



St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

1100 E. Murdock Avenue

Oshkosh, WI 54901

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Facebook: [StAndrews Oshkosh](https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsOshkosh)

Website: standrewsoshkosh.org

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

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am and on Facebook

February 2026



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

“Autopsy of a Deceased Church: 12 Ways to Keep Yours Alive,” and “Our Iceberg is Melting,” we have begun to think about the future needs for ministry. These are all things that you can build on as you seek your next pastor.

We have shared in the ministry of the St. Andrew's congregation for a year and a half now. When I accepted the call to serve as pastor of St. Andrew's, I intended to serve you for a longer season. However, I have come to realize that it is in the best interests of the congregation for me to resign as your pastor, so that St. Andrew's can move forward and prepare to call your next pastor.

I will be going “on leave from call,” to take some time to discern what God has next for me. I will conclude my call to serve St. Andrew's on 15 February 2026. I will be available to you to express my appreciation to you individually. If you would like to get in touch with me before I leave, please reach out through my cell phone (815-821-2426) or through the church.

I have been blessed by my time at St. Andrew's. You are a wonderful congregation, filled with wonderful, dedicated, and generous people. I have been blessed by building relationships with members and friends of the congregation. You give of your resources to meet the needs of others – such as through the Coats for Kids drive, the gifts for the Winnebago Mental Health Institute, meeting needs at Emmeline Cook Elementary School, and the Noisy Offering. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve, to lead, and to walk with the congregation.

I thank you for your call to serve as your pastor, for your support, and for the grace you have shown me during our time together. I will be holding St. Andrew's in my prayers as you enter this next time of transition. God will guide you through this time, and lead you to call the pastor with gifts to serve in the next chapter of St. Andrew's ministry.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Karen E. Tews

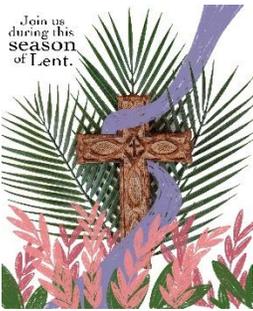
As I reflect back over the last year and a half, I think of the many things we have done together. The ministry to our homebound members is stronger. We have renewed our partnership with Emmeline Cook School. We have had Fall Stewardship Campaigns, and a Giving Tuesday event. With some new events and experiences, we have experimented with doing some new things – finding them both fun and life-giving. And as we read the books,

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, 9 February 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.

Lent Begins On Ash Wednesday 18 February



The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is 18 February. St. Andrew's will have a worship service at 6:30 pm. The service will be a service of Holy Communion, with the imposition of ashes for those who desire them.

The Oshkosh ELCA churches have again planned a joint series for the mid-week Lenten services. The liturgy will be the Holden Evening Prayer service, which has been used in recent years. St. Andrew's will host the first in the series of mid-week Lenten services, on Wednesday, 25 February. There will be a soup supper at 5:30, and worship at 6:30 pm.

The theme of the Lenten mid-week series is "The Spiritual Practices of Lent." The topic of the first service is "sacrifice."



Pastor Karen's Thank You Notes

Thanks to everyone involved in taking down the Christmas decorations. You are appreciated!

Thanks to our worship crew for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning worship services. Our ushers, lectors, communion assistants, assisting ministers, and altar guild – we are so grateful for the ministry that you provide!

Thanks to Kris and Sandy, our musicians, and the choir – for wonderful music throughout Advent and on Christmas Eve. And thanks to Nancy for the beautiful flute music provided on Christmas Eve!

Thanks to Pam Nemmetz for another beautiful bulletin board for the Epiphany season.

Thanks to those who have designated Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. Andrew's. Your designation to the church helps with special needs.

Lunch Bunch!

The "Lunch Bunch" will be gathering at Becket's (2 Jackson Street, Oshkosh) on Tuesday, 3 February, at noon. It is a great opportunity for good food, fellowship, and a way to show our support to Becket's, which is one of the contributing restaurants 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



If you enjoy reading – and discussion – join us for conversation 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.

If you are looking for a good book, pick up a copy of this book. And join us for discussion on Thursday, 12 February at 6:30 pm.

Pop-Up Adult Forum



On Sunday, 8 February, Pastor Karen will share some of the things she experienced, saw, and learned on her trip to Palestine Israel. Join us for the Adult Forum in the Council Room at 10:45 am.



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.



Thanks Received

From Winnebago Mental Health Institute:

Dear St. Andrew's Lutheran Church:

As the spirit of the holiday echoes throughout Volunteer Services at Winnebago Mental Health Institute, I can only reflect on what it means to be surrounded by such gratitude. Thank you so much for your donation of a check and items. Your gift will make an impact on patients throughout the year and will help our patients as they work towards their recovery and wellness.

On behalf of the staff and patients at Winnebago Mental Health Institute, we thank you for your donation. Thank you for making a difference!

Warmest regards,
Kourtney Kositzke, Volunteer Services Coordinator

From the Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Inc.:

Dear St. Andrew's,

On behalf of Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, thank you for your generous gift of \$12.64. Your support makes such a difference for survivors of domestic abuse during their most vulnerable moments.

For more than 40 years, donors like you have sustained our mission. Today, every contribution helps fund the essential operations that keep our services available. Because of you, individuals and families can access Emergency Shelter, Advocacy, Youth Services, Transitional Housing, and basic needs like food, clothing, and hygiene items.

Your kindness helps people heal, rebuild and find hope. If you would like a tour of our new space or have questions, I'd love to hear from you.

With Gratitude,
Evan Philipp, Grants and Fundraising Specialist



**Thrivent
Choice**

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.

Highlights of the Annual Congregational Meeting

The St. Andrew's Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, 25 January 2026. Pastor Karen submitted her resignation, effective 15 February 2026. Minutes of the congregational meetings held during 2025 were approved, as were the financial reports. A report was made of the Feeding Hungry Kids ministry. The 2026 budget was approved. The Audit Committee report was presented. Elections for Church Council positions and delegates to various ministries were held. Our thanks to those who agreed to serve our congregation in these capacities:

- Church Council: Sandy Last – 2-year term, Scott Nagel – 3-year term;
- Crossways Camping Ministry Annual Meeting: Kathy Bellaire and Shirley Guse;
- Miravida Living Annual Meeting: Marcia Galica and Sue Zinth;
- UWO Campus Ministry Annual Meeting: Tracy Hawley and Liz Crivello;
- ECSW Synod Assembly: Sue Redman and Shirley Guse;
- Nominating Committee 2026: Matt Moore, Ann Stephan, Paula Kundert, Sue Zinth, Marcia Galica, Tracy Hawley.

The President's Report, Pastor's Report and the reports of our committees were received. Copies of the 2025 Annual Report are available from the church office.

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

Telephone: 920-235-6616
Email: office@standrewsoshkosh.org
website: <https://standrewsoshkosh.org>
Facebook: St Andrews Oshkosh

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8 am - noon



February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>12:00pm Lunch Bunch - Becketts</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>12:00pm ACA Meeting</p>
<p>8</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>9</p> <p>5:30pm Miravida Annual Meeting</p> <p>7:00pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>6:30pm ACA Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12:00pm Bible Study</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>6:30pm Book Discussion</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>12:00pm ACA Meeting</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Election Day</p> <p>Shrove Tuesday</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Ash Wednesday</p> <p>6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>19</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:00pm ACA Meeting</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30am Holy Communion</p> <p>10:30am Fellowship Coffee Time</p> <p>1:00pm Cross & Crown Alliance Church</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p> <p>6:30pm ACA Meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:30pm Soup Supper</p> <p>6:30pm Midweek Worship at St. Andrew's</p> <p>7:30pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00am Property Committee Meeting</p> <p>12:00pm WALC Women & Children English Classes</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12:00pm ACA Meeting</p>