



Network



Volume 1, Issue 10

November 18, 2010

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS



The pattern of life is filled with beginnings and endings. It is exciting to anticipate the new while often more challenging to draw closure to what we feel we are leaving behind. With the conclusion of one church calendar year comes the beginning of another. This week we conclude the year of Luke's gospel focus and next week, we turn to a new season in the life of the church. Advent begins on November 28 as the four week season of anticipation before the celebration of Christmas and the reminder of the birth of the Christ child. The Advent season is important in the life of the church but it often gets overlooked as a result of holiday shopping, decorating, baking, parties, family gatherings, rehearsals, and programs. Advent moves us into a new season and a new year in the life of the church. We look forward with great anticipation and renewed encouragement that the promises of God will continue to bless our lives and the work we do together. Amidst all the busyness that demands our attention, the message of Advent slows us down a bit so that we are better prepared to hear the good news message yet again that Christ the Savior is born. Soon, the plans and preparations will get into full swing and the sights and sounds will help draw our attention to "prepare him room" as we look beyond the lights and the decorations and focus instead on the child in the manger. Happy New Year! (*Church year that is.*) - Pr. 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.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Thursdays—12:15 and 6:15 pm

Sundays—8:00 and 10:30 am



REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS

Christ the King— November 21

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears so utterly contradictory that the king should be crucified with the criminal. This victory appears for all the world as ignominious defeat. Yet through the gate of death our Lord opens the door to paradise.

First Sunday of Advent— November 28

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

ACTIVITIES

Bible Study

Pastor Craig will facilitate two bible studies Sunday evenings in the Fellowship Hall:

5:30 pm - "Faith Practices"
6:30 pm - "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible"

Community Dinner

A hot meal and fellowship are offered at First Presbyterian Church, downtown Wausau, every Sunday afternoon. Saint Andrew, one of 14 area faith groups, will host this *Sunday, November 21*. Volunteers are needed from 3-6 pm to help prepare, serve and clean up. Please call Kathy Wurz at 715-845-5708 to let her know you can help!

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Wednesday, November 24, 6:15 pm

(Note the time change!)

Also, on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, there will be no mid-week services.

Note: There will be no church school on **Thursday, November 25 or Sunday, November 28**

OWLS Old Fashioned Christmas Potluck

Tuesday, December 7, 11-1

Older Wiser Lutherans (OWLS) will gather to enjoy Christmas memories, a potluck lunch, sing favorite Christmas carols and a gift exchange (a gift-wrapped new or nearly new Christmas decoration). Please also bring items for the Saint Andrew food pantry.

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 **Saturday, December 18**. If you or someone you know needs a holiday food basket please call the church office at (715)842-3333.

YOU ARE INVITED

Join The Friends for a traditional Thanksgiving Meal:

Thursday, November 25, 2010, 1 pm, Thanksgiving Day

First Presbyterian Church, 406 Grant St., Wausau

For those unable to attend, home delivered meals will be available. To order, volunteer time or services or for further questions, call 715-842-2469, 3-6 pm.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, December 12, 1 pm
Gingerbread House & Cookie Decorating Event

Fun for the whole family!



ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

November 21

Ushers

Brekke Team

Layreaders

8:00 am - Sean McCarthy

10:30 am - James Jordan

Altar Guild

Team 5: Mavis Bloom, Pam

Levra and Mary Wittich

Fellowship

8:00 am - Jim Jacobson and

Jason Gnatz

10:30 am - Adam and Kathy

Wurz

Greeters

8:00 am - Pam Fromm and

Diane Blume

10:30 am - Amy Frolik and

Kathy Wurz

Counters-November 22

Leslie Sorenson and Mary

Wittich

Lectionary Readings

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalms 46

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

November 28

Ushers

Weidman Team

Layreaders

8:00 am - Joleen Meier

10:30 am - Ben Kregel

Altar Guild

Team 5: Mavis Bloom, Pam

Levra and Mary Wittich

Fellowship

8:00 am - Todd and Jodi

Punke

10:30 am - Pete and Cheri

Brodzeller

Greeters

8:00 am -

10:30 am -

Counters-November 29

Charmaine Burnett and

Lynne Holt

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalms 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

GOOD STEWARDS

Thank you for the timely and generous responses to this year's **Every Member Stewardship Response**. At this time, 30 percent of the pledges have been returned and many of them reflect an increase in pledged giving. At least 45 responses have provided support for the "Freed For Mission" mortgage debt reduction request totaling over \$30,000 in *additional* giving. This year's efforts are producing fruit in response to the sharing of information, the challenge to move toward proportional giving, and the invitation to be generous with what God has given us to share. For all who have been able to respond so generously, **THANK YOU!** For those who have not yet returned your pledge response, please do so. It is most helpful to have a high percentage of returns even if the response is "none at this time." With intentional and generous efforts, the funds available for mission will increase while the funds needed to pay the mortgage debt will be reduced. What a wonderful way to celebrate the 30 year anniversary of Saint Andrew with significant efforts by members who support and participate in the mission and ministry of Christ through Saint Andrew Lutheran Church. **THANK YOU!**



Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 19**. We will celebrate the 30th year of Saint Andrew through special worship services in the morning. Saint Andrew was first chartered as a congregation on December 21, 1980 when 250 people signed the original formation charter. It is displayed in the narthex at the church.

CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The church school children will begin rehearsals for the Christmas program beginning, **Thursday, December 2** and **Sunday, December 5**. Rehearsals will take place during the regular scheduled church school times. The Christmas program will be presented on **Thursday, December 16 at 5:30 pm** and **Sunday, December 19 at 4 pm**. Further information will be available from the church school teachers.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Now that the fall session of confirmation classes has come to an end, it's time to mark your calendar for the upcoming 2011 winter session.

6-8 grades: **Wednesday, January 5**

9 grade: **Wednesday, January 12**

The last day of the winter session for all students will be on **Wednesday, March 2**.

YOUTH APPLE PIE SALE

The Sr. High Youth group is hosting an apple pie sale as a fundraiser. The money raised will help fund the summer mission trip to Philadelphia. Pies are \$8 and need to be pre-ordered by using the sign-up sheets outside the church office or calling the church office at 842-3333. Pies may be picked up on *Sunday, November 21*.





Time and Talent Opportunities to SUPPORT the Mission

- Food Pantry: see page 2 for holiday food basket needs.
- See page 2 for Community Dinner volunteer opportunities.
- Pianists are needed for children's choir and the Church School Christmas programs. Please call the church office if you can help.
- 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, On Sabbatical Leave*
 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 *December 2* Network is:
Wednesday, November 24

Open to All

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At Saint Andrew—November 21 - December 4

Sunday, November 21

8:00 am **WORSHIP**
 9:15 am Church School for all ages
 10:30 am **WORSHIP**
 11:45 am *Reh:* Children's Choir
 5:30 pm Bible Study - "Faith Practices"
 6:30 pm Bible Study - "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible"

Monday, November 22

7:00 pm AA, Alanon, Alateen
 7:30 pm Dartball vs. St. Stephens

Tuesday, November 23

9:00 am *Mtg:* Book Club

Wednesday, November 24

6:15 pm **WORSHIP-THANKSGIVING**

Thursday, November 25

No worship services or church school classes
Church Office Closed-Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, November 26

Church Office Closed-Thanksgiving Holiday

Sunday, November 28

8:00 am **WORSHIP**
No church school classes
 10:30 am **WORSHIP**
 5:30 pm Bible Study - "Faith Practices"
 6:30 pm Bible Study - "How Lutherans Interpret the Bible"

Monday, November 29

7:00 pm AA, Alanon, Alateen
 7:30 pm Dartball at Our Savior's

Tuesday, November 30

9:00 am *Mtg:* Book Club

Wednesday, December 1

6:30 pm *Reh:* Choir Rehearsal
 8:00 pm *Reh:* Handbell Rehearsal

Thursday, December 2

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

MANY THANKS...

"Wow" may say it all. To the Saint Andrew congregation, the ministry members, planning committee and volunteers who stepped up and were a part of the Soup Benefit, on behalf of the Teeters family, "Thank You!" for your great support.

Here are the fantastic numbers: almost 600 people were fed, 80 volunteers and 28 nescos of soup. \$6100 was raised at this great event and with additional matching funds from Thrivent Financial, the total support to the Teeters family for the Build From the Heart project will be well over \$9,000. Wow! Thank you to the great kitchen crew who started Sunday morning, committee chairs, committee members and their families and those who helped cook, prep food, helped in the kitchen, washed dishes, cut bread, re-stocked, served soup, set tables, cleaned up, sold tickets, distributed posters and donated money and food (especially the massive amounts of desserts).

Wow! The combined effort and support between the Saint Andrew congregation and the Wausau and surrounding communities has warmed many hearts.

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

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)