



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Newsletter

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

June & July 2021

Dear friends,

How are you? My heart is so full – so grateful to God for you!

To those who have been able to hang in there with us through all this crazy time – **thank you!** And to those who have checked us out and begun to join in what we can offer in worship and mission – **thank you!**

I am hard put to know how to evaluate the last 15 months or so – the rapidly changing expectations of when we would be back to the church operations we knew how to support – at first, we hoped to be back by Palm Sunday 2020, then later in May, then in the summer.

I had no idea it would be nearly summer 2021 when we would begin to be “back” and even so, it is not the way we anticipated – not simply resuming what we had done before the pandemic began.

You will see a few more adaptations for our worship explained elsewhere in the newsletter but overall, we are not doing very much that looks like our pre-pandemic life!

It is only recently that I began to realize how many blessings God was pulling out of these struggles!

We are communicating in more ways than we ever have before – and if we are faithful in what we say – that means the good news of Jesus Christ is getting to more people than we have ever reached before.

It means we are doing our job! For we have such good news in Jesus Christ that we don't want anyone to live without it, if we can share it somehow!

Yet it is all still a learning process. We try to reach people who have technology and those who don't, we try to offer worship in ways that will connect us when we can assemble together and when we can't.

And we have a whole neighborhood of folks to invite and encourage and help and bless and thank God for in our life together.

Before the pandemic was even a glimmer, our congregation began a process called “Re-imagining Church.” It was offered by our Synod staff and introduced us to a few crucial but simple practices for being faithful as congregations.

We were invited to **Dwell in the Word** – that is, read a passage of the bible out loud together and then ask ourselves what did we especially hear – what word, or image, or phrase stuck with us?

(We do this faith practice in our council meetings, and we did it at the Mission meeting in May – where else would you like us to try this?)

Then we shared with each other those insights – allowing the Holy Spirit to both inspire us as individuals and as a group of folks seeking to do what God was calling us to do!

The other simple practices included walking or driving through our neighborhood asking the question, **what is God up to around here?** Where do we see God at work **and how can we join in?**

Finally, the guidance from our coach was regularly – **take baby steps!** Start small, experiment, see what works, and see what doesn't. When we fail – we learn – and try again!

These practices have helped us stay steady in our commitment to the mission of Jesus Christ in our congregation and neighborhood through some of the most challenging days of our life together.

You, St Andrew's (and our community friends!), you are faithful in the midst of one of the most challenging times any of us has seen! God is with you! (And I am grateful to be with you too!)

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell



The February, March, April and May minutes of the Council Meetings are available at this time. Please contact the office if you would like a copy. Thank you!

Highlights of our work together:

May 27th Mission planning highlights:

Expand our outreach in the community by making greater use of gatherings in our Parking Lot and at our Picnic Pavilion

Suggested ideas included a neighborhood Ice Cream Social; a joint picnic with our mission partners: Cross & Crown Alliance Church; a Blessing of the Backpacks and Bikes as get ready for school.

June 8th Council meeting highlights – further reflection on our mission ideas prompted a call for Inreach as well as Outreach – that is, checking in once again with members to see how they are doing, whether they would like to help with worship or mission, how our communications are working, how the means of worship are working for members.

Meet our 2021 Council

Our elected council members are here to serve you! The council members represent you in decision making matters for our congregation. Feel free to contact any one of them with any questions or concerns (Call or email the office and we will forward you their contact information). And, thanks to each one of them for volunteering to serve our congregation.

Executive Committee

- Teri Rucinsky, President
- Carol Spiegelberg, Vice President
& Christian Action committee
- Amy Bargaquast, Secretary
- Matt Moore, Treasurer
& Finance committee
- Pastor Karen Jewell

- Nancy Kreilick, Congregational Life committee
- Naomi Larkpor, Education committee
- Warren Luce, Property committee
- Chris Ziegler, Financial Secretary
- Kathleen Bellaire, Worship and Music committee

Council Liaison:
Jakob Iversen, Technology

New Worship Schedule:

We are so blessed to be able to have you worship with us, in whatever manner is best for you. Please note that **pre-registration is no longer needed** for in-person worship.

As we come out of the pandemic we are still experimenting with the best way to provide worship to you on-line, in-person, and in the parking lot.

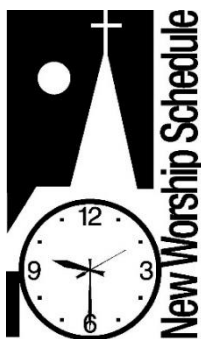
Starting July 4, we will be offering **Facebook worship at 8 am** – this will continue to be a streamlined service of about 30 minutes. Please note that this worship may be accessed at any time after 8 am, so you may worship at your convenience! **Worship in the Sanctuary will be at 8:45 am** and will be adding the receiving of Holy Communion inside the worship space – we estimate this will be a longer worship than the one we offer on Facebook/YouTube. And our **worship in the Parking Lot continues at 10:45 am.**

If the weather is unsafe (too stormy), we will NOT hold parking lot worship. If you are uncertain, call the office 235-6616 to hear a message telling you if the 10:45 am lot worship is cancelled on a given Sunday. **No message means Yes worship!**



hot or the are (920) message parking

Thank you for your patience as we learn to use technology, attempt to serve you with the greatest support for your worship time, and try these new things with you. Hope to see you soon!



Beginning in July:

Sundays

- 8:00 AM – Worship on Facebook Live
- 8:45 AM – In-Person Worship
- 10:45 AM – Outdoor Worship in our Parking Lot

Wednesdays

- 9:00 PM – Compline (Night Prayer) Worship on Facebook Live



Ice Cream Social Sunday, June 27 11:30 am – 1 pm

Build your own ice cream sundae.
Enjoy ice cream, beverage and conversation!
Join us after Parking Lot Worship on our front lawn. Fun for “kids” of all ages, 0 -100! You may even have fun if you’re 105!!

Confirmation Congratulations and Blessings!

We celebrate with these adults and their families and godparents a milestone in journey in faith.



young

their

worship

Due to the Pandemic the services have been limited to gatherings of family and godparents. We thank God for the tenacity and patience of our students and their families in this challenging time!

As of this newsletter the following students from the 2020 Confirmation class and the 2021 Confirmation class have spoken their YES to Jesus Christ in affirmation of their baptismal faith:

- Nora Stephan
- Benjamin Zaske
- Sawyer Sharratt
- Chloe Kortz
- Cameron Kortz
- Lilly Marquette
- Garret Munig
- Cali Vroman
- Kate Horejs

We look forward to the confirmation in faith of Liam Murphy, Lila Murphy, and MaKayla Angell very soon. May God bless you all and continue to deepen your faithfulness as you follow the Lord Jesus Christ!

Feeding Hungry Kids



Mondays and Thursdays
July 12th through Aug. 26th
11 am - 12:30 pm

We are thrilled to be able to offer take away meals to our neighborhood children on Mondays and Thursdays July 12 - August 26, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm.

Volunteers are still needed to help with providing the meals for the children. It is not too late to sign up! Check the hallway near the Sanctuary for more sign-up information.

It is approaching fast! **We need will need every volunteer to submit a background check form.** (forms available from our office).



Save the Date and try the Cactus Pizza!

Pizza Ranch fundraiser – Another way to help our mission of Feeding Hungry Kids – you can go out to dinner at Pizza Ranch on Monday July 26th between 4 and 8 pm and Pizza Ranch will donate a portion of the proceeds from meals during that time, plus there is a donation jar for those who want to go a second mile, and we get to share the good news of the help the diners are providing to hungry children and families in our community! It’s a WIN-WIN and you are welcome to take part!



**Summer Faith & Fun
Kits are here!**



Strengthening Our Community

For our families with elementary age and preschool age children we have a beautiful faith & fun kit for the summer! It includes a book by Laura Alary called **Breathe** that invites the reader into the stories of the Ascension and Pentecost and then helps us look for the presence of Jesus in our everyday life during the summer and autumn! Lots of fun activities and faith practices included. Please call us if you would like a kit for your family at (920) 235-6616.

The Winnebago Area Literacy Council has resumed their work at our campus, and it is a delight to have them back! Monday through Friday in the mornings they have a youth program for high school students working to improve their English skills – and do they have fun. Yesterday they were running relays by the picnic shelter!

On Tuesdays and Thursdays in the afternoons they have a program for families working on all the challenges of living in a culture with a new language. The families and the WALC staff are just delightful.

The leaders of the Winnebago Area Literacy Council are generous and supportive of the mission of St Andrew’s – helping us with plans for Vaccination clinics as well as providing the beautiful picnic tables we all enjoy. We thank them, both for their crucial mission in our community and also for their generosity to St Andrew’s with their resources and support! Thank you!



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.

Calling all St. Andrews' kids!

Who doesn't love a campfire? And S'mores?
And games?

Come and join us for 2 special YMT (Youth Ministry Team) evenings.

Kids of all ages are welcome! Parents, if you would like to stay, you are welcome!



We will be meeting from 7 to 8:30 pm on the following dates:

July 21
August 18

I hope you can join us for some fun!

Thank you for your generous help



We thank you for the time as well as the money that you offer to help St Andrew’s congregation continue to serve Christ in this place. All your gifts make a difference. We are making it through the pandemic and on into the next stage of our life together in faith.

Thank you to all who continue their financial support of St. Andrew’s either through their bank's bill

pay system, our on-line donations accessed through the website, or by mailing a check to St. Andrew’s. You may also use the QR code.



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



**All members
welcome!**

Council Meeting

Tuesday, July 13, at 7 pm

Worship & Music Committee

Wednesday, July 14 at 7 pm

Where can I get the COVID-19 vaccine?

- 1 Visit www.wcvaccine.org for a list of locations within Winnebago County where you can be vaccinated.
- 2 Reach out to your healthcare provider or local pharmacy.
- 3 Visit www.vaccine.gov to search for locations near you.
- 4 Call the Winnebago County Health Department at 920-232-3026 for help in finding a vaccine location or scheduling an appointment.



Scan me with your phone's camera!

The COVID-19 vaccine is FREE.

No identification or insurance required.

For free transportation, call 'Make the Ride Happen' at 920-225-1719.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Winnebago County
Health Department

**DO YOUR PART.
PROTECT AGAINST COVID-19.**



WALK-IN WEDNESDAY VACCINE CLINIC

**SUNNYVIEW EXPO CENTER
500 E CTY RD Y, OSHKOSH
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY
IN MAY & JUNE**

**FREE COVID-19 VACCINE. NO APPOINTMENT,
IDENTIFICATION OR INSURANCE REQUIRED.**

Visit www.wcvaccine.org for information on the type of vaccine administered, any age restrictions and additional vaccine locations in the area.

For free transportation, call 'Make the Ride Happen' at 920-225-1719.

**WWW.WCVACCINE.ORG
COVID-19 HOTLINE: 920-232-3026**



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Winnebago County
Health Department

RUNNING THE RACE

Summer Reading Plan



Loving and following Jesus is like being a runner, the Bible says. And a special "prize" waits at the end of the race! When you're tired or your faith feels weak, trust Jesus to give you strength.

With this Summer Reading Plan, you can complete a box every day or every other day. Read the Scripture and complete each activity to grow closer to Jesus. When you reach the finish line, start over for more practice. Invite a friend or family member to "run" with you!

START

1 Corinthians 9:24-26
Run in place as long as you can. Think of ways you "run" for Jesus.

Deuteronomy 31:1-8
(focus on vs. 6)
How does it feel to know God always runs with you?

Hebrews 12:1-3
Find out what "perseverance" means. Why do runners need that?

Jeremiah 10:23
Pray that God always directs your steps.

Proverbs 3:5-6
Run backward, then in circles, then with eyes closed. Why are "straight paths" simpler?

Psalm 18:32
Memorize this verse.

Matthew 18:10-14
Think of a time you "wandered off" — and how Jesus found you.

Psalm 119:32
Why do we need to follow rules — and God's commands?

1 Peter 2:21
Play Follow the Leader with friends & family.

Matthew 24:13
Write the verse with sidewalk chalk. "Stand firm" by it and say it aloud.

John 20:1-10
Act out Easter morning, with runners sharing the good news.

Acts 8:26-40
Why did Philip run? How do you share Jesus with others?

Galatians 5:7
Make an obstacle course. What gets in the way of faith?

2 Timothy 2:5
Make a crown to remember your victory in Jesus.

Philippians 4:13
Write or tell someone your strengths.

Revelation 22:20
Pray, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

2 John 8
Play Tag, then "reward" yourself with a cold drink or treat.

2 Timothy 4:7
Draw or make a finish line and run through it.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10
Show muscles and say, "When I'm weak, I am strong."

Philippians 3:13-14
Make a sign that reads "Press on!"

James 1:12
Brainstorm ways to support and cheer other runners.

Hebrews 10:36
Talk about the promises God keeps to us.

Isaiah 41:10
Make a paper baton. Practice relay handoffs & discuss God's helpful hand.

Jonah chapter 1
(or a book about Jonah) What happens when Jonah runs from God?

GO!

Great JOB!