



The life and ministry of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church shall be open to all who wish to express their faith in God through Jesus Christ by worship, learning, witness and service.

– From Mission Statement



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**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

# Network



Volume 1, Issue 12

December 16, 2010



## PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

The lights, the sounds, and scents of the season are in the air. No matter where we go, we are reminded to prepare for the expected. "Prepare the way," God in Christ is coming soon.

It is a season of high expectations. We expect people, places, events, even our church to help create the mood, the ambiance of Christmas — **the season of expectation** — the season of belief, hope, and faith.

And yet as we prepare, our expectations can become our disappointments. We expect others to "fix" us when we are down and keep us going when we are "up." It is not a surprise that we are even tempted to expect the same from God.

One of the great hymns of the season may say it best, "*Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free*" — to be set free from this, from that, even from some, if not many of the expectations of the season.

May our expectations for this season "*prepare the way*" for that which is the most unexpected and most exceptional arrival in the history of the universe — the "*long expected Jesus*" who is the fulfillment of our belief, our hope, and our faith — the One born to set us free.

*The Lord is with you, Pr. John +*

## WEEKLY AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

**THURSDAYS**  
12:15 and 6:15 pm

**SUNDAYS**  
8:00 and 10:30 am



**CHRISTMAS EVE** — Friday, December 24  
4 pm **Worship** - Come to the Manger  
6 pm **Worship** - Candlelight with Choirs  
8 pm **Worship** - Candlelight with Choirs  
10 pm **Worship** - Candlelight  
**CHRISTMAS DAY** — Saturday, December 25  
10 am **Worship**



## REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS

### Fourth Sunday of Advent-December 19

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday in Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

### First Sunday of Christmas-December 26

As we celebrate the Twelve Days of Christmas, our gospel today confronts us with the death of innocent children at the hands of Herod. The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world, but its light gives us hope as we walk with all the "holy innocents" of past generations and today who have suffered unjustly. In our gathering around word and meal, God continues to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

(Continued on pg. 2)

## ACTIVITIES

### Christmas Hams

We are accepting the following items for holiday food baskets at this time: **hams, potatoes, onions, vegetables, pie/dessert ingredients and monetary donations.** Baskets will be assembled this **Saturday, December 18.** If you or someone you know need a holiday food basket please call the church office at (715)842-3333.

### Christmas Caroling Re-scheduled

All voices are welcome to join in Christmas Caroling to our shut-in members **this Saturday, December 18.** Meet at church at 2 pm with voices ready to sing and share the Christmas message!

### Devotionals Now Available

The 2011 first quarter of "Christ in our Home" devotionals are now available in the Narthex. Please feel free to pick up a copy.

### The Network Takes a Holiday Break

The Network will not be published the week of December 26. The next issue will be mailed the first week of January to be received on January 6.

### Choir Rehearsals

The chancel and handbell choirs will resume rehearsals on **Wednesday, January 5** while the children's choir will resume their rehearsal on **Sunday, January 9.**

### OWLS Meet

*Tuesday, January 4, 10 am*

Mark your calendar for the Older Wiser Lutherans (OWLS) January get-together for coffee and conversation at Saint Andrew. All are welcome to bring in the new year with friends and fellowship.



## REFLECTIONS, CONT.

### Second Sunday of Christmas-January 2

*Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

*"The life and ministry of Saint Andrew shall be open to all ...*



Organized  
December 21, 1980,  
as a congregation  
of the ELCA

The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Saint Andrew will be **remembered and celebrated** during the worship services of the **Fourth Sunday in Advent.**

We **remember** — 1,305 baptisms, 823 confirmations, 467 weddings, and 179 funerals have been **celebrated** over the past 30-years.

With gratitude to God, we give thanks for those before us and those with us now who **"express their faith in God through Jesus Christ by worship, learning, witness, and service."**

## ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

### December 19

#### Ushers

B Team

#### Layreaders

8:00 am - Betty Dotseth

10:30 am - Linda Vogen

#### Altar Guild

Team 1: Marilyn Olson,  
Sandra Fischer, Mary

Weiland and Tammy Radloff

#### Fellowship

8:00 am - Curt and Coreen

Richardt

10:30 am - Roger and Ruth

Poutanen

#### Greeters

8:00 am - Jean Hutchinson  
and Shirley Bickford

10:30 am - Dick and Sue  
Grunewald

#### Counters-December 20

Judy Paszek and Fred and  
Pat Fuchs

#### Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

### December 24 & 25; Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

#### Christmas Eve

#### Ushers

4:00 pm - Brekke Team

6:00 pm - Weidman Team

8:00 pm - Johnson Team

10:00 pm - Shepherd Team

#### Layreaders

6:00 pm - Marv Meier

8:00 pm - Shelby Reif

10:00 pm - Ray Skare

#### Acolytes

6:00 pm - Cullen Stangel

and Kimberly Geary

#### Altar Guild

Team 1: Marilyn Olson,  
Sandra Fischer, Mary  
Weiland and Tammy Radloff

#### Christmas Day

#### Ushers

A Team

#### Layreader

Susan Paisar

#### Altar Guild

Team 1: Marilyn Olson,  
Sandra Fischer, Mary  
Weiland and Tammy Radloff

## GOOD STEWARDS

With the year-end approaching, the church looks to close the books and anticipate another year of ministry. Along with that comes the question whether promised pledges will be fulfilled or not for the sake of current and future ministry needs. It may also be time to look for tax-advantaged opportunities to save money on your 2010 tax returns. One often over-looked method is your financial support through your offerings and contributions. Contributions to Saint Andrew not only help the church meet its needs, but may actually save you tax dollars. If you are not current with your pledges, please give consideration to fulfilling in full or in part your pledged commitment.

There is also time for you to return your pledge commitments for 2011. These commitments are critical to match expected financial support with next year's ministry needs. Thank you for the many ways you participate in and are supportive of the mission and ministry we share through Saint Andrew Lutheran Church.



## SNOW POLICY

School cancellations mean Saint Andrew's classes & meetings will be also. Listen to local radio stations or check the websites of News Channels 7 & 9 for the list of school closings.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SCHEDULES

### Church School

*No church school - **Thursdays, December 23 and 30**  
**Sundays, December 26 and January 2***  
*Church school resumes - **Thursday, January 6**  
**Sunday, January 9***



### Sunday Evening Bible Study

There will be no bible study sessions **Sunday, December 26 or January 2**.  
Bible study will resume on **Sunday, January 9**

### Confirmation Classes Resume

**6-8 Grade Confirmation - Wednesday, January 5**  
**9 Grade Confirmation Class - Wednesday, January 12**

## ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

### December 26

### January 2

#### Ushers

B Team

#### Layreaders

8:00 am - Cheryl Allen

10:30 am - Shelby Niskanen

#### Altar Guild

Team 1: Marilyn Olson,  
Sandra Fischer, Mary  
Weiland and Tammy Radloff

#### Fellowship

8:00 am—Marv and Jolene  
Meier

10:30 am - George and  
Bonnie Alafouzios

#### Greeters

8:00 am - John and Pat  
Barnett

10:30 am - Renee, Payton  
and Carrie Schroeder

#### Counters-December 28

Leslie Sorenson and Mary  
Wittich

#### Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm 148

Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 2:13-23

#### Ushers

Brekke Team

#### Layreaders

8:00 am - Mary Jarvis

10:30 am - Dewey Allen

#### Altar Guild

Team 2: Donna Peth,  
Joleen Meier and Ann  
McDonald

#### Fellowship

8:00 am—Jim and Janice  
Riege

10:30 am - Dick and Sue  
Grunewald

#### Greeters

8:00 am - Kubisiak Family

10:30 am - Billie Schmidt  
and Mary Wittich

#### Counters-December 28

Annette Green and Will  
Allmandinger

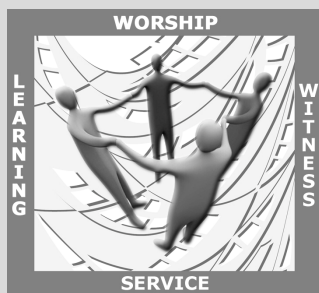
#### Lectionary Readings

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalm 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:[1-9] 10-18



## Time and Talent Opportunities to SUPPORT the Mission

- Donations now being accepted for holiday food baskets. Please see pg. 2 for more details.
- 2011 first quarter "Christ In Our Home" devotionals are now available in the narthex.
- Sign up for Altar Flowers for 2011 on the kiosk in the Narthex.
- Prayer requests are welcome through the **Prayer Center** in the sanctuary and will be acknowledged weekly in worship.

### Parish Staff

Rev. John Roseth, *Pastor*  
 Rev. Craig Swenson, *Pastor*  
 Everett Schmidt, *Minister of Youth*  
 Al Freiberg, *Minister of Music*  
 Shelby Reif, *Parish Administrator*  
 Joy Mitchell, *Secretary*  
 Sheldon Geiger, *Bookkeeper*  
 Shannon Vujnovich, *Custodian*  
 Dennis Gillingham, *Custodian*  
 Ron Sandquist, *Sexton*

### NETWORK Deadline

The deadline to submit articles for the *January 6, 2011* Network is:  
**Wednesday, December 29, 2010**

Open to All



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 Please deliver  
 by Saturday

## At Saint Andrew—December 19 - January 1

### Sunday, December 19

8:00 am **WORSHIP**  
 9:15 am Church School for all ages  
 10:30 am **WORSHIP**  
 11:30 am *Reh:* Children's Choir  
 4:00 pm Church School Christmas Prog.  
 5:30 pm Bible Study  
 6:30 pm Bible Study

### Monday, December 20

7:00 pm AA, Alanon, Alateen  
 7:00 pm Dartball at St. Anne

### Tuesday, December 21

9:00 am *Mtg:* Book Club  
 10:00 am Quilting for LWR  
 11:30 am *Mtg:* Staff

### Wednesday, December 22

6:30 pm *Reh:* Choir Rehearsal  
 7:30 pm *Reh:* Handbell Rehearsal

### Thursday, December 23

12:15 pm **WORSHIP**  
 6:15 pm **WORSHIP**

### Friday, December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00 pm **WORSHIP:** Come to the Manger Service  
 6:00 pm **WORSHIP:** Candlelight Service  
 8:00 pm **WORSHIP:** Candlelight Service  
 10:00 pm **WORSHIP:** Candlelight Service

### Saturday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:00 am **WORSHIP**

### Sunday, December 26

8:00 am **WORSHIP**  
 10:30 am **WORSHIP**

### Monday, December 27

*Christmas Holiday-Church Office Closed*  
 7:00 pm AA, Alanon, Alateen

### Thursday, December 30

12:15 pm **WORSHIP**  
 6:15 pm **WORSHIP**

### Friday, December 31

*New Years Holiday-Church Office Closed*

### Sunday, January 2

8:00 am **WORSHIP**  
 10:30 am **WORSHIP**

### Monday, January 3

7:00 pm AA, Alanon, Alateen

### Tuesday, January 4

9:00 am *Mtg:* Book Club  
 10:00 am Quilting Group-LWR

### Wednesday, January 5

6:15 pm Confirmation Classes Resume  
 6:30 pm *Reh:* Choir Rehearsal  
 8:00 pm *Reh:* Handbell Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 6

12:15 pm **WORSHIP**  
 5:30 pm Church School  
 6:15 pm **WORSHIP**

## HEARTFELT THANKS FOR MEMORIAL GIFTS SHARED

Soon, windows in the chapel at Saint Andrew will have leaded stained glass installed thanks to designated gifts in memory of Nancy Goetzke, Don Gardner and Kathy Opal and a special gift from The Peth Foundation. A matching silhouette shade will also be installed to finish the project.

The shade is provided through undesignated memorials and donations in memory of Stan Nielson, Kathy Opal, Dorothy Brandt, Bill Paduan, Marie Winter, Beulah Wolf as well as gifts from the Pagenkopf, Weideman and Miller families, the Peth Foundation and Doug and Marilyn Olson. All of the money for these projects was given as specific memorials to honor a loved one, undesignated memorials or donations that the Memorial Gift Ministry approved for use to complete this project. NOTE: Memorial gifts are not used for monthly operational bills.

It is a blessing when people recognize special opportunities to enhance the ministry we share through Saint Andrew with generous gifts. Thank you!

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## PRAYER CENTER

In response to personal requests, the Prayer Center list will not only be recognized in worship but also on this side of the calendar each month. As you review the day to day list of events that take place at Saint Andrew, please also give consideration to those who have requested prayers. Do you know of someone who is in need of prayer? *(Please ask first)*. Call the church office at 842-3333 to have names added to the list at the Prayer Center. Names will be updated on a regular basis.



### FOR THESE WE PRAY...

Aaron	Gary Somers	Sabrina Bresnahan	Roland Zerneke
Agnes Dahlman	George Schoeder	Shelley Parsells	
Aunt Joan	Jean Bassett	Suzi Kittson	
Bev Miller	Jennifer	Thomas Roberts	
Bill Rader	John	Vern Whereatt	
Callie Teeters	Jon Winkler	Zak Rau	
Dean	Marsha Otto	Harvey Lauermann	
Elaine Tuthill	Missy Felch	Irma Koenig	
Erv Koenig	Paula and John Family	Laura Glassford	
Fred Kroll	Ron Horst	Ruth Kruzan	

*Thank you, Lord, for always answering prayer, but not indulging my every petty, private request. Thank you for winnowing and refining, vetoing and delaying, refusing and revising. Thank you for being God and never less, for freeing me for wide horizons, for protecting me from my limited vision and wayward will. Thank you for foiling my every effort to unseat you and make myself king. Thank you for keeping it safe for me to pray.*

—Gerhard E. Frost

*From Seasons of a Lifetime: A Treasury of Meditations (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1989, p. 118)*