

# THE CALLER

AMERICAN LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
CASTLEWOOD, SD

Volume 27, Issue 1, January 2022

## **Calling all people! – P.T.'s Practical Theology**

### **Happy New Year! - Now What?**

*For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." And, how then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" Romans 10:13-15*

Like it or not 2022 is here! So, it's time to have your birthday lists, and reoccurring events from 2021 now uploaded, or, as the case may be, transferred, pen and ink into your new day planner.

Each January, some would be philosopher gets some press on the morning news shows by reminding us what we already know.....namely, that with each new year comes new possibilities. New possibilities for success or to make positive changes in our lives. So, we have what we call "New Year's Resolutions".

What are your New Year's Resolutions? Have you been successful in keeping such resolutions in the past? Or, were they pretty much defunct, before they ever really got started? If the later is the case, that can leave us feeling like failures, once again.

But, the best way to lift yourself up from failure is to find success! And I think that a particular New "New Year's Resolution" might be not only attainable, but also one that could bring glory to our God.

**So.....I am putting out a challenge to each family of American Lutheran: invite someone to come to worship with us!**

If you gave 10 minutes of thought and prayer to it, I would think that you could come up with at least one individual or one family you know who is unchurched or under-churched. That is, who might God be calling you to make an invitation to come connect in a real way with our family of faith?

Don't go for someone who is already faithful in their church home.....but, reach out and invite someone who has not been a church-goer, or has for some reason been absent from solid Christian Worship for some time. After all, it was the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Romans that declared just how important it was for God's children to "HEAR" His word. He was convinced that it was in the hearing of God's word that faith was created....and faith is sustained. Furthermore, it is only faith that will enable one to call upon the Lord....and it is those who call upon Him in faith that will be saved.

So, once again.....let us all be resolved to pray to God that he would lift up for us at least one person, who we can invite into our fellowship. NOT for the sake of swelling our church roster, rather for the sake of those who need to hear, believe and be saved.

In His Service, Pastor Tom



# January 2022



Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2nd	8:30 a.m. Choir Practice 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship 12:30—1:30p.m. Blessing Center Open
5th	2:00 p.m. Bible Study at Castlewood Assisted Living 5:15 p.m. Confirmation Class 6:30 p.m. Youth Group—Romans 6
8th	8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Reserved for Church Member Event
9th	8:30 a.m. Choir Practice 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Sunday School <b>10:15 a.m. CHURCH COUNCIL</b>
12th	10:00 a.m. Bible Study at American Lutheran 2:00 p.m. Bible Study at Castlewood Assisted Living 5:15 p.m. Confirmation Class 7:30 p.m. Bible Study at American Lutheran
16th	8:30 a.m. Choir Practice 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Sunday School 10:15 a.m. ANNUAL MEETING 12:30—1:30p.m. Blessing Center Open 1:00 p.m. American Legion Event
19th	10:00 a.m. Bible Study at American Lutheran 2:00 p.m. Bible Study at Castlewood Assisted Living 5:15 P.M. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Youth Group 7:30p.m. Bible Study at American Lutheran
20th	ESD Pastor's Meeting
23rd	9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Sunday School
26th	10:00 a.m. Bible Study at American Lutheran 2:00 p.m. Bible Study at Castlewood Assisted Living 5:15 p.m. Confirmation Class 7:30 p.m. Bible Study at American Lutheran
30th	9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship & Sunday School



**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Church Council Minutes  
December 12, 2021**

American Lutheran church council met on Sunday, December 12, 2021 at the church. Those present were Dan Grupe, Dan Davis, Candy Gailsath, Lindsey Vetter, Chuck Juntti, Craig Bass Carrie Henrichsen and Pastor Tom Christenson.

Council meeting was called to order by President Dan Grupe.

Pastor Tom said a prayer.

The minutes for the November meeting was reviewed. Motion by Lindsey, second by Carrie to approve the minutes. With all voting aye, motion passed.

The financial report for November was reviewed. Motion by Chuck, second by Craig to approve the financial report. With all voting aye, motion passed.

**-Pastor Report:**

-Youth will take a mission trip to Colorado Springs this summer, there are 25 slots.

-Reservation fee of \$50.00 per person by January 1.

- Cost \$500.00 per person

-Pastor conference: Feb. 14—17, 2022 in Orlando FL Motion made by Dan Grupe, second by Rod Fischer, all voted in favor.

**Old Business:**

**-Parsonage remodel**

-cabinet above microwave and new microwave – is in and Dan G. will install

-Creaking Tub – Dan has been in contact with Barrett, wait until winter.

-Trim: Utility room – basement bathroom (including ceiling trim) and front door – Dan has been in contact with Barrett

-possibly putting electricity in the yard shed which is tabled until spring

-Pastor gave a list of repair items to Dan

-Upstairs utility room - need to replace a piece of ducting

**-Sanctuary Maintenance**

-Dan G. continues to try to contact Dion for electrical work

-Last four pews were delivered.

-Discussion on putting another step on altar to see the choir better.

**-Building Maintenance**

-Smoke detectors: We need to buy & fire department will install.

-Defibrillator pads—Need to get model #

-Thanksgiving Dinner: about 200 people attended

-Sunday School program on December 19, practice 9:00 a.m., service 10:00 a.m.

-Annual Meeting: January 16th , 10:15a.m., fellowship hall

-Communion Schedule: December: Lindsey, January: Craig Bass

**New Business**

-Custodial Duties and new hire: Extended offer to Amanda Pribenow at 11.75/hr, motion by Rod, second by Carrie, all in favor.

-Monetary Donation to the church: There was a large anonymous donation received. Of that donation \$2500.00 was donated to the Blessing Center. Motion by Craig, Second by Rod, all in favor.



**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Church Council Minutes continued  
December 12, 2021**

Other new business:

- Church Secretary: give Janell a raise to \$13.00/hr effective Jan. 1, with \$500.00 bonus.  
Motion by Rod, 2nd by Lindsey
- Motion by Lindsey and second by Carrie to change Organists pay from \$15.00 to \$50.00 per service with \$250.00 bonus and to give Dawn M. a \$500.00 bonus
- Motion by Rod to give Pastor \$1500.00 bonus. Second by Candy.
- Motion by Lindsey to give \$1,250.00 to Eastern Mission District, 2nd by Candy.
- Motion by Chuck to give \$500.00 to Abbott House, 2nd by Rod.
- Motion by Chuck to give \$500.00 to Lutheran Theology of Brookings. 2nd by Pastor.
- Rod made a motion of \$500.00 to St. Dysmas, 2nd by Lindsey

All motions passed unanimously.

Next Council Meeting: January 9th, 2022.

Motion made to adjourn by Craig and second by Lindsey, with all voting aye. Motion passed.  
Closed in Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Lindsey & Craig.  
Typed by Janell B.

*ALC*

*75th*

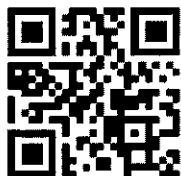
*Anniversary*

Booklets available at  
the church

Video is available on  
You-Tube

<http://youtu.be/JJ-RydZBOc> or use the

OR code



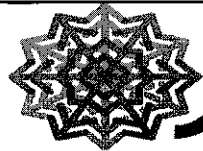
**BIBLICAL RESOLUTIONS**

- Hold firmly to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)
- Assemble with the saints (Hebrews 10:25)
- Pray and thank God earnestly (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18)
- Petition God for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)
- Yield not to temptation (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

- Notice opportunities to serve others (Galatians 6:10)
- Examine yourself daily (2 Corinthians 13:5)
- Work diligently for the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)

- Yearn for righteousness (Matthew 5:6)
- Exercise godliness (1 Timothy 4:7)
- Aim for sinless perfection (Hebrews 6:1)
- Redeem the time, living wisely (Ephesians 5:15-16)

Gus Nichols (adapted) Newsletternewsletter.com



# JANUARY 2022



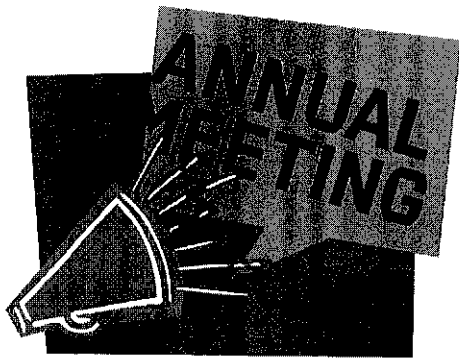
Barrett Wittnebel	1-02	Eric Aderhold	1-11
Gareth Hamen	1-04	Lacey Seversen	1-11
Jodi Hanson	1-04	Sherwin DeKam	1-12
Breanna DeKam	1-09	Rodney Fischer	1-14
Darren Greene	1-09	Bill Henrichsen	1-20
Collyns Ruml	1-10	Brody Bass	1-25
		Marcy Mack	1-28
		Alisha Nielsen	1-29
		Dennis Strait	1-30

Larry Dockter	1-02	Noah Wiersma	1-21
Vavalia Smith	1-06	Logan Ronne	1-24
Kendra Mack	1-11	Kendall Nielsen	1-27
Sara Nei	1-11	Kevin Pribbenow	1-27
Ernie Karst	1-12	Carna Miller	1-29
Haley Strait	1-12	Roxanne Bass	1-30
Erin Jankord Arbach	1-15	Celia Kenyon	1-30
Taylor Hanson	1-16	Kendra Nielsen	1-31
Roni Jankord	1-18	Ava Ruml	1-31
Landon Vetter	1-20		



*January ANNIVERSARIES*  
*Larry & Pat Dockter Jan. 24*

If there is a need for pastoral care please contact Pastor Tom Christenson at 605-793-2444.



**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 16, 2022**

**Meet in fellowship hall  
following worship service.**

Current Members of the Congregation Council and the year their term expires:

- Carrie Hendricksen (2022)
- Traci Bass \*(2022)
- Dan Davis \*(2022)
- Craig Bass (2022)
- Josh Nei (2023)
- Chuck Juntti (2023)
- Dan Grupe \*(2024)
- Rod Fischer \*(2024)
- Candy Gallisath \*(2024)
- Lindsey Vetter (2024)

Current Nominating Committee Members

- Dave Olson (2022)
- Doug Strait (2023)
- Jodi Hanson (2024)

Current Auditing Committee

- Doug Strait (2023)
- Sharon Hyde (2023)
- Dawn Wiersma 2024

• *denotes second term*

**Please have annual reports to the office by January 14, 2022.**

**Remember there is a  
CALENDAR on our website!**

**Go to:**

**americanlutheranchurch.com**  
If you have anything  
church related to add to  
the calendar, please  
contact Pastor Tom at  
**pastort1c@gmail.com**

**★ Thank You! ★  
★ THANK YOU! ★**

Thanks to Dawn Mickey for four  
years of faithful service as the cus-  
todian for American  
Lutheran. The Church Council  
has contracted with Amanda  
Pribbenow to be our new part-  
time custodian.



## American Lutheran Youth!

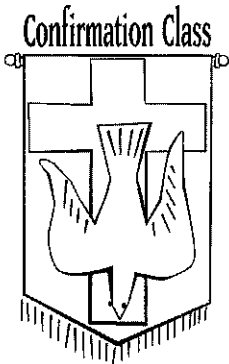
Grades 7-12 will meet at the church each 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 pm. January meetings are Jan. 5th and 19th.

**Summer 2022 Mission Trip is set for June 12-18!** This coming summer we will head to Colorado Springs, CO to partner with Next Step Ministries in their work in the inner city. Those currently in grades 7-12 are eligible to go. A **\$50 deposit** for each participant will be due at Youth Group on Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.



## Confirmation Ministry – Grades 7-9

**Continues on Wednesdays at 5:15-6:15 pm.** Please remember, if your son or daughter will not be in class for any reason, it is the parent's responsibility to contact Pastor Tom in advance to arrange for the make-up material.



### January Snack Families:

- 5th – Brody Bass
- 12th– Kylie Haight
- 19th– Drake Langenfeld
- 26th—Paul Everson

## Adult/Sr. High Bible Study – “The Incarnation”

Pastor Tom will be leading a 4 week study on the Incarnation, during the upcoming Epiphany season. This Bible Study series will help us to know “God with us” as we reflect on the following:

- January 12<sup>th</sup> – *The Presence of God*
- January 19<sup>th</sup> – *Why God Became Man*
- January 26<sup>th</sup> – *Why not an angel?*
- February 2<sup>nd</sup> – *Where the Lord may be found*

Materials are provided, so all you need to bring is your Bible, a writing utensil, and a heart that is ready to dig into God's word!

The study will be offered at the following times each week:

- 10:00 am at American Lutheran
- 2:00 pm at Castlewood Assisted Living (finishing Romans in January)
- 7:30 pm at American Lutheran

**American Lutheran Church Financial Report  
November 2021**

**General Account**

Balance on hand 11-1-2021			\$ 86,987.73
Receipts			
Offerings	\$	9,619.00	
Thrivent Choice	\$	37.00	
Confirmation	\$	-	
Ornaments (\$50 sales + \$100 returned to account)	\$	150.00	
Lowe's (Refund - Didn't install carpet)	\$	1,006.30	
Offerings from Thanksgiving Dinner	\$	1,556.00	\$ 12,368.30
Disbursements			
Thomas Christenson (Pastor Salary)	\$	4,326.68	
Thomas Christenson (Social Security)	\$	268.26	
Thomas Christenson (Housing Equity)	\$	200.00	
Retirement Plan Consultants	\$	432.67	
EBSO (Health Insurance)	\$	2,112.00	
Tristar Management (Ancillary Benefits)	\$	701.86	
Janell Bemis (Secretary - 28 hrs)	\$	303.83	
Dawn Mickey (Custodian - 20 hrs)	\$	217.02	
Roxanne Bass (Organist - 3 svcs)	\$	135.00	
Marsha Kurtenbach (Organist - 2 svcs)	\$	90.00	
NALC (benevolence)	\$	50.00	
City of Castlewood (Ch: \$60.00, Pars: \$81.93)	\$	141.93	
ITC (Church phone & internet & Parsonage Phone)	\$	124.61	
Northwestern (Ch: \$29.20, Pars: \$17.50)	\$	46.70	
Ottertail (Ch: \$165.21, Pars: \$87.49)	\$	252.70	
North Star Mutual Insurance Company	\$	297.75	
Office Peeps (Copier: \$67.16, Supplies: \$229.11)	\$	296.27	
Castlewood Corner Market (Thanksgiving Dinner)	\$	270.02	
Tables (Thanksgiving Dinner)	\$	1,532.63	
American Church (2022 Offering Envelopes)	\$	456.46	
Cash taken out (Change for ornament sales)	\$	100.00	\$ (12,356.39)
Balance on hand 11-30-2021			\$ 86,999.64
*** Confirmation Balance	\$	633.51	
*** Thrivent Choice Balance	\$	1,705.95	

**Building Account**

Balance on hand 11-1-2021			\$ 35,779.44
Receipts			
Offerings for Building Fund	\$	40.00	
Offerings for Carpet Fund	\$	-	\$ 40.00
Disbursements			
Brian's Glass & Door (Front Door repair)	\$	1,834.68	\$ (1,834.68)
Balance on hand 11-30-2021			\$ 33,984.76
*** New Carpet Fund Balance	\$	22,470.00	

**Mission Account**

Balance on hand 11-1-2021			\$ 3,494.92
Receipts			
Offerings for Mission Fund	\$	122.00	
Offerings for Blessing Center	\$	205.00	
Children's Offering	\$	54.05	\$ 381.05
Disbursements			
Castlewood Blessing Center (Nov. offerings)	\$	205.00	\$ (205.00)
Balance on hand 11-30-2021			\$ 3,670.97

**Memorial Account**

Balance on hand 11-1-2021			\$ 8,344.22
Receipts	\$	-	\$ -
Disbursements (Pheasantland Ind Pew Repair)	\$	-	\$ -
Balance on hand 11-30-2021			\$ 8,344.22

**Account Summary**

	Current	Change	Change
	Balance	November 2021	Year to Date
General Account	\$ 86,999.64	\$ 11.91	\$ (21,806.49)
Building Account	\$ 33,984.76	\$ (1,794.68)	\$ 6,445.60
Mission Account	\$ 3,670.97	\$ 176.05	\$ (1,524.75)
Memorial Account	\$ 8,344.22	\$ -	\$ (1,311.00)





## *The Servants of our Lord*

	<i>Organists</i>	<i>Scripture Lectors</i>	<i>Fellowship Servers</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Audio-Visual Technician</i>
Jan. 2	Roxanne Bass		Lorie & Russell Mack	Dan & Paula Grupe family	Chuck Juntti
Jan. 9	Marsha Kurtenbach			Landon & Lindsey Vetter family	
Jan. 16	Roxanne Bass			Rod & Joann Fischer	Doug Strait
Jan 23	Marsha Kurtenbach			Traci Bass Family	
Jan. 30	Marsha Kurtenbach			Travis & Melissa Prohl family	Rod Fischer

### Our Faithfulness in Giving

	<b>General</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Mission</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Blessing Ctr</b>	<b>Mission Trip</b>
<b>Nov. 28</b>	\$1,337.00	\$	\$14.00	\$9.00	\$3.00	
<b>Dec. 5</b>	\$2,162.00	\$10.00	\$270.75	\$15.75	\$25.00	
<b>Dec. 12</b>	\$2,090.00	\$13.00	\$124.72	\$19.72	\$85.00	\$20.00
<b>Dec. 19</b>	\$2,220.00	\$30.00	\$ 117.00	\$	\$	

#### **ALTAR GUILD**

**January: Kari Nolte &  
Janet Christenson**

**February : Vicki Strait & Kristy Borer**

Altar Guild takes care of the communion ware, change altar clothes, banners and fill oil candles when needed.

Thank you for your service.

Continuing to search for volunteers for the month of September.

#### **Sr. High/Adult Choir!**

Practices on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month in the fellowship hall and will generally be prepared to provide the anthem on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Worship.

Come and join us as we sing to  
God a new song!

*The American Lutheran Caller*

*P.O. Box 132*

*Castlewood, SD 57223*

*Address Service Requested*

**ANNUAL MEETING:**

**JANUARY 16, 2022**

**WATCH US ON YOUTUBE & ITC!**

*American Lutheran  
Church's  
Mission Statement*

The mission of American  
Lutheran Church is to

**welcome,  
worship,  
teach and  
serve**

In the name of Christ our Lord  
and Savior!



**2021 Church council members**

Dan Grupe, President  
Candy Galliseth, VP  
Rod Fischer, Treas.  
Craig Bass, Sec.  
Traci Bass  
Josh Nei  
Chuck Juntti  
Dan Davis  
Lindsey Vetter  
Carrie Hendersen