



**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 2018**

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

Time to Declutterize!

We have been in our new house for just a few weeks now, and I would wonder if you were to stop by for a visit... whether you would find me behind all of these unpacked boxes. Boxes, boxes, everywhere! I've stumbled over one or two of them in the dark, and I've caused a box or two to come crashing down in an avalanche.

Looking at all of those unpacked boxes inside our house, I marvel at the power they seem to have in distracting me and drawing my attention away from what is truly important. In the same way, we get distracted by many things in life (including those things in life that are temporal and fleeting). Perhaps you are distracted by your upcoming Thanksgiving holiday preparations and serving as host to family and friends, or perhaps you are distracted by deadlines two or three months out to the point that you can't really enjoy and appreciate the gift of today.

Many are the days where we find ourselves tired or distraught, making a mountain out of a molehill, fumbling for words which do not come out, trying to organize thoughts which do not jell, and even losing patience with ourselves because we are unable to put together a single sentence. However, all along we have a God who has "searched (us) and known (us)," who knows "when (we) sit down and when (we) rise up," and who "discerns (our) thoughts from afar" (Psalm 139:1-2). It's not just that God knows everything, He knows you. It's not just that God is everywhere, He is everywhere with you. And it's not just that God created

everything, He created you. And what's more? He redeemed YOU "with the precious blood of Christ" (1 Peter 1:18-19).

Please know that as pastor of St. Andrew that I do keep you (our entire church family) and the ministry of St. Andrew in my prayers. Like Paul, I can say that I "pray constantly for you" (2 Thessalonians 1:11). In the months ahead, Katie and I look forward to inviting members of St. Andrew over to our home for dinner with a secret agenda: Getting to know you better! We pray that we will be successful.

Brothers and sisters, please be aware of all the happenings taking place at St. Andrew. Your participation, suggestions, and ideas are encouraged! And as always...please contact me if you or a loved one is in the hospital, celebrating a milestone, or would just like a visit! Don't be a stranger! I would love to get to know YOU better.

Let's Stay Connected!

Your Brother in Christ,

Pr. Jonathan Vierkant

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Please have all newsletter articles in by **Tuesday, November 20th** to Cathy Grande at **standrewchurchwb@gmail.com**.

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

**BOARD OF ELDERS**

It may be hard to believe but we will be celebrating Thanksgiving this month. We will have our 7:00 Thanksgiving service on Wednesday (11/21). We are also getting close

to the Advent season and will have Wednesday night services starting @ 7:00 on 12/5, 12/12 & 12/19 with soup supper starting at 6:00. The Elders will be supplying the soup for the first supper but we will need other people/organizations to sign up for the other soup suppers. Please see the bulletin board for the sign-up sheet.

Sunday mornings are very busy at St. Andrew and everyone is invited to attend as many things as you can. We start with a 7:45 Confirmation class, 8:00 choir practice, 9:00 worship service and then 10:15 Bible Class/Sunday School. To make sure we start classes as close to 10:15 as we can, which means service will need to be done close to 10:00, we are going to have the announcements and greeting start before service so we can start our beginning hymn at 9:00. The before service greeting time will be shortened so make sure you greet your fellow worshippers on the way out also.

The Elders will be working on a Cancellation Policy in case of inclement weather. The policy should be completed next month and will be put in next month's newsletter. We are hoping to notify the congregation members through TV, mass emails to members where the church office have their email address and putting a banner on the church web site letting people know that St. Andrew will be closed due to weather.

Confirmation class has started and this year we will have seven students, three are on their second year while four are on their first year. Confirmation class starts right at 7:45 so if they want to give memory work they need to arrive between 7:30 & 7:40. We are using different Confirmation material this year which will be used for two years of 30 classes each. The students will also be volunteering their time to help usher & acolyte for our services.

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.

Your Elders would like to remind you that 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,

Rick Bruss (Chairman & Inactive)  
Ken Betz (Secretary & Readers)  
Joseph Gutschmidt (Sick/Shut-Ins)  
Paul Heinz (Fundraisers & Personnel)  
Curt Gnatzig (Youth)  
Craig Falk (Ushers)  
Dave Brehmer

## **STEWARDSHIP / EVANGELISM**

The Great Commission is in [Matthew 28:18-20](#) where Jesus gave His last directions to His followers before ascending to heaven:

*"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Go! Jesus tells us to go out into the world telling everyone about the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. He tells us to teach them and bring them to faith. But he doesn't ask us to do it alone. He will be with us always.

Jesus was with us when we opened up our doors to grieving parents that have lost a child. The word of God was present throughout the

event as we hoped to bring peace to others through Jesus.

Jesus was with us at the Farmers' Market as we handed out free coffee and hot chocolate. We are getting to know our community in the hopes that they would like to get to know our Father.

Jesus was with us during our High Clean-up as we tidied up His wondrous creation.

Remember that Jesus will always be with you whenever you are being a disciple. Talk about your faith, bring friends to church, help your community and help out in your church. Jesus commissioned us to do these things in His name as He made the sacrifice that restored us and renewed us.

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We have the West Bend Christmas parade coming up on November 25. It is a great way to share our faith with others and be disciples for Jesus. Help us decorate the float after service and join us as we walk through the community (kick-off is at 5 p.m.). If you have any ideas for the float, please let us know.

*Cathy Grande*

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Dine to Donate raised an additional \$49 for the tuition assistance fund. Thank you to those who came to Texas Roadhouse to assist with this budget item. This money helps with the tuition for 4 of our church children.

Our lending library has a number of new items. Please feel free to look them over and check some out. There is not any set return date so just sign the sheet and if we get requests for the item you checked out, one of us will give you a call to see when it may be back for others to see. A list of the new items are available in the back pew of church, on the left side.

Pastor is still doing 2 bible studies each week. One on Sunday and the other on Thursday

mornings. Check them out. Michele B has finished her "I have to" Bible study, but is looking at doing more in spring. Look for more details in the next 2 months. The Men's group would love to have more men showing up Monday evenings for an hour-long study and fellowship. If you have any questions feel free to talk to Eric Johnson or Bob Buehler, or come Monday nights at 7 p.m. to church. If there is a topic for a future bible study that interests you, please let Pastor or Michele know.

I want to thank Jeff Grande and staff for their hard work in sharing the Love of God with our children each week during Sunday School.

In Christ's Service  
Michele Buehler  
Board of Ed Chair

## **SISTERS IN CHRIST**

November and December will give the women of our congregation many opportunities to join in mission projects and fun activities. Please know that all women are welcomed and we encourage you to give of yourself so that others can be blessed!

A big thank you goes to Donna H. who cut many prayer shawls for us. We can now knot them and prepare them to give comfort, hope and joy to those in need. Prayer Shawl Work Night will be announced soon.

**Shoebbox for Christmas gifts are due Sunday, November 4th. Thank you for sharing God's love with children nationwide!**

**Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 8:30 am will be our Breakfast Meeting. Please join us as we prepare and organize for coming events. Bring a simple breakfast item to share, we will be meeting at church. Sign-up sheet is on the board.

**Tuesday, December 4th** at 5:30 pm will be our Sisters in Christ Christmas party. Invitations will be in your mailbox and a sign-up sheet will

be on our board soon. All women are invited to this fun party!

**Friday, December 7th at 6:30 pm** will be our Keepsake Christmas for our campus and congregation families. Help will be needed for this family event.

May your hearts be filled with thanks, for our loving God has poured on us blessings that overflow!

Sandy and Judi

## **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 \$10.50 for a single plant and \$18.50 for a double plant. The deadline to order is November 25<sup>th</sup>.

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 Evelyn Nuoffer at 335-0721 or 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**

***Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever. Psalm 100:4-5***

Psalm 100 is a short chapter that can be called the Psalm of giving thanks. November can be called the month for giving thanks. But as we know, giving thanks to our gracious God should be something we do each and every

day. Just as the children in our campus learn to fold their hands, bow their heads, and give thanks at snack and lunch time each day, we adults should be doing the same. We also should be an example and a role model as to what a thankful heart looks like. Give thanks, for He is good!

Our campus children will once again be collecting non-perishable food items for the Full Shelf Food Pantry in West Bend and I encourage our congregation to join in. Collection dates will be from November 5-20th. Items can be placed in the two baskets in the narthex or placed in the boxes on the stage in the gym. Please give so that others may be blessed.

Thank you to all in our congregation and campus families that gave so generously to the Shoebox for Christmas mission. Shoeboxes should be returned to church by 11/4. If you cannot return them on that Sunday, you may drop them off on Monday the 5th or Tuesday the 6th. All boxes will be dropped off, at a given drop off site, shortly after the 6th. Once again, thank you for caring and sharing in this mission. Many children will be blessed!

Mark your calendars....

\*Keepsake Christmas will be on Friday, December 7th at 6:30 pm (flyer with details will be in your mailbox)

\*Campus Christmas Program will be on Friday, December 14th at 6:30 pm

Support our campus and attend our program! It will bring Christmas joy to your hearts.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sandy

## **WHY DO YOU COME TO CHURCH?**

This question was asked of me one day by a casual friend. There are many reasons people go to church. Think about why you go and see if any of these fit you.

**“I go because my parents are there and we always go to church together”.** Ok, family is important... but if that is the only reason you go, I am not sure you are going for the right reason. I think what they hope you are getting out of it is a stronger faith.

**“I go because they play contemporary music and it’s fun to listen to”.** Alright- some of us like that type of music and some do not like it at all. But is it the melody and rhythm you like or are you truly listening to the words? Do the words speak of God’s Love for you and what He did for you? Or are they contemporary words lacking in substance?

**“I like our Pastor”** That’s good, but not the only reason you should attend church. Do you like it because the Pastor tells jokes and is entertaining? Is it because he is good looking? Is it because he can speak well? Or is it because of his message of God’s love and forgiveness? Think about it.... Pastor is not the church, but part of the community of saints whose calling it is to preach and teach. Pastors can use their wit, physical appearance, and skill at teaching to benefit us all. But if you only go because of him, you are missing a lot of other great things.

**“I go because I feel guilty when I don’t go.”** Guilt should never be the sole reason to go. Guilt is what we all should feel daily because we sin daily. Guilt should make us want to repent and ask forgiveness for our wrong doings. Church is a place to get that forgiveness.

**“I go because I like to talk to people”** Great! Being in the company of fellow believers is always a good thing. God loves that we want to be with other Christians who help to boost our spirit and reconnect us with Jesus and to share God’s love with them.

So again I ask: **Why do you go to church?** Have you thought about it? I pray that each and every one who reads this thinks about how they can make church a better place for everyone.

Maybe it’s seeing the face of someone who seems to need a friend and stopping to say hi or offering a hug? Maybe it’s the new mom or dad who is struggling with the baby and trying to keep the older ones quiet. Could you offer to hold the baby for a bit... maybe sit by them and offer to help the older sibling with following along or with the sewing card in the quiet bag. How about ushering? WHAT? That’s why I should go to church? Yes- by ushering you help to make newcomers comfortable by showing them where the bathroom is, mentioning to visitors about our communion practice, or mentioning where the quiet room is to families with little ones.

What about helping to enlarge our church family by inviting others to join you.... It can be as easy as inviting someone over to watch the game at noon and offering to meet them at church first. Maybe it’s a new neighbor who just moved in and hasn’t found a church home yet. It is up to us **all** to grow the church, not just the Pastor, the elders, or a specific committee..... God sends us all out to be disciples.

There are many reasons to attend church. What is yours?

## **ADVENT DEVOTIONS FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES**

### **Christmas Memories**

Thinking back on Christmases past is a fun way to reflect on the good old days. The wonderful lights and decorations, festive holiday atmosphere, warm family get-togethers, unforgettable melodies, and jovial Christmas cheer all make for pleasant memories. But, of course, our hearts aren’t merry for these things alone. Christmas is the believer’s celebration of the arrival of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, “who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a Servant, being born in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:6-7).

Hallelujah! It is this Gift of God—His own beloved Son—whom we joyously adore with our hearts this Advent season. Jesus, who took on human flesh so that we might partake of His divine redemption, is the One our Christmas memories turn to, worshipping and adoring Him for all He has done for us. Take time this holiday season to make Christmas memories that last—memories that lovingly honor the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**Find the devotion at: [Ihm.org/advent](http://Ihm.org/advent)**

## **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 4**

**Old Testament: Judges 13:1-24**

**9:00 Michele Buehler**

**November 11**

**Old Testament: Judges 14:1-20**

**9:00 Jodie Falk**

**November 18**

**Old Testament: Judges 16:1-22**

**9:00 Carla Peterson**

**November 25**

**Old Testament: Judges 16:23-31**

**9:00 Debbie Yenter**

## **2018-2019 Playdates at St. Andrew**

Bring your kids, grandkids, friends, and neighbors to play and burn a little energy!

Activities will be available for older and younger kids. Snacks will be provided (as well as coffee for adults)!

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- **November 4** 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Block Party
- **January 5** 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. Winter Play
- **February 10** 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Open Play
- **March 2** 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. Open Play
- **April 7** 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. Nature Play\*

\*All events will be held in ECC gym area, although October and April events may be partially held outside, weather permitting.

Contact Katie Vierkant (217) 720-2862 or [kevierkant@yahoo.com](mailto:kevierkant@yahoo.com) with any questions or allergy concerns.



**WISH LIST**

Approved by Church Council 10/26/2017

**Organ**

**Parking Lot Final Layer  
(Summer 2018)**  
(approx. \$36,500)

**Chimes for the Organ**  
(approx. \$7,200)

**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)

**Sign for Front Yard**  
(Update and Move)

*\*\*\*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 2018 Usher Schedule**

**November 4**  
**9 AM Team #2**  
Ken Betz  
Rick Bruss  
Blake Sommer  
Ron Nuoffer  
Josh Miller

**November 11**  
**9 AM Team #3**  
Mark Ruback  
Myron Kraft  
Jeff Schmidt  
Al Taft  
Dave Brehmer

**November 18**  
**9 AM Team #4**  
Thai Hua  
Margie Hua  
Craig Falk  
Brady Falk  
Sharon Oelke

**November 25**  
**9 AM Team #5**  
Paul Heinz  
Pete Hesprich  
Mark Janz  
Ted Wuebben  
Elmer Frey

**If you cannot make the Sunday you are scheduled to  
usher, please find a replacement. Thank you.**

## **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

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



- 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**

- 18 Henry & Lois Dummann
- 18 John & Joan Schlicht
- 26 Randy & Kris Sheffield

## **NOVEMBER BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Mark Janz
- 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
- 15 Jane Dolata

