



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Newsletter

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

August 2017
Feed Our Children 11 am to 1 pm, Monday through Friday

Dear friends,

I attended a continuing education class called **Rethinking Church** for church leaders at Luther Seminary in St Paul, MN, in the end of July.

This is my "first impressions" report to you. I feel I have so much to process – I need to delve deeper into all that was presented. I want our church to thrive and I think these classes hold priceless insights for us.

But please – hang on to your pew – here we go!

It was good, but also, hard to hear the different presentations. They were designed to help us adapt our congregations to changes in our faith-life demanded by the challenges of the 21st century.

One fact that immediately caught my attention was that when we are faced with a change or die situation roughly 90% of us DON'T change! (This is according to a study by Alan Deutschman.)

What? 90% won't change to survive? That makes no sense, does it? But it is confirmed by the data of studies of people confronted with ultimate choices in their health!

And the basic motivators of fear, facts, and force won't change that statistic! (Fear brings temporary change but a quick return to the old ways, and facts and force simply don't work!)

So what motivates the 10% who do change to survive? Deutschman offers three practices that help us change in the face of ultimate threat: Relate, Repeat, and Reframe.

Tod Bolsinger (our keynote presenter) used the story of the Lewis and Clark expedition to illustrate the process of adaptive change that depends upon relating, repeating, and reframing what we do.

He told us about how Lewis and Clark were charged with the mission of finding a water route to the Pacific that could be the vital trade route for the new American nation.

They were canoeing the waters and searching the rivers for the key passage across the West.

They did amazing feats of survival and exploration, even canoeing stretches of river that the Native Americans would not canoe themselves.

But when they reached the headwaters of the Missouri River they expected the headwaters of the Columbia River (leading to the Pacific Ocean) to be just over a pass in the mountains.

When they got to the top of the pass they looked out over 300 miles of Rocky Mountains that they had to cross to get where the headwaters would be!

No more canoes, they had to be abandoned! And they had to find horses, and they needed guidance and permission from Native Americans living there to pass through their territory.

In short, they needed to **relate** to the local people, **reframe** their mode of travel, and **repeat** the process over and over to survive. A key to their survival was the least likely person – a nursing teenage mother, Sacagawea, who helped interpret, negotiate, and procure the help they desperately needed.

Interested in more? Please read Tod Bolsinger's *Canoeing the Mountains* and please talk it over with me!

Meanwhile, may God guide us in the mission that God means for us to do (knowing that God's plan is ALWAYS for GOOD), as we faithfully follow our Lord Jesus Christ into the next months and years.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Karen Jewell

Highlights of Church Council Meeting

Tuesday July 11th, 2017

Present: Jane Martinez, Jay Klinger, Chris Ziegler, Matt Moore, Rose Rivera, Peg Olson, Jakob Iversen, Ann Stephan, Pastor Karen Jewell

Excused: Linda Ellman, Warren Luce, Jackie Kuhn

Treasurer's report: Matt Moore presented the June bills paid and year to date financial reports. Motions made and approved to approve the June bills paid and the treasurer's reports.

Old Business:

Building Remodeling Update: The results of the building and communication survey were tallied and the information has been sent out to the council members. The focus group volunteers will be contacted so that the group can set up a meeting to discuss how they will proceed in the future.

Abel Scholarship: Peg Olson has been in communication with the UW-O Foundation regarding the award and distribution of the Abel Scholarship money. With the ever increasing cost of tuition, books, and other associated schooling costs, it was suggested that we increase the scholarship award from \$500 to \$1,000. Motion made and approved to award a \$1,000 Able scholarship to the UW-O foundation with the award being \$500 each semester of the academic year after successful registration has occurred.

Feed the Children Update: A special thanks was given to Carol Spiegelberg for all of the time and effort that she has put into the implementation of the Feed The Children Program. To date, over \$6,000 of donations have been raised, which exceeds the initial goal that was set. The support of the entire community has been amazing. First aid training and safety procedures have been discussed in preparation of the start of the Feed the Children program.

Free Little Library: Ethan Cutts has begun the planning, designing, and building of his Eagle Scout Project of placing Free Little Libraries at St. Andrews Church, Webster Stanley School, and one or two other visible and accessible locations in the surrounding neighborhoods.

New Business:

Custodial Job Responsibilities: With the increase in use of the church for things like Feed The Children, Neighborhood group meetings, Weddings/Funerals, etc., it was decided to explore the cost associated of hiring a part time cleaning agency to help clean the church after special events so that the church is clean and the kitchen/bathrooms are stocked. Property will do some investigating into the duties that would need to be performed after special events, and the estimation of time it would take to perform those tasks. Property could then solicit bids for the cleaning.

Counting Volunteers: Chris reported that there are three people that have been removed from the counting teams and he is looking for volunteers to fill those empty spots. Rose Rivera and Peg Olson volunteered to fill two of the positions. He will look for one more person to fill the last empty spot. Please contact Chris if you would like to volunteer.

Christian Action Report (Jackie Kuhn):

Feeding the Children: Final preparations are being made to kick off the program at the beginning of next month.

Congregational Life (Rose Rivera): No Report

Education (Linda Ellman): No Report

Evangelism (Jay Klinger):

There will be a meeting Wednesday August 16th at 7:00 pm to talk about organizing a Trunk-O-Ween event at St Andrew's for the neighborhood families. Details will follow after the meeting.

Fellowship/Hospitality Report (Chris Ziegler):

The volunteer schedule is done and distributed, through the end of September. There are some open spots on the counting teams that will be filled and then the revised schedule will be re-sent.

Property Report (Warren Luce): No Report

Stewardship/Discipleship Report (Ann Stephan):

The Christ Child Society will have a table set up just outside the Fellowship hall to sell raffle tickets on Sunday September 3rd & September 10th.

Technology (Jakob Iversen):

The survey results have been recorded and distributed to the church council for review.

Next meeting will be July 24th @ 10:00 am

Worship & Music (Peg Olson):

July 9 joint service, picnic supper: Would like to do this again next year, gathering with other churches for vespers & picnic

Continuing Education: Brenda Francis is attending Joy of Worship workshop July 24th and then Augsburg choral workshop July 30th and 31st.

Reformation celebration: Reformation celebration is not just a one-time occurrence – generated many ideas to keep lifting it up through the year - once a month (2nd Sunday of month) include reformation enrichment. Offer Reformation Book Fair one more time in autumn 2017

Bless the Pets Service – August 27 at 10:30 am in courtyard

Abel Scholarship – hoping to schedule recipient to offer music this autumn.

Next meeting: August 8 at 4 pm.

President's Report (Jane Martinez): No Report

Pastor's Report (Pastor Karen Jewell):

Thursday, June 15, met with Steve Last and Ethan Cutts about Ethan's Eagle Scout project. Great ideas! Friday, June 16, met with Greg Herlihy and his associate from Thrivent - several good suggestions for programs for members, mostly in Stewardship and Financial education. Confirmation camp --great experience at Crossways camp at Pine Lake June 18 to 23.

Wednesday, July 5, met with Chaplain Monte Smith of LSS Homme Home (Wittenberg, WI) -he has a great suggestion for a youth to youth mission - our youth invited to make Welcome bags for incoming youth.

One wedding and four funerals interspersed with the normal congregational life plus prep for Feed Our Children in August. Deep thanks to Carol Spiegelberg and her crew preparing for Feed Our Children mission.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to July 9 vespers & picnic with our sister congregations!

Monday, July 10, met with Property, Feed Our Children, and council members along with Officer Joe Nichols of the Oshkosh Police Department – very helpful discussion of safety, security and neighborhood outreach. Officer Nichols offered to bring a training video to help us be prepared for an active threat.

Upcoming July 25 – visit Homme Home in Wittenberg meeting with Chaplain Monte Smith

July 26 to 28 (Wed to Friday) Luther Seminary “Rethinking the Church” conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Ziegler
Council Secretary

A complete set of minutes is available on the narthex bulletin board.

Survey Results

submitted by Jakob Iversen

This spring, the technology and property committees conducted a survey of members of the congregation. We wish to thank everyone who took the time to help us understand your preferences and opinions about how we communicate with the congregation, and how we develop the physical space at St. Andrew's. We had 59 people respond to the survey. Here are some of the most significant results from the survey:

For the four options presented for renovation here is the average score for each one on a scale from 1-5, (with 5 being very important and 1 not important at all):

- 4.05 ADA/handicap restroom
- 3.91 Enlarged kitchen area
- 3.82 Covered carport entrance
- 3.43 Nurse/cry room
- 3.12 Welcome area near sanctuary

Of those who responded, 64% preferred the renovation projects to be done in phases as opposed to a single capital improvement project.

With regards to the communication questions, we discovered that the recent strides made to communicate more fully with the congregation have not gone unnoticed. While some respondents found all modes of communication important, the three communication modes that most people found very important were The Net, Newsletter (email), and Newsletter (print). The mode of communication that had most people say they don't use it at all was Facebook. Perhaps you should check it out – there's a lot of timely and interesting content there!

By far the most popular way to be reached with communication from St. Andrew's was by email, chosen by 87% of respondents as a good way to reach them. 35% chose text message, and 33% US Postal service.

The most popular topics for communication were special events (96%), information from various groups (such as YMT, Bible Study, STAMP, etc.) (67%), information about who is doing what on Sundays (61%), and worship times (53%).

We also asked about convenient ways to provide financial support to St. Andrew's. Giving by check is clearly still very convenient to most of the congregation (73%), but online giving is growing in popularity with 40% of respondents indicating it is very convenient for them to give online.

The detailed results have been shared with Council. If you would like more details, please contact the office for a copy of the detailed results.



Hospital Visits

If you or your loved one is in the hospital or planning for a surgery and would like a visit from Pastor Karen, please let us know! Feel free to call the office at (920) 235-6616, and remember to let us know which hospital. Pastor Karen is happy to visit you, bringing prayer and communion, if you wish.

Communion Visits

Please feel free to call the office to ask for a communion visit. (920) 235-6616. Pastor Karen is happy to bring communion to you!



Trunk-o-Ween Planning Meeting

Wednesday August 16, 7 pm



We are inviting all that would like to participate in the planning and participation of a Trunk-o-Ween Party (Halloween type party). Decorated vehicles, candy and games in the St. Andrew's parking lot in October 2017!



Help Needed with Sunday School

Love working with children? Love sharing your knowledge? We are in

need of Sunday School teachers as well as a Sunday School director. Our former Sunday School director, Michele Hawley, is happy to help you pick up the threads of this ministry! Please feel free to contact the Church Office or Pastor Karen for more information! Call (920) 235-6616.

Sunday School Registration

Sunday School begins with a day for all generations to work together – God's Work Our Hands on Sunday September 10. There will be mission activities for every age and we would be delighted to have your family involved.



We plan to begin Sunday School classes on the following Sunday, September 17, and we are including a Sunday School registration form with this newsletter. It will also be available on the website and at church.



Confirmation begins

Orientation Wednesday, September 6
6:00 to 7:30 pm.

Parents and students 6th, 7th, and 8th grade – please plan to attend orientation together.

Classes begin Wednesday, September 13!
See you there!



**God's work.
Our hands.**

Sept. 10, 2017

You can be involved! Please note:

- Chili Cook-Off teams needed. Please begin to assemble teams for our chili cookoff which will be held on 9/10/17 at 10:00 am. Contact Jacki Kuhn or Carol Spiegelberg if you intend to participate.
- After the chili cookoff, mission projects will begin. A picnic will be held after the second worship concludes (about 11:30 am) on Sept. 10. Hot dogs and ice cream will be provided. If you would like, you may add chips or a salad to pass for the meal. Please plan to attend!
- A Penny War is being held for Lutheran World Relief. Pick up a piggy bank (pigs or barns) in the narthex hallway if you wish. Bring your offering and put it in jars choosing where our joint offering should go. You may choose to "purchase" lams, pigs, chickens, or cows for those in need. Which animal is going to be the most desired/helpful??
- We will be collecting hygiene items for our local Helping Hutch and the Warming Shelter. A box for donations can be found near the Fellowship Hall doors. Thank you!

Noisy Offering



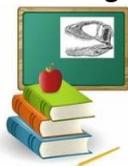
The August 20 Noisy Offering is designated for Covered in Hope, a blanket ministry for children in crisis. Blankets will be made here at St. Andrew's and donated to area organizations for the children. Thank you for considering this mission!

Last month's noisy offering of \$133.21 was designated for [Lutheran World Relief](#) school kits. Kits with basic school supplies are assembled and are given to children who would not be allowed the opportunity of an education because of lack of funds to purchase needed items. Thanks so much for your generosity!

Oshkosh Back to School Fair 2017

(& our Christmas in July Tree in entryway)

The Back to School Fair takes place on **August 17, 2017** at Oshkosh North High School, 1100 West Smith St. Oshkosh. It helps 1,000+ area students get ready to go back to school with school supplies, clothing, haircuts, and hygiene items.



 St Andrew's Christmas tree in our entryway is loaded with tags to suggest needed items that we can collect and provide to support this community effort. Thank you for taking part! The items can be left at the tree, (unwrapped) and will be collected through Sunday, August 13, before the Fair.

Calling All Green Thumbs!

Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW-Oshkosh is gearing up for their 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 beginning of September. Label the plant with name, church, address and deliver to The Gathering Place, 231-1168.



Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Given to children living in refugee camps and other situations where they would not otherwise be able to attend school. You help children have a better future!



Each Kit contains:

- 4 70-sheet notebooks** (wide or college ruled) (no loose-leaf paper)
- 1 30-centimeter ruler**, or a ruler with inches on one side and centimeters on the other.
- 1 pencil sharpener**
- 1 pair blunt scissors**
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils** with erasers: secured together with a rubber band.
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens** (no gel ink); secured together with a rubber band.
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons**
- 1 2 ½" eraser**
- 1 sturdy drawstring bag**, cloth, backpack style, approx. 14" x 17" with shoulder straps (but no standard backpacks)

Feel free to bring what you wish to offer! We will assemble these kits on God's Work Our Hands Day (Sept 10).

Feed Our Children is underway throughout August!

Many, many people and businesses in our community have donated and assisted in this mission! We would like to thank Pizza Ranch on Washburn, where we held the fundraiser – we received \$216.85 from the restaurant as a portion of the meals eaten during our fundraiser. In addition, patrons donated \$349.00 in a jar for our mission. Most of all, it was a lot of fun to be there, and so we pass along deep thanks to all who helped.

Avoid, Deny, Defend

Tuesday, August 15, 7 pm

Monday, August 21, 7 pm

Oshkosh Police Officer Joe Nichols walked through our facility in July to help us see improvements that we can make to enhance the safety and security of our church.

Now on August 15th and again on August 21st Officer Nichols is going to bring a power-point training called Avoid, Deny, Defend for all who are interested in how to handle an active threat.

The class takes about 1 hour. He will be offering the class here at St Andrew's on both those evenings at 7:00 pm to give us two different opportunities to attend. Please join us if you can.

Thank a Charter member!

August 6 between services



On Sunday, August 6 between services, you will have the opportunity to thank a Charter member of our congregation for helping bring St Andrew's Lutheran Church to birth as a congregation.

We would like to share coffee, cake and fellowship with our charter members who first caught the Spirit and planted this congregation here in Oshkosh.



Sunday, August 27
Bless the Pets Service (10:30 am)

In August we offer Bless the Pets at the 10:30 am worship time on the last Sunday of the month. Our worship will be in the courtyard, outside where we can enjoy the many beauties of creation. This year Bless the Pets will be on Sunday, Aug. 27 at the 10:30 am worship. If your pet likes to be around others, please plan to bring your pet, and if your pet would not be comfortable here, there will be a special blessing prayer to take home for your pet.

Art and Soul

Sunday, August 27, 10:00 am

Sunday, August 27 Art and Soul invites you to join in tying fleece blankets as a part of the new blanket ministry, Covered in Hope. These blankets will be donated to area organizations so that they may be given to children in crisis. Please join us between services in the Fellowship Hall to complete some blankets.



Youth News

Submitted by Patty Koplitz, Youth Director

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

YMT (Youth Ministry Team)

Summer Mission Trip

Thank you to everyone for your support of the youth ministry team here at St. Andrew's. It is appreciated and the kids and I are always grateful for all the prayers and well wishes.

We will be leaving for Minneapolis on August 6 and returning on August 12. Our week will be filled with service work, the word of God and plenty of group building. One of the tasks the kids will do every day is observe the community around them. They will be taking photos with their phones and then posting them on Instagram and Facebook. We will be using the hash tag #saymt2017. That stands for St. Andrew's Youth Ministry Team. Enter that hashtag, including the hashtag in the search engine of your Facebook or Instagram to follow along with our insights and our trip.

I hope you enjoy watching our week! Again, thank you for your prayers.

Summer 2017: Growing the Kingdom



During these summer Sundays we hear Jesus teach us about how the Kingdom grows among us and within us and how God's love does amazing things!

In our neighborhood, we are learning how to share the abundance of God's love with our hungry neighbors and we are finding the experience amazing!

If you wish to support the mission and ministry of St Andrew's Lutheran Church, we invite you to make a gift to St Andrew's. Electronic gifts are welcome. You may use smart phone technology or go to our website standrewsoshkosh.org. Here is the short URL: <http://bit.do/stagiving> and the QR Code:



You can choose how your funds are given, with what frequency and method of donation. Your gift does make a real difference! Thank you for considering this partnership in the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Volunteer Opportunity

Mercy Medical Center would like your volunteer help at the Information Desk and the Reception Desk. For more information, contact Mercy Medical Center Volunteer Services at 223-0225 or apply online at www.affinityhealth.org.



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

Breakfast

Meet at Delta Restaurant, 515 N Sawyer St
Saturday, August 12, at 8:00 am

Lunch

Meet at Primo Restaurant, 2605 Jackson St.
Tuesday, August 15, at noon

Art & Soul

Sunday, August 27, 10:00 am
Fellowship Hall

Committee Meetings

All members welcome!



Worship & Music Committee

Monday, August 7, at 4 pm

Christian Action Committee

Tuesday, August 1, at 1 pm

Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 8, at 7 pm

Property Committee

Thursday, August 31, at 6 pm



Sunday School Registration (2017-2018)

Welcome to St. Andrew's Sunday School!

Family name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Zip code: _____

**Email address: _____

Name of parent or adult contact: _____

I/We would be willing to help with:

_____ Teaching/Substitute teaching _____ food for special occasions

_____ Telephoning _____ help with Palm Sunday program

_____ Children's music _____ help with Christmas program

Other ways you would like to help: _____

1) Child's name: _____

Age: _____ M F Grade: _____ Birth date: _____

Child's special interests/activities: _____ Any allergies? _____

2) Child's name: _____

Age: _____ M F Grade: _____ Birth date: _____

Child's special interests/activities: _____ Any allergies? _____

**Please feel free to add information about additional children on another registration sheet.
Thank you!**

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Oshkosh

Dear St. Andrew's Parent:

We at St. Andrews are very proud of your child/ren's participation in our programs and events. We use pictures of the children and youth in newsletters, marketing material, and on the website and Facebook.

Our policy is that permission is granted to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church to take and use visual images and auditory recordings of your child/ren for educational and/or promotional purposes. In doing so, parents agree that St. Andrews owns the images and recordings and all rights related to them, which may be used in any manner or media (e.g. websites, social networking sites, posters, brochures, videos, etc.) without notification. St. Andrew's is released from any claims, damages or liability, which a parent may ever have in connection with the taking or use of the images or with the printed material used with the images.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church office at 235-6616.

Please make an "x" next to the statement below if you choose to opt out for your child(ren):

I do not agree to give permission for the use of photos in any of publications as listed above.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Signature of Parent _____

Print Parent Name _____

Names of Minors _____

Address _____

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE

August 2017