

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



Doors Open Minneapolis - GA Church is a 2024 Venue! How YOU Can Help Host Our Guests That Weekend!!

You may have already heard that GA is a venue for Doors Open Minneapolis the weekend of May 18-19. This is very exciting for us as we celebrate our 110th anniversary year.

Are you interested in volunteering for Doors Open Minneapolis at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church? We have 6 volunteer opportunities available each hour that the church will be open during Doors Open: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Volunteers will be broken into three different groups: Welcome Table, Craft Area, and Hosts. Volunteers at the "Welcome Table" will welcome visitors, pass out a brochure about the congregation, and pass out a self-guided tour leaflet to each visitor. Volunteers in the "Craft Area" will help kids and families enjoy the craft projects in the fellowship hall. "Hosts" volunteers will walk around the parts of the church on tour and help visitors with any questions or needs that they may have.

You can sign-up by using the button in each Saturday's email or by contacting Jenny Parker or the church office.

Save the Date & Take A Cruise With Your GA Family!

Celebrate 110 years as a faith community by cruising the Mississippi River together!

Sunday July 28, 2-4 p.m. – Harriet Island, St. Paul

- * Wear your fun new GA shirt!
- * Age 2 and under cruise free!
- * 3-17, \$10.50
- * 18-64, \$15.75
- * 65+, \$14.70
- * Sign-up sheet will be in the narthex soon.



GA Talent Show!

Saturday, April 13 – 3:00 p.m.

Please join us in the audience, as a performer, or both on Saturday, April 13, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall! Mary Larson will be the emcee, and Joel Lurvey will be running the sound equipment. If you need an accompanist, please reach out to Deacon Phil directly.

Want to share your talent with the audience? A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex!

Refreshments provided. Free will offering happily accepted. Plan to join in the fun! Questions? Call Shirley Fors: 612-419-4726.



Street Clean-up for Earth Day Sunday, April 21

The Better Together team invites you to participate in an Earth Day cleanup of Johnson Street on Sunday, April 21. Meet at Mount Carmel (1701 St. Anthony Parkway) at 11:00 a.m. (after worship) to get your vest, grabbers, gloves, and bags and to get excited about being stewards of creation! We'll then head out to make the world a better place between 26th and 32nd and Johnson.





One of my favorite aspects of the season of Easter is a renewed focus on baptism! While our Lutheran tradition encourages baptismal remembrance throughout the year, there are a few markers within our worship that will especially remind us of our life as the baptized people of God.

First, the Paschal (baptismal/Easter) candle will be lit through the 50 days of Easter. This is the candle which we use during baptisms throughout the year, and from which the baptismal candidates' candles are lit. New to GA this year is that our Paschal candle was designed by the confirmation students and is made from the old altar candles-melted down, and re-poured. Prominent in the design is the rainbow that represents new life, and God's promise to always be with creation.

Second, for the Easter season, rather than the confession and forgiveness, we will share in the thanksgiving for baptism at the beginning of worship. This aspect of the liturgy helps us to remember the ways in which God has acted through water in history, and calls us forth to give thanks for the waters that continue to free creation from sin and oppression. And we will join in the refrain:

Look, here is water!
Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

The third reminder of our baptism will happen as the Hymn of Praise "This is the Feast of Victory" is sung. The presider and assisting minister will use the ancient practices of asperges—the sprinkling of baptismal water on folks using an Aspergilla (holy water sprinkler). While you might have seen pictures or video of priests using something that looks like a child's rattle, the aspergillum we will be using at GA are small handmade brushes. As we sing, the presider and assisting minister will move through the sanctuary, and you will feel water from the baptismal font. You are encouraged to make the sign of the cross-echoing your own baptism! **And a practical note, if possible, those who have glasses should remove them to prevent water spots.**

This Easter season, within worship we will be encountering beautiful reminders of our shared baptismal identity. I pray that fed by the word and meal, we might bear our baptismal hope to all the places we may be found.

-pr. ian

110 Appeal

Have you heard? GA is 110 Years Old! It's kind of a big deal. We are even being unScandinavian and showing our building off to the community a bit this spring at the Anniversary Talent Show and Doors Open. Help us raise \$3110 to ensure our space is especially welcoming during the festivities. The Stewardship

Committee invites you to contribute \$11, \$110, or even \$1100 to our 110 Appeal! (See what we did there). Whatever amount you can spare - from purchasing food at both events, to the printing of the materials to highlight the history of GA for Doors Open and orientate visitors, to the cleaning of our building before and after both events to make it shine, to having our landscaping trimmed up for spring - your gift will provide tangible hospitality.

Want specifics?

- \$11: Covers the cost of annuals for one pot to brighten our entries.
- \$110: Covers the cost of the food during the talent show.
- \$1100: Covers the costs of the Doors Open event, including the printing of the brochures and pictures, cleaning the building, and treats.

Provide donations throughout the month of April. Designate "110 Appeal" in the comments section when giving online. Mark "110 Appeal" on your check and/or on an offering envelope (available in the pews) if giving during the offertory.

110 Years of Celebrations!



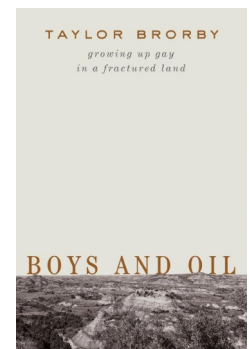
For 110 years, GA has been a place where community gathers and community celebrates. For the 110th Anniversary Celebration, we are collecting photos of weddings that took place at GA. Were you married at GA? Was a relative? A friend? A neighbor? Can you help us find photos from different eras? You can enjoy the display at Doors Open, May 18-19.

Here are the specifics:

Send one - maybe two - photo showing the wedding in the interior of the GA Sanctuary. Bonus points if the photo includes the archway around the altar! Photos can be sent by mail to the GA office, dropped off in the narthex, or emailed to anniversary@gachurchmpls.org. Provide the date of the wedding and the names of the people in the photo. Please do not provide original photos. If you need help digitalizing the photo, meet in the workroom after church on April 14. Please provide photos by April 15. See Sarah Larson or Kristin Tangen with questions.

GA Book Club Meets in April

Join us on Tuesday, April 30, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *Boys and Oil: Growing Up Gay in a Fractured Land* by Taylor Brorby. In his autobiography, Brorby skillfully and honestly connects the harsh conditions of the mining/fracking industry in North Dakota with his experience growing up gay. We will meet at Andrea Carter's house for this conversation: 2648 Arthur Street NE. If it's warm outside and not raining, bring a lawn chair.



From Deacon Phil

**THIS
DEACON
LOVES YOU**

Thank You, “Holden Evening Prayer” Leaders

We have just completed five Wednesday evenings of Evening Prayer services, using the familiar and much-loved *Holden Evening Prayer* liturgy. One of the aspects I like best about using this liturgy by Marty Haugen is that it affords us the opportunity to give folks in the congregation the chance to lead the

liturgy. I want to thank the following people who sang the lead parts of the liturgy during the weeks of Lent: *Joel Lurvey* (Joel also joined me on the accompaniment by playing guitar each week); *Nicole Navratil*; *Aaron Olson*; *Carlotta Rosebrock and Cheryl Johnson*; and *Nick Tangen*. And thanks to *Shirley Fors* who joined a few weeks on the flute. All of your contributions made for a wonderful worship experience for those gathered each week.

And while I’m on the subject of Lent Wednesdays, I want to share a thank you note from the Social Ministry Committee:

We extend so much gratitude to all the people who came together to make our Lenten Community Soup Suppers so lovely. Thanks to the cooks and dish washers, the set-up and clean-up crews, the Marys and the Marthas!

It was so marvelous to see so many young families and to hear the joyful voices of our children. It was also great to see older members and people from our broader community sitting and eating together.

Thank you. Thank you.



The Social Ministry Team

Easter Vigil Choir

I’m writing this article before the Easter Vigil takes place, but we did have rehearsal for the Vigil on Saturday, March 23, with about 15 people responding to my call for an *ad hoc* Easter Vigil choir! Several of the people who responded are not part of any of our choirs, which is doubly exciting. Thanks to everyone who participated in the Vigil Choir.

Here Are Two Pictures from our Palm/Passion Sunday Procession



From the Congregational Life Committee

Congregational Life is thinking about how to engage with kids this summer and we need your input! We want to know what families think. If you bring young people to GA (i.e. grandparent), we want you to share your input too. Use the QR code to reach the survey or get the link in an upcoming Saturday email.



Church Council Update

Council spent the month thinking about the most pressing short and long term needs of our life together at GA. Thank you to those who joined our coffee hour conversations or sought out council members to share your observations! We want to be intentional about how we spend our time and energy this year.

We are fortunate to have a strong committee structure that supports our life together. Because of these volunteer leaders who share their time and skills, we are able to accomplish even more. Our committees are addressing many of the issues that GA members identified as important. For example, taking care of our property, managing our finances responsibly, and connecting with each other and the broader community.

Meanwhile, the council is going to prioritize two needs:

1. Developing a plan and engaging a realtor to lease space vacated last year. A new renter can provide an important source of revenue for our church and a vibrancy to the building during the week.
2. Our Life Together Capital Campaign promised to dedicate 10% of its collected income to others. Though we will likely wait until we collect more of the pledged funds before we distribute to outside groups, the council will develop a plan for a community needs assessment to inform that decision. This builds upon the work of our Social Ministry committee who not only allocates our Benevolence funds each year, but also is developing relationships with our neighbors.

Can you help? We are forming a short term task force to put together the information we need to lease our space. Thank you to our property committee for addressing the building improvements to get the space in shape to rent. If you know something about commercial real estate and can be involved with helping the council take the next steps, let us know!

You can join the "Lease GA" task force by emailing Jenny Arneson (arneson.jenny@gmail.com) or Lynn Lurvey (lclurvey@gmail.com).

Gustavus Adolphus Executive Committee Contact Information:

Jenny Arneson, presidentarneson.jenny@gmail.com
Matthew Streed, vice-presidentmatthewstreed@gmail.com
Kristin Tangen, secretaryksnobeck@gmail.com
Lynn Lurvey, treasurerlclurvey@gmail.com



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*
- ♥ *Pam Evangelist – Pam would like prayers for her as she is living with Parkinsons.*
- ♥ *Karen and Mark Hidding - Mark is dealing with a serious health situation.*
- ♥ *Sue Holton - just received a diagnosis.*
- ♥ *Jon Huntsinger, Melissa Hentges' father, who recently lost his wife, Deb, to cancer.*
- ♥ *Linda Lindahl – Prayers for continuing health concerns.*
- ♥ *Darlene McQuarrie – Upcoming surgery and recovery.*
- ♥ *Marlene Moore - Marlene is in need of prayers at this time.*
- ♥ *Robbie Murphy - Pat Lynch would like prayers for her sister who is experiencing several health challenges.*
- ♥ *Nancy Rathbun - Prayers for Nancy as she faces a recent health issue.*
- ♥ *Lesa Rowen, Melissa Hentges' mother, who has an ongoing health situation.*
- ♥ *Jean Rosebrock – Prayers for Jean as her health declines.*
- ♥ *Bill Turnquist - Prayers for Bill after he took a fall in Florida.*
- ♥ *Mary Nelson Yunker - Prayers for Mary as she continues to recover from a fall.*
- ♥ *Doug – Ongoing health issues.*
- ♥ *Sarah – James Hamilton would like prayers for his daughter who is facing a health challenge.*
- ♥ *Maria - Prayers for a mother of four who has just received a critical health diagnosis.*
- ♥ *David - Concussion recovery during travel. Prayers for getting home safely.*



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.

Financial Report for February

We are always thankful for the opportunities here at our church for spiritual growth, community service, and personal connections.

Thank you for all that you do to keep our congregation thriving.
We strive to be good stewards of all resources.

God’s blessings to you and your families.

Lynn Lurvey, Treasurer

	Feb 2024 YTD Actual	Feb 2024 YTD Budget		Feb 2023 YTD Actual		Feb 2024 vs 2023 YTD Actual
Income	\$46,121.51	\$58,254.14		\$46,171.41		-\$49.90
Expense	\$59,502.46	\$58,254.14		\$57,024.37		\$2,478.09
Inc - Exp	-\$13,380.95	\$0.00		-\$10,852.96		-\$2,527.99

Hello from Kraków, Poland!

GA members Sarah Larson, Matt Brown, and Connor Arneson spent this Palm Sunday in Kraków, Poland, where they witnessed the annual Palm Procession. A bit short on local palm trees, Catholic Poles traditionally create their own elaborate “palms” from native trees and flowers. This year, 28 different towns, organizations, and churches from around Poland came to Krakow to show off their creations. After a procession from the old city gate to the market square, the palms were blessed in front of St. Wojciech Church. Many groups then proceeded to sing traditional Polish songs and hymns before one palm was finally declared the winner of this year’s contest. Lacking a city gate, colorful costumes, or knowledge of Polish, GA may find this tradition difficult to replicate. There’s always next year in Kraków!



A publication of

Gustavus Adolphus

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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 ...

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Deacon Phil Holzman, Minister of Word & Service (Ext. 11)
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Zachary Copa, Finance Manager (Ext. 14)
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Joel Lurvey, Contemporary Choir Director
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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) Our church offers online giving and text-to-give. They're easy to use and secure! You can give a gift of support online at www.gachurchmpls.org/donate or give via text message by texting the amount you would like to give to (612) 887-1797 .

3) Email our church's Finance Manager, Zach Copa, if you are interested in learning how to contribute stock donations.

4) Point your smartphone at the QR code above!

Gustavus Adolphus Church Council:

Jenny Arneson, President
Matthew Streed, Vice-President
Kristin Tangen, Secretary
Lynn Lurvey, Treasurer



At-Large Members:

Wendy Bradshaw
Lori Nordling

Bryant Kumlin
Kathy Schuette