



October 27, 2020

Carry Your Candle

*Carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn
And hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle, and go light your world
-Chris Rice*

“Let your light so shine before others...” we tell the newly baptized. It’s as though we are telling those beloved babies to GLOW! It’s what they already do. Their presence – their little life – makes such a big impact on the people all around them who are called to care for them.

You have a light inside of you, too. Sometimes it feels like it’s brightly burning and other times it feels like its dimly lit or burned out altogether. The truth is – we are all probably feeling a little low on lamp oil or candle wax in these difficult days.

And yet, the light of Christ given to you in your baptism is there. It shines. The light of Christ shines through headaches and through long hours of work. That light is shining in the halls of Aspirus and St. Clares. That light is shining in the halls of schools and

home offices. The light inside of you when joined with the light of others is lighting up this world as a beacon of hope.

This coming Sunday we remember all saints: the ones who have gone before us and the ones who shine brightly among us. On Sunday evening, you will be invited to drive by church to light a luminary for a saint in your life. Write the name of someone to remember in our prayers (those who have died – or those in need of an extra measure of prayer today) and place it with the others. Hopefully we can light up the perimeter of church to let our prayers be both seen and heard.

[This song](#) by Chris Rice reminds us to be bold in sharing the light of Christ. It's so needed in these dark days. Brothers and sisters, let it shine.

Pr. Jenn

Immediate Needs During Covid Times

Because Saint Andrew is still up and running, there are some immediate needs that need to be met during this time. If you are able to fulfill some of these needs, please fill out [this form](#) and let us know how you can help. The Saint Andrew community has continued to show its strength during this time and SALC could not be more grateful for how God is working through the congregation at this time.

Reformation History

One of the pitfalls of preaching on a day like Reformation Sunday is that I have to separate the history of the day from the proclamation of the Gospel. While you did hear that I preached the gospel that Sunday, I am a bit of a Luther nerd and enjoy the story of the Protestant Reformation. You may have caught that from my last article in the Weekly Wave.

The celebration on October 31st is done to mark the day when a Monk, Priest, and Doctor of Theology named Martin Luther posted The Disputation of the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. This document, known as the 95 Theses was Luther's theological counter argument arranged and numbered as propositions for theological debate. Luther was prompted to write these by the presence of Johan Tetzel, a Dominican Monk and Doctor of Theology, who was selling Indulgences throughout Germany. An Indulgence was a certification of the forgiveness of sins that was given when visiting a relic, going on a pilgrimage, and sometimes giving a donation to the church. Tetzel's famous line, "*wenn die Münze im Kästlein klingt, die Seele in den Himmel springt,*" was called out by Luther in the Theses 27 and 28:

27. They preach only human doctrines who say that "as soon as the money clinks into the money chest, the soul flies out of purgatory."

28. It is certain that when money clinks in the money chest, greed and avarice can be increased; but when the church intercedes, the result is in the hands of God alone.

What Luther was not aware of was the particular Indulgence that was being sold had been personally authorized by Pope Leo X. He did not take kindly to his desire to build, what would be known as St. Peter's Basilica, being questioned by a German monk. And so, what began as a debate about the theological implications of selling forgiveness quickly became an assault on the authority of the church.

What happened next was a confluence of politics, technology, and popular unrest. Politically, Frederick the Wise, elector of Saxony, loved the attention that Luther was drawing to his university and wanted to protect that. He also had a collection of relics and kept indulgence sellers out of his territory because he wanted the faithful to come to his collection and spend their money in his city rather than send it to Rome. The printing press allowed for Luther's theology to be spread throughout the Holy Roman Empire and get into the hands of more people than any previous challenger of the Roman Catholic Church. 16th Century Europe had a rising merchant and artisan class that was existing outside of the traditional feudal structure. The conflict between the hereditary nobility and those who had the resources to change the system provided ample support to fuel the division that Luther's defiance of Pope and Emperor suggested; translating the Bible for everyone to read and calling for improvement in education so that all can read and understand scripture.

What is important to remember about the complex history of the Protestant Reformation is that Luther's search for God's grace is something that changed not only his life, but the world. The honest questions that burned in the depth of his soul led him to seek deeper understanding. Yes, he managed to make an enemy of the Pope, but that was never his goal. His faith led him, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to a place where he found himself closer to God than he had ever been before. He didn't completely throw out the church practices, but rather found ways to form them again into practices and traditions that emphasized God's grace alone and nurture our faith in Christ Jesus alone. We hear this in the Scripture alone, by which we are saved. All for the glory of God.

Remember, when October 31 rolls around and when you hear about the 95 Theses: Luther wanted to point us to Christ.

Pastor Justin Smoot, he/him

Red Cross Blood Drive to Take Place

The Red Cross will be holding their annual Blood Drive at Saint Andrew on **Friday, October 30 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 contact Pastor Justin at pastorjustin@salc-wausau.org or 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.



Sunday Worship Now on Public Access TV

Sunday morning worship is now being shared on the Wausau Public Access Channel (Charter/Spectrum 980) four times each week. Please note that the Sunday airing is the recorded worship from the prior Sunday. Days and times to watch worship are:

Tuesdays at 2:00 pm
Thursdays at 10:30 am
Fridays at 6:00 pm
Sundays at 7:00 am

Christmas Poinsettias

Though it seems a little early to think about Christmas, Jesus' birth and maybe snow, we do need to think about poinsettias. Orders need to be placed much earlier this year because of the current situation with Covid and the earlier deadline the florist was given by their vendor. If you would like to help beautify the altar at Christmas with a poinsettia



to remember or honor a loved one, fill out [this form](#) or you can call the church office. The cost for these is \$11. ***All orders must be in by October 30.***



All Saints Prayer Vigil

This is a time for prayer. Join us as we pray for our community and for all the saints in our lives. For the loved ones we've lost this last year, for healthcare and essential workers, for teachers and

students returning to school, and for those who are struggling to navigate the demands of life during the pandemic.

Between 4:30 pm-7:50 pm on Sunday November 1, stop by the church parking lot to create a simple luminary. Write the name(s) of those we can pray for on a paper bag, add a votive and leave it among the others. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing. **At 8:00 pm** we will join together virtually on Facebook Live for a short prayer service holding all of these people and prayers together in mind before God.

If you are unable to join us on November 1, you are invited to stop by church ***October 26-29 from 8:30 am -4:30 pm*** to fill out a luminary to be included in our prayer service.

Worship Watch Party

Faith Formation Ministry has been looking for ways for members to connect and share in worship. We will be holding Worship Watch Parties to invite members to church on Sunday to watch a recorded live stream service. We will have space in the Fellowship Hall for 10 people at each viewing. The first Watch Party will be Sunday, November 1 at 11:00 am and again at 1:00 pm. If you are interested in attending, please follow [this link](#).

Plan to Gather Weekly Update: 10/27/2020

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 10/21/2020

Date	Burden #	Trajectory	Burden Status
9/30	461.6	Increasing	Very High
10/7	701.2	Increasing	Very High
10/14	1003.4	Increasing	Very High
10/21	1189.7	Increasing	Very High

Current SALC Status: Phase One

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[Contact Us](#)

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