

# Network



Volume 3, Issue 12

June 7, 2012

## ***Make a Joyful Noise – Zeerust Guests Arrive Soon!***

June is here and with it – the exciting visit of our Brothers and Sisters from our companion congregation in Zeerust, South Africa.

Many members of Saint Andrew have generously offered to provide lodging, transportation, meals, a gas or grocery card to supplement as well as activities or outings to share time with these guests.

Of most importance, **LODGING is still needed**. If you have a spare bed and can host, even if you will need assistance with the daytime activities or transportation, following are the slots still to be filled.

### ***July 2nd-July 6th***

Individual Female – Age 49

Individual Female – Age 40

Individual Female – Age 36

### ***July 7-11th***

Individual Female – Age 55

Individual Female – Age 49

Individual Female – Age 47

Individual Female – Age 36

### ***July 12th- July 15th***

Individual Female – Age 55

Individual Female – Age 47

A calendar is inserted in this issue showing a list of events that are planned. As you can see, there are many dates with no details. You might have an idea of how to spend the day with our guests with things that are meaningful to you. The intention is that it is desirable that we invite guests into our homes and everyday lives to share faith and life as we experience it. All creative ideas welcome.

Please contact the church office with options you have for hosting, transporting, preparing a meal or sharing a day with our guests. Thank you!

*(Pastoral Reflections can be found on pg. 3)*

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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## **WEEKLY WORSHIP**

Thursdays  
Sundays

12:15 and 6:15 pm  
8:00 and 9:30 am

### ***Thursday, June 7 / Sunday, June 10***

*A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are sisters and brothers of the Lord. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.*

### ***Thursday, June 14 / Sunday, June 17***

*The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.*

## ACTIVITIES

### "Christ In Our Home"

#### Devotionals

The 2012 third quarter of "Christ In Our Home" devotionals are now available in the Narthex. All are welcome to pick up a copy.

### Ministry Night

*Tuesday, June 12, 6:30 pm*

All are welcome to participate in the ministry of their choice on Ministry Night. All ministries gather in the Fellowship Hall for devotions before breaking into their individual meetings. Come and see how your time and talent can help serve in the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew.

### Brat Fry

*June 22 & 23, 10 am-3 pm*

Come to Quality Foods IGA in Rib Mountain for a fresh, grilled brat and support the youth who will be attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer. They're ready to serve you!

### SALC Golf Outing

*Saturday, July 7, 8 am*

Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 7. Sign up your foursome or be a part of a "potluck" team. A sign-up sheet is available in the Fellowship Hall. New this year is a shot-gun start. Door prizes will be given as well as for longest putt, closest to the hole, etc. Come out and enjoy the morning. All are welcome!

## STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY UPDATE

It seems that, in churches especially, we have a hard time just saying "Thank You" to the members of our congregation for their generous contributions.

Only a little more than a year ago, you were receiving letters apprising you of the financial condition of Saint Andrew; you were hearing about downsizing or the fact that we had missed several principal payments on our mortgage. Thanks to you and your generosity, this situation has improved!

Your support has allowed us to bring Pastor Jeff on as our visitation Pastor, we've transitioned Pastor John into retirement, and we have placed a Call for an Associate Pastor, all of which is now accounted for in the budget and cash projections. Our benevolence to outreach ministries is on or above plan. Finally, contributions to "Grow With God" have allowed us to make additional payments on the mortgage principal, above and beyond our normal monthly payments.

In Scripture, we're instructed to be thankful—to "give thanks." We may feel grateful, but if we don't express it, what good is that?

— *On behalf of the Stewardship Ministry, thank you for your generosity and your faithfulness.*

## ASSISTING *with* WORSHIP

### June 10

#### Ushers

Shepherd Team

#### Layreaders

8:00 am - Jim Branning

9:30 am - Pete Porter

#### Altar Guild

Team 4: Joyce Schoepke

Sue McFaul

Jodi Gargulak

#### Fellowship

8:00 am - Barb Breese & Susan Tobin

9:30 am - Jerry & Marlene Kort

#### Greeters

8:00 am - Roger Otto & Shirley Bickford

9:30 am - Mike & Peggy Koehmstedt

#### Lectionary Readings

Genesis 3:8–15

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1

Mark 3:20–35

### June 17

#### Ushers

A Team

#### Layreaders

8:00 am - Joleen Meier

9:30 am - Carolyn Kiesau

#### Altar Guild

Team 5: Mavis Bloom

Pam Levra

Mary Wittich

#### Fellowship

8:00 am - Jason & Linda

Rickstad

9:30 am - George & Bonnie

Alafouzos

#### Greeters

8:00 am - John & Jan Mann

9:30 am - Billy Schmidt &

Jeanne Willems

#### Lectionary Readings


Ezekiel 17:22–24

Psalm 92:1–4, 12–15

2 Corinthians 5:6–17

Mark 4:26–34

## PASTORAL REFLECTIONS—*Pastor Craig*

 Of all the places to live in this country, I love living in the mid-west as it gives me a sample of four different and distinct seasons. What I am learning, however, is that even within the Midwest, there are differences in how those seasons are lived. Having been raised on a farm, I function with the pattern of life that relates to the growing season. Fall is for harvesting, winter is for planning (and caring for the livestock), spring is for planting, and summer is for maintaining, weeding, rebuilding, painting, and preparing for what was anticipated as a bountiful crop in the fall. In order to sustain us through this busy summer season, (Vacation Bible School, Zeerust visit, start of Pastor Jenn's ministry among us, summer camp, National Youth Gathering), I invite you on a journey through two of Paul's letters to the church. For the next 12 weeks, we will listen carefully to the words of Saint Paul as encourager in the faith. Paul had challenged the Corinthians in an earlier letter through some harsh words. In this second letter, Paul attempts to make amends and to rebuild the trust that has been lost. There is much we can learn from other communities of faith as a means to apply balm to wounded communities divided by political, social, economic and even religious strife. The seeds of faith are sown in human lives and need to be fed and nourished in anticipation of a harvest ripe with hopeful opportunities of loving and serving together. As Paul encouraged the communities of faith where he served, so I encourage you to discern the will of God and the gifts that are ours to share in Christ Jesus.

## VBS AT SALC! *JUNE 25-29, 1-4 PM*

In 20 days, kids from Pre-K to 5th grade will experience the memorable, change-their-lives Bible truths of Mark 10:27 - where everything is possible with God. The week of fun will include; Wild Blue Bible Adventures, All-Star Games, Skydive Diner and new this year, Imagination Station.

Make new friends and have fun learning about God with Scout, Orville, Rocket and other flying characters. It's not too late to register and still get a VBS Sky t-shirt and CD. Thank you to the 30 members who have signed up as Flight Crew Volunteers already!

HELP!! We are still in need of adult volunteers to help in our Bible Adventure room and All-Star Games as well as volunteers with the Preschool group. If you can help from 1 to 4 pm on any or all of the days of VBS, please contact Sandi Rusch or Kerry Fehrman through the church office or sign up by visiting the church website or filling out a form found in the fellowship hall. ***See you for take-off on June 25 at 1 pm!***



## 7TH GRADE CONFIRMATION CAMP



Fourteen youth from Saint Andrew will attend Confirmation Camp the week of June 17-22 at Crossways Waypost Camp near Hatley. The theme for this year's Confirmation Camp is "Led by the Spirit." The Bible focus is Ephesians 4:4-6 "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all." Each day, campers will focus on a theme that guides them to grow in their understanding of God and how faith is the connecting link to God and life in community with others. Hiking, canoeing, swimming, games, worship, singing, campfires and bible study are all key parts of the camping experience. We pray their week at camp will deepen and enrich their faith formation.



**Time and Talent  
Opportunities to  
SUPPORT  
the Mission**

- **See insert** for ways to volunteer and be involved with our brothers and sisters in Christ from Zeerust!
- Find out how to support the SALC youth trip to the National Youth Gathering on pg. 2!
- A great way to **recycle your paper**-drop your recyclable paper in the **Magic Paper Box** in the West Parking Lot.
- Prayer requests are welcome through the **Prayer Center** in the sanctuary and will be acknowledged weekly in worship.

**Parish Staff**

Rev. Craig Swenson, *Pastor*  
 Rev. Jeff Martinson, *Pastor*  
 Shelby Gjertson, *Parish Administrator*  
 Joy Mitchell, *Secretary*  
 Everett Schmidt, *Coordinator of Youth*  
 Al Freiberg, *Coordinator of Music*  
 Sheldon Geiger, *Bookkeeper*  
 Shannon Vujnovich, *Custodian*  
 Ron Sandquist, *Sexton*

**NETWORK Deadline**

The deadline to submit articles for the *June 21* Network is: **Wednesday, June 13.**

**Open to All**



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**At Saint Andrew—June 10-23**

**Sunday, June 10**

8:00 am **WORSHIP**  
 9:00 am *Mtg:* Zeerust Hosting Information  
 9:30 am **WORSHIP**  
 4:00 pm Jenn Collins Ordination @ St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Waukesha

**Monday, June 11**

7:00 pm AA, Alanon & Alateen  
 9:15 pm Softball vs. St. Peter's @ SV4

**Tuesday, June 12**

9:00 am *Mtg:* Reading Reflections  
 10:00 am Quilting Group  
 6:30 pm *Mtg:* Ministry Night

**Thursday, June 14**

12:15 pm **WORSHIP**  
 6:15 pm **WORSHIP**

**June 17-22-Confirmation Camp at Waypost**

**Sunday, June 17**

8:00 am **WORSHIP**  
 9:30 am **WORSHIP**  
 6:30 pm Bible Study

**Monday, June 18**

7:00 pm AA, Alanon & Alateen  
 7:45 pm Softball vs. New Hope @ SV4

**Tuesday, June 19**

9:00 am *Mtg:* Reading Reflections  
 10:00 am Quilting for LWR

**Thursday, June 21**

12:15 pm **WORSHIP**  
 6:15 pm **WORSHIP**

**Friday, June 22**

10 am-3 pm Youth Brat Fry @ IGA -Rib Mountain

**Saturday, June 23**

10 am-3 pm Youth Brat Fry @ IGA-Rib Mountain  
 3:00 pm Williams/Hursch Wedding

## ~MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE~

### ZEERUST LUTHERAN CHURCH VISIT – *JUNE 27-JULY 16, 2012*

For several months, information has been shared regarding the upcoming visit from members of our companion congregation in Zeerust, South Africa. Initially this was exciting news and it was fun to envision what it might be like to have a visit from a few people from a different cultural context. We then learned as many as 24 members are coming and the excitement grew and the word expanded to get more people involved with a planning committee so we could be better prepared with meals, lodging and transportation for so many people. Soon, people began to get creative about who has a cabin that can accommodate such a large number of people and whether meals could be arranged at the church for these visiting members. We then learned that the intent for the visit is not a site-seeing tour of American landscape but an effort to do as has been part of the mission of Saint Andrew from the beginning; to meet people where they are and enter into conversation with the community. This means that for three weeks, we will be sharing our lives with people whom we have never met, from a culture we do not know well and in ways that is not all that familiar to us. Some great ideas have been shared and are being considered as opportunities to give our guests the best experience possible. But time is running out and plans need to get finalized so we are better prepared than we are for this significant experience. The purpose of this writing is to inform and address common questions that have been raised.

#### *Where is Zeerust?*

Zeerust is a commercial town with a population of nearly 18,000 people situated in the North West Province of South Africa. It lies in the Marico Valley, approximately 150 miles northwest of Johannesburg. There are large cattle ranches in the area, as well as wheat, maize, tobacco and citrus fruit farms. There are also fluorite and chromite mines in the vicinity. Tourism is also a developing industry.

#### *Do they speak English?*

YES. The main languages of Zeerust are Tswana and Afrikaans, however, English is a universal language of South Africans.

#### *Will they need special foods?*

Dietary restrictions will be no different than for any other visitor we may host.

#### *Where will they stay?*

It is expected that our guests will stay in our homes, eat meals with us and share in conversation about faith and life. Please take advantage of this exciting opportunity to enrich your understanding of companion relations and cultural variety by offering to host an individual or couple.

## What about transportation?

Plans are being made to assist with transportation so that our guests can get to other events around the area that are being planned for the larger group. In addition to hosting, individuals are also needed who have automobiles and can assist with transportation needs.

While it might be easy to dismiss the significance of this visit, the reality is, 17 people are visiting and it is becoming uncertain that we are adequately prepared. In our American culture, such a visit may seem invasive and a real burden to our pattern of life. But if we see beyond the challenges and begin to see this as an opportunity, we can find creative ways to extend hospitality and enter into conversation with brothers and sisters in Christ from another part of the world.

In global mission, many Lutheran church bodies that belong to the Lutheran World Federation — including the ELCA — seek to follow the ***accompaniment model***.

***Accompaniment*** is a response to the changing context of global mission. For many years, North American and European church bodies established, funded, and directed mission around the world. Today, the churches they helped found are independent and self-governing. As a result, global mission is an endeavor shared by mutual participants in the body of Christ.

The ELCA's usage of the concept of ***accompaniment*** began in conversation with companion churches in Latin America about a new way of engaging in mission. To be accountable and faithful in God's mission, we reflect on our mission practices and continue to define our engagement in global mission. Accompaniment is a living concept that continues to be expressed in various ways, in different contexts, as we North American Lutherans learn from our history of mission practice and our current engagement with companion church bodies.

We are now down to one month before a total of 78 South African visitors arrive in Wisconsin to share lives with us the weeks of June 27-July 16.

This is a unique opportunity not only to learn about another culture but to learn about ourselves through the eyes of those who are new among us. How will we respond to the invitation to witness hospitality? What will we learn and share in common and what will we learn and share that is different? Please pray for the safe arrival of our guests and for God to open our hearts, our homes and lives to share this experience which has the potential of expanding our vision of God's mission in Wisconsin and across the world.

To learn more, ask questions or share ideas please call the church office, stop by or visit the Saint Andrew website.

***VISIT: June 27-July 17.***