



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Newsletter

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

August 2019

Sunday Worship at 9:00 & 10:30 am

Feeding Hungry Kids 11 am to 12:30 pm, Monday through Friday

Dear friends,

We had a wonderful meeting of some folks who are willing to help support and grow Fellowship events in late July at David and Colleen Olson's home. It was a lovely cookout!

St Andrew's Fellowship committee focuses upon our ministry of hospitality, and so it covers everything from Coffee Hour to Easter Breakfast, from kitchen equipment to the fostering of groups such as STAMP (St Andrew's Men with Purpose) and Art & Soul (folks who gather to make crafts together). Dave Olson is our council liaison.

I was excited by our conversation at Dave's home after the cookout – all the great ideas for supporting people in their faith life through the variety of gatherings we can have here at St Andrew's.

I am just leaving for a class today (at the end of July) held in Minneapolis MN called **Faithful Innovation Summit**. It is sponsored by Luther Seminary and its leaders include people that St Andrew's members will be working with in the coming program year (2019 to 2020) in a program called Re-Imagining Church.

Our Synod has invited St Andrew's and other congregations to participate in an exploration of ways to grow our ability to connect people with Jesus Christ in this very challenging 21st century world.

A few members of our congregation will be meeting three times during the coming year and we will be given a coach to talk with us as we explore our possibilities and develop new practices in our congregation.

This exploration process is called Re-Imagining Church. And by the way, we can still use a couple more people to be involved – people who care about our present and future as a faithful congregation.

Please talk with me if you are interested in participating in this exploration and conversation! Not everyone has to go to meetings either – you can be involved in many different ways in this process. So please consider it, pray about it and ask me about it!

Meanwhile, I am heading to the Summit in Minneapolis with hope that I can bring back more insights into faithful innovation.

I am committed to our faithfulness and well-being as a congregation. In these swiftly changing times, I have hope that we can adapt and thrive as a people committed to Jesus Christ and to sharing his blessings with the rest of the world.

I also wanted to let you know after both the July 4th parade and last night's time at Pizza Ranch, that your community is grateful for what you are doing to help feed hungry kids.

At the parade, I was touched by the folks who were watching as we marched alongside the float and the bright yellow truck (Andy's Dragon Lunch Wagon). So many of them told us that they were so grateful for what you are taking on – a mission to serve hot meals and brown bag lunches to kids and their families who really need some support.

Last night at Pizza Ranch we heard again the same kinds of comments from local people and from folks who came from far away – we were serving folks here for EAA!

It all boils down to something simple that Jesus teaches us to do as we are able:
And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward. (Matthew 10:42)

So grateful to be in God's mission with you!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Karen Jewell



Saints Alive!

As you enter the sanctuary and listen to the prelude on a Sunday morning, your eyes may be drawn to the paraments on the altar. You notice either the communion trays that indicate it is a “full communion” service or the cloth-covered chalices and paten on the side table when it is an intinction service. Have you ever wondered who makes sure they’re always carefully arranged and ready for the service?

Darlene Bruce has chaired the St. Andrew’s Altar Committee for many years. She’s the person who places the paraments on the altar and ambo in accordance with the liturgical seasons, orders the communion wafers, and purchases the wine and grape juice. She also schedules the committee members who prepare for and clean up after each communion service. (And she could use more committee members!)

Darlene and her husband Gary have been members of St. Andrew’s since 1975 and have made many friendships during that time. “We appreciate everything our members do to keep the church going and make it one of the friendliest churches around.”

Darlene has a long history of service to St. Andrew’s. As a member of the church council during the 1980’s, she chaired the Evangelism Committee and enjoyed being able to support the other council members as well as serving the congregation through evangelism projects. She has worked with Vacation Bible School and Confirmation Class, because she likes working with young people, helping them learn to act as Christians; she hopes she “helped them along a little.” Darlene also became involved with the Property Committee at the request of Peg and Bob Rieckman.

Many of you will remember when Darlene worked in the St. Andrew’s office. She found this a very interesting experience, “never knowing what would happen.” She enjoyed working with Pastor Karen and all the members of the congregation. One reason was that Pastor Karen was always upbeat – Darlene loved to hear her whistle around the office! Another interesting aspect was the presence of AdvoCap’s food distribution program at St. Andrew’s for some years. Darlene says this was very interesting; it opened her eyes to “different lifestyles and things people had to overcome in their lives.”

Darlene and her husband Gary, who also has and continues to serve St. Andrew’s in many ways, also find time to travel and have enjoyed trips to Mexico, England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales in addition to the US West, Southwest, and East, including Florida & Disney World,

Darlene’s long connection to and experiences at St. Andrew’s have given her important insights that she’d like to share with us:

“There are so many things parents do for their children these days, but I would encourage them to support their children’s spiritual lives as well and to get involved themselves as members of St. Andrew’s. Support from the congregation will help them as well as their children. Life can be very hard, and if children have strong spiritual lives, it will help them navigate through their whole lives.”

“The St. Andrew’s congregation is doing more outreach than ever, but we must remember the original mission of the church was to build a strong congregation in this area. We need to be a strong congregation, so we will be able to help families in the congregation and the surrounding area.”

By Peg Olson

The July 2019 Council Meeting minutes are not available at press time. When available, a full set will be posted on the bulletin board outside the office. If you would like a copy, please contact the office and we will email or US mail you a copy when they become available. Thank you for understanding.

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. At the end of June the ADA Restroom project funds stood at \$22,507.01. Thank you for your generosity!



Sunday, August 4 Bless the Pets Service (10:30 am)

Bless the Pets is a special worship when we ask God to bless our pets and all creatures. If your pet likes to be around others, please plan to bring your pet! If your pet would not be comfortable here, feel free to bring a picture to share and please know that there will be a special blessing prayer to take home for your pet. We also give thanks in our worship for those pets who have gone to heaven.

Our worship is in the courtyard, outside where we can enjoy the many beauties of creation. This year Bless the Pets is on Sunday, **Aug. 4** at the 10:30 am worship.



Vacation Bible School Animal Service Project Sunday, August 11

Join us August 11 for a fun afternoon at the zoo! We will make enrichment activities between services for the animals, and then deliver our enrichment boards to the Menominee Park Zoo after second service. All families encouraged to carpool as necessary and meet at the zoo after second service (around noon).



Help Needed with Sunday School & Confirmation classes

Love working with children? Love sharing your knowledge? We are in need of Sunday School teachers and Confirmation teachers and mentors. Please feel free to contact the Church Office or Pastor Karen for more information! Call (920) 235-6616.

Sunday School Registration

Registration forms are available on-line or in the church office. Please come for a day when all generations work together – God's Work Our Hands Day on Sunday September 8. There will be mission activities for every age.



Then Sunday School classes begin on the following Sunday, September 15. Children come to 9 am worship and then head to classes after the children's time in worship.



Confirmation begins (A special welcome to our Sixth Graders and other new students!)

Parents and students please come to Orientation on Wednesday, September 4, 6:00 to 7:30 pm in Church.

Classes begin Wednesday, September 11! We meet at 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. See you there!



**A word from
the Christian
Action
Committee:**

Feed Our Children is underway throughout August!

We have so many people to thank for helping us keep this program going. Many, many people and businesses in our community have donated and assisted in this mission!

If you helped with donating funds, gift cards or food we thank you. If you volunteered your time to help with cooking, serving, greeting, or providing good fellowship, we thank you. We end the program on August 30. Please keep us in your prayers so that we are able to feed the children in our community.

We would like to thank **Pizza Ranch** on Washburn, where we held the fundraiser - we received \$800 - a combined total of a portion of the proceeds during our fundraiser from the restaurant as well donations from patrons in a jar for our mission. Most of all, it was a lot of fun to be there, and so we pass along deep thanks to all who helped.

God's Work. Our Hands. Sept. 8, 2019

St. Andrew's will soon engage in service work right here in our community. We are one of over 9,000 congregations participating in "GOD's Work Our Hands". We will be making a positive change in our community. We hope you can join us on Sept. 8.

We will start the morning off with a Chili Cook Off right after the first service. We have 3 teams signed up so far, if you love to make chili and have a

special recipe that you would like to make, sign up yourself or a team of 2.

After the chili contest we will start our Mission Projects, we could use your help with the following projects.

1. Assembling hygiene kits for Emmeline Cook School
2. Collecting Kleenex, Ziploc Bags (any size), and Clorox Wipes
3. LWR School Kits (for donations needed, see items list in next article below)

To help us complete the first two projects we are in need of the following;

Kids toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, brushes, deodorant, hand soaps and hair ties.

Kleenex, Clorox Wipes, Ziploc Bags (any size)
For donations needed to put in the LWR school kits see the next article below.

A box will be set up on the table by the Fellowship area for your donations.

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!

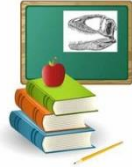



Each Kit contains:

- 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!**
Donations may be placed in the designated box near the Easel in the entryway. We will assemble these kits on God's Work Our Hands Day (Sept 8).

Oshkosh Back to School Fair 2019

The Back to School Fair takes place on **August 15, 2019** at Oshkosh North High School, 1100 West Smith St. Oshkosh. It helps 1,000+ area students get ready to go back to school with school supplies, clothing, haircuts, and hygiene items.



 St Andrew's Christmas tree in our entry way is loaded with tags to suggest needed items that we can collect and provide to support this community effort. Thank you for taking part! The items can be left at the tree, (unwrapped) and will be collected through Sunday, August 11th before the Fair.


Please call Teri at 920-966-1200 for more information.

Noisy Offering

The August 18 Noisy Offering is designated for [ELCA Good Gifts](#) – gifts that grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives. Thank you for considering this mission!

The July 21 Noisy Offering of \$111.36 was designated for the [K-9 Unit of Oshkosh](#) Police Department. Thank you so much!

Save the Date!

 **August 18** the **Summer Choir** will be singing at the 9 AM service. We are singing with a piano, flute, violin trio! All are welcome to join. Watch for more news on rehearsal time. If you cannot make rehearsal, be sure to meet in the choir room on August 18 at 8:30 am. It's a familiar song, so you'll catch on quickly. Contact Brenda Francis with questions or to let her know to expect you. [Brenda at standrews@yahoo.com](mailto:Brenda_at_standrews@yahoo.com), 920-267-2383.

As a bonus the **STAMP Ensemble** will be singing our call to worship on Sunday, **August 11th** at the 9 AM worship – **Faith of Our Fathers**. All men are welcome to sing with the STAMP Ensemble. Hope you can be there! And thank you for your music.

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.

BYG (Beginning Youth Group)

SPAM night

Sept. 13 6 - 9 pm

Beginning Youth Group is open to all kids in grades 2 through 6 and up! We will start with a SPAM night (soda, pizza and a movie) on Friday September 13th from 6 to 9. Come and join the fun!

YMT (Youth Ministry Team)

Sept. 4

6 - 7:30 pm

School starts September 3rd, so let's meet Wednesday September 4th! We meet on Wednesday nights from 6 to 7:30. The first night we will have some special treats! If you are high school or college age you are welcome to join us every Wednesday! Feel free to join us any Wednesday night that is convenient for you. Enjoy fellowship, conversations, games and giggles. I hope to see you there!



Calling All Green Thumbs!

Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW-Oshkosh is gearing up for their annual plant giveaway for incoming freshmen students this fall. Please consider planting some easy-to-grow houseplants this summer and have them ready by the beginning of September. Label the plant with name, church, address and drop off to the unlocked garage at the Gathering Place anytime between Monday, August 26 and Sunday, September 1.

Questions? Contact Pastor Bryan Schmidt at (920) 213-1168 or pastorbryan@lcosh.org

August 2019: Prayers for our teachers



The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens – wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. (Isaiah 50:4)

During July and August, we gather supplies for the Back to School Fair, for Lutheran World Relief school kits, and for students in need in our neighborhood. As we seek to support the school children – let's pray for their teachers who will work so hard to open doors to the future of the children who receive your gifts. Please lift them up to God with thanks for their calling to teach children. Thank you!

Your Gifts are Welcome!

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 as well as offerings of cash or check or items that we are gathering for others are all welcome.

Your **offering gifts** to our church support the general mission of our life together in Christ – in worship, faith formation, and hospitality to the community.

Your **special gifts** help the folks we seek to bless beyond our doors. Please know that your gifts are received with deep thanks.

Thank you for supporting this congregation as we seek to follow Christ and share the good news of Jesus Christ for the sake of the world.



St. Andrew's Men with Purpose (STAMP)

Breakfast

Meet at Delta Restaurant, 515 N Sawyer St
Saturday, August 10, at 8:00 am

Art & Soul

Saturday, August 31, 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, August 5 at 4 pm

Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 13 at 7 pm

Technology Committee

Wednesday, August 14 at 10 am

Property Committee

Thursday, August 29, at 6 pm