for seniors will be sent in February
c. Sunday School memory work will be recited in April
d. Acolytes will resume their duties during services soon

New Business

1. Wellness Committee – none
2. Deacon's and Deaconesses
    a. Discussion regarding Advent/Christmas offering. It will go to the Heritage Scholarship fund as decided in earlier meetings
3. Trustees
    a. **Gordie Skyberg** made a motion to approve the 2021 budget; **Pam Hojer** seconded. The motion passed.
4. Board of Education - none
5. President
    a. Technology
        i. Facebook Live update
        ii. Positive feedback received
        iii. Bluetooth connection to sound system should improve audio for all services
        iv. Mount for basement TV
    b. Nominations for positions for 2021
        i. 2 Sunday School superintendent(s) are still needed
    c. Annual meeting
        i. Will be held on Sunday, January 24 following the 9:30 service.
        ii. Members may attend in-person or via Zoom

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 at 8:00 PM. Boards will meet at 7:30 prior to the meeting. Members can meet at the church or via Zoom.

There was a motion for adjournment by **Greg Noem**. **Pam Hojer** seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Lindsay Nolte
Secretary Pro Tem

Approved as read/corrected on _____