

Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 8 – After Worship Regarding Our South Parking Lot



The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary at approximately 10:45 a.m.
You can join in person or on Zoom.

See the letter from the church council regarding this meeting printed on
page 5 of this newsletter.



Graduation Recognition June 2025

Congratulations to our high school graduate,
Bergen Hall,
who is graduating from
St. Anthony Village High School.

We also want to congratulate **Della Nielsen**
who is graduating from Kindergarten this
spring.

*We celebrate with these young people
in our congregation!*

*Please let Deacon Phil know if we missed anyone so
we can include them in future announcements.*

God's Work. Our Hands. Collection Opportunity!

God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 7, after worship in the fellowship hall. This year we are hoping to pack 50 Hygiene Kits for children in foster care through Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS). We will be collecting hygiene products (see list below) all summer. Donations can be dropped off in the Narthex. Thanks for your support of this worthwhile project to help children in need.

Please bring the following items to the Narthex over the summer. We need 50 of each of the following:

- deodorant.
- full-sized shampoo.
- full-sized conditioner.
- toothbrush.
- full-sized toothpaste.
- full-sized body wash.

Any questions, please contact Jenny Parker at jparker2310@yahoo.com or 612-695-1538.

God's work. Our hands.



September 7, 2025

Save the Date...July 16

The Social Ministry Committee will host a "Watermelon Party" on the lawn on Wednesday, July 16, from 5-7 p.m. We are looking for volunteers to donate, serve, and eat watermelon and cookies!



Dear People,

As I look out the window from my office, the vibrant green of early summer is all around us. The seasons outside our church doors continue their steady progression, just as the seasons inside these walls keep moving forward.

This year, after we celebrate Holy Trinity Sunday on June 15th, we will enter the long and fruitful season of "Ordinary Time." The color in the sanctuary will change to a deep green, reflecting the life and growth of the creation that surrounds us. And just as the colors of our worship space will change, so too will the readings we encounter together.

I am particularly excited that this summer, our weekly Gospel readings will draw us deep into the Gospel of Luke. Following Jesus from the rolling hills of Galilee to the city of Jerusalem, we'll have a unique chance to walk with him through Luke's beautifully detailed account.

Oftentimes, the Sunday morning readings can feel like small bites of larger, complex books of scripture. This can make it challenging to place them in their original context. This is why I so deeply appreciate the coming season in the church. It offers us a chance, week after week, to work our way through one of the Gospels in a more holistic manner.

The Gospel of Luke, for instance, was written as an orderly and compassionate account to reassure its readers of the certainty of what they had been taught. It has a special focus on the forgotten and the overlooked. As we journey through Luke's telling of the good news this summer and into the fall, we will be reminded that:

- God's mercy is radical and available to all, especially those on the margins of society.
- Jesus's ministry consistently challenged social structures and called people to a life of compassion and justice.
- We are called to a discipleship of humility, prayer, and service, reflecting God's own care for the poor and the lost.

This was a powerful message for the early followers of Jesus, and it remains essential good news for us today. In a world where many feel overlooked or left behind, Luke's Gospel grounds us in the truth that God's table has room for everyone.

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4:18-19

As we enter this season of "Ordinary Time," I assure you that the scripture and stories we will encounter in worship are anything but ordinary. I pray that by walking with Jesus through the Gospel of Luke, we will be able to dive even more deeply into the truth and beauty of God's love for creation and our calling to be part of that love in action.

A love that knows no end or boundary!

Blessings,

—Pr. Ian

June Community Meal – Saturday June 7, 5:30-6:30



You are welcome to come and enjoy our community meal this month!

We are serving brats and picnic salads.

We have a nice team of volunteers, but more people helpers are always welcome.

We begin set-up at 3:30.

We usually finish clean-up by 7:30.

Come for all or part of this service opportunity.



As always, you are always welcome to come and simply enjoy the meal. Having people here to visit with community members is the best part of this work we do in building community where God is at the center.

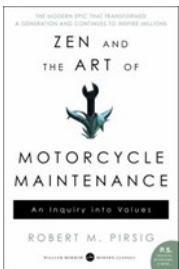


Reach out with your questions anytime!

Lynn and the Social Ministry Team

Rainbow Church Meets June 21

Rainbow Church – our group for folks who identify as LGBTQIA+ – will be meeting on Saturday, June 21, at 2:00 p.m. We have shifted our meeting time to earlier in the afternoon. There's no agenda; just time to hang out and have conversation, maybe share some snacks, maybe play a game. Come join the fun! Questions? Reach out to Deacon Phil.



GA Book Group Meets in June

Join us on Monday, June 23, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance: an Inquiry into Values* by Robert M. Pirsig. In this classic, father and son travel by motorcycle on a summer adventure. Through their journey, and motorcycle maintenance, many of the mysteries of life are revealed (or at least pondered). Join us in the Fireside Room for this conversation. All are welcome!

Doors Open Minneapolis Recap

GA had a very successful run at Doors Open Minneapolis in 2025. Fifty non-members toured our building on Saturday, May 17. Doors Open Minneapolis, organized by Rethos, gives GA the perfect opportunity to welcome our neighbors, while building connections in our surrounding community. There is a rumor that Doors Open Minneapolis will move up a week in 2026 and will be held the weekend of May 9-10, so, mark your calendars now. Thank you to the members of the congregation who volunteered their time at Doors Open GA: Gary Anderson, Paul Bisping, Brock Bisping, Andrea Carter, Mary Ann Eide, Marv Johnson, Nancy Johnson. Nicole (and Zeb) Navratil. And a special thank you to Adrienne Bisping, Jenny Parker, and Jenny Spryshak who took the training to become Rethos volunteers and each volunteered to work a 4.5 hour shift at GA.



From Deacon Phil

Northeast Chorale Concerts at GA on May 31 & June 1

It's time once again for the Northeast Chorale to entertain us with their spring concerts. They will present two concerts at GA this year – Saturday, May 31, at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 1, at 4:00 p.m. The theme, as the Chorale continues their 10th anniversary season, is *Looking Back ... A Broadway & Pops Revue*. I hope to see many GA faces in the audience this coming weekend as the Chorale shares their music with the Northeast community.



Summer Special Music

Now that our choirs are on summer break, it's the perfect time for individuals in the congregation to share their talents by offering special music on Sunday mornings in worship. If you're interested in sharing a solo, duet, trio, or ensemble – be it vocal or instrumental – reach out to me and we'll make it happen. In the meantime, I may come looking for you!

Organ Recital in Rochester, Minnesota

I've been invited to present an organ recital as part of the summer series of Tuesday noonday recitals at Trinity Lutheran Church (WELS) in Rochester. My recital will take place on Tuesday, June 24, at 12:15 p.m. While I don't expect any GA-ers to make the trek to Rochester, I just wanted to share the news that I'll be representing GA in Rochester that day and ask that you say a prayer for me that my recital might go well.

Blessings for a restful and fun summer.

Deacon Phil



Rental Update (from the Church Council)

As you likely know, GA is pursuing sharing our space with tenants. Not only will it bring additional income, we are excited about the extra company during the workweek. We have some updates!

Wild Hope Psychological Services contacted the church, seeking a small office to rent. It was fortuitous timing as we had just transitioned to a financial service, freeing up an office previously dedicated to an employee. Upon discussion, the Council voted to sort through the files located in this office, shredding or relocating records. Dr. Nora Halverson will rent this space beginning on July 1, generating an additional \$3900 a year for GA.

Meanwhile, Pastor Ian has been very busy meeting our realtor, Tom, and interested renters over the past several months. One potential tenant, in particular, has taken steps to finalize arrangements to move into the space downstairs. We anticipate that this could happen as early as July. Their rent is still being negotiated, but it will more than replace the income the language school provided GA.

These tenants will join Inspire Home Care and Jesus es la Respuesta; Inspire Home Care rents a suite of two offices upstairs and Jesus es la Respuesta is a church which primarily uses our Fellowship Hall on Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons. GA also collects rent from the dental office on Johnson Street for the use of our parking lot during the week.

From the Church Council...

Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 8

The church council invites you to a congregational meeting about the parking lot on **Sunday, June 8**, immediately following worship, about 10:45.

You can attend this meeting in person or on zoom. It will be held in the Sanctuary.

GA has been talking about our parking lot for a loooooong time. It's a slow-moving project because of the complexity of the work and our limited resources. We are fortunate to have members with expertise in this area who have spent many volunteer hours guiding the work.

On June 8, it is the council's intention to provide an update and if necessary, ask the congregation to vote on the next step.

Recall that in September, 2022, our congregation discussed and voted to move forward with exploring the *minimum work necessary to repair the parking lot for the purpose of parking*. At the same meeting, we rejected the other options of exploring the sale of the parking lot or considering the enhancement of the parking lot and building. Since that time, volunteers have secured a grant from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization, providing funds covering a portion of the work done thus far. We are eligible, but not guaranteed, funds to cover a portion of future construction costs.

Meanwhile, our congregation made financial commitments to the parking lot and other building needs through the Life Together Capital Appeal. We are in year 2 of a 3-year commitment plan.

Nearly one year ago, our congregation voted to move ahead with a Stormwater Management Package and concept design. This provides us with important information about the soil under the asphalt, and creates drawings that can ultimately be used to collect bids for the work to begin. It cost a total of \$19,850. The Mississippi Watershed Management Organization grant will cover \$8,000, and \$11,850 is covered by funds in our Capital Appeal.

This work is nearly complete. On June 8, you can expect:

- Information about the soil and what sort of remediation and materials it calls for to create a sustainable parking lot.
- A rough estimation of the cost.

A review of the resources we have available from the Life Together Capital Appeal.

Between now and the meeting, we expect to better understand if the money available in the Life Together Capitol Appeal is sufficient to cover the expected cost of the project. **In the circumstance of the expected cost exceeding the available resources, we will hold a congregational vote for direction. On the other hand, if the resources are sufficient, we will discuss the next step of bidding out work and payment options.**

We are a congregation that values and takes pride in our property. Yet, every decision we make about our property has a long-term impact on our current and future members. It is important that we hear from you during this meeting so we can make a thoughtful plan about this portion of our life together at GA.

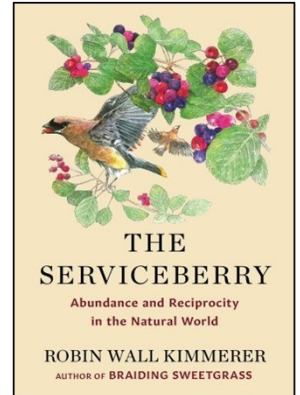
Join us Sunday, June 8, in person or via zoom, at 10:45 for this important congregational meeting.

Congregation Read

Join the Stewardship Committee in reading the NYT bestseller, "The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World," by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The author describes the Serviceberry reality - where reciprocity, interconnectedness, and gratitude ensure everybody's needs are met and the Serviceberry thrives! She contrasts that with our own mindset of scarcity, competition, and hoarding of resources. This uplifting book reminds us of the healing powers of recognizing "enoughness," for our world, our relationships, and ourselves.

This book is very short - 128 pages. Copies are available in the Narthex at church. We encourage you to share these copies - either by reading it at Church during coffee hour or taking it home and bringing it back when complete. You can purchase your own copy from any bookseller. The Hennepin County Library system also has this title available.

References to the book will be included during worship on June 15, 22, and 29. Stewardship will host casual discussions during the Coffee Hour.



Monthly Financial Report

Year-to-date member giving fell just below projections through the end of April at just over \$100,000. Several improvements to GA's financial practices are occurring this spring, including the transition to an external bookkeeping service, as well as transition to a new digital counter sheet.

Income/Expense through April 30, 2025

| | April 2025 | YTD | YTD Budget |
|---------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Member Giving | \$21,653 | \$103,000 | \$107,525 |
| Other Income | \$4,082 | \$10,237 | \$11,477 |
| Expense | \$29,911 | \$128,049 | \$116,430 |
| Net | -\$4,176 | -\$14,813 | \$2,571 |

You Are Welcome Here!

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. We give thanks for the gift of reconciliation through Christ Jesus, thus we commit to the work of racial equity and justice. We welcome people of all ages, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, physical and mental abilities, educational levels, faith backgrounds and socioeconomic status. We strive to be an evermore welcoming community. Following the example of Christ, we extend a most heartfelt welcome to all.

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 their home.*
- ♥ *Wendell Beckman – Prayers for Nancy Johnson's brother-in-law who has received a new diagnosis.*
- ♥ *Rodney Christopherson.*
- ♥ *Pam Evangelist – Pam would like prayers for her as she is living with Parkinsons.*
- ♥ *Sharon Hatella – Prayers for Sharon who is suffering from back issues and pain.*
- ♥ *David Hendrickson – Prayers for David who has ongoing health concerns.*
- ♥ *Ben Hentges – Prayers for Nic Hentges' brother who is currently battling some health issues.*
- ♥ *Dan Leba – Prayers for Dan who is recovering from recent surgery.*
- ♥ *Julia Ludovici – Elizabeth Blount requests prayers for her fiancée who has been dealing with chronic pain that has kept her out of work for several months.*
- ♥ *Darlene McQuarrie – Prayers for Darlene who is recovering from recent surgery.*
- ♥ *Lesa Rowen, Melissa Hentges' mother, who has an ongoing health situation.*
- ♥ *Bill Turnquist – Prayers for Bill who has ongoing health issues.*
- ♥ *Doug – Ongoing health issues.*
- ♥ *LeeAnn – Prayers for continuing health concerns.*
- ♥ *Aimee and her son Ethan (friends of Nicole Navratil and her sister, Katrina) who have each recently had difficult cancer diagnoses.*

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.

Recent Baptisms and Confirmations

At the Easter Vigil on April 19, we received the following three young people into membership through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

- *Gwendolyn Jean Bodurtha*
- *Penelope "Pepper" Ruth Bodurtha*
- *Clark Ulysses Bodurtha*



Also at the Easter Vigil, the following two youth affirmed their baptismal vows during the Rite of Confirmation:

- *Oscar Curtis Larson*
- *Dylan John Dorumsgaard Solberg*

In Loving Memory

- *We extend Christian sympathy to Andrea, Barbara, and Jeff Carter, and the rest of the family and friends of Thomas Carter who passed away on April 15. Tom's memorial service was held at GA on May 10.*
- *We also extend Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Mary Spensley who passed away on May 10.*



Education Opportunities at GA in 2025

Learn and share with other GA members. The Congregational Life committee strives to host a 30-45 minute conversation following worship about once a month on a topic of interest to members. We invite you to share your talent or expertise with other members - from something you've formally studied to something new that you find exciting or interesting! Reach out to Deacon Phil if you have something to share.

Unless otherwise specified, discussions are held in the Faith Room and will begin at 10:45.

| Date | Topic | Host |
|-----------------|--|------------------------------|
| June 22 | Meals on Wheels Cancelled | Social Ministry |
| June 15, 22, 29 | "The Serviceberry" by Robin Wall Kimmerer book discussion (copies available at church). Messages incorporated into the sermon and/or coffee hour table discussion. | Stewardship |
| July 20 | Open! Have an idea to share? | |
| August 17 | Mission Partner: Mdewakaton Dakota | Social Ministry |
| September 21 | Information for New Members | Pastor Ian |
| October 19 | Art & Spirituality | Cindy Bach & Social Ministry |
| November 16 | NE Church Neighbors: A survey of faith traditions and history. | Elizabeth Blount |



Church Council Executive Committee Contact Information

President: Kristin Tangen..... ksnobeck@gmail.com
 Vice-President: Jenny Arneson.....arneson.jenny@gmail.com
 Secretary: Matt Streed matthewstreed@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Matt Brown..... mcb612@gmail.com



summer sundays at GA



WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- ✓ Seeing friends of all ages
- ✓ Playing outside
- ✓ Making something for others
- ✓ Pizza lunch at church

June 22: creating cards & outdoor games
August 17: tie dying (bring something white)

**MEET AFTER WORSHIP
LUNCH IS PROVIDED!**





*10th Anniversary Season
continues with...*

Northeast Chorale Spring Concerts

Broadway and Pops Revue

Saturday, May 31 @ 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 1 @ 4:00 p.m.

Phil Holzman, Artistic Director // Andrew Peterson, Accompanist

Concerts all ages will enjoy!

Free Admission
(\$10.00 suggested donation)

**Gustavus Adolphus
Lutheran Church**
1509 27th Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418
www.northeastchorale.org



Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, Minneapolis...June 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---------------|--|--|---|--|
| <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>4pm - Northeast Chorale Concert</div> <div>1</div> | <div>1pm - Grief Group</div> <div>6pm - Property Comm.</div> <div>2</div> | | <div>10am - Coffee Hour</div> <div>4</div> | <div>9:30am - Quilters</div> <div>5</div> | <div>4:30pm - Wdg. Rehearsal</div> <div>6</div> | <div>3pm - Wedding</div> <div>5:30pm - Community Meal</div> <div>7</div> |
| <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Cong. Mtg.</div> <div>8</div> | <div>1pm - Grief Group</div> <div>6pm - Finance Comm.</div> <div>9</div> | <div>10</div> | <div>10am - Coffee Hour</div> <div>11</div> | <div>5pm - Cong. Life Comm.</div> <div>12</div> | <div>13</div> | <div>14</div> |
| <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Serviceberry Disc.</div> <div>15</div> | <div>1pm - Grief Group</div> <div>16</div> | <div>17</div> | <div>10am - Coffee Hour</div> <div>18</div> | <div>June 19th</div> <div>Offices Closed</div> <div>19</div> | <div>20</div> | <div>2pm - Rainbow Church</div> <div>21</div> |
| <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Activities!</div> <div>10:45am - Serviceberry Disc.</div> <div>22</div> | <div>1pm - Grief Group</div> <div>6:30pm - Book Group</div> <div>23</div> | <div>24</div> | <div>10am - Coffee Hour</div> <div>11am - Meals on Wheels Delivery</div> <div>25</div> | <div>6pm - Church Council</div> <div>26</div> | <div>27</div> | <div>4pm - Choirs at Shirley's</div> <div>28</div> |
| <div>9:30am - Worship</div> <div>10:45am - Serviceberry Disc.</div> <div>29</div> | <div>1pm - Grief Group</div> <div>30</div> | <div>1</div> | <div>2</div> | <div>3</div> | <div>4</div> | <div>5</div> |

A publication of

Gustavus Adolphus

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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

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

Evenings as noted in weekly online calendar.

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)

Joel Lurvey, Contemporary Choir Director

joel.lurvey@gmail.com



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 Deacon Phil if you are interested in
learning how to contribute stock donations.

4) Point your smartphone at the QR code above!

2025 Gustavus Adolphus Church Council:

Kristin Tangen, President

Jenny Arneson, Vice-President

Matthew Streed, Secretary

Matt Brown, Treasurer

At-Large Members:

Shirley Fors

Karen Thorson Grivna

Lori Nordling



RECONCILING IN CHRIST