

January 2023



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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day 9:30am Worship/Communion Lead By Pr David Peterson 10:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 7pm Worship	2	3	4 3:45 Confirmation Class 4:45 Confirmation Parent/ Student Meeting	5	6	7
8 Baptism of our Lord 9:30am Worship Lead By Pr David Peterson 10:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 7pm Worship	9 ALC Office Closed	10	11 3:45 Confirmation Class 7:30 Boards Meet 8pm ALC Council	12	13	14
15 Annual Meeting 9:30am Worship/Communion 10:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 7pm Worship	16	17	18 3:45 Confirmation Class	19	20	21
22 3rd Epiphany 9:30am Worship 10:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 7pm Worship	23	24	25 3:45 Confirmation Class	26	27	28
29 4th Epiphany 9:30am Worship/Communion 10:30 Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School 7pm Worship	30 Operation Love Women's Bible Study 5:30pm	31	1 3:45 Confirmation Class	2	3	4
5	6	Notes	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p> Church Phone - 854-3684 Church Email - office@americanlutherandesmet.org Church Website - americanlutherandesmet.org </p> </div>			

happy new year **2023**

American Lutheran Church

The Voice

January 2023

Baptismal

Audi Currier 1/6/2008
Tanner Tolzin 1/7/2007
Daisy Wipf 1/7/2018
Hayden Larson 1/13/2019
Hunter Larson 1/13/2019
Garret Smith 1/15/2012
Bella Wilkinson 1/17/2010
Vaughn Siver 1/17/2016
Jackson Tolzin 1/18/2004
Rydr Klosterbuer 1/24/2015
Jaden Hojer 1/25/2015
Grayson Peterson 1/25/2014
Lane Albrecht 1/27/2008
Kenna Currier 1/31/2010

happy
BIRTHDAY
HAPPY
Anniversary!

Birthday's

Rogan Albrecht—1
Delmer Wolkow—1
Lisa Dolan—2
Matthew Gilbertson—2
Harper Anderson—3
Sherry Mohror—3
Judy A. Wolkow—3
Cheryl Wilkinson—4
Mackenzie Zell—5
Jaelynn Martens—6
Isaiah Roth—6
Rich Abrahamson—7
Tricia Holland—8
Melissa Kruger—8
Angie Baszler—9
Hudson Feltman—11
Alexa Amundson—11
Vivian Bjordahl—11
Karly Brodersen—11
Jerald Keller—12
Donna Poppen—12

Dawn Bindert—13
Kendra Elkins—13
Hannah Gillen—13
Devon Clubb—14
Brynn Hojer—14
Kaylee Hojer—14
Dan Orton—14
Victoria Dylla—16
James Poppen—17
Darcie Tolzin—17
Dawson Wendel—17
Clifford Geyer—18
Edger Wilkinson—18
Lavonne Bjordahl—19
John Albrecht—20
Clara Fox—20
Mia Gehm—20
Bobbi Hauck—21
Galen Behm—22
Emma Johnson—22
Ashley Coleman—24
Grant Griffith—24
Melissa Ingalls—24

Jeff Mundhenke—24
Lance Siver—24
Brydon Voeltz—25
Caitlyn Brag—26
Matthew Rusche—26
Dan Brown—27
Kelsey McCune—27
Emerie Orton—27
Michael Burgers—28
Damon Wilkinson—28
Mark Hojer—29
Clara Mae Fox—30

Wedding Anniversary

Jason & Tristin Gruenhagen—6
Alan & Heidi Smith—7
Dennis & Karen Holmlund—31

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GROWING IN FAITH



*For unto you is
born this day in the
city of David,
a savior who is
Christ the Lord*

Luke 2: 11



One Special
Night
in Bethlehem



KINGSBURY COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

Non-Perishable Foods Non-Foods In Need of:

In Need of:

Pasta (All Kinds)
Mac N Cheese
Ramen Noodle
Soup & Crackers
Cereal
Sugar / Salt / Pepper
Ketchup/Mustard
Juice / Coffee / Tea
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Canned Fruit
Canned Meat
Cookies & Snacks

Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Kleenex
Laundry Soap
Dryer Sheets
Dish Soap

Personal In Need of:

Shampoo / Conditioner
Deodorant
Body Wash
Toothpaste / Toothbrush
Liquid Soap

Non-perishable food for the pantry can be purchased and left at Maynards to be delivered. If you do not have time to shop, we can also use monetary donations. Our mailing address is:

PO Box 202, De Smet SD 57231

November

34-Families
6-New Families
67-All People
15- Children (17 & under)
23- Senior (60+)
22 -Senior Boxes
12 of 22 Senior Boxes came
for extra food.

190-Backpacks

80-DeSmet

110-Lake Preston

“WARM WINTER PROJECT” - ALC partnered with the Kingsbury County Food Pantry for a warm clothing drive. We helped; 16 Families, 60 Adults & kids coats, 30 winter vest/sweatshirts, 20 shirts/sweaters, 15 adult & kid snow pants, Numerous hats, gloves, mittens, scarves & socks. There is many items still available at ALC, if you or someone you know needs warm clothes, please go to the ALC to get what you need.

Thank you to the American Lutheran Church , to everyone who donated items and to Glenda, Janet and all other volunteers who helped with this project. Thank You Robyn Flickinger

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Important Notice!

Offering envelopes for 2023 are currently on backorder. I have been in contact with the printing company that created our envelopes for several weeks. Their suppliers is having issues getting the material to them, which is delaying all of their customer jobs. As soon as I hear any updates I will update you in the church announcements and/or on the ALC Facebook page.

In the meantime, for any offertory donations please put your name on it. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask.
Janet Brag

Prayer Chain

It is the end of the year and we will be updating the prayer chain list again. We have plenty of room for more people to be added to either the call list or the text list. This is for men and women of our church. The only requirement is that you pray for the person on the list.

If you would like to be on either list please call or text me with your name and number. If you have been on the list, but are not being notified, we may not have a correct number for you. Please let me know if your number has changed.

Please contact me at 605-860-1117. Leave your name and number and I will get back to you.

Our prayer chain is a wonderful mission of our church. We would love to have many more church members involved.

Cheryl Noem

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of the American Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 15, 2023. Following the morning worship service.

Spaghetti Dinner to follow the meeting in the fellowship hall.

In case of inclement weather; Annual Meeting make-up date would be Sunday, January 22, 2023.



IN COMFORT;

We express our sincerest sympathies to the family of Elsa "Ruth" Zeller. Please keep her family in your prayers as they mourn the death of their loved one.

IN COMFORT;

Our sincerest sympathies to the family of Evelyn Wolkow. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers in the loss of their loved one.



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ALCW wishes to thank the many, many hands who joined together to make the 2022 Harvest Festival a very special time in our congregation. Proceeds from the soup and pie luncheon, the bake sale, and silent auction raised nearly \$4,000. We want to especially thank the Harvest Festival Committee Mary Wilkinson, Teresa Palmlund, Marcia Richards, Myrna Knadle, and Beth Abrahamson for planning and preparing the delicious meal, Bonita Albrecht and Connie Geyer for serving as dining room hostesses and confirmation youth for assisting them, Caryn Pastian and Pam Hojer for chairing the bake sale, and Kathy Heller for organizing the silent auction. We also want to thank Beth for applying for Thrivent Funds adding another \$500 to the total amount received. Money raised from this year's and past Harvest Festivals will be used to replace the badly worn carpet in the Fellowship Hall, adjoining stairways, and the room where the elevator is located.

THANK YOU!

Our heartfelt thanks for the extremely generous financial gifts from members of the congregation upon our departure. Thank you for all the physical gifts, and all the kind words in the cards and letters. The congregational gift hangs now in our apartment.

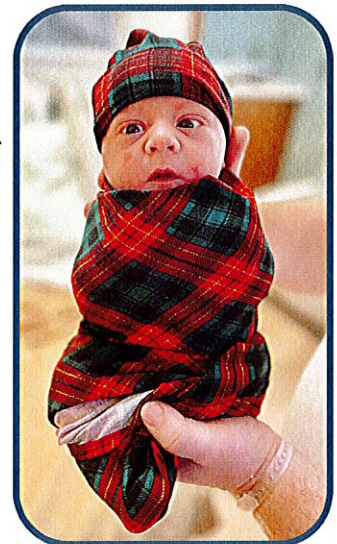
Thank you for allowing me to serve you as your pastor in my First Call. This experience helped me learn and grow as a pastor has prepared me to serve God's people for the next four decades of ministry.

Lastly, we would like to announce the birth of our son, Theodore Christof Dolan. Born December 20th, 2022 at 5:05pm. 7lbs 14oz 20 inches. Lisa and Theo are doing wonderfully. And thank you for the congratulatory gifts, cards and messages for the birth of our son that some of you sent with us before we left .

I will forever remember our time at American Lutheran Church, the memories and ministry we shared in together I will cherish them forever.

In Humble Service of the Triune God.
Pastor Jonathan, Lisa, Anastasia, Etta and Theodore Dolan

P.S. If you'd like to reach out to us, our present address is
3715 Grayhawk Avenue Apt 106 Ames, Iowa 50010



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American Lutheran Church
Regular Council Meeting – December 14, 2022

Officers of the Congregation: President Todd Wilkinson, Vice-President **Robin Gigov**, Treasurer **Amy Hoefert**, Secretary **April Rusche**

Board of Trustees: Chair **Greg Noem**, **Norm Koehlmoos**, **Bonita Albrecht**, **Rich Abrahamson**, Norm Whitaker

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

Board of Deacons and Deaconesses: Chair **Devon Clubb**, Secretary **Glenda Haines**, **Jake Anderson**, **Justin Smith**, **Kathy Heller**, **Kay Koehlmoos**, **Matt Rusche**, **Gordie Skyberg**, **Greg Skyberg**, **Rhona Albrecht**

Prior to the Council meeting, **Renee Splichal-Larson** addressed the council via zoom regarding the upcoming call process that ALC is about to embark on. She answered questions and made herself available for future guidance.

Meeting Agenda resumed at 9:04.

Devotion - lead by Bonita Albrecht

Secretary's Report - Greg S. made a motion to accept the secretary's report as presented. Seconded by Norm K.

Treasurer's Report - Greg N. made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as read. Seconded by Bonita

1.Trustees Report

- a. Greg N. reported on estimates for new carpet from 2 sources: One for \$10,747 and the other for \$12,216
- b. Nothing to report on Disaster recovery Plan
- c. On Nov. 29, there was a walk-thru of the parsonage and reported minimal damage and a few plumbing issues to resolve.
- d. Urged the other boards to turn in any budget requests as soon as possible

2.Deacons and Deaconesses

- a. Devon reported that Christmas Eve services will be held at 3:00 and 5:00 and Stuart will be handling Christmas Day service.
- b. Mary Weerts will play for Christmas Eve and Lindsay Nolte will play on the 25th.
- c. Communion will be on Jan 1, and Jan. 15 with the annual meeting on Jan. 15 also.
- d. Stuart, Jim Millman and Austie will help Pastor Gary and Brad Sanderson cover pastoral needs that may arise

3.Board of Parish Education

- a. Stuart has agreed to help teach confirmation classes.
- b. There will be a meeting with the confirmands and parents prior to Stuart's first class.

4.Other Business

- a. Janet reported that the church directory pictures have concluded and the next step will be to work on specialty pages

5.Vice-President

- a. Robin presented the list of candidates to serve on the Call Committee
- b. **Bonita made a motion to approve the list and it was seconded by Vicki**

Call Committee: Greg Skyberg, Norm Koehlmoos, Rhona Albrecht, Linda Geyer, Sharry Knock, Daniel Bettin.

Alternates: Bonnie Rusche and Jackie Griffith

- c. Looking for volunteers for the nominating committee

The next meeting will be held on January 11, 2023, at 8:00 PM. Boards will meet 7:30

Robin Gigov adjourned the meeting at 10:14 PM and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

April Rusche, Secretary

Approved as read/corrected on



South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

January 2023 Newsletter Inserts

From the Bishop's Desk

New Year's Greetings South Dakota Synod!

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! - The majority of you are preparing for your annual meeting at which you will elect new leaders to serve on the council and in other capacities representing your congregation in the community you are planted in. Allow me to say a thank you to those who have concluded their service and a welcome to those who will begin their service. As the Bishop of the South Dakota Synod I am grateful for your willingness to serve in times such as these.

The synod's mission statement is: journeying together in Christ and is based on Luke's narrative of the walk to Emmaus after the resurrection. Jesus joins two disciples on the road as they journey from Jerusalem to Emmaus to clear their heads from everything they had seen and heard these past few days. Jesus joins them on the way, but their preoccupied minds and hearts don't permit them to recognize Jesus. It isn't until Jesus joins them at the supper table, where he breaks the bread that their eyes and hearts are finally receptive to who has been with them all along. And despite the darkness and possible danger, despite being hungry after a day's journey and despite their tired and weary bodies they hurry back to Jerusalem to share the good news that they have seen the Lord.

As you begin your service as a council member I hope you will amidst the weary works of your day and sometimes even in the church discover the risen Christ continues to show up at your council meetings to reveal who you are and who we are as the living and breathing body of Christ. Your work may include mundane decisions such as paying the bills and choosing curriculum, finding soloists and ushers, but never underestimate the power of Christ in your midst. He may just have been journeying alongside you, without you recognizing him. I pray that you are called to carry out your given task with an open heart, mind and spirit only to discover that Christ has been a part of the church at large and your community in particular long before you.

I also invite you to join the synod staff for an educational event on Zoom titled: "You have been elected to council, now what?" We have done these workshops for a few years now and the number of people participating is growing every year. Together we will learn about what it means to serve on the council, that your constitution is not a weapon, but your missional document, how to utilize the resources the synod has to accompany your congregation, how to create a spirit of generosity and much more. Please register through the registration link in the weekly synod e-news. The event is free and open to all who wish to attend. If you do not yet subscribe to the e-news, please follow this link or insert into your browser: sdsynod.org/subscribe.

Journeying in Christ with you,
Rev. Constanze Hagmaier
Bishop of the SD Synod

Faithful Imagination

Beloved partners in Christ,

As I watch my three young children grow, I am awestruck by their imagination and curiosity about God, the world, and their lives. Not as a pastor, but as a parent it is my calling to help them hear the Good News of Jesus, and to help them trust in God's promises.

It's a joy to watch them learn the Lord's Prayer, and say their evening prayers together. But being four and six years old, the oldest like to find ways to make it fun. They ask to pray "dinosaur style," punctuating each line with a "RAWRRRR." Or we might whisper pray, barely giving any breath as we talk with God. Even though this is not how I might choose to pray, for them it is a meaningful and engaging way to grow in relationship with God.

I wonder what our congregations might look like if we give ourselves permission to explore meaningful ways to share our faith with one another, and to grow in relationship with God - even when it might be surprising. In our ministries we are called to share the Good News of Jesus who died and lives again for us, and to go out into the world to love and serve our neighbors. But lately we are finding the ability to do that work by imagining new ways of doing it, or learning how others are doing the work differently than we might.

The Holy Spirit is up to something in our churches and in our lives. As we continue to share our faith with others, we will be surprised and delighted to see how we grow closer to God. The Gospel promise of Jesus Christ will remain central, but what we surround that with will change as the world does.

May God bless you with creativity and new ways of living together as God's people. Know that God is with us through all things, that the Holy Spirit is pouring blessings into you, and that Jesus will always love you.

Rev Jonathan Steiner
Director for Evangelical Mission and Associate to the Bishop for Stewardship & Outreach

Interested in Coaching?

Coaching is cropping up consistently across the ELCA (alliteration alert)! Synods are attaching and prioritizing coaching support to initiatives and outreach programs as a way to support leaders—lay and rostered alike—in their ministry. Some of these ministries include the Congregations Lead Initiative (<https://elca.org/CongregationsLead>), ELCA World Hunger (<https://www.elca.org/resources/elca-world-hunger>), coaching first call pastors, a coaching partnership with Luther Seminary's Faith+Lead (<https://faithlead.luthersem.edu/>), and many others!

The ELCA has a national coaching director in Jill Beverlin, whose position recently changed to full-time (<https://www.elcacoaching.org/pages/intro-to-coaching>). Jill has two support staff members, and more and more coaching coordinators (like me! <https://sdsynod.org/ministries/coach-network/>) are being raised up across the 65 synods.

The beauty of coaching is that it offers a safe and brave space for people to name current hopes and struggles, set goals, and attach timelines and accountability to those goals. Coaching is a relationship of encouraging and equipping built on the pillars of active listening and powerful, open-ended questioning.

Bishop Constanze, Assistant to the Bishop Pastor Renee Splichal Larson, and DEM Pastor Jonathan Steiner are trained in coaching and use it daily in their ministries. There is an active SD Synod coaching network that is eager to support leaders across the synod.

If you are curious about what a coaching space might look like for you, reach out! (<https://www.elcacoaching.org/pages/what-is-coaching>)

At the very least, you will learn about something new, and at the very best, you just might find a life-changing opportunity!

Jamie Graham Duprey
Author, Coach
Coachduprey.com, (406)930-2839

If you are a rostered minister, or seminarian and you are wanting to try out coaching, please contact Crystal McCormick (cmccormick@sdsynod.org) in the Synod office, and ask for the "Lifelong Academy Grant Application Form." Each applicant can receive up to \$300 to cover the cost of your first few coaching sessions. Prayerfully consider this opportunity.

There are also opportunities for congregational coaching as well, including grief coaching. Congregations can also apply for the "Lifelong Academy Grant Application."

Rev Renee Splichal Larson
Associate to the Bishop for Candidacy, Congregation, and Rostered Minister Accompaniment

The Beginning of Something New

It's that time of year again – lots of forms with lots of numbers. 1040's and 1099's, W-2s, Schedule A and Schedule C. Time with a calculator and a CPA or TurboTax and shivering Uncle Sams waving to oncoming traffic during rush hour.

It's also a time of review and reflection. How did I use my resources? How did I share from my abundance? How did my decisions reflect my faith? How did they reflect Jesus? It's all there in the receipts and check registers and bank statements. The same happens in congregations – evaluation of priorities and programs, adoption of a new budget, conversations about how to do more, or be more, or even save more when things look bleak.

Here are some words to consider as you think about what's in store for 2023. You may have heard them before, but they still seem a good challenge for each of us as we make plans for something new in the coming year:

"This is about generosity, not about fundraising. Not budgets or campaign goals. If that's all we're going to achieve, we will have missed something along the way. We believe that following Jesus means learning how to follow him in every area of our lives, including how we handle our money.

"As followers of Christ, our goal in life is not gaining power, possession or prestige for ourselves. We exist to fulfill the Great Commission until Christ's return. When the church acts with generosity to serve others, it is a clear picture of Christ, who at the cross generously gave his life and all he had so that we might have life forever." (Willard & Sheppard, 2012; pp. 165-166)

Kathy McHenry,
Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota
www.lpgsd.org, 605-274-5030



**THANK YOU to all the
volunteers that help
deliver Meals on Wheels.
Myrna Knadle-Community Mission**

Thank You!

Confirmation Students & Parents

A meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 4th, 2023 4:45 (Following Class)

To discuss any changes to the class. Any questions, please contact a member of the ALC Board of Education.

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JANUARY 2023



JANUARY WORSHIP SERVICES

Altar Guild— Jennifer Albrecht & Bette Poppen

Ushers - Wade & Amy Hoefert

Date	Projection	Sound System	Lectors	Communion Assist	Acolytes
Jan 1	Sharry Knock		Tim Salonen	Glenda Haines Greg Skyberg Gordie Skyberg	Rogan Albrecht Owen Anderson
Jan 8	Cheryl Palmlund	Cheryl Palmlund	Brian Bindert	No Comm.	Kenna Currier
Jan 15	Janet Brag	Janet Brag	Tammy Albrecht	Kay Koehlmoos Gordie Skyberg Rhona Albrecht	Jennifer Davis Jacob Davis
Jan 22	Sharry Knock		Tristin Gruenhagen	No Comm.	Sophia Gigov
Jan 29	Bonita Albrecht	Bonita Albrecht	Tricia Holland		Charli McCune

Painting by Wendy Edelson

