

# St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Newsletter

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

September 2016  
September 11 – God's Work – Our Hands Day

Dear friends,

It is just the tip of the iceberg!

Have you ever seen photos of icebergs – photos that reveal that icebergs are really huge masses of ice beneath the sea with just tiny portions showing above the water?

That image also fits God's mission working through the church. We see such a tiny bit, we are only aware of just a few activities and a few people involved.

The truth and effect of God's work in our world is so massively good that we are stumped when we try to comprehend it.

What we don't comprehend we sometimes dismiss, or ignore, or otherwise lose in the noisiness and busy-ness of our lives.

But God is here, working among us, through us, and with us, for the life and well-being of what God has made – all of Creation.

God's work is hospitals and care centers, food pantries and feeding programs, schools and literacy projects, 12 step programs and circles of support – all created by God's Holy Spirit in faithful people trying to help others – all others.

God's Work is shaped by worship and Sunday School, bible studies and committee work, prayer and devotion.

And you and I are called, called by God, to be a part of the generous, overflowing, mind-boggling good of the Kingdom of God, and doing God's Work.

The call is formal in our baptism – when God calls us by name, names us as beloved children and welcomes us to become active in the Kingdom of God.

You and I are part of one congregation of believers who have been active in this church called St Andrew's Lutheran Church for over 50 years in God's Work: God's mission – the activities and artwork of faith.

So when we have one day a year called "God's Work – Our Hands" it is to help us see a little more of that giant iceberg – help us explore a little more of what God is calling us to do and to be.

This year we will be active with many other ELCA congregations – putting our hands and hearts to the work of God in a myriad of places!

You are invited to come and tie a quilt for a child in hospital or perhaps fill a bag with school supplies for a child trying to go to school in the midst of a crisis somewhere in the world.

You are invited to assemble hygiene items to comfort a resident at Northpoint, or help prepare the food that will feed a hungry child and his or her family as food backpacks go home from school.

You are invited to come have fun as we judge the chili cookoff that will feed us and others that day. Come and take part in the penny war that will buy farm animals for hungry families.

And if you can't be with us on September 11, that's OK! There is plenty more of the iceberg to explore on other days – plenty more of God's Kingdom to be involved in, even as we are blessed by God's overflowing mercy and love.

Please just come and join us whenever you are able – join us in God's wonderful Work.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell



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

## **Church Council Meeting Highlights**

Tuesday 9th August, 2016

**Present:** Pastor Karen Jewell, Jane Martinez, Matt Moore, Chris Ziegler, Warren Luce, Kristi Cutts, Jay Klinger, Peg Olson, Jakob Iversen

**Treasurer's report:** Matt Moore presented the financial statements. Motions made and carried to approve reports.

### **Old Business:**

**Update on Council Retreat:** Jane Martinez confirmed at the council retreat will be September 10<sup>th</sup>. The first half will be held at St Andrew's. Lunch, and the second half will be held at Eden Meadows. The agenda for the retreat will be emailed prior to the September 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Luthergarten Tree and Mortgage Burning:** Chris Ziegler summarized the special events that took place between services, and the rolling picnic that started between services and continued after second service.

**Counters Checklist:** Jane Martinez presented the final draft of the counting checklist, and the council approved and accepted the list. The checklist will be kept in the center of the counting tables in the finance room for captains to make reference to.

### **New Business:**

**2017 Budget timeline:** Matt Moore made note of, and summarized, the budgeting timeline that was followed in the 2016 church budget. He will adjust the dates for the 2017 budget, and distribute it via email along with the committees narrative budgets from 2016, as well as current committee expenditures to date.

**Christ Child Society:** Ann Stephan made a request to council via email to again allow the sale of luncheon and raffle tickets for their annual Shower of Love event. The tickets will be sold at a table outside of the entrance to the Fellowship Hall between and after services on September 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The permission was granted.

**Security Issues and Concerns:** Jane Martinez informed the council of several events that happened both inside and outside of church buildings, raising concern of the safety of church staff, members, and guests. Options that will be explored include door breaks in the storage pavilion as well as motion lights and possibly security cameras. It was also suggested to lock the hose bibs from unauthorized use and the possible need to chain down, or otherwise anchor things such as picnic tables and benches.

**Chili Cook off:** Kristi Cutts reminded the council as to their volunteering to have a team participate in the chili cook off as support of the God's Work Our Hands event taking place on Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup>. The council agreed to have both a Men's and Women's team entered into the cook off.

**New Members:** Pastor Karen presented Patricia Schneider to become a new member of St Andrews. Motion approved and seconded.

**Treasurer and Financial Secretary Descriptions:** Jane Martinez shared and reviewed with the council the job descriptions for both the Treasurer and the Financial Secretary. The positions were discussed and additional modifications were suggested. The changes will be made and distributed to the council via email for final approval. The job descriptions will be then kept in a master book that includes all of the paid and volunteer positions.

### **Christian Action Report (Kristi Cutts):**

Final plans are being made for the God's Work Our Hands mission Sunday. There will be a chili cook off competition by different St. Andrew's groups and committees. There will also be various mission projects in which to participate. Please look to upcoming bulletins and newsletters for additional information,

We will have a regular committee meeting on 9/17/16 at 2:30PM. All are welcome to join our committee and participate in "extending Christian compassion."

### **Fellowship/Hospitality Report (Chris Ziegler):**

We had great attendance for the tree planting and mortgage burning ceremonies. Thank you to Pastor Karen and Sandy Last for being the driving forces behind the Luthergarten project, and to Matt & Beth Moore and Jackie Kuhn for making it a priority to get the mortgage refinance paid off before it would become subject to the balloon.

There was a picnic that started between services and then continued after second service. It was great to see the Fellowship hall full of people eating and laughing at both times. Thanks as always to the planning and serving group that always are more than willing to help with planning, set-up, and clean-up. I am sure I will miss a couple of people... Marcia Galicia, Sandy Drexler, Sandy Walth, Linda & Jeff Ellmann, Greg & Ginny Behling, Amy Locke, Jane Martinez, and anyone else that helped and brought dishes. It is awesome to see how the congregation always comes together at such events.

### **Property Report (Warren Luce):**

Property is still exploring prices and options for carpeting down the hallway on the East side of the sanctuary.

### **Technology (Jakob Iversen):**

Technology Committee met on August 9.

We have requested our phone number to be ported to the new phone system through Ooma. It should be about 3 weeks until complete. Matt will move the alarm system

to connect over the Internet instead of phone line. Still need to determine best way to connect kitchen phone.

Pastor's laptop has been set up and working well. We still need to sign up for Office 365.

Communications/social media: Pastor is reading through a new book: Social Media Gospel. Will add Facebook link to The Net, Newsletter, and Bulletin.

Online giving: Kay to check about setting up text-giving. We will have a booth at Mission Sunday with information about signing up for online giving through Vanco. Next Meeting: September 7 at 10am.

### **Worship & Music (Peg Olson):**

Discussion of August 7 Luther Tree planting and mortgage burning. Positive feedback has been received.

September 11 - "Prayer for the Nations" and world map with LED candles will be used during regular services. These have been used for "Prayer Around the Cross" services.

The choir will have a team in the God's Work/Our Hands chili cook-off.

We would like to purchase two binders of large print hymns from Augsburg Fortress using memorial funds. We are asking for \$160 + approximately \$20 for shipping.

The men's vocal group will sing "I Love to Tell the Story" on Sunday, August 14.

A tone chimes choir will make an offering of music on Sunday, August 21 during regular services and at the Eden Meadows Green House homes.

A mixed 1 group will sing "We are One in the Spirit" on September 4.

### **Pastor's Report (Pastor Karen Jewell):**

**Members:** As soon as the phones are working we plan to contact all members who did not pick up a membership packet and invite their feedback – make sure they are connected with us or encouraged to connect with a congregation and active faith life, if possible. Office phones should be working by the end of August.

**Congregational life:** This August is full of wonderful events and special offerings.

Our Luthergarten tree was planted Sunday, August 7 and our tree in Germany was planted yesterday on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup> in Wittenberg, Germany! We had a Brats and Root beer picnic. We had special Hawaiian hymns in worship courtesy of Holly Lindsay, Jayne Lindsay's daughter! And our friends in Germany have already sent photos of the tree there!

Special music from our men's choir on Sunday, August 14.

Blessing of School Backpacks on Sunday, August 21 and a Tone chime choir.

Bless the Pets is Sunday, August 28 at the 10:30 worship.

### **Worship and Education:**

My retreat "Courage on the Threshold" was outstanding – it was renewing and inspiring but also gave me some practice in new teaching and listening techniques that will help me with my pastoral care and teaching here! I came home eager to prepare for the autumn.

The draft of the Combined Worship, Education and Committee calendar for August 1, 2016 to October 1 2017 was sent to council members, staff members and other leaders in the congregation for your use and your corrections and additions. Please let me know so that we can improve and update it!

Confirmation orientation night will be Wednesday, **September 7**, and classes begin Wednesday, **September 14**, from 6 to 7:30 pm. We will try to get the word out so that new students know they are welcome to join in and we order enough bibles and curriculum! We will be using a new curriculum called **Colaborate** (sic) from Augsburg Fortress.

### **Community**

St Andrew's will be the site of the October meeting of ESTHER's Faith and Values meeting on Thursday, **October 27<sup>th</sup>** potluck here at 6 pm. Barb Kuhn, contact person (920) 426-2920.

### **Upcoming:**

**Continuing Education in Family Faith formation** – Thursday, Sept 29 to Saturday, Oct 1, 2016 offered by LifeLong Faith Associates (John Roberto) in Avon, CT. (Pastor Clarence Harms will be preaching and presiding at St Andrew's on Sunday, October 2)

**Synod Theological Conference** – Monday, October 10 to Wednesday, October 12 at Egg Harbor in Door County. (I will be away for the October council meeting)

**Siebert Foundation Change or Die Conference** – Thursday, October 13 at Pewaukee, WI Theme: "Building Vital Faith Communities"

### **Devotion for September 13, 2016: Warren Luce**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Ziegler, Council Secretary

*A complete set of minutes is available on Narthex bulletin board.*

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## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

In the event of severe weather (high winds, severe thunderstorm, tornado, etc.) and you are at St Andrew's Church...

*Please head to the Boiler Room, which is located at the end of the education wing hallway, past the Kitchen*



*In case you can't get to the Boiler Room, the alternative places are the Men's and Women's Restrooms.*



Please be aware of their locations in case an emergency arises!

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## Reformation 500 Bookstore!

The 500th anniversary of the Reformation is fast approaching. Come learn more about Martin Luther, and his impact on Christianity at our Reformation 500 Bookstore. It will be in the hallway by the church office, between and after worship on **Sundays, September 11, 18 and 25.**



Come see sample copies of Luther's writings, books about his life geared to different ages, and devotional materials for your learning to grow with your faith! Save up to 50% on these books plus receive free shipping on all Bookstore titles. (We will gather and submit our orders and then deliver your books to you when they arrive!)

## LUTHERGARTEN TREE



**HERE:** On Sunday, August 7, we planted our partner tree to the Luthergarten tree in Wittenberg, Germany that our congregation sponsored. During the ceremony, we also burned our mortgage (Praise the Lord)! Members brought soil from their own yards to plant the tree in, symbolizing our fellowship with all believers around the world.

**AND THERE:** Our tree in the Luthergarten in Germany was planted on Monday, August 8. Mr. Tim Raeman, deputy director for the Wittenberg English Ministry (for which Pastor served as pastor-in-residence in July 2014), Ms. June Johnson, English translator/teacher in Wittenberg, and Mr. Harald Mittrücker, local English learner/tour guide stood in for our congregation at the planting. All three befriended Pastor Karen and Sandy Last while in Wittenberg, making their time in Germany much more meaningful.



Visit the Luthergarten website (<http://www.luthergarten.de/list.html>) to see more photos and the St. Andrew's listing. Search for tree #343. Thank you to all who made this mission possible and to all who worked so hard at our planting and follow up Brat 'n Root Beer dinner!



## THANK YOU!

Deep thanks from Cliff & Diane Vogel and family to all the folks who supported them with visits and cards as Cliff recovers from a stroke. You have made such a difference!

A special thank you to all who provided special music for our worship services this summer. What a blessing you were to us, offering your talents to make worship so meaningful for us all.



# Youth News

## Youth Ministry Team

Our Youth Ministry Team comes in a variety of forms. All youth belong to YMT. That includes kids from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through college age. YMT is offered in a variety of forms.

**BYG (Beginning Youth Group)** includes kids from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Game Day, SPAM nights, the trip to Little Farmer and retreats are some of the things they get to participate in. They are welcome to help with all fund raisers.

**Confirmation students** are in middle school. They may also participate in the same activities as BYG and they have a special lock and a special retreat. They are always welcome to attend YMT on the Wednesday nights that confirmation is not offered. Confirmation students are encouraged to help at fund raisers.

The group most commonly referred to as **YMT**'ers are the high school to college age kids. They are welcome at all BYG and confirmation events. Little Farmer is one of the favorite trips! They are also encouraged to help at fund raisers and learn

leadership skills by offering assistance with the younger groups. There are lockins and retreats specially designed for them. We meet most Wednesday nights from 6 to 7:30. We talk, we plan, we pray, and we play!

The fund raisers that we do throughout the year raise money to help pay for all of the activities that we have. We provide scholarships for retreats, camps, and the mission trip.

In all of the groups, we learn about God and we provide a sense of community in the church. Please, consider encouraging your child to join us!

## Sunday School and confirmation classes begin in September

We can't wait! Would you consider being a teacher, substitute teacher, class shepherd (not teaching but with our students), or helper in Sunday school or Confirmation?



Sunday school is in session most Sundays of the School Year from about 9:20 to 10:00 am. Our students come with families and teachers to the first part of our worship together at 9:00 am, and then leave for classes after the children's time. Confirmation meets on most Wednesday evenings in the school year from 6:00 to 7:30 pm (concurrent with Youth Ministry Team meetings).

Your help is extremely valuable and meaningful service when you encourage a child or a youth to have faith! Please feel free to check out the possibilities with Michele Hawley (Sunday School superintendent) and Pastor Karen Jewell (Confirmation program). Thank you!!!

## **Safe Child Policy**

Did you know that St Andrew's has a Safe Child Policy? All of our members and staff who work with the children and youth at St Andrew's events and take part in education and mission activities with children or youth are required to have background checks.



## September Bible Studies

**Mondays at 7:15 pm** in the Lounge – bring your favorite bible or we can supply one!

We are finishing *Be Not Afraid: facing fear with faith* by Samuel Wells. It helps us live our faith day by day.

**Wednesdays at 12 noon** in the Lounge – we are reading and learning about the Book of *Revelation* from a video series *Is this the Time?* taught by Craig Koester.

Join us as you are able! You are always welcome.

### September Noisy Offering



The September 18 Noisy Offering is designated for the [ELCA Disaster Response](#) fund, bringing God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world.

## An Evening of Jazz

Thursday, **September 29**, beginning at 5:00 pm  
UWO Alumni Center, 625 Pearl Ave.

“Party with Purpose” is a fundraiser benefitting [Lutheran Homes of Oshkosh](#). Come enjoy a jazz performance, great food and a silent auction to support LHO’s programs including Music & Memory, Cycling without Age, renovation of patient rooms, and a new pet therapy program called Noah’s Landing.

Tickets are \$60.00 or a table of 8 is \$500.00. For more information, please contact Kathy Bellaire at 233-8942 or Peg Olson at 235-8496.



**Scenes from Bless the Pets - Sun, Aug. 28**

## The Women Are Coming!

**Pine Lake Women's Retreat**  
[Pine Lake Camp](#), Waupaca  
September 16-18, 2016

Explore what it means to be a woman of faith in 2016. Share your story and learn from the experiences of other women on their faith journeys! Plan on attending this fun filled, meaningful weekend. Registration forms with more information are available on the narthex table. Or, contact Katie Danner at [pinelake2016@gmail.com](mailto:pinelake2016@gmail.com).



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

### **Breakfast –**

Meet at the Delta Restaurant, 515 N Sawyer St.  
**Saturday, September 10 at 8:00 am**

### **Lunch –**

Meet at Primo Restaurant, 2605 Jackson St.  
**Tuesday, September 20, at noon**

### Art & Soul

**Saturday, September 24, 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.

## Notes & Meetings

All members are welcome.



### **Technology Committee**

Wednesday, September 7, at 10 am

### **Worship & Music Committee**

Monday, September 12, at 4 pm

### **Council Meeting**

Tuesday, September 13, at 7 pm

### **Stewardship Committee**

Tuesday, September 13, at 1 pm

### **Christian Action Committee**

Saturday, September 17, at 2:30 pm

### **Property Committee**

Thursday, September 22, at 6 pm