



# St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church Newsletter

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

June 2023

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

FROM  
THE  
PASTOR



From the Desk of Pastor  
Bryan  
June 2023

“God is sheer being itself – Spirit. Those who worship him must do it out of their very being, their spirits, their true selves, in adoration.” John 4:24 (MSG)

Music has had a special place in my heart for quite some time, starting with my playing trumpet in middle school. As I have shared many times before, musicians of any kind are focused on a variety of things at one given time—memorizing fingerings, feeling the beat, mastering different rhythmic and melodic patterns, staying with the greater ensemble, just to name a few. It is a craft that is strengthened over time with a great deal of practice and patience. And though I admit that my trumpet skills have significantly diminished over time (and my trusty trumpet is now in the hands of my younger brother), I have gained and nurtured a deeper appreciation of the beauty of music as a whole, especially when I can sense that the musicians are so deeply invested in the music they are performing that it almost seems second-nature.

As part of teaching Confirmation this past spring, I used a video series called *Nooma*, narrated by a pastor named Rob Bell. This series has been around for quite some time, and while the sense of fashion may be showing its age, the content of its messages is still very relevant and sparked some great discussion. One of the videos we explored was called “Rhythm,” which sought to compare a relationship with God with the beauty and complexity of a song. Here are some of the questions that we explored that I’d like for each of you to explore this month, too:

**What is the one word or phrase that you would use to describe your image of God?  
What does it mean to be in tune with God?  
Can you believe in God yet be out of tune with the song?**

While this metaphor may not carry with it clear and concise answers, it provides one lens through which a relationship with God can be explored and experienced, while also providing an exhortation for all of us—young and old—to be mindful of the great song of redemption that we know and embrace as children of the resurrection. It is a melody that God promises will continue to play out in our world and our lives forever.

As we journey into summer, may we strive to live in tune with God daily, to be assured and reassured that the notes of grace and love and forgiveness resonate in our hearts daily, and to use our hearts, our hands and our voices to share this beautiful gift wherever life takes us.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Bryan

## Congratulations confirmands!

The following young adults confessed their faith and became adult members of St Andrew's Lutheran Church:

May 14 Sophia Wallace

June 18 Matthew Stephan

We rejoice with you and thank God for you!





Council Meeting Minutes  
May 11, 2023

Present: Pastor Bryan Schmidt,  
Kathleen Bellaire, Chris Ziegler, Greg Egner, Matt  
Moore, Steve Last

**Treasurer's Report**

Budget materials provided by Matt Moore were reviewed. Currently we continue to have a negative budget, with expenses outweighing contributions. April bills were reviewed. Kathy Bellaire made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented, Greg made a motion that the financial reports be approved. Chris seconded; Motion passed.

**Old Business:**

1. Staffing Support: Steve reported that Jeff is unable to return as janitor in the near future. Marcia has been covering the janitorial duties but could use some help. Some larger projects, such as waxing the floors, need to be completed. Steve suggested we may want to look at alternatives for completion of janitorial duties. Ideas are to poll our congregation and the Hmong congregation to determine if anyone is interested in temporarily filling this role, to explore the possibility of hiring a cleaning service for large projects like floor maintenance and window washing or to advertise the position locally. Marcia and Jeff have done a wonderful job in keeping our buildings clean, supplied, and pleasant. The Property Committee will continue to work on this issue.
2. Roles and Responsibilities of Council Members/Support Needed – Tabled at this time. A separate meeting will be scheduled in the future to tackle this issue.
  - a. Committee Ideas- Discussion and decisions tabled due to the absence of several Council members. Members were encouraged to continue to look at the committee roles and responsibilities to determine if any can be changed, eliminated, or combined.

- b. Quarterly Survey- a survey regarding our new worship schedule will be developed and included in the third quarter mailings.

**New Business:**

**Review of Usher Guidelines** The current guidelines were developed at the time we were passing and presenting offering plates during the service and had an acolyte to light and extinguish candles. These activities have not been done since we implemented Covid protocols 3 years ago. Chris suggested that we might want to move usher duties related to this type of activity to an addendum at this time and add them back in when we return to some of our past practices. He noted there may be other items like that which we can remove for now.

Questions arose as to whether the AED is currently functional, how to check it and how to use it. Steve reported that he ordered new batteries, pads, and an instruction manual. These items have been charged to the Property Committee but were not budgeted for. Steve recommends we identify a committee responsible for maintenance of the AED so that replacement equipment can be budgeted. Pads must be replaced annually. Steve also recommended that ensuring the equipment is up to date should be added as a responsibility to someone specific, possibly to a paid staff member. Matt recommended that training on use of the AED be held for anyone interested.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Bryan reported that he has completed three of the continuing education sessions he is attending on Interim Ministry and is finding them very helpful. Two students will be confirmed this year, one on May 14 and one on June 18. Pastor met with the Principal of Emmeline Cook school. The Principal expressed gratitude for the partnership with St. Andrew's and confirmed the school's interest in maintaining the relationship in the future. Pastor reported that he will be taking vacation one Sunday each month during June, July, and August.

**Committee Reports:**

**Christian Action/Fellowship:** Carol supplied a written report. The confirmation dinner was held on

May 10. It was a great meal and fellowship. FEEDING HUNGRY KIDS -- fliers and posters are going out to the businesses. Boxes will be out on tables at St. Andrew's asking for items on our needs list. Carol will also have signup sheets for volunteering on the table starting in June. Thank You to all for donating goods for the Synod Assembly.

**Property:**

Plumbing issues in the women's bathroom and the handicap bathroom were addressed. It was discovered that part of the issue was improper disposal of wipes and paper towels. Signage addressing this issue will be placed in the bathrooms. In addition, the sewer pipes are very old, and some parts may need to be replaced. An annual sewer cleaning schedule will be implemented. The HVAC issues in the fellowship hall and classrooms areas were addressed. The heat exchanger for the fellowship hall was replaced by GMS. The unit was still under warranty. The air handling unit in the furnace covering the classrooms was also replaced. The total cost of the furnace maintenance and repair was \$1500.00. A locking bar handle was added to our dumpster to keep animals out of the trash, this will increase our monthly bill by \$7.00. Last's Construction cut up and removed a downed tree and Jim's Lawncare completed our Spring lawn service. A bid was received from a member for the "deer stand" and accepted. Plans for removal from St. Andrew's property are underway. The "Brighter Tomorrow" project for the sanctuary lighting is on hold at this time. Office renovations are moving ahead.

**Stewardship/Discipleship:** No report

**Technology:** Pastor Bryan noted there were no problems or issues to report.

**Ministry Site Profile:** Pastor Bryan reported that currently 12 members are meeting to craft the MSP. The next Meeting is Tuesday May 16. Survey results have not been completed at this time.

Next Council meeting: **Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Bellaire, Council Member

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



I would like to acknowledge the following folks who have very faithfully sung in the choir this past season. They used their musical gifts to praise God and to add an extra dimension to worship:

Kathy Bellaire, Shirley Guse, Paula Kundert, Pam Nemmetz, Nancy Netys (who also beautifully plays her flute whenever we ask), Peg Olson, Pam Pawlak, John Selk, Sandy Walth.

Pastor Karen also sang with us during her time here. And Matthew Stephan played his cello with our Good Friday anthem. That was a lovely addition to the piece.

Our Men's Ensemble on Good Friday this year included Pastor Bryan, Greg Egner, Kevin Krasny, Stu Schrottky and John Selk. We appreciate hearing those male voices. It is a heartwarming sound.

Many thanks to these musicians! I would also like to invite any who are interested in singing to join the choir in fall. It is a very friendly group. - - Kris Selk



## Pop-up Choir

### New this summer – a pop-up choir!

For those who like to sing, we are going to try a pop-up choir three times this summer. On **June 4**, July 16, and August 13, interested singers will provide the special music for worship after **rehearsing at 8:45 in the choir room.** (Go past the Fellowship Hall toward the back of the building. The choir room is the last door on the left.) No special experience or music knowledge is required. We will practice a hymn to sing at worship. Easy and fun! **It starts next week.** Hope you'll try it out!

## : St. Andrew's Prayer Chain



If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, we are blessed to have a prayer chain ministry here at St. Andrew's.

You can email a prayer chain request to Pastor Bryan at [pastor@standrewsoshkorh.org](mailto:pastor@standrewsoshkorh.org). Please note that all requests are kept very confidential.

<https://www.habitatoshkosh.org/home-buyer-program>

### Custodial Help Needed

St. Andrew's is in need of custodial help. If any St. Andrew's members are interested in the cleaning and upkeep of the campus, please contact Pastor Bryan or Steve Last (920-379-3337).

### Feeding Hungry Kids

Mondays, Wednesdays, and  
Fridays  
July 10<sup>th</sup> through Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>  
11 am - 12:30 pm



We are getting ready for our seventh year of Feeding Hungry Kids. The program will start July 10 through August 25<sup>th</sup>. The hours will be 11:00 am - 12:30 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Donation boxes will be on the table across from the office. We are currently collecting items for the program.

To volunteer, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the table across from the office, OR contact Carol Spiegelberg at 920-420-7832.

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

### NEEDS list for FEEDING HUNGRY KIDS

You can help feed hungry kids!

Brownie mix  
Canned vegetables (corn, green beans, carrots)  
Canned fruit (applesauce, fruit cocktail, mandarin oranges, peaches)  
Crackers (saltines, snack)  
Cookies (chocolate chip, sugar, and Girl Scout)  
Cereal (Rice Krispies, Trix, Fruity Pebbles)  
Dressings (Ranch, French)  
Gravy (chicken, beef)  
Honey  
Instant mashed potatoes  
Instant rice  
Jelly (grape, strawberry)  
Juice boxes  
Ketchup  
Lemonade (powdered)  
Macaroni  
Mac and cheese

Mustard  
Marshmallows  
Rice Krispie treats, granols  
Spaghetti  
Spaghetti sauce  
Taco shells (hard and soft)  
Soup (chicken noodle, chicken with rice)  
Syrup  
Small bottles of water

#### Supplies Needed:

Disposable gloves (M, L, XL)  
Garbage bags (30 gallon)  
Kitchen bags  
Toilet paper  
Lunch bags  
Divided paper plates  
Plastic silverware  
Paper cups

Gift cards (Piggly Wiggly)



## Committee Meetings

All members welcome!

**Christian Action Committee**  
Monday, June 5, 2023

**Worship & Music Committee**  
Wednesday, June 7, at 9 am

**Ministry Site Profile Committee**  
Monday, June 6, at 9 am

**Council Meeting**  
Thursday, June 8, at 7 pm

**Ministry Site Profile Committee**  
Thursday, June 15, at 9 am

**Property Committee**  
Thursday, June 29, at 8 am  
Delta Restaurant



"How I Spent My Summer Vacation"



Habitat for Humanity  
Habitat for Humanity of  
Oshkosh is accepting Home  
Buyer Program pre-  
applications for the 2024 build  
season. Forms and more  
details are available on their website

## Attention All Singers



The Winnebagoland Chorus is sending out an invitation to anyone who would like to sing. Come one, come all! Please join them for a community sing at 6:30 pm, Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at Peace Lutheran Church on Ninth Avenue in Oshkosh. You can enter through the rear entrance and go into the basement. Songs we all know and music will be available. RSVP appreciated to [mobilevoakesgolfer@gmail.com](mailto:mobilevoakesgolfer@gmail.com) or call Richard Boakes 920-410-7875



"Your enthusiasm during my sermons is flattering, Andy, but I must ask that you stop pumping your fist and yelling 'Woop! Woop!'"