

St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Newsletter

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

November 2016

Sunday Worship at 9:00 & 10:30 am

First Advent Wednesday worship @ 12 noon & 7 pm Nov 30

Dear friends,

Outside the trees are hung with gold – and today just happens to be one of those autumn days that magnifies the riotous color and beauty of autumn. Here is the view of the backyard at St Andrew's:



Inside we are getting ready for the seasons ahead – Advent and Christmas! And so, I find myself driving back and forth to church enjoying amazing autumn's colors while humming Christmas songs!

I confess that sometimes when I am simply immersed in planning and preparing, that if you ask me I might not be able to tell you which month this is much less which day! I seem to live in different months and seasons at the same time.

That is also our Christian walk, isn't it? We live in the time we are given – each of our lives whatever length of days, weeks, months, and years. But even as seasons come and go, we also live in God's time.

God's time is **spacious** – in God's time there is always time enough for loving others. God never stops loving you, your loved ones, and all of God's creation. God has plenty of time to love and gives it freely. God's time is always NOW.

God's time is **meaningful** – it doesn't come and go in episodes that have no connection. Our bible is a story of God's time with us – working toward a good ending, a happy one and one full of meaning that gives us purpose for our lives as we find ourselves in God's story!

God's time is just **the right time** for doing something that makes a difference. So we find our best selves, our best life, in God's time.

We **worship** – taking time to dwell in the love of God, to thank God and to re-enter our best lives with gratitude, with hope, and with praise.

We live our days with **prayer**, with **bible reading**, with **meditation** – to know the meaning of our lives in God's love.

And we **act in mission** – helping others, reaching out with the gifts God has given us to share, to bless, and to help the ones God has given us to love!

NOW is God's time – for you and me. We are welcomed into life together, and empowered to do amazing and generous things – with our gentle words, our caring presence, and the gift of whatever we have been given to share!

In this season, in all seasons, please know that you are always welcome to join your brothers and sisters in Christ at St Andrew's in following our Lord Jesus Christ into the best time we will ever know!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Karen Jewell



Highlights of Church Council Meeting

Tuesday 11th October, 2016

Present: Jane Martinez, Matt Moore, Chris Ziegler, Jay Klinger, Warren Luce, Kristi Cutts, Linda Ellman, Peg Olson, Jakob Iversen, Rose Rivera

Excused: Pastor Karen Jewell, Ann Stephan

Guest: Jayne Lindsay

Treasurer's report: Matt Moore presented the September bills paid and the financial sheets. Motion made and carried to approve the bills paid. Motion made and carried to approve the treasurer's report.

Old Business:

Narrative Budgets/Annual Budget Calendar: Jane Martinez asked that all committee narrative budgets, that have not yet been submitted to be completed and submitted to Matt Moore for inclusion for the first draft of the 2017 annual budget. The financial committee will meet at the end of the month to establish the rough draft of the 2017 budget.

Grounds Security: Warren Luce made comment that the office staff will be at the next property meeting to discuss daytime security during office hours. Possible security cameras and door releases are among topics to be discussed. Warren updated the council on quotes for exterior motion and security lighting.

Unlocked doors: Chris Ziegler had sent out an email to all council members noting that he had stopped by church around 5:00 on Sunday and the non-automatic door at the Fellowship entrance was not fully closed. Jane Martinez was going to meet with the Hmong Congregation representative about checking doors and windows prior to exiting the building. It was suggested to also instruct any other groups that have a key and use the church during off hours.

New Business:

Hallway/Kitchen Phones: Jakob Iversen talked with council regarding the ability of adding one more phone utilizing our existing phone wiring. It was voted by council to put the public accessible phone in the kitchen.

New Members: Jane Martinez postponed the discussion of new members, until November's meeting, so Pastor Karen can be present.

Nominating Committee: Jane Martinez has requested the members of the Nominating Committee, as was voted by the congregation at the annual meeting, to set up a meeting time with Pastor Karen.

Christian Action Report (Kristi Cutts):

No Report

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):

Warren Luce reported that the property committee would like to have the interior decor committee present to discuss location and selection of carpet and tile for the Narthex and hallway in front of the lounge. Initial pricing has been received by two companies, and these will be discussed at that meeting. Next Property Meeting: October 27, 6 pm.

Stewardship/Discipleship Report (Ann Stephan):

No Report

Technology (Jakob Iversen):

Telephones: Call quality is much better with the faster Internet connection, but there are still some issues. Checking with TWC to have them test for signal strength and whether there's any interference. We are looking at getting either the narthex or kitchen phone working through Ooma.

Alarm System: Up and running again connecting over the Internet connection. Staff had a review of reset procedure on panic buttons earlier in the month. Current schedule for arm/disarm is 11:00pm – 7:00am.

Budget for 2017: Will be combining technology and office operations to get a fuller picture of church operations in one budget.

Technology Priorities for 2017: Desk printer for pastor. Replace secretary computer. Consider camera/video camera (but may ask for funding from Memorial).

Social Media/Communication: Pastor is meeting with group from UW Oshkosh on October 20 to discuss parameters for their project around social media and website. Website events and posts are outdated - looking at how to get things posted on a regular basis.

Backup: Look at putting in place a proper backup strategy to protect against ransomware and other potential disasters.

Next Meeting: November 7 at 10:00am

Worship & Music (Peg Olson):

We would like to request \$100 from Thrivent TBD funds for an honorarium for the North High School Madrigals who will sing at St. Andrew's in early December. Motion made and carried to make an honorarium of \$100 for the North High School Madrigals, for their performance at Christmas time, with monies to be taken from the Thrivent TBD fund. We will request assistance/advice from the Technology Committee regarding the possibility of a secure area on our website for choir members. A Healing Service will be held October 16. Additional communion servers are needed. We will align several Stewardship activities with the church calendar on All Saints Sunday and Christ the King. We discussed Advent and Christmas worship services. We

completed a draft of the narrative budget for 2017. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 7 at 4 pm.

President's Report (Jane Martinez):

No Report

Pastor's Report (Pastor Karen Jewell):

October 10 to 12 is Synod Theological Conference. Synod Webinar regarding new FLSA rules at 12 noon on Tuesday, Oct 18. Thank you to Matt Moore and Jane Martinez who are signed up to take part.

Worship, Stewardship, and Education:

Confirmation: Took a Collaborate webinar from Sparkhouse on Wed, Oct 5, that elaborated on the teaching methods used in our materials. I am grateful for my co-teachers, Peg Olson and Rose Rivera. We are working on obtaining registrations for Sunday School and Confirmation as well as parental permission forms for activities on site for all our minor children and youth. We are gathering background check forms for all folks in contact with our children and youth. Ann Stephan organized temple talks to connect our stewardship education, time and talent surveys and other resources to the worship year. Thank you to Ann Stephan, Jay Klinger and Patty Koplitz who have all contributed to the talks. We still need to do an every member mailing detailing the variety of options both for communications and for supporting St Andrew's mission and ministry.

Oshkosh Community outreach:

The plan to partner with Our Savior's ELCA to feed lunches to hungry children in our neighborhoods during next August (2017) continues to develop. Tom and Marcia Galica invited a rep of the County Health Dept to fill them in on what we would need to do, but it looks as if our facility would pass the requirements.

St Andrew's will be the site of the October meeting of ESTHER's Faith and Values meeting on Thursday, **October 27th** potluck here at 6 pm.

Continuing Education:

Second meeting of ***Faith Leader Mental Health Integration*** to better equip us and our communities to meet the needs of people dealing with mental illness is Thursday, Oct 13.

Family Faith formation – Thursday, Sept 29 to Saturday, Oct 1, 2016 in Connecticut was an excellent class, offering new ideas and models for our outreach to families, children and youth to support their faith formation through worship life, education and social media. Some of this material dovetails with the area to be explored with the group of UWO students who will work with St Andrew's to improve our outreach through social media – mtg Thursday, Oct 20).

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Ziegler, Council Secretary

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

Do you know of anyone who would like to receive our newsletter?

Please ask them to contact the office (920-235-6616 or office@standrewsoshkosh.org) and ask to be added to the mailing list.

They may choose from 4 options for delivery: pick a copy up at church, receive it via email, receive it in the U.S. Mail, or go to our website: standrewsoshkosh.org. Thanks for helping!

**Interfaith Festival of Gratitude
Monday, Nov. 21 – 7 pm
at the Grand Opera House.**



Plan to attend this service of thankfulness with faith communities around Oshkosh. You may also join in and sing with other Lutherans from Oshkosh in the Joint Lutheran Choir! Joint practice is on Thurs, Nov 17 at 6:30 pm here at St. Andrew's. If you can't attend that, feel free to attend the choir rehearsal on Wed, Nov 16 at 7:30 pm. Hope you can either join in the singing or come and celebrate with us.

The Festival is preceded by a **potluck** at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's Mosque **at 5:00 pm** (300 N Eagle St.) We are invited to bring a dish to pass that is special to our heritage, but does not contain pork or alcohol out of respect for dietary restrictions in some faith traditions. Come for a very special experience this Thanksgiving!

November Noisy Offering

In honor of Veteran's Day, the November 20 Noisy Offering is designated for the Memory Care Units at the [Wisconsin Veterans Home at King](#). It will help provide music therapy, Namaste care, PTSD care and other support.

Thank you!

Thanks and blessings to all who contributed to last month's Noisy Offering. We were able to send \$97.30 to Emmeline Cook Elementary, our neighborhood partner school. Our offering will help students in a variety of ways.

Bible Studies in November

Monday nights @ 7:15 pm in the Lounge
Finishing the book study *Facing Fear with Faith*.
November 21st we will not hold class so that you
may attend the Interfaith
Festival of Gratitude.

Wednesdays @ noon we are
looking at the Gospel of
Matthew – to prepare for the Year of Matthew
that begins in Advent. On November 30th (St
Andrew's Day!) we will offer a half hour Advent
worship at noon followed by our bible study at
12:30.



Hope you can come!

Special Sundays in November

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 6, 2016

We continue our tradition at St Andrew's of
writing the names of our loved ones who have
died on outlines of butterflies so that they may be
mounted on the wall around the cross in our
Sanctuary. The butterflies remain for the rest of
our Church year (through Sunday, November
20th) and remind us of the promise of the
Resurrection of the Body and the Life Everlasting
that we confess each week!

Christ the King Sunday

Sunday, November 20, 2016

On this day that concludes the Church year we
celebrate in anticipation of the completion of
God's good plan for Creation – for all of us!
Please join us as we worship the King by retelling
his story through the colors, symbols, and beloved
songs of the seasons! Both worship times are
intergenerational – bring your family to either
worship and there will be something for all ages!

Our membership at St Andrew's

In November we are updating the *membership directory* – please check off your name and information at the tables in the hallway or call the office (920) 235-6616 with changes or updates.

Our *Estimates of Giving* will be sent to our homes for us to consider how we would like to support the mission and ministry at St Andrew's in 2017.

If you still need a *time and talent sheet* to fill out and return, they are available at church or you may call the office to receive one!

Please return your sheets by **Sunday, November 20**.

THANK YOU for being members!!!

E-Giving for St Andrew's



Thank you so much to all the
members who have used this kind of
offering. Regular e-gifts have helped
steady our finances in the same way that regular
envelope gifts steady us. Please know that all
gifts bless our work here! Together we support
the mission of St Andrew's – thank you so much!!

If you would like to explore the options for *e-giving* your offerings, you can use the *QR code* in the bulletins and on the cards in the pews, or the *short-bit URL* in those places, or go to our website: www.standrewsoshkosh.org and click on the **Giving** tab.

Your gifts **DO** make a difference – *thank you* for gifts that support Sunday school and Youth group, bible study and mission work, keep lights on and doors open that we may extend the hospitality of Jesus Christ to our community and world.

Thanksgiving Eve 2016

Our sister Lutheran congregations
are hosting a joint Thanksgiving
Eve worship on Wednesday,
November 23, 2016 at 6:30 pm at Our Savior's
Lutheran Church (1860 Wisconsin St). The
worship will be followed by a pie fellowship.
You are invited to take part!



Advent 2016 begins Sunday, Nov 27th

Sundays in Advent –
come and help **Prepare the Way!**



**Sunday, December 4, 8:45 to
9:00am**

**Oshkosh North High Madrigal
singers!**

Sunday, December 11 at 9:00 am worship
St Andrew's Men's choir!

Sunday, December 18 at 10:30 am worship
St Andrew's Sunday School Christmas
The Hanging of the Greens!

Wednesdays in Advent –

Worship at 12 noon & 7:00 pm

Come and meet the people in Luke 1 who
welcomed God's Promised One: Jesus Christ!

You are welcome!

Youth Candy Sale

Enjoy homemade Amish Candy. Great for Christmas gifts - or for your own sweet tooth!

Orders taken

Sunday, Nov. 6 - Sunday Nov. 27

Orders will be available for pick up on
Sundays, Dec. 11 and 18

Christmas Poinsettia Orders Due by Sunday, November 13th



Ordering envelopes are located by the flower chart. Plants may be given in memory or honor of our loved ones, friends, or special occasion.

Choice of colors: Red, white, pink, monet, or marble. 6 inch pot, \$14.00 each. These will decorate our Christmas altar area. We thank you!

Special music in December!

Your musical offering is always welcome throughout the year, but especially at the holidays. Please let Brenda Francis, Sandy Last, or Pastor Karen know by Dec. 4 so that we can include you in our worship. **THANK YOU!**



Bake Sale

Election Day

Tuesday, Nov. 8 7 am - 8 pm
Emmeline Cook PTO

Donations Needed!

The PTO of our partner school, Emmeline Cook Elementary, is hosting a bake sale on election day here at St. Andrew's. Donations for the sale are

welcomed. If you wish to share your baking talents, please bring your donation to church by Monday, Nov. 7, 2016.

Youth News

BYG (Beginning Youth Group)

Grades 2 through High School

Game Day

Saturday, Nov. 5, 2 - 4 pm

Join us for a day full of games. Bring a game, **bring a friend!** Any youth from second grade up is welcome to come and join us. Hope to see you there!



YMT (Youth Ministry Team)

Senior Youth
Gathering
Nov. 11- 13



We will be going to Manitowoc for the weekend to worship, play and pray with other high school students from our synod. Pray for us as we attend the Gathering!

Sunday School

On Sunday, Nov. 20, Sunday School children will be involved in our intergenerational Christ the King worship services at 9 and 10:30 am. Please come to the service that works best for your family!

Confirmation Classes

Please note: There will be NO confirmation classes held on Wednesday, Nov. 23, the night before Thanksgiving.



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

Breakfast

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

Lunch

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

[Art & Soul](#)

Saturday, November 19, 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, November 7, at 4 pm

Technology Committee

Monday, November 7, at 10 am

Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 8, at 7 pm

Property Committee

The November meeting will be on **Thursday, December 1, at 6 pm**, due to Thanksgiving.



Day Light Savings Time Ends

Sunday, Nov. 6.

Remember to set your clocks back one hour! - OR - Arrive at church one hour early for some great fellowship before worship! ☺

Looking Ahead... To December

Advent Worship Services on **Wednesdays, Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, and 21 at 12 noon and 7 pm.**

Sunday, Dec. 18, 10:30 worship – Sunday School led Christmas worship. Children arrive at 9:00am to put on costumes.

Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 7 pm – Blue Christmas service, a service for those who may be in grief at Christmas time.

Saturday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve –
6:30 – 7 pm Carols by request
7 pm - Lessons and Carols
11 pm – Candlelight Holy Communion

Sunday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day
9 and 10:30 am – Worship with Holy Communion