



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Newsletter

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

November 2019

Sunday Worship at 9:00 & 10:30 am

Joint Lutheran Thanks Eve worship 7 pm, Nov 27, 7 pm at Calvary

Dear friends,

Don't forget to rest.

As a parent I learned what I just didn't understand as a tot – the wonderful concept of a nap.

When I was little I pretty much despised nap-time – enforced quiet, boring waiting until the next time we could be up and doing something interesting!

As a parent and now as a grand - I really have learned to appreciate those moments when the little one sleeps peacefully for a few minutes and the hyper-vigilance can relax a bit.

In recent years I have tried to embrace the concept of Sabbath rest in a 24-7 world. It is NOT easy to have “down-time” for nearly everyone I know.

Sabbath rest is an ancient practice that was even given a place in the Ten Commandments. To understand Sabbath my favorite teacher is the Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann.

He writes: *Sabbath is the celebration of life beyond and outside productivity.*

He makes a good argument that Sabbath is the time when we rest in the presence of God knowing that we don't need to prove our worth by making or earning something!

And he says: *Sabbath is the pause that transforms.*

I am picturing you gathered with folks you love around the Thanksgiving table. I hope you will be eating special foods that represent the harvest of your life together.

I am hoping you will feel full in the best way – hunger satisfied, yes, but also full of the present moment of being with each other.

This is a moment of Sabbath rest.

I am reading a great book called **Who's Got Time?** by two young (millennial generation) clergy women who are trying to capture the ways of being faithful and acting spiritually in a frantically busy time.

Millennial generation folk are hard-working and yet burdened with debt; young and yet one in four are caring for an elder. Did they ever have a chance to be young and care free?

In their book Peterson and Fetterman suggest ways to weave faith practices into a daily life that is every bit as demanding as any generation has ever lived.

They lift up the value of sleep but note that sleep “looks extremely unproductive and being unproductive is a cardinal sin.” (p. 70).

They have wonderful suggestions for those wakeful times at 2 or 3 am when we somehow can't sleep: make it a time to “wait for the Lord” (Psalm 130). Look or go outside, and be on the lookout for what God is doing. Pray. Feel the dark. Then they suggest: “Head back to bed ready to allow God to rest in you just as you have rested in God.” (p. 72).

We are seeking ways to be a healthier, vibrant congregation – asking those re-imagining church questions of: **What is God up to?** And, **How can we get involved?**

Along the way, as we seek to keep God at the center of our lives and our life together as St Andrew's folk, may we receive God's gift of Sabbath – find it right there in the core of what we practice.

It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for [God] provides for his beloved during sleep.(Psalm 127:2)

I am praying for you a Thanksgiving filled with goodness, bounty, hope for a new year to be, and rest in the goodness of God's love for you in Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell

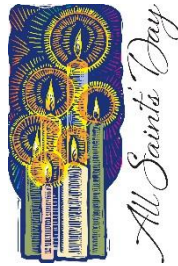
The October 2019 Council Meeting minutes are not available at press time. When available, a full set will be posted on the bulletin board outside the office. If you would like a copy, please contact the office and we will email or US mail you a copy when they become available. Thank you for understanding.

Special Days in November

All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 3, 2018

We continue our tradition at St Andrew's of writing the names of our loved ones who have died on outlines of butterflies so that they may be mounted on the wall around the cross in our Sanctuary. The butterflies remain for the rest of our Church year (through Sunday, November 24th) and remind us of the promise of the Resurrection of the Body and the Life Everlasting that we confess each week!



Christ the King Sunday

Sunday, November 24, 2018

On this Sunday that concludes the Church year, we celebrate in anticipation of the completion of God's good plan for Creation – for all of us! Please join us as we worship the King of Glory!



Thanksgiving Eve 2019

Our sister Lutheran congregations are hosting a joint Thanksgiving Eve worship with us on Wednesday, **November 27, 2018, at 7:00 pm at Calvary Lutheran Church, 2580 W 9th Ave, Oshkosh.** The worship will be followed by a pie fellowship. You are invited to take part!

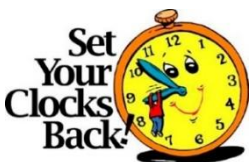


You are welcome to sing in a joint choir for the worship. Please join in the rehearsal at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, November 27 at Calvary.

Day Light Savings Time Ends

Sunday, Nov. 3

Remember to set your clocks back one hour! - OR - Arrive at church one hour early for some great fellowship before worship!



Christmas Poinsettia Orders Due by Sunday, November 17th



Ordering envelopes are located by the flower chart. Plants may be given in memory or honor of our loved ones, friends, or special occasion.

Choice of colors: Red, white, pink, monet, or marble. Six-inch pot, \$14.75 each. These will decorate our Christmas altar area. We thank you!

Generosity Project – Sun, Nov 17 at Calvary Lutheran Church 1:15 to 4:45 pm

Come explore **generosity** – what it looks like in our daily life – using art, games, and experiments. We would like to bring folks of all ages (from little to eldest among us!) to this workshop. Both individual members and families are welcome. If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Pastor Karen Jewell (920) 235-6616 by Nov 8th.

Special music in December!

Your musical offering is always welcome throughout the year, but especially at the holidays. Please let Brenda Francis, Sandy Last, or Pastor Karen know by Dec. 1 so that we can include you in our worship. THANK YOU!



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 September 30, the ADA Restroom project funds stood at \$29,207.01. Thank you for your generosity!



A word from the Christian Action Committee:



For the month of November, the Christian Action Committee will be doing two projects. We are asking you to help with these projects.

1. Keeping Kids Warm in Winter.

We will be collecting hats, gloves, and scarves that will be distributed to area elementary schools for children who are in need.



2. We will be helping the Oshkosh Police Department "Christmas Shop". List of items needed:

- For children – blankets, stuffed animals, puzzles, board games, toys, coloring books/crayons, stocking stuffers, books, and any clothing items.
- For seniors – blankets, hygiene items, crossword puzzles, puzzles, playing cards, socks or slippers, hats, scarves, gloves, calendars, greeting cards, and clothing items.

These items may be placed on the table across from the church office.

Noisy Offering

The November 17 Noisy Offering is designated for [Vietnam Veterans of America #437](#), designated to help when the V.V.A. #437 serves a meal at the Day by Day Warming Shelter.

Last month's noisy offering of \$129.00 was designated for the [Oshkosh Area Humane Society](#) helping enhance the quality of lives of animals in need.



From our Fellowship Committee:



**Special Event
Sunday, November 10, 2019**



Join us between and after our worship services as we learn from Colleen Olson about

Disability Rights Wisconsin. Refreshments will be available between services and a light meal will be served after the 10:30 worship concludes. Please plan to come!

**Honoring Our Veterans
Sunday, November 17, 2019**



We will recognize our veterans in church with a special display where you can recognize the veteran in your life. The noisy offering will go to a veteran's organization. Let's show how much we appreciate their contributions!

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

Meet at Delta Restaurant, 515 N Sawyer St
Saturday, November 9, at 8:00 am

Art & Soul

Saturday, November 23, 11:00 am – 4 pm
Meet in the "Creation Station" off the Fellowship Hall.

Autumn 2019: Thankful



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. your generosity, and for all that you do to join in God's mission.



Submitted by Patty Koplitz, Youth Director

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

BYG (Beginning Youth Group)

**SPAM – Soda, Pizza, and A Movie
Friday, November 15, 6 – 9 pm**

Second graders through high school students are invited to join us for **Soda, Pizza and A Movie** night! We will play **Hide and Seek** afterward!



YMT (Youth
Ministry
Team)

**Annual Middle School Lock In!
Friday, Nov. 22nd**

Annual Confirmation Lock-In

The lock-in this year will be on Friday, November 22nd. What is a lock-in you ask? The Youth Ministry Team kids host a fun-filled evening here at church for all middle school students. The starting time is 7 pm and ends Saturday morning at 7 am. We will do games together, group challenges, get to know each other better and learn about God.

We will have a worship at 11 pm. If your child prefers not to stay the night, they may be picked up at midnight. We always have movies, games and snacks. There are also games of hide and seek and sardines! Please let Patty Koplitz know if your child is able to join in! She can be reached at 920-420-5616 or at pkoplitz@standrewsoshkosh.org.

Annual Amish Chocolate Sale

Place your order now

for Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers!
See a YMT member near the Fellowship Hall,
Sun Nov 3 to Sun, Nov 24 to place your order.

Orders will be available for pickup before
Christmas so make sure to include gifts for your
family and friends!

Profits raised help kids attend summer mission
trip, summer confirmation camp and other
gatherings and retreats.

Thank you for your support!



Committee Meetings

All members welcome!



Looking Ahead to December

Re-imagining Church

Monday, November 4, at 12 noon

Christian Action Committee

Tuesday, November 5, at 6 pm

Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 12, at 7 pm

Technology Committee

Monday, November 4, at 10 am

Worship & Music Committee

Monday, November 18, at 6 pm

Fellowship Committee

Tuesday, November 12, at 6 pm

Property Committee

Thursday, November 21 at 6 pm



come!

Sunday, December 8 an advent fellowship potluck and white elephant exchange is being planned. Save the date! **Watch for more details** to

Advent 2019 begins Sunday, Dec.1



Wednesdays in Advent

December 4, 11, and 18
We worship at 12 noon & 7:00 pm

Christmas 2019

Sunday, December 15, at 10:30 am is **St. Andrew's Sunday School Christmas worship!**

On Thursday, December 19, at 7:00 pm, we will celebrate with a **Blue Christmas** worship – a quieter worship for those who feel grief at the holidays.

On Tuesday, December 24, we will worship at **7:00 pm** (Lessons and Carols) and **11:00 pm** Candlelight Communion.

We also worship on **Wednesday, December 25, Christmas Day, at 10:00 am** – Festival Worship with Holy Communion!

Please come to worship the new-born Christ when you and your family are able to attend. If you need information on sister churches where you are traveling, please talk with Pastor Karen about how to connect with ELCA churches wherever you are visiting.



Christmas Worship Schedule

