

St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Newsletter

Welcome to worship and life at St. Andrew's!

June 2015

Sunday Worship at 9:00 & 10:30 am

Dear friends,

Have you prayed through the Psalms? Even the longest one, Psalm 119? It is full of treasures!

Psalm 119:32-33

*I run the way of your commandments,
for you enlarge my understanding.
Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes
and I will observe it to the end.*

Summer usually means a change of pace and perhaps a little slower pace in some areas of life.

But here at St Andrew's so much is going on quietly, purposefully, and swiftly. We are running and finding such great gifts as we go!

Perhaps you may know that Sandy Last and Kay Procknow have been doing much more than holding down the fort in the church office – they have each taken on a special project to equip our church with needed tools and they are moving us into a much better place to serve the Lord and others!

Back in March the Executive committee realized we had to invest in more “people-time” in the Church office to get these projects going for us. So Kay Procknow began to prepare us for on-line giving and Sandy Last began the consolidation of our information into one church-friendly data base.

Of course, they haven't done it all alone, and there are many, many people who have helped and guided us, and come up with the technology, insights and courage to get us running this way.

I wanted you to know – because it is not our usual focus in the discussion of church life. But it is the background work and the unsung heroes who make possible all that IS visible in our life together.

We would not be able to worship most of the year without the heat and light of our physical plant. We rarely talk about these things unless we are deprived of them for some reason!

I would like to lift up all of our council members who often labor unnoticed and yet they make possible so much life and mission in our congregation and community!

Just lately it has been Jakob Iversen and the Technology committee, Gary Bruce and the Property Committee, Jane Martinez and the Executive Committee, who have all made these new projects and progress possible!

I would also like to lift up two transitions in our council – Chris Ziegler transitioned out of being our Council Secretary and Melissa Last assumed that position. Beth Moore is continuing to assist in working with our financial books, but Matt Moore is transitioning into the Treasurer's position.

Each of these people has done a really fine job that is mostly so quiet it goes unnoticed, but should not be “un-thanked!”

And this is just a little corner of all that YOU have done as servants of the Lord at St Andrew's Lutheran Church.

Dear friends and coworkers in the gospel of Jesus Christ – I am so grateful for you.

As we run through these days of sparkling summer that God gives us, may we remember God's gracious and loving hands – at work in you and so many around you – doing good and guiding us into the best life in Jesus' name!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell

St. Andrew's Council Meeting Highlights

April 14, 2015

Present- Jane Martinez, Chris Ziegler, Peg Olson, Jakob Iversen, Jay Klingler, Kristi Cutts, Pastor Karen Jewell, Gary Bruce, Melissa Last, Beth Moore, Ann Stephan

Excused- Michael Anderson

Devotions- Jakob Iversen

Financial Reports-

Motions were made and approved to accept the financial reports as presented.

Old Business

Board Membership (Education) - Jane Martinez will be calling a member to see if they are interested.

Taping of Sermons - Sandy Last is checking to see if it is possible to tape the sermons through the new organ and will bring information to the next Technology committee meeting.

Connie W. Internship- Internship will not be a possibility at this time, but Jane will see what we can do for support of seminary for Connie Weiss.

Community Garden- No one is in favor for having a citywide garden at this time.

Parking Lot Issues-Cars being parked in the lot, as well as litter. Pastor reported more issues when church doors are not properly shut. Just a reminder if anyone has an event at church to make sure that ALL doors (9) around the property are shut and locked. You can check the windows as well.

New Business

Office Position- The Executive committee offered 2 part-time positions for 90 days. Each employee will have some shared responsibilities and each would have one of the new projects (Windows and Vanco). At the end of 90 days the executive committee will relook at how the projects are going and how to move forward. We are also using some Thrivent funds to help offset the cost. Office hours are remaining the same- 8:00 to 12:00 Monday thru Friday.

Beth Moore is not able to continue the role of Treasurer at the end of her term. She is recommending the council think about adding a paid bookkeeper to handle the books and keep the treasurer to do checks/reporting to council.

New Member Mentoring/Welcoming - Jay and Chris will be working with Pastor to keep working on the new member mentoring program.

Committee Reports

Christian Action- The Noisy Offering for the Oshkosh Area Humane Society was \$167.08 (plus additional donations not yet tabulated) and 135 cans of wet kitty food were collected. A huge thank you to Arlene Shultis for organizing this effort! The April Noisy Offering will be collected on April 19th for our annual Synod Assembly offering to support start up congregations and the bishop's discretionary fund. An in-kind collection for Crossways Camping Ministries will be taken to Synod Assembly on May 15. The committee is scheduled to meet on Sunday, April 19th after the second service. All are welcome!

Education- Looking for a Chairperson.

Evangelism- Working on creating a letter to send out to new members. 2013-2015 list is getting compiled and sent to Jay. Hoping to have the first new member dinner in June.

Fellowship- A Fellowship meeting was had March 31st to discuss plans for 2015. Ushers, quarterly new member dinners, new member mentorships, and seasonal dinners were discussed. Thank you to as many of those that I can remember for assistance of the Easter Breakfast. Set up: Gary Bruce, Linda & Jeff Ellman, Ann Stephan & the Stephan children, Sandy Walth. Cooking and serving: Beth/Matt/Sam Moore, Jay/Adam/Lexi Klingler, Mark VanEperen, Sue Jansen, Marni/Katie/Rachel/Meghan Ziegler, Sharon Gallagher/ Linda/Jeff Ellman, Kyra Eierman, Tim/Amelia/Sarah Eierman. Thanks to all those that attended for making Easter morning such a joyous time.

Property- Blinds installed to help darken the Sunday School rooms. Two trees will have to be removed on the north side and the flat roof over the narthex needs to resealed. We are planning spring clean up May 16th. Starting to plan on carpet / tile replacement of sanctuary. We will look into portable display boards to be used throughout the facility. Money has been donated to replace the 3 windows on the west side of the courtyard. Mike Anderson discussed plans for a Labyrinth. We have parking lot issues with non member overnight parking. Quotes being sought to repaint the bathroom stalls and ceiling and for a new vacuum.

Request made to add some outside benches. Next meeting April 23, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

Stewardship- Thank you to Sandy Last and Pastor who reformatted the Time and Talent information and got it out to committees.

Technology- We have signed a contract with Time Warner to add voice mail to our agreement. With Kay Procknow started in the office, she will take Vanco on as one of her major duties. We hope to be signed up soon. Gary Bruce is working with Church Windows to move his Church Windows data to the web-based version. With access in the church office, we will be able to consolidate several databases of membership/directory information in Church Windows. Pastor has recorded several sermons, but it adds extra burdens on her during worship. Sandy has offered to start and stop the recording. Sandy will work to get files off and create media for shut-ins and website. We are down to one wireless receiver for hearing aid and will look into cost of ordering three more receivers.

Many people are signed up to receive the newsletter via email or pick up at church. We will stop mailing newsletter in May to those who have signed up for e-newsletter, as the postal rates will go up.

Newsletters are also posted on the website. A new laptop for treasurer has been purchased and setup with MS Office + Quickbooks, and an Email account - treasurer@standrewsoshkosh.org - to be used for official church business. We need to determine what electronic assets (documents, databases, lists etc) we have and how they are protected. We will be launching a web/social media committee. Next meeting: May 26 at 10:00 AM in the lounge

Worship and Music- Several assisting ministers met on February 21st. The committee proposed Tuesday, August 4 from 9am to 4 pm as a retreat for 2014-2015 planning. Prayer Around the Cross will be held in March and April, and a decision regarding 2015-16 will be made during the planning retreat. The Worship and Music Committee would like to thank the Property Committee for repairing the pews and kneelers and for everything they have done that enhanced the sanctuary for Christmas. We also want to thank the Technology Committee for all their work on the colorful Sunday bulletins, the e-newsletter, and the equipment for recording sermons.

Next meeting, Tuesday, May 20, 2015 – 7PM.

Youth- We made pizzas, and then had a photography shoot. The photos will be part of our

upcoming Pentecost Art sale. 3 boys and 2 girls went to the Beginning Youth Group camp.

Pastors Report: The Synod Assembly is May 15th and 16th. Peg Olson is taking Jayne Martinez's place as a voting member for the synod assembly. 3 students prepared for First Communion and 5 students are preparing for Confirmation on May 17th. Oshkosh Conference of Rostered Leaders met here for their monthly conference meeting. Pastor will be visiting her mother April 16 - April 22.

May's devotions: Jay Klinger

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Last, Council Secretary

A copy of the complete council minutes is posted on the bulletin board near the office.



June Happenings

Egg Roll Sale – Sat, June 13

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

Bible Studies at St Andrew's

Monday evenings in June from **7:15 to 8:45 pm**, join us in the Lounge for bible study. We will be reading First and Second Corinthians. Bring your favorite bible or use one of ours! All are welcome. **Please note: We will NOT be meeting on June 22.**

Wednesdays at noon in June we will be studying the Lord's Prayer with the help of Walt Wangerin's video. Please join us for a light lunch and study from **12 noon to 1:30 pm** in the Lounge. **Please note: We will NOT be meeting June 3 or 24.**



Fellowship

St. Andrew's Men with Purpose (STAMP)

Breakfast –

Meet at the Delta Restaurant, 515 N Sawyer St
Saturday, June 13, at 8 am

Lunch –

Meet at Jansen's Restaurant, 344 Bowen St.
Tuesday, June 16, at noon

Lutheran Adults for Fun and Fellowship

Lunch-

Meet at the Pizza Ranch Restaurant
1051 S. Washburn St.

Thursday, June 25, at 11:30 am

All are invited! Join us for lunch and great fellowship!

Art & Soul

Saturday, June 20, 10:30 am - 4 pm

Meet in the "Creation Station" off the Fellowship Hall.
All are welcome, all abilities are welcome. We work on our own projects, as well as community projects.



Notes & Meetings

All members are welcome.

Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 9, at 7 pm

Technology Committee

Tuesday, June 16, at 10 am

Property Committee

Thursday, June 25, at 6 pm

Christian Action Committee

Sunday, June 28, at 11:45 am

Worship and Music Committee

Tuesday, June 30, at 1 pm

Youth News

YMT Art Show

Come and see beautiful pieces created by the youth, for you! Items will be available for purchase throughout June. You will be able to special order images for prints to frame and hang, as well as order blank note cards with images. All money earned will be used to help send our youth to the National Youth Gathering in Detroit this July.

Summer Music

Are you interested in sharing your musical talents? Can't volunteer on a weekly basis? Now is your chance!

If you would like to share your musical gift at a summer worship service, please see the Sign Up Sheet on the bulletin board outside the office. When doing so, please do so at least 2 weeks in advance if you need to be accompanied, so that there is ample time for preparation and practice. Thank you!



Thank you!



A Heartfelt Thank You

Thanks so much to all the congregation members who helped during the spring clean-up day on Saturday, May 16. Members of **all** ages were so very generous to give their time and effort to benefit our lovely church and grounds. So much work was accomplished inside and out. Please look around and see the fruits of their labors. We can't thank them enough for all their help!

Calling All Green Thumbs

The Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW-Oshkosh is gearing up for its annual plant giveaway for incoming freshmen students this fall. Please consider planting some easy-to-grow houseplants this summer and have them ready by the end of August. For questions, contact Connie at 231-1168, or connie@lcmosh.org. Help them minister in a welcoming way!



Church Staff

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Youth Director – Patty Koplitz Phone: (920) 420-5616
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Choir Director – Brenda Francis

Organist – Sandy Last

Caretaker – Pat Coates