



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.

MARCH 2026

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“ALLE...Oops!”

We are in the season of Lent, and during this time in the church year, we generally avoid saying or singing “Alleluia” in church. Of course, it is a church tradition, and not a sin to do so. In fact, some congregations may choose to continue to say or sing “Alleluia” in church during the Sundays in Lent. After all, every Sunday is a little Easter!

Yet, at St. Andrew, with the rare exception of a typing error made in the worship bulletin, or a very rare mistake on the part of the church organist – “ALLE...Oops!”, we generally bury the “Alleluia”. Though the joy of “Alleluia” is always present in our hearts as we recount our risen Christ!

Burying the “Alleluia” during Lent is an act of liturgical abstinence, as we examine our lives and look ahead to the cross on Good Friday and the empty tomb on Easter morning. It is also a church tradition with roots that go a long way back. In fact, there is a written record from the 15th century about how some French choirboys – just prior to Lent – would carry a small coffin containing the word “Alleluia” in procession and have it buried. The “Alleluia” would then not be heard again until Easter with the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

As we make our faith journey through the 40 days on Lent leading up to Easter, let us spend more time meditating upon God’s Word and increased time for prayer and worship. And don’t worry about your “Alleluia” slipping out –

“ALLE...Oops!,” for the joy we have in Christ is not easily contained.

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

Advent started with Ash Wednesday on the 18th of February. This was the first of a series of mid-week Advent services at St. Andrew. Soup Supper is at 6:00pm with the Advent service at 7:00pm on each Wednesday night leading up to Easter Sunday on April 5th. We still need boards and members to sign up to bring a dish for the soup suppers. Sign up sheets are located on the bulletin boards in the fellowship hall.

There’s a new committee starting to take a look at Church Security and Safety. This committee will be looking at all aspects of making St. Andrew safer and more secure during worship on Sunday’s as well as throughout the week.

Our new organist, Steve Groth will start on Sunday, 3/22/26. 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- These fellas will be starting a new study on the books of Colossians and Philemon on the 8th of March. If you were looking for a good time to start this would be it since it's the start of a new study. Although, anytime is a good time to start since it's easy to get up to speed with the studies. 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

1 Peter 4:8-10

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.”

Monthly Missions - In February and March we are continuing to collect items for Restoration Bags. Restoration Bags are used by Freedom Cry organization to give to those who have been trafficked.

Freedom Cry Presentation - There will be a speaker coming from Freedom Cry to inform us about human trafficking in our area and what their organization is doing to help on Saturday, March 14 at 1pm. For more information you can check out their website at freedomcryinc.org or talk to a board member if you have questions about the presentation. This is open to the public.

St. A's Weeders and Seeders - Meets the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm. "There are no weeds!"

Game Night - On Friday, March 27 at 6pm, come out for a fun night of board games and fellowship! Bring a few of your favorite games or just come to play with others! Bring a snack to share if you'd like.

Looking ahead:

Cousins Fundraiser - May 13

Plant Sale - May 17

Brat Fry - June 6 and 7

Prayerfully consider using your God-given talents to help with or support any of these upcoming events or projects. And come spend time with your fellow church family at our social events or any other groups the church has!

Board of Ministries:

Sandy Berres, Sue Hetzel, Jessica Janz, Sarah Peterson, Taylor Sandidge

SISTER'S IN CHRIST

Sisters in Christ is busy this time of year with a few familiar activities. All women at St. Andrew are invited to join in on any of these. We enjoy the fellowship that God has blessed us with and find the joy in serving him.

Bible Study -Our current bible study, "Becoming a Woman of Prayer" is teaching and reminding us to stay close to God and communicate him daily. Intimacy with God is actually *His idea*. We encourage you to join us on Tuesdays at 9:30 am at the home of Sandy Berres and find out how to build that intimacy. Don't worry if you can't make it every week, it's easy to jump in at any time.

Easter Egg Hunt -Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 21 at 10:00pm sharp and is held rain or shine behind our ECC campus. The hunt is for all children through age 12. Bring along a bag or basket to collect eggs and join us inside after the hunt for a variety of crafts and

activities! There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board so get those kiddos signed up by March 18. Bring your friends!

Candy Donations -Candy is needed to fill the hundreds of eggs that we fill. Bite-sized wrapped candy works the best for our egg size. Any amount of candy donated is appreciated and can be placed in the basket on the table in the narthex. Egg filling for the hunt will be on Thursday, March 19 at 9:00 am. Many hands make this project go quickly so if you can join us, we'd love to have you!

Soup Supper -Sister in Christ will be hosting the soup supper meal on March 11 at 6:00pm with a delicious variety of casseroles and other tasty sides and desserts. Come join us for fellowship and food prior to the service at 7:00 pm!

For more information about Sisters in Christ please contact one of the following co-chairs:
Sandy Ruback, Judi Bastian, Kathy Muth

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,

Thank you so much for all your love and prayers for our student who has frostbite. God is miraculous! He is continuing to heal their hands each and every day. They are out of the soft casts and able to use their hands and fingers as normal. Their hands and fingers are still tender sometimes and they need to continue to do stretches and exercises to work on finger dexterity. However, it is just so amazing to see how God has been there every step of the way. All of our students have been so loving, kind, and supportive. Showing their love in prayer, kind words, and helping hands. What a blessing to watch as God's love poured out from each of these students' hearts.

Blessings,
Lindsey

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Sheriane Sauter
- 5 Joshua Vierkant
- 9 Deborah Osgood
- 11 Mary Bandler
- 12 Susan Johnson
- 12 Willow Krueger Jantz
- 15 Amy Brehmer
- 15 Caleb Sommer
- 16 James Keaton



- 17 Lori Turenske
- 18 Aaron Heinz
- 21 Emma Sommerfeld
- 27 Kendrick Miller
- 29 Karen Callen
- 29 Sharon Ellis
- 29 Clifford Hetzel

MARCH BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Daniel Woods
- 3 Bradley Sommer
- 5 Mark Kraft
- 6 Lois Dummann
- 8 Lynnette Hoerchner
- 9 Darren Keaton
- 9 Randall Mueller
- 10 Daisy Knox
- 10 Melissa Knox
- 11 Brittany Neumann
- 12 Debbie Yenter
- 13 Adaleen Hoerchner
- 15 Henry Grande
- 16 Myron Kraft
- 17 Brittany Osgood
- 17 Kiara Osgood
- 19 Sandy Berres
- 19 Harper Ratzel
- 19 Stephanie Reynolds
- 20 Beverly Struebing
- 22 Kayla Kasuboski
- 22 Christopher Struebing
- 23 Darrell Harrison
- 26 Sheriane Sauter
- 26 Joshua Vierkant



MARCH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Pamela & Gary Beaupre'
- 20 Kenneth & Dorene Betz

