



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church *Newsletter*

Welcome to worship and life at St. Andrew's!
Sunday Worship at 9:00 & 10:30 am

April 2017
Holy Week & Easter Sunday → April 9 through April 16!

Dear friends,

In Spring we are not only swept up into gusty winds, snowy rainstorms, glistening skies, and new shoots breaking out of wintry earth, but we are witnesses and participants in so many milestones in the lives of folks in our community.

Last week we baptized a tiny child, just a few weeks old. I had the joy of baptizing him and marking a cross with olive oil on his forehead. We promised at his baptism to pray for Samuel and through infancy our congregation offers support for his tender faith with SPLASH and at 3 years old with a welcome into Sunday School.

In May, we will confirm several delightful Eighth grade confirmation students into adult membership in our congregation. They will have completed three years of study of the bible, Luther's Small Catechism, and how to apply their faith to their lives in service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On April 1, a friend of our congregation, Connie Weiss, will be ordained to pastoral ministry. Our congregation has been part of her long years of studies and practice to arrive at this day. She will be recognized by our bishop and our larger community and called into service at Christ Lutheran and Lutheran Campus Ministry here in Oshkosh.

At each of these events we are asked if we will pray for the people in these new lives that God gives.

It isn't easy to grow up faithfully – we will pray for Samuel.

It isn't easy to navigate the adult world faithfully – we will pray for our confirmands.

It isn't easy to partner in mission with a congregation and a campus ministry and the larger community – we will pray for Connie.

And what will we pray? May I share my prayers with you?

I pray that Samuel will come to know the death-shattering power of the cross marked on his forehead, so that he grows into his mature humanity with the strength that undergirds his gentleness and forgiveness towards those God gives him to love.

I pray that our confirmation students will hear the voice of Jesus guiding them through the storms and challenges of teen years into callings that fulfill each one in their God-given gifts and make God smile with delight, and each one of them smile in happy recognition of God's love.

I pray that Connie will bear the yoke of Christ – symbolized in the stole that she will wear as she goes forward from her ordination – bear the yoke with the humbleness of Jesus' Spirit.

I pray for her to know the confidence of his call so that she may offer the encouragement of the Word, the bathing of Baptism, and the meal of Grace to renew and sustain her community – as God empowers the people of Christ Lutheran and the students at Lutheran Campus Ministry to care for their neighbors in Jesus' name.

And in my prayers, I give deep thanks for you. You are partners in a mission that thrills us (and sometimes scares us!) and calls us into new ways of service – such as Feeding the Children in August, and finding new ways to invite and welcome our neighbors into the love of God.

I hope and pray that in this Lent and Easter season you will find peace in Jesus Christ, hope in his Word, and joy in his service.

May this time bring a renewal of our faith that we may go forward in confidence into the adventures God sends to bless us in Jesus' name.

Pastor Karen Jewell

Highlights of Church Council Meeting Tuesday March 14, 2017

Present: Pastor Karen, Jane Martinez, Jay Klinger, Matt Moore, Chris Ziegler, Warren Luce, Peg Olson, Rose Rivera, Jakob Iversen, Ann Stephan, Linda Ellman, Jackie Kuhn

Treasurer's report: Matt Moore presented the February financial statements. Motions passed to approve treasurer's reports.

Old Business:

Update Security Codes: Matt Moore reviewed the security pass codes for existing council members, and asked for pin codes for any members that do not already have one. He will get them entered into the system.

Building Remodeling Update: Warren reported that Corey Wallace will be giving him details on possible options in April, and a refined presentation will be brought to the council during the May meeting.

Bike Rack: Jane Martinez asked Warren, and it was decided to table the discussion until the May meeting.

Social Media Policy: The policy will be reviewed and revised at the Technology meeting on Wed. 22nd March.

New Business:

Oshkosh Conference report: Greg Egner submitted his report to the council from the Oshkosh Conference meeting held in Ripon on February 16th. Elections were held, and they are looking to the upcoming Synod Conference to be held at Prince of Peace in Appleton.

Blanket Fund: Motion passed to establish a blanket fund and accept the donation already received towards that mission project.

Christian Action Report (Jackie Kuhn):

The committee met on 3/7/17. The following topics were discussed:

- a) Need for Synod Assembly collection – tape, light bulbs (need to get list from Pastor)
- b) Noisy Offering schedule for 2017
- c) Feeding the Children menu

The bulk of the discussion was focused on moving the new Feed My Children effort forward. Sign up forms for assisting with Feeding the Children have

been placed in the Narthex along with a wishing tree with specific ideas for donations. Feed My Children will take place July 31 – Sept.1. The menu has been created for the five weeks. Donations are already around \$1600 of our \$3500 goal. Praise the Lord!

Feed My Children trial meal will be held on March 22, 2017, at 6 PM. The menu will have a taco theme.

Those interested in serving on the committee or getting involved with the Feeding the Children effort can contact Carol Spiegelberg for more information.

Christian Action Committee will meet again on April 4, at 6PM. Feel free to join us at any of our meetings which take place on the first Tuesday of the month at St. Andrew's at 6 PM.

Congregational Life (Rose Rivera):

No Report

Education (Linda Ellman):

No Report

Evangelism (Jay Klinger):

No Report

Fellowship/Hospitality Report (Chris Ziegler):

No Report

Property Report (Warren Luce):

There will be a Property Committee meeting on Mar. 23 @ 6:00 pm. Corey Wallace will present some initial plans for remodeling and ADA accessibility. Spring Clean-up will be Saturday May 25th Starting at 9:00 am

Stewardship/Discipleship Report (Ann Stephan):

No Report

Technology (Jakob Iversen):

Computer for secretaries has arrived, but still needs to be set up. We rescheduled the technology committee meeting to March 20 at 9:00.

Worship & Music (Peg Olson):

Discussion of upcoming expenses and issues with new microphone for assisting ministers. Pastor Karen will check the microphone.

Pastor Karen discussed Lent and Easter plans. Eco Palms will arrive the week before Palm Sunday. We discussed possible ways to include children in services.

Pastor Karen asked for feedback on the new Lenten liturgy. Setting Four will be used on Easter Sunday.

An assisting minister meeting will be held Tuesday, March 21, at 7 pm. Agenda to include scheduling, liturgy (& practice for).

Prints of Peace was held February 17.

Motion made and approved to purchase a new wireless microphone for the worship assistant for \$125 with the money to come from the Memorial Fund.

Next meeting: Monday, April 3, 4 pm in the choir room.

President's Report (Jane Martinez):

The Executive Committee met on March 9th and reviewed the Organist's and Custodian job descriptions. These were approved. We then reviewed the different contracts for the Office Staff, Organist and Choir Director. To assure consistency the contracts will be rewritten with similar verbiage. Jane will be drafting these contracts and will present them at the next Executive meeting on March 29th. The Choir Director and Youth Director job descriptions will be reviewed at that meeting.

Several people have inquired about the next safety/AED inservices. Jane and her husband are planning these for in May. Dates have not been arranged yet.

Pastor's Report (Pastor Karen Jewell):

Membership:

Still compiling a list of members who are not currently active, to place on our Responsibility List, i.e., people we hope to encourage to become active again in their faith life with us or with some other congregation.

Continuing Education:

Saturday, **February 25**, attended the fourth ***Building Bridges Synod Event***, discussed the missional directions of "feeding and equipping leaders, listening deeply to others, building bridges across the difference that divide us, and collaborating with partners in ministry." Thursday, **March 9**, attended final session on of the ***Faith Leaders Mental Health Integration Class*** offered by Samaritan Counseling and NAMI Fox

Valley. Our class concluded with an offer to create clusters of 6-8 congregations each in the Fox Valley to provide training within congregations, greater support services, and even case management for families with mental health challenges. On Thursday, **May 18**, I will attend their half day class on ***Mental Health in Older Adults*** at the Grand Meridian in Appleton.

On this Saturday, **March 18**, I will be attending the Synod's ***EPIC (Equipping People in Congregations)*** event at Prince of Peace, Appleton.

On Thursday, **May 18**, I will attend the pre-Synod Assembly event with our other two voting members, Pam Nemmetz and Brenda Francis. But all are welcome to take part in "***We are Lutheran: What does this mean?***" presented by Martin Lohrmann at the KI Center.

Community: Thursday, **Feb 16:** Oshkosh Conference Assembly we were represented by Greg Egner and Annette Resop.

Sunday, **February 26**, at Christ Lutheran I attended the Annual meeting for Lutheran Campus Ministry of UWO.

Saturday, **March 4**, at St Mark's in Neenah, Rose Rivera, Patty Koplitz and Ann Stephan attended the Crossways Camping Ministry Annual Meeting.

Monday, **March 13**, at the Marcus Cinema, Peg Olson, Brenda Francis, and I were voting members attending the Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh Annual meeting along with our members Sharon Gallagher, Kathy Bellaire and Marilyn Hughes. LHO revealed their new brand: *Miravida Living*.

Lenten Round Robin for Wednesday worship in Lent continues – still to come are visits by Pastor Connie Weiss from Christ Lutheran (**March 15**) and Pastor Jan Veseth (**March 29**) from Our Savior's Lutheran.

On Saturday, **April 1**, I get to take part in the ordination of Connie Weiss to the ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Synod Assembly for the East Central Synod of WI will be Friday and Saturday, **May 19 & 20**.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Ziegler, Council Secretary

A complete set of Council Meeting Minutes is available on the Narthex bulletin board.

Worship Schedule in Holy Week

Sunday, April 9th is Palm Sunday,
Palm Procession at 9:00 and 10:30 am



Holy Week
& Easter

Thursday, April 13th is Maundy Thursday,
Holy Communion 12 noon and 7:00 pm.

Friday, April 14th is Good Friday,
Worship at 12 noon and 7:00 pm

Sunday, April 16 is Easter Sunday!!!
Worship at 7:00 am
Easter Breakfast from 8:00 to 9:30 am
Festival Easter worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am

Come and worship!
You are most welcome!



Easter Breakfast!
Sunday, April 16 from 8:00 to
9:30 am

This is one of our favorite
fellowship times all year!

Member families cook all your favorite
breakfast foods, serve you before and after
Easter worship and we have the chance to
catch up with one another once again.

Would you like to help? Contact Chris Ziegler
ctiegle1@new.rr.com or call (920) 235-5194.

It's Easter Bonnet Time!



Irene Snyder has graciously
agreed to share her beautiful hats
with the women of St. Andrew's.
She will have her hats available in
between services in the lounge on

Palm Sunday, April 9th. You may try them on and
pick one out to wear on Easter Sunday. All she asks
is for a free will offering that she is using to support
the youth group. Then put on your Easter finest and
wear your beautiful hat! Bring the hats back at your
convenience. Thank you to Irene for her generosity.



Preparation for Holy Communion

Sunday, April 2, 2017

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Come learn the biblical stories of the
Passover and the Last Supper, learn from
the Small Catechism about the sacrament
and its meaning, and make flat bread that we will use in
worship on Maundy Thursday. Wear clothes to bake in
and learn about Lutheran practices and those in different
Christian traditions!

*Call Pastor Karen for more information! We encourage
parents/mentors to attend! (235-6616)*

Noisy Offering

The **April 16** Noisy Offering is designated
for the [Oshkosh Area Community Pantry](#), a
collaborative community food pantry.

Thanks to all who donated to the March
Noisy Offering. The World Relief Fox Valley
helping refugees received \$177.25.
Thank you for your generosity!



Lent 2017: Return to God

In Lent God invites us to come
home. Our lives are stripped down
to basics – that we are God's own
children – so that we may be
renewed in God's Son Jesus Christ.
2017 promises new adventures in
faith for us!

If you wish to financially support the mission and
ministry of St Andrew's Lutheran Church, you may
offer your gift in cash, by check, or electronically, if
that is best for you! For smart phones here is the
short URL: <http://bit.do/stagiving> or the QR Code:



Or you may go to standrewsoshkosh.org. You
choose how your funds are given, with what
frequency and method of donation. Your prayers,
your faithful hands, and your financial gifts make a
difference! Thank you for your partnership in the
gospel of Jesus Christ.

Feeding the Children in August 2017

St. Andrew's Christian Action committee members are actively inviting the Oshkosh community to



help us provide lunches for our neighborhood children this August, when school lunch sites are shut down between the end of summer school in July and the beginning of school in September.

A number of businesses and individuals in Oshkosh beyond our membership have already responded with help. We will create a "Wall of Thanks" so that you can see all the wonderful support from our larger community!

If you would like to help, there is a "Giving Tree" in the hallway with suggested items that will help us provide lunches each weekday from July 31 to September 1. Please feel free to ask questions – call the office (920) 235-661 or speak with Carol Spiegelberg, who is doing such a great job of coordinating us! Thank you.

Youth News

For more information on any of the following events, please contact Patty Koplitz at pattykoplitz@gmail.com or 920-420-5616.

BYG (Beginning Youth Group)

SPAM - Soda, Pizza, and A Movie
Friday, April 28, 6 - 9 pm



Second graders through high school students are invited to join us for soda, pizza and a movie night! Come and see what the fun is all about!

YMT (Youth Ministry Team)

Lock -In

Fri. April 7, 6 pm - Sat. April 8, 7 am



The Youth Ministry Team is having a lock-in. Bring your sleeping bag and a snack to

share while spending the night at church locked in. Be ready for some fun, faith forming activities!

Summer Mission Trip

August 6 - 12

The summer trip has changed! We are going to Urban Immersion in Minneapolis. This is a service based trip and we will be learning about poverty and homelessness. For more information contact Patty Koplitz. If interested in going, a deposit of \$150 is due to Patty by April 10.



St. Andrew's Men with a Purpose (STAMP)

Breakfast

Meet at Delta Restaurant, 515 N Sawyer St
Saturday, April 8, at 8:00 am

Lunch

Meet at Primo Restaurant, 2605 Jackson St.
Tuesday, April 18, at noon

Art & Soul

Saturday, April 22, 10:30 am – 4 pm

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

Committee Meetings

All members welcome!

Worship & Music Committee

Monday, April 3, at 4 pm

Christian Action Committee

Tuesday, April 4, at 6 pm

Technology Committee

Tuesday, April 18 at 12 noon

Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 11, at 7 pm

Property Committee

Thursday, April 20, at 6 pm

