



## *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 2018  
God's Work Our Hands Day Sept. 9, 2018

---

Dear friends,

At the end of this last week as September begins we will be done with our second season of feeding children and families a hot lunch each weekday.

I am going to miss the wonderful hustle and bustle, the savory smells, and the wonderful fellowship special to those lunch times in August!

Our Christian Action folks who organized and carried out the meal program improved it this year with special themes for the weeks and with special visitors.

Activities, games and giveaways added to the healthy meals so that body and soul could grow and be nourished.

I got to meet Officer Kate Mann from the Oshkosh PD who connected so well with the kids and their families and sent home backpacks, books, jackets and other wonderful stuff to enjoy and use.

There as another wonderful woman who visited and taught bike safety and helped the kids learn some maneuvers that really enhanced their safety and enjoyment of their bikes. Meanwhile our members were helping the children fit into new bike helmets and doing some basic maintenance needed by the bikes!

One of our local legislators stopped in to see what we were doing. I missed his visit but it seemed to me to be a part of how our neighbors, other churches, community businesses and friends from other communities were all coming together here, to help feed some families and children, who might otherwise have been so hungry!

Thank God for such generous partnership!

I was especially heartened by the volunteers who said to me at the onset of the fifth week of intensive work, "When we do this next year...."

They are not only hoping to do it again, but they have great ideas for making it work even better for the families and children we help feed. I was so cheered and delighted by the joy they continue to find in such a labor of love - I had to let you know.

What we do matters: all the gifts matter, all the partnerships matter, all the folks who show up matter, all the support matters, all the prayers matter and it all adds up. It says, these children, these families MATTER! They matter to God and they matter to you and me.

It becomes a work of art - the art of God, using the varied gifts and strengths of God's people gathered at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, and supported by their neighbors to create a better present and future for the children and families that have hiked, biked, or driven to St Andrew's each day.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray... And cook, and feed, and welcome, and send now to their schools and the better future you mean for them to know.

Thank you, God! I thank you for St Andrew's and for the community you give us to partner with and serve in Jesus' name.

Pastor Karen Jewell

Highlights of Church Council Meeting  
Tuesday, August 14, 2018

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

#### Financial Reports

Matt Moore presented the July bills paid, the balance sheets, and the profit and loss statement for year-to-date vs budget, and year-to-date vs previous year.

#### Old Business

Codes for copier – there is a code for every activity. They are in the office. Please use your own code for mission clarity. Discussed including copying as part of each budget in 2020 using 2019 as a trial year.

Coffee cart – years ago St. Andrew's bought coffee from The LWR Coffee Exchange for sale as part of their fairly traded coffee mission using the cart. We are wondering if we can start the program again.

We will approach Christian Action to see if they would like to start it up again.

Counting update – discussed counting summary sheet and new form to record Memorial Gifts to be returned to the office. Jackie will send non-electronic form to Jakob.

Continuing need for worship assistants – discussed attendance and number of open positions. It appears that the positions are regularly full. Usher concerns – none.

#### Founding members' plaque suggestion

\*focus group – April 2019 anniversary – Rose Rivera has volunteered to lead the focus group. More to follow.

Committee reporting suggestion – Goal to send committee reports to the council in advance of the meeting to allow time to digest content before the meeting.

Signature cards – minutes have been sent to US Bank. Matt will let us know when it is OK to go in and sign.

Thermometer showing progress of fundraising for ADA restroom project (tabled until next meeting)

#### New Business

Abel Scholarship – Jakob made a motion to make check out for Abel Scholarship for \$1000 to

awarded recipient. Warren seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Narrative Budgets – Matt distributed 2019 Budget Timeline.

#### Pastor's Report

I attended the Rethinking Stewardship conference at Luther Seminary in St Paul, MN July 25 & 26. One of the most compelling statements was present by Erin Weber-Johnson in a TED-style talk to us. She asked "What is in our hearts? What do we find exploring our own stories? We are drawn to a Savior who heals us and we participate through our giving in the healing of the world... If Stewardship is a ministry – lives are transformed in the giving of gifts to change and repair a broken world."

For St Andrew's and for the community around us- there has been great joy this summer in giving gifts to Feed Our Children, knowing that it is directly healing a broken place, a place of hunger in our children, families and community. The folks who offer the hands-on support are proud to do so. People continue to contact us from the larger community to ask about how they can help too. August 21 to 24 – planning 4 vacation days with my family – emergency pastoral care will be provided by Pastor Connie Weiss and Pastor John Wills.

#### Committee Reports

##### Christian Action Update:

Thanks for who came out to support us at pizza ranch, we raised \$713.89. A fun time for everyone. The money raised will go for bike helmets for the children who come in for the meals. The committee members and volunteers have been busy with Feed Our Children. We have a great team of volunteers, including neighbors, members from Vietnam Veterans of America and Lord of the Lakes Lutheran Church members.

We are starting into our third week of serving the children. In our first week we served 147 and the second week we served 171.

This week is safety week, we will visit the fire department. We have a person coming in from the WI Bike Federation to teach bike safety. We were able to purchase helmets from the money we received from Pizza Ranch, so the children will be receiving bike helmets.

God's Work Our Hands – we have 3 teams for the chili cook-off on Sept 9th. Still looking for a few more teams. We will be working on a few

activities, which are; making dry soup mixes for Lutheran Campus Ministry, making hygiene bags for the Day by Day Warming Shelter, LWR school kits. - Submitted by Carol Spiegelberg

Congregational Life (Rose Rivera): no report except for memorial plaque (previously mentioned).

#### Education (Teri Rucinsky)

We are busy getting ready for the upcoming school year! Education leaders are working on finalizing the curriculum choices for this year. Don't forget: Sunday School registration is Sunday, September 9th during our God's Work Our Hands Mission Day, and the first class is going to be kicked off with a noisy offering on Sunday, September 16th! We are in need of volunteers to teach and assist with Sunday School. If you are available, please let the office or Teri Rucinsky know. We will be contacting those that showed interest in education on their Time & Talent Sheets as well. In addition, we are making sure that all of our volunteers are Child Safe and that they have current background checks on file.

New this year is going to be our First Sunday School Family Fellowship time (Sunday Sept 30th from 10:00 to 10:30 am – refreshments and a gift of a Lutheran faith formation resource to use at home). Watch for more information to come.

Evangelism (Jim Heidl) Working on Truck-o-Ween. Planning meeting on August 21st. If you know anyone who would like to help, need volunteers. Sat Oct 27th may be good day to have this.

Fellowship/Hospitality – need someone to set up meal to be included with God's Work Our Hands. Will ask the congregation for volunteers. Jakob suggested having a cookie contest as well.

#### Property (Warren Luce)

Emergency lighting batteries need replacing, getting done.

90 day review of custodian will be rescheduled. Will do ASAP.

Lighting upgrade is a work in progress.

Security entrance project between Technology, ACCU-Com and Property will be submitted as a capital improvement project. Exterior door (left door) opposite ADA door. Remote control keys will be distributed.

Soliciting quotes for staining of exterior panels. Repairs also need to be made Temple Talk with ADA update will be Sunday, August 19.

Voting space had to be revised with city. Took pictures to show example of how Plan B will work if we have another conflict like today.

Technology Committee (Jakob Iversen) Meeting was cancelled. New calendar system was revised. Click on link and there is a new view. Same system as the Newsletter used by the office. Next meeting: September 10th at noon.

#### Worship and Music Committee (Peg Olson):

During the school year communion serving responsibilities will include Confirmands having an opportunity to serve communion by offering the individual cups/chalice.

Butterflies will be hung around the chancel cross for All Saints Sunday.

Will see if the choir is interested in entering the chili Cook Off.

First choir rehearsal will be Wednesday, Sept. 5.

Healing Service will be held on Wednesday evening, Oct. 17, 7pm. Perhaps a meal could be served and followed by the Healing Service.

Nov. 11 is Armistice Day. City officials have asked churches to ring their bells. The committee will work on ways we can be involved.

Pastor will offer St. Andrew's as the site for the Joint Lutheran Thanksgiving Eve worship.

Christ the King Sunday we will plan to involve the Sunday School children in worship.

We will use Holden Evening Prayer during Advent worship this year.

Preliminary budget for the 2019 year was discussed.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 4 at 4 pm

President's Report (Peg Olson) - Miravida Living fundraiser on September 27th at UWO Alumni and Conference Center includes heavy appetizers and silent auction. Would like to have a group from St. Andrew's attend. If interested, let the church office know.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jackie Kuhn, council secretary

*A complete set of minutes can be found on the bulletin board outside the office.*

## A Report on Synod Assembly

By Pam Nemmetz

I'd like to give you a brief report on the East Central Synod Assembly which I attended with Steve Last and Pastor Jewell.

First, I'd like to give you an overview of the goals of the East Central Synod.

The Synod cultivates leaders by equipping both lay leaders and rostered ministers for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Some ways in which the Synod does this is by supporting lay schools of ministry, youth ministry, interim pastor training, spiritual retreats, leadership retreats and the First Call Theological Conference.

Secondly, the Synod walks with congregations through times of transition to ensure the vital work of the Gospel is carried out. An example would be times of pastoral change.

Lastly, the Synod supports ELCA missions, such as Lutheran Campus Ministry, Crossways Camping Ministry, Advocacy Workshops, and immigrants and refugees.

The Synod Assembly is an annual business meeting that always includes speakers and opportunities for faith formation and fellowship. During the business portion of the meeting, two resolutions were passed.

The first resolution is about encouraging members to be anti-hunger supporters and advocates. We are working toward this through our Feed Our Children program and support of the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry.

The second resolution encourages us to look beyond our communities and support global missions like Lutheran World Relief, immigration and refugee services and our companion synod in South Africa. The goal is for each congregation to choose one or more global missions to receive special attention this year.

Our guest speaker was Jim LaDoux, who oversees coaching and consultation for an organization called Vibrant Faith. He spoke to us about strategies for intergenerational faith formation. By using the expression of church

life, community events and worship events, we can encourage wider participation of all age groups.

Last year we had a special healing service which included interactive prayer stations that was well received by both the young and young-at-heart.

We can infuse intergenerational expression and relationships into existing programs and activities, such as our mixed age choir and the participation of our youth in Advent and Lenten services. I also want to mention the gracious musical participation of the Stephan family in our worship, as well as our Sunday School children.

We are also encouraged to embrace intergenerational faith formation by connecting the generations in new programs and experiences. Our annual day of service called, "God's Work, Our Hands", may be a good opportunity to involve the young and young-at-heart in activities that promote service and faith formation.

This concludes my report. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you at the Synod Assembly this year.

### 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 \$7015.00 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!

## Honoring our Charter Members in 2019



### Charter Members

We invite interested members to help us with three tasks: design a plaque to honor charter members of St Andrew's, find the appropriate place to display it, and prepare a celebration to dedicate the plaque on our next Anniversary (Sunday, April 28, 2019). If you are interested in helping, please contact Rose Rivera (920) 216-2271. Thank you!



We have been so blessed with special music this summer! Thank you so much! We've had all ages, families, individuals and small choirs.

As summer winds down, the special music doesn't need to. Let us know how we can support you and your musical gift throughout the year. Maybe you need help getting a group together. Maybe you've never "performed" in front of people yet. Maybe you play the accordion, but never thought it would fit into a church service. Well, we've been given gifts, and we've been given people to help us and opportunities to share. The next step is to be bold and grab those opportunities. Your Worship and Music staff members are ready for you!

*"Begin the music, strike the tambourine, play the melodious harp and lyre." Psalm 81*



## Confirmation begins

Orientation Wednesday, September 5  
6:00 to 7:30 pm.

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

Our Classes begin Wednesday, September 12 at 6 pm!  
See you there!

## Sunday school begins Sept. 16!

Children ages 3 through 5th grade are welcome to join us. We are excited to begin a new year learning, enjoying music, and creating projects together as we explore our faith.

Sunday School begins at 9 am in worship together with our families. After the children's message we move to the classrooms and continue learning and having fun. Parents may pick up their children after worship has concluded. Come and check us out!



Sunday School



Sunday School and confirmation classes are set to begin! We could still use your help as a teacher, substitute teacher, class shepherd (not teaching but with our students), or helper in Sunday school or Confirmation.

On most Sundays of the school year, Sunday school meets just after the children's time in the 9 am worship, so our students begin worship with their families and teachers and then go to classes.

Confirmation meets on most Wednesday evenings in the school year from 6:00 to 7:30 pm (concurrent with Youth Ministry Team meetings). We can use your help for the whole year or for a season. Please feel free to talk with Teri Rucinsky (Christian Education council liaison) and Pastor Karen Jewell (Confirmation program). Thank you!!!

## Thank you from Christian Action

This past July we had the opportunity to meet a missionary who works with [JAARS](#) (Jungle Aviation and Radio Service). Thank you to all who stayed and learned more about JAARS from Caryl. Thanks also to those who made sure our conversations were accompanied with lovely treats!

We had the pleasure of serving a meal at the EAA grounds to approximately 250 missionaries and their families! What an adventure! Thank you to those who went out to serve, and also a HUGE thank you to those who baked desserts and made salads. It was a huge success! We couldn't have done it without you!

We are learning and ironing out problems so that if St. Andrew's chooses to do this again it'll be even better! The missionaries could not come for EAA without the support of meals, transportation and housing. Please consider helping next year, it's a blessing. -- Brenda Francis





# God's work. Our hands.

Sept. 9, 2018

## You can be involved! Please note:

- **Chili Cook-Off** will be held on 9/9/18 at 10:00 am. Like to cook?? Want to try your skills and have fun?? We are looking for more teams to be involved in the chili cook-off. Please contact Carol Spiegelberg if you would like 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. 9. Hot dogs and ice cream will be provided. If you would like, you may add chips, salad or dessert to pass for the meal. Please plan to attend!
- Please join us and help with 3 service projects:
  - LWR school kits
  - Putting together Student Care Packages for Lutheran Campus Ministry.
  - Assembling hygiene kits for warming shelter

In order to complete these projects, we are in need of:

- Snack bars, oatmeal and/or hot chocolate packets, candy bars, Ramen Noodles, GORP packages, individual mac 'n cheese, etc.
- Hygiene products. Suggested items:  
Shaving cream, razors, deodorant, combs, toothbrushes, toothpaste, foot warmers, foot powder, hand sanitizer.

A box will be found in the hallway near the Fellowship Hall doors for donations. Thank you!

Especially for kids: Join in the Penny Wars for the ELCA Good Gifts Program that supports Heifer Project. Your pennies can help buy animals that provide food for hungry children and their families. And come create chalk art welcome messages on our front sidewalks!

## 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!  
**At this time we especially need notebooks, pencil sharpeners, scissors, and crayons.**  
We will assemble these kits on *God's Work Our Hands Day* (Sept 9).

### Noisy Offering

The September 16 Noisy Offering is designated for [Emmeline Cook Elementary School](#), helping provide supplies and other needed items for the school community.

Last month's noisy offering of \$90.75 was designated for [ELCA Good Gifts](#) – gifts that grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives. Thank you for your generosity!

# 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](mailto:pattykoplitz@gmail.com) or 920-420-5616.



## YMT (Youth Ministry Team)

Youth Ministry will resume meeting on Wednesday September 5<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 7:30pm! We will start planning our year and talk about your summer! You are welcome to come if you are high school or college age. Come as you are able!

## BYG (Beginning Youth Group)

Beginning Youth Group will meet for a game day on Saturday September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2 to 4 pm Kids in grades 2 through high school are welcome to join us for fun and games. Bring a game to share if you like!

## **Autumn 2018: Reformation 2018**



We read in James 1:17 – Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.

Faith practice: Make a list of the blessings in your life. Go ahead! These are gifts to you from God, the source of all. Now review the list and pray for each, “I thank God for ....” Do this each day and see how you feel.

We thank God for you!

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](http://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.

**Picnic fellowship meal Sunday**  
**September 9<sup>th</sup>** at 11:30 am following the Chili Cook-off.

Feel free to take part and if you like, bring a salad, dessert, or chips to share.

## St. Andrew’s Men with a Purpose (STAMP)

### **Breakfast**

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

### Art & Soul

Saturday, September 22, 10:30 am – 4 pm  
Meet in the “Creation Station” off the Fellowship Hall.



## Committee Meetings

All members welcome!

### **Christian Action Committee**

Tuesday, September 4, at 6 pm

### **Technology Committee**

Monday, September 10, at 12 pm

### **Worship & Music Committee**

Tuesday, September 4, at 4 pm

### **Council Meeting**

Tuesday, September 11, at 7 pm

### **Property Committee**

Thursday, September 27, at 6 pm