

Network



Volume 7, Issue 9

September 2015

Reflections by Pastor Jenn

I am Lutheran, because my friend invited me to come to church with her when we were in middle school. I remember that their welcome included teaching me about God's love. In their spirit of welcome, caring adults asked me about life and how things were going from day to day. I felt so welcomed, I even had a place in the pew – three-quarters of the way toward the front, on the left side of the church! When I went to church, I experienced welcome.

At Saint Andrew, our bulletin announcements are often accompanied by a repeated phrase, *"All are welcome."* Those are not simply nice and inviting words—but those words also challenge us to practice a welcome that is met with integrity and sincerity. *"All are welcome"* invites participation and intentional invitation. All (*everyone—regardless of who they are or are not*) are (*right at this very moment in time*) welcome (*to Saint Andrew—both the place and this community of people*).

If you are here every week—welcome. If you have been away for the summer—welcome back. Or if it has been years since you've walked through the church doors—welcome home. You—and all—are most welcome. And the welcome comes not only from we who are the church, but as an extension of the welcome of Christ from the cross—who welcomes sinners and outcasts and friends with a profound and life changing love.

With the return of fall, we resume a more regular pattern of life and ministry. New this fall is the addition of a third worship service for Sunday morning, a revision to the Sunday school schedule, a staffed nursery, and several Bible Study opportunities—and you are most welcome. This is a great time to pray about where God is welcoming you to connect and serve within the community—from singing in choir to reading in worship or serving as an acolyte or confirmation mentor—there are many opportunities to be reminded of who you are, to be fed and nourished and welcomed—and then sent into life refreshed, equipped and ready to welcome others to come with you to church, to community, and to life in Christ.

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.

Backpack Blessing and Church Picnic Sunday, August 30



New backpack for school this year or bringing back last year's cool backpack? Come to worship at 8 & 9:30 am on August 30th, receive a blessing for your backpack and for the start of a new school year! Then all are welcome to stay for lunch, celebrate the end of summer and enjoy the church picnic! Gather in the Fellowship Hall and Celebration Patio at 10:45 am to enjoy food, fellowship and fun! Please bring a dish to pass according to the first letter of your last name: A-M dessert; N-Z salad or side dish.



Fall Worship Times and Sunday School Begins September 13



8:00 & 9:30 am—Traditional worship with choirs and liturgy

9:45 - 10:30 am—Sunday School (See Page 4 for more details!)

10:45 - 11:30 am—This worship service will feel similar to our current style - but a little less structured, a little more organic in style

Weekly Worship

Thursday: 12:15 and 6:15 pm

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 & 10:45 am

Nursery Care to be Provided

Saint Andrew will provide Sunday nursery care beginning September 13. Parents are welcome to drop off little ones before the 9:30 service at the nursery located just off the Narthex. If you are interested in learning more about Nursery care or if you are willing to volunteer, please call the office at 715-832-3333.

OWLS

Tuesday, September 1, 11:30 am
Meet at Saint Andrew at 11:30 am for a potluck lunch then enjoy conversation and updates on all the fall programming at Saint Andrew.



Noisy Offering

A Noisy Offering will be received on September 20 in support of the SALC library.

Play Group at SALC

Thursday, September 10, 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 **second Thursday of each month.**

Fair Trade Products

Fair Trade products are sold on the third Sunday of the month. Stop by the display in the Fellowship Hall on **September 20** to purchase all your favorite Fair Trade products. Your purchases help small landholder farmers in many developing countries compete in a tough market. Thank you for your support!

CHOIR REHEARSALS TO BEGIN



It's that time of year when the sounds of the Saint Andrew choirs can be heard! New voices and ringers are always welcome! Stop in at any rehearsal to be a part of a most rewarding time singing and playing and praising God! Rehearsals will **begin on September 9** as follows:

Handbell Choir: Wednesdays - 5:00 pm
Chancel Choir: Wednesdays - 6:30 pm

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

On **Saturday, October 3**, volunteers will be needed to help load a semi with school bags and quilts from the area for Lutheran World Relief.

Do you play the piano or other musical instrument and care to share your gift as part of worship? Musicians are needed to assist with the 10:45 am Sunday worship.

Please contact the church office to help with either of these volunteer opportunities.

CHECK OUT THE SALC LIBRARY

Good news: Since December 2008 until now, over ONE THOUSAND ITEMS have been checked out of the Saint Andrew library. The library is definitely being used! Watch for new additions to children's videos and adult Christian Living titles. Sad news (sort of): Quite a few items, some since 2014, have not been returned and are probably just misplaced. Please check your books and DVDs at home and return any Saint Andrew library items you may have so that others may borrow them. The library appreciates all the wonderful donations it has received, and always likes receiving titles in good condition, suggestions for purchases and funds for memorials and special events. Check out the new donation of books by Dave Ramsey for biblically based financial awareness and direction. Check out the Saint Andrew library for these and many other valued resources!

YOUTH EVENTS

Participate in the **CROP Walk on October 4**—this is a great service opportunity. Tune into the Network, bulletin, SALC website and Facebook page to find out about service opportunities or youth events - several are currently being planned. You won't want to miss any of them and all youth, middle school through high school are welcome!

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

As requests are regularly made for food baskets, the food pantry also is continually restocked. Just a reminder to please check any items that are donated that they have not expired. Expired food items cannot be accepted or passed on to those in need. Thank you to everyone who has donated to and supported the SALC Food Pantry.

Matt Seegert Update:

Seminarian, Matthew Seegert has completed his summer of Clinical Pastoral Education and now begins his second year at Wartburg Seminary. Matt plans to visit Saint Andrew September 27 and share in worship at 10:45 am. Welcome, Matt!

Blood Drive

Thursday, October 1, 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.

**Blood Pressure Checks**

SALC volunteers are available on the *3rd Sunday* of each month to assist you in regularly monitoring blood pressure. These are not diagnostic but informative and available to anyone who is curious about regular checking. No sign up necessary. This is a free pressure check and takes place in the Activity Room. Basic blood pressure information is also available.

Pastoral Care

As a practice, three area hospitals are contacted during the work week to inquire about member hospitalization. We are grateful when we learn about pastoral care opportunities and do our best to respond in a timely fashion. If you or a family member is in need of pastoral care, please contact the church office to help insure pastoral support is received.

Ministry Highlight: Christian Education Ministry

Christian Education Ministry at Saint Andrew is a team of people who provide planning and oversight for activities that encourage learning and growing in faith. These activities help form a sense of community and teach the stories of scripture through Vacation Bible School (VBS), Sunday School (Pre-K through 6th grades), the Christmas Program, the 3-5th Grade Retreat, First Communion, Confirmation—and various other activities. Christian Ed ministry is always looking for new members to join in the fun and the mission of Saint Andrew to be a place of “learning” - through Christ. Here are some ways you can serve—

Sunday School Teacher
Christian Education Ministry Member

Confirmation Mentor
Volunteer for VBS

Help Direct or Support the Christmas Program
Classroom Helper

Provide Items Requested Through Pull Tags

Spend time in God’s Word—Bible and Book Studies Offered



Men’s Bible Study, *Wednesdays, beginning September 23, 6:45 am and 10 am* — Join Pastor Craig for conversation around God’s word. Nothing heavy or complicated. “The Master Builders Bible” is the resource for conversation. The first 10 bibles are available for \$15 each, others are only \$25. Please contact Pastor Craig to let him know your interest.

Women’s Bible Study/Lunch Gathering, *First and third Wednesdays of the month, beginning September 2 & 16, 12:10-12:50 pm* — Come, bring your lunch and your Bible, and dwell in God’s word with other women. “Gather” magazine is the resource for conversation and is available for \$15 for an annual subscription. An evening time may be added if there is interest.



Reading Reflections, *Tuesdays, 9:00 am*—A variety of books are read and reflected on in these gatherings. Currently, the group is reading “Learning to Walk in the Dark” by Barbara Brown Taylor.

Sunday Morning Bible Study, *Beginning September 13, 9:30 am*—These sessions are based on the International Bible Study. Bring your bible and meet in the Parish Room.

Sunday Evening Bible Study, *Beginning September 13, 6:30 pm*— An in depth study on the Gospel of Luke—this study will prepare you to hear the preaching texts for the upcoming year. Led by Pastor Craig or Pastor Jenn. Cost is \$8.

'LEARNING' AT SAINT ANDREW! CHECK OUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2015-2016

Sunday School and Rally Day Information for Grades Pre-K through 6

September 13, 9:45-10:30 am

Sunday School begins two ways—in worship or in the classroom!

Worship at 8 or 10:45 am together as a family—attend Sunday School before or after worship

Worship together at 9:30 am—children will be dismissed to Sunday School following the children's sermon



Sunday School offering will be received in the classrooms! On the first day of Sunday School parents are invited to walk their child to their classroom to meet their teacher, other parents, and their classmates.

Caring adults are needed to help with Sunday School! All of the lessons are provided and the experience of helping children grow in faith and feel like they belong is incredibly rewarding. Please pray about this opportunity and contact Pastor Craig or Pastor Jenn with questions or interest. If you are curious about teaching—a meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 8 (Ministry Night) at 6:30 pm for teachers and those who may be interested.**

Confirmation Announcements for Students in 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Grades

Wednesday, September 9, 6:15 pm—Orientation for **7th & 8th grade** students and their families. Families are invited to bring desert to share for fellowship following. Regular classes begin September 16, 6:15—7:30 pm.

Sunday, September 13, 9:45-10:30 am—**6th grade** students prepare for confirmation by attending class Sunday mornings. The "Echo" curriculum is used as a refresher on the Biblical Narrative. Register by using the Sunday School registration form.

Wednesdays, September 23, 30 and October 7—7:30-8:30 pm—**9th Grade** students meet to work on faith statements.

Six to Eight caring adults are needed to serve as small group mentors and leaders. Is God calling you to lead?

All of the information is provided in advance. Please consider this incredibly rewarding experience to help students connect and develop their faith. **Mailings** with more detailed information have been sent. If you have not received information, please contact the church office or check the Saint Andrew website, www.salc-wausau.org.

Save the date for these upcoming opportunities!

Acolyte Training: *Sunday, September 20, 11:30 am OR Wednesday, September 23, 5:30 pm (before confirmation)*

Students in 5th grade and above, and others who feel called to help carry the symbols of Christ into worship are invited to attend either session and learn how to acolyte. At least one parent should attend with their child. The acolyte sign-up for September-December is on the bulletin board near the restrooms! Sign up now!

Second Grade Bibles: *Sunday, September 20 at 8 or 9:30 am worship (just in time for Sunday school!)* A letter with details will be mailed to second grade families soon; if you do not receive this letter please call the office.

Christmas Program - Save the Date! *Sunday, December 13, Time TBD*

Planning team: Parents and caring adults are needed to help select and plan the Christmas Program, help with practices, costumes, and sets. This is a great opportunity to participate in a small way and many hands are needed. If interested sign up on the Information Desk!

3-5 Grade Winter Retreat at Crossways Waypost Camp: *Friday-Sunday, January 22-24*
Come play in the snow and study God's word!

"Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength..." (Isaiah 40:30-31)

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

With two classes now completed, another class is currently scheduled for ***Sundays, beginning January 3***. An earlier option is being considered for ***Tuesdays at 7 pm beginning September 15***. Classes are for nine weeks with a cost of \$93 per individual or couple. Reflections from FPU graduates: "It doesn't matter if you are single, married, engaged, working, retired or unemployed anyone can learn from this class. We wish we would have taken it years ago." "I had some fear about taking this class the first time it was offered. But as the course went on, I found my fear changing into excitement. I realize the potential before me and that the process of changing habits and behaviors takes time, that money is a spiritual issue, and that I'm a work in progress."

Interested persons considering the fall option, please contact the church office at 715-842-3333, so arrangements can be made.

STEWARDSHIP SUPPORT

Thank you for your support! All gifts are gladly received as support for the life and ministry of Saint Andrew. This is how staff, facility and program needs are met and expanded beyond the walls of the church. Later in September, members will receive a pledge packet in the mail. The mailing will include one card to help simplify your pledge of support. Pledge Cards will be received as an act of worship in October. Quarterly envelope packets will include additional opportunities to contribute gifts of support for Mortgage Debt Reduction, World Hunger and Lutheran World Relief as you desire. All gifts are expressions of gratitude for what God generously provides.

Thank you for whatever support you regularly provide as well as pledged support for the year ahead.

SEPTEMBER

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Date	Worship Time	Altar Guild	Usher Team	Layreaders	Greeters	Fellowship
September 6	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 6	Johnson	Shirley Bickford Eric Verber	John & Pat Barnett Fred & Pat Fuchs	Joanne Howard/Jim Jacobson Craig & Marni Holmes
September 13	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 2	Shepherd	Alex Cappel Judith Marshall	Tony & Wendi Howe Billie Schmidt	Eric & Jamie Hane Greg & Jeanne Willems
September 20	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 2	A	Ray Skare Mike Johnson	Eric & Jamie Hane Susie & Ashley Soukup	Sid & Leslie Sorenson Mike & Carrie Clemment
September 27	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 3	B	Michael Spalding Jamie Henrichs	Marv & Joleen Meier Bruce & Linda Beyer	Bill & Doreen Radloff George & Bonnie Alafouzoz

September 6	September 13	September 20	September 27
Isaiah 35:4-7a Psalm 146 James 2:1-10[11-13] 14-17 Mark 7:24-37	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 116:1-9 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38	Jeremiah 11:18-20 Psalm 54 James 3:13-4:3; 4:7-8a Mark 9:30-37	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 Psalm 19:7-14 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50

September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
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8:00 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM WORSHIP 9:45 AM Sunday School Classes 10:45 AM WORSHIP 6:30 PM Bible Study	7:00 PM AA, Alanon & Alateen Meetings Labor Day Holiday - Church Office Closed	9:00 AM Reading Reflections 10:00 AM Quilting Group 6:30 PM Ministry Night Meetings 6:30 PM Sunday School Teacher Mtg	5:00 PM Handbell Choir 6:15 PM 7th & 8th Gr Students/Parents Confirmation Orientation 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	10:00 AM Play Group 12:15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP	5:00 PM Rehearsal	2:00 PM McCabe-Gereau Wedding																																										
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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:

Rayana Kayla Sabatke - July 26
 Hannah Jean Winchell - August 2
 Isabelle Mae Lancelle - August 23
 Benjamin Croix Smith - September 27
 Rose Evelyn Geiger - October 4
 Leyton Mae Wendorf - October 18

A WEDDING PRAYER

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

Mari & Nate Card - July 11
 Terri & Michael Johnson - July 18
 Amanda & Alan Koeller - August 1
 Amanda & Frank Melville - August 22
 Candy Jeru & Mitch McCabe - September 12
 Sarah Gwidt & Ross Lyon - October 10
 David Patefield & Barbara Stroming - November 14

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	Irma	Roland	Tom
Alyssa	Jackie	Sonny	Yvonne
Babs	James, Henry & Elsie	Sue	Dixie
Barb	Jennette	Susan	Laura
Brenda	Jennifer	Tom	Laurel
Brianna	Joan	William & Connor	Shelly
Callie and Zak	John	Ella	Jean
Charles	Julie	Katie	Brian
Dave	Kaitlyn	Diane	Tara
Deb	Kevin	Clayton	
Dennis	Lucy	Amy	
Don	Lynne	Bill	
Faith	Monica	Charlotte	
Gary	Patricia	Gary	
Holly	Robin	Meg	

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, *Visitation Pastor*
Shelby Gjertson, *Parish Administrator*
Joy Mitchell, *Secretary*
Al Freiberg, *Coordinator of Music*
Sheldon Geiger, *Bookkeeper*
Shannon Vujnovich, *Custodian*
Dave Paisar, *Custodian*
Cullen Stangel, *Sexton*
Zach Weis, *Sexton*

Upcoming Events/Activities



**We're on
Facebook! Follow
the link on our
website and click
"like" to keep up
with the latest
news and events!**

August 30		Blessing of the Backpacks
August 30	10:45 am	Annual Church Picnic
September 1	11:30 am	OWLS Potluck and Program
September 2 & 16	12:10 pm	Women's Bible Study
September 8	6:30 pm	Ministry Night Meetings
September 8	6:30 pm	Sunday School Teacher Meeting
September 9	5:00 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal Begins
September 9	6:15 pm	Confirmation Orientation
September 9	6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal Begins
September 10	10:00 am	Play Group
September 13	8, 9:30 & 10:45 am	Fall Worship Schedule Begins
September 13	9:45 am	Sunday School Begins
September 13	9:45 am	Sunday Morning Bible Study Begins
September 13	6:30 pm	Sunday Evening Bible Study Begins
September 20	11:30 am	Acolyte Training
September 20		Blood Pressure Checks
September 20	8 & 9:45 am	2 nd Grade Students Receive Bibles
September 23	6:45 & 10 am	Men's Bible Study Begins
September 23	5:30 pm	Acolyte Training
September 23 & 30	7:30 pm	9 th Grade Faith Statement Writing
October 1	1-6 pm	Blood Drive
October 3		Semi Loading of LWR Items
October 4		Crop Walk for World Hunger
October 7	7:30 pm	9 th Grade Faith Statement Writing