



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 2019
Harvest Blessings!

Dear friends,

Is the Autumn a season with lots of study for you? It is for me – the larger church seems to schedule a lot of our special meetings and workshops at this time of year.

I don't mind – I really love to learn. I am so grateful that Lutherans are life-long learners because it is so enjoyable to keep learning.

I know that learning often involves practice – practicing scales on your musical instrument, practicing vocabulary to speak a foreign language, and practicing a variety of techniques and tools to make things well – be it food, furniture, or even a home.

We use the word practice as Christians in a way that made me want to ask: What does it mean to you to practice our faith?

If you looked up the meaning of the word practice it can be used in a couple different ways:

--**Practice** as a noun means the actual application or use of an idea, belief, or method, as opposed to theories relating to it. We sometimes talk about faith practices such as using breath prayer, or going prayer walking, or reading devotionally.

--**Practice** as a verb means to carry out or perform a particular activity, method, or custom habitually or regularly. We practice our faith by regularly worshipping, praying, reading the bible, and giving service to others.

I think that we practice our faith more in the way a healer practices medicine – our faith is an integral part of who we are and what we do.

In recent years, people in churches large and small have become concerned - overall membership in churches is declining and churches are often struggling to keep going.

We become anxious – does our congregation have a future? Will our children have faith in God – that is, practice faith in the one we have turned to in good times and bad?

Where once we would have tried different programs now the experts all seem to agree that there isn't one program that will "fix" our churches. What is needed is that each of us practice our faith regularly.

We have just begun a new practice of faith as a congregation – we are seeking to "re-imagine" the church.

In September, Carol Spiegelberg, Dave Olson, and I met with other folks from our synod to begin learning to re-imagine our church, to seek faithful, new ways of practicing our faith together at St Andrew's.

We have been taught that each one of us needs to practice asking two questions:
--What is God up to in our neighborhood?
--How may we join in on God's activities?

On the last weekend in September, a number of our members walked the neighborhood all around St Andrew's and began to look for anything that stood out to them. Each one saw different things.

Then we talked over what the Spirit of God might be helping us begin to see – see that God is here.

The idea is to practice asking the questions, practice looking for God in our life together as faithful folk, practice our faith in ways that can't help but breathe God's love and life into our lives!

We are just getting started – but I confess, it is very exciting. It gives me hope in this anxious time. And I believe it will bless you. Thank you so much for being part of St Andrew's!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Karen Jewell

The September 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.



Murdock Monster Mash is returning this year on Saturday, Oct. 19, 11 am until 1 pm. This is a fall and Halloween event that is free to children and their families. Last year we had over 50 children from our church and neighborhood join in the fun!

We do need volunteers and some items to help make this a success. Please watch for a sign-up sheet or speak with Brenda Francis about these opportunities.

A partial list of needed items:

- Stuffed animals (St. Vincent often has bags of 50 for \$10!)
- Prizes like school supplies, stickers, party favors, hats, scarves, mittens
- Candy
- Dessert bars, cupcakes, cookies
- Volunteers (set up, facilitate games, clean up)
- Gift cards (we will do the shopping)

Most of all, we need you to come and have fun!

Reimagining Church

St. Andrew's seeks to be vital and faithful, but faces great challenges as a church in the 21st century. We would like you to go along with us on a spirit-led journey. We are going to learn to become better listeners. We will listen to hear God's story, our members' stories, and our neighborhood stories.

We invite you to have an open mind and heart. We want to call on you to hear your story. Please join us if you are interested, and go along with us on this journey. For more information, please contact Carol Spiegelberg, 920-420-7832, or Dave Olson, 920-267-0768. Our next meeting with our coach Connie Morgenstern is November 4 at 12 noon.

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. As of August 31, the ADA Restroom project funds stood at \$29,207.01. Thank you for your generosity!



A word from the Christian Action Committee:



THANK YOU!

I want to give you a re-cap on FEEDING HUNGRY KIDS. If you have helped with donating food, providing gift cards or monetary donations, I thank you. If you volunteered with prep, serving, making sandwiches, cleaning off tables, or being a greeter, I thank you. Along with 53 volunteers and businesses, we served 956 meals, 930 sack lunches were given out here at church, and 202 sack lunches were given out on the food truck. For that, the children and I thank you! – Carol Spiegelberg





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

**God's Work, Our Hands
September 8, 2019**

The Chili Cook-Off ended in a four-way tie. We worked on several mission projects, including 31 school kits for World Relief, and 42 hygiene bags for Emmeline Cook School, along with 32 scarves and hats, also for the students. We made greeting cards for our shut-ins.

Also, 150 dog treat bags were made for the animal shelter in Keshena and 67 cat boxes were made for the animal hospital. Thank you all for participating in the making of the chili and helping with the mission projects. A fun time was had by all!

**From our
Fellowship
Committee:**



Our mission: We seek to engage all people that they may connect with God and each other in Christian Fellowship!

Current activities that we will continue to support: Easter breakfast, Chili cookoff, coffee with fellowship in between services, serving at funerals in whatever ways we can, STAMP.(St. Andrew's Men With Purpose) who meet the 2nd Saturday every month at 8:00am at Delta Restaurant. (Bring your spouse!)

New activities that we are evaluating: Appreciation dinner for volunteers, Appreciation event to honor veterans, dinner of celebration with our confirmation students (perhaps March 2020). Also, evaluate a mentoring program for our confirmation students.

Guest speakers to be brought in that will educate/inform our members on interesting topics that are of interest to them.

We are also starting the journey of Reimagining our church. Watch for the announcements on this exciting new initiative that our church will be going through!

If you would like to serve on our committee - all are welcome!! Updates will be forthcoming!

Sincerely submitted, Dave Olson

Noisy Offering



The October 20 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 \$129.72 was designated for [Emmeline Cook Elementary School](#), helping provide food, clothing, and



Sunday School Save the Dates!

Please mark your calendars. Sunday, December 15 will be our children's led Worship at the 10:30 am worship. Rehearsal will be on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 9 am. Watch for more news forthcoming.



Submitted by Patty Koplitz, Youth Director

For more information on any of the following events, please contact Patty Koplitz at 920-420-5616 or PKoplitz@standrewsoshkosh.org.

BYG (Beginning Youth Group)



Game Day
Saturday, October 19
2 - 4 pm

Kids from 2nd grade through high school age are welcome to come and play games. Bring a game to share and be prepared to enjoy yourself!

Annual Little Farmer Trip – Oct 20

Everyone is welcome! Kids from 2nd on up are welcome to join us to go to Little Farmer on Sunday October 20th. Younger kids are also welcome. We just ask that their parents join them. We will leave about 11:30 this year. We will do the Hayride and usually get a caramel apple as well as go through the corn maze! We ask that kids bring about \$15 each and be prepared for all kinds of weather! If you have any questions feel free to call me (Patty Koplitz) at 920-420-5616. Please let me know if you are planning to join us. I want to make sure we have enough vehicles for all!


YMT (Youth Ministry Team)

Synod Youth Gathering (SYG) 2019 presents: "COME AS YOU ARE" NOVEMBER 8-10, 2019 at the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc. The cost is \$150.00 per person. All High school age kids are welcome! This is a Spirit-filled weekend spent with other youth from around the area. There are workshops, large group gatherings, music, guest speakers, fun time and worships. I hope you encourage your child to come! **The Synod's deadline for registration is October 23rd.** Please contact Patty Koplitz for more information and registration. Please, don't let price be an issue.

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!



A poster for Winnebago County foster parent recruitment. At the top, there are ten hearts in shades of blue. Below them, the text reads: "AT THIS VERY MOMENT, THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 125 CHILDREN PLACED OUTSIDE OF THEIR HOME IN WINNEBAGO COUNTY." To the right, it says: "WE NEED YOUR HELP TO ENSURE THERE ARE ENOUGH FOSTER HOMES IN OUR COMMUNITY." In the center, there is a logo for Winnebago County featuring a house with a heart inside. Below the logo, it says: "PLEASE JOIN US AT THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING (220 WASHINGTON AVE, OSHKOSH) FOR AN INFORMATIONAL SESSION!" To the right of the logo, it lists dates for informational sessions: "INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES AT 6PM: - 9/27/19 - 10/17/19 - 11/5/19 - 12/3/19". At the bottom, it says: "OPEN YOUR HEART AND HOME... BECOME A FOSTER PARENT TODAY!" and "FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (920) 236-4658." There are also icons of a family and a heart with a sun at the bottom.

Your help is needed! If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please attend an informational session at the Winnebago County Human Services Building, 220 Washington Ave, Oshkosh at 6 pm on one of the following days: Oct. 1, November 5, or December 3, 2019.

Autumn 2019: Trusting



¹⁴But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, "You are my God."

¹⁵My times are in your hand...

(Psalm 31:14-15a)

Knowing that all that we have comes from God, we return with thanks a portion of what we have received. As Christians we support God's mission and ministry with financial gifts, gifts of time, and the use of our talents to carry out God's work here in our congregation and in the larger world. We invite you to support the mission and ministry of St Andrew's Lutheran Church through a gift to St Andrew's. Would you please make any special gifts over and above your regular support of our congregation?

Electronic gifts are welcome, as are cash or checks. 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 12, at 8:00 am

Art & Soul

Saturday, October 12, 11:00 am – 4 pm
Meet in the "Creation Station"

Committee Meetings

All members welcome!



JOIN US!

Christian Action Committee

Tuesday, October 1, at 6 pm

Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 8, at 7 pm

Technology Committee

Thursday October 17, at 10 am

Worship & Music Committee

Monday, October 21, at 6 pm

Fellowship Committee

Tuesday, October 22, at 5:30 pm

Property Committee

Thursday, October 24, at 6 pm

Re-imagining Church

Monday, November 4, at 12 noon

PUZZLE

Harvest hunt

Directions: After unscrambling each leaf's word, follow the vine to complete the Bible verse.

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Galatians 6:9 James 3:18 John 4:35

Peacemakers who sow in _____ reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18, NIV

Let us not become _____ in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9, NIV

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the _____! They are ripe for harvest. John 4:35, NIV

Answer: peace, weary, fields

