



Network



Volume 6, Issue 8

August 2014

Reflections by Pastor Jenn

Tough decision: It's 10:30 Saturday morning. *Do you go to the birthday party? Or do you go to the soccer game?*

Both are great opportunities. If you go to the birthday party, you get to see your friends and eat cake. If you go to the soccer game, you get to see your friends and play soccer. There might be more of an "obligation" to go to the soccer game. After all, the team is counting on you and you made a commitment. But on the other hand, if the birthday party is for your friend, you might feel a deep sense of loyalty. So what to do? You want to be in both places but can only physically be in one place. Why, oh why, are they at the same time?!

Many of us are not deciding between going to a birthday party and a soccer game. But the dilemma of "choosing between" different opportunities is a common dilemma. We experience it in small ways when we're at the store, deciding between the brand we know and the more generic option. But we also encounter this dilemma on a larger scale. What do we do with our time? What do we prioritize? What choices do we make for children? Aging parents? Our work?

There are so many choices, and expectations, and commitments placed on people these days. Many of them are good opportunities. And yet, with limited time and resources, a choice must be made. So often, choices are made for the opportunity that has the most benefit, is the most nourishing, and will provide the greatest sense of return.

When we are in this midst of tough decisions—when we are unsure of where our priorities are—or even, when we are afraid we've made the wrong choice—*Could it be that God has it all in hand, looking at our lives in light of a bigger picture?* Pulling weeds where necessary? Using us to share and encounter the gospel wherever we are in light of whatever is decided? And inviting us again and again to come and hear the life giving word and receive the meal of forgiveness?

The "benefit" of life with God is simply that—Life with God. But the choice is not ours. It has already been made. And God chooses you, calls you, and loves you. There is no better "return" than the experience of life only God provides.

As you are considering plans for the end of summer, you'll find many choices before you within these pages to connect to our life together: the church picnic, Sunday school and rally day with classes for adults and children, the return of 10:30 church (on Sept. 7), a blood drive, the youth gathering in 2015, and even the blessing of pets and animals! Come and experience life together in community.

With great joy we also welcome to the staff Craig Gauerke who formally begins on July 28th as the Coordinator of Youth and Family Education. Welcome, Craig!

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.



Sunday Summer Worship Times
8:00 and 9:30 am
Thursday Worship All Year
12:15 and 6:15 pm

Sunday Fall Worship Times Begin
September 7

8:00 & 10:30 am

*Also, please note the office will be closed
on Labor Day, Monday, September 1*

Baptism Orientation

Sunday, August 3, 10:30 am
Orientation will be held in the sanctuary for families anticipating a baptism. Please call the church office if you would like to attend.

Play Group at SALC

Thursday, August 7, 10-11 am
Bring your children who are not yet in pre-school for conversation, fellowship and a time for playing. Join the group on the **first Thursday of the month**. For the summer months, please call the church prior to coming in the event the location has changed to a local park or other summer fun spot. Invite a friend!

OWLS

Thursday, August 7, 6 pm
Join the OWLS as they enjoy the Wausau Concert Band inside the Rothschild Pavilion. Bring your lunch and meet at 6 pm to picnic under the shelter prior to the concert. **Please note the day and time for this month's OWLS meeting has changed to accommodate attending the concert.**



Noisy Offering

A Noisy Offering will not be taken this month. Please plan to bring your special offering when it returns on **Sunday, September 21.**

Fair Trade products will be available for purchase in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, August 24.** Note that this is the fourth Sunday this month rather than the third.

SALC ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC



Family - Food - Fun

*Sunday, September 7
11:30 am (after service)
Fellowship Hall & Celebration Patio*

The cooks will be grilling hamburgers, hotdogs and brats. Please bring a side dish or dessert according to the first letter of your last name:

- A – M bring a salad or side dish
- N – Z bring a dessert

VOUNTEERS NEEDED: Contact the office if you can help with picnic set-up, clean-up or kids games.

BLESSING OF PETS AND ANIMALS

Sunday, August 17, 9:30 am
Bring the **whole** family — all socially adapted creatures, great and small, are welcome.



The service will be led from the Celebration Patio on the north side of the Fellowship Hall. Seating is on the lawn. **Bring a lawn chair or blanket and sunglasses** and enjoy this outdoor worship experience. Please help with your pet's clean-up if needed.

WELCOME CRAIG! - COORDINATOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

My name is Craig Gauerke. I was born and raised in the little town of Waupaca, WI; about an hour away from Wausau. As of July 28, I will be joining the staff of Saint Andrew as the new Coordinator of Youth and Family Education. I come to you from the Land of Oz (Kansas) where I worked as the Director of Youth and Family Ministries at Trinity Lutheran Church, ELCA, in Great Bend. I obtained my B.A. in Religion with a concentration in Youth and Family Ministry at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. I'm excited for my future here at Saint Andrew, and I hope you are, too!

Peace, Love, Christ,
Craig A. Gauerke

As Craig transitions into his role at Saint Andrew, please take the opportunity to introduce yourself and share your story of faith and life with Craig.

Blood Drive

Thursday, October 9, 1-6 pm

Saint Andrew will be the sight of a blood drive in support of the American Red Cross. Donors can give blood every 56 days. Volunteers will be needed to help with registration, refreshments or other support. Mark your calendar now and call the church office to express your willingness to help.

A Great Day at the Golf Outing

Thank you to everyone one who attended the Annual Saint Andrew Golf Outing and to those who donated prizes. The winners were: 1st place—Mark Fehrman, Pat McFaul, Brendon Hayden and Seth Davis; 2nd place—Charles Kirsch, Phil Pagel and Fred Kirsch; and 3rd place - Mike Zenner, Amy Frolik and Keith Kensmoe.

Quilt Kits and School Bag Kits

Quilt and school bag kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) are still available in the kiosk in the Narthex. Pick one up, take it home, make the quilt or school bag, bring it back and place it in the "Completed" drawer on the back side of the Information Desk. Thank you!

Memorial Gifts Received

Memorial gifts were received in memory of Bill Harder and Maggie Mueller and in honor of Anders Huggenvik's baptism. Thank you for all gifts received in honor or in memory of someone special. If you would like to give a memorial gift to Saint Andrew, please contact the church office.

CELEBRATION PATIO PAVERS

Summer is here and time to enjoy Sunday morning fellowship on the patio. If you would like to have a paver dedicated to a loved one, pick up a form on the Information Desk in the Narthex and return it to the church office with payment (\$100), or place in the offering plate. Examples of celebrations could include: birth, baptism, confirmation, marriage, anniversary, retirement, in memory of, in honor of, new members, and many more! Personalize a paver for your celebration!

SALC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Check out the new binder on the Information Desk for information on the following opportunities:

Nursery - washing/organizing toys

Dusting/Polishing - sanctuary pews; office and classroom doors

Sunday School - sorting/organizing materials

Weeding Assistance - thanks to everyone who have adopted all the designated areas to be cared for during the summer and fall months!

Watch the Network or weekly bulletins or just take a look at the Volunteer Book for new volunteer opportunities as they become available.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Our current mortgage on our building is \$1.4 million. We make monthly payments of \$12,500. For June, out of that \$12,500, \$4,933 was for interest and \$7,568 went against our principle. At this rate, our mortgage will be paid off in 2026. Our current interest rate is 4.29% on a 12 year loan.

Our Free for Missions program was designed for those who could afford a little extra each month to help pay down our loan a little faster. For June, our Free for Mission payment of \$6,460 went directly against the principle. If we average \$5,200 a month for Free for Missions, our mortgage will be paid off 5 years sooner. This of course depends on the amount our members contribute to Free for Missions, and the fact that we will not have to borrow money to meet our current monthly obligations.

2014-2015 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT SAINT ANDREW

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKS OFF! RALLY DAY INFORMATION—September 7

Sunday classes begin at 9:15 am with a rally and registration in the sanctuary for Pre-K through 8th grades!

Parents and students are invited to attend together as we kick the year off with celebration and learn about Sunday school details and connect kids with their teachers and classes.

Regular classes begin September 14 with large group time in the sanctuary at 9:15 am.

Registration forms will be available during vacation bible school, at church on the information desk, or may be found on line at www.salc-wausau.org. Registrations are welcome at any time, but in order to best prepare, we ask that forms be returned to the office by Tuesday, September 2.

Please note: Registration through the Spark Website will not be utilized this year.

Thursday Church School will not be offered this year due to decreased support and participation.

6th GRADE STUDENT FAMILIES

Over the past few years, the confirmation program transitioned to a two-year structure for those in 7th and 8th grades. Because of this change, there is strong emphasis placed on attendance for 6th grade students to attend Sunday school on *Sunday mornings at 9:15*. Students will focus on Bible basics in anticipation of and preparation for confirmation using an interactive curriculum called *Echo*.

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION

Confirmation will kick off on Wednesday, September 3 at 6:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall with orientation and registration. ***Students in 7th and 8th grades along with their parents are to attend together.*** Regular classes will begin the following week and will be held every Wednesday, 6:15-7:30 pm. Registration forms and detailed information will be sent out to families with students in these grades in early August and will also be available at church. Incoming 9th graders will receive more information shortly regarding the writing of faith statements and confirmation worship, which will take place on Reformation Sunday, October 26 at 2:00 pm.

SAVE THE DATES!

2 nd Grade Bibles received	Sep. 14
Acolyte Training	Sep. 21
Senior High Youth Gathering	Nov. 7-9
Christmas Program	Dec. 14

TEACHERS AND MENTORS NEEDED

Please prayerfully consider sharing your gift of teaching with SALC's youth. Teachers are needed for 2nd, 3rd (job share), 5th, & 6th grades. Enjoy working with older children? Then, maybe stepping into a mentor role is just for you! Job sharing for all is a great option! Please call the SALC office at 715-842-3333.

STAYING CONNECTED ADDRESSES

Please contact the church office (715 842-3333) with new or updated information for the young adults in your family who may have or will be moving so the church can "Stay Connected" with them throughout the year.

ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING IN DETROIT, JULY 13-19, 2015



Thousands of Lutheran students from around the country will be gathering in Detroit in the summer of 2015. Will you join us? Because of the size and scope of this incredible opportunity, our planning here at Saint Andrew will begin early. More information, including a video invitation and commitment form can be found at www.salc-wausau.org for students finishing 8th-12th grades in the Summer of 2015. ***Attend the Q & A informational meeting on Sunday, September 14 at 11:30 am to find out all you need to know to get to the ELCA National Youth Gathering!*** In order to take a group from Saint Andrew, a solid commitment will need to be made by mid-October. **Please return your commitment form with a deposit of \$100 by October 6th.**

AUGUST

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

	August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31
Altar Guild	Team 3	Team 3	Team 4	Team 4	Team 5
Usher Team	B	Brekke	Weidman	Johnson	Shepherd
Layreaders	8:00 am 9:30 am Michael Spalding Marilyn Olson	Dan Malm Lynn Lawson	Shirley Bickford Shelby Niskanen	Gary Hibbard Craig Holmes	Faith Martinson Judith Marshall
Greeters	8:00 am 9:30 am John & Jan Mann George & Bonnie Alafouzoz	Roger Otto & Joanne Howard Doug & Marilyn Olson	Bill & Lucy Harvey Garrett & Tara Lancelle	John & Pat Barnett Rosetta Ahles & Deb Bradshaw	Mike & Lyn Weis Craig & Marni Holmes
Fellowship	8:00 am 9:30 am Jim Jacobson Susie & Ashley Soukup	David & Nancy Larson Jerry & Marlene Kort	Marv & Joleen Meier Deb Bradshaw & Shirley Bickford	Jason & Linda Rickstad Greg & Jeanne Willems	Jim & Kristin Woller Adam & Kathy Wurz

LECTIONARY READINGS

August 3	August 10	August 17	August 24	August 31
Isaiah 55:1-5 Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21	1 Kings 19:9-18 Psalm 85:8-13 Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33	Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Psalm 67 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28	Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20	Jeremiah 15:15-21 Psalm 26:1-8 Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28

A BAPTISM PRAYER

Giving thanks for the gift of baptism, we lift up those children, parents and sponsors who have recently been received into the family of faith. We pray especially for:

Anders John Huggenvik - June 22	Evan Michael Pittsley - August 3
Romeo Harper Pagels - July 3	William James Skadahl - August 10
Skye McKenna Pagels - July 3	Parker Seth Jia Sierk - August 10
Cody Alan Pagels - July 3	Katherine Kelly Brandt - August 31
Ean Julio Murillo - July 6	William John Burazin - August 31
Brianna Elizabeth Birchler - July 17	Chase Russell Weiland - September 14
Beckett James Brueggen - July 20	Merritt Justin Robinson - September 14
Aislyn Joe Steingraber - July 27	Ivy Mae Kasson - October 5

A WEDDING PRAYER

In celebration for lives joined together in the covenant of marriage, we pray especially for:

Cody Pagels & Sabrina Downing - June 7
 Matt Seegert & Becky Logemann - June 28
 Justin Socha & Sherry Norton - August 9
 Jason Weith & Sara Geiger - August 23
 Ryan Weber & Lisa Carlson - September 13
 Jon Black & Kady Henschel - September 27
 Adam Malm & Ashley Patterson - October 11
 Derek Hilmershausen & Kate Schutte - October 18

WE PRAY...

for the families of those who have recently joined the church triumphant:

Renee' Thomsen Maggie Mueller Bill Harder

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...

Ali	Jackie	Sabrina	Jean
Babs	James, Henry & Elsie	Susan	Carrie
Barb	Jeff	Theresa	Noah
Bev	Jennette	Tom	Megan
Brianna	Jennifer	Tyler	Dan and Lynne
Callie and Zak	Jerry	Zerin	Sam
Chuck	John	Ella	Adrienne
Connie	Jon	Kathleen	Dan
Dennis	Julie	Jim	JB
Dorothy	Kevin	Katie	Marilyn & Rick
Felicia	Nancy	Diane	Josh & Beth
Gary	Patricia	Chris and Cassandra	
Gene	Quinn	Clayton	
Irma B.	Robin	Bryan	
Jack	Roland	Amy	

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)

Open to All



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Parish Staff

Rev. Craig Swenson, *Pastor*
Rev. Jenn Collins, *Pastor*
Rev. Jeff Martinson, *Pastor*
Shelby Gjertson, *Parish Administrator*
Joy Mitchell, *Secretary*
Al Freiberg, *Coordinator of Music*
Sheldon Geiger, *Bookkeeper*
Craig Gauerke, *Coordinator of Youth and
Family Education*
Shannon Vujnovich, *Custodian*
Dave Paisar, *Custodian*
Jared Gjertson, *Sexton*

Upcoming Events/Activities

August 3	10:30 am	Baptism Orientation
August 4-8		VBS
August 17	9:30 am	Blessing of Pets Worship
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September 3	6:15 pm	Confirmation Parent Orientation—7th & 8th Grades Choir Rehearsals Begin
September 7	8 & 10:30 am	Sunday Fall/Winter Worship Begins
	9:15 am	Sunday School Rally Day
	11:30 am	SALC Annual Picnic
September 10	6:15 pm	Confirmation Classes Begin—7th & 8th Grades
September 14	9:15 am	Second Grade Bibles Given/Bible Orientation
September 14	11:30 am	National Youth Gathering 2015 Q & A Informational Meeting
September 21	9:15 am	Acolyte Training