



October 13, 2020

*“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.”*

*-Philippians 4:4-9*

In Paul's final appeal to the Philippians, he urges them to focus their minds on "whatever"... It's easy, in these days, to pull each other apart, fear the speaking of our truth, and close our true selves off to the world. But that's not who God baptized and called you to be.

Even when times are tough, we are, at the very essence of our beings, the true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excelling and praiseworthy

children God created us to be. If no one has told you that recently - hear it from me: You are capable of holding the peace of God even when it transcends all understanding.

This past Tuesday, after taking in all of the good, bad, and ugly - I had a chance to focus on “whatever” with a friend. Together we walked and soaked in the creation. In those moments I felt like I could see me how God sees me. My prayer is that you will find those moments in your life too. (If you are a parent - is there anything in this whole wide world that would ever stop you from loving your child? Could you imagine God seeing you that way?)

Please enjoy [some scenes](#) from that walk I took on Tuesday, a poem from Mary Oliver, and “How Great Thou Art” from Bow and Ivory.

Pr. Jenn

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## Red Cross Blood Drive to Take Place

The Red Cross will be holding their annual Blood Drive at Saint Andrew on **Friday, October 30th from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm**. If you would like to sign up to donate blood, please click [this link](#) or call the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 and select a time and type of donation. If you would like to volunteer your time for the blood drive, please call the church office.



### **Saint Andrew Lutheran Church Blood Drive**

3200 N Mountain Rd  
**Friday, October 30, 2020  
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**



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## Listening Sessions

If you would like to give some feedback about the Plan to Gather and have your voice heard, sign up for the COVID-19 Listening Sessions through [this link](#). There will be four in-person sessions and four Zoom sessions. Please refer to <https://www.salc-wausau.org/covid/> for more information on COVID-19.

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## From the Archive

Each month, I sift through piles of old Networks from the 80s and 90s to highlight some history that strikes me as just as relevant now as it was 40 years ago. It is easy to get lost in church event listings, fun comics, and even children's activity pages. What sticks out to me is that most are the notes from previous pastors connecting members to the church through personal anecdotes and modern-day parables. This article touched my heart in a special way. As we are all longing to gather together surrounded by the energy of the Holy Spirit, it is important to know that even now, even though the criteria may look a little different, we can be thankful to be part of a live church.

Jenna

### ***Consider With Me- Pastor John Roseth, October 1985***

Last Sunday, October 20, was "alive" with life. The first service attendance hit an all-time high of 110. The second service attendance hit an all-time regular Sunday of 235. People were sitting in the Narthex. We ran out of hymnals, bulletins, and chairs! ... Babies crying, children all over the place, six new families visiting, the bride and groom from the previous day's wedding made it to church, Sunday school classes were over ... 17 dozen donuts were consumed during fellowship, the food basket was full of gifts to the food pantry, and 12 boxes of clothing were piled-up in the narthex. It was a church jammed with clutter, filled with real people, and alive with the "foibles" of humanity who make mistakes and seek God's understanding and forgiveness. It was alive and very healthy!

It made me think how alive we are and how thankful we should be:

LIVE churches always have parking problems, dead churches do not.

LIVE churches have lots of noisy youth, dead churches are quiet.

LIVE churches are constantly short in staff, dead churches have a surplus.

LIVE churches' expenses frequently exceed their income. Dead churches always receive more than they ever dream of spending.

LIVE churches grow so fast you forget people's names; in dead churches, everybody knows everybody's names for years.

LIVE churches support missions enthusiastically; dead churches focus on problems.

LIVE churches are filled with tithers; dead churches are filled with tippers.

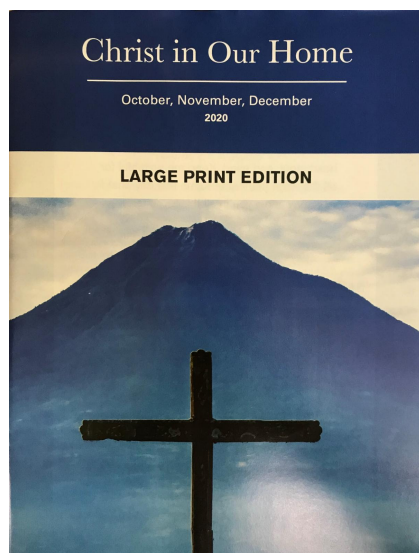
LIVE churches move out on faith; dead churches operate totally on sight.

LIVE churches are filled with folk with Bibles in hand; dead churches aren't.

LIVE churches evangelize; dead churches fossilize

Thank God—we are enriched with all the confusion of life that reminds us that we are indeed very much alive!

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## Christ in Our Home Devotional-4th Quarter Now Available

Christ in Our Home quarterly devotional resource encourages readers to live out their faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary. ***The fourth quarter devotional (October-November-December) is now available at church in a plastic bin outside the north (Chapel) entrance. Please feel free to stop by and pick up a copy.***

## Plan to Gather Weekly Update: 10/13/2020

For now, Saint Andrew remains in Phase One of the Plan to Gather. As soon as there is a consistent downward trend, we will move forward to Phase Two.

## SALC COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 10/7/2020

Date	Burden #	Trajectory	Burden Status
9/16	101.7	Increasing	High
9/23	236	Increasing	High
9/30	461.6	Increasing	Very High
10/7	701.3	Increasing	Very High

**Current SALC Status: Phase One**

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