

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



3200 N. Mountain Road Wausau, WI 54401-7275 715.842.3333 (FEED) www.salc-wausau.org



## Network



Alleluia!

Volume 8, Issue 3

March 2016

Pastor Craig Reflects on the Hope of God's Promise

With so many voices clamoring for attention in the world these days around power and influence, fears, disappointments, health concerns, isolation, pride, envy and the like, our ability to see and hear messages of truth become challenged and we can find ourselves wandering aimlessly and helplessly in search of promises that can be trusted. It is often true but it seems particularly so in an election year, that it is more and more challenging to identify what is true and what are empty promises. Candidates are no different than anyone else who look each other in the eye, make accusations or deny them because the truth has become so buried it no longer seems possible to separate perceptions (or deceptions) from truths.

So what gives you hope? What are the sources of truth in your world and for your lives? Do we find truth through social media sources? Through television or radio or printed media? Word of mouth or at social events? Or are these just platforms that encourage or at very least provide an avenue for information and ideas to be shared and incubated? I admit that I am becoming less and less trusting of what I first hear and see and attempt to look more deeply to determine if there is motive or advantage to a particular slant of information or ideas. Who is benefitting and perhaps more importantly, who is being left out of conversations, decisions or opportunities? What are the messages of those who have little or no voice and notably absent from the table of conversation and influence? When we identify those vacancies, what is being done to flavor communities from a diverse perspective and allow other insights to be shared?

This month, we continue to journey through Lent and we consider stories about rocks and stones that reveal God's faithfulness as restoration, transformation, proclamation, persistence, condemnation and finally, resurrection. Along this journey, we are reminded that even among the noise of life, there is a calming and yet stirring presence of God who inspires us with hopeful expectation, inviting us into a healthy curiosity to ponder what God is up to and where God is pouring out life in abundance for the sake of the world. Where the world attempts to dampen our spirits and lead us astray, God's promise does not mislead us or hinder the hopeful perspective we need.

As we turn the page on the calendar, we encounter more midweek worship services, Soup and Sandwich Fellowship, First Communion classes, Reception of New Members, the journey through Holy Week and eventually the celebration of God's divine promise at the highest level, the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter *Sunday, March 27*. This is the central focus of God's divine love for us and for the world. Christ has died, Christ is risen, and we punctuate that hopeful promise with a festive Alleluia which resonates in lives of faith hungry for a truth that does not fade nor disappoint. So listen in. Join in. Sing out! Shout out! We have good news to share for it is a promise from God for us and for all the world.

#### HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 20; *8, 9:30 & 10:45 AM*MAUNDY THURSDAY - MARCH 24 - *12:15 & 6:15 PM*; GOOD FRIDAY - MARCH 2 - *12:15 & 6:15 PM* 

## RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD Sunday, March 27

**SUNRISE EASTER WORSHIP:** 6:00 am at Rib Mountain State Park **EASTER WORSHIP:** 8:00 — 9:30 — 11:00 am at Saint Andrew

**EASTER BREAKFAST:** 7:00-9:30 am at Saint Andrew

Come and enjoy a traditional Easter brunch. Cost: Free-Will Donation. Donations received will support the summer VBS program. Volunteers are needed for short shifts to help with Easter Breakfast. Please sign up at the information desk in the Narthex or call the church office.

#### Page 2

#### **Easter Food Baskets**

Saturday, March 19, 10 am If you or someone you know needs an Easter food basket, please call the church office at 715-842-3333 by March 17. Hams and other food donations are needed. Please place non-perishable donations in the baskets available at each entrance.

#### **OWLS** in Africa

March 1, 11:30 am The group will begin with a potluck lunch followed by a presentation by Russ and Alice VanSkike. In this first presentation, they will share pictures and highlights including what they learned about world hunger from their trip last fall to Tanzania, Africa.

Noisy Offering will be received on March 17 & 20 in support of ELCA World Hunger.

#### Play Group at SALC Friday, March 11, 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**

Friday of each month.

#### **Fair Trade Products**

Having just ordered from Equal Exchange, there is a good supply of products. **New!--**Extra Dark Chocolate (80% cacao) with almonds; and Organic Columbian Full City Coffee. Stop by on Sunday, March 20 to see these and other fine choices of coffee, tea and chocolate. You may be surprised at the variety and quality. Purchases of fair trade items help small landholder famers. Thank you!

#### LENTEN WORSHIP - SOUP AND SANDWICH FELLOWSHIP

Midweek Lenten Worship - Wednesdays in Lent through March 16, 12:15 pm & 6:15 pm What God Makes of Us

"Living Stones"

Soup and Sandwich fellowship follows 12:15 pm mid-week Lenten worship and is also before and after 6:15 pm worship. (Please note: the menu is subject to change). Pre-Ordered Soup-to-Go is available. Cook's Choice, gluten-free and vegetarian soups will also be offered each week.

Soup Menu

for the Remainder

March 2 **Cheesy Potato** Chicken Noodle March 9 Northwoods Cheese Chicken Dumpling

March 16

#### STACK THE RACK YOUTH HYGIENE DRIVE

of Lent

The Salvation Army sees a decline in basic hygiene donations after Christmas and they need our help. Bring in needed items before March 23 and watch the rack in the Fellowship Hall get stacked check out the pull-tag board! Come and meet Colleen from the Salvation Army on Wednesday, March 23 at 6:15 pm to hear the history of the Salvation Army and the Transitional Living Center. We will present our donations at this time also.

#### SPRING TREASURE SALE

Mark your calendar for early May to bring in your gently used donations for the Treasure Sale. Donated items should be in good working order and in very good condition. The following items will not be accepted: computers, printers, televisions, phones, batteries, chargers, light bulbs, microwaves, carpets/rugs, paint/ chemicals, large appliances or exercise equipment. Donations received from the sale will benefit VBS (Vacation Bible School).

#### EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS

Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths and Easter Lilies can be ordered for \$16 each to adorn the altar for Easter worship services. Order by phone by calling the church office at 715-842-3333 or complete a form available on the information desk in the Narthex. Order deadline is Monday, March 7.

#### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

**Daylight Saving Time Begins** Sunday, March 13 at 2 am Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour.



### SALC Spring Clean-Up

Plan to join in fellowship and care of Christ's church at Saint Andrew. Mark your calendar for Saturday,

April 16, 8:30 am-12:00 pm to assist with cleaning up the grounds and a few projects inside. Alternate date in case spring isn't quite here is Saturday, April 23. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the information desk in the Narthex.

#### **Blood Drive**

Thursday, May 19, 1-6 pm
Saint Andrew will be the site of a blood drive in support of the Blood Center of North Central Wisconsin. Donors can give blood every 56 days.
Volunteers will be needed to help with registration, refreshments or other support. Call the church office to express your willingness to help. A signup sheet is available on the Information Desk.

#### **Blood Pressure Checks**

SALC volunteers are available in the Bethlehem Room on the *3rd Sunday* of each month, 9-9:30 am, to assist you in a free blood pressure check. These are not diagnostic but informative. No sign up necessary. 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 make every effort to respond in a timely fashion. If you or a family member is in need of pastoral care, please contact the church office.

#### **2016 COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The following individuals will serve as members of the congregation council and liaisons to the following ministries for 2016. Please pray for their efforts as they work together to fulfill the mission and ministry at Saint Andrew.

President Mike Williams Vice President DeDe Gnatz Christian Education Dayna Herold **Fellowship** DeDe Gnatz Finance/Stewardship Matt Gabriel Personnel Phil Bickley Property Keith Rusch **Social Ministry** Dan Malm Worship Russ VanSkike Youth Lisa Werger

The Saint Andrew Church Council remaining meeting dates are listed below and begin at 7:00 pm. Anyone is welcome to attend these meetings.

March 31 May 26 July 28 September 22 November 17 April 28 June 23 August 25 October 27 December 15

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Your 2015 contributions assisted Saint Andrew in support of the following:

**Crossways Camping Ministries** 

**ELCA and World Hunger** 

SALC Scout Troop Shared Blessings

Stable Hands Ministry

**Randlin Homes** 

A Walk In Their Shoes Habitat for Humanity The Neighbor's Place The Women's Community

Faith In Action

AODA - Push Back Against Drugs

Open Door Ministry The Warming Shelter

Thanks to your faithful giving, a total of \$25,049 in benevolence was given to these organizations.

#### **GREETINGS FROM OUR SISTER CONGREGATION**

Did you know Saint Andrew has a sister congregation in Zeerust, South Africa? While it is currently summer for them, they will visit us on their "winter" break in late June/early July. As they anticipate their visit, we recently heard from Benjamin, who is coordinating the details on their end; "We greet you in His holy name. It is very hot in Zeerust. We received some rain and hope conditions will change. We are experiencing drought in some of the areas and a late rain will assist. We are preparing for the visit and so far seven people have shown interest. We will give the exact number after the end of February. Pass our regard to all at Saint Andrew." Continue to watch the Network and Bulletin for further updates and opportunities to get involved as we get closer to and look forward to their visit.

## PAINTING PARTY TO DEPICT THE EASTER STORY

#### Sunday, March 13, 10:45 am

The Christian Education Ministry is hosting a painting party to reflect on and dwell in the Easter story. Families of all ages, sizes, and individuals are welcome to participate. A local artist will come and provide supplies and instruction for a step by step process. There will be other activities for younger painters and lunch to follow. To sign up, please stop by the information desk or call the church office at 715-842-3333. The suggested donation to cover costs is \$20 family/painting.

#### **FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION**

Fifth grade students and any older students who haven't received first communion are encouraged to attend these classes. A mailing has gone out with registration information. If you did not receive the information and wish to, please contact the church office.

#### Classes:

Sundays, February 28; March 6 & 13, 4 pm First Communion Worship Palm Sunday, March 20, 2pm

#### AN INVITATION!

Did you know that 28% of our congregation is under the age of 20! That's a lot of people! The Christian Education Ministry is excited to share in another year of helping kids grow and learn about their faith. **Right now there is a need for three or four more people** to serve on this ministry. Monthly meetings are on the second Tuesday of every month, beginning at 6:30 pm. The next one is on Tuesday, March 9. While the group plans annual events, such as VBS and Sunday school, they are also excited and looking for new ways to connect and reach out to families, such as the painting party mentioned above. This is a great place to dream about new opportunities for the young people at Saint Andrew, to connect with others, and to serve in a meaningful way!

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

<u>iviarcn</u>	
Sunday, 6	First Communion Class
Sunday, 13	First Communion Class
Sunday, 20	Holy Week Begins
	First Communion Worship - 2 pm
Thursday, 24	Maundy Thursday
Friday, 25	Good Friday
Sunday, 27	Easter Sunday
	No Sunday School
April	
Wednesday, 27	Confirmation Celebration/Reunion
<u>May</u>	
FriSat., 6-7	Treasure Sale (to benefit VBS)
Sunday, 15	Last Day of Sunday School
<u>June</u>	
14-19	Confirmation Camp

**Vacation Bible School** 

#### THANK YOU

Donations recently were received for youth sponsored meals. Thank you to those who donated food items for the spaghetti dinner and pancake supper. Thank you to those who helped prepare: Sandra Fischer, the Saint Andrew Dartball Team; and serve the meals including high school youth and parents. Thanks also to the many who ate and donated generously. Collectively, the donations totaled \$1,110 for these two events. The received funds will support the high school summer trip to Colorado. *Thank you* for your generosity!!!

<u>July</u> 11-15

There are still a few openings for the trip for those currently and entering high school. The more the merrier! Please contact Pastor Craig if interested.

#### LIFE-PLANNING WORKSHOPS

Several events are being planned to inform and assist members with a variety of life-choices. These sessions are intended to educate and encourage conversation. All forums will take place on Sundays beginning *March 6 at* 10:45 am.

**March 6**—Nursing Home Care

March 13—Power of Attorney for Healthcare & Advanced Directives

**April 3**—Final Worship Funeral Planning: What to expect and how to prepare for a funeral that retains the integrity of worship while also honoring the dead and those who grieve

April 10—Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorney for Finances, Planned Giving

#### ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN MARCH

Date	Worship Time	Altar Guild	Usher Team	Lay Readers	Greeters	Fellowship
March 6	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 5	A	Julie Spalding Kaja Yirkovsky	Tony & Wendi Howe Jim & Nancy Jordan	Dick & Mary Jarvis Shirley Bickford & Pam Mielke
March 13	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 4	Brekke	Mary Jarvis Sue Paisar	Jim Jacobson & Dave Mueller Joel & Sara Widmann	Calvin Sprik & Susan Tobin Bill & Doreen Radloff
March 20 Palm Sunday	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 4	Weidman	Shirley Bickford Eric Verber	Pastor Jeff & Faith Martinson Susie & Ashley Soukup	Joel & Sara Widmann Ann McDonald & Mary Wittich
March 24 Maundy Thursday	12:15 pm 6:15 pm	Team 6	Johnson			
March 25 Good Friday	12:15 pm 6:15 pm	Team 6	А			
March 27 Easter Sunday	6:00 am 8:00 am 9:30 am 11:00 am	Team 6	Weidman Brekke Shepherd Johnson	Dave Mueller April Mascorro Open Open		7-9:30 am Youth Easter Breakfast

#### **LECTIONARY READINGS**

March 6	March 13	March 20	March 24	March 25	March 27
Joshua 5:9-12	Isaiah 43:16-21	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Exodus 12:1-14	Isaiah 52:1353:12	Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 32	Psalm 126	Psalm 31:9-16	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	Psalm 22	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 2:5-11	1 Corinthians 11:23-26		1 Corinthians 15:19-26
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	John 12:1-8	Luke 22:1423:56	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	John 18:119:42	Luke 24:1-12

# March 2016

Friday Saturday	113	18 5:00 PM Lay School Classes 8:00 AM Lay School Classes	12:15 PM Good Friday Worship 6:15 PM Good Friday Worship	April S. M. T. W. T. F. S. 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
Trursday 3 12:15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP	12:15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP	12.15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP	24 12:15 PM Maundy Thursday Worship 6:15 PM Maundy Thursday Worship	31 12:15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP 7:00 PM Congregation Council Meeting
Wednesday  2 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 12:15 PM Lenten Worship w/ Soup & Sandwich 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 6:15 PM Lenten Worship w/ Soup & Sandwich 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	9 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 12:15 PM Lenfen Worship w/ Soup & Sandwich 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 6:15 PM Lenten Worship w/ Soup & Sandwich 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	16 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 12:15 PM Lenten Worship w/ Soup & Sandwich 5:15 PM Lenten Worship w/ Soup & Sandwich S:15 PM Chancel Choir S:10 PM Chancel Choir	23 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 1000 AM Men's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 6:15 PM Stack the Rack Salvation Army Presentation 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	30 6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir
Tussday  P:00 AM Reading Reflections  11:30 AM OWLS in Africa - Potluck & Presentation	9:00 AM Reading Reflections 10:00 AM Quilting Group 6:30 PM Minishy Night Meetings	15 9:00 AM Reading Reflections 10:00 AM Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	22 9:00 AM Reading Reflections	29 8:00 AM Reading Reflections
"Tuary W T F S 3 4 5 6 10 11 12 13 14 18 19 20 24 25 26 27	7.7:00 PM AA, Alanon & Alateen Meefings 7:00 PM Dartball - St Michael's © SALC	7:00 PM AA, Alanon & Atateen Meefings 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Daribali - SALC @ St Pauls	21 7:00 PM AA, Alanon & Alateen Meefings 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Darlbali - \$ALC @ Peace	28 7:00 PM AA, Alanon & Alateen Meefings
Sunday    Pebruary   S M T W T     1 2 3 4   1 4   15   16   17   18   18   19   19   19   19   19   19	6 800 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes 9:30 AM WORSHIP w/reception of New Members 10:45 AM Nursing Home Care Worlshop 10:45 AM WORSHIP 6:00 PM Financial Peace University Class 6:30 PM Bible Study	13 8:00 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:45 AM Pointing Party to Deplot The Easter Story 10:45 AM Power of Atty Healthcare & Advance Directives Workshop 10:45 AM WORSHIP 4:00 PM 1st Communion Class 6:30 PM Bible Study	8:00 AM Palm Sunday Worship 9:30 AM Palm Sunday Worship 9:30 AM Sunday Schoof Classes 10:45 AM First Communion 2:00 PM First Communion Worship 6:30 PM Bible Study	6:00 AM Sunrise Worship- 6:00 AM Sunrise Worship- Top of Rib Mountain 7:00 AM - 9:15 AM Easter Breakfast 8:00 AM Easter Worship 9:30 AM Easter Worship 11:00 AM Easter Worship

#### A BAPTISM PRAYER

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

Wyatt Joseph Wagner - January 10 Jordyn Heide Hardel - February 7 Elena Lee Geiger - February 18 Benjamin Thomas Gatzke - February 21 Beckem Charles Kyhos - March 6 Theo Alan Hagenbucher - April 3 Emmeline Grace Waraksa - April 24 Everett Michael Lemirand - May 1

#### A WEDDING PRAYER

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

Katrina & Matthew Reidinger - February 20

#### WE PRAY...

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

Grace Mittelstaedt

#### **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	Don	Lynne	Amy	Bob
Babs	Elsie	Monica	Bill	Mike
Barb	Irma	Patricia	Charlotte	Frank
Brenda	Jennette	Reggie	Meg	Pam
Brianna	Jennifer	Robin	Tom	Kim
Callie and Zak	Jerry	Roland	Yvonne	Bonnie
Charles & Gerry	Karen	Sonny	Dixie	Wes
Dan & Jessica	Kevin	Tom	Laura	Joyce
Darwin	Lainey	William	Laurel	
Dave	Leann	Ella	Shelly	
Dennis	Lucy	Clayton	Brian	

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)



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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!

March 1	11:30 am	OWLS in Africa
March 2, 9 & 16	12:15 & 6:15 pm	Mid-Week Lenten Worship
March 6	10:45 am	Nursing Home Care Workshop
March 6 & 9	4:00 pm	First Communion Class
March 11	10:00 am	Play Group
March 13	10:45 am	<b>Easter Story Painting Party</b>
March 13	10:45 am	Power of Attorney for Healthcare & Advanced Directives Workshop
March 20	8, 9:30 & 10:45 am	Palm Sunday Worship
March 20	2:00 pm	First Communion Worship
March 24	12:15 & 6:15 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship
March 25	12:15 & 6:15 pm	Good Friday Worship
March 27	6, 8, 9:30 & 11 am	Easter Sunday Worship
March 31	7:00 pm	Congregation Council Meeting
April 3	10:45 am	Final Worship Funeral Planning Workshop
April 10	10:45 am	Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorney for Finances, Planned Giving Workshop
April 16	8:30 am-12 pm	Spring Clean-Up

#### **SNOW POLICY**

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<u>If school is cancelled, Saint Andrew classes & meetings will be also.</u> Listen to local radio stations, check the SALC website or Facebook page, or News Channels 7 & 9 websites for the list of school closings.