



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

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

October 2017

Reformation Sunday is October 29, 2017 – 500 years!

Dear friends,

I write to you as I prepare to go visit family and I am packed and waiting for the time to head out! But I hope to be back in plenty of time to start October with you!

I am eager for October when we will celebrate the birth of 500 years of Reformation thought that underpins the theology of our denomination and the rationale for many of the basics of our culture.

If you are reading this column for yourself, then you can read – and that is a gift of the Reformation that many of us take completely for granted. We can read things for ourselves – a deep value of the Reformers who were not only theologians but dedicated educators.

They felt that every person should be able to read the gospel of Jesus Christ for themselves – so that God's own words would shape each human conscience, and inform each person's ethics.

And the reformers set out to make the bible readable in the language of their own people and also to create schools that would equip their people to be able to read their own bible and apply the insights to their own lives.

Tonight at confirmation, we talked about how Luther used songs to help his congregation learn the words in the bible – either setting whole psalms to music, or expressing the biblical stories and insights in beautiful songs like *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*. He also wrote hymns that would help people remember the Lord's prayer, the Apostles' Creed, and other basics of our faith.

Lutherans and many other Christians still sing his songs 500 years later. The Reformation discovery has stood the test of time! It still matters and the motto still works – *Semper Reformanda*, “always reforming” always needing to be renewed in Christ's love.

Are you eager for renewal – are there things you recognize in your life that you would like God's help to change, to renew, to begin all over again?

Or perhaps you are overwhelmed by all that has changed already? (Or if you are like me – finding ourselves both overwhelmed by some changes and yet longing for renewal in other parts of life!)

Our faith is about the utter dependability of God in the midst of change! God is the rock we can cling to in the storms of change.

And our God is the God of new life – a good change that brings us to a new and better beginning!

Martin Luther lived in a time of great change – and people were anxious and seeking reassurance – so much like our own time!

Luther's insight was a huge reversal of expectations – where people expected they had to earn God's love by doing enough good things, Luther realized from his study of the bible that the opposite was true – that God loved us before we ever thought of doing good, and that love bridged a gap we could never fill, paid a debt we could never repay.

In these turbulent times, the Reformation ideas truly help – calling us to renewal and deeper trust at the same time.

God is our refuge and strength, our very present help in trouble... (Psalm 46)

Let's delve together into the truth of God's love. Let's read avidly from the book that speaks of God's trustworthy mercy and help!

We have a lot to celebrate and a lot of blessings to share with a world hungry for the steadfast love that God gives us, a love that remakes us and even brings new life out of death.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Karen Jewell

Church Council Meeting
Tuesday September 12th, 2017

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

Excused: Linda Ellman, Jay Klinger

Guests: Tom & Marcia Galica

Call to Order: 7:04 pm by Jane Martinez

Devotions: Matt Moore – Luke 5: 1-11

Treasurer's report: Matt Moore presented the August bills paid, the balance sheets, and the profit and loss statement for year to date vs budget & year to date vs previous year were presented. **Peg Olson made a motion** to the approve the August bills paid, **Jakob Iversen seconded** the motion. **Motion approved.** **Rose Rivera made a motion** to the approve the treasurer's reports, **Jakob Iversen seconded** the motion. **Motion approved.**

Old Business:

Building Remodeling Update: The focus group for planning building additions/improvements will be contacted and have a meeting in late Oct. to set an outline of how the process will move forward.

Feed the Children Update: Tom & Marcia Galica wanted to thank the council and all of the volunteers that helped with such a wonderful program. There is great enthusiasm and support for doing the program again in 2018. It was suggested that seniors could be included in 2018 if the program is to be continued. Refer to the Christian Action committee report for more information about the Feed the Children final numbers.

Trunk-O-Ween: Rose Rivera made a summary of what was discussed and planned at the August 16th meeting. Refer to the Evangelism report for additional information.

Nominating Committee: Jane Martinez informed the council that the nominating committee will meet Wednesday September 20th @ 7:30 pm.

New Business:

2018 Budgets: Jane Martinez reminded the council that initial drafts of the committee narrative budgets for 2018 are due to Matt Moore and the church office by September 30th so they can be included in the first budget draft at the October council meeting. Matt Moore will email all council committee representatives with a summary of money spent in 2016 as well as a 2017 year to date totals. Final 2018 budget to be approved by December 26th to allow sufficient time for publication prior to the annual meeting.

Christian Action Report (Jackie Kuhn):

Feeding the Children Recap (25 days)

877 meals served, average 35 meals per day

121 volunteers

667 volunteer hours

Fund-raising totals are still being calculated

Thank you to all who assisted with this event. Special thanks to Carol Spiegelberg and Marcia Galica for incredible leadership in planning and managing our effort to feed the children of Oshkosh.

God's Work Our Hands

Our annual God's Work Our Hands Sunday was well attended and fun for all. The Chili Cookoff resulted in a tie between the Youth Ministry Team entry and the Men of Council entry. Congratulations!! Additionally, 77 school kits and 27 dog treats were assembled. Final numbers of the quilts tied, cat toys and hygiene kits assembled will be forthcoming. Thank you to all who attended or contributed to God's Work Our Hands in any way.

Noisy Offerings for remaining 2017

September – World Hunger

October – Humane Society

November – K9s for Veterans

December – Emmeline Cook School

Christian Action will meet again on Tuesday, October 2, at 6 PM. Please join us!

Education (Linda Ellman):

Rose Rivera has accepted the role as Sunday School Superintendent. Sunday school is still in need of a couple of volunteers/teachers. The program will be slightly different this year, focusing on more group participation in the education program. More information will be given as the program evolves.

Evangelism (Jay Klinger)

Trunk-O-Ween: Pastor Karen, Jay Klinger, Brenda Francis Rose Rivera and Chris Ziegler met at 7:00 on August 16th to start planning for the upcoming Trunk-o-ween event. Those present discussed possible games, prizes, treats, volunteering, and group participation. The date has been set for Saturday, October 28th from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm in the front Parking lot at St. Andrews. Donations are being sought for prizes, candy, pumpkins, and volunteers to set-up/work games as well as serving drinks and snacks.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 19th at 6:00 in the front lounge

Fellowship/Hospitality Report (Chris Ziegler):

There was a cake honoring our charter members on Sunday August 6th. There are 6 charter members

remaining, and 3 are now out of state. Other cakes have been purchased in fellowship for Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, as well as honoring special birthdays. Look for more cakes to come.

Property Report (Warren Luce):

A leak has been detected in the A/C system which has been the reason the Fellowship hall has been inconsistent when it has been running. The repair will be part of the 2018 Property budget. The floors received extra activity during the month of August, so it was decided to strip a layer of polish from the Fellowship Hall floor and re-do it. This will be a scheduled maintenance that will be budgeted in the future.

Technology (Jakob Iversen):

Committee met on September 11 and spent time discussing the budget for 2018. This discussion will continue at our next meeting.

Similar to last semester, we will also once again meet with the UW Oshkosh students in the Interactive Web Management and Journalism programs. We hope they will help us with email marketing, social media boosting, putting sermons on Facebook Live, and refining the website. They will work directly with Sandy and Pastor. In addition, we hope to have them meet with the entire committee in November.

Jakob to ensure that the Sunday School laptop will be able to display Powerpoint presentations on the projector, and providing instructions.

Next meeting: October 2 at noon.

Worship & Music (Peg Olson):

The committee met September 11. Our discussion focused on Reformation enrichment ideas and worship services through December.

The third Sunday Noisy Offering will include a mission parade – children will return from Sunday School at the end of the first service, then process out on the first verse of the last hymn, following the acolyte, who will carry the processional cross. This is symbolic of being sent out in mission.

We would like to ask the Council for feedback on the possibility of changing the 7 pm Christmas Eve service to 5 pm. We would like to purchase a new music stand for the choir.

Theresa Bertram, Miravida Living CEO, will offer a temple talk October 8 and visit in the Fellowship Hall between services.

President's Report (Jane Martinez):

I have completed the review/revisions of the staff job descriptions and the associated contracts. The office staff and organist contracts are signed and the originals are in the office in the personnel files. I have reached out to Brenda Francis and Patty Koplitz to arrange a time for their respective contracts to be completed.

I have completed the Mutual Ministry evaluations for Sandy and Pastor and those will be printed and added to personnel records.

The employee handbook is in revision with the addition of a section on child protection. There may be other topics that arise out of the council meetings. My plan is to have this printed, bound and distributed to council and employees mid-September.

A date has been set for the Nomination Committee. It will be Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 7:30

Pastor's Report (Pastor Karen Jewell):

Feed Our Children – concluded Friday, September 1, and was a very positive experience for our congregation. Deep thanks are due to the leaders who coordinated the volunteers, the donations of food, and the provision of food and supplies for the meals. Attended the August school board meeting to present our mission with representatives of the other two sites. Well-received.

August 13 – offered Vespers at Evergreen Retirement community

August 15 – Officer Joe Nichols of the Oshkosh Police Department offered a one hour training to members and friends of St Andrew's called **Avoid, Deny, Defend**. It was to be repeated the following week with another officer for those who could not attend but unfortunately the other officer was unable to come.

August 27 – Bless the Pets 10:30 am worship, held indoors due to bad weather – deep thanks to Gary Bruce for wrangling the sound equipment for us!

September 6 – Wednesday noon bible study resumed and held **confirmation orientation** with five new students joining us!

September 10 – God's Work Our Hands Sunday!

New Members welcomed on Sunday, **September 10**. Request affirmation by the council: Emmy Kasuboski and son Aidan, Peggy Jirovetz, Gretchen Gandt, and Frank Schicker. Additional new members will be

welcomed at another date. **Matt Moore made a motion** to affirm the new members as presented. **Peg Olson seconded** the motion. **Motion Approved.**

Working with Rose Rivera to equip our **Sunday School** with teachers and curriculum for the children. We have some registered already and are working to complete registrations so that we can determine the amount of materials to provide. Classes begin Sunday, September 17.

Monday, **September 11** – Professional Advisory Group meeting at Miravida Senior Living (aka LHO).

Tuesday, **September 12** – Oshkosh Conference Rostered Leaders’ meeting at Immanuel-Trinity in FDL
Upcoming

---Confirmation Classes begin Wednesday, **September 13** at 6 pm.

---Thursday, **September 14** – Synod Healthy boundaries workshop focused on Social media at Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Appleton, 9 am to 4 pm.

---On call for pastoral care emergencies at Mercy Medical Center once a month – this month Thursday, **September 14.**

---Would like to take a week of vacation beginning Thursday, September 20th to go see family in Boston MA. Pastor Clarence Harms is our preacher/presider on Sunday, September 24.

---Synod Theological Conference is Monday to Wednesday, **October 9 to 11** this year. Change or Die conference is Thursday, **Oct 12** in Pewaukee.

---Executive Committee needs to meet in October to choose level of health care benefits for 2018.

Devotion for Tuesday, October 10, 2017: Warren Luce

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM
Closing Prayer – Pastor Karen
Respectfully submitted,
Chris Ziegler, Council Secretary

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



From our Stewardship and Fellowship Committees:

Christ and Volunteerism

Philippians 1-3 “I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.”



So often we get caught up in the day to day operations, finances and missions that we forget to acknowledge those who volunteer their time, gifts and money to support St. Andrew’s. I speak for the entire council when I say that without those who volunteer their time, talent and money, our church would fail.

What would church be like if there were no greeters, ushers, or counters? What would it look like if there was no one to help with the spring and fall clean up? Would there be between service fellowship with coffee and treats? Who would stock the pantry when more coffee, plates, napkins, and plastic ware are needed?

We are in need of greeters/ushers to welcome our Christian family. It doesn’t take a great deal of time and offers so much love and assistance to the congregation. Perhaps you would prefer to be with a group that counts Sunday contributions after service. Perhaps you would help set up coffee before service or prepare the treats for between service fellowship. You might have organizational skills, computer skills or project skills. If so would you consider serving on council? If you have children, you might consider volunteering with your family.

To all of you who already volunteer, we cannot thank you enough. To those of you that want to help in some way, but have never been asked, please let us know. The fellowship and bonding that happens during these volunteer times is part of what makes St. Andrew’s such a welcoming and friendly place. It is what makes us all family.

Whatever your God given talents and experiences are, we invite you to help by sharing them to support St. Andrew’s operations and missions. An hour here and there really makes the adage “many hands makes light work” apply.

Galatians 6:10 says “So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” May God Bless You as you prayerfully consider volunteering at St. Andrew’s.



Fall Clean-up

Fall Clean-up Day

Saturday, Oct. 21
9:00 am

Enjoy conversation and time with fellow members of all ages while completing fall tasks to keep our campus in good order. Bring your family - there are tasks for all ages. Come for the entire morning, or for an hour - any help is appreciated.



Scholarship Recipient to Perform

Sunday, October 15
10:00 - 10:30

Some years ago the Abel family entrusted St. Andrew's with a scholarship fund designated for junior level university students in the performing arts. This year the Department of Music at UWO designated Hannah DCamp, pianist, to receive the \$500 award.

Hannah has agreed to perform for us on October 15. She will play the Postlude at the 9 am service, continue between services, and play the Prelude for the 10:30 service. I had the opportunity to meet Hannah during the spring honors and awards ceremony. She is a resident of Oshkosh and an accomplished musician. Please plan to stay late or come early on October 15! -- submitted by Peg Olson

Bible Study in October

Monday evenings - we are finishing the **Gospel of Matthew** - reading many of the texts that are part of our Sunday worship each week. Please join us - 7:15 to 8:45 pm - in the Lounge for study, conversation and a light dessert. Feel free to give it a try!

Wednesday noons - we continue with the Great Courses video study: **Reading Biblical Literature - Genesis to Revelation**. The lecturer is Dr Craig Koester of Luther Seminary and he is an excellent teacher. We watch the video and discuss the book or part of the bible he has explained to us. We share a light lunch meal together - just come and try it out!

Christian Action News

God's Work, Our Hands Day of Service, held on Sunday, Sept. 10, was a wonderful experience for all. Outcomes of the Service Projects:

- 77 Lutheran World Relief School Kits made
- Numerous school items donated to Emmeline Cook Elementary School
- 11 fleece blankets tied for children in need
- Penny Wars: Sheep won!!
- Chili Cook-Off won by YMT and the Men of the Church Council (a tie)!
- Dog and cat treats were made by our children and donated to the OAHS.

Thank you to all who participated and donated items!



Feeding Our Children A Success!



We helped feed children and families in need during the school hot lunch hiatus, July 31 - Sept. 1, 2017. It was deemed a success by all involved, and appreciated so by those who came to eat.

- 877 hot meals were served, plus a sack lunch was sent home each day with each child for their evening meal
- 121 volunteers participated
- 667 hours volunteered

In addition, you and the Oshkosh community gave money, gift cards, food and supplies. We are very grateful. Thank you.

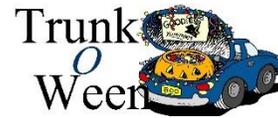
Noisy Offering



The October 15 Noisy Offering is designated for the [Oshkosh Area Humane Society](#) helping enhance the quality of lives of animals in need through compassionate sheltering, responsible adoptions, programs and services.

Last month's noisy offering of \$115.12 was designated for [ELCA Good Gifts](#) to support the ministries of the ELCA and the world.

Future noisy offerings: November – K9 for Veterans, December – Emmeline Cook School.



Help Needed

St. Andrew's is hosting a Trunk-o-ween gathering for our children on Saturday, October 28, 2017, 1-3 pm. **We are looking for volunteers** to help set up a game or to monitor an already set up game. **We are looking for donations of prizes and candy** for the games, and or pumpkins to give to the kids. If interested, contact Jay Klinger or the church office, 235-6616. Thank you!

Did you know?

When you shop online at Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to St. Andrew's. Visit <http://smile.amazon.com> and select St. Andrew's as your charitable organization! Thank you!



Ongoing opportunities to Help:

- Thrivent choice dollars can be designated to St. Andrew's. Contact your Thrivent agent if interested, or go to: <https://www.thrivent.com/posts/generosity/help-support-causes-you-care-about-through-thrivent-choice.html>.
- Box-tops for Education and Milk Moola bottle caps are being collected and donated to Emmeline Cook School. NO SOUP LABELS - they are no longer collecting them.
- Empty peanut butter jars, paper towel and toilet paper rolls, and plastic grocery bags are being collected for area zoos and humane societies.

Trunk-O-Ween

Saturday, October 28, 2017
1:00 - 3:00 PM

Come dressed in costume, ready to play games with prizes and special events in the parking lot!

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
1100 E. Murdock Ave. Oshkosh
(920) 235-6616



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.



Little Farmer

Sunday, October 8

Let's go to the Little Farmer! We will meet after first service at church at 11 am. Kids from 3rd grade through high school are welcome to join us. Younger kids are welcome with parent. Please, bring \$8 for the corn maze and hay ride. Bring more if you would like a caramel apple or something from the apple store! Pay attention to the weather and dress appropriately. Please RSVP to Patty Koplitz @ 920-420-5616 or at pattykoplitz@gmail.com.

YMT (Youth Ministry Team)



Annual Confirmation Lock In!

Friday, October 27
7 pm

Come and join us for the annual confirmation lock in! This is hosted by our Youth Ministry Team and is always a wonderful time. We get to know each other, we do initiatives, play games, worship together and just have fun! This year the theme is about inclusion and some Peer Ministry will be talked about.

We have 2 options for kids. The lock in starts Friday, Oct. 27 at 7 pm at St. Andrew's. If your child stays overnight, it ends at 7 am Saturday, October 28. Or, they can be picked up from church at midnight.

Children should bring comfortable clothes, sleeping bag and pillow as well as a snack to share!

Please contact Patty Koplitz with any questions at 920-420-5616.

Senior Youth Gathering

Nov. 10- 12 in Oshkosh!!

Youth Gathering



All high school students are welcome to join us for the youth gathering. Cost is \$150. This year's theme is C.O.F.F.E.E. (Christ Offers Forgiveness for Everyone Everywhere) Featured

speaker is Terrance Talley and the musician is Jonathan Rundman! Watch for more information to be mailed soon.

BYG (Beginning Youth Group)

Game Day

Saturday, October 14
2 - 4 pm



We play games, it's that simple! Kids in 2nd grade on up are invited to join us. Bring a game to share!





The 500th anniversary of the Reformation is fast approaching! *We will celebrate the 500th anniversary in our church on Sunday, October 29, 2017.*



To help us all prepare we are offering a Reformation 500 Bookstore with a variety of resources on the

Reformation for readers of all ages. You may learn about Martin Luther, his writings, and the impact of the Reformation on our culture and our church today. Strengthen your faith and deepen your understanding of our church!

The tables will have sample books for you to browse and you may sign up to order the books you would like to have. In addition our church keeps the sample books for our church library – so the samples will also be available to you as books to borrow and study.

Augsburg Fortress publishers are offering the books at up to 50% off and there is free shipping. Please stop by our Reformation 500 Bookstore in the hallway by the office **between** Sunday, **October 1** and Sunday, **October 15** to look at the selection. Thank you!

Autumn 2017: Reformation 2017



Do you know how fast the summer went? Well, that's nothing compared to 500 years of the Reformation!!

On Sunday, October 29 we will celebrate 500 years of reformed Christianity.

You are part of a family of faith that has made enormous contributions to the life of this world in Jesus' name. We have to celebrate!

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.



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

Breakfast

Meet at Delta Restaurant, 515 N Sawyer St
Saturday, October 14, at 8:00 am

Lunch

Meet at Primo Restaurant, 2605 Jackson St.
Tuesday, October 17, at noon

Art & Soul

Saturday, October 28, 10:30 am – 4 pm
Meet in the "Creation Station" off the Fellowship Hall.

Committee Meetings



All members welcome!

Christian Action Committee

Tuesday, October 3, at 6 pm

Technology Committee

Monday, October 2, at 12 pm

Worship & Music Committee

Monday, October 2, at 4 pm

Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, at 7 pm

Property Committee

Thursday, October 26, at 6 pm