



# St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Newsletter

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

April 2019

Sunday Worship at 9:00 & 10:30 am

Easter Sunday worship at 7:00, 9:00, and 10:30 am!

Dear friends,

We are coming to the pinnacle of the church year: to the drama and poignancy of Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Everything intensifies, deepens, draws to a climax.

We have been headed to Jerusalem with Jesus throughout Lent – we have heard in Luke's gospel how he "set his face towards Jerusalem" knowing that it would mean triumph and tragedy, terrifying darkness but also the dawn of unquenchable light.

On **Palm Sunday**, April 14, we begin the Passion story with Jesus' ride into Jerusalem on the humble donkey – saluted with palms, welcomed with cheers, but questioned by authorities, and headed for the Cross.

Throughout **Holy Week** different stories come into focus – the last supper with his friends, and the betrayal in a garden (we ponder this on **Maundy Thursday**); the trial by skeptical Romans swayed by powerful lobbies aiming to do away with Jesus at any cost, and the resulting death on a Cross (our meditation on **Good Friday**).

Finally, the dawn of God's New Creation comes as Jesus is raised from the dead and begins the work of reconciling each of us and all of us to the God we thought could never forgive us for what we have done and what we have failed in.

Jesus emerges in quiet victory and unswerving love to invite us into forgiveness and freedom! So we sing our joy and faith on Easter morning – this year on **Easter Sunday**, April 21.

There will be so many worship services during Holy Week – two on Palm Sunday, two on Maundy Thursday, two on Good Friday and three on Easter Sunday. We will be offering the entrance into Jesus' story again and again.

Come when you can and slip into the story once more – to find your place in God's unwavering love.

Come as you are able and know that there is a standing invitation (but not a demand) that you take your place among those who worship, sorrow, and hope in Jesus.

We know the other demands of life won't be pausing – work, school, homelife, family needs won't slow down or take time off.

But we will be here – telling the story, singing it, praying it, offering it, and you are welcome.

I wasn't very "churched" as a child or young adult. If I got to go to worship it was usually once for Christmas and maybe once for Easter.

Even though I didn't have the background in the faith, those few times in worship made a deep impression – the story and the experience were unforgettable. I am so grateful – God kept inviting.

Please consider inviting your loved ones and your friends to come and see. Please consider gathering up your little ones and your youthful ones and coming together to take part in some moment of worship in Holy Week.

If it doesn't work for you and yours during Holy Week or for Easter Sunday, please know that we keep celebrating Easter season for fifty days – with the story, music, prayers, flowers and deep joy.

And that's just the season – we will be celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus every Sunday of the year!

The door is open, and God is waiting to embrace YOU. I hope that you will come. May God bless you and yours today, tomorrow and always.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell

Highlights of Church Council Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2019 - 7:00 PM

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

Organization: Officers and committee chairs. Discussed new member and selection of committees. Matt Moore nominated David Olson to be Vice President. Motion approved. He also has accepted the Fellowship position.

Financial Reports: Matt Moore presented the January and February financial statements. Discussed the historical budget practices and designated funds. Motions made and approved to accept financial reports. ADA restroom is \$20,067, as of February 28, 2018.

#### Old Business

Annual Meeting Review – discussed and clarified the annual meeting. Need to advertise the annual budget far enough in advance. Constitutional changes need to be sent to the members once again for a vote in January. Will send when we start up the nominating committee again in September.

Encore! room request – after much discussion and prayer, it was decided that we would not be able to accommodate their request.

#### New Business

Christ Lutheran sold their church building to Victory Baptist Church. They will have the building blessing with their goodbyes then jump in the car to the Hooper Building for their first service. We are hoping to get people to hold signs along the route to welcome them to their new site. They are moving on March 24.

Pastor's Report – propose we give a gift to Christ Lutheran in support of their mission. Motions made and approved to give a gift of \$500 to Christ Lutheran. Pastor thanked the committee members for their leadership and carrying on the positions they have been in. She also distributed the Time and Talent Sheet summaries and encouraged leaders to reach out to those interested in the committees. Pastor is reviewing the list of members to include active members in the directory. Council will vote on moving currently inactive members to the Responsibility List.

#### Committee Reports

Christian Action, Carol Spiegelberg – Attended the Crossways Annual Meeting on March 2. Crossways is undergoing a capital campaign called "Rooted in Faith, Growing to Serve." They have received 40% of

their base goal of \$1,800,000. We are still going over the name for Feeding the Children. Will advance with food truck one day per week. Emmeline Cook will help advertise in June and July. Will hand out books and will give us the remaining books to distribute. Feed our Children Informational meeting for all who are interested in helping will be on April 2nd at 6:00 PM

Congregational Life, Rose Rivera – no report

Education, Teri Rucinsky, This month, students prepared for the Lenten season. We started a new curriculum on March 10th that will hopefully meet the needs of our students better. We are looking for a volunteer to teach pk-4 Sunday School class. This is a minimal time commitment. The materials will be provided for you!

As always, our students are busy! Our fifth graders (and any others that would like to attend) are preparing for Holy Communion on Saturday, April 6th. Our Youth Ministry Team will be making pizzas on March 23rd! Thank you to all that ordered.

Camping season is upon us. Make sure you're watching The Net for upcoming registration deadlines and consider signing up for a spring or summer camp!

This month our noisy offering will be for World Relief of the Fox Valley. February's noisy offering raised over \$100 for the Christine Ann Center!

Evangelism, Jim Heidl Jim is looking forward to working with David Olson, Tom Galica and the rest of the committee.

Property, Warren Luce, No report.

Stewardship/Discipleship, Ann Stephan pizza sales so far about 200. Crossways has plan for their capital campaign. Ann attended their meeting and is clarifying what her authority is to pursue the campaign as St. Andrew's representative. She and Pastor will meet to discuss the next steps.

Technology/Office, had good meeting and are working on the items the UWO interns taught us. Jakob and Matt have helped improve the technology at the church including the new high tech doorbell.

Worship & Music, Peg Olson – no report.

President's Report: attended Miravida annual meeting last night. Wonderful things are happening there including the chef.

Respectfully submitted, Jackie Kuhn, secretary

*A complete set of council minutes can be found on the Narthex bulletin board next to the office.*

## Lenten and Holy Week Worship



2019 Lenten Round Robin  
concludes  
"Living our Baptism"

Wed, April 3: Sharing Good News: Proclaim the good news of God in Christ. **Pastor Doug Holtz, Calvary.**

Wed, April 10: Community: Live among God's faithful people. **Pastor Brad Dokken: Peace.**  
*A joint project of Calvary, Christ, Our Savior's, Peace and St Andrew's Lutheran Churches in Oshkosh!*

### Sunday, April 14 is Palm

Sunday and begins the story of Jesus' Passion during Holy Week. Palm Procession and Holy Communion at 9:00 & 10:30 am.



Maundy Thursday (April 18) recalls the Last Supper of Jesus and his disciples. Holy Communion at 12 noon & 7:00 pm.

Good Friday (April 19) - focused on Jesus' final hours and his death on the Cross. Confession, story, song, and prayer at 12 noon & 7:00 pm.

**You are always welcome!**

## Easter Sunday Worship

**April 21, 2019**



**Sunrise Worship at 7:00 am** – we light the new Paschal Candle and celebrate Holy Communion.

**Easter Breakfast from 8:00 – 9:30 am**

**Festival Easter worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am** – we tell the story of Jesus' Resurrection with the Word, music, candles, flowers, Holy Communion and great joy.

**Come & worship the Risen Lord!**

You are most welcome!

## **Easter Breakfast!**

**Sunday, April 21 from 8 to 9:30 am**

This is one of our favorite fellowship times all year! Member families cook all your favorite breakfast foods, serve you before and after Easter worship and we have the chance to catch up with one another once again.



Would you like to help? Contact Chris Ziegler or the church office (920)235-6616.

## **Update on the Accessible Restroom project**



Your generous gifts continue to come in and grow our needed amount (\$40,000.00) to create the accessible restroom near the sanctuary. You are working together to provide the best hospitality for all who worship here. Thank you so much. Our total stands at **\$20,271.01** as of February 22.

Thank you for your generosity!



**CROSSWAYS**  
CAMPING MINISTRIES

**CROSSWAYS CAMPING MINISTRIES  
ANNUAL MEETING**

*submitted by Carol Spiegelberg*

I attended Crossways annual meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Crossways are on their way with their Capital Campaign "Rooted in Faith, Growing to Serve". They have received a total of \$672,029 in pledges. They have received almost 40% of their base goal of \$1,800,000. They have begun the congregation phase of the campaign, with 57 congregations participating. St. Andrew's is among the participants. Crossways will not start with planned improvements until 75% of goal is reached.

It's been a while since I've been at one of the camps. If it's been a while for you or if you've never been to one of the 3 camps, now may be the time to see for yourself how amazing the camps are.

## Preparation for Holy Communion



**Saturday, April 6**

**9 am - 12 pm**

**Or contact Pr Karen to arrange  
an alternate time!**

We like to prepare our fifth graders and others who would like to explore and understand the meaning of Holy Communion. Our next class is scheduled for early April but we can arrange alternative times – ***Questions? Please call Pastor Karen (235-6616) for more information! Parents/mentors encouraged to attend!***

## *April Bible Studies*



**Monday nights April 1, 8, & 29 (7:15 to 8:45 pm)**

We are watching and discussing N.T. Wright's video study of Surprised by Hope: rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church. Great conversations! Feel free to join in.

**Wednesday noon April 3, 10, & May 1<sup>st</sup>**

We are watching and discussing Amy Jill Levine's video study Entering the Passion of Jesus: A beginner's guide to Holy Week.

The first two Wednesdays in April we follow the Lenten worship at noon, and we resume our 12 noon to 1:30 pattern on May 1.

Please know you are always welcome.

### **Noisy Offering**

The **April 21** Noisy Offering is designated for the [Oshkosh Area Community Pantry](#), a collaborative community food pantry.

Thanks to all who donated to the March Noisy Offering. The World Relief Fox Valley helping refugees received \$ **83.58**. Thank you for your generosity!

**From the  
Christian  
Action  
Committee:**



## Feeding Hungry Kids 2019



Mark the date for an informational meeting for our summer Feeding Hungry Kids mission on **Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 PM**. Please join us if you want to volunteer or want to learn more. For more

information, contact Carol Spiegelberg or the church office (920) 235-6616.

### This is How We Roll!

Fill the Gap-Oshkosh is asking Oshkosh churches to consider collecting paper products this Lent to help Fill the Gap at our local pantries. Needed items:



- Diapers
- Toilet paper
- Paper towel
- Kleenex

Thank you for considering this mission. A collection box is in the hallway near the Fellowship Hall Doors.

## Youth News

For more information on any of the following youth events, please contact Patty Koplitz at 920-420-5616 or [pattykoplitz@gmail.com](mailto:pattykoplitz@gmail.com)



Thank you to all who helped with the Pizza Fund raiser - especially the Iversen family and the Stephan family!



STEWARDSHIP  
OF GOD'S CREATION

## Stewardship of God's creation

"God pauses six times while creating the heavens and the earth and sees that it is "good" (Genesis 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 26). But when all is completed, God marvels and calls it "very good." (Genesis 1:31)

"Today that "very good" creation is under extreme strain from climate change, plastic waste, toxins in our air and water, species extinction and countless other factors. As God-appointed stewards of creation (Genesis 1:28), we have to admit we're failing."

—Rob Blezard at [www.thestewardshipguy.com](http://www.thestewardshipguy.com).

So what can we do to take better care of the Creation we live in? Did you know that St Andrew's has been purchasing sustainably grown palm fronds for Palm Sunday ever since Lutheran World Relief (LWR) made them available for purchase ten years ago?

And we drink Fair Trade Coffee on Sunday mornings – the Fellowship Blend for both caffeinated and decaf coffee. This was another resource developed by LWR. You can purchase it too: <https://equalexchange.coop/products/coffee>.

Better insulation, better, more efficient lighting, and a more efficient heating and cooling system have helped us keep our building comfortable but also use less energy to do it. What else would you like to see us do as a congregation to care for the earth? What else can we do in our homes? God's creation depends on our care. Thank you!

**Celebrate Earth Day on Monday, April 22!**

### Electronic gifts and offerings

Would you please support the mission and ministry of St Andrew's Lutheran Church? Your gifts help us carry out God's mission locally and globally. If you would like to offer your gift electronically here is the short URL: <http://bit.do/stagiving> or the QR Code:



Or you may go to our [standrewsoshkosh.org](http://standrewsoshkosh.org) – our website. Feel free to ask for more information. Thank you so much!



## Fellowship

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

#### Breakfast

Meet at Delta Restaurant, 515 N Sawyer St  
Saturday, April 13, at 8:00 am

#### Art & Soul

**Saturday, April 13, 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, April 1, at 4 pm

#### Committee Meetings

#### Christian Action Committee

Tuesday, April 2, at 6 pm

#### Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 9, at 7 pm

#### Property Committee

Thursday, April 25, at 6 pm



### Literacy Tutors Needed!

Winnebago County Literacy Council provides free literacy services (to help improve reading and writing skills) to adults in our community and the waiting list is growing. Being a tutor is an investment in breaking the cycle of poverty. See <http://www.winlit.org/> for more information on the programs and services they offer. Call or text Angie Fralish at 920-573-5507 would like to know how you can help, or if you'd like more information, or if you know of anyone in need of our literacy services.