



ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH
And
Early Childhood Campus

7750 State. Hwy. 144 N
 www.standrew-westbend.org
 Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

West Bend, WI 53090
 standrewchurchwb@gmail.com

(262) 335-4200
 St.AndrewECC@gmail.com
 Sunday School and Bible Class 10:15 a.m.

NOVEMBER 2025

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“Truly, I Say To You...”

One of my favorite passages of Scripture (Luke 23) involves the penitent thief who was nailed on the cross alongside Jesus. As Jesus hung on the cross, praying for those who sinned against him to be forgiven, the penitent thief saw his greatest need. He confesses His guilt before God, and he makes the audacious request: *“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”* And in reply, Jesus gives him a promising word:

- **Truly...** *this is for certain*
- **Today...** *not some distant future, but within hours*
- **You Will...** *not might or may, but YOU WILL*
- **Be With Me in Paradise...** *heaven with the Lord!*

What a wonderful promise the penitent thief receives so that he is able to go from a state of hopelessness to HOPE; from the prospect of hell to the promise of heaven. Before breathing his last on earth, the penitent thief had the Gospel message by his side, and he witnessed his sins paid for as Jesus declared upon the cross, “It is finished.” Jesus grants you the same promising word today. Maybe you do not regard yourself a thief, and maybe you have not been convicted of grand larceny. However, have you ever cheated on an exam before? Have you ever wasted time at work? Then you can honestly say, “I have been a thief!” No matter the sin, we have ALL sinned, and we are

all deserving of eternal condemnation. Yet, GOOD NEWS...we have the Gospel message right by our side...and like the penitent thief:

- We see our greatest need:
FORGIVENESS
- We acknowledge and confess our guilt before God
- We trust that in Jesus we are **FORGIVEN!**

And we go from a state of hopelessness to HOPE; from the prospect of hell to the promise of heaven.

Do we deserve this? No, we deserve hell. However, our salvation is all by God’s design, and it is by grace. As it says in Ephesians 2:8-9, *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”*

As always, dear brothers and sisters, please contact me if you or a loved one is in the hospital, celebrating a milestone, or would just like a visit. You can reach me at pastor@standrew-westbend.org.

Let’s connect!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have **all** newsletter articles in by **Tuesday, November 25th** to Ginger Careros at standrewchurchwb@gmail.com.

BOARD OF ELDERS

October is pastor appreciation month so tell Pastor Jon thank you when you have an opportunity. Pastor Jon has been serving the Lord at St. Andrew for eight years. Pastor Jon faithfully brings us God's Word every Sunday in his sermon and at Bible Study. He also teaches confirmation, sings in the choir, visits shut-in and member in the hospital as well as other activities. Tell Pastor what a blessing he is to our congregation if you get a chance.

Thanksgiving is coming up in November and St. Andrew has a Thanksgiving Eve Worship service at 7 pm on the 26th. Come join us for another opportunity to worship and participate in the Lord's Supper in November.

The elders would like to thank Rinda, our organist, for playing during worship over the last three years. Rinda is now going to play at her home congregation. Thanks for your service at St. Andrew and enjoy your time playing at your home church. St Andrew is currently looking for an organist or a pianist to replace Rinda. If you know on anyone who would like to play at St. Andrew, please talk to Pastor Jon or an elder. We will have substitute organists playing starting in November. We also have software to provide organ music for the week's when we don't have an organist to play. If you would like to volunteer to run the organ music on those Sundays, talk to Pastor Jon or an elder.

All of the Bible studies are back meeting together. Below you will find a list of some of the current studies. Don't worry about having to start when a new study starts, just show up and start where it's currently at. If you would like help joining a group, talk to Pastor Jon or an elder and we will get you plugged in.

- Sunday morning after church (10:30 am). Currently studying the book of 1st Peter.
- Tuesday morning (9:30am) Women's Group @ Sandy Berres' house.
- Week night (various nights depending on schedules) Women's Group. Meets

at homes and church- Currently studying the book, Joy by Deb Burma.

- Saturday morning (8:30am) Men's Breakfast Group led by Dan Berres meets at church- Currently studying the books of Ezra and Nehemiah. The coffee is hot, fellowship and conversation are engaging, and the fellas will be rotating serving breakfast. Come and feed on breakfast and the Word.
- Monday evening (6:00pm) Men's Group led by Bob Buehler is currently studying the Gospel of Matthew.

Talk to Pastor Vierkant or one of the elders and we will help get you plugged into God's word at St. Andrew.

Please contact Pastor, an Elder, or the church office if you are going in for surgery, having a hospital stay or have anything else you think we should know about. We are concerned for our members but if you do not tell us what is going on, we will not know to contact you to see if you would like a visit or would like to be included in our prayers.

This is your church home and we are your church family so we are very interested in what your concerns are. Please contact one of the Elders and let us know if you have any concerns, questions, need help or just want to talk. We are here to help you in any way we can. Below is the list of Elders and which area of responsibilities they are heading. You can talk to any Elder about any concerns or questions and we will bring it up to the full board and most importantly, please keep us in your prayers.

In God's service,
Randy Sheffield—Chairman, Sick/Shut-Ins, Care Ministry
Thai Hua—Secretary, Ushers
Mark Oehme— In-Actives
Jeff Grande – Youth/Confirmation
Rory Hetzel—Lay Readers
George Muth—Fund Raisers/Personnel

BOARD OF MINISTRIES

In the Psalms, David praises God for His providence, saying: "The eyes of all look to you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing." (Psalm 145:15-16). As God provides for us richly with the fruits of the earth, even more richly does he provide us with His abundant grace and mercy through Jesus Christ!

Monthly Mission: Please donate non-perishable items for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals such as boxed stuffing and mashed potatoes, canned gravy and cranberry sauce, etc.

Prayer Sunday: 1st Sunday of every month. Encourage your little ones to bring their prayers to God too!

Foraging Classes: St. Andrew Weeders and Seeders – 1st Tuesday of every month.

Christmas Fun Night: Saturday, December 13th, 3-6 PM. Celebrate the Advent season and the coming of Christ with your church family! Activities will include a Christmas sweater contest and a gingerbread house decorating contest.

Twelfth Night Celebration: Sunday, January 4th, 4:30 PM. Ring out the Christmas season with one last round of Christmas carols and a church blessing. Dinner will be served.

Congratulations to our Bible Trivia champions, Charley and KK Grande and friends! And thank you to everyone who shared and enjoyed food and fellowship at the Harvest Dinner.

God's blessings,
Sandy Berres, Sarah Peterson, Sue Hetzel,
Jessica Janz, Taylor Sandidge, Laurie Pree

Sisters in Christ

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him,

rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:6-7

The Apostle Paul wrote the book of Colossians, including the above verses, while he was in prison in Rome. He wrote the letter to the church in Colossae to encourage them to remain faithful because false teachings were threatening the church. He tells them to be overflowing with thankfulness. Now that is something we all need to be reminded of. This Thanksgiving take the time to be thankful for all God is doing in your life. Remain faithful, and continue to study God's word. Giving thanks is not just for that one special day, give thanks every day! For God is good every day!

You are invited to join us at our Fall Scavenger Hunt and Chili Luncheon

Sunday, November 9th at 11:45am

Location: Church

We will team up and drive around West Bend to find and take a picture of the items we will have listed for you. Then return back within your given time, and join us for a chili lunch. Guarantee to make you laugh and have fun! Please sign up on the bulletin board and bring a friend!

Operation Christmas Child

Please return your filled shoebox by Sunday, November 16th. Thank you for helping bring joy and God's word to the nations!

Donations are also appreciated for shipping costs. Checks should be written out to Samaritan Purse OCC and put in a marked envelope and placed in the offering plate or handed to Sandy Ruback.

You are invited to join us at our Christmas Bingo Party

Tuesday, December 9th at 6:00pm

Location: Church

Please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift that will be used for prizes. Snacks and dessert will be served. Please sign up on the bulletin board and bring a friend!

Giving thanks for all our Sisters in Christ,

Sandy R., Judi B., and Kathy M.

HOLIDAY SCRIP CARDS

The holidays are upon us and SCRIP has \$5 and \$10 denomination cards available for stocking stuffers. We will have some in stock, but if there's something you're looking for, please visit us. We can order from the list of 100's of retailers. SCRIP cards make wonderful stocking stuffers or gifts for those family and friends who are hard to buy for. December 14th will be the last day to order any cards to have in hand by Christmas so start planning now! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask. We're open every Sunday after church. You can also reach out to Melissa Knox (414-581-6500) if you miss us at church.

CARE MINISTRY

God's blessings to all of you! I wanted to remind you of our "Care Ministry" opportunity here at St. Andrew. This ministry can be used by any of you that may be going through a difficult time. It may be for only a short time like coming home from the hospital and would like someone to come and share a prayer or two and a brief devotional with you. Or something more long lasting like finding out you are not able to drive any more or health related trials perhaps dealing with the struggles with aging. Divorce or marriage difficulties.

There are many reasons to take advantage of this ministry. It may be a feeling of loneliness and just need to talk and need a listening ear to listen. You may be struggling with your faith, let us know! You may have received serious diagnoses from the doctors! Family difficulties! Life change decisions! Depression! Perhaps just asking "why am I always sad!" Do you have a family member in a nursing home? We will walk through the muck and brokenness of this world with you.

This ministry is for all of us from time to time, and no need to feel embarrassed or reluctant to ask. Please reach out to Pastor or myself,

please reference the Church Directory for the phone number. Don't hesitate to let us know. We are trained to be care ministries; all is kept private and is our privilege and blessing to serve God and His people in this way. You are a blessing to us and we don't want you to ever think you are alone because you are "never alone" Please, please, please, let us be a friend and have a meaningful relationship with you!

Randy Sheffield

EARLY CHILDHOOD CAMPUS

Dear St. Andrew Congregation,

We always start our day in 4K by singing our good morning song and then saying a prayer. Normally, I lead the prayer and the kids echo my words. I must have a "standard" opening for the prayers I say, because lately a few of my students have been saying the words along with me rather than repeating after me. This has started a great conversation about who can pray, how we pray etc. This has also inspired our student leader for the day to start leading our morning prayer. The majority of our 4K students have been feeling comfortable and confident enough to lead our prayers. They have truly enjoyed this new responsibility. Hearing our students lead the prayer is one of the best blessings ever! To hear these precious children thanking God for so many different blessings in their lives or praying for someone who is sick, is so lovely and heartwarming.

Blessings always,
Lindsey

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Marty Gnatzig
- 2 Timothy Struebing
- 7 Lee Oelke
- 12 Paul Buth
- 14 Samantha Gnatzig
- 14 Roger Sauter
- 16 Lisa Baertlein
- 16 Sue Harrison
- 16 Wyatt Kelley
- 17 Jennifer Backhaus
- 17 Tracy Neatherlin
- 18 Dawn Neumann
- 21 Sarah Johnson
- 24 Jonathan Ratzel
- 25 Meghan Ellis
- 25 Meghan Kelley
- 27 Garrett Buth
- 28 Garrett DeBoer
- 30 Todd Jantz
- 30 Joan Schlicht



NOVEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 18 John & Joan Schlicht
- 26 Randy & Kris Sheffield



NOVEMBER BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Carolyn Hartmann
- 1 Mark Janz
- 3 Amanda Dieringer
- 4 Toby Hua
- 5 Zachary Dieringer
- 5 Matthew Drummond
- 7 Cindy Heinz
- 10 Lillith Schlosser
- 14 Roger Sauter
- 15 Jane Dolata
- 15 Jessica Dreska
- 15 Sandra Lompa
- 15 Joanne Miller
- 15 Lee Oelke
- 17 Lainey Vierkant
- 19 Tiff Legate
- 23 Ryan Falk
- 23 Matthew Gnatzig
- 23 Charlotte Grande
- 30 Ellen Slicker



Be joyful
ALWAYS
Pray
CONTINUALLY
Give thanks
IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES