



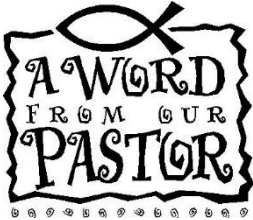
St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

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

December 2022

Sunday Worship at 8:45 and at 10:45 in the sanctuary and 10:45am on Facebook

Pastor Bryan Schmidt starts his interim ministry with us on Thursday, December 1! Welcome, Pastor Bryan!



Greetings, members and friends of St. Andrew's! It gives me great joy that I will be serving as your Interim Pastor in this sacred time of pastoral transition. My time with you begins on December 1 and my first Sunday leading worship with you will be December 4.

I am proud to call Oshkosh my hometown. In fact, I grew up less than a mile from St. Andrew's and have many fond memories of your congregation over the years. After graduating from Oshkosh North (go Spartans!), I received my undergraduate degree from UW-La Crosse and my M.Div. degree from The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. I was assigned back to East-Central Wisconsin upon graduating from seminary and served my first call as Associate Pastor of Youth and Family Ministry at First English Lutheran Church in Appleton. Additionally, I have served as Faith Formation Coordinator for Confirmation/High School Youth at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Combined Locks and Pastor of Lutheran Campus Ministry at UW-Oshkosh. Most recently, I served as Interim Pastor of Christus Lutheran Church in Greenville.

I am married to Nicole, who works for a company called Fetch Rewards. We live in Appleton and are the proud parents of Jameson (5), Liam (2), and our Chicago-adopted tabby cat, Bucky (13). I am an avid Packers and Brewers fan, no matter what their given record may be. Nicole and I are currently on a quest to visit each of the current ballparks in Major League Baseball by our 30th wedding anniversary. So far, we have made it to 13 of the 30 parks (the combination of having two young children and living through a global pandemic has decelerated that quest just a bit). We are hoping to check off another ballpark this coming spring.

I am eager to walk alongside you in this time of pastoral transition—among many things, to **affirm** the good and faithful ministry (and leadership!) that has brought you to this time and place, to **faithfully encourage** and **challenge** you to envision how God is calling you as a congregation to recognize and respond to the needs of God's people in this next chapter of your ministry, and to **guide** and **support** you as you navigate the churchwide process of calling your next settled pastor.

I am excited to get to know you better and partner with you on this journey!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Bryan Schmidt



**Our Annual meeting will take place
Sunday, January 29, 2023.**

Please save the date!

We will be working on 2023 Mission and ministry goals, voting in our new leaders, thanking our outgoing leadership, discussing and then passing the 2023 Budget. We will also vote for the second time on updates to the Constitution of St Andrew's – so **please request a copy** if you would like to look through the document.



September Council Minutes will be forthcoming in a future edition. The October 2022 Council Meeting was the exit interview for Pastor Karen Jewell. Only financial reports were generated and will be available.

Thank you for EVERYTHING!

Dear friends,

I cannot find words to tell you how much these years with you have meant to me. Thank you for a wonderful adventure together here at St Andrew's. Thank you for letting me be your partner in mission and a fellow traveler with you through all these days we have followed Jesus side by side.

Then, the many celebrations, your very kind words of support and appreciation for this amazing partnership, and the many expressions of your grace are so very kind - I am in tears as I write this to you. Thank you so much!

Because my own words fail me the bible will say it best:

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
(Isaiah 62:3)

You truly are a treasure - a loving, giving gathering of the people of God! May God bless you and keep you always! I know God will hold you in the most loving hands!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Karen Jewell

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 ask you to let us know before **December 11** that you are interested in helping

Please call the office (920) 235-6616) to volunteer or speak with Kris Selk, our Organist/Choir Director if you have questions. Thank you so much. We are looking forward to a beautiful Christmas celebration. Let your light shine!



Blue Christmas worship at St Andrew's December 21, 2022 at 12 pm

We offer a simpler, quieter Blue Christmas worship, especially for folks who are experiencing grief at the holidays or need a more meditative worship. There will be gentle Christmas carols, the Christmas story from the bible, and prayers. It is a peaceful, candlelit time. Please know that you are welcome!



Oshkosh North
Madrigal
Singers

Madrigal Singers

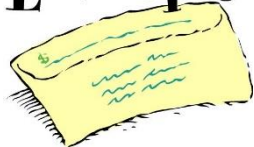
We are in store for a special treat that will be provided by the Oshkosh North High

School Madrigal Singers.

On Sunday, December 18th the Oshkosh North Madrigals will perform 9:45 - 10:15 am, between services. Stay a bit after our earlier worship or come early to the later service and enjoy Christmas music. These young singers add so much to the holiday season. Enjoy!

News from the office

Offering Envelopes



2023 Giving Envelopes have been ordered, but delivery is delayed due to a labor shortage. We will get them to you as soon as they arrive. If they have not arrived by 2023, we will provide an alternative to the envelopes for your gifts. Keep checking for more information. Thanks for understanding!

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Committee Meetings

All members welcome!



Christian Action Committee

Monday, December 5, at 6 pm

Council Meeting

Thursday, December 8, at 7 pm

Worship Committee

Monday, December 12, at 7 pm

Property Committee

Thursday, December 16, at 8 am

Our Advent and Christmas Seasons Worship Schedule

Advent Wednesday worship at noon:

November 27, December 7, December 14

We have just begun the series: Make Ready for Holy Disruption. Please feel free to join us!

Blue Christmas worship for those who would like a gentler quieter worship will be offered on **Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at noon** and led by St Andrew's grief group members.

Sunday, December 18 – A Double Header:

with an "Instant Christmas Program" at the 8:45 service. We all have parts! Come in costume as your favorite partner in the story: shepherd, sheep, angel, wise one, Mary, or Joseph! Costumes will also be available in the Fellowship Hall before worship!

The **Oshkosh North High School Madrigal Singers** will offer a concert between services, beginning at 9:45 am on that Sunday.

Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve services:

4:00 pm – **Lessons and Carols for Christmas.** Family friendly (no communion) at this worship.

6:30 pm – **Carols by Request** – please come and sing your favorites

7:00 pm – **Candlelight Holy Communion for Christmas Eve**

Sunday, December 25 Christmas Day – 10:00 am **Holy Communion**

We will also offer a Christmas worship on Facebook that will be available to you December 24 and December 25. Thank you and Merry Christmas!



**Christmas
Worship
Schedule**