

## Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 18 – 10:45 a.m.

Vote to Call a New Settled Pastor for GA Church.  
All GA Members Urged to Attend!

You will be able to attend the meeting in person in the sanctuary or via Zoom. The Zoom link will be shared in the Saturday email on June 3, 10, and 17.

To maintain confidentiality, the candidate's name will be shared at the meeting.



### Welcome to the Table!

We welcome these children to the Lord's Table! They participated in our First Communion Class on May 21 and will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time one of these next few Sundays when their family can join them.

Joey Franz

Jessie Franz

Kasey Franz

Edith Hentges

Gabe Hentges

Karla Meuwissen



### Postponed Until Fall: New Member Class



We're delighted to have so many new faces around GA. Welcome! Please make yourself at home. We'll reach out after the next school year begins to pull folks together for a new member class and reception. For now, consider yourself invited to any and all GA events and programs.

### Neighborhood Walks Are Back!

Join the Congregational Life and Social Ministry committees on neighborhood walks this summer! Walking within our community is a great way for our congregation to be present and learn about our surroundings. We have multiple days planned with varying distances, so hope you find a time to walk with us.

- ◇ **When?** The first Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m., and third Sunday of each month following worship.
- ◇ **Weather?** As long as it's not raining, we will walk!
- ◇ **How far?** Thursday evening walks will be longer walks - expect between 1.5-2.0 miles. Sunday walks will be shorter - only about 6 blocks round trip (with a coffee break at the halfway mark).
- ◇ **Treats?** Always.

**Thursday, June 1:** We will walk from GA to Windom Park/Mt. Carmel and then end at Parkway Pizza for Sebastian Joe's ice cream; this walk will be about two miles.

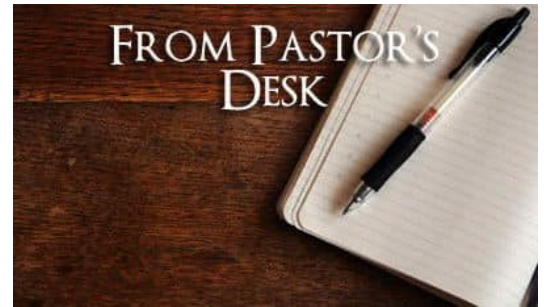
**Sunday, June 18:** Third Sunday walk to coffee hour at The Coffee Shop NE. Note that this walk will take place after the special congregational meeting.

Looking ahead – save these dates:  
July 6, 16; August 3, 20.

## Thoughts on Transitions from Pastor Sara

Greetings, my friends!

I see my time with you starting to wind down. I'm sad, but deeply satisfied, too. With a new pastor vote due mid-month (see front page), I know that's the signal to start preparing my heart and assembling my files. Plus, we have some unique "staffing navigation" to do in this summer's transition. That is, we have Phil's sabbatical thrown into the mix! I'm thrilled for him and will do my best to help things run smoothly. We can do it!



I will not write here about the files and notes I'll assemble (you're welcome!) for your next pastor, but let me say a few things about *getting ready inwardly*. While you get ready to meet a new pastor (more in a minute), I'll be getting ready to meet a new congregation and I have some *soul work* to do, because I was really here. Throughout my time, we worked hard and did things!

And, I wonder if you have some work to do, too. Heart work, self talk, expectations. A few action steps, too.

Here are my thoughts for GA as you walk toward another leadership transition, one in which there is hope, joy, and *a long-term vision*! It is always worth it to start well in a new relationship, and this one will be that, too — worth it.

1—**Ignore**. When you've had some misses [in relationships], whether individually or collectively, it can be helpful, when preparing to begin again, to ignore any negative thought patterns that set you up for failure. Like suspicion, distrust, judgment. That is, as you prepare to welcome a new pastor, set aside the narratives, within you and among you, that expect the worst. Setting these narratives aside helps you be a bit more honest and open-hearted with the new pastor, gives them a chance to be good and true, enjoyable and trustworthy. Trust that God will give you discernment and wisdom when these are needed, too.

2—**Initiate**. Make plans now. Determine that you will reach out first, even with a new pastor. Don't wait for them to take the first step or even initiate the first conversation! Sometimes it takes just a walk across the room, to let them know your name and your heartfelt welcome, and begin the path of clear communication and mutual respect.

3—**Invite**. As long as you are initiating a conversation, consider inviting your new pastor to a group meeting or social gathering, too! Being part of smaller group conversations can be a powerful way for someone new to feel invited "in," get the feel for relationships and attitudes in a congregation. If you don't have a group, pull one together. Just add beverage and/or food, and snap, you can work miracles between people, even with pastors!

It may not *quite* be time to start planning your welcome of GA's new pastor, but it is definitely time to begin praying about what you want to do, who you want to be, in this transition. First, you and I will say our good-byes and our thank you's, then, you'll be ready for something new again, something worth investing in!

**With hope and love,**  
Pastor Sara

## Reminder From Deacon Phil ... My Sabbatical Leave Starts in Late June

I'm getting excited (and nervous!) – my sabbatical leave begins on June 26. I will be gone from GA from then through August 6. Remember that I've been granted a six-week sabbatical leave by the Church Council. I'll remind you that my plan for my six weeks includes some rest and relaxation with family and by myself, attending two or three music workshops, participating in some spiritual direction, and spending some time (on another church's instrument) preparing a recital which I will present at GA sometime this fall.



I'm working with Pastor Sara and member of the Mutual Ministry Committee to determine who will cover my duties while I'm gone. This is a rather complex process of getting things lined up so that things run smoothly in my absence. If you have any questions about my leave, you are invited to talk to me, Pastor Sara, council president Jenny Arneson, or one of the Mutual Ministry Committee members (Kim Huseonica, Jenny Parker, or Nick Tangen). I look forward to this time as a time of renewal of my Call here at GA and look forward to our future of serving God together.

## Council Report

Submitted by Jenny Arneson, Council President

The Council is focused this month on supporting our congregation in completing the final stages of calling our settled pastor. As noted on the front page, we will host a congregational meeting on June 18.

We also reviewed the status of our capital appeal. We set an aspirational goal and appreciate the generosity of those who have committed to reaching our goal. Though we will get to complete many important projects with the money we've raised, we do have a financial gap to close. Council developed a plan to gather more precise information in preparation of making decisions about priorities at our June meeting. We recognize that our congregation has many exciting plans - reflected both in our capital appeal and in our annual budget. The council is committed to balancing fiscal responsibility while maintaining opportunity for investment and growth. You can expect more financial updates in the future. Meanwhile, providing accurate information to our church about your donation plans for the year will help the council properly assess our options.

### Volunteer Opportunities & Thank You's

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.

- The Call Committee worked tirelessly to ensure we found a great match for our settled pastor. They spent almost 20 hours in interviews alone! Thank you to Shirley Fors, Charissa Peterson, Wendy Bradshaw, Carlotta Rosebrock, Sarah Olson, Jean Jenson, Gary Anderson, and Dane Peterson.
- The Capital Appeal Team (CAT) saw us through a successful campaign that included a lovely evening potluck and incredible video. Thank you Kristin Tangen, Matt Streed, Kathy Schuette, Andrea Carter, and Pastor Sara.

### Opportunity Highlight:

We encourage you to join our church community in getting outside of our building and exploring the neighborhood around us. Social Ministry and Congregational Life are providing multiple opportunities this summer:

- Neighborhood walks the first Thursday and third Sunday of June, July, and August.
- Community meals are back.

Look in other areas of this newsletter for details.

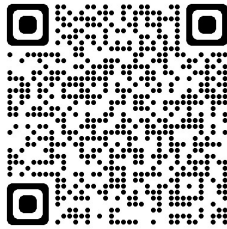
## “Life Together” Capital Appeal Update

Hi all!

We had an amazing reception of pledge cards this last Sunday. We’ve tallied it up and we’re at... drum roll please!...

**\$166,530!**

What an incredible amount of gifts from just 38 households! **Reminder to update your online giving** or let our CAT know if you need help. Turning in your pledge card does not automatically change your giving in your online giving account. You can use this QR to update right now!



We’re still short of our \$254,000 goal. Please continue to pray about how we’re all able to get us across the finish line.

Don’t forget that you can watch the Timeline video that was shared at the Kick-off Event on Youtube by scanning this QR code.



Thank you again to each and every one of you for your great generosity as we renew community where God is at the center.

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



## 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.*
- ♥ *Rodney Christopherson*
- ♥ *Roger Cropper – Roger would like prayers for declining health and challenges that come from changes in his life.*
- ♥ *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.*
- ♥ *Linda Lindahl – Prayers for continuing health concerns.*
- ♥ *Bev Moody – Ongoing health issues as Bev has entered hospice care.*
- ♥ *Annette Parker—Prayers for ongoing health concerns.*
- ♥ *Jean Pope—Prayers as Jean as she is recovering from a fractured hip.*
- ♥ *Mary Nelson Yunker – Prayers as Mary recovers from facial surgery following a fall.*
- ♥ *Barry – Ongoing health issues.*

To have someone's name included on the prayer list, contact our volunteer prayer coordinator, Jean Jenson, at [mplsjean@yahoo.com](mailto:mplsjean@yahoo.com) or Pastor Sara or Deacon Phil.

## Recent Death



*We extend Christian sympathy to the family and friends of longtime GA member Dorothy Bohn who died on May 6. At Dorothy's request, there was no funeral. However, there may be a Celebration of Life held at GA at some point.*

### 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!

Spring has sprung and everyone is starting to think and plan for summer fun!

As we all flee the city for cabins, lakes, road trips, family vacations, don't forget that GA still needs you!

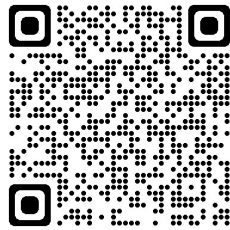


You can see that our deficit has continued to grow. We know the budget this year was a substantial increase and that we're in a capital appeal. These are both big asks but I know we can do it!

The Finance team is always open to creative ways of raising money (grants, fundraisers, etc.) so feel free to share any ideas you may have to help us reach our goals!

If you haven't updated your giving yet, you can use the QR code below! In the annual meeting, we talked about the need for a 14% increase. We know that some folks may need to give less and some folks will be able to give more. Every little bit helps!

Reminder, that if you go into your giving account, you can't edit your current giving (annoying, I know). You'll have to delete the giving you have in "your cart" and add a completely new one. It just takes a few minutes, so it's no too terrible =p



As the nation figures out what a new "normal" looks like, I know that we want GA to be a big part of our lives and our community.

Thank you again for your stewardship and for creating community where God is at the center.

I love you all!

**Kristin**

## All Are Welcome

*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 socio-economic backgrounds. We strive to be an evermore welcoming community. Following the example of Christ, we extend a most heartfelt welcome to all.*



## April Financial Report

	April 2023 YTD Actual	April 2023 YTD Budget	April 2022 YTD Actual	April 2023 vs 2022 YTD Actual
Income	\$95,499.74	\$117,729.72	\$93,692.96	\$1,806.78
Expense	\$119,658.34	\$117,729.48	\$113,716.01	\$5,942.33
Inc - Exp	<b>-\$24,158.60</b>	\$0.24	<b>-\$20,023.05</b>	<b>-\$4,135.55</b>

The figures above represent our income/expenses through April 30, 2023.

April 2023 YTD Actual Income of \$95,499.74 represents 81% of our budgeted \$117,729.72.

April 2023 YTD Expenses of \$119,658.34 represent 102% of our budgeted \$117,729.48.

The **-\$24,158.60** difference constitutes our YTD deficit.

As compared to last year, YTD our income is \$1,806.78 and our expenses are up \$5,942.33.

### 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

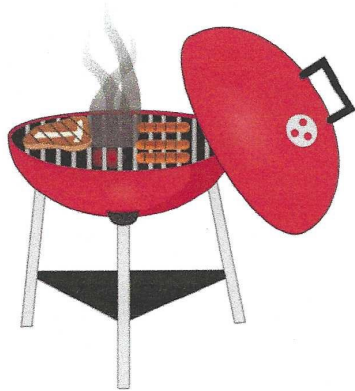


### Pictures from Sunday, May 21



*First Communion Class*

*Graduation Recognition Litany*



## Summer Community Meals

The Social Ministry Committee is happy to announce that we will be hosting 3 Community Meal barbecues this summer.

We will be holding them on the Third Thursdays of each month. 5:00-6:30 PM

- **June 15th**
- **July 20th**
- **August 17th**

### How can you help??

This is a great opportunity to connect with our neighbors. We have a pretty long tradition of feeding neighbors, so we are eager to resume.

- You can drop brats or burgers off to the church freezer!
- Bring side dishes to the event on the day!
- You can volunteer your time.
  - Come at 4:00 on any of the dates above to help with moving tables and chairs outside. (If it is raining, we will move to the garage space!)
  - Come at 5:00 to help serve and visit. Or, come at 5:00 and just enjoy!!
  - Come at 6:30 to help take down tables and chairs.

### We do need help!

One reason community meals stopped in the past was because the task became too big for the group. Yes, COVID played a role in the timing, but our workforce had dwindled, making it unsustainable.

During this summer, we can see if there is some broader interest in this community building opportunity.. We are always in the process of discerning where God calls us to be.

Questions can be sent to Lynn Lurvey: [llurvey@gmail.com](mailto:llurvey@gmail.com) or text me at 612-245-6099



**Northeast Chorale: Singing...In Perfect Harmony**  
(Pops and Broadway Tunes)



**Phil Holzman**  
*Artistic Director*

**Andrew Peterson**  
*Accompanist*



**Saturday, June 3**  
**7:00 p.m.**

*Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church*  
1509 27th Avenue NE  
(27th & Johnson)  
Minneapolis, MN 55418

**Sunday, June 4**  
**4:00 p.m.**

*Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church*  
1620 East 46th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
(Parking available in the school lot  
across the street)



**All ages welcome!**

**Free Admission**  
\$10.00 suggested donation

# *Congratulations, Graduates!*

We recognized our high school graduates in worship on May 21 and presented them with quilts made by our quilters group. Here is the list of all the graduates of which we are aware. Congratulations to all!

## *Graduation Recognition Sunday 2023*

Today we are pleased to honor our following five high school graduates:

- ◆ Cullen Arneson
- ◆ Aaron Bisping
- ◆ Brock Bisping
- ◆ Oliver Hall
- ◆ Ava Hendrickson

We also want to recognize the following GA members who are completing post-high school programs this year:

- ◆ Brandon Arneson is graduating from the University of Denver with a degree in media studies and minors in leadership, critical race and ethnic studies, and Spanish. He began a concurrent graduate program this year and will earn his Master's in Social Work next spring.
- ◆ Connor Arneson is graduating from Grinnell College with a degree in history. He was awarded the Fulbright Scholarship and will be researching digital media and historical memory in Warsaw, Poland.
- ◆ Olivia Huseonica is graduating from the University of Utah with an honors BFA in ballet and a nutrition minor. She will be moving to Sarasota, FL to take a position with the Azara Dance Company.
- ◆ Alyssa Schuette is graduating from a 3-year transitions plus program for special needs adults through the Minneapolis Public Schools.

*Congratulations!*

# Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, Minneapolis ... June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
9:30am - Worship 4pm - AA Mtg.	1pm - Grief Group 6pm - Property Comm. 7pm - Mutual Ministry Comm.			9:30am - Quilters 6pm - Summer Walk		7pm - NE Chorale Concert
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		10am - Coffee Hour		5pm - Cong. Life Comm. 6pm - Finance Comm.		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9:30am - Worship 4pm - AA Mtg.	1pm - Grief Group		10am - Coffee Hour	5pm - Community Meal/BBQ 6pm - Church Council		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Cong. Mtg. 11:15am - Summer Walk 4pm - AA Mtg.	1pm - Grief Group		10am - Coffee Hour			
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
9:30am - Worship 4pm - AA Mtg.	1pm - Grief Group	10am - Coffee Hour 11am - Meals on Wheels Delivery				

A publication of

# Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Minneapolis, MN 55418

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## Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church

*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

Church Phone: 612-789-7256

Fax: 612-789-1334

Website: [www.gachurchmpls.org](http://www.gachurchmpls.org)

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

### Church Staff ...

**The Rev. Sara Vanderpan**, Interim Pastor (Ext. 10)  
[pastorsara@gachurchmpls.org](mailto: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](mailto:philh@gachurchmpls.org)  
Cell phone (for texts/calls): 320-304-1774

**Zachary Copa**, Finance Manager (Ext. 14)  
[zachc@gachurchmpls.org](mailto:zachc@gachurchmpls.org)

**Joel Lurvey**, Contemporary Choir Director  
[joel.lurvey@gmail.com](mailto:joel.lurvey@gmail.com)

**Analisa Hillman**, Church Custodian



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

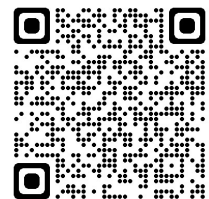
### Ways You Can Support GA Church (besides bringing your offerings on Sunday morning to worship):

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

2) Give electronically at  
our website,

[www.gachurchmpls.org](http://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