



Network



Volume 1, Issue 11

December 2, 2010

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS



As we move into December we anticipate the end of the month and make plans for the celebration of Christmas. This year, with the way Christmas falls in the week, things will be busy at the church during the Christmas week. Regular worship will still be held on Thursday and Sunday on either side of Christmas making four services in four days. Add to that four Christmas Eve services and one on Christmas morning for a total of (take a breath) **nine** worship services in four days! Wow, isn't that a wonderful opportunity to extend an invitation to a few friends to have them join you for worship? Once again worship will be held on *December 24* with the traditional 4 pm "Come to the Manger" worship complete with the spontaneous No Nonsense Band. Bring an instrument. Come prepared to participate in the story as this service is particularly participatory. Worship is then offered every two hours to give time for the parking lot to clear and the sanctuary to be reset for services at 6, 8 and 10 pm with special music and candlelight. If you have energy left, come to Christmas morning worship at 10 am. This is such a special time of year and the story we share is one that is worth retelling. "Christ the Savior is born." May he be born again among us this Christmas season as we worship and celebrate God's greatest gift through Jesus. — *Dr. 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



3200 N. Mountain Road
Wausau, WI 54401-7275
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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



Second Sunday of Advent-December 5

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the light of Christ's coming. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

Third Sunday of Advent-December 12

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom. Jesus points to signs of God's reign: the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

ACTIVITIES



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

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 by Wednesday, December 15.

Christmas Poinsettias

Help beautify the altar at Christmas with a poinsettia remembering or honoring a loved one. Order forms are available in the Narthex and need to be turned in by *Sunday, December 12.*



OWLS Christmas Potluck

Tuesday, December 7, 11-1 Older Wiser Lutherans (OWLS) will gather at Saint Andrew to enjoy Christmas memories, a potluck lunch, favorite Christmas carols and a gift exchange—a new or nearly new Christmas decoration. Please also bring items for the Saint Andrew food pantry. Call the church office to sign up.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING AND TREE DECORATING

Saturday, December 11

Bring the family to church and board the bus for Christmas caroling at 2 pm to share the sounds of Christmas with our homebound members. When we return to church at about 5 pm, we will enjoy pizza while we decorate the sanctuary Christmas tree. Please join us for one or both of these family holiday events!

GINGERBREAD HOUSE & COOKIE DECORATING EVENT

Sunday, December 12, 1 pm, Fellowship Hall

Get into the holiday spirit as you make your own gingerbread house or decorate your Christmas cookies during a fun-filled afternoon of fellowship, Christmas music and refreshments. Bring your gingerbread pieces or baked cookies and frosting on that day and help yourself to the candy buffet. Sign up and pick up a gingerbread recipe in the Fellowship Hall or call the church office at 715-842-3333. Contact Amy Frolik with questions at 715-241-8590.



ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

December 5

Ushers

Shepherd Team

Layreaders

8:00 am - Eric Verber

10:30 am - Joy Mitchell

Altar Guild

Team 6: Stephanie Wage, Patty Marceille and Julie Weller

Fellowship

8:00 am - Pam Fromm and Diane Blume

10:30 am - Sandra Fischer and Lois Irick

Greeters

8:00 am - Dan and Lynne Holt

10:30 am - Jerry and Jan Waraska

Counters-December 6

Annette Green and Will Allmandiner

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

December 12

Ushers

A Team

Layreaders

8:00 am -

10:30 am -

Altar Guild

Team 6: Stephanie Wage, Patty Marceille and Julie Weller

Fellowship

8:00 am - Debby and Shawn Geary

10:30 am - Jerry and Marlene Kort

Greeters

8:00 am - Bill and Lucy Harvey

10:30 am - Annette Green and Babs Hintz

Counters-December 13

Charmaine Burnett and Jerry Kort

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalms 146:5-10

Luke 1:46b-55 (Alternate)

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

GOOD STEWARDS

Have you yet to return your pledge commitments and Time and Talent cards? Please do so as soon as possible to express your intentions of participation and support for 2011. Unlike previous years, financial pledges of support as well as Time and Talent intentions are **not** going to simply roll over from last year's intentions. We are looking for a positive response from each member regarding intended support and participation. If you are using T.O.E. as an electronic transfer of funds as regular support, these commitments will roll into next year as they have been set up. If you would like to make a change in your support, please indicate these changes on your commitment card or by phone or email to the church office.



The packet you received contains your pledge commitment for 2011, an additional pledge to help reduce the mortgage, and a time and talent card. Please complete these cards and return them as soon as possible. At its December meeting, the church council will be approving a budget for 2011 based on what is received in financial pledges. It is important that we have your response before that meeting. Thank you for the many ways you help support the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church with your faithful participation of time and talent as well as regular financial support.

If you have returned your materials, THANK YOU! Your support and participation is much appreciated.

YOUTH ELECT NEW OFFICERS

Congratulations to the following youth who have been elected to the Youth Board for 2011:



Dan Clark—President
 Steven Morell—Vice President
 Chelsea Weis—Secretary
 Kathy Pearson—Treasurer
 Ashley Burk—Public Relations

If anyone has ideas to share with the youth, please feel free to contact one of the board members.

CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

All are welcome to "*T'was the Night Before Christ's Birth*" church school Christmas program.

Thursday, December 16 at 5:30 pm. Parents, please bring an appetizer/snack to share following the program and have your children at the church no later than 5:15 pm.

Sunday, December 19 at 4 pm. Parents, please bring one dozen cookies to share following the program and have your children at church no later than 3:45 pm.

All church school children will begin practicing the music during regular church school large group time and those with speaking parts will rehearse after large group.





Time and Talent Opportunities to SUPPORT the Mission

- Food Pantry: see page 2 for holiday food basket needs.
- See page 2 for details on donating Christmas poinsettias for the sanctuary.
- Christmas caroling and tree decorating: December 11. More information can be found on page 2.
- Gingerbread /Cookie Decorating Event: December 12. Page 2 has all the details!
- 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*
 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 16* Network is:
Wednesday, December 8

Open to All

SAINT ANDREW
 LUTHERAN CHURCH
 3200 N. Mountain Road
 Wausau, WI 54401-7275

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Dated material -
 Please deliver
 by Saturday

At Saint Andrew—December 5 - December 18

Sunday, December 5

8:00 am **WORSHIP**
 9:15 am Church School for all ages
 9:30 am Baptism Orientation
 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, December 6

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

Tuesday, December 7

9:00 am *Mtg:* Book Club

Wednesday, December 8

6:30 pm *Reh:* Choir Rehearsal
 7:30 pm *Reh:* Handbell Rehearsal

Thursday, December 9

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

Friday, December 10

5:00 pm Lay School

Saturday, December 11

8:00 am Lay School
 2:00 pm Christmas Caroling
 5:00 pm Sanctuary Tree Decorating

Sunday, December 12

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, December 13

7:00 pm AA, Alanon, Alateen
 7:30 pm Dartball at Peace Lutheran

Tuesday, December 14

9:00 am *Mtg:* Book Club
 10:00 am Quilting Group
 11:45 am *Mtg:* Executive Committee
 6:30 pm *Mtg:* Ministry

Wednesday, December 15

6:30 pm *Reh:* Choir Rehearsal
 7:30 pm *Reh:* Handbell Rehearsal

Thursday, December 16

12:15 pm **WORSHIP**
 5:30 pm Church School Christmas Program
 6:15 pm **WORSHIP**
 7:00 pm *Mtg:* Church Council