



December 8, 2020

## Cozy Christmas

As a service project at Saint Andrew this year, we are going to be making the season warmer and cozier for the residents and clients of North Central Health Care. Because we are going to be comfy and cozy at home for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, let's make this holiday comfy and cozy for others. As you shop for gifts, decorations, matching pajamas, and the like, add these warm and cozy items to your list:

- Socks (All sizes)
- Sweatpants (M – 4XL)
- Underwear (Women's: S-4XL, Men's M-4XL)
- Rubber soled slippers (all sizes)
- Thermal Underwear
- Fleece Blankets

Bring them to church and we'll keep them under our Christmas tree until **December 21** when they'll be delivered to the residents.

If this seems to be too little, and the season's generous spirit is overflowing in you, consider "adopting" someone they serve for Christmas. Call 715-848-4450, or email [volunteer@norcen.org](mailto:volunteer@norcen.org), and they will give you the name and Christmas list of someone whose Christmas can be made cozy and merry by a few small gifts you can give to them. These lists are not long, the items are around \$20, and they will be received gladly and joyfully.

Through participating in either, or both, of these opportunities will help share the joy of Christ this season and honor the spirit of generosity that is transforming our world even now.

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## Opportunities to Share with North Central Health Care

Want to Play Santa? Consider "adopting" a client of North Central Health Care this Christmas. Call 715-848-4450 or email [volunteer@norcen.org](mailto:volunteer@norcen.org) for the name and Christmas list of someone you can share the joy of Christmas with.

**Cozy Christmas** – Help make this time of year cozy for clients of North Central Health Care. We are collecting: – Socks (All sizes) – Sweatpants (M – 4XL) – Underwear (Women's: S-4XL, Men's M-4XL) – Rubber soled slippers (all sizes) – Thermal Underwear – Fleece Blankets. Drop off at church in the designated box.

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## Christmas Food Baskets

If you or someone you know would appreciate receiving a Christmas Food Basket (in the form of a Lamb's Fresh Market gift card), please call the church office by **Monday, December 14** at 715-842-3333. Gift cards can be picked up in the church office on **Friday, December 18 between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.**

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## Address Change

We have learned that the post office is no longer forwarding mail to old addresses that were assigned a new address through the re-addressing project. Saint Andrew's new address has changed to:

150202 County Rd. NN  
Wausau, WI 54401

Has yours changed, too? Please email your new address to [office@salc-wausau.org](mailto:office@salc-wausau.org) or call the office to have your record updated. Thank you!

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## Altar Flowers 2021

Honor a loved one or special event with altar flowers in 2021. Bouquets are routinely ordered weekly unless otherwise requested. A letter or email will be sent to you the week prior to the Sunday you signed up for flowers outlining the process, confirming what will be printed in the bulletin and will include an envelope for payment (cost is \$24.00). Your flowers may be taken home to be enjoyed. Sign up on the Flower Chart posted on the kiosk in the Narthex or call the church office to request the Sunday you would like.

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## Advent Resources

To help engage in and dive deeper into Advent this year, we have a variety of resources and programs available:

**Illustrated Devotion** - a self-guided devotion for individuals or small groups that includes readings and discussion questions. Download the full devotional [here](#).

**Advent for Families** - weekly devotional with readings, discussion questions, a craft or activity, and an advent calendar. Download the full resource [here](#).

**Adult Advent Study** - Join this virtual study group via Zoom which allows for deeper discussion of the Advent readings on ***Tuesday evenings from 8:00-9:00 pm starting December 1.*** Week 2, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm: Come and ponder Mary's Magnificat and the theme "Do not be afraid to bring peace."

**Join the Zoom Advent Study:**

<https://bit.ly/3lsePcm>

Meeting ID: 821 9324 7765

Passcode: 640272

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## Christmas Statement

In keeping with our current criteria, the task force recommended the following statement that was then approved and adopted by council on November 19:

*In the spirit of Love, born to us in the Christ child, the pastors and staff, the Plan to Gather Task Force, and the Church Council at Saint Andrew Lutheran Church are committed to sharing the gospel safely and abundantly in these difficult times. As a large congregation with over 3000 members, we are partners in public health and have set the goal that Saint Andrew will not be a source of community spread. We recognize we cannot fulfill our mission to be "open to all" if the vulnerable and the visitor is not fully welcome in worship among us. We are equipped to support members in their life-long faith journeys through virtual and innovative means. Therefore this Christmas, we will worship together in our homes as a sign of love for the community we have been called to serve.*

"I'll Be Home for Christmas - Online Worship" will take place at [www.facebook.com/salcwausau](https://www.facebook.com/salcwausau) on Christmas Eve at 6:30 and 10:30 pm (note that this is a corrected time which was previously printed as 9:30 pm) and on Christmas Day at 9:00 am.



The graphic features a dark blue background. On the left is a silhouette of a nativity scene with a star above the manger. The text is centered and right-aligned. The church name is at the top in white. The title 'I'll Be Home For CHRISTMAS' is in a large, stylized font. Below it, the worship details are listed for December 24 and December 25. The Facebook link is repeated at the bottom.

<b>SAINT ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>	
<i>I'll Be Home For</i> <b>CHRISTMAS</b>	
Online Christmas Worship <a href="https://www.facebook.com/salcwausau">Facebook.com/salcwausau</a>	<u><b>December 24</b></u> <b>6:30 PM</b> <b>10:30 PM</b>
	<u><b>December 25</b></u> <b>9:00 AM</b>

## Advent and Christmas Office Hours

The Saint Andrew staff intend that the office will be open as usual **8:30 am-4:30 pm** Monday through Friday. Because of quarantines and the need to stay flexible, you may find the door locked and some staff working from home. If you are met with a locked door you can either ring the doorbell to the left of the doors or call the church from a cell phone to be greeted by someone on staff.

The church phone system allows us to receive calls and voicemail off site. Whether staff is at home or in the office, we are here to support you during this Advent season. We expect the need for this kind of flexibility in the coming weeks. Thank you for your understanding.

*The office will be closed on December 24 & 25 and January 1*

## Christ in Our Home Devotional- 2021 1<sup>st</sup> 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 first quarter devotional (January-February-March) is now available at church in a plastic bin outside the north (Chapel) entrance or please feel free to come in the building and pick up a copy during office hours.***



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## Worship Watch Party

Do you know anyone who hasn't be able to watch our Facebook livestreams? You can invite them to watch at church. Faith Formation is holding Worship Watch Parties through Advent inviting members to church to watch a recording of the live stream service at 11:00 am or 1:00 pm on Sundays. There is space in the Fellowship Hall for 10 people at each viewing. If you are interested in attending please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/39tFWS9>

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## A Message from Bishop Anne Edison-Albright

Dear ones!

It is an honor, joy and blessing to join you in ministry as your bishop. These are holy days to be in ministry. Immanuel is especially needed and especially present in Advent watching and waiting, as you accompany beloved ones who are grieving or ill, as you weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice. I give thanks to God for you and your ministry, and



I'm looking forward to connecting with you: online or by phone for now, and then—through God at work through medicine and public health and all of us, too—face to face.

This week finds me in four days of new bishop formation with the Conference of Bishops and also getting ready to move to Appleton! We will close on both houses December 11 and are grateful as you pray us through this transition. I have started a facebook page--

@BishopAnneEA--and will work with Jeanne Jerks on ideas for using that page, the synod facebook page, and the Bishop's blog for regular communication and online community interaction. Especially right now, but beyond the pandemic, too, I am grateful for the ways that congregations and all expressions of the church are finding creative and meaningful ways to deepen and expand our interconnectedness.



I'm very grateful to be working with Pastor Amy Engebose and the synod staff to offer a pre-recorded worship service for Sunday, December 27th. The narrative of Jesus' family bringing him to the temple, where they encounter faithful elders Simeon and Anna, is poignant in these days of limited in-person cross-generational connection. On Monday, I'll have a blog post up on [ecsw.org](https://ecsw.org), with a space for you to respond to this question: how have elders, in your life and in the church, revealed God's peace to you?

In your waiting, watching, preparations and ministry, may God's peace in Jesus Christ find you, be with you, be tangible to you, and connect you with God's people and all creation in surprising ways.

Gratefully,

Bishop Anne Edison-Albright

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**Plan to Gather  
Weekly  
Update: 12/2/2020**

For now, Saint Andrew remains in Phase One of the Plan to Gather.

# SALC COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 12/2/2020

Date	Burden #	Trajectory	Burden Status
11/11	1925.9	Increasing	Critically High
11/18	1903.7	Shrinking	Critically High
11/25	1444.3	Shrinking	Critically High
12/2	1094.1	Shrinking	Critically High

**Current SALC Status: Phase One**

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[Calendar](#)

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## Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

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[www.salc-wausau.org](http://www.salc-wausau.org)

