



ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH
And
Early Childhood Campus

7750 State. Hwy. 144 N
www.standrew-westbend.org
Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

West Bend, WI 53090
standrewchurchwb@gmail.com

(262) 335-4200
St.AndrewECC@gmail.com
Sunday School and Bible Class 9:15 a.m.

November 2020

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

O Give Thanks!

“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.” – Colossians 3:15

In September 8, 1860, the passenger steamship, Lady Elgin, shipwrecked in Lake Michigan north of Chicago. The sinking resulted in the loss of about 300 lives, and was called “one of the greatest marine horrors on record.” However, seventeen people were saved that night by a Northwestern University student named Edward W. Spencer over the course of six hours. Finally, having reached his limit, Spencer passed out. When he awoke, Edward’s first words were, “Did I do my full duty?” “Did I do my best?” A plaque in his honor was first placed in the Northwestern University Gymnasium, and is now housed in the Northwestern University Library. However, years later when asked if there was anything in particular he remembered about that day, he answered saying, “Only this. Of the sixteen or seventeen people I saved, not one of them thanked me.”

Three years after that tragedy, President Abraham Lincoln would declare a national holiday of praise and thanks to God. Lincoln said, **“Those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord ... God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people.”**

“Thank you.” It is one of the most under-appreciated and under-used phrases on the planet today. Yet, it is a saying that is both

commanded and put to good use throughout Scripture. The Apostle Paul mentions in Ephesians 1:16 how he “never stop(s) giving thanks for you.” It is important as God’s people to not only give thanks, but also to receive thanks.

When I think of Thanksgiving, I think of those Pilgrims who made the long and dangerous journey across the Ocean Blue. When they finally set foot on dry land...they gave thanks. We too make a perilous journey – not just with 2020 as a whole – but every day as we have no idea what turbulences we will meet as we sail along through the day. But by the grace of God and with the soft winds of His grace and goodness we make it to the end of the day. We make it across our ocean blue – that day. And we are thankful! We are thankful for what God has given us, including His unfailing love (Psalm 107) and His grace “given you in Christ Jesus” (1 Corinthians 1:4). We are thankful for what God has done...for He has “answered me and have become my salvation” (Psalm 118:21). And we are thankful for who God is...for “He is good...His steadfast love endures forever.” (1 Chronicles 16:34).

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 because of the coronavirus and bring God’s Word and Jesus’ body and blood in the sacrament to you. Please do not hesitate to give me a call or e-mail me.

Let’s Stay Connected!

Your Brother in Christ,

Pr. Jonathan Vierkant

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have **all** newsletter articles in by **Tuesday, November 24th** to Cathy Grande at **standrewchurchwb@gmail.com**.

Confirmations will be sent for articles sent via e-mail. Thanks.

BOARD OF ELDERS

As we move into November, there are a lot of things going on at St. Andrew. Confirmation class is in full swing and they have had 3 classes so far. Sunday School and Adult Bible classes following 8:00 service. 2 services to choose from. 8:00am and 10:30am both with Holy Communion and both with social distancing. We are still streaming outside on the radio (103.9 FM) for both services. We will continue to distribute Holy Communion outside as long as weather permits. We will continue this as long as needed. Keep in mind our goal is to have everyone inside for 1 service at 9:00 eventually. Thank you all for your support and patience.

We are working on live streaming our 8:00am service. There is a link at the bottom of our web page. If you can't attend in person, check it out.

November also brings about the biggest election our country has seen in a long time. Key senate seats, house seats and obviously the presidential election. Make sure you get out and vote. Tuesday November 3rd. Polls open at 7:00am. Vote early if you can.

We will have a Thanksgiving Eve service Wednesday night November 25th with Holy Communion at 7:00pm. We will be doing Advent services in December. More details to follow.

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 you think. 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.

In God's service,

Ken Betz (Chairman & Fund Raisers/Personnel)
Craig Falk (Youth & Confirmation)
Dave Brehmer
(In-actives, Fund Raisers/Personnel)
Rick Bruss (Sick/Shut-ins)
Bob Buehler (Ushers/Sick/Shut-Ins)
Randy Sheffield (Secretary, Music/Readers)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

As November arrives, it brings shorter hours of sunlight and Daylight Savings. I am reminded of the need for the Light of Christ in our lives and the world and what this means to us as his people. God invites us to walk in the light, as He is in the light (from John 3). Also Psalm 27 reads, The Lord is my light and my salvation-whom shall I fear? If you read on in Psalm 27 you will be comforted knowing that if you seek him in the day of trouble he will keep you safe in his dwelling. God is with us in the uncertain days ahead and loves his children. We need to stay strong in the Lord and study his word to shine bright!

The Board of Education met on September 20th and we reviewed this past years Education Hour, SS and fundraiser events. Adult Education hour and Sunday School has started now in between the services at 9:15 am in the fellowship area.

Please join us for this short Bible class or check out the virtual Bible Class on

Wednesday night if that works better for you. Read your Bible and feel God's peace and presence. He will light the way!

In Christ,
Joanne Miller, Rory Hetzel, Judi Riedel, and
Debbie Yenter

EVANGELISM

Gosh, so much is coming up the last days of October and end of November. Coming up on October 31st we are hosting our twice a year blood drive conducted by Versiti. You can either walk in the day of between 9 and 11 am. Otherwise if you would like to make a scheduled appointment during that time just go to the link <http://bit.ly/standrew1031>

Also, that morning we will be having a Halloween/Reformation themed breakfast from 8:30 – 10:30 am. Come in costume and enjoy some breakfast before or after giving blood, but you do not need to give blood to attend. A great bible verse I found, I feel really relates to both events that day of giving blood and in remembering Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation.

“For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God’s gift. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good work, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”
Ephesians 2:8-10

Coming up at the end of November we have the West Bend Christmas parade on the 29th of November. This year’s float theme will be candy canes. Planning for that float will come at a later date, but if you have some great suggestions please don’t hesitate to pass them along to the evangelism board.

October 31st 8:30 – 10:30 am breakfast

October 31st 9 – 11 am blood drive

November 29th 5 pm West Bend Christmas parade

SISTERS IN CHRIST

Operation Christmas Child begins November 1st and runs through Sunday, November 22 with delivery of the shoeboxes on Monday, November 23rd. Please take a shoebox, located in the narthex, and fill it with small toys, school supplies, toothbrush, comb, soap, etc. Please no liquids, glass, food, toothpaste or candy are allowed. Inside the shoebox you will find some instructions and a label to attach to your box. These boxes are shipped around the world and bring joy to many, many needy children. Jesus' love is also shared with the children letting them know that they are never alone and that they have a friend in Jesus. Thank you for giving to Operation Christmas Child!

Once again, we will be setting up a Giving Tree to provide small gifts to the residents of The Samaritan Home. The tree will be up by Sunday, November 22nd and all gifts must be returned to church by Sunday, December 13th. They will be delivered on Monday, December 14th. Take a tag off of the tree, purchase the item, wrap your gift in a gift bag, tie the tag to the bag and return to church. Thank you for making their Christmas a little bit brighter!

Any Sisters interested in joining in a Bible class in January? Let us know and we will begin to make the arrangements. We have been apart way too long....

Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving,
Sandy Ruback, Judi Bastian and Kathy Muth

POINSETTIAS

We will once again be taking orders for Poinsettias. The colors available this year are: red, white, pink, marble and burgundy. The price is \$10.00 for a single plant and \$19.00 for a double plant. The deadline to order is Sunday, November 29th.

To place your order, please put your name, the color, and size preferred on the

envelopes provided in the Narthex or from an usher. Please put your check, made payable to St. Andrew, in the envelope and put it in the offering plate, give to an usher, or put it on the secretary's desk.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Just a reminder, after the Christmas Day Worship Service you can take your plants home. Your name will be located on the foil around the plant.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CAMPUS

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever. Psalm 86:12

I am sitting here waiting for my COVID-19 test results to come back and trying to write something uplifting and encouraging for you. When what I need is to be encouraged myself. The Bible words from Psalm 86:2 reminds me to give thanks with my whole heart and to glorify God's name. This is easy to do when life is going well and the road is smooth. But this year has been challenging, to put it mildly, for many of us. For me, running a school in the midst of a pandemic has been nothing short of a big headache. Right now our 3K program is closed for 2 weeks due to staff having Covid. I need to check myself, do I have a heart of gratitude? Do you? A quiet moment in scripture can be a reminder of God's deep love for us, His gracious forgiveness, and all the blessings He bestows on us each day. Being reminded of this can change our attitude back to one of gratitude. So this Thanksgiving, though different from what may be your normal day of feast and family, give thanks with your whole heart.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. Psalm 100:4

This November our campus will be collecting food for the Full Shelf Food Pantry. This is a wonderful teaching moment as the children learn to care and share for others in need, just

as Jesus has taught us to do. Our campus will also join our church family in filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Our teaching staff would still like to have a Thanksgiving Feast for the children, and details are being modified and extra precautions will be taken to make this a time of thanksgiving and praise.

I have not made a final decision on what to do about our ECC Christmas program. I know I don't have much time left, but this is a very hard decision to make. May God grant me wisdom.

Please keep our staff and students in your prayers as COVID-19 runs its course through our campus. May God grant us speedy recoveries and restored strength so that we can continue to teach and learn about our awesome God.

May your Thanksgiving be blessed and may you have a heart of gratitude,

Sandy Ruback

ADVENT DEVOTIONS FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

What better news is there than to know that God is always by our side! In *God with Us*, we learn again what God the Father has done—He has kept His promise. In so doing, He has announced that grace and forgiveness are available to all, freely given in the birth of Jesus: God's Son, our Savior. He is Immanuel, "God with us."

The story of God coming to earth as a human child is a profound one. In *God with Us*, we find no aloof divinity who is unconcerned and remote somewhere in the cosmos. Rather, He is deeply involved in all our affairs—our joys as well as our heartaches. He *knows* us for He became one of us. At Christmastime, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Lord of the universe, Savior of the world, Shepherd of our lives.

The Advent devotions can be found at <https://www.lhm.org/advent/> or you can contact the office for a printed version (regular or large print versions available)

November 29
Old Testament: Isaiah 64:1-9
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
9:00 Bob Buehler
10:30 Pastor

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.

Reader Schedule

November 1

First Reading: Micah 2:1-2

Epistle: Romans 7:7-12

8:00 Karen Gnatzig

10:30 Pastor

November 8

Old Testament: Amos 5:18-24

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

8:00 Carla Peterson

10:30 Pastor

November 15

Old Testament: Zephaniah 1:7-16

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

8:00 Craig Falk

10:30 Pastor

November 22

Old Testament: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

8:00 Michele Buehler

10:30 Pastor

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

WISH LIST

Approved by Church Council 10/22/20

Organ

White tables

(type that we have in the fellowship hall)

Replacement chairs for the fellowship hall

Carpet cleaner

(contact a Trustee for specifications)

HandBell Maintenance

(approx.. \$2,000)

Church Sign for Front Yard

(Update and/or Move)

New flooring for gym and fellowship hall

Parking Lot sealant layer

***If you wish to purchase one of the above items be aware that St. Andrew is a tax- exempt organization. That means we do not have to pay tax on such purchases. Please ask us for a tax-exempt form so tax does not have to be paid.

We would also be glad to give you a 'donation statement' for your tax purposes.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Marty Gnatzig
- 2 Tim Struebing
- 7 Lee Oelke
- 12 Paul Buth
- 12 Linda Derse
- 14 Samantha Gnatzig
- 14 Roger Sauter
- 16 Lisa Baertlein
- 16 Sue Harrison
- 17 Jennifer Backhaus
- 17 Tracy Neatherlin
- 18 Dawn Neumann
- 19 Steve Williams
- 21 Sarah Johnson
- 24 Jonathan Ratzel
- 27 Garrett Buth
- 30 Todd Jantz
- 30 Joan Schlicht



- 15 Jane Dolata
- 16 Nick Thill
- 17 Lainey Vierkant
- 18 Chris Eichhorn
- 19 Tiffany Legate
- 23 Ryan Falk
- 23 Matthew Gnatzig
- 23 Charlotte Grande
- 23 Nancy Taft
- 27 Mason Falk
- 30 Ellen Slicker

NOVEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 9 Jim & Linda Derse
- 18 Henry & Lois Dummann
- 18 John & Joan Schlicht
- 26 Randy & Kris Sheffield

NOVEMBER BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Mark Janz
- 1 Carolyn Hartmann
- 2 Malachi Schellinger
- 3 Amanda Dieringer
- 4 Toby Hua
- 6 Zach Dieringer
- 7 Cindy Heinz
- 8 Lauren Schilling
- 10 Nicholas Arps
- 10 Lillith Schlosser
- 14 Makinley Kirchner
- 14 Roger Sauter
- 15 Jessica Dreska
- 15 Sandy Lompa
- 15 Joanne Miller
- 15 Lee Oelke

