



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.

FEBRUARY 2026

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

FOR US

“For us” is not simply a pithy line to use because it is easy to repeat. It is a confession of who God is and what He brings in giving us His Son. It helps us understand why God would send His Son to die for us.

The phrase “for us” also captures much of the Reformation’s theological emphasis—and Luther’s understanding of Scripture in particular. Luther went from searching for a righteous God and finding only stern rebuke to seeing God in the form of a little baby and as the one who became one of us for us so that we might become like Him.

Our Midweek Lenten preaching series hymn “O Love, How Deep” (LSB 544) was originally a twenty-three-stanza poem written in the fifteenth century by an unknown author. In the nineteenth century, an Anglican cleric named Benjamin Webb translated the hymn into English and then chose six stanzas for use in English hymnody. The doxological stanza was added later.

Some hymns tell a story, others teach, and still others create pictures in our minds of the great works of God. Some hymns do all three, weaving together a tapestry that is beautiful yet simple, wondrous yet easy to understand. “O Love, How Deep” is that kind of hymn.

Although it does not appear in the first stanza, the most pointed and beautiful language in the hymn is expressed in the phrase “for us.” The

phrase is reminiscent of the language of the Nicene Creed: “Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven.”

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, March 24th** to Ginger Careros at standrewchurchwb@gmail.com.

BOARD OF ELDERS

Did you make a New Year’s Resolution? Not sure if anyone makes those anymore. If so, how’s it going? If you’re like most people you have already broken them and failed again this year. I used to make a resolution to read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, cover to cover. Every year, without fail, usually somewhere in the Old Testament I would miss a day or two, then a week, then a month. Then I would just give up. Failed again! God knows us and our struggles and he still loves us and doesn’t think of us as failures. God wants us to come to him, talk to him, and build our relationship with him Don’t give up. If you fail at reading the Bible or anything else, go to the Lord in prayer, and ask Him to help you to get back on track. Forget the past failures and start anew. God made us in His image and doesn’t see us as failures.

February is here. Plan on attending the next Voter's Meeting on February 1st after worship. Mid-week Lenten services start with Ash Wednesday on February 18th. We will have soup suppers starting at 6pm before worship on Wednesdays during lent. The Board of Elders will be supplying the soup before the Ash Wednesday service.

Thai Hua is completing the second year of his second term on the Board of Elders. Thank you Thai for faithfully serving St. Andrew over the last four years. Bob Buehler will be joining the Board of Elders starting in March. We welcome Bob back to the board.

God has brought a new Organist/Pianist to St. Andrew. Steve Groth will start on Sunday, 3/22/26. His start date was delayed due to a previous short-term opportunity that he applied for prior to applying for our open organist position. Take a minute to introduce yourself to Steve, and welcome him to St. Andrew when he starts in March.

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 Augsburg Confession.
- 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- Will be starting a new study about the history of the early church.
- 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 book of Romans.

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

Fight it with prayer and THE WORD and keep your faith strong by guarding yourself against the evil one.

Friendship/New Member Sunday: On

February 15th a light lunch/brunch will be served after church, so be sure to invite your friends. Please sign up on the bulletin board to let us know how many to plan for. The church boards will be providing the food.

Puzzle Races: February 20th at 6:30 pm. Get your teams together and join in the fun! (all the puzzles will be the same.)

Prayer Sunday: 1st Sunday of every month. (Prayers written down before you get to church, can for sure be put in the box. Write them down as you think of them!)

St. A's Weeders and Seeders:(foraging and gardening group) 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

"Freedom Cry –Sheboygan": The board is working with this group that is working on breaking the cycle of human trafficking. Watch for further information.

Monthly Missions: February and March, we will be collecting items for the "Freedom Cry Restoration Bags" A list is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall and on the round table in the narthex.

Watch in next month's newsletter for other plans that the board has!!!!

As the Lord closes one door, He opens another. What door is He opening for you? Maybe he is opening a door to be a member of one of the boards. All it takes is a call!

May this year be full of many blessings!
The Board of Ministries

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 use 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 would appreciate any prayers you can share. One of our 4K students has been admitted to Children's Hospital. Unfortunately, she has gotten frostbite on her fingers during these frigid conditions. Our ECC students have been praying for her healing and recovery. As a

teacher, watching your students show their love toward another student is such a blessing. Our 4K class all sat together coloring get well pictures for our friend (taking so much time to work carefully and add so many details and colors). We also made a giant feel better soon card to send to the hospital. I am so honored to be a part of St. Andrew ECC where we can share our love and faith with one another!!! Please stay safe and warm.

In His care,
Lindsey

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kristi Leipold
- 1 Randall Mueller
- 4 Peggy Kriefall
- 5 Jeffrey Grande
- 6 Liam Ratzel
- 11 Kayla Kasuboski
- 13 Beverly Struebing
- 14 Kathy Muth
- 14 Stephanie Reynolds
- 15 Daniel Woods
- 17 Betty Kempf
- 17 Debbie Yenter
- 18 Mark Kraft
- 19 Sandy Berres
- 20 Harvey Jaeger
- 21 Jean Keaton
- 22 Paige Ruback
- 23 Sharon Oelke
- 24 Melissa Knox
- 25 Myron Kraft
- 28 Shary Kraft
- 29 Thai Hua



FEBRUARY BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Josie Pfeiffer
- 10 Esther Oehme
- 15 Paul Buth
- 15 Garrett DeBoer
- 22 Raelynn Jantz
- 27 Tonia Keaton
- 28 Kathy Muth



FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 22 Dan & Sandy Berres
- 26 Todd & Nancy Waechter

