



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Oshkosh, WI 54901

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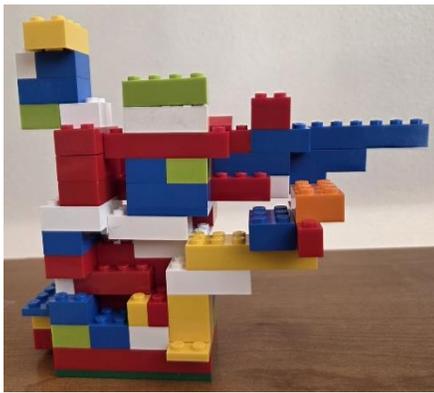
Welcome to worship and life at St. Andrew's!

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am and on Facebook

January 2026



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



One of the activities at the Giving Tuesday event was the Lego structure. Each person was asked to add one Lego to the structure for

each ministry they participated in and for each way they serve in the church.

There are lots of Legos in that structure! Our members and friends use their God-given talents and abilities in quite a variety of ways to do the work of Jesus through St. Andrew's.

One of the things that struck me was the shape of the Lego structure. Notice how it isn't a solid blob, but has pieces – extensions – sticking out in many different directions.

Those extensions represent our congregation's ministry well. We aren't a ministry for ourselves, but we reach out in quite a variety of ways to serve others, partner with others, and shine the light of Christ beyond our congregation. In December we hosted the Dental Bus for Emmeline Cook Elementary School, and collected clothing for them to have on hand when children need a change of clothes during the day. In November we

collected Christmas gift items for the Winnebago Mental Health Institute. In January, the Christian Action Committee is preparing and serving a meal at the Day-by-Day Shelter. In the summer we reach out and serve children in food-insecure families. And this is just the tip of the iceberg!

We have our Annual Congregational Meeting coming up 25 January, following worship. The book of reports shares the stories of the ministries that we have been doing together in the past year. I encourage you to read through it, and give thanks to each other and to God for the ways we have been able to share the Gospel and serve our neighbors. And please make every effort to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting.

This year we are adding something new. On Sunday, 4 January, following worship, we will hold a budget forum. This is an opportunity to learn about the changes in the budget that are being proposed by the Church Council. The Budget Forum is not a Congregational Meeting, so no decisions will be made.

I will be traveling to Israel-Palestine for nine days in January. It is an opportunity to see some of the Holy Land, and to express solidarity with the Lutheran and Christian Churches in that region. It is one more way that the extensions reach out to witness and serve beyond our congregation. The Sunday that I am away Pastor Jan LaVake will be leading worship and preaching.

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.

Hospital Visitation

A Reminder . . .

It is good to call Pastor Karen when:

- You or a family member is in the hospital;
- You move or have a new telephone number;
- Prayers would be a helpful support;
- You have a question or concern about something going on in the church.

The hospitals do not notify the church when people are hospitalized, so Pastor Karen appreciates it when members notify her or the church office. Thank you!

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, 25 January, following worship. Please plan to attend.

The agenda for the meeting includes approving the Annual Book of Reports, approving the 2026 budget, electing Church Council members and representatives to Conference and Synod meetings, and thanking our outgoing leadership.

Because the Church Council is recommending some changes to the budget for 2026, there will be a budget forum after worship on Sunday, 4 January. Everyone is encouraged to attend this meeting to be informed about the changes. This meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks for Generous Offerings for the Roof and Furnaces!



Some of you have been wondering where we stand with special offerings for the roof and the furnaces. To date we have received \$10,120.00 for the roof, and \$2,060.00 for the furnaces. Thanks for the generous offerings to meet these unexpected expenses!



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, 12 January 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.

Dear St. Andrew's Members and Friends,



Thank you so much for the beautiful Christmas cards and thoughtful gifts. Your kindness and generosity brought such joy to me this season. I am truly grateful for the love, prayers, and encouragement you continue to share.

May God bless each of you for the warmth and compassion you've shown. Wishing the entire church family a blessed Christmas and a joyful New Year.

With heartfelt appreciation,
Pastor Karen



Pastor Karen's Thank You Notes

Thanks to Pam Nemmetz for the wonderful Advent and Christmas bulletin boards.

Thanks to Matt Moore for all his time and efforts with the Giving Tuesday event. Matt was in charge of the coffee, donuts, and cookies. And he spent the day, helping with the event.

Thanks to everyone who brought clothing items to meet the needs at Emmeline Cook Elementary School. It is good to see that partnership growing, and to be able to meet some of the needs there.

Thanks to the Sanctuary Decorating Team: Marcia Galica, Pam Nemmetz, Sandy Walth, Darlene Bruce, and Kathy Bellaire. And thanks to those who set up the Christmas tree: Steve Last, Gary Bruce and Jim Zinth.

Thanks to Sue and Jim Zinth for the decorations outside of the church doors. They always keep the entrances beautiful and welcoming.

Thanks to those who sponsored poinsettias to adorn the chancel for our Christmas services!

Thanks to Judy Groff for making the Christmas wreath for outside the church.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee for their faithful work seeking nominees for the positions on Church Council as well as the delegates to the ministries we are connected with. The Nominating Committee members are: Gary Bruce, Sandy Last, Greg Egner, Chris Ziegler and Pam Nemmetz.



Thanks for Your Giving for Giving Tuesday!

Thanks to everyone who contributed to St. Andrew's mission and ministry on Giving Tuesday. The contributions made on Giving Tuesday, along with those given throughout the week, with the \$6,000.00 matching funds, totals \$27,441.38.

Thank you for your generosity!

Lunch Bunch!



The "Lunch Bunch" will be gathering at The Roxy Supper Club (571 N. Main, Oshkosh) on Tuesday, 6 January, at noon. It is a great opportunity for good food, fellowship, and a way to show our support to The Roxy, which is one of our supporters for our Feeding Hungry Kids ministry.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex, so that we will know who to expect. Walk-ins are always welcome – so if you are thinking how nice it would be to join the group, please come.

Book Discussion in February



Pastor Karen has been hearing about the book "I Think You're Wrong (But I Am Still Listening): A Guide to Grace-Filled Political Conversations" by Sarah

Stewart Holland and Beth A. Silvers. At a recent Oshkosh Conference Meeting, several pastors said they had read it with members of their congregation. The title was intriguing, so Pastor Karen picked up a copy and found the book engaging.

In the slower and cold days of January, if you are looking for a good book, pick up a copy of this book. And watch the February newsletter for the date and time when we will have a book discussion.



New Offering Envelopes for 2026

The 2026 Offering Envelopes are here, and available to be picked up in the narthex. This year we are renumbering the envelopes in order to save money by ordering fewer boxes of envelopes. So, don't be surprised if you have a new offering envelope number. And please – to help our offering counters and office staff – do not use 2025 envelopes in 2026.

If you are unable to pick up your envelopes, please give the church a call (920-235-6616) and we will be glad to get them to you.

Pop-Up Adult Forum



There will not be a Pop-Up Adult Forum in January. Please plan to attend the “Budget Forum” on Sunday, 4 January following worship in the Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity to take a look at the budget before the Congregational Meeting, and have the Church Council explain some of the changes in the budget.

The February Pop-Up Adult Forum topic will be some take-aways from Pastor Karen’s trip to Israel-Palestine. Join us on Sunday, 8 February for that Adult Forum. We gather in the Council Room at 10:45 am.



Thrivent Choice Dollars

It is that time of year – to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars. Thrivent members with insurance and certain types of investments get Thrivent Choice Dollars to designate to a ministry each year. Thrivent Choice Dollars that are not designated to a ministry by the end of March expire, and can no longer be designated. Please consider designating any Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. Andrew’s.



Thanks Received

From Emmeline Cook School...

On behalf of the parents and students of Emmeline Cook,

I want to express our deepest gratitude for the support of the St. Andrew’s congregation. Your support in helping our students access Tri-County Dental care has significantly improved the quality of life for students and their families. Without the use of the church, students would have gone at least a year without proper dental care. I cannot express enough how grateful I am for your help!

Enjoy a happy and restful holiday.

Sincerely,
Michael Ruhl, principal

St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church
1100 E. Murdock Avenue, Oshkosh, WI
54901

Staff

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

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website: <https://standrewsoshkosh.org>
Facebook: St Andrews Oshkosh

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8 am - noon

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:00pm NO Choir Practice</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p>
<p>4</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Budget Forum</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00am Worship & Music Committee Meeting</p> <p>6:00pm Christian Action Committee Meeting</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:00pm Lunch Bunch - The Roxy</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>7</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>6:30pm ACOA Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>15</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Day by Day Shelter meal</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>22</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Annual Congregational Meeting</p> <p>Following Mtg Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>6:30pm ACOA Meeting</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00am Property Committee Meeting</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>12:00pm Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting</p>