



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 2018
Healing worship Wednesday, October 17 from 7:00 to 7:30 pm

Dear friends,

Pumpkins. Hardy Chrysanthemums. Raking leaves. Apple dishes. Sweaters. Brilliant, colorful trees. Cool, crisp air.

Reformation hymns. All Saints butterflies. New Bibles. Thankfulness. Harvest. Beginning Youth group kids in every corner of the building playing sardines with Miss Patty. Middle schoolers in every corner of the building playing sardines with our YMT youth. (This is a good thing!)

Autumn has many amazing images around here – full of life and hope and sweetness.

It all leads us back to thankfulness – for our lives and our life together as the Body of Christ.

In September we have had three baptisms to celebrate – two infants and one adult and what a glorious sign of the presence of God among us!

Somehow the autumn reinvigorates our commitment to growing in our devotion to God in worship and life, our service to others and our support of our families in their life in Christ.

Christ says, “Welcome back! Welcome home!”

We have started or re-joined our faith education programs – new students and returning students gathering for Sunday School and Confirmation. And we are getting the “band back together” in bible studies and choir practice.

So many members and families have been offering special music to enrich our Sunday worship and there is more to come!

Please do hear Christ say to you, “Welcome back! Welcome home!”

Maybe it is time to come home and rest in the hands of the Creator – knowing that God has you safe and will be with you each day.

Maybe it feels good to roll up your sleeves and tackle the building maintenance project for a Saturday morning.

Maybe it will be time to pick up that Bible and tackle a new reading plan or journal your thanks or add prayer to your walking routine.

Paul reminds us, “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” (II Corinthians 5:17) That’s you and that’s me – baptized and set free to start anew.

Just when it seems as if creation itself were passing away – leaves blowing down, trees reaching up naked and skeletal to the sky – God makes all things new in Jesus.

Please know that a harvest of good things is here.

Please know that you are welcome to come back and to come home to worship Jesus.

Please know that in Christ you will always be a beloved, cherished child of God and the welcome never stops.

And please feel free to come and join the party – of thanksgiving and new possibilities and harvest and new beginnings – the party that Jesus throws for us to share in this wild and windy autumn, in the midst of party-colored trees that seem to be lit from within.

Please come and join the marvelous feast of worship and promise that God has made for you in Jesus Christ. We will be glad to see you!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Karen Jewell



Highlights of Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Present: Matt Moore, Jackie Kuhn, Pastor Karen Jewell, Jakob Iversen, Rose Rivera, Jim Heidl, Teri Rucinsky, Warren Luce, Ann Stephan
Excused: Peg Olson

Financial Reports

Matt Moore presented the August bills paid, the balance sheets, and the profit and loss statement for year-to-date vs budget, and year-to-date vs previous year. Motions made and carried to approve the August bills paid and the treasurer's financial reports.

Crossways Camp Guest – Grace Van Eyck from Zion Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI Many improvements will open up the camps for year-round use. Families also enjoy the camps as family vacations because the costs are so reasonable. Booklets are available outside the Fellowship Hall. Request to have one person appointed as Crossways Capital Campaign Congregation Leader. Training for this person will be in November. Expected to start in January 2019 and continue throughout 2019. Have form for congregation to accept campaign and set goal for our congregation's campaign. Council agreed to pursue participation in Crossways Capital Campaign.

Old Business

Council Communication

- Committee Reports are being mailed in advance. Seems to be working.
- Miravida "Party with Purpose"
- Codes for copier – working well. Codes are assigned and can create new codes if needed.
- Coffee cart – no progress
- Counting update – make sure you send non-member envelopes back to office
- Founding members' plaque suggestion – Rose still working on it. Getting suggestions for celebration to be held April 28, 2019.

Signature cards - Matt will let us know when it is OK to go in and sign. Still waiting for US Bank.

Thermometer showing progress of fundraising for ADA restroom project completed and will be updated as new funds come in.

New Business

Narrative Budgets – everyone should have received their transaction reports for their committees. If you have a question on the reports, contact the church office for those items that went through the office or Matt. Submit by September 30th so Matt can bring them to the next meeting. Email the office and Matt.

Pastor's Report

Sunday, September 9, God's Work Our Hands Day kicked off our new school year! I heard about the "trash talk" at the chili cook off and how much fun you had. (Yes and we could hear you in the 10:30 worship!) There were folks making and serving our picnic lunch, assembling hygiene kits for the Day By Day Warming Shelter clients, and Care packages for the students visiting the UWO Lutheran Campus Ministry. People put together Lutheran World Relief school kits for refugee children, donated change in a Penny War to choose which farm animals to buy through ELCA Good Gifts to combat hunger, and there were some creative interactive tables too.

Several other community partners contacted us for space and help with upcoming projects – Emmeline Cook PTO will have a bake sale at St Andrew's on Election Day in November, Pastor Clay Salmela of Grace ELCA in Ripon asked if we would consider being a location for a workshop on Church Safety and Security options (date TBD), Thrivent representative Jason Lowe asked if he could visit during two coffee hours (between services) in October and November. Thrivent also offered to hold workshops for us at St Andrew's. Thrivent also selected St. Andrew's and five other area congregations with missions to feed children as potential recipients for "Giving Tuesday" (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving). Carol Spiegelberg and I will be meeting with Thrivent to hear more details! Our community churches are discussing a plan for feeding children here and incorporating remote sites in our neighborhood to give lunch to children who are unable to walk here during the day

In late September I am scheduled to have cataract surgery and have been told it should not interfere with work or driving for more than a day or two. I will have area pastors on call for any emergency pastoral care while I am recovering.

Baptized Naomi Larkpor and ask that Council approve her membership in our congregation. Motion made and approved.

Committee Reports

Christian Action - no report

Congregational Life (Rose Rivera): no report

Education (Teri Rucinsky)

Sunday school starts next week, on September 16th during the 9 am service. We will have Ann Stephan teaching 5th graders. With our PK-4 classes, we are trying a multi-age classroom. Rose Rivera will lead this with Faith and Amy as assistants.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help us. If you're interested in helping create a bulletin board, teach/assist with class, or just for a special project-we need you. Please let the office know if you're able to help with any of these tasks. No experience needed.

If your child has not registered for Sunday School, please do so ASAP.

Evangelism (Jim Heidl)

Currently the only project I'm working on is Trunk-o-ween. Unfortunately, I was the only person at the meeting I held in August. I will reach out again and schedule another planning meeting.

Fellowship/Hospitality –

Brenda Francis said she would co-chair Fellowship if we could find someone else to co-chair.

Property (Warren Luce)

Need to request \$ from capital improvements for replacement of lap siding/staining and flat roof repair. The rubber roof repair will be around \$600 for materials only. Warren will make the repairs with some assistance from congregation. Motion made and approved

requesting funds for siding and flat roof repair. Not to exceed \$6000.

Held review for custodian position.

Need to forward review form to executive committee for approval.

Stewardship/Discipleship (Ann Stephan)

The thermometer chart for the ADA restroom is completed. Totals will be updated at the end of each month as the financial reports come in. We are already near 1/4 of the total needed for the entire project & 1/3 of the amount needed to begin construction.

Offering envelopes for 2019 will be ordered soon. A meeting will be scheduled for the week of Sept 17th.

As a member of the Christ Child Society, I'd like to thank St. Andrew's for the support of the Shower of Love raffle. \$102 was raised for needy newborns at Oshkosh hospitals, as well as others in Winnebago County. The money will also support children at the Christine Ann Domestic Abuse shelter.

Technology Committee (Jakob Iversen) No report, as we had to postpone our meeting. Meeting rescheduled for September 12 at 2:15.

Worship and Music Committee (Peg Olson):

Special Healing service Wednesday evening, Oct. 17, 7pm

Goals for special worship in 2019: We plan to hold an evening healing service on March 27, possibly a baccalaureate service on June 2, a Holden Evening Prayer service the evening of Sunday, July 14, a healing service Wednesday, October 16. A Blue Christmas service may be held Thursday, December 19.

We will participate in the Sunday, April 28, 2019 St. Andrew's anniversary observation.

President's Report (Peg Olson) - None

Respectfully submitted, Jackie Kuhn, council secretary

A complete set of minutes can be found on the narthex bulletin board.



A better welcome!

At our May 6th Special Congregational meeting, St Andrew's members approved a plan to add an ADA bathroom to our facility near the worship space. Thank you! This will make worshipping so much more comfortable for members and guests.

A fund has been started and to date we have \$10,660.00 given towards this project. An estimated \$40,000.00 is needed to complete the remodeling.

You may use the special envelopes in the pews or give electronically to this project. We thank you for considering your support of this project and all the ways you contribute to St Andrew's hospitality!

Maintenance Day October 6, 8 am – 12 noon (weather permitting)



CHURCH
MAINTENANCE

We have some facility maintenance repairs and preventative maintenance that must be completed. We are looking for volunteers on Saturday, October 6 starting at 8 am to help prep the exterior cement panels for staining. We will also be resealing the seams on a section of our flat roof. There are no special skills needed for these tasks. A sign-up list is located outside the sanctuary for names. Please include a contact number in the event we have inclement weather. Thank you for your participation.

-Warren Luce, Property Chair



Healing worship Wed, October 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Come join us in a healing worship from 7:00 to 7:30 pm on Wednesday, October 17 in the sanctuary – with quiet candlelit prayers and music, interactive prayer stations including our candle boxes for you to make your personal prayers, and some prayers to take with you. Come as you are able and know that you are welcome.

Christian Action News

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

We filled 40 hygiene bags for the Warming Shelter and 35 "Care Packages" for students at the UWO's Lutheran Campus Ministry. 40 Lutheran World Relief school kits were also assembled. We had 4 teams for the chili cook off! There were 4 winners – Christian Action team and Jeff Ellman (Mr. Clean ☺). Both will be sharing the trophy. Results of pennies for the Good Gifts animals will be shared in October.

Thank you to all who participated and donated items!

Feeding Our Children A Success!

Submitted by Carol Spiegelberg

THANK YOU! These two words cannot express the feelings I have for the love, care, and concern that you all showed to our younger members of the community.

Feeding Our Children was all made possible by the many volunteers from the congregation, other churches and neighbors.



Thank you to all those that donated food, gift cards, and monetary gifts. It was all put to good use.



We had special guests that came to be with the children. Michelle Bachus from the Wisconsin Bike Federation came in to teach bike safety and all the children received bike helmets.

Officer Mann

from the Oshkosh Police Dept. came in during our Respect Week and brought

the children bags filled with books and coupons. We received a grant from Thrivent to purchase backpacks and we filled them with school supplies for the children during the last week.



We served 796 meals, had 40 volunteers who worked a total of 1,389.5 hours.

Noisy Offering



The October 21 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 \$118.57 was designated for [Emmeline Cook Elementary School](#), helping provide food, clothing, and supplies for those in need.

Christ Child Society and St. Andrew's

We have reason to give thanks for so many partnerships with our larger community that help us carry out the missions we are entrusted to accomplish. Among these partners we would like to lift up the Christ Child Society this month.

Like other community partners this year, they were so generous and gave us gifts to help feed the children during our August meal program. Then, in late August and early September we were invited to take part in the raffle and luncheon they hold each September to support their loving work for children and families. We thank God for their mission-mindedness and partnership!

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.

VOTING INFORMATION

Tuesday, November 6th is the next general election. We know of two internet sites that can help you with up-to-date information on all upcoming elections. **Both are non-partisan sites.**

- Myvote.wi.gov – this site tells you when the next election will be, where you vote and what will be on your ballot. You can also register to vote on this site.
- Vote411.org – with their voter guide, you can see the races on your ballot, compare candidates' positions side-by-side and print out a "ballot" indicating your preferences as a reminder and take it with you to the polls on Election Day.

We know that voting can be confusing, and these sites may help you find some of the information you seek when making your voting decision. Good luck!

Sunday School Family Celebration

Sunday, October 28, 2018 10:00 to 10:10 am - just a brief gathering at the end of class for refreshments, and a gift to support your family's growing faith. Please come!



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.



Annual Middle School Lock In!

Friday, Nov. 2 - 7 pm

Come and join us for the annual middle schoolers' lock in! This is hosted by our Youth Ministry Team and is always a wonderful time.

What is a lock in, you ask? We will be doing activities to help us to get to know each other better, play games, laugh and giggle, and worship. It is important for kids to know they have another "family", a faith community that they can count on.

Children should bring comfortable clothes, sleeping bag and pillow. A movie to watch and a snack to share is helpful!

If your child would prefer not to spend the night, they are most welcome to be picked up at midnight.

Please contact Patty Koplitz, youth director, with any questions at 920-420-5616 or at pattykoplitz@gmail.com.

Autumn 2018: Giving Thanks



Psalms 9:1 - I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

In this autumn season of harvest and thanksgiving, we see how God is blessing us with beauty, with crops, with work accomplished and the fulfillment of promises. It is simply time to give thanks!

We invite you to support the mission and ministry of St Andrew's Lutheran Church through a gift to St Andrew's. Electronic gifts are welcome, as are cash or checks. Your gift makes a difference. We thank God for you!

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 13, at 8:00 am

Committee Meetings

All members welcome!



Technology Committee

Monday, October 1, at 10 am

Christian Action Committee

Tuesday, October 2, at 6 pm

Worship & Music Committee

Monday, October 8, at 4 pm

Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 9, at 7 pm

Property Committee

Thursday, October 25, at 6 pm