



# St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

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

October 2021

Dear friends,

On this lovely autumn day, the sun is shining and the leaves are turning. So much of what we love about Wisconsin is here for us to enjoy. Thank you, God!

I thank God for the things we love, coming back year after year. They seem all the more precious in these months of change and challenge!

I thank God for you, too, as you have weathered these changes and met these challenges with grace and courage.

May I share with you our current protocol with our use of the building and our life together in worship?

We are masking inside our building regardless of a person's vaccination status to help slow or prevent the spread of the Delta variant of COVID. It has turned out to be a much more contagious virus and we are trying to help protect the vulnerable and our children who can't yet be vaccinated!

We have resumed the sign-in sheet at the door to help us with contact tracing in case we have an exposure or outbreak of the COVID among our members and friends who use our building.

We now sing one hymn at the end of the inside in-person worship to minimize exposure to aerosols that could spread the virus and we have resumed bagging our communion elements, although I am pleased to offer them to you personally as you go out into the fresh air at the end of worship.

Thank you for continuing to maintain good physical distance and refrain from hugging or too close contact with others.

All of these measures have helped us keep our doors open and enabled us to worship in person.

Our deep thanks to Jeff Ellman and to Tom and Marcia Galica who have continued to

help us air and sanitize our facilities for your good health!

In September we offered two more vaccination clinics with the help of the people at Omro Pharmacy and the partnership of the Wisconsin Council of Churches. At our last clinic 26 vaccinations were given including Pfizer vaccine for COVID and flu vaccines for this season!

Our little blue tent outside the door was filled with friendly, happy members who welcomed all who came to our church looking for better health. I cannot thank them and you enough for your hospitality.

We hope to offer space for clinics again when the vaccines are approved for the younger children.

The hardest part of the pandemic is the rapid reverses we have had to make when the statistics grew dire once again.

What comes to mind is when Andrew's brother Peter saw Jesus walking on the water. He wanted to try it too and Jesus invited him to do so. (*See the story in Matthew 14:27-33*)

When the wind and waves stole away Peter's attention from Jesus, he sank and cried out for help. Jesus caught his hand and lifted him back up out of harm's way.

You and I are in the same boat! Don't we long to get out and dance on the waves?

Will we get distracted? Yes! Will our Lord be there whether we are focused on him or not? Yes!! Will he help us when we fall in? Absolutely!

Jesus is seeing us through this adventure and on to better days ahead. And for my part, it is great to be with you on the voyage.

I am praying for your continued good health as you grow and live in faith in our community. May God's peace be with you!

Pastor Karen Jewell



**Highlights of Church Council  
Minutes  
September 14, 2021 – 7:00 PM  
by Zoom**

**Attending via Zoom/In Person:**  
Amy Bargaenquast, Warren

Luce, Matt Moore, Teri Rucinsky, Carol Spiegelberg, Christopher Ziegler and Pastor Karen Jewell

**Unable to Attend:** Kathleen Bellaire, Nancy Kreilick and Naomi Larkpor

**Treasurer's Report** Matt Moore addressed the reports

Total expenditures in August of \$19,682.54 (expenses of \$11,156.54 and payroll of \$8,526 and total deposits of \$15,879.75.

**Balance sheet:** The base checking account is \$3,558 the money market is \$121,821 the accounts are up about \$3,500 compared to last year at this time. Current liabilities are \$140,371 (which includes 24,585 of second round PPP loans) compared to current assets of \$126,514.

**Profit and loss budget performance:** We took in \$14,522 in income (budget \$16,337) this month and have year to date income of \$122,151 (budget \$130,693). Committee expenses are over budget by \$500 this month while operating expenses are over budget by \$900 including 2 payments to WPS to catch up from July and wages and benefits are up about \$900. There was a net loss from ordinary operations for the month of August in the amount of (3,366) compared to a budgeted income of \$228. We are trailing the year to date budget through August by about \$1,438 before considering the PPP Forgiveness proceeds of \$22,313.

**Profit and Loss previous year comparison:** (Jan to August) we are down about \$16,877 in our giving this year compared to the prior year, which we expected as a result of the suspended services as well as some notable donor reductions.

Committee expenses are down approximately \$5,215, operations expense is up about \$3,415 and Wages and benefits

are up about \$8,025. Year to date net ordinary loss from operations of 1,978 compared to \$17,336 last year.

**M:** Chris Ziegler **S:** Amy Bargaenquast re: Approval of Treasurer's report and bills to be paid. Motion Carried.

**Old Business**

• **Tables**

Buy 1 now from Amazon for approximately \$310, and 1 later if necessary with the amounts to be utilized from the Feeding Hungry Kids funds **M:** Matt Moore **S:** Warren Luce seconded, Motion carried

• **New Tech for Meetings/Recordings**

Considering a blue YETI microphone to improve sound quality on zoom meetings at an approximate cost of \$100. Consider testing before purchasing to ensure qualify changes to zoom meetings

• **Request for UWO Scholarship paperwork**

- Looking for amount – prior year was \$1000
- PR Karen made a motion, Matt Seconded to repeat the prior year donation totaling \$1000, motion carried

**New Business:**

• **Teri "brochure" for Gods Work our Hands Day**

- To include information on committee work. Teri Rucinsky interest in spearheading

• **Hmong Congregation –**

- Pastor Danny does have a very serious illness. possible grant application

○ Looking for a fundraising idea to assist with medical expenses. **See Christian Action Committee report for potential idea**

• **August In-Reach**

- Working on this in September due to vacation schedules in August

• **Narrative Budgets - Needed ASAP to pull budget together**

- Must complete ASAP and get to Matt. Copies needed for office

### **Pastors' Report:**

- **Patrick Riley** would like to apply to Lutheran Seminary – looking for assistance with application fee due later in the year. Also looking to set up something like an internship committee to support his discernment of candidacy for ministry and relationships within our congregation.
- **Bereavements – among our staff members**
  - Protocol for consideration - a card to family members from council
- **Vacation – Thank you!!!!**
- **Covid Protocol**
  - Back to masks inside the building, including in worship for everyone
  - Packaging communion elements, given upon exit
  - Sing only 1 hymn at the end of service
  - Jeff airs out the sanctuary between morning and Cross & Crown service
  - Above protocol was emailed to Council
  - Attempt to keep live services - watching public school for guidance
  - Confirmation does meet weekly for 1 hour – Will need to find an alternative if we go to virtual
  - Looking for Sunday School assistance, other churches are reporting diminished attendance
  - Matt Moore assistance with radio transmission issues
  - Christmas - Plan to light tree in parking lot, with a service to follow.
  - Vaccination clinic held on September 9<sup>th</sup>, will have an additional clinic on the 30<sup>th</sup> – providing both Covid and Flu shot
  - Educational classes are free this year if anyone is interested in the Synod Lay Ministry Academy

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Christian Action (Carol Spiegelberg)**

- Parking Lot Harvest Fair – October 17<sup>th</sup>, alternate October 24, 11:30-1:00

- Ticket purchases for: Caramel apples, cider, hot dogs, etc.
- Silent auction to benefit Pastor Danny – Consider online auction presence as well
- \$250 Thrivent grant may be applied for to cover food and event costs
- **M:** PR Karen **S:** Matt Moore to apply for Thrivent grant to fund Harvest Fair with proceeds to benefit PR Danny – Motion Carried

#### • **Feeding the Kids**

- Ended August 26<sup>th</sup>
- 414 served, slight decrease from prior year
- Added – delivery service to 7 seniors

#### • **Collected socks, underwear, diapers, etc for refugees**

#### • **Chili Cookoff**

- Postponed due to Covid –proposal for an alternative date/activity– See Christian Action report
- Backpack supplies are collected
- Still collecting material for sewing clinic for World Relief

**Congregational Life (Nancy Kreilick) – No Report**

**Education (Naomi Larkpor)- No Report**

**Evangelism - No Report**

**Fellowship – No Report**

**Property (Warren Luce):** Sanctuary entrance repairs needed due to water damage.

Anticipated projects include Grade work next to building, especially in back courtyard where the grade pitches toward the foundation, also some possible stump removals. Costs to include topsoil and labor. Would like to complete before winter. We have cleaned up a hornets nest.

**Stewardship/Discipleship - No Report**

**Technology Committee: No Report**

**Worship and Music (Kathy Bellaire): Both July and August**

Committee meetings were held on June 16 and July 12, 2021. The committee had wonderful attendance and great discussions. The following decisions were made:

1. Worship Service/communion protocol discussed.

2. Choir will begin in person rehearsals in September.
3. A "Bless the Pets" service is being planned for August 29 to be held at 10:45 a.m.
4. Ideas for future services are being discussed.. For the foreseeable future we will not be utilizing assisting ministers.
5. We will be evaluating whether to continue offering parking lot services or return to in-person 10:45 services later this year. There have been requests to continue parking lot services, as well as requests to move the late service back into the sanctuary. Any feedback about which type of service members prefer is welcome.
1. Steve Last has submitted some drawings outlining a new construction to replace the current stand Pastor Karen uses for parking lot services. The new structure would be more stable, offer better protection from the weather and have improved "curbside using Facebook tools. Findings are that our current subscription level with OneLicense.com is adequate to cover attendance at all services currently offered.
2. The July Council budget report shows that WMC has a balance of \$833.25.
3. . Discussion of Covid impact on services going forward.
4. Peg reported that she has initiated 3-person usher teams beginning in September. This will allow for any unanticipated absences, as well as providing better coverage overall. Ushers can also act as greeters prior to the service. Peg found the ushers very open to this idea.
5. A draft narrative budget was prepared for presentation to Council.
6. A" Bless the Pets" service will be offered on 8/29/21.
7. WMC plan for September Rally was discussed.
8. Next meeting date: September 27 at 7:00 p.m.
6. appeal" while remaining moveable. We are asking Council to consider its construction.

#### August 16 meeting

9. Feedback regarding summer worship offerings was discussed. We will continue with the current schedule until Thanksgiving and re-evaluate at that time.
10. Pastor Karen and Sandy reported they have learned how to count our online attendance

**President's Report (Teri Rucinsky):** Thank you to those who continue to continue with our church out-reach despite the challenges of COVID. We have continued to see success in our programs. Remember to keep a conservative approach as we continue to navigate through the COVID time frame when preparing our narrative budgets.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, October 13, at 7pm on ZOOM and in person

*A complete set of minutes can be found of the bulletin board next to the office – or- contact us and we will be glad to forward you a copy.*



#### All Saints' Butterflies

We are in the process of gathering our butterflies for All Saints' Day, November 7, 2021. If you would like a butterfly to decorate, please let us know. We will have them displayed both around the altar cross and in the entryway.

#### Women Living with Loss Meeting



Fellowship Hall  
10:30 am, Saturday,  
October 9  
Come meet with Peg  
Olson for a chance to

share your story and support others who grapple with loss and grief. If you can't attend on this day – please call Pastor Karen and let her know of your interest in the group. (920) 235-6616.

## Healing Worship Service

On **Sunday, October 10, 2021**, our worship will include prayers for **healing, for remembrance and for comfort** in grief. Each worshipper will receive an olive wood cross.



Please join us by Facebook Live at 8 am, in person in the Sanctuary at 8:45 am or in the Parking Lot worship at 10:45 am. If you wish, drive up communion and prayer will be available in the parking lot at 11:15 am for those who worship via Facebook or otherwise would like to receive communion. Hope to see you!

## Word in Season Devotional booklets



The October, November, December issue of *Word in Season* devotional booklets are now available. We also have

large print editions if you would prefer that. Please let us know if you would like a copy (920-235-6616). We will make sure you receive one. Carry out, Curbside and Delivery available!

## A few words from the Christian Action Committee:



Would you like to help resettle the Afghan refugees? We can help in three ways – donations of household furnishings and supplies, donations of financial support, and creating a good neighbor team of 6 to 8 people who will help with day-to-day questions and needs. If you are interested in helping, please call the office to connect with this mission. Thank you! (920) 235-6616.



## Coats for Kids Sept. 27 through Oct. 28

We are again a collection point for the Salvation Army's Coats for Kids campaign. Coats (only new or gently used coats are accepted), hats, and mittens are being collected to be distributed to area children. The donation box may be found in the hallway near the Fellowship Hall doors. You help our children stay warm. **Thank you!**



Our workday this year was cancelled due to the COVID-19 threat, but we are putting our hands to many different mission activities, including LWR Kits.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Join us on Sunday,**  
**October 17 for Harvest**  
**Faire**  
**11:30 am – 1:00 pm**  
**(rain date – Oct 24)**

We will be holding a fundraiser for Pastor Danny from the Cross and Crown Alliance Church. We will have games for kids, hot dogs and hamburgers, caramel apples, popcorn, homemade bars, and hot apple cider.

Also, we will have a Silent Auction. You can get involved by donating new or gently used items for the Silent Auction. Please bring your donations to church by Friday, October 15, so we can prepare the silent auction displays. Thank you!

This event will be held outside, so please pray for GREAT weather! For more information, or if you want to donate items, or volunteer to help, please contact Carol Spiegelberg, 920-420-7832. Thank you!

We would like to thank Thrivent Financial for a seed money grant to help us obtain our supplies for this Faire!

## Fabric Kits Needed

We could use your gifts of supplies for Lutheran World Relief Fabric kits, that give people materials for learning to make a living by sewing!



To make a fabric kit, we need two pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabric (no knits or polyester). Each piece of fabric should be either:

- 2-1/4 yards of 58" – 62" wide fabric, or
- 3 yards of 42" – 45" wide fabric
- 2 spools of thread (matching the material or neutral colored general-purpose thread, 250 – 300 yards in each spool)

Thank you so much for your support for this worthwhile project!





### Calling all singers and instrumentalists!

Would you help provide Christmas music for our Christmas celebrations? If you enjoy singing or playing your instrument, we can use your help!

We need to record music ahead of time to be able to support our on-line and other special worship services, and we ask you to let us know now in October that you are interested in helping. We will be recording in November for our Christmas worship services.

Please call the office (920) 235-6616 to volunteer or speak with Brenda Francis or Pastor Karen if you have questions. Thank you so much. We are looking forward to a beautiful Christmas celebration.



### Art & Soul Oct. 23 11 am – 4 pm

Our crafter's group is ready to meet again! Weather permitting, we will meet outside. Best COVID protocols will be

observed while inside and we will mask outside if we cannot be safely spaced. For more information, contact Brenda Francis. Email: Brenda\_at\_standrews@Yahoo.com

### Prayer Chain



St. Andrew's has an online ministry called the Prayer Chain. A loving group of people take time each day to pray for the needs of others. Confidentiality is observed, and loving prayers are said. If interested, contact the office (920) 235-6616 and we will connect you with "the chain".

If you would like to request specific prayers to be included on the prayer chain please contact Pastor Karen.



**Crossways Camping Ministries**  
**Join us on Saturday, October 16 at Imago Dei Village** for a day of community and classic camp activities:

- Climbing wall
- S'more making
- Low ropes challenge course
- Field games like 9-Square and Gaga Ball
- Worship

We may be at Imago Dei Village, but we are hoping that ALL our camp friends will join us. In future years, we plan to rotate Homecoming around to each of our sites.

The event is FREE, sponsored by key donors and local businesses. We need you to register so we can be sure to have enough food for a delicious camp lunch. **Please register by Saturday, October 9.**

The event will be held largely outdoors, to provide a safe environment for all our guests. Lunch will be served in our spacious new dining area, which includes high quality air filtration. Outdoor seating can be arranged at picnic tables for those who would like that option. See the schedule, meet our sponsors, and **register** on our website:

[www.crosswayscamps.org/homecoming](http://www.crosswayscamps.org/homecoming)

Or call 920-882-0023.

### Calendars

If you have extra 2022 calendars, would you consider donating them to the Oshkosh

Correctional Institution for the inmates? We will be collecting until the end of January. Thank you for considering this mission!





St. Andrew's  
Lutheran Church

*Did you know?*

St. Andrew's has a website with a lot of information on it. You can find:

- An up-to-date calendar with meetings and activities
- Sunday worship service videos
- Weekly lectionary readings
- Devotionals and other resources
- Monthly newsletter
- Giving online links
- And much, much, more!

Find St. Andrew's online at: [standrewsoshkosh.org](http://standrewsoshkosh.org)



We are so grateful 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!



**Committee Meetings**

**All members welcome!**

**Christian Action Committee**

Monday, October 4 at 6 pm

**Council Meeting**

Tuesday, October 12 at 7 pm

Invitation:

Celebration of Life  
October 23, 2021  
11:00 am  
at St Andrew's



Dear Friends and Family of  
Miriam Hasse,

Miriam Hinderaker Hasse passed away April 17, 2020. She will be remembered for her joy of life, for her strong Christian faith, for her positive spirit, her belief in the good in all people, her kind and gentle manner, and for her genuine interest in and concern for others.

Miriam had written that she would like her memorial service to be a celebration of her life. She would not have said it this way, but a life so beautiful deserves a special celebration and such an event will be held on **October 23, 2021**. A memorial service officiated by Pastor Karen Jewell will be held at 11:00 a.m. at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 1100 E. Murdock Ave., Oshkosh, WI. 54901. The service will be followed by a lunch and shared remembrances in the church hall.

You are invited to join her family and friends to help us celebrate the life of Miriam. If you are able to attend leave your sadness at the door, but bring rather your stories, your laughs, and your happiness over a life that was lived to the fullest.

To facilitate planning for this event, if you are able to attend it would be appreciated if you would send confirmation of your attendance so we can plan accordingly. Please text or email your confirmation to Rose Hinderaker at 414 588-4620 or [rhinderaker@gmail.com](mailto:rhinderaker@gmail.com) by **October 10th**.