



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.

December 2021

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“It’s Time To...”

“Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.”

– Romans 13:11-12

Back in 1964, Mick Jagger sang the song “Time is on My Side.” Well, Jesus had something different to say about the concept of time. In truth, “Time is ticking away, tic, tic, ticking away.” And while we often prove ourselves to be a people obsessed with time, we don’t always measure time correctly. We seem to be most concerned with what time it is **right now**. However, God seems to be more concerned with what time is drawing near. And He says to you: “Wake up.” *Or yet a better translation: “to stand up,” “arise,” ...or simply to “get up.”*

Don’t let the unholy trinity: the world, flesh, and the devil **cradle you back to sleep**. But instead (by the power of the Holy Spirit) arise with the healing power that comes from the Gospel of Jesus Christ...and share the Good News of salvation with others. For once again...it’s time...It’s time to wake up!

In these last days, we are living in a world of deep spiritual darkness, and in this dark world even believers fall prey. For many Christians today are not studying God’s Word and praying, they are not attending worship and partaking in the Lord’s Supper, and are not applying God’s Word to their own lives. So, how do we overcome this? **Answer:** By suiting up. It’s like getting up in the morning and

changing out of your pajamas or night gown (your sleepwear) in order to put on fresh clothes for the day. We are to cast off the spiritual laundry of our old life (through daily repentance of sins)...and resolve to no longer walk in them. And suit up with the armor of light. That is, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, “for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ” (Galatians 3:27). And being clothed with Christ means, **1)** accepting by faith the righteousness Christ has earned for you, and **2)** being enabled and empowered to live a new life marked by true holiness in our daily lives and conduct.

During this Advent season, let us heed the call to arise from our spiritual slumber and to continue on in our spiritual journey together by remaining in God’s Word and sacraments together as a family of faith, **encouraging** and **forgiving** one another as the hour of the Lord’s coming is at hand. Allowing no obstacle to get in the way of our salvation, let us fix our eyes on Christ our Lord, trusting in Him...for in His blessed name alone do we find peace.

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. I would especially love to visit homebound and others who may be staying home due to health-related concerns to bring God’s Word and Jesus’ body and blood in the sacrament to you. Please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Let’s Stay Connected!

Pr. Jonathan Vierkant

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

So that you might thank and praise God in this season, we have added a number of additional worship opportunities.

Wednesday Evening Advent Services
December 1, 8, and 15 at 7 p.m.
without Holy Communion
Soup Suppers at 6 p.m.

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24 at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. (No Holy Communion)

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25 at 9:00 a.m.
with Holy Communion

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have **all** newsletter articles for January in by **Monday, December 27th** to Cathy Grande at **standrewchurchwb@gmail.com**. **Confirmations** will be sent for articles sent via e-mail. Thanks.

SOUP SUPPERS

On December 1, 8, & 15, we will have Soup Suppers at 6 p.m. To make sure we have something to share, please look at our bulletin board and sign up to bring something. This is a good chance to get acquainted with other St. Andrew members.

BOARD OF ELDERS

We are in one of the most blessed seasons of the year—the time we celebrate the birth of God's Son, Jesus. Advent services will be held on Wednesday nights (12/1, 12/8 & 12/15) with soup supper starting at 6:00 to feed our bodies and the worship service starting at 7:00 to feed our souls. The Elders will be making the soups for the first soup supper and if you would like to bring desserts, cheese, crackers or drinks

please sign up on the bulleting board. If you would like to volunteer to bring soup for the second or third supper you can sign up on those sign-up sheets located on the bulletin board in the kitchen area.

St. Andrew will be offering the Sunday School Christmas service on Sunday (12/19) at 3:00 pm, Christmas Eve services at 4:00 pm & 6:00pm. Christmas Day Service @ 9:00 am and then our normal Sunday service on the 26th at 9:00 am. Please join us for as many services as you can during the Advent and Christmas season to celebrate "The Reason for The Season".

We are getting into the season of snow & cold temperatures. The Pastor and the Chairman of the Elders will make the decision if the church service needs to be cancelled no later than 2 hours before the start of the service and we will communicate the cancellation no later than 1.5 hours before the service. Please consult the following for the notification.

- 1—WTMJ 4
- 2—Fox 6 (also AM 920, FM 106.1, Oldies 95.7, Radio Now 97, and AM 1130 WISN)
- 3—St. Andrew website:
www.standrew-westbend.org
- 4—St. Andrew Facebook page
- 5—Via email from church for those who have signed up (if you have not already signed up and would like to, please contact the church office with your email address.

It was brought to my attention that some of the cars that are parking in the handicap spots in front of church did not have handicap license plates or the mirror hanger. Please use those spots only if you need to. There are also a couple handicap parking spots on the south side of church along with parking spots in the back of church for people who have trouble walking up steps.

Pastor has told the congregation that he received a call so please keep him and his family in your prayers as he prayerfully

considers what God wants him to do. If you have questions, please feel free to talk to him about the call—he is more than willing to discuss the call with you.

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,
Rick Bruss--Chairman & Sick/Shut-ins
(262-338-8149)
Ken Betz--Youth/Confirmation,
Fundraisers/Personnel (262-424-0643)
Dave Brehmer—In-Actives,
Fundraiser/Personnel (414-870-2715)
Bob Buehler—Sick/Shut-ins, Ushers
(262-334-4013)
Randy Sheffield—Secretary, Music/Reader
(262-689-5405)

BOARD OF MINISTRIES

The Legend of the Candy Cane

Many years ago, a candymaker made a special Christmas candy to tell the Christmas story. White reminds us of Jesus' virgin birth and that Jesus is sinless. The candy cane is hard to remind us that Jesus is the solid rock, and that all God's promises are solid.

The candy cane is shaped like a staff to remind us of the shepherds who received the good

news of the Savior's birth and to remind us that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Turn the cane around and you will see a J for Jesus who came to Earth as a baby and became our Savior.

Red stripes remind us that Jesus shed his blood on the cross so we could have eternal life. Jesus came at Christmas to make a way for us to be in heaven with him forever.

This legend is the inspiration for the Candy Cane Hunt that we will be sponsoring on December 10 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event will begin at the church bonfire pit, and visitors will find their way along illuminated trails to meet a Bethlehem innkeeper, shepherds, residents outside of Jerusalem, and the angels at Christ's tomb. Each station will teach the visitors what the various parts of the candy cane mean, and children can search for hidden candy canes at each station. After visiting the stations, cookies and cocoa will be served and wagon rides will be available, weather permitting.

This event is a wonderful way to bring people to St. Andrew and share the joy of the Gospel message with them. The Candy Cane Hunt has been featured in the West Bend Daily News and the Washington County Insider, and invitations were/will be passed out at both the West Bend and Kewaskum Christmas parades. In order for it to be successful, please consider helping in the following ways:

- PRAY for the people attending and those working the event
- DONATE 2 dozen cookies by Wednesday, December 8
- LOAN solar path/garden lights, camping lanterns, or empty milk jugs (for luminaria) by Wednesday, December 8 (please label so we can return it to you)
- VOLUNTEER to help set up (time/date TBD depending on weather and availability) or to work during the Candy Cane Hunt
- TELL your friends, family, and neighbors about the Candy Cane Hunt
- ATTEND!

Mark your Calendars: The Twelfth Night Party is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, January 9. Please watch for more information as it is available!

EARLY CHILDHOOD CAMPUS

If you have ever been to one of our Early Childhood Christmas programs you may have heard the children sing the words to this song called, Christmas Star.

*Twinkle, twinkle Christmas star
I can see you from afar,
Up above the manger high,
Like a diamond in the sky,
Guiding Wisemen on their way,
To the place where Jesus lay.*

Well we may not have a Christmas star shining bright in the sky anymore but we do have our Bibles to guide us to Jesus. Keeping in the Word, whether you are a child or an adult, will have each of us shining bright and being beacons of Light in this dark world. Take the time this Christmas to read and share the Christmas story with your family. Celebrate the gift of a Savior! Then come to the ECC Christmas program on Friday, December 17th at 6:30pm and hear this song sung by our little beacons of Light as they share the good news of Jesus' birth with you. We would love to see you there!

Our campus families filled 25 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! What a wonderful display of caring and sharing!

May your Christmas be filled with many blessings, and may God's love shine on you and be your Christmas star, guiding and leading you to eternal life.

Shine Bright Friends!
Sandy

SISTERS IN CHRIST

Thank you to all that filled an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. With the help of our ECC campus families we were able to send off 63 shoeboxes filled with Christmas joy for boys and girls around the world.

As of this writing, there are 8 gift tags left on the Giving Tree. These gifts go to the Samaritan Home residents. Please consider filling one of the last 8 wishes.

Gifts need to be returned to church by Sunday, December 12th for delivery on Monday the 13th. Thank you for sharing with those that want so little.

Our women's Bible study on Wednesday nights will return in January. We are looking at what study material we will use, so if you have a suggestion please speak to one of us on the leadership team.

We wish all our Sisters in Christ a very merry and joy filled Christmas.

Abundant Blessings Sisters!
Sandy, Judi, and Kathy

GREETING CARDS

As we approach the Christmas season, check out the selection of religious Christmas cards and other religious cards on the card rack next to the mailboxes in the fellowship hall.

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Turenske at 262-689-2303 or the church office.

CUWAA TRAINS THE MOST CHURCH WORKERS FOR THE LCMS

Concordia University Wisconsin & Ann Arbor graduates the most church work candidates in the Concordia University System, according to enrollment numbers recently released by Concordia's Office of Institutional Effectiveness. Additionally, the two campuses

have the highest percentages of Lutheran and/or Christian students enrolled among undergraduate populations. High schoolers who are considering becoming a called worker within the LCMS or pursuing a non-church work vocation at a Lutheran institution are encouraged to explore CUW or CUA. Schedule a visit at cuw.edu/visit or cuua.edu/visit.

Reader Schedule

December 5

Old Testament: Daniel 7:1-14

Epistle: Philippians 1:2-11

Debbie Yenter

December 12

Old Testament: Genesis 49:8-12

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Jodie Falk

December 19

Old Testament: Micah 5:2-5a

Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

Carla Peterson

December 26

Old Testament: Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

Epistle: Colossians 3:12-17

Mason Falk



You are the key to St. Andrew's success!

"How can I be a key?" A church is made up of a number of different people, with all kinds of different abilities. God asks that we use those

abilities he has given us for his glory. What can you do?

"I don't like to be directly involved with people. I am kinda shy." Fine, how about you usher or set up communion, or pray for our fellow members.

"I don't think the church is being run very effectively." Ok, how can you help change that? Could you join a board and help them to accomplish things to God's glory?

"I love to cook and bake." Great, could you help provide a meal for someone in need? Or bake for a bake sale at the farmers market, or join us with your favorite dish at a pot luck?

"I have small children who are quite noisy. I don't feel comfortable with them at church at this time." Alright, bring them to church and sit up front and others will help you with them. It takes a village to raise a child and we at St. Andrew are good at that. Children learn from others, especially other children. When they see the children sitting by Pastor and seeing what he brought, they are intrigued. Maybe it means you have to sit by them the first few times. But they will follow along with guidance.

"I love being outside." Great, the trustees could use your grass cutting skills. Or maybe stopping by in the morning during the winter to help keep the sidewalks clean for the ECC.

"I love music and can play an instrument but I DON'T DO SOLOS." Great, make a joyful noise unto the Lord with others by joining the brass ensemble, or maybe join a few others for a song once in a while. We will help you connect with others like you.

"Church is always the same people. Why don't I see anyone new?" Have you invited anyone to join you? Maybe there is a special day with the kids singing, or for the Christmas program that you know a neighbor or a friend would enjoy. Invite them. Maybe you know a new person to the area, and you offer them a ride to church with you. You never know how they will react to God's love.

There are so many ways to show your love for God and share it with others. Bible studies, teaching, making snacks for Sunday mornings. Please prayerfully consider what you can do help St. Andrew grow in God's Love.



Lutherans for Life has a new MISSION statement...Equipping Lutherans **and their neighbors** to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. Let us help equip you with life-affirming resources for ALL ages. Share a message of hope and healing with family, friends and neighbors!

Ozaukee County Lutherans for Life Chapter would like to thank you for your support this past year. Through Mother's Day rose donations, we are able to support ministries dedicated to being Gospel-motivated voices for life—Concordia Students for Life, Eye Witness for Life ultrasound ministry, A Place of Refuge and Concordia Center for Bioethics.

Ozaukee County LFL Chapter meets three times each year—the third Tuesday of February, May and October. We would be honored by your presence **Tuesday, February 15, 7:00 p.m., River of Life Lutheran Church**, 598 Hillcrest Rd, Saukville 53080. You will be encouraged and informed by Dr. Kevin Voss, Director, Concordia Center for Bioethics, covering seven classic arguments for abortion and Christian responses to them; also basic abortion law. Concordia students will also be present to recap their January 21st March for Life trip in Washington DC.

LFL resources will be available February 15 to use personally or for your church. Check out the LFL website for information and resources: <https://lutheransforlife.org/>. LifeDate is

Lutherans For Life's quarterly journal of news and commentary offering a biblical Law/Gospel perspective on life issues such as abortion, post abortion, adoption, end of life, bioethics, creation, family life, worldview and culture, and more. See a sample of LifeDate at <https://lutheransforlife.org/resources/>.

Do you have questions? Please email susan.pipkorn@cuw.edu or call 262-618-4000 and leave a message.

God bless you this Christmas!

Church Service Cancellation Policy

In case of inclement weather or emergency situations

St. Andrew Lutheran Church, West Bend, recognizes the need to cancel services and events due to inclement weather and for the protection/well-being of our congregation members. If Sunday morning service is not cancelled, but we have inclement weather, please use your best judgement for your personal situation.

Meetings or other events, with the exception of Sunday morning Confirmation class, worship service, and Sunday School/Bible Classes, will be cancelled at the discretion of the leader in charge of that event or meeting. The leader will notify those participating in the event(s) or group meetings.

Sunday morning Confirmation class, worship service, and Sunday School/Bible class will be cancelled at the determination of the Pastor and the Chairman of the Elders. The decision will take place as early as possible and will be made no later than 7:00 am the morning of the cancelled Sunday events. It will be communicated to the congregation as soon as possible.

You can look at the following areas to find out if Sunday service has been cancelled:

1—WTMJ 4

2-- FOX 6

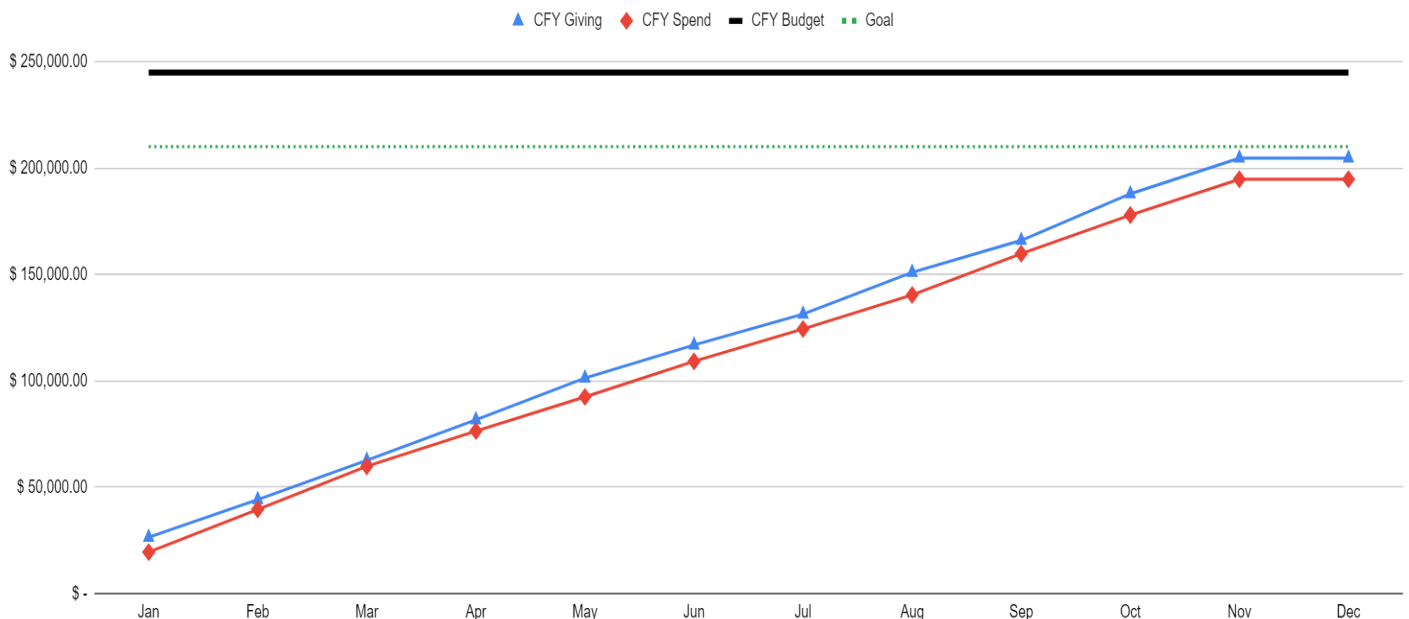
(also AM 920, FM 106.1, OLDIES 95.7, Radio Now 97.3, AM 1130 WISN & V100.7 JAMS)

3-- St. Andrew website: www.standrew-westbend.org,

4—St. Andrew Facebook page

5--Via email from church for those who have signed up

FINANCIALS-AT-A-GLANCE



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Sandy Ruback
2 Kevin Falk
5 Ryan Riedel
6 Diane Nelson
6 Harper Ratzel
10 Michele Buehler
12 Deb Benz
14 Jennae Beaupre'
14 Julian Becker
15 Tonia Keaton
17 Sarah Peterson
17 Tracy Rochwite
21 Judi Riedel
21 Bradley Sommer
21 Chris Struebing
22 Alason Koenig
23 Brad Becker
25 Brittany Osgood
28 Emma Betz
28 Norman Rettammel
31 Nancy Legate
31 Karen Unruh



21 Sue Harrison
28 Pat McWilliams
28 Leo Ruback
30 Kara Ruback
31 Will Hale

DECEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

7 Gary & Debbie Puestow
17 Chris & Alisa Eichhorn
20 Pete & Donna Hesprich
27 Lee & Sharon Oelke



DECEMBER BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

2 Sydney Brehmer
2 Zachary Brehmer
4 Xander McKee
5 Emily Shebanek
6 Olivia Dieringer
6 Lucille Woods
7 Matthew Neumann
10 Sandy Ruback
11 Landon Thill
12 Jennifer Backhaus
12 Steve Williams
13 Paige Kirchner
13 Katie Vierkant
14 Deborah Osgood
17 Carla Peterson
18 Joan Schlicht
21 Michele Buehler

