



All Saints Sunday – Sunday, November 7

All Saints Sunday celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in the northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is now complete.

As we have in past years, we will honor the memory of members of our congregation who have died in the past 12 months. This year we will honor the memory of the following people by reading their names, tolling a bell, and remembering them in our prayers:

*Phyllis Anderson
Lyle Johnson
Larry Knoebel*

*Micky Madden
Eleanore Miller
Thomas Parker*

As part of our remembrance rite on All Saints, we invite worshippers to remember loved ones by participating in a candle-lighting ritual during our All Saints prayers. Those in the sanctuary will be invited forward to light a candle; those worshipping at home are encouraged to prepare a candle to light during this time.

Trunk or Treat is back at GA!

Sunday, October 31, from 4-5 p.m.

- ✧ A Halloween Organ Concert with our very own Phil Holzman will start at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- ✧ After the concert Trunk and Treat will be located in the North parking lot from 4:15-5 p.m.
- ✧ We invite young and old to attend and don't forget to wear a costume.



Volunteers are needed to make this event a success, especially people to pass out candy from the trunks of their cars. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Jenny Parker at jparker2310@yahoo.com or 612-695-1538 (cell). See you on Halloween!

Coffee Hour Returns in November



We're happy to announce that a safety-conscious version of coffee hour will return on Sunday mornings after worship starting in November with coffee and simple treats. Gary Arvidson and Mary Larson will be taking the lead on this for the first few weeks, but they'll be looking for others to help lead/serve coffee in subsequent weeks. Please know that this will not be coffee hour as we knew it pre-pandemic. It will be held in the Narthex and safety precautions will be in effect. We appreciate your understanding and hope that the fact that we are able to offer this time of fellowship will help things feel more normal.

CHOIR NEWS

Gustavus Bells Need One More Ringer

Do you read music? Are you interested in ringing handbells? No experience necessary – we'll teach you. We need one more ringer to fill out the bell choir for this season. If you're interested in ringing and read music, please contact Deacon Phil Holzman. Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

"Rebooted" Senior Choir to Debut in Worship on October 31

The Senior Choir will sing an anthem in worship on Reformation Sunday...the first time the choir has sung in worship since before the pandemic began! If you're interested in singing in the choir, all you need to do is come to rehearsal on any Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. with a mask and your vax card. We'd love to see you!

Thanks to Those Who Sponsored Singers Masks

Thanks to the members of GA who sponsored Singers Masks for our Senior Choir. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by our singers!

Interested in Being a Song Leader for Worship

Have you ever thought about serving as a song leader for our worship services? Nicole Navratil, one of our song leaders who is also a voice instructor, would be willing to work with you on what it entails to become a song leader. So if you've ever thought about it, contact Nicole (nicoleknavrtil@gmail.com) or Deacon Phil.



Quilting Session for October

The GA Quilters will meet at the church on Thursday, November 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us!

Men's Breakfast

Men in the congregation of all ages are invited to church for breakfast, devotions, and fellowship on Saturday, November 13, at 8:00 a.m. in the church kitchen/fireside room.

Sew-in/Craft-in

9:30 on Tuesday, November 16, to 3:00 on Thursday, November 18



Do you need some extra time to finish those Christmas gifts? Bring your sewing/knitting/crafting projects or just drop in for a while to chat. No meals served, but previously we have ordered food to be delivered for supper. The kitchen will be available if you want to bring your own meals. Come when you can, leave when you must.

Please let Pam Streed (612-581-7625) know if you plan on coming for all or part of the time so we can have table space arranged.

From the Church Records...

- ♦ We held a memorial service for Vi Dorumsgaard on Friday, October 8.
- ♦ We held a funeral service for Larry Knoebel on Friday, October 15.



Keep Our Prayer List Current

Remember our new Prayer List policy is that names remain on the list for only six weeks. After that they drop off unless the person contacts Deacon Phil to have their name put back on the list. This way our list remains more current and fresh. Thank you for your understanding.

Storytime is Back!

All are welcome Sundays at 9 a.m. on Zoom. We'll have a rotating cast of characters reading stories and building community where God is at the center. We welcome new readers, so if you'd enjoy reading the occasional children's book on Zoom for our youngest GA friends, please email Nicole Navratil (nicoleknavrtil@gmail.com). Please join us at <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/6567314241?pwd=WTlyOGNtMGFOU1AxTU1odTZzdIM0Zz09>



Sundays from 9-9:25 a.m. The link will be shared each Saturday in the weekly email. Feel free to come listen anytime you are free!

Come Help With "Church Project Wednesdays"



The Property Committee is sponsoring "Church Project Wednesdays" from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings, November 3 and 17 and again on December 1 and 15. We will have a list of projects to do. Joan Mitchell will be there to assist you in dusting or painting or sorting or washing windows. We have some areas that need more attention than our weekly cleaning allows. Come and spend a

half hour or a couple hours with us on Wednesdays. Thanks to those who have come and helped during October. Come and bless the church with your presence!

Confirmation Sunday Held on October 17

On Sunday, October 17, we held the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) for Bergen Elizabeth Hall, daughter of Tonia Hall and Andrew Hall. Bergen is pictured at right with Pastor Susan.

In other Confirmation ministry news, our 6th through 8th graders, along with students from Mt. Carmel, will meet for class on the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We are happy to return to this cooperative ministry with Mt. Carmel. Pastor Susan and Jenny Parker will represent GA Church as teachers this year.



Gustavus Adolphus Executive Committee Contact Information

Matthew Streed, President matthewstreed@gmail.com
Derrick Watson, Vice-President dwmn2012@gmail.com
Dee Kjara, Secretary deekjara@gmail.com
Michelle Rinken, Treasurer michellekathleen@msn.com



Transition Musings

by Interim Pastor Susan Masters

Happy anniversary! November 1 marks two years that I have served as your interim pastor. As I have said many times, you've been a lovely bunch of people to be in lockdown with. Like every other congregation on the face of our planet, we have literally made it up as we have gone along: learning Zoom together, sorting out how to do Holy Communion virtually, creating a safety plan once our building was open again, and so much more. And your kind patience as we navigated these uncertain waters together has been so appreciated - thank you.

While calling your new settled pastor is still a few months away, we are definitely winding down our transition work. To that end, over the next couple of months:

- on Sunday, October 31, during my sermon, I will present a report of where we are in our transition process - specifically, I will name areas of concern and celebration that we have named and recommendations for how to address them;
- the Transition Team will write and present its final report;
- our Ministry Site Profile will be written (this is our resume/job description that will be available to all pastor candidates);
- our Call Committee will be seated (by Council, per our Constitution) and begin their work;
- we will establish an *ad hoc* committee to revise and update our governance documents (employee handbook, insurance policies, etc.);
- we will establish a Human Resources committee to update staff job descriptions and conduct staff performance reviews (NOTE: If you have particular interest and/or experience in this area and are willing to help, please let me know as soon as possible).

A very important decision to be made during your call process is whether to call a part-time or full-time settled pastor. My own call is 30 hours per week (75%), which has, in actuality, consistently been 40+ hours per week. No one told me to work extra hours - during the pandemic, everything simply took extra time. I suspect this has been true for many of you in your own jobs. But now, as the decision about "how much pastor" to call is looming, to help you make the best informed decision about what you need, I will become intentional about sticking to my 30 hours per week.

To this end, beginning in November, I will be present and lead worship only three Sundays a month, and someone else will lead on the fourth Sunday. (I don't know yet which Sunday I will be absent, but my plan is to be consistent from month to month. And, of course, flexibility will be called for during holidays and special events such as baptisms.) Deacon Phil Holzman, with input from Congregation Life (and Worship) and I are working out how the fourth Sunday will be managed. It might be that it varies from month to month. Stay tuned for more information about that.

It will be tempting to view the Sunday that I am not present as a free pass and stay home from church. Friends, I strongly encourage you not to do that. All the reasons we gather the other three Sundays will still be the same, and we risk weakening the fabric of our community of faith if we fall into such a practice. And I expect the next few months to be exciting as we consider the "so what and what now?" of all the transition work we have done - I think you will want to be here every opportunity you can to help shape the future of this community of faith.

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While the end of this interim period is, indeed, slowly coming into focus, we're not done with each other yet! There is still some lingering work to do, and it will still be several months before I complete my call with you. So we're certainly not going to begin our goodbyes yet! But please know that we are winding down, and our focus is going to be on where God is leading us in mission, especially during and after this pandemic. Your presence is needed. Your voice is needed. Your continued faithful care for this lovely congregation is needed. Please consider how you might engage as we move forward, pulled into the future by the Holy Spirit, trusting God's abundant goodness to us.

Happy anniversary, dear ones!



Two Connection Opportunities With Pastor Susan!

Zoom Text Study - Tuesdays @ 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.: Join Pastor Susan for a discussion of the upcoming Sunday's lectionary (biblical) texts, and help her shape her sermon. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85935825984?pwd=TIMxUGkwcUUvZUJSSGFoTlMvNGMvdz09>
(Meeting ID: 859 3582 5984.) (Passcode: text)

In-Person and Zoom Coffee with the Pastor - Wednesdays @ 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.: Join Pastor Susan in the fireside area downstairs for a cup of coffee and conversation about whatever's on your mind. Masks required.



Daylight Saving Time Ends Sunday, November 7

Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, November 6, before you go to bed – or you'll be ready for worship an hour early on All Saints Sunday! Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday morning, November 7, at 2:00 a.m.

All Are Welcome...Our Mission Statement

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church proclaims that the Gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally. We rejoice in the manner in which diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged the life and ministry we share in Christ. We know that the world is often an unloving place and that the experience of alienation is all too common. Because Christ reconciles us, we welcome people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, and socioeconomic backgrounds. We strive to be an evermore welcoming community. Following the example of Christ, we extend a most heartfelt welcome to all.

**Sunday Zoom Worship –
9:30 a.m. Every Sunday
for those who choose not to worship in person**

See the Saturday email each week for Zoom invitation link, or contact Deacon Phil Holzman for call-in information. If you don't receive the Saturday email and would like to be included, contact Deacon Phil as well.



Financial Update

	Sep	Sep	Sep	Sep
	2021 YTD	2021 YTD	2020 YTD	2021 vs 2020
	Actual	Budget	Actual	YTD Actual
Income	\$212,676	\$243,809	\$242,641	(\$29,965)
Expense	\$233,188	\$243,809	\$232,980	\$208
Inc - Exp	(\$20,512)	\$0	\$9,661	(\$30,173)
*Income Post Adj	\$254,601			
Adj Inc - Exp	\$21,413			

The figures above represent our income/expenses through September 30, 2021.

Sep 2021 YTD Actual Income of \$212,676 represents 87% of our budgeted \$243,809.

Sep 2021 YTD Expenses of \$233,188 represent 96% of our budgeted \$243,809.

The (\$20,512) difference constitutes our YTD deficit.

As compared to last year, YTD our income is down (\$30K) vs. while expenses are virtually flat to last year.

*We recognized \$41.9K of income on our 2020 PPP Loan in Aug of 2021.

Funds were used to pay 2020 expenses; income was not recognized until 2021 when the loan was forgiven.

The "Adj Inc-Exp" of \$21,413 reflects this adjustment.

Similar to July, our checking account balance is current \$13.6K as compared to \$35.4K from the beginning of 2021.

Given our monthly budgeted expenses are \$27,090, our Finance team continue to keep a close eye on our current account balance to ensure we can continue to cover all of our outing payments.

Please consider how you might further support the ministry here at GA during these last weeks of 2021.

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Church Phone: 612-789-7256

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Church Staff ...

The Rev. Susan Masters, Interim Pastor (Ext. 10)
pastorsusan@gachurchmpls.org
Cell phone (for pastoral emergencies): 612-327-7454

Deacon Phil Holzman, Minister of Word & Service (Ext. 11)
(Worship & Music, Parish Administration)
philh@gachurchmpls.org
Cell phone (for texts/calls): 320-304-1774

Zachary Copa, Finance Manager (Ext. 14)
zachc@gachurchmpls.org

Joel Lurvey, Contemporary Choir Director
joel.lurvey@gmail.com

Linda Lindahl, Church Custodian



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

Ways You Can Give to GA Church (besides bringing your offerings on Sunday morning to worship):

1) Mail your offering to GA:
1509 27th Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418



2) Give electronically at our website,
www.gachurchmpls.org. Just click on the
"Donate" button on any page.

3) Sign up to give electronically through our
"Simply Giving" program. Email GA's Finance
Manager, Zach Copa, for details. Zach can also
help you if you are interested in learning how to
contribute stock donations.

Gustavus Adolphus Church Council

Matthew Streed, President
Derrick Watson, Vice-President
Dee Kjera, Secretary
Michelle Rinken, Treasurer
At-Large Members:

Wendy Bradshaw	Jenny Parker
James Hamilton	Beverly Prawalsky
Curt Navratil	