



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

Welcome to worship and life at St. Andrew's!
Sunday Worship at 8:45 and at 10:45 in the sanctuary and 10:45am on Facebook

February 2023

"The Long and Winding Road"

Rev. Bryan Schmidt, Interim Pastor
February 2023



CALL PROCESS OVERVIEW



Dear members and friends of St. Andrew's,

At last month's Annual Meeting, I shared these two images as part of my overview of the transition process. As we enter more fully into this process in the coming months, we are called and challenged to keep these two questions top of mind:

"Where is God leading St. Andrew's?"
"Who is God calling St. Andrew's to be in this next chapter of ministry?"

As the Gospel of Matthew states: "YOU are the salt of the earth ... YOU are the light of the world ... let YOUR light shine before others" (Matthew 5:13-16). That "you" isn't singular but **PLURAL**. This

is not the work of a select few, but of the congregation as a whole.

As we continue on this journey, here are some of the ways in which you as congregation and myself as your Interim Pastor will work together to engage this sacred work of the church:

1. Examine the history of St. Andrew's and work through the transition dynamics that usually follow the departure of a pastor. *This is especially important in the case of a long-term pastor in Pastor Karen concluding her ministry with you!*
2. Seek to confirm and identify current issues facing St. Andrew's and develop ways of dealing with them.
3. Reflect upon and refine a vision for the mission of St. Andrew's.
4. Strengthen the ties with the East Central Synod of Wisconsin, the ELCA, and the world.
5. Align the congregation in accordance with the constitutions and bylaws of the ELCA, the East Central Synod of Wisconsin, and update the congregation's constitution as needed.
6. Evaluate and recommend options for strengthening St. Andrew's understanding of stewardship of all that God has given to us: ourselves, our time, our possessions.
7. Evaluate and strengthen leadership gifts within the congregation.
8. Prepare for the arrival of St. Andrew's next settled pastor.

My prayer for you is that you remain engaged, prayerful, open-minded and patient as this process unfolds. Make no mistake, God has been active in leading St. Andrew's from its very inception, God is leading St. Andrew's now, and God will not stop in leading St. Andrew's into this next phase of life.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Bryan



Highlights of Council Meeting Jan. 12th, 2023

Call to order: Carol Spiegelberg
Dwelling in the Word; 1
Corinthians 12;12-20

Treasurer's Report read and approved
Bank \$27,300

Old business: "Go Green" tabled till Feb.
Meeting

Counters, Chris will mail out letter to all
counters explaining changes.

New Business: Motion made to approve 12.5
hrs. of vacation time for Sandy Last from last
year to be taken sometime in Feb.

Will do a trial run on Friday before annual
meeting. Making sure all equipment is up and
working.

Matt went over new 2023 budget to be
approved and voted on at annual meeting.
Jackie Kuhn, and Jay Klinger will help with
Audit for Treasurer's Annual Report

Pastor's Report: Discussed Round Robin of
Oshkosh/Wautoma churches for Lenten
Services.

Been visiting our shut-Ins

Discussed number attending both services and
Facebook.

Committee Reports;

Christian Action-- Starting in February and
going until March 5 we will be collecting
Hygiene products for Salvation Army, Father
Carr, Cots, and Warming Shelter. We also are
collecting food items for COTS, boxes will be
set on table outside office.

Education-- Working on "Faith Formation" for
families to do at home, since we don't have
Sunday School.

Congregational Life-- No Report

Property -- Working on lighting in Sanctuary by
the altar, will be lit with more LED's. Will be
redoing Pastor's office/office area.

Worship and Music-- Asking for new
microphone for assisting Minister, cost around
\$200.00. Discussion of keeping both Sunday
Services. Survey may be made asking
congregation.

Discussion on what to do with Pastor Karen's
"Deer Stand." Suggested to maybe sell it.
Auction or raffle it off.

Thank You to outgoing council members, Amy
Bargenquast and Nancy Kreilick.

Also thank you to Pastor Bryan who started at
the busiest month of the year. You are doing a
great job. and we are so blessed that you are
here with us at St. Andrew's.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Spiegelberg, Acting Secretary

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



2023 Giving Envelopes

The 2023 offering envelopes are now here.
They are waiting for you on tables in the
narthex. Feel free to take a church directory
if you would like the latest copy. If you are
unable to pick yours up, contact the office
and we will help you will get your box.



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Lenten worship begins on Ash Wednesday at 7 pm. The Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion will be offered to you.

Through the 40 days of Lent, we will be offering Lenten Worship on Wednesdays at 7 pm. All are welcome. Hope you can join us.

COTS, Inc. food drive

Now through March 5 COTS, is a nonprofit Meal Ministry team who deliver hot meals to residents and provides transitional shelter helping individuals experiencing homelessness in the Fox Valley. Their goal is to end homelessness by helping individuals to transition to self-sufficiency and independent living. Every Monday, Wednesdays and Friday evenings meals are provided. For more information, go to <https://appletoncots.org/> They are seeking pantry items listed below. Eggs, Cereal, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Sugar, Canned Meat, Vegetables, and Soup



Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive

February 12 – March 5, 2023



Toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, shampoo, deodorant, body wash, soap, kleenex, toilet paper, wash

cloths and hand towels are being collected.

These supplies are expensive and are not covered by the Wisconsin food Share program.

In Oshkosh, goods collected will benefit the ADVOCAP Homeless Program, COTTs, Inc, the Day by Day Warming Shelter, Father Carr's Place 2B, and the Salvation Army. The need is greater than ever this year.

You may drop your items off here at church. If you prefer, you may also donate funds on-line ([click here](#)) or at your local Festival or Walgreens store. Thank you for considering this need.

Thank you for helping!

Oshkosh Area Community Pantry



We continue to support the [Oshkosh Area Community Food Pantry](#). You will find tubs for donations of non-perishable food items and plastic grocery bags near each of our front doors.

During the month of February pasta items are being collected. Your help is appreciated. Thank you so much!

From the Worship and Music Committee:

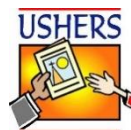


The WMC would like you to consider joining us in one or more of the activities we provide. We are in great need of helpers for the Altar Committee, coordinated by Darlene Bruce.

The duties of the committee include:



Preparing the elements for communion (filling wine cups and preparing wafers) and placing them in the sanctuary and/or cleaning up after communion for either the first or second service. If you are interested in participating with Darlene in this activity, please call the Church office or talk with Darlene.



Another pressing need we have is for ushers, especially for the second service. Duties of the ushers include welcoming people arriving for worship and offering them a bulletin, closing the gates at the altar for communion and ushering those wishing to commune to the altar, identifying anyone wishing to receive communion at their seat, counting the number of people attending the service, assisting people in locating the bathrooms and fellowship hall, etc. Peg Olson coordinates the ushers' group, and they are scheduled through the church office. If you are interested in joining this group, please call the church office or talk with Peg.

Many blessings in the New Year,
Kathy Bellaire, Council Liaison to the WMC.

Committee Meetings



JOIN US!

You are welcome to attend any meetings.

Christian Action Committee

Monday, February 6, at 6 pm

Worship & Music Committee

Tuesday, February 7, at 10:30 am

Council Meeting

Thursday, February 9, at 7 pm

Property Committee

Thursday, February 23, at 8 am



February

THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

Thank you for your Offerings

Thank you so much for continuing to bring the love of God to our congregation, neighborhood, community and world.

If you would like to help support us as we continue in the mission that God gives us your gifts will go far!

You may mail in your offerings to St Andrew's Lutheran Church, 1100 E Murdock Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901, or give ONLINE. Your click on our link takes you to a secure portal at our website: standrewsoshkosh.org. You may also use the QR code:

Thank you so much!



Survey Regarding Worship Services

Dear Saint Andrew's members,

As we go forward at this time of transition we are once again asking for your feedback regarding our weekly worship services. The question has arisen as to whether we should continue to offer two in-person services on Sunday morning or change to a different worship schedule. This is a decision we need to make before we enter the call process for a new Pastor at St. Andrew's. You will notice we have included some open-ended questions this time, we hope you will take time to share your thoughts, your input is so important in making this decision. All thoughts, and recommendations you share are most appreciated. Please forward your responses to the Church Office, by February 8th. We will tabulate and share the results of the survey. If you would prefer to share your thoughts in person, please feel free to contact any of us. Thank you so much for taking time to offer your thoughts.

St. Andrew's Council

1. I currently attend worship: online _____ at 8:45 am _____ at 10:45 am _____ I prefer this service because?
2. It is important to me that we continue to offer 2 services on Sunday mornings Y N (circle one)
Reason for response?
3. I think we should continue to offer 2 services weekly but would prefer it if a second service were added on a different day. Y N (circle one)
If yes, when do you think a second service should be offered?
4. I think we should offer only one in-person worship service on Sunday mornings Y N (circle one)
My preferred time for one service would be 9:00- 10:00 am _____ 9:30 to 10:30 am _____
Other _____ (indicate the time you would prefer)
5. I find the online worship service a valuable addition to our worship and hope that it continues.
Y N (circle one). Reason for response?

Additional Comments: