



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am and on Facebook

October 2025



FROM YOUR PASTOR

Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ.

One of the regular features of fall in the church is the Fall Stewardship Campaign. It's more than asking for money to meet the budget – as we look to the year ahead. The Fall Stewardship Campaign is the opportunity to reflect on our own response to God's work in our lives, and the call to be stewards of all that God has placed in our care. As we consider the abundant blessings that God has entrusted to us – our time, talents, and treasure – we also reflect on how we can best use them to God's glory and service.

As part of this year's Fall Stewardship Campaign we are holding a special Giving Tuesday event on 2 December. There will be activities, treats, and giveaways, that celebrate generosity and encourage our faithful stewardship. Let me know if you would like to be part of the planning team for that event. And mark your calendar so you can be sure to stop by for the Giving Tuesday event.

Another feature of our Fall Stewardship Campaign is that we are preparing our own Advent/Stewardship devotional booklet. I am asking YOU – members and friends of St. Andrew's – to write brief stories of a time when you experienced God at work in your life. A God moment. It may be the story of a time when God was giving you direction, or answering your prayer, or opening up a new possibility to you, and if a scripture verse comes to mind, please include it. Each story should

be about the length of a devotional in the Word in Season devotional booklets.

These "God Moment" stories will tie into our Advent theme, leading us into Christmas where we celebrate the coming of Jesus, our Savior. In addition, these "God Moment" stories help us to share our faith by telling of the love and grace of God at work in our lives.

In order to have these devotional booklets prepared in time for the Advent season, I will need your stories by 31 October. And if you can't decide between two events to write about – write both. If we have extra stories we can carry them over into the Christmas and Epiphany season.

God is at work in all of our lives. Thank you for sharing your stories with others so that the love and grace of God can be told anew.

Blessings in Christ!

Pastor Karen E Tews



Contact Information for Pastor Karen

Please add Pastor Karen's cell phone number to your cell phone contacts: 815-821-2426. Especially during hours when the office is not open, the cell phone number is the best way to reach her.

Church Council Highlights



The Church Council minutes will be emailed to church members and friends who are on the newsletter mailing list.

For those who don't receive the newsletter by email, you can pick up a printed copy of the Church Council minutes at the church – from the same place that you pick up a print copy of the newsletter.

The next Council meeting will be held Monday, 13 October at 7:00 pm in the Yellow Room off of the Fellowship Hall. Church Council meetings are open meetings, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Notice of Special Congregational Meeting 5 October, following worship

There will be another Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, 5 October, following worship. There will be only one item on the agenda: to approve replacing the roof on the sanctuary.

The Building, Grounds, and Facilities Committee has gotten bids from three roofers, met with two of them and had a conference call with the third, regarding replacing the roof. As you may know, we have had several roof leaks this summer and fall. It is important to get the roof taken care of before the winter.

Membership Transfers

The McAninch Family – Aaron, Sarah, and Vivien – have transferred their membership to Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church. We are grateful for their time in our congregation, and the many ways they blessed us through their presence and their service. We wish them all God's blessings as they continue their faith journey at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church.



Nominating Ballot for Church Council

This year we are trying something just a bit different for the Nominating Committee. We will still have a Nominating Committee to secure the nominations for Church Council, Synod Assembly delegates, and representatives to several annual meetings. But – in order to get input from the congregation as a whole, we are asking everyone to submit their nominations for Church Council on a “Nominations Ballot.” The Nominating Committee will contact those who are nominated by members and friends of the congregation. Nominations Ballots are on the table in the narthex – and there is a tray to place your completed nominations ballots in. Thanks for doing something new!

Blessing of the Pets



On Sunday, 5 October, there will be a special “Blessing of the Pets” service at noon out by the pavilion. There are picnic tables for seating, or you can bring your own chair. It will be a simple service with a focus on animals.

It is being held in connection with St. Francis of Assisi's feast day, which is 4 October.

St. Francis is the patron saint of animals. He is known as the patron saint of animals and the environment because of his deep love and reverence for all of God's creations. He is said to have preached to birds and is a prominent figure in the history of ecology.

Because of his love of animals, “Blessing of the Pets” services are often held in connection with his feast day.

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends, neighbors, or people you see out walking their dogs. Invitation cards are available on the table in the narthex – take a few and share.

Thanks!

A Fall Hayride and Fellowship



A hayride is one of those wonderful, fall, traditions. Join in a hayride on Saturday, 11 October, at 4:00 pm, at Gary and Darlene Bruce's home – 6360 State Road 76, Neenah. And after the hayride we will roast hotdogs and make s'mores.

Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex, or call the church office by Wednesday, 8 October so that we know how many people to plan for.

Pop-up Adult Forum



Our October Pop-Up Adult Forum will be Sunday, 19 October, at 10:45 am in the Council Room. We will be discussing the book, "Autopsy of a Deceased Church," by Thom Rainer. Copies of the book are available on the table in the narthex – take a copy, read, and return it so someone else can read it.



Reformation Sunday 26 October

On Reformation Sunday, as we celebrate the Reformation of the 1500s, we also remember the ongoing reforming work that God continues to do in the church through the power and work of the Holy Spirit. When we get off the Gospel path, God brings us back.

There will be special liturgy, written for this Reformation Sunday, celebrating God's loving, renewing, recreating work.

Trunk-or-Treat Saturday, 25 October



We are having Trunk-or-Treat at St. Andrew's! It's from 2-4 pm on 25 October. We are part of the collaboration with the other Oshkosh ELCA churches. We need people to come and decorate their cars, pass out candy, and serve hot chocolate. Trunk decorations will be provided. Please let Brenda Francis know if you will participate. We want to make this a fun and successful event at St. Andrew's. There is also going to be a photo op station – let us know if you want to take pictures.



Trick or Treat

Trick-or-Treating at the Literacy Classes

There are lots of children who come with their mothers to the literacy classes on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Pastor Karen is looking for some church members to pass out candy for the children as they Trick-or-Treat at classroom doors on Thursday, 30 October at 1:30 pm. We would like to have six or eight people to share candy with the trick-or-treaters. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex if you would like to come and have some trick-or-treat fun with the children.

Coats for Kids

The annual "Coats for Kids" drive has begun. We have a box in the narthex for gently used coats for kids, and new coats. Please consider providing a coat to keep a child warm this winter. Thanks!



Coats for Kids



Pastor Karen's Thank You Notes

Thanks to our *Cottage Meeting* – *Part 2* hosts! Thanks to Pam Nemmetz, Marcia Galica, Chris Ziegler, Matt and Beth Moore, and Peg Olson, for serving as our hosts. And thanks to everyone who attended the meetings!

Thanks to everyone who helped with God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday projects. Through your help, we were able to complete all of our projects, take a basket of scented lotions, sprays, and body wash to the residents of Parkview Health Center, and help with bingo at Miravida Living. We had 16 of our members and friends who helped in some way in serving our neighbors.

Thanks to everyone who brought school supplies for the Lutheran World Relief School Kits! We were able to make 54 school kits this year.

Thanks to those who prepared and served the lunch for the Habitat for Humanity "Rock the Block" in September: Sherry Seabul, Sue Zinth, Marcia Galica, Shirley Guse, Pam Nemmetz, and Sandy Walth.

Thanks to Marcia Galica for cleaning up mysterious spots on the carpet!

Thanks to Steve Last for his extra work getting bids on the roof, and to all of the Building, Grounds, and Facilities Committee members for giving extra time to meet regarding roof leaks.

Thanks to everyone who helped move tables and chairs, and other items, before and after the floors in the Fellowship Hall and adjacent rooms were cleaned.

Thanks to Jim and Sue Zinth for cleaning the rugs in the Little Lambs Room!



St. Andrew's Festival Choir – Reformation Sunday

Sandy will be playing the organ for our Reformation Sunday service (26 October), and she would like to do something special for the service. If you would be willing to join in and sing in the "St. Andrew's Festival Choir" for this special occasion, please let Sandy know. The music won't be difficult – but certainly fitting of the occasion of the 508th anniversary of the Reformation!

"Autopsy of a Deceased Church" by Thom S. Rainer



The Church Council has been reading this book over the past several months, and discussing a portion at each meeting. Chris Ziegler thought that it would be a good idea to make copies available for members and friends of the congregation to read, so he purchased copies for others to read.

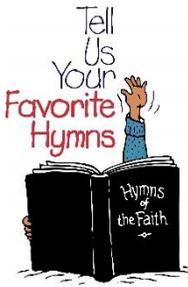
For over 25 years, Thom Rainer has helped churches grow, reverse the trends of decline, and studied the churches that have died. From his experience he has discovered consistent themes among those churches that have died. And from that, he provides lessons on how to keep churches alive.



Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday will be here before we know it. This year we would like to have an event to celebrate generosity on Giving Tuesday. Giving Tuesday is 2 December. If you would like to serve on a team to help plan the event, please see Pastor Karen. A fun and impactful event is what we are aiming for.

Hymn Survey



Included in this newsletter is a hymn survey. Everyone is asked to share their favorite hymns in each of the categories: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, etc. While we will still learn new hymns (after all, some of our beloved hymns were once new to us), this will help to make sure that we are keeping a balance between beloved and newer hymns. And – depending on the season of the church year – on the fifth Sunday of the month we may have a “Favorite Hymns Sunday.” Thanks for helping out by filling out the survey! There will be a box on the table in the narthex where you can place them.



Day by Day Fundraiser Streets of Hope 2025!

Join Day by Day Shelter on Friday, October 10 at Becket's Atrium for a powerful evening where art becomes action and every moment helps build a stronger, more compassionate community. This one-of-a-kind event brings together local artists, live music, immersive experiences, and community connection — all to raise critical funds for Day by Day Shelter and the individuals we serve.

There are several Ticket Options: General Admission, VIP Tickets, and VIP Booth or Table. All tickets include street food, live music, art + entertainment.

If you can't attend you can still make a difference. If you're unable to join us, please consider making a donation to support our mission - together, we can turn hope into action!

Thanks Received..



For the lunch provided by Christian Action for the Habitat for Humanity Rock the Block:

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your generous donation, your support makes a huge difference, and our family is truly grateful. It means a lot to know that (churches) like yours are willing to give back and support families in our community. Your generosity doesn't just improve these homes, it lifts our spirits. With sincere appreciation,
Zoe Thompson

Thank you so much for the awesome lunch! You rock!
Dan

Volunteers for the Winnebago Area Literacy Council Literacy Classes



Right now the literacy classes have lots of babies and little ones who need some extra holding or extra attention. Therefore, they could use some extra volunteers to provide the one-on-one attention. If you would be able to volunteer to hold and rock babies, or walk a young one in a stroller, Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from noon until 2:00 pm, please see Pastor Karen. Thanks!

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
1100 E. Murdock Avenue, Oshkosh, WI
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Staff

The Rev. Karen E. Tews, Pastor
Sandy Last, Secretary
Sue Redman, Secretary
Kris Selk, Organist and Choir Director

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Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8 am - noon

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>10:45am Pop Up Adult Forum</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p> <p>6:30pm Pastor's Tea</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>1:30pm Congregational Life Committee Meeting</p>	<p>1</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>2</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Congregational Meeting</p> <p>After Meeting - Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>12:00pm Blessing of the Pets</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:00am Worship & Music Committee Meeting</p> <p>6:00pm Christian Action Committee Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00am - E.Cook evacuation drill</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p> <p>4:00pm Hayride</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>6:30pm ACOA Meeting</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00am Oshkosh Conference Assembly</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>10:45 Pop Up Adult Forum</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>22</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm NO Choir Practice</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p> <p>2:00pm Trunk or Treat</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Reformation Sunday</p> <p>9:00 Festival Choir Practice</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>6:30pm ACOA Meeting</p>	<p>29</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00am Property Committee Meeting</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>1:30 pm WALC Trick or Treating</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p>

Hymn Survey

Please fill out the following survey, indicating your favorites for each other seasons – and general favorites, too. Please submit the completed survey in the box on the table in the narthex. It will help in selecting hymns in the various seasons, to assure that we are singing a few of the favorites in each season of the church year. Thank you!

Advent: _____

Christmas: _____

Epiphany: _____

Lent: _____

Lent – second choice: _____

Easter: _____

Easter – second choice: _____

Pentecost: _____

Reformation Sunday: _____

General – please provide three: _____
