

Network



Volume 9, Issue 1

January 2017

Pastor Craig

With the transition into a new set of months for a new year, many reflect on the past and recall the journey that shaped the year that is now behind us. Joys, sorrows, new beginnings, final endings, challenges, hopes, dreams, disappointments, confusion, fears and more hold the stories of what has been and now posture us to what is yet to come. As the year unfolds for our nation, it will be under the leadership of a new presidential model. For some, this brings hope. For some this brings fear. And for perhaps an even larger number, it brings uncertainty. In light of this reality, it is my prayer that even as wide as these extremes may seem, there is a common thread that unites us and gives us hope for an even wider image and purpose.

For some time now, I have begun to ponder how our life together might look if we intentionally focus our vision for the future so that efforts are united in witness and service and are collectively more unified through what we believe we are being called to accomplish on behalf of serving as kingdom workers through a common identity. Without a common vision, we can function like independent workers, all doing good things but without a clear sense of direction or purpose and that can drain energy and dampen enthusiasm. With a common vision, however, we can work together and our combined efforts can accomplish a great deal more.

As part of this common purpose, a few people have suggested a book called "The Purpose Driven Life" as a resource to facilitate these conversations. This opens the door to a theme for this coming Lent as 40 Days of Purpose and a plan to live with purpose and witness faith with intention. More information will be noted in the February issue of the Network to invite many into this journey.

This coming year is a significant year in the life of the church as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation of the church. At the heart of this celebration is the awareness that all we have is pure gift. We know this to be God's divine grace, free and undeserved. We do nothing to bring about God's goodness but only asked to gladly receive what God provides and then generously and wisely share it with others. As we move into this banner year, I encourage us to keep this message central in the work we do to welcome the stranger, care for the sick, visit those who are isolated and alone, feed the hungry. As we do, we can know that we serve Christ who is among us and longs to embrace those who desperately need what God alone provides. We are instruments of God's grace. Join me in the melody of sharing in abundance so that we can be the best chorus possible as we witness and serve Christ together.

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.

Weekly Worship

Thursday: 12:15 and 6:15 pm
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 & 10:45 am

Important Dates to Note

Congregational Annual Meeting—January 29, 10:45 am

(There will be no 10:45 am worship on this day)

Youth Trip Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser to follow at 11:30 am

Super Bowl Snacks Sunday, February 5

Snack donations for the Super Bowl Sunday Snack Sale can be dropped off at church **Friday, February 3 before 4 pm** or on Super Bowl Sunday before the services. Please package items for individual sale to be sold for \$1 each and label if there are nuts, peanut butter or if lactose or gluten-free for allergy concerns. Your support of the Food Pantry through snack donations and purchases is appreciated!

Lent Begins March 1

Easter is a festival that is determined by the moon cycle each spring. It can be as early as March 22 and as late as April 25. Lent is a 40 day season and therefore is different each year. With Easter on April 16, Lent begins this year with Ash Wednesday on March 1. *WHAT DO YOU THINK? "Being a late Easter, will there be snow in the amphitheater on top of Rib Mountain for Easter sunrise?"* 😊

Play Group at SALC Friday, January 13, 10 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**.

Noisy Offering

A Noisy Offering will be received on Thursday and **Sunday, January 12 & 15**, during worship in support of the

Fair Trade Products

The supplies of all your favorites have been replenished so stop by the table in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, January 15!**

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Saint Andrew Annual Congregational Meeting will take place **Sunday, January 29 at 10:45 am** in the sanctuary. There will be NO 10:45 am WORSHIP on that Sunday. Work is being done to have annual reports and the approved budget available as early as possible in January so members can pick them up in advance of the meeting. In the event a review of the report and budget prompts a question or concern, feel free to express that in person, by email or by phone to the church office so an informed answer can be provided or researched and given at the time of the meeting. Thank you in advance for your willingness to engage in conversation around the work of Christ's church through Saint Andrew. A spaghetti dinner fundraiser will follow the meeting to support the youth participating in the Appalachia Service Project. Please stay and enjoy a meal together!

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

A Financial Peace University (FPU) class is currently scheduled for **Sundays at 6:00 pm beginning January 8**.

Classes run nine weeks with a cost of \$93 per individual or couple.

As an incentive to newly married couples, a \$50 reimbursement is available to offset the cost for the tuition and the materials. Let the facilitator know you are interested in this financial benefit and a check will be issued to those who have been recently married as reimbursement toward the overall fee.

Sign up using the link on the Saint Andrew website: www.salc-wausau.org.



YOUTH SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

Sunday, January 29, 11:30 am

Support the SALC youth who will be participating with the Youth Summer Mission Trip in the summer of 2017! (See pg. 4 of the Network for more details). Immediately following the SALC Annual Congregational Meeting, all are welcome to the Fellowship Hall for a spaghetti dinner and time of fellowship.

MAGIC PAPER BOX RETURNS

Look for the blue "Magic Paper Box" recycling bin available in the West parking near the current dumpster enclosure. This recycling program not only promotes care for the environment but also generates revenue from being paid for the paper waste collected. SALC members and others in the community are encouraged to collect and drop off newspapers, junk mail, magazines, office/school papers and catalogs. This program is **not** for cardboard, plastic, metal, glass, text books, hard cover books, garbage or paper contaminated with food, chemicals etc. Thank you for recycling and helping support the ministry programs at Saint Andrew.

Check out the New Website!

Www.salc-wausau.org underwent some substantial changes these past few months. While the website is still "under construction" the new content is "live." Click around and explore more about Saint Andrew. Many thanks to Laurence at Cornerstone Technology for all of his efforts!

Memorial Gifts Received

Memorial gifts were received in memory of Gene Tesch. 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.

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. Qualified volunteers are needed to do these checks. Please call the church office if you can help!

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.

OWLS GROUP MEETS

Tuesday, January 10, 11:30 am

NOTE the date change to January 10. Bring a dish to share and listen to a presentation for the proposed "Connections Place for Seniors" – A facility planned to engage seniors to be active and involved, focusing on exercise, education and entertainment with an anticipated location in Rib Mountain and opening in 2018.



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.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

The next *New Member Orientation* will be held on ***Sundays, February 5 and 12 at 10:45 am*** in the Chapel. New members will then be received during the 9:30 am worship service on ***Sunday, February 19***. If you or someone you know is interested in joining Saint Andrew, please call the church office by *Friday, January 27*.

THANK YOU TO ALL

Thank you to all who helped with the 3rd annual Saint Andrew Thanksgiving dinner. It was a wonderful meal with great fellowship serving approximately 150 people. Saint Andrew looks forward to this event again next year!

Thank you to everyone who has shopped, knitted, crocheted and is continuing to provide hats and mittens in response to the Saint Andrew Christmas Giving Tree. To date, 84 hats, 50 pairs of gloves/mittens and other miscellaneous items have been received. These warm clothing items are on their way to local schools and will continue to be distributed as more are received. Thank you for your generosity and faithful response to this special outreach opportunity.

Thank you to all who donated and purchased chairs for the renovation of the Christian Education classrooms.

And **thank you** to the many families who helped to make Saint Andrew a warm, inviting and beautiful place to worship during the Christmas season. Thank you for the Christmas trees throughout the building and their decorations, the cross and pine bough decorations, the ice luminaries lighting the pathways on Christmas Eve and the exterior Christmas bough decorations.

SAVE THE DATE! YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIP 2017



The youth ministry team selected an opportunity to serve on a mission trip for the summer of 2017 through an organization called *Appalachia Service Project*, ASP for short. The dates available to us are **the week of July 9-15 with some travel days needed prior to and**

following since we have tentatively been assigned to serve in Eastern Kentucky. To

learn more about the mission of ASP, you can check out their website: www.asphome.org/.

In short, Saint Andrew youth will travel to work in smaller teams to help people achieve the goal of living in homes that are warmer, dryer and safer. While we will have some “training” prior to our departure – ASP is accustomed to working with volunteers who have a minimal skill level and will teach our group what is needed for the work before us.

Because of the way ASP works – we have only reserved 14 spots for high school youth and 6 spots for adult chaperones. This means that commitments made need to be pretty solid. Participation in the summer event will also mean participation in several pre-trip meetings and fundraisers that will take place to support our journey. If you know that you are interested in attending, an initial deposit of \$100 along with a return of a commitment form (available on the Information Desk) will hold a spot. If more than 14 students register we will have a wait list. Registrations will be on a first come, first serve basis. Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity. If you would like to learn more before committing, **an informational meeting for students and parents will take place on Wednesday, January 11 at 7:35 pm in the newly renovated Emmaus Room (youth room) at church.**

MID-WINTER RETREAT AT CROSSWAYS

Take a weekend to play in the snow, sit by a fire inside the lodge and roast a s'more, play games and laugh with old friends and new. Spend time enjoying interactive bible studies and worship. The annual mid-winter retreat is open to students in **grades three through six.**

Registration forms can be found at the Information Desk in the Narthex or on the SALC website: www.salc-wausau.org. Chaperones are also needed and encouraged to attend.

Who: 3-6 Grade Students

What: Winter Retreat

Where: Crossways Waypost Camp in Hatley, WI
(will need to provide your own transportation)

When: Friday, January 27—Sunday, January 29

Cost: \$45

Register by January 15

ALTAR FLOWERS

Honor a loved one or special event with altar flowers in 2017. Bouquets are routinely ordered weekly unless otherwise requested. A letter will be sent to you the week prior to the Sunday you signed up for flowers outlining the process, confirming what will be printed in the bulletin and will include an envelope for payment (cost is \$22.50). Your flowers may be taken home to be enjoyed following the last worship service on Sunday. Sign up on the Flower Chart posted on the kiosk in the Narthex.

CLASSROOM RENOVATIONS

Thanks to everyone who responded quickly to “Buy a Chair”. More updates are needed with tables and welcoming room decorations, so a box will remain at the Information Desk to receive all additional gifts to support these much needed renovations.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPCOMING DATES

January 1—No Sunday School

January 27-29 — Grades 3-6 Mid-Winter Retreat at Waypost

March 12, 19, April 2—First Communion Classes

April 9—First Communion Worship - 2:00 pm

WEEKEND TO REMEMBER MARRIAGE GETAWAY

Great marriages don't happen by accident. The difference between a good marriage and a great one is hard work. Family Life's Weekend to Remember marriage getaway offers couples biblical wisdom and a safe environment to work on their marriage, free from distractions. Just the one-on-one focus you and your spouse (or future spouse) need to thrive, today and 10 years from today. Weekend to Remember is a two-and-a-half day weekend getaway that equips couples with practical tools and resources. Don't just survive, discover a marriage that THRIVES!

Upcoming events in our area:

Appleton (Feb. 10-12) Minneapolis (Feb. 24-26) Chicago (Mar. 3-5) Madison (May 19-21)

A BOGO or Spouses go Free promotion begins on January 2nd and will run through January 23rd. Any couple that signs up during this time will automatically be extended the half-off rate. Use the group name **StrongTogether** (all one word) when you register and for every five couples who sign up for any Weekend to Remember getaway with our group name, **we will receive a FREE couple's registration.** We can use these FREE registrations as gifts to couples in our congregation! Find more information at www.weekendtoremember.com.

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN JANUARY

Date	Worship Time	Altar Guild	Usher Team	Lay Readers	Greeters	Fellowship
January 1	9:30 am	Team 6	Brekke	_____	_____	_____
January 8	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 6	Weidman	Gary Hibbard Cheryl Allen	Shirley Bickford & Jim Jacobson Amy Frolik & Mary Wittich	Barb Breese & Tina Spiegel Amy Frolik & Pam Mielke
January 15	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 2	Johnson	Kaya Yirkovsky Sue Paisar	Tony & Wendi Howe Dave & Sue Paisar	David & Nancy Larson Adam & Kathy Wurz
January 22	8:00 am 9:30 am	Team 2	Shepherd	Joleen Meier Eric Verber	Ann McDonald & Mary Kregel John & Jayme Rusinek	Connie & Sheldon Geiger Roger & Ruth Poutanen
January 29	9:30 am	Team 3	A	Mary Jarvis Nate Card	Mike & Lyn Weis Susie & Ashley Soukup	Rob & Betsy Stangel Jason & DeDe Gnatz

LECTIONARY READINGS

January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23	Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12

January 2017

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday						
1	9:30 AM New Years Day Worship	2	7:00 PM AA, Alaron & Alateen Meetings New Years Day Holiday Observed - Church Office Closed	3	9:00 AM Reading Reflections	4	6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 12:10 PM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 6:15 PM 7th&8th Grade Confirmation Classes 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	5	12:15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP	6		7	
8	8:00 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:45 AM WORSHIP 3:00 PM Scout Meeting 6:00 PM Financial Peace Class 6:30 PM Bible Study	9	7:00 PM AA, Alaron & Alateen Meetings 7:00 PM Dartball - MI Olive @ SALC	10	9:00 AM Reading Reflections 10:00 AM Quilting Group 11:30 AM OWLS - Poffluck & Connections Place for Seniors presentation 6:30 PM Ministry Night Meetings	11	6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 6:15 PM 7th&8th Grade Confirmation Classes 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	12	12:15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP	13	10:00 AM Play Group	14	
15	8:00 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:45 AM WORSHIP 3:00 PM Scout Meeting 6:00 PM Financial Peace Class 6:30 PM Bible Study	16	7:00 PM AA, Alaron & Alateen Meetings 7:00 PM Dartball - SALC @ Immanuel Bapt	17	9:00 AM Reading Reflections 10:00 AM Quilting for Lutheran World Relief	18	6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 12:10 PM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 6:15 PM 7th&8th Grade Confirmation Classes 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	19	12:15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	20	5:00 PM Lay School Classes	21	8:00 AM Lay School Classes
22	8:00 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:45 AM WORSHIP 3:00 PM Scout Meeting 6:00 PM Financial Peace Class 6:30 PM Bible Study	23	7:00 PM AA, Alaron & Alateen Meetings Dartball - St Michaels @ SALC	24	9:00 AM Reading Reflections	25	6:45 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Men's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 6:15 PM 7th&8th Grade Confirmation Classes 6:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	26	12:15 PM WORSHIP 6:15 PM WORSHIP	27		28	
29	8:00 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:45 AM Congregation Annual Meeting 11:30 AM Spaghetti Lunch - Youth Fundraiser 3:00 PM Scout Meeting 6:00 PM Financial Peace Class 6:30 PM Bible Study	30	7:00 PM AA, Alaron & Alateen Meetings 7:30 PM Dartball - SALC @ St Stephen	31	9:00 AM Reading Reflections								
							3rd-6th Grade Retreat-Waypost						

December 16

SMTWTFS

45678910111213141516171819202122232425262728293031

February 17

SMTWTFS

5678910111213141516171819202122232425262728

3rd-6th Grade Retreat-Waypost

February 17						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

December 16						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

WE PRAY

For Baptisms:

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:

Ella RaeAnn Kapellusch - November 6
Grayson William Melville - November 13
John Kolton Seubert - January 8
Rielyn Ella Jirschele - January 8
Dylan Robert Laher - February 5

For Weddings:

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

Jessica and Luke Beyer - November 11

For Funerals:

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

Gene Tesch
Roger Poeske

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...

Adriene	Elaine	Robin	Yvonne	John
Ali	Elsie	Roland	Dixie	Jerry
Babs	Irma	Scott	Laura	Owen
Barb	Jean	Steve	Bob	Brinley
Bill	Jennette	Tom	Frank	Camden
Brian	Jerry	William	Pam	Don
Callie & Zak	Kevin	Ella	Kim	Katie
Carrie	Lynn	Clayton	Bobby	Sue
Charles & Gerry	Lynne & Dan	Amy	Angie	Susan
Cullen	Marta	Meg	Ruth	
Dennis	Monica	Tom	Mary	

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)



SAINT ANDREW

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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!

January 1	9:30 am	WORSHIP
January 8	6:00 pm	Financial Peace University Class Begins
January 10	11:30 am	OWLS Potluck and Presentation
January 11	7:35 pm	Youth Summer Mission Trip Meeting
January 13	10:00 am	Play Group
January 27-29		3-6 Grade Retreat at Waypost Camp
January 29	10:45 am	Congregational Annual Meeting
January 29	11:30 am	Youth Trip Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser
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February 3		Super Bowl Snack Sale
February 5 & 12	10:45 am	New Member Orientation-Chapel
February 19	9:30 am	New Members Received in Worship

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

