

God's Mission for GA Church: To build community where God is at the center.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion – April 2
9:30 a.m. – Worship at Gustavus Adolphus

Maundy Thursday – April 6
7:00 p.m. – Combined Worship at Mt. Carmel Church
1701 St. Anthony Parkway NE

Good Friday – April 7
7:00 p.m. – Combined Good Friday Service at Gustavus Adolphus

Easter Sunday/Resurrection of Our Lord – April 9
9:30 a.m. – Festival Worship at Gustavus Adolphus

All services will be available to attend via livestream.
Links and information will be shared in our Saturday email on April 1 (or email Deacon Phil).

“Life Together” – Book Study

Sunday, April 2, after worship

Join Nick Tangen for a continuation of the conversation on Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s book “Life Together” after worship on Sunday, April 2. If you need help securing a copy of the book, please contact Nick Tangen at nicholastangen@gmail.com.



Easter Coffee Fellowship

The Congregational Life committee is hosting donuts on Easter! Stay after worship and enjoy a sweet treat with our community.

Easter Memorial Garden

Envelopes are available in the Narthex for you to contribute toward the purchase of Easter lilies for the Easter Memorial Garden. You may contribute any amount and note your dedication on the envelope. Then simply place the envelope in the offering plate. The deadline is Sunday, April 2.

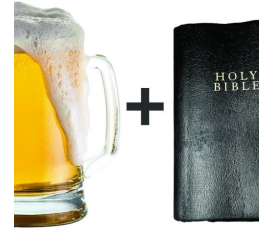




Bible & Brews – April 13, 6:30 p.m.

At the Tangen Residence – 1939 Pierce Street NE

Exactly what it sounds like...bring your favorite brew and a Bible for a relaxed conversation about Scripture, the church, and of course, beer! If you have any questions, contact Nick Tangen at nicholastangen@gmail.com.



Men's Breakfast

We invite all men in the congregation to join us for breakfast and devotions on Saturday, April 8, at 8:00 a.m. Come for the fellowship and some delicious food. Questions? Contact Gary Arvidson at 763-755-3987.

Social Ministry Committee

Next Meeting – April 17, 6:00 p.m. at GA

The Social Ministry team had our monthly meeting on Monday, March 13, at 6:00 p.m. We meet the second Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m., though in April this is being delayed to the 17th to account for Easter. In March, we discussed the Minneapolis Area Synod's Faith Practices and Neighboring Practices learning community – a two year project the committee is considering participating in. The team is also planning for a re-launch of the community meals this summer and opportunities to learn about Indigenous history in Minnesota as part of the Minnesota Council of Churches Sacred Sites Tour. More information to follow. If you have questions, or would like to learn more about the Social Ministry Committee, please contact Nick Tangen at nicholastangen@gmail.com.

Wednesday Morning Coffee Hour

Everyone is welcome each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for some coffee, cookies, and conversation. Please join us.

GA Hospitality Practices Expand

We have a multitude of hospitality practices at GA, many unnoticed, for we want to invite people "in," to help them feel our welcome. Here are two hospitality practices that are expanding this month:



1. The Faces of Hospitality

We are expanding our roster of *ushers* again. Are you ready, too? Dave and Kathy Schuette have a good Sunday morning routine to share with any who are willing to return to (or newly join) the team. Come, be a part of our commitment to hospitality! Talk to Dave, Kathy, or Pastor Sara, sometime in April and we'll put you into the schedule starting in May.

2. The Aroma of Hospitality

Mary Ann Eide and a few others have "saved the day" a few times on Sunday mornings, when we didn't have volunteers signed up for coffee/treats. They have simply gone to the kitchen and started the coffee! If you are interested in learning how to make coffee at GA, please find Mary Ann. She's happy to teach you how and you'll often find her right in the kitchen!

Prayer List

As the body of Christ and a family of believers, let us pray for each other.



- Paul & Sharon Banitt – Carlotta Rosebrock requests prayers for her parents, as her father has ongoing health issues, and her mother is his caregiver in the home.
- Dorothy Bohn
- Rodney Christopherson
- Roger Cropper
- Sandy Eide – Mary Ann Eide requests prayers for her daughter, Sandy...prayers of thanksgiving that a diagnosis has been made and prayers for surgery scheduled for March 31.
- Pam Evangelist – Pam would like prayers for her as she is living with Parkinsons.
- Corey Geng – Prayers continue for recovery following major surgery.
- James Hamilton – Prayers of thanksgiving for his progress and prayers continue for his improved health.
- Marv Johnson – Prayers for healing following back surgery.
- Sarah – Ongoing health challenges.
- Sharon Leba – Ongoing health issues.
- Barry – Ongoing health issues.

To have your name and prayer concern added to or removed from this list, contact Phil Holzman at philh@gachurchmpls.org or our volunteer prayer coordinator, Jean Jenson, at mplsjean@yahoo.com. We welcome prayer requests of any kind, including prayers of thanksgiving.

THANK YOU!
thank you!

Lenten Thanks!

Thank you to those who attended our *Life Together* evening prayer services the five Wednesdays of Lent in March. We want to thank those who helped make everything happen for those evenings:

- ♦ *Meditations*...Nick Tangen and Pastor Sara Vanderpan.
- ♦ *Soup Supper Hosts*...Lynn Lurvey and friends; Congregational Life Committee; Church Council; Andrea Carter and Jean Jenson; GA Choir.
- ♦ *“Holden Evening Prayer” Musicians & Leaders*...Shirley Fors; Deacon Phil Holzman; Joel Lurvey; Nicole Navratil; Aaron Olson; Elsa Olson, Sarah Olson, and Stanley Olson; Carlotta Rosebrock; Nick Tangen.
- ♦ *Tech Support & Zoom Host*...Brock Bisping and Adrienne Bisping.

Open Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous: “Language of the Heart”

Sundays 4:00—5:00 p.m.
In The Fireside Room at GA Church
Coffee and tea provided
Short readings from AA literature--
and sharing (from the Heart)
Contact Cheryl J. 612-708-2204

Note from the Treasurer

Hey friends!

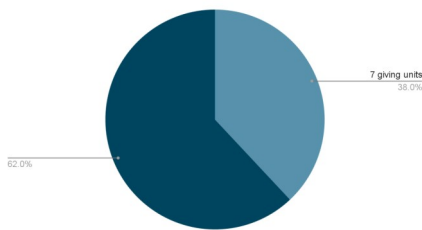
There's a little glimpse of warmer days ahead of us and I for one, cannot wait! We had a really great month of giving in February but we still have a deficit to make up to account for our larger 2023 budget.



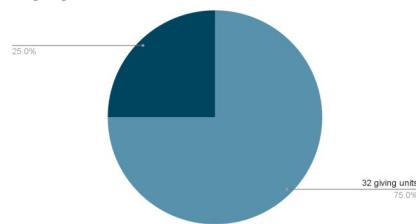
The Finance Committee thought it might be helpful for folks to see how last year's giving shook out. Below are pie charts to show the following statistics for 2022 giving:

- 38% of our general income (or \$108,171) came from 7 family units.
- 75% of our general income came from 32 family units.
- 90% of our general income came from 49 families units.
- 98% of our general income came from 80 family units.

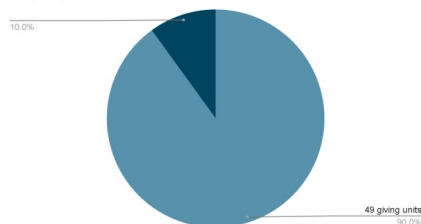
7 giving units



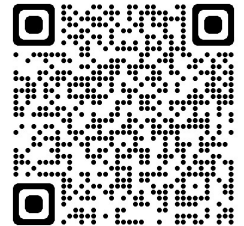
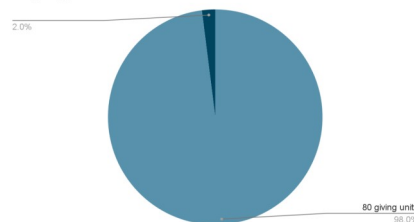
32 giving units



49 giving units



80 giving units



These are also printed and available on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

If we look at our 2023 budget, here's what the breakdown would need to be for each of the 80 giving units:

- \$85 every week OR
- \$368/month OR
- \$4,400 yearly

**We are already 4 months into the year so there is some catchup to do.*

We know these numbers may not be possible for everyone but we wanted to show the ideal to give everyone a guide for how we could make our goal this year. We know there are members who give gifts in stocks and end-of-year gifts as well (and that's AMAZING!). We know that you may already feel strapped and we totally get that. We're just asking folks to take another look. And if you want to update your giving you can scan the QR code, go to GA's website or email me (ksnobeck@gmail.com) and I'm more than happy to help!

We know that we have big goals this year (including a Capital Appeal), so if you have any ideas for grants, fundraising or anything else to help us reach our goals, we're all ears!

We're in this together and I know we can do it!! Thank you again for your support and for creating community where God is at the center.

Kristin

Hi all!

Spring has sprung and the Capital Appeal Team is in full bloom! There's a few things in the works that we want everyone to be on the lookout for.

Devotional

You may have seen a special email (or two) go out about this. We'd love to gather devotions from folks so that we can share faith stories and help grow our Life Together.

If you'd like to submit a 100-250 word devotional, you can scan the QR code below or send any submissions to Kristin Tangen (ksnobeck@gmail.com). **Please submit by April 9.**



Save the Date!

Life Together Kick-off Event

Join us **Saturday, April 22**, at GA's Fellowship Hall for dinner, stories, music, and a program to kick-off our Capital Appeal. Also, special materials will be sent home for everyone.

- ◆ 4:30 p.m. – Gather
- ◆ 5:00 p.m. – Dinner
- ◆ 6:00 p.m. – Program

Bring a dish and a GA story to share!

Life Together Stories

In the past, we've had folks share stories with the congregation and have called them Temple Talks. Those stories are always so wonderful to hear as people share about their faith and experiences. So we thought it would be great to invite you to share stories about what you love about GA and what being connected here has meant to you. We'll be inviting a few folks for the four weeks of our capital appeal to speak. Can't wait to hear your stories!

Prayers/Hopes

Watch for a big Life Together Prayers board in the narthex where we'll be inviting your prayers, hopes and thoughts. Each week will have feature something different.

PHEW! That was a lot, we know =)

Thank you in advance for your participation and your presence as we take a big step forward in our making some important things happen as a congregation!

Your CAT,
Pastor Sara Vanderpan
Kristin Tangen
Matt Streed
Andrea Carter
Kathy Schuette
Tim Johnson (Kairos & Associates)

Gustavus Adolphus Executive Committee Contact Information

Jenny Arneson, President arneson.jenny@gmail.com

Matt Streed, Vice-President matthewstreed@gmail.com

Dee Kjera, Secretary deekjera@gmail.com

Kristin Tangen, Treasurer ksnobeck@gmail.com



Council Report

Submitted by Jenny Arneson

Throughout Lent we've explored the theme of *Life Together*. Dietrich Bonhoeffer inspires our reflection upon how to build and support our Christian community at Gustavus Adolphus. When we take the time to strengthen relationships, our life together is more healthy and enjoyable. Intentionally thinking about our vision allows our actions to be more productive. As we make a pastoral transition, it is an especially appropriate time to do this work.

You may have joined these reflections on Wednesdays during the Lenten prayer service, or at the book study on Sundays. You will have more opportunities during the upcoming Capital Appeal.

Meanwhile, the Council is supporting our life together by implementing systems and structures, building upon the work started by others. In March we are:

- Establishing systems to maintain records and communication via Google Drive.
- Ensuring that the committees named in our by-laws have a strong connection to the council, including representation from members and regular communication. We are also supporting healthy committee membership.
- Collaborating with the Better Together committee to develop a long term plan that is reflected in our by-laws.
- Finalizing an employee handbook through our Human Relations ad-hoc committee. Council convenes volunteers as needed to support our work with specific tasks.
- Ensuring that we have systems in place to support our Capital Appeal. Our Capital Appeal Team will lead our fundraising efforts while our Property Committee will gather the necessary information on our named capital priorities, including grant opportunities. The Council will work with both groups to make recommendations to the Congregation, who hold the ultimate authority to approve projects.

Volunteer Opportunities & Thank Yous

The Council relies heavily on others to support Gustavus Adolphus. Each month we will highlight volunteers who are implementing plans to support our *Life Together*, and make suggestions on how others might get involved. We owe gratitude to so many that this list will never be comprehensive, but we do hope over the course of the year that we will find opportunities to highlight many volunteers.

- We appreciate the work of ad-hoc Human Relations volunteers. Taryn Streed created our employee handbook, and Bev Prawalsky and Patrick Arneson are editing.
- Thank you to the Congregational Life committee and prayer coordinator volunteer, Jean Jensen, for expanding our prayers to include opportunities to share information about our community so we can better support and celebrate our members.
- Thank you to our grant writing volunteers, Nick Tangen and Sarah Larson, who are supporting our Property Committee by exploring options for parking lot funding through the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization.

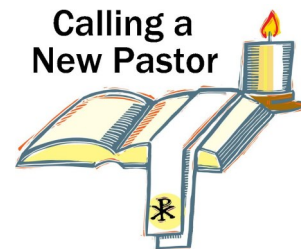
Volunteer Opportunity Highlight:

- Join the Property committee. We are seeking fresh energy to support our *Life Together* by maintaining our building. This is an important time for property leadership as we prioritize our building needs for the Capital Appeal. We also seek thought partners in our work to make sure we have a sustainable plan to maintain our property.
- ◇ Matt Streed and Bev Prawalsky represent the Council on this committee and it's supported by Deacon Phil.
- ◇ Join by talking to committee members or the Council.

A Transition Update from Pastor Sara

Next Points of Discernment in GA's Call Process

Things may seem a bit quiet in our call process right now, but that is far from the truth. Many people are discerning their best decisions forward at this time, including your bishop and her staff, individual candidates and their families, GA's call committee, and soon GA's church council. Your prayers for God's wisdom, love, and grace are powerful (and welcome) contributors to all that unfolds in the next few months.



So you have an idea of the various steps ahead, consider these points of discernment:

- ◇ The bishop's office collects, then shares, the names and paperwork of the best candidates for GA.
- ◇ The call committee reads and researches this information, then conducts interviews, first round, second round.
- ◇ The call committee chair signals the council president when they have a final candidate. The president discerns the timing and determines if a special meeting of the council is needed.
- ◇ The church council "interviews" the call committee to hear their reasons for choosing this candidate.
- ◇ The church council calls a congregational meeting to vote on the final candidate, and our president *begins* conversations with the pastor toward a final letter of call.
- ◇ Roughly three weeks later, the congregation votes and the president contacts the candidate immediately with the news.
- ◇ The candidate has 30 days to accept or decline the call, though often it is less.
- ◇ The new pastor arrives, often 30-45 days later, though it could be less.

If you feel God's call to join me in prayer for all these people and steps, please do! In fact, if anyone feels called to join with others in prayer, Deacon Phil and I will be sure the church is open on Sunday mornings by 8:30 a.m. and the Faith Room is available!

Spring "Craft-A-Thon" Coming Up!

Spring is here and that means it's time for the spring "Craft-A-Thon." If you sew, knit, scrapbook, make cards or embroider, have we got the place for you. The church Fellowship Hall will be open from Monday morning, April 24, to Thursday afternoon, April 27, for anyone who wants time and space to create their latest masterpiece. We'll start at 9 a.m. and go until our eyesight is blurry and our fingers are sore. All crafters are welcome (well, maybe not woodworkers). Bring your equipment, supplies, your lunch and a snack to share. Coffee provided. We'll order out dinner. Pre-registration is not required but it would be helpful to know what days you will attend so we can set-up enough tables. Come for one day, all four days, afternoons, whatever. Friends are welcome too. Email or text: Mary Larson larson1953@msn.com 612-781-4104



We will be setting up tables on Sunday, April 23, at 5:00. Help is always needed and welcome.

Summer Camp at Luther Park Danbury, Wisconsin

GA is excited to be able to offer scholarships to our families to attend a family camp weekend at Luther Park in Danbury, Wisconsin. Our congregation has a long association with Luther Park. In fact, GA was a charter member of Luther Park, going back decades! Many GA members have attended Bible camp at Luther Park over the years. The Congregational Life Committee would like to encourage a re-vitalization of this tradition!



In order to do that, we are offering an incentive to families to attend a Family Camp Weekend on July 21-23. GA will offer a \$100.00 scholarship toward the cost of that family camping weekend. Further, if any children in the family wish to stay for camp that following week, GA will offer the following scholarships: \$250.00 for a full week and \$100.00 for a half week. (And if those dates don't work for your schedule, you can choose another weekend/week.)

If you're interested in attending camp at Luther Park Danbury, contact Deacon Phil or Pastor Sara for some more specific registration information.

Confirmation — Last Saturday for 2022-23 School Year



As you read this article, our Confirmation students are just one month away from their last class of this school year — held at GA on Saturday, May 6. They have had a year of change, with both congregations (GA and Mt. Carmel) in a pastor transition. The photo shared here is of our largest service project of this year, when we made 212 sandwiches for people experiencing homelessness.

Together our two churches have 16 students. They are really great kids! Will you keep them in your prayers

through the spring, summer, and into next fall? This is an important time of faith questions and yearning for them. Let's pray that the Spirit of God move in tender and grace-filled ways for Asher, Jonah, Eddie, Oscar, Kellen, Brynne, Anders, Dylan, and Caleb. Thank you.

First Communion Preparation

Pastor Sara will offer child-appropriate instruction for Holy Communion in early May, during or after the Sunday School hour. Parents, if you feel your child is ready to learn and be welcomed into this special meal, please contact Pastor Sara by April 30. We want all children to feel welcome, trusting they will grow in understanding over the years.



Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, Minneapolis ... April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Book Study 10:45am - Sunday School 4pm - AA Mtg.	1pm - Grief Group	6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	10am - Coffee Hour 6pm - Contemp. Group 6:30pm - Gustavus Bells 7:30pm - GA Choir	Maundy Thursday 9:30am - Quilters 7pm - Worship - GA	Good Friday 7pm - Worship - GA	8am - Men's Breakfast 10am - Confirmation Class - MTC
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Easter Day 9:30am - Worship 4pm - AA Mtg.	Offices Closed 1pm - Grief Group	6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	10am - Coffee Hour 6pm - Contemp. Group 6:30pm - Gustavus Bells 7:30pm - GA Choir	6pm - Finance Comm. 6:30pm - Bible & Brews		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School 4pm - AA Mtg.	1pm - Grief Group 6pm - Social Ministry Comm.	6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	10am - Coffee Hour 6pm - Contemp. Group 6:30pm - Gustavus Bells 7:30pm - GA Choir	6pm - Church Council		4:30pm - Appeal Kick-Off
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School 4pm - AA Mtg.	Craft-A-Thon 1pm - Grief Group	6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	10am - Coffee Hour 11am - Meals on Wheels Delivery 6:30pm - Gustavus Bells 7:30pm - GA Choir			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School 4pm - AA Mtg.					Mpls. Area Synod Assembly Pastor Sara, Deacon Phil, Joel Lurvey, Jean Jenson - delegates	
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School 4pm - AA Mtg.						

Financial Update

	Feb	Feb		Feb		Feb
	2023 YTD	2023 YTD		2022 YTD		2023 vs 2022
	Actual	Budget		Actual		YTD Actual
Income	\$50,171.45	\$58,864.90		\$45,161.60		\$5,009.85
Expense	\$60,036.37	\$58,864.60		\$54,474.09		\$5,562.28
Inc - Exp	-\$9,864.92	\$0.30		-\$9,312.49		-\$552.43

The figures above represent our income/expenses through Feb 28, 2023.

February 2023 YTD Actual Income of \$50,171.45 represents 85% of our budgeted \$58,864.90.

February 2023 YTD Expenses of \$60,036.37 represent 102% of our budgeted \$58,864.60.

The **-\$9,864.92** difference constitutes our YTD deficit.

As compared to last year, YTD our income is up \$5,009.85 and our expenses are up \$5,562.28.

Kristin Tangen,
Church Council Treasurer

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Church Phone: 612-789-7256

Fax: 612-789-1334

Website: www.gachurchmpls.org

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Church Staff ...

The Rev. Sara Vanderpan, Interim Pastor (Ext. 10)
pastorsara@gachurchmpls.org
Cell phone (for texts/calls): 651-295-8557

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

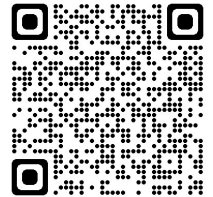
Analisa Hillman, Church Custodian
analisah@gachurchmpls.org



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. Click on the **Donate** button on any page. **Or scan QR code above!**

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

Jenny Arneson, president
Matt Streed, vice-president
Dee Kjera, secretary
Kristin Tangen, treasurer

At-large Members:

Wendy Bradshaw
Stephanie Morris

Beverly Prawalsky
Kathy Schuette