

All Saints Sunday – Sunday, November 5

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:

*Dorothy Bohn
Roger Cropper*

*Beverly Moody
Annette 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 (via Zoom) are encouraged to prepare a candle to light.

Have you heard?

The GA Choristers Choir is Starting Again!

Our church's choir for kids in grades 1-5 is beginning again.

Here are the details...

- ♫ We'll practice the first three Wednesdays of each month from 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- ♫ First practice is coming up on November 1.
- ♫ The choir will sing in worship on the 3rd Sunday of each month.



We have five children who have said they want to be part of the choir so far. Deacon Phil would love to have some more join us. Hope to see you at our first practice on November 1!

Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday, November 5

Don't forget to set those analog clocks and watches back an hour before you go to bed on Saturday the 4th – or you'll be here in time to help Deacon Phil and Pastor Ian open the church Sunday morning! Enjoy the extra hour of sleep.



Social Ministry Committee

The Social Ministry Committee identified Ministry Partners whose mission GA would support in 2023 including Luther Park, Every Meal, and Lutheran World Relief. We also chose to support the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community as a small act of reparation in keeping with the Truth & Healing Movement work our congregation has been engaged in over this past year.



Bible & Brews –

Taking a Break until January

Bible & Brews will take a break in November and December and gather again beginning in the New Year. Blessings on the brews you drink and the scripture you read until then. Thank you!

From Pastor Ian

Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace be with you as we embark on a new and exciting journey together as a congregation. November is upon us, and it marks the beginning of our annual Stewardship Appeal. This is a time when we can reflect on the many blessings we've received and to prayerfully consider how we can give back to God and our community in meaningful ways.



Stewardship is not just about money or resources; it's about recognizing that everything we have comes from God. We are stewards of God's gifts, entrusted with the responsibility to use them wisely and generously. This includes our time, talents, and treasures. This month, we are focusing on the financial aspect, but stewardship encompasses all aspects of our lives.

During this stewardship appeal, our goal is to deepen our commitment to God and our community. We'll prayerfully consider what we can contribute financially to support the ministries of our church and the important work of outreach and service. Our efforts will enable us to sustain and expand our mission *to build community where God is at the center.*

The appeal will also include mailings and temple talks during worship services when people will share how GA has been part of their life and why they are moved to give generously to support this place.

How Can You Participate?

1. Pray: Spend time in prayer, seeking God's guidance on how you can contribute to our stewardship appeal.
2. Pledge: Consider making a financial pledge for the coming year. Pledging allows us to plan our ministries and outreach effectively. Pledge cards will be mailed out and also available to pick up during worship services.
3. Spread the Word: Share the importance of stewardship with others in our congregation. Encourage them to participate and reflect on their own role as stewards.

Our Stewardship Appeal Timeline:

- October 29: Kick off Sunday for our Stewardship Appeal
- November 19: Celebration Sunday – A special service when we will give thanks for our pledges and commitments.

This appeal is an opportunity for us to grow spiritually, strengthen our community, and support the work of our congregation inside and outside of its walls. Let's make this November a month of generosity, gratitude, and growth in our faith. With your help and commitment, we can continue the work started by our forebears in the faith and build a foundation for those yet to come.

-pr. ian

Food Packing Volunteer Event

Our Social Ministry Committee has secured slots to pack food at Every Meal* as a group on Wednesday, November 29, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. At their Roseville location (2723 Patton Road), volunteers will join others and form assembly lines and pack food items into Meal Bags. This is a high energy event that is suited for people of all abilities and is very family friendly. Volunteers must be 8 and older.



To sign up, email or contact Sarah Larson (sarahonlowry@gmail.com). or click to sign up on the link in the Saturday emails.

Spots are limited, so sign up early! Children must be accompanied by an adult, though a parent or guardian is not required to be in attendance, provided a waiver is filled out prior to the event.

To learn more about Every Meal or volunteer events, visit www.everymeal.org.

*GA is a long-time supporter of Every Meal, formerly known as Sheridan Story, which began in Northeast. Every Meal fights child hunger by focusing on filling the food gaps children face on weekends, extended breaks, and summer when they're not able to access school meal programs. The organization delivers Meal Bags into backpacks every Friday to 537 schools throughout the state, providing children and families experiencing food insecurity with access to good food.



Time to Craft!

The crafters will take over the Fellowship Hall from Monday, November 13, to Thursday, November 16. The church will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. each day. Come when you can and leave when you must. Bring your supplies and equipment, lunches, and a snack to share. Free of charge, but RSVP to Mary Larson so she knows you're coming. Text: 612-781-4104.



*GA's WELCA Group Will Meet
Tuesday, November 7, at 1:00 p.m.*

Pastor Ian will be our guest.

All women are invited to attend.

We will meet in the Narthex due to voting taking place in Fellowship Hall!

Election Day is November 7

Remember, it's important to cast your ballot.

Not sure where to vote? Go to this link: <https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>

GA Church is happy to serve as a polling place for our neighborhood!



Notes & Thoughts from Deacon Phil

Choir Updates –

The new choir year is off to a good start. As I reported last month, the **GA Choir** has welcomed several new singers. We're up to 5-6 new and returning singers now, which is great news! We'd still love to have more, especially more tenors and basses! (Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. if you're thinking of joining us!)



The **Gustavus Bells** are going strong. The group plans to return to its practice of playing a 15-minute prelude on Christmas Eve again this year, something we haven't been able to do since before the pandemic. Exciting!

I'm personally very happy that we're going to be re-starting the **GA Choristers** choir for kids again this year. This is something I've been missing for the last several years. I invite you to see the article on the front page of this newsletter for all the details about rehearsals which start next week; and I invite children in grades 1-5 to participate.

How's the New Liturgy Going?

We've been learning a new setting of the liturgy this fall, and it's going pretty well. We're doing well on the "Glory to You, God" and the Gospel Acclamation, because we've been singing them since September. The "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord" is still a little bumpy; we have a little work to do on that one. The "Lamb of God" is sounding pretty good. The last two have only been part of our services since the beginning of October. Keep singing with gusto on Sunday mornings. Like I said when we introduced the new liturgy, GA is a pretty savvy congregation when it comes to singing. We can learn these pieces. Maybe we'll have another pre-service rehearsal one of these next few weeks. Watch your Saturday emails for a notice of one being scheduled.

Upcoming Northeast Chorale Concerts –

It's that time of year when the Northeast Chorale presents its fall concerts. You'll see a beautiful flyer, designed by GA's own Kristin Tangen (thank you, Kristin!) included in this mailing. Both of the Chorale's fall concerts – on November 18 in the evening and November 19 in the afternoon – will be held here at GA. I want to encourage and invite you to attend one (or both!) of the concerts. We'll be doing an eclectic mix of pieces that come under the theme of "**Remember...and Reflect.**" Some of the composers represented will be Johannes Brahms, Erik Whitacre, Kim André Arnesen, Alice Parker, and Stephen Paulus. There will even be an arrangement of a piece by U2! Clarinetist Emily Olson deAlvarez will be our guest musician. I am blessed to be the director of this fine community choir, and I hope to see many GA members in the audience for one of our concerts.

My Response to Our Financial Appeal –

You've heard a lot in the last week or two about our church finances – and the need we have to close a \$20,000 gap between revenue and expenses. I'm confident that we can accomplish this goal by working together. I want to say that I'm excited to join Pastor Ian and Sarah in doubling my monthly giving for the month of November; and I encourage you to prayerfully consider taking that step as well.

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



Advent at GA

Save the Dates

December 3 (Week 1):

Adult Education Opportunity with Bryant Kumlin
Topic: *Christmas Traditions*

December 10 (Week 2):

Christmas pageant during worship.
Congregational potluck following pageant.

December 17 (Week 3):

Cookie exchange during coffee hour
Lessons of Carols & Bells at 4:00

December 24 (Week 4):

Advent service in the morning
Family Christmas Eve service at 4:00

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.*
- ♥ *Shirley Beckman – Healing from recent heart attack*
- ♥ *Rodney Christopherson*
- ♥ *Pam Evangelist – Pam would like prayers for her as she is living with Parkinsons.*
- ♥ *James Hamilton – Prayers of thanksgiving for his progress and prayers continue for his improved health.*
- ♥ *Sarah – Ongoing health challenges.*
- ♥ *Sharon Leba – Ongoing health issues.*
- ♥ *Linda Lindahl – Prayers for continuing health concerns.*
- ♥ *Darlene McQuarrie – Upcoming surgery and recovery.*
- ♥ *Alex and Ann Schwartz (Nicole Navratil's parents) – Prayers for Nicole's parents: Alex, for healing and Ann for managing his care.*
- ♥ *Doug – Ongoing health issues.*
- ♥ *Sarah – James Hamilton would like prayers for his daughter who is facing a health challenge.*
- ♥ *Amy and Bret – Ongoing health issues.*



We extend Christian sympathy to Jenny Parker, Jill Nielsen, and the rest of the family and friends of Annette Parker who passed away on September 19. Annette's memorial service will be held at GA Church on Saturday, November 11, at 11:00 a.m.

To have someone's name included on the prayer list, contact our volunteer prayer coordinator, Jean Jenson, at mplsjean@yahoo.com or Pastor Ian, or Deacon Phil.

From Pastor Ian Regarding Our Financial Challenge

This past year, GA has experienced many joyful transitions including welcoming a new pastor (me!). Transitions often come with unexpected one-time expenses, like paying the short overlap after an interim leaves and after a new pastor begins. Because of this and a few other unexpected maintenance expenses, we have a gap between where we want to be and where we are now. To achieve our goal for the end of year, we need to close this gap with an additional \$20,000.

I have only been serving this community for a little over two months, but in this short time, my family and I have already witnessed so many of the ways GA lives out its mission.

In the coming month, I am asking our community to join my family and to make a one-time special gift and **double our monthly donation for the month of November**. By joining together in this time of need, we can ensure that our shared mission continues to thrive and flourish. Let's rally as one, bridge this financial gap, and make our vision for the end of the year a reality. Thank you for being a part of this extraordinary community and for your generous support.

Church Council Report

Submitted by Jenny Arneson, Council President

Updating the Constitution

The Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church's constitution is its primary governing document. We last updated the Congregation's constitution in January, 2019. Since then at the annual assemblies, the ELCA has made updates to the Model Constitution. Earlier in 2023, the Council opted to begin the process of updating the Gustavus Adolphus' constitution.

Why Now?

In 2019, hybrid or remote congregational meetings were not considered. The COVID pandemic forced changes to the way the congregation meets and votes as a body. Though the Council made the formal steps necessary to have virtual or hybrid meetings starting in 2020, it is best practice to update the constitution with these modifications. The ELCA has incorporated provisions that allow for members to participate virtually in congregational meetings.

What was the Council's goal with the changes?

When the constitution was last changed, a committee did a substantial review and updated many articles in the constitution, as well as the Church Bylaws. With this round of revisions, the Council is proposing to bring the constitution into conformance with the model constitution and a few minor changes recommended by the Synod.

Where can I see the changes?

You may find a print out in the church narthex.

What is different?

Many of the changes do not modify the meaning or purpose of the clause. Language has been altered for clarity, precision, to have more inclusive language, to reflect current understandings, consistency with other ELCA documents, conformance with state law, or as an editorial change. The most significant change includes allowing members to participate in congregational meetings via online methods.

What's next?

The Congregation must vote to approve the proposed changes *twice*. *The Congregation will review and approve the changes at a special congregational meeting on **Sunday, December 17**. The constitution must be ratified (without any additional changes) at the January 28, 2024 annual meeting.*

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



Volunteer Opportunities & Thank You's

After many years, we have an active stewardship committee and an intentional plan to help members prayerfully consider their giving. This is an essential component in moving toward a structurally balanced budget. We are so appreciative to *Pastor Ian for prioritizing this work.* Thank you to *Kristin Tangen, Sarah Coen-Frei, and Hannah Rosebrock for joining him on the stewardship committee.*

Did you know that at every annual meeting we form a nominating committee? This group takes on the task of talking to GA members the following fall/early winter and inviting them to join the 2024 council at the annual meeting on January 28. We are required to have at least seven members on the council. Thank you *Kristin Tangen, Mary Larson, and Sarah Larson for being a part of the nominating committee. You can help them by:*

- Don't wait for them to find you. Approach them and learn more about the council.
- Keep an open mind. If they are talking to you, there is a reason!
- Refer others to them. If this isn't the right time for you to be on council, help them come up with alternatives.



Congregational Meeting

What: A special meeting to:

- Review and approve changes to the church constitution. (A required second vote will take place at the annual meeting on January 28, 2024.)
- Hear from the Property committee about building repair and improvement projects happening right now and funded by the Life Together Capital Appeal.

When: Sunday, December 17, 10:45 a.m.

Where: The Fellowship Hall

The Real Fun: Congregational Life is hosting a cookie exchange at the same time in the same place! We will do our business while eating cookies.

Can I attend on-line? You can't exchange cookies on-line, so we hope to see you in-person! If you would like to join us on-line, please reach out to Deacon Phil. We will be meeting in the fellowship hall, but will make arrangements for anyone who wants to join us on-line.



Northeast Chorale
Remember and Reflect

Phil Holzman Artistic Director
Andrew Peterson Accompanist
Emily Olson deAlvarez Guest Musician (Clarinet)

Free Admission - All Ages Welcome!
(\$10.00 suggested donation)

Saturday, November 18
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 19
4:00 p.m.



www.northeastchorale.org
Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
1509 27th Avenue NE (27th & Johnson), Mpls, MN 55418

Note from the Treasurer

Hi all!

Everyone should have received their 3rd quarter giving statements in the mail this last week. In it, you'll see that the Stewardship Committee has asked **everyone to DOUBLE their giving for one month** to take a bit bite out of our deficit.



If you're able to double a monthly gift between now and the end of the year, that would be AMAZING!

We know that this year's budget was a big increase from the previous year, but finance was really intentional about being transparent about the needs for this year.

I know it feels like an intimidating amount to catch up, but we have such a spirit of giving at GA, so I know we can do it!



We know there are members who give gifts in stocks and end-of-year gifts as well, and if you do, let us know so we can plan ahead =)

If you are able 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! QR code is also on the slips of papers in the pew pockets in the sanctuary.

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

Kristin

September Financials

	Sept 2023 YTD Actual	Sept 2023 YTD Budget		Sept 2022 YTD Actual		Sept 2023 vs 2022 YTD Actual
Income	\$247,544.13	\$264,891.77		\$220,437.99		\$27,106.14
Expense	\$265,285.91	\$264,891.68		\$233,544.06		\$31,741.85
Inc - Exp	-\$17,741.78	\$0.09		-\$13,106.07		-\$4,635.71

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

September 2023 YTD Actual Income of \$247,544.13 represents 93% of our budgeted \$264,891.77.

September 2023 YTD Expenses of \$265,285.91 represents 100% of our budgeted \$264,891.68.

The -\$17,741.78 difference constitutes our YTD deficit.

As compared to last year, YTD our income is up \$27,106.14 and our expenses are up \$31,741.85.

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, Minneapolis ... November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 Reformation - 3rd Gr. Bibles 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School	30 1pm - Grief Group 6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	31 TRUNK OR TREAT! 4:30pm - Organ Recital 5pm - Trunk or Treat	1 10am - Coffee Hour 6pm - Contemp. Group 6pm - GA Choristers 6:30pm - Gustavus Bells 7:30pm - GA Choir	2 6:30pm - Better Together Comm.	3	4
5 All Saints 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Confirmation Class 10:45am - Sunday School	6 1pm - Grief Group 5pm - Cong. Life Comm. 6pm - Property Comm.	7 Election Day 1pm - WELCA Mtg. 6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	8 10am - Coffee Hour 6pm - Contemp. Group 6pm - GA Choristers 6:30pm - Gustavus Bells 7:30pm - GA Choir	9 6pm - Finance Comm.	10 8am - Men's Breakfast 11am - Parker Funeral	11
12 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Sunday School	13 Crazy Women Retreat 1pm - Grief Group 6:30pm - Social Ministry Comm.	14 6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	15 10am - Coffee Hour 6pm - Contemp. Group 6pm - GA Choristers 6:30pm - Gustavus Bells 7:30pm - GA Choir	16 6pm - Church Council	17 7pm - NE Chorale Concert	18
19 9:30am - Worship 10:45am - Confirmation Class 10:45am - Sunday School 4pm - NE Chorale Concert	20 1pm - Grief Group	21 6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	22 10am - Coffee Hour	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26 9:30am - Worship	27 1pm - Grief Group	28 6:30pm - Northeast Chorale	29 10am - Coffee Hour 11am - Meals on Wheels Delivery 6pm - Contemp. Group 6pm - Every Meal Packing Event 6:30pm - Gustavus Bells 7:30pm - GA Choir	30	1	2

A publication of

Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

1509 27th Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 612



Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Church Phone: 612-789-7256

Fax Number: 612-789-1334

Bldg. Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs. – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Website: www.gachurchmpls.org

Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Church Staff ...

Pastor Ian Coen-Frei, Minister of Word & Sacrament (Ext. 10)
pastorian@gachurchmpls.org
For Pastoral Care: 612-888-3701

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

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

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

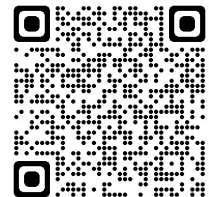
Analisa Hillman, Church Custodian



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 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

Beverly Prawalsky
Kathy Schuette