

God's Work. Our Hands.

Collection Opportunity!

Our congregation's God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday activity is scheduled for Sunday, September 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 are 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, contact Jenny Parker at jparker2310@yahoo.com or 612-695-1538.



Summer Community Meals at GA

July 5 and August 2

July 5 – We have a burger and brat meal planned. Nick Tangen and Lynn Lurvey are taking the lead, so please reach out if you are willing to come and help. We have the main dish and desserts but can use salads and volunteers!!

August 2 – Kristin Peterson is taking the lead. She has a taco meal planned, and you can reach out to her or sign up in the narthex to let her know how you would like to help.

As always, thank you for your support of this community outreach ministry. We are so richly blessed by the dear people who join us each month!



Block Party!

The Social Ministry Committee will host a "Watermelon (and More!) Block Party" for GA members and our neighbors on the church lawn on Wednesday, August 6, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Save the date and watch for more details in upcoming Saturday emails.



South Parking Lot Update

Thank you to those who attended the congregational meeting on Sunday, June 8, to vote on next steps for the south parking lot.

The congregation voted on two motions. Both motions passed.

1. Reallocate capital campaign funds budgeted for the parking lot toward other needs identified in the capital campaign, including the education wing.
2. Authorize Council to enter into agreement with a real estate agent to engage potential buyers for the parking lot.

The lot will still be available to park in until it is sold. We are committed to shepherding a new parking culture in our church community so that no one is left behind. We will explore parking needs and options for those requiring this assistance, once the south lot is no longer available.

Council will keep the congregation informed as things progress.

Beloved in Christ,

It's been a long time since I was a summer camp participant myself! For many years, starting in elementary school, I attended Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca, WI. Our church seemed to take over the whole camp, with about 100 youth joining in on all the fun. I still remember circle time songs, meals shared in the dining hall, refreshing swims, peaceful nature walks, and morning and evening devotions by the lakeside. And of course, there was canteen time, where we'd eagerly spend our carefully allotted dollars on a candy bar and drink each day. The songs, the smells, the tastes of camp—so many of those memories still stay with me today.

That said, not every camp memory is idyllic. In eighth grade, a nasty Norovirus outbreak swept through Pine Lake. On the very last evening, just when I thought I'd made it through unscathed, I joined about 35 other miserable kids quarantined in one of the cabins. And talk about smells and sounds that stick with you...

But this July, those less-than-fond memories are getting an update! I'm thrilled to be participating with other GA families at Family Camp at Luther Park. It's a wonderful opportunity to rediscover the joy of learning about God in community, surrounded by a different part of creation than what we experience week to week.

At GA, we offer many ways to grow your faith in community, including Sunday worship, community meals, our book group, and choirs. However, camping ministry offers a truly unique experience. In our ever-changing world, it still holds the potential for a lasting, transformative impact.

I'm excited to return from camp and share my experiences with all of you. My hope is that in future years, even more folks will be able to experience the joy of building community through camping ministry.

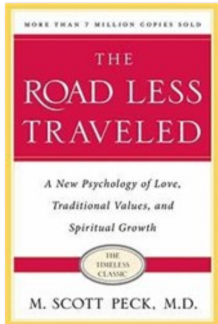
Pr. Ian

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.

Rainbow Church Meets August 9

Rainbow Church – our group for folks who identify as LGBTQIA+ – will be taking a hiatus in July and having our next meeting on Saturday, August 9, at 10:00 a.m. Yes – a morning meeting! That means there might be muffins and donuts to go along with our always-spirited discussion. Come join the fun! Questions? Reach out to Deacon Phil.



GA Book Group Meets Next in September

GA Book Club is on break until fall, but we've got our next book, date and time selected. Join us on Monday, September 15, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *The Road Less Traveled: a New Psychology of Love, Traditional Values, and Spiritual Growth*. In September, we'll discuss whether these "new" ideas have stood the test of time. We'll either meet in GA's Fireside Room or on the front lawn. All are welcome!

Consider Council

Due to a variety of circumstances, our council has dropped from a full 9 members to only 6 over the past few months. This is a problem because not only does our church constitution require at least 7 members, our church benefits when we have greater participation. We will be unable to conduct church business until we find at least one new council member.

The council is seeking to immediately appoint 1-2 people to the council. This will be a 6 month appointment. The congregation will elect new council members at our annual meeting in late January, and while appointed members will be invited to stay on the council, it's not an obligation.



If this isn't the right time for you to join, consider joining the council for a full 2 year term this winter. Our nominating committee will be seeking volunteers at the end of this year and new appointments will begin in February.

The council meets once a month for about two hours. Additionally, council members participate on one committee which also generally meets monthly.

If you have capacity and can share your leadership skills with GA on council, contact Deacon Phil or Jenny Arneson at arneson.jenny@gmail.com.

I want to send a thank you to everyone who helps at funeral banquets.

- ♥ *BLESS your hearts for all the ways you find to be so nice.*
- ♥ *BLESS your hands for giving help without thinking twice.*
- ♥ *BLESS your thoughts for knowing just the perfect thing to do.*

*You are all a gift of love and faith. We are truly blessed by you.
Thank you all!*

*MaryAnn,
Funeral Banquet Coordinator*

From Deacon Phil

Summer Special Music

Just a Reminder! 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!



Northeast Chorale News

The Chorale Board has planned the fall season which will begin on Tuesday, August 26, with a potluck meal and read-through of our fall music. This will take place here at GA (as all our rehearsals do) at 6:30 p.m. that night. If you're someone who enjoys choral singing on a slightly higher, more challenging level, think about joining the chorale. Our fall concerts will take place the weekend on November 22-23. We were excited that our spring concerts brought over 240 people into the doors of GA the first weekend of June!

Church Choirs for the Fall

Our GA Church Choirs will begin rehearsing at various time in September. All those details will be shared in the September "Gazette" and Saturday email newsletters. If you're someone who enjoys music and musical fellowship, think about joining a choir this year. If you have questions, talk to me over the summer. I'm always open to conversations.

Blessings for a restful and fun summer.

Deacon Phil



Monthly Financial Report

While member giving in April and May fell below the monthly amounts during the first quarter, giving commonly tapers off toward summer and picks up again later in the year. Over the past few weeks, the Finance Committee and staff cleaned out the former Finance office at church to make way for a new office tenant, a psychotherapist, who will occupy the space effective July 1. Diversifying our revenue sources will make for a sustainable financial future. Because the church switched to using an external bookkeeping service this spring, the office was no longer needed for the church's use.

Income/Expense through May 31, 2025

	May 2025	YTD	YTD Budg-
Member Giving	\$18,880	\$121,880	\$134,406
Other Income	\$968	\$11,204	\$13,096
Expense	\$30,147	\$158,207	\$145,538
Net	-\$10,300	-\$25,123	\$1,964

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.*
- ♥ *Ben Hentges – Prayers for Nic Hentges’ brother who is currently battling some health issues.*
- ♥ *Dan Leba – Prayers for Dan who will be having knee replacement surgery on July 14.*
- ♥ *Julia Ludovici – Elizabeth Ludovici requests prayers for her spouse 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.*
- ♥ *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.*
- ♥ *Brooke – Prayers for Brooke who has received a cancer diagnosis.*

We extend Christian sympathy to:

- ♥ *Aaron & Sarah Olson, Anders, Elsa, and Stanley following the death of Aaron’s father.*
- ♥ *Kristin & Nick Tangen following the death of Kristin’s grandmother.*

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 the Parish Register...

Marriage

We celebrate with Elizabeth (Blount) Ludovici and Julia Ludovici following their marriage here at GA Church on Saturday, June 7.



Passings

We extend Christian sympathy to Gayle Turnquist and the rest of the family and friends of William R. “Bill” Turnquist who passed away on May 29. Bill’s memorial service was held at GA on June 28.

We also extend Christian sympathy to Brian Hendrickson, Beth McDonald, and Gina O’Meara and the rest of the family and friends of David Hendrickson who passed away on June 9. The congregation is invited to a memorial service for David at the church on Saturday, July 19, at 11:00 a.m. with visitation one hour prior.



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



Updated Church Council Executive Committee Contact Information

President: Matthew Streed matthewstreed@gmail.com
 Vice-President: Jenny Arneson.....arneson.jenny@gmail.com
 Co-Secretary: Shirley Fors shirlfors44@gmail.com
 Co-Secretary: Karen Thorson Grivna kwtgrivna@comcast.net
 Treasurer: Matt Brown mcb612@gmail.com

Join us on Sunday, August 17, after worship!

Bring something white/cotton (t-shirt, pillow case, socks) to tie-dye.

Remember ... there will also be pizza for lunch.

A vibrant, hand-drawn style poster for 'Summer Sundays at GA'. The background is a light pink. It features a large, smiling yellow sun in the top left corner. To the right of the sun, there are stylized flowers in yellow, teal, and pink. The title 'summer sundays at GA' is written in a large, bold, orange font. Below the title, the section 'WHAT YOU'LL LOVE' is followed by a list of four activities, each preceded by a yellow checkmark icon. At the bottom, the dates and activities for June 22 and August 17 are listed, followed by the text 'MEET AFTER WORSHIP' and 'LUNCH IS PROVIDED!' in bold orange letters.

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!**

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

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 (as of June 26, 2025):

Matthew Streed, President

Jenny Arneson, Vice-President

Shirley Fors, Co-Secretary

Karen Thorson Grivna, Co-Secretary

Matt Brown, Treasurer

At-Large Member:

Lori Nordling

