

# *St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church*

## *Newsletter*

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**Sunday Worship 9:00 & 10:30 am**  
**PRINTS of PEACE April 12 at 6:30 pm**

**April 2015**

**Prayer Around the Cross April 26 at 6:30 pm**

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Dear friends,

These last few weeks have been ones of intense preparation for Holy Week and Easter in our church.

We are getting ready to enter deeply into mystery and darkness, wondrous love and the brilliance of that place God brings us beyond our wildest hopes.

Outside, life begins to emerge impossibly from frozen soils and barren-looking trees.

This is a dramatic time of year inside and out. It compels our attention to the big issues of our lives and the one that haunts me at this time of year is cultivating the resilience of faith in the face of huge challenges.

What makes a person hang on to faith in the face of catastrophe – illness, loss of job, loss of a loved one, or broken relationships?

What keeps us faithful through grief and restores our hopefulness in the face of despair?

In the car, going back and forth to work, I have been listening to a lecture about *Men, Women and Shame* by Brene Brown. (You may have heard her TED talks on shame and vulnerability. In them she illuminates our daily struggles so well.)

She has researched her subject and developed a curriculum to help people cultivate shame resilience – that is, the ways we can stay open and loving in the face of abusive, shaming talk and events.

Her insights will help me when I talk with members about some of their situations and I am so grateful to learn.

But the topic has also sent me back to my ongoing study of what creates and maintains faith in people

young and old. It is a continuing goal to involve folks here at St Andrew's in all the ways we can foster deepening faith and "faith resilience."

In a few weeks we will confirm several eighth graders in their baptismal covenant. They have studied the bible and the catechism for three years and are learning to practice their faith as young adults in much the same way they will learn to drive and get a driver's license.

**The goal is to be able to keep growing and keep going in faith!** We don't know all they will face in this life, but we want so much for them to have the generous, gentle, and strong hearts that beat with compassion and goodness.

The goal is there for you too! I invite you to continue in your faith formation and witness. You help others worship when you come to worship. You help others learn to give by the ways you give to others. You model Christ knowingly (and quite unknowingly) as you live your faith in our congregation and community.

It is a never-ending process this side of heaven, **to practice our faith**, and sometimes it happens in times like Spring when everything is dramatic and extreme. The lovely Lutheran insight is that it doesn't depend on us to create faith – that's a free gift of God.

It only depends on us to go out and use it, take it out on the road, and see where we can go.

I hope you will bring your faithfulness, as you are able, to join us in the shadows and brilliance of Holy Week and Easter. May God bless you!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell

**NOISTY OFFERING** for March was over \$100, dedicated to the Oshkosh Area Humane Society. In addition, 113 cans of kitten food have already been collected! Thank you so much for your generosity!



## Notes & Meetings

All members are welcome.

### **Council Meeting**

Tuesday, April 14, at 7pm.

### **Education Committee**

Tuesday, April 7, at 7pm.

### **Technology Committee**

Monday, April 13, at 10 am

### **Christian Action Committee**

Sunday, April 19, at 11:30 am

We will be meeting directly after the 10:30 service to determine St. Andrew's mission projects for our community and the world. All members are encouraged to attend and bring ideas.

### **Property Committee**

Thursday, April 23, at 6:00 pm



### **St. Andrew's Men with Purpose (STAMP)**

#### **Breakfast –**

Meet at the Delta Restaurant 515 N Sawyer St  
**Saturday, Apr. 11, at 8am**

#### **Lunch –**

Meet at Jansen's Restaurant 344 Bowen St  
**Tuesday, Apr. 21, at noon**

### **L**utheran **A**dults for **F**un and **F**ellowship **Sunday, April 19, at 5pm**

LAFF Fellowship is back after the winter break! Join us on April 19 to meet new and old friends and enjoy the fellowship. Bring a dish to pass if you are able and bring your own tableware. All are invited!



### **Art & Soul**

#### **Please note date change this month!**

**Saturday, April 25, from 10:30 am – 4pm**

Art & Soul continues to meet once a month from 10:30 am – 4pm at St. Andrew's. Our scheduled day is the last Saturday of each month, but note there are some upcoming changes. We will meet on:

April 25  
May 23\*  
June 20\*  
July 18\*  
Aug. 29  
Sept. 26

\*alternate days

All are welcome, all abilities are welcome. We work on our own projects, as well as community projects.

Art & Soul's latest project is collecting peanut butter jars for the monkey enrichment program at the N.E.W. Zoo. Empty, but not washed, jars can be dropped off in the bin near the restrooms. We hope to expand this project and make enrichment toys for other animals, as well as for our local zoo this summer. Stay tuned!



Please see Brenda Francis or Candace Anderson for questions or to share ideas of what you would like us to do.

## **LOOKING FORWARD TO MAY**

### **Spring Clean Up – Sat, May 16, 8 am**

If you can rake flower beds, pick up branches, wash windows, or do any other cleaning duties, please join us in helping keep St. Andrew's looking good. You do not have to be an adult to join in these activities, as we have tasks for all ages! If you can't make the Saturday event and wish to help out during the week of May 10<sup>th</sup>, please call Gary Bruce @ 202-0547.

### **Egg Roll Sale – Sat, May 9**

The Hmong Congregation will again be having an egg roll sale. Help support their congregation and enjoy some egg rolls! Order yours soon!

### **Confirmation – Sun, May 17, 10:30 service**

**Our eighth grade confirmands will be confirmed on May 17. Plan to attend the 10:30 worship service and celebrate this milestone in their lives.**

## **Church Council Meeting Highlights**

Tuesday 10th February, 2015

**Present:** Pastor Karen Jewell, Jane Martinez, Jakob Iversen, Beth Moore, Chris Ziegler, Gary Bruce, Ann Stephan, Kristi Cutts, Peg Olson, Melissa Last, Michael Anderson, Jay Klinger

**Guests:** Jayne Lindsay

**Devotions:** Pastor Karen

### **New Council Member Orientation and Committee**

Selection: Jane Martinez summarized briefly the responsibilities of church council to the newly installed council members (Peg Olsen & Jay Klinger). Email addresses and phone numbers were assembled in a list, and will be sent to all council members for future use.

### **Installment of officers and committee chairs:**

Nominations and motions approved to elect the following council members as officers for this year: Jane Martinez, president; Jakob Iversen, vice president; Melissa Last, secretary. (Beth Moore continues as treasurer). Changes to committee chairs are as follows: Peg Olson, Worship & Music Committee; Jay Klinger, Evangelism. The council will continue to look for one additional member to join council and serve as the Education committee chair.

**Treasurer's report:** Motions were made and carried to accept the February financial reports.

### **Old Business:**

**Monthly Devotion Rotation:** Jane Martinez distributed a schedule for monthly devotions for the next council year.

**AED Training Reminder:** The dates that have been set for training of staff/volunteers/leaders: Feb. 11th @ 6:15 pm, Feb. 21st @ 9:00 am, Feb. 22nd @ 11:30 am.

**Vanco on-line giving:** Beth Moore and Pastor Karen will meet over the next month to get the registration for the online account.

**Phone System:** The technology committee will be meeting by the end of February to determine the best solution for the phone system and voice messages.

### **New Business:**

**Conference Assembly Report:** Jane Martinez, Pastor Karen, Melissa Last, and the two St. Andrew's representatives (Jayne Lindsay & Sandy Last) all attended the annual conference assembly. Melissa Last was elected conference secretary.

**Window Treatment for classrooms:** There is a glare on the TV screens in the Sunday school classrooms. Recommendations for the best way to cover the classroom windows will be back to council for action.

**Use of alcohol hand sanitizer:** The alcohol hand

sanitizer currently being used in the pews is removing the varnish from the hand rails and discoloring the fabric on the pew benches. Gary Bruce has requested that the sanitizer in the pews be removed until another option can be found. There will still be sanitizer in the front and rear of the sanctuary for general use.

### **Property Report (Gary Bruce):**

Need to add some blinds to help darken the Sunday School rooms. Interior décor committee to aid in this. Two trees will have to be removed on the south side for better sign visibility and the flat roof over the Narthex needs to be resealed. Both will be added to the budget. Will go with E.D. Chase quote of \$500 for the roof. Plan spring clean up around May 16<sup>th</sup>, with May being clean up month. Starting to plan on carpet / tile replacement of sanctuary. Will try other types of bulbs to see what their effect is when the 100 watt bulbs are no longer available. Will look into portable display boards to be used throughout the facility. Food and soda being left in rooms and not properly disposed of. Need to pick up after ourselves better. Next meeting February 26, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

### **Stewardship/Discipleship Report (Ann Stephan):**

Looking for help to distribute the remaining packets. The Time & Talent sheets are tabulated, and will distribute them to committee chairs.

### **Technology (Jakob Iversen):**

February newsletter posted on website - and emailed to council as test. The copier is networked and drivers installed on both office computers so they can print directly to the copier. Scan+email functionality is enabled on copier, and the backup system is installed. Received information about changing Church Windows from a desktop to web version. Cost will be \$250 setup, \$65 monthly (single login - additional login is extra \$50 for setup and \$45 monthly).

### **Youth Ministry Report (Patty Koplitz)**

This month we have started selling pizza. Pizza making will be March 14. We have 7 girls going to BYG. I led my first workshop at the Youth Workers Network Extravaganza. Thank you to you, for allowing me to go. In March, we are having a youth worker's retreat at Imago Dei Village. We will be receiving suicide prevention training.

### **Pastor's Report (Pastor Karen Jewell):**

**Church Office:** Executive Committee: we need to interview for secretary's position. We are still in transition for newsletter mailing/emailing. We have an extension until May 5<sup>th</sup> at current bulk mailing rates. We sent a **January/February edition of the newsletter** and **need feedback from congregational members regarding the best way to deliver news and information to them:**

by first class mail, by email, or through our website. We are trying in the office to make **all three options** readily available and efficient for our members.

**Lent begins Wednesday, February 18, (Ash Wednesday).** Please attend worship with us if you are able!

**Attended:**

Meeting with Bishop Mansholt and my text study group in Neenah, and the **Annual Conference Assembly** at Grace English Lutheran Church in Berlin. A special planning/discernment time with Bishop Mansholt and Director of Evangelical Ministry Jean Devoll-Donaldson followed. Jayne Lindsay, Sandy Last, Melissa Last, Jane Martinez and I all attended. Dirk Bjornstad, Andrea Koplitz, and I represented us at the **Lutheran Campus Ministry Annual Meeting** at All Saints Lutheran in Oshkosh.

**Upcoming:**

Saturday, **February 14<sup>th</sup>** Crossways Camping Ministries Annual Meeting at St Mark's in Neenah from 10:00 to 12 noon. (Jane Martinez and Ann Stephan attending as our delegates)

Tuesday, **February 17<sup>th</sup>** is next Election Day with St Andrew's as a polling place.

Fellowship with a group of our members who live at the **Carmel Apartments** at the Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh campus **February 24, 2015**

Confirmation Camp orientation for study leaders  
Tuesday, **March 3** at Imago Dei Village, Clintonville.

Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh Annual meeting, Monday, **March 9** at Bethel Home. (Marilyn Hughes and Helen Mueller voting members, Kathy Bellaire and I are on the LHO Board of Directors, Sharon Gallagher is on the Bethel Foundation Board of Directors.)

Oshkosh Conference Rostered colleagues meeting  
Tuesday, **March 10**, at **St Stephen's Lutheran Church, Rogersville**

**Devotion for Tuesday, 10 March, 2015: Kristi Cutts**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Ziegler, Council Secretary

**What is your preference for receiving**

**St. Andrew's News?**

Please let us know in the office (235-6616 or [office@standrewsoshkosh.org](mailto:office@standrewsoshkosh.org)) by **May 1** how you would like to receive the monthly newsletter:

1. Printed newsletter mailed to you monthly
2. Pick up your printed copy of the newsletter at church monthly
3. A newsletter sent to your email address as an attachment
4. Use the newsletter information provided on the website

Your choice will help us convey information to you

## Youth News

**YMT Presents: Pentecost Art Fair**

Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

St. Andrew's Fellowship Hall

St. Andrew's Youth Ministry Team has been doing art! Come and check it out. There will be "prayer" art, statement pieces, photography, note cards, furniture, and more for sale. Support YMT as we had out to Detroit for the National Youth Gathering.

**YMT--** The Youth Ministry Team is asking for your help. They would like to compile your favorite tried and true recipes into a St. Andrew's cookbook. They would sell the cookbooks as a fundraiser for their future endeavors. If there are any of your recipes that you would like to see in the cookbook, please place a copy of the recipe in Patty Koplitz's mailbox by **Sunday, April 19**. The staff mailboxes are located right outside of the kitchen. Thank you!



**Camp Spring Clean Up**

This is our regular camp service trip. But it will be different this year. I am looking for a family or parent to drive the kids to Imago Dei Village on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Spend the day cleaning and serving as needed. Anyone is welcome, but particularly kids from third grade to adults. I will be out of town and not able to participate and therefore need a volunteer to help! Contact me with any questions.

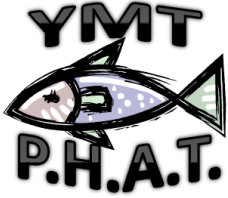
Patty Koplitz  
[pattykoplitz@gmail.com](mailto:pattykoplitz@gmail.com)

**2015 St. Andrew's Youth Sponsorship**  
Support the youth of St Andrew's Church

on their faith journey.

1100 East Murdock Avenue  
Oshkosh, WI 54901

You are cordially invited to sponsor the activities of the youth of St. Andrew's.



The youth of St Andrew's church have a tradition of supporting our local and global communities, raising funds for the heifer project and travelling around the country to

assist neighbors in need, while growing in their own faith. We hope to continue that tradition in 2014, and with your help we will!

The youth of St. Andrews is made up of the **Youth Ministry Team (YMT), Confirmation Classes, and Beginning Youth Group (BYG) of St. Andrew's Church.**

It is the mission of the **Youth Ministry Team (YMT)** to explore faith and life at St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church and in the larger Lutheran tradition. We learn to walk with each other as needed, during this often difficult time of adolescence and young adulthood even as we realize Christ is walking with us. We learn that where ever we are together, we are the church which is the Body of Christ. Youth entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade thru college age are invited to participate in YMT activities.

This year's YMT mission trip will be to the National Youth Gathering in Detroit Michigan. The trip is July 14 through 19 and we will have multiple opportunities to serve others, both in Detroit and a stop along the way. We will be learning about urban plight and restoration. We will be worshipping with 30,000 other youth and adults from across the nation, learning how great our God is!

**Confirmation Class (in 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades)** is a time to learn of our life in the Church, and how to relate to God in Jesus Christ. Youth learn what it means to be "Christian" and "Lutheran;" how to read Scripture, worship and pray; and how to live out our faith in the world around us.

The mission of **Beginning Youth Group (BYG)** is to offer the experiences that will build a solid group of children ready to move on to confirmation and YMT together in friendship and Christian faith. It is our hope that as a child becomes familiar with the St. Andrew's building, it becomes a safe place to come. Along with that, they might then feel comfortable and excited to worship where they will learn, serve others, and attend Confirmation among friends.

Together we can have a positive impact to those who need it most! Please give generously today!

On behalf of the youth of St. Andrew's Church,

Patty Koplitz  
Youth Leadership Facilitator

**These are some of the activities St. Andrews Youth lead and participate in during 2015:**

**National Youth Gathering (YMT Mission Trip in 2015)**

Every three years the ELCA National Youth Gathering draws tens of thousands of ELCA youth from around the country. The latest trip to New Orleans was in the words of one YMT member 'amazing and unforgettable'. **(Cost per traveler \$1,000.00)**

**Confirmation Camp** - Confirmation students attend this week-long camp as an important part of their spiritual journey before their final year of confirmation preparation. **(Cost per camper \$415.00)**

**Senior Youth Gathering (SYG)** An annual weekend for high school students arranged by the Synod Youth Board that helps the high schoolers strengthen their ties to the church. **(Cost per student \$130.00)**

**Lifest Tickets – (\$90.00/person)** - Lifest is the premier Christian music festival that takes place each year right here in Oshkosh. The YMT group spends the week listening to wonderful Christian music and motivational speakers. For many YMT members Lifest is the highlight of the year.

**Junior Youth Gathering (JYG) (\$90.00/person)**  
Confirmation-age students spend a weekend in an area hotel where they grow their faith and have awesome experiences with confirmation students from other area churches.

**BYG Lock-in (\$50 for food and supplies)**  
The YMT arranges a lock-in for the younger kids, complete with games, movies, and food.

**BYG SPAM gathering (\$25)**  
Once a month, the BYG kids are invited to attend Soda, Pizza, And Movie (SPAM) hosted by YMT.

**SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DONATION SLIP**

**I WOULD HELP LIKE TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH**

(see previous page for program information)

**Please check the amount you would like to donate:**

\$10  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$200  \$400  \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone  
Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to the church office. Make checks payable to:

**St Andrew's**, include YOUTH on the memo line.

Donated funds will be added to the Youth Fund which is used to support all the activities of the St. Andrew's Youth Program.

All donors will be lifted up in prayer and listed on the prayer board in the youth room.

*Thank you for your generosity!*



***HOLY WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S***

*Please know you and your friends and family are welcome!*

***PALM SUNDAY, Sunday, March 29***

*Worship at 9:00 am and 10:30 am*

***MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 2***

*Worship at 12 noon and 7 pm*

***GOOD FRIDAY, April 3***

*Worship at 12 noon and 7 pm*

***EASTER April 5***

*Easter Sunrise Worship at 7:00 am*

*Easter Breakfast from 8:00 to 9:30 am*

*Easter Festival Worship at 9:00 am and 10:30 am*