



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

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

April 2022

Please come and worship with us – on Facebook, in the Parking Lot, and in the Sanctuary!

Dear friends,

Holy Week approaches and once again it is a time like never before.

Last year, we were not yet worshipping in the building for Holy Week, but we started to worship inside the sanctuary again on that Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021.

The year before, in the middle of Lent on March 15, 2020, we held our last inside worship. We just shut everything down as the pandemic started and we were hoping we might be back inside the sanctuary for worship by Holy Week, or maybe Pentecost, or maybe summer....

Yesterday, we began serving communion inside again and I could hardly hold back the tears of joy. We had briefly brought communion inside last July but then the Delta Variant brought new restrictions.

Some things are coming back as we hoped: next Sunday, Palm Sunday, we will wave palms and sing and enter our sanctuary walking together, praising God who is with us through it all. It will be our first time since 2019.

And on Easter Sunday, we will again share food and fellowship at the Easter Breakfast!

I am humbled and so grateful that you have worked so hard to stay together as a congregation through so much time when we could not congregate, at least in the ways we knew how!

God inspired many new things to help us worship together – we went on-line on March 22, 2020 to offer worship via Facebook and YouTube.

We added outdoor worship at the picnic pavilion in the summer of 2020 and then it migrated to the parking lot in the autumn so people could stay warm in their cars.

Worship in the parking lot continues strong for over a year and a half! Many of our members who have struggled with mobility issues or the logistics of getting their little ones to church are worshipping on-line together and that is always a joy.

Now, with a mixture of old and new practices we move into 2022. In the Isaiah text yesterday (Isaiah 43:19), we hear God encouraging lonely exiles:

*¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?*

We have seen it, God. We are counting on it, God! We need you to do a new thing in the Ukraine! We need you to do a new thing with our ailing planet! And we humbly ask you to do a new thing with us!

At Easter we celebrate the dawn of new life. We like to have eggs and chicks, baby bunnies and spring flowers in every nook and cranny.

But the new life that we long for is not about decorations or lively music as lovely as they are.

The new life we find in Christ is a surprise – we just didn't know that God could find a way to give us another chance.

God does just that – against all hope and expectation – God brings life out of death.

As God's loving hand draws you forward through Holy Week and into Easter, may you feel in your bones, in your heart, and in your mind the new thing that God is doing with you.

Together, may we trust and follow the One who has been with us through it all – trust and follow Jesus to New Life.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell

Church Council Minutes
February 10 2022 – 7:00 pm

Attending via Zoom/In Person: Amy Bargenquast, Kathleen Bellaire, Emmy Kasuboski, Nancy Kreilick, Steve Last, Matt Moore, Teri Rucinsky, Carol Spiegelberg, Christopher Ziegler and Pastor Karen Jewell

Treasurer's Report Matt Moore addressed the reports

Total expenditures in January of \$16,990 (expenses of \$8,224 and payroll of \$8,766 and total deposits of \$20,130.

Balance sheet: The base checking account is \$33,938 the money market is \$236,661 the accounts are up about \$148,162 compared to last year at this time. Current liabilities are \$116,509 compared to current assets of \$271,740.

Profit and loss budget performance: (Annualized as expenses are simply allocated 1/12 each month). We took in \$18,266 in income (budget \$17,131) this month).

Benevolence is over budget by \$700. Committee expenses are under budget by \$66 this month while operating expenses are over budget by \$107, wages and benefits under budget by \$635. There was a net income from ordinary operations for the month of January in the amount of \$1,128 compared to a budgeted income of \$100.

Profit and Loss previous year comparison: (Jan) we are down about \$15,035 in our giving this year compared to the prior year. Committee expenses are up approximately \$447, operations expense is up down \$240, and salaries are up about \$160.

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

Old Business

- **Annual Meeting Evaluation**
 - 51 members attended
- Action Items from Last Meeting
 - Description of Duties for Council review
 - Counting Schedule – Chris to reorganize schedule to include a council member to cover fiduciary responsibility.
 - Discussion of noisy offering – suggest counting weekly to be more time sensitive and avoid excessive bank charges
 - Copier Quote – see email – office has ordered a new copier from Oshkosh Office Systems for \$6,869 on January 21st 2022, there is a 3 month lead time.
 - Employee reviews are completed

New Business:

- **Discuss Committees/Council Member take leads on committees**
 - Carol to continue with Christian Action, Nancy to continue with Congregational Life, Matt to continue with Finance, Kathy to continue with Worship and Music, Verify Jakob to continue with Technology, Steve would like to oversee Property, Emmy would be interested in Education
- **Reports submitted in advance for review**
 - Reply all to the agenda email with your report for the committee

Pastors' Report:

- Cross and Crown Alliance Congregation are going virtual this month due to a COVID outbreak (ask to forego their monthly donation)
- Filling in on Synod Council and involved with Synod Assembly and support of CPE program and Pastor oversight at Miravida as part of Community Action
- Pastor made a motion to have officers to continue in their position, Chris Ziegler Seconded. Motion Carried

Committee Reports:

Christian Action (Carol Spiegelberg) –

- Discussed Feeding hungry kids, possibly adding a 3rd day
- Synod project: Sleep in heavenly peace build site in May (Christian Action serving the meal to volunteers) – Christian action will be host making fleece blankets that day to serve as bedding for the beds. March/April noisy offering will be the donation for the build as well as a coin box “40 days of giving” Mar. 1st-April 9th.

Congregational Life (Nancy Kreilick) –

- Pastor, Patty and Nancy met and discussed how to build on parental support and get kids back in Sunday School. Patty attending conference to come up with new ideas to engage the children.

Education (Emmy Kasuboski)- No Report

Evangelism - No Report

Fellowship – No Report

Property (Steven Last): Appreciation to Warren Luce. Planning to have a property meeting the last Thursday of each month beginning March 31st at 6:30pm

Stewardship/Discipleship - No Report

Technology Committee (Pastor Karen): No Report

Worship and Music (Kathy Bellaire):

1. Advent and Christmas worship - All felt it was very meaningful to be able to worship together
1. Action Plan for 2022

What is mission of the WMC? Members articulated a draft mission statement for us to work from “To develop long and short-term goals each year that provide a framework for enhancing the worship experience through scripture, music, special services and activities that complement the lessons.”

What have we learned that we want to continue? The exploration of different ways to offer worship services has created flexibility, ingenuity, and acceptance of alternate ways to be together. Recording the lessons has allowed more people to participate as lectors and has been well received. Offering parking lot and online services has allowed us to reach people who otherwise may have been unable to join in worship. Going forward we will continue to offer alternatives to in person worship.

Things we did before the pandemic that we won't be doing in the future? We will not return to communion by intinction.

What do we miss and how can we bring that into the future? Fellowship times between services, the hospitality of receiving communion at the Altar rail, lighting prayer candles, singing the full liturgy, having the choir sing in person during worship, assisting ministry/acolytes, sharing the peace with touch

Going forward:

- a. Continue to offer communion in prepackaged single servings.
- b. Continue offering on-line (8:00 a.m.), in person (8:45 a.m.) and parking lot (10:45 am) services.
- c. Continue to record lessons as well as offering the lector the choice of reading in-person
- d. Explore ways to return to having assisting ministers and choir during the in-person service,
- e. Explore ways to increase participation in the Choir:
- f. Explore ways in which the 10:45 service could be offered both in the sanctuary and in the parking lot at the same time.

President's Report (Teri Rucinsky): Thank you to members for attending annual meeting. Council members please submit committee reports to allow time for council members to review. Next Council

Meeting: Thursday, March 10, 2022, at **7pm on ZOOM and in person**

A complete set of minutes can be found on the bulletin board outside of the office.



Lent and Holy Week Worship Schedule

You are always welcome!

Wednesday April 6 -

Final Midweek Lenten Services

10 am - Facebook Live

12 noon and 6:30 pm - Worship

Sunday, April 10 Palm Sunday

begins the story of Jesus' Passion during Holy Week.

7:00 am - Facebook Live

8:00 am - Palm Procession and Holy Communion (reservations required for this service to ensure distancing)

9:30 am - Palm Procession and Holy Communion (no reservations required)

11:00 am - Worship with Holy Communion in the Parking Lot

Maundy Thursday April 14

recalls the Last Supper of Jesus and his disciples.

10 am - Facebook Live

12 noon - Holy Communion

5:30 pm - Worship with Holy Communion in the Parking Lot

7:00 pm - Holy Communion

Good Friday April 15

focused on Jesus' final hours and his death on the Cross.

10 am - Facebook Live

12 noon - Worship

5:30 pm - Worship in the Parking Lot

7:00 pm - Worship



Easter Sunday Worship

April 17, 2022

You are always welcome!

7:00 am - Facebook Live

8:00 am - Holy Communion (reservations required for this service to ensure distancing)

9:30 am - Holy Communion (no reservations required)

11:00 am - Worship with Holy Communion in the Parking Lot

Easter Breakfast

**Sunday, April 17
8:30 to 9:30 am**



from

This is one of our favorite fellowship times year! Member families cook all your favorite breakfast foods, serve you before and after Easter worship and we have the chance to catch up with one another once again.

Easter BREAKFAST all

Would you like to help with set up on Saturday, April 16, or serving or clean up on Sunday, April 17? Contact Chris Ziegler at CZiegler@standrewsoshkosh.org or call/text 920 312-3842.

To reserve a seat for Palm Sunday 8 am, [click here](#).

To reserve a seat for Easter Sunday 8 am, [click here](#).

You are also welcome to call the church office (920) 235-6616 to make a reservation. Please make a separate reservation for each person attending. Thank you.

All are welcome! We look forward to seeing you.

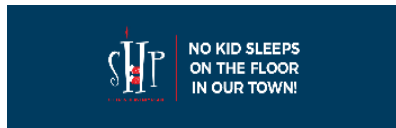
**From the
Christian
Action
Committee:**



Synod Assembly Bed Build

Hosted at St. Andrew's
May 7, 2022
9 AM – 2 PM

Our synod is
sponsoring a
build day for the
[Sleep in
Heavenly Peace](#)



chapter in Oshkosh. Their motto is
"No kid sleeps on the floor in our town!" Twin-sized
bunk beds will be made for children in need. We
are excited to be the building site here at St.
Andrew's! Volunteers from around our synod will
be joining us and other churches from our synod
are helping with the costs of the beds so that we
can make at least 45 beds that day!

How can you help?

1. Sign up to help build beds
2. Help with providing meals for volunteers/hospitality for our guests
3. Help donate fleece: 2 yards for top and 2 yards for the bottom (needed by May 2)
4. Donate towards the cost of one bunk (one bunk is \$250)
5. Donate bedding for twin size beds. Sheets, comforters, pillows, mattress pads, mattress protectors. **NO WHITE SHEETS**

Sign up sheets can be found on the table across from the office or you may call the office at (920) 235-6616. Thank you so much!

Coming in May:

May 1 – Sunday with Sundaes
Celebrating our anniversary of 61 years. Join us between services for making your own sundaes with all your favorite toppings

May 2 – 2pm Christian Action Committee Meeting and cutting fleece blankets

May 7 – Synod Assembly Bed Build – Ways you can help

1. Make at least 2 quarts of chili
2. Make a dessert
3. Help with fleece blanket and craft

Sign up sheet on table across from office or call the church office, 920-235-6616.

May 15 - Confirmation Sunday - special worship times:

7:00 am - worship on Facebook

8:00 am - Worship

9:30 am - Worship with Confirmation

11:00 am - Worship in the Parking Lot



information on any of the following choir events, please contact Brenda Francis at 920-267-2383 or brenda_at_standrews@yahoo.com

The choir has been busy recording songs that are being used in all of the services. They sang in person for Ash Wednesday, and began a regular schedule of singing in person at the 8:45 Sunday service beginning March 27. Choir is now rehearsing Sundays at 9:45 am, and all are welcome to drop in and sing or ask questions. We would love some more members, be it for a week, season, or longer.

We are scheduling special music. If you would like to sing or play an instrument as part of a service, please contact Brenda. Instrumentalists can be a part of the choir on special occasions, too!

Don't hold back! Share your gifts!

For more information on any of the following youth events, please contact Patty Koplitz at 920-420-



5616 or pattykoplitz@gmail.com

Dear families, youth, and children of St Andrew's, **We MISS you!** You are so wonderful. We would like to engage with you in a blessing for you and yours. You are a crucial part of St Andrew's community!

And we are wondering how to be supportive of the goal that you and we have had at heart – to help our families, youth, and children grow in relationship with God and trust of God.

When the pandemic hit, we tried to provide virtual and other faith supports that would not risk the health and well-being of your children and you.

As vaccines became available, the oldest among us were given the priority and you and your children have waited. We are still awaiting a vaccine that protects the youngest among us! It has meant that the risk has been greatest to you.

Meanwhile you and your children are going on with life and learning despite the pandemic. Please help us to rekindle our connection and support for you and yours.

Patty Koplitz, our youth and family minister, is working on plans to begin renewed ministry to each age group from tiny child through young adult as the pandemic wanes. We long to help support your faith!

We would like to invite you to conversations about your life in this (hopefully almost-over) pandemic time and to ask you what you see as crying needs for you and your children.

We will offer you two times on Zoom and two times in person, hoping that one of these times and ways of gathering will be good for you.

Here are four possible times to talk together:

Sunday, April 24 at 9:30 am in person

Monday, April 25 at 7:00 pm via Zoom

Wednesday, April 27 at 5:00 pm in person

Wednesday, April 27 at 8:00 pm via Zoom

We will be mailing/emailing the Zoom links to you. Please feel free to let us know if your contact information has changed.

Committee Meetings

All members welcome!



Council Meeting

Thursday, April 21 at 7 pm

Committee Meetings

Property Committee

Thursday, April 28 at 11 pm

Worship & Music Committee

Thursday, May 5 at 7 pm

Christian Action Committee

Tuesday, May 2, begins at 2 pm
prep fleece blankets and mtg at 3:30pm

