



February 9, 2021



In the morning, while it was still very dark,  
he got up and went out to a deserted place,  
and there he prayed.  
And Simon and his companions hunted for him.  
—Mark 1.35-36

Did you ever notice how most of the ministry of Jesus takes place in the interruptions?

And yet still, Jesus takes the time to establish patterns for spiritual practice. I like to think he needed to be alone to think about everything. But maybe he couldn't sleep. Maybe he was an introvert. I wonder if he knew his life would be cut short. I wonder what or who he prayed for. Was it the people that he just healed? The disciples that never understood? His own sense or longing for connection to God?

Despite his best intentions, Jesus' prayers are often interrupted. Sometimes I think that's how God works best – a knock on the door, a phone call or a text, an odd coincidence that catches your eye, a spontaneous choice to care for someone... How often are your prayers interrupted?

My own relationship to interruptions is often frustration because I long to be focused and finish things. Covid-19 has been a really unique interruption. I don't think any of us would choose to do "this" again. And yet, ministry IS the interruptions themselves.

Perhaps the greatest interruption of them all is death. And yet Jesus interrupts death with his own very life.

I don't think I'll ever advocate for more interruptions. But my question for you is, when interruptions come, what opportunities do you have to share God's love?

Pr. Jenn Collins

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## Let's Do the Work of the Church Together

***SAVE THE DATE for the 2021 Annual Meeting on February 14, 2021 at 9:45 am.*** The Saint Andrew Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will take place virtually (call-in available for those without computers or internet). We will reflect on 2020 and refresh our spirits as we look forward to the new year. **It is an event you won't want to miss!**



The meeting will include:

- Annual Meeting Agenda & Vote
- Special Messages in honor of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary from prior Pastors
- Bloopers Reel - "Living with Live-stream"
- Plan to Gather Information

**Registration is required in order to vote during the meeting.** Click [HERE](#) to register for the annual meeting.

Below are links to the meeting materials:

[2020 Annual Report](#)

[2021 Spending Plan Details](#)

[2021 Narrative Budget Detail](#)

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## 2021 Altar Flowers

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 and confirming what will be printed in the bulletin. Payment of \$24.00 can be mailed, dropped off, or sent online through the SALC website. Your flowers may be taken home to be enjoyed following Sunday worship between 10:00 and 10:30 am or they can be picked up during the week, 8:00 am-4:30 pm. Stop in or call the church office to request the Sunday you would like. ***Immediate Sundays available are February 28 and March 21 and 28.***

**Note:** If you have taken flowers home to enjoy following worship, please return the vase to the church as you are able – *thank you.*

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## Ministry Night Resumes

***Tonight, February 9 at 6:30 pm***

Saint Andrew uses small groups called ministries to embody the work of the church. By meeting on the same night, we are able to begin with a common devotion and prayer, collaborate across ministry teams, and build up community around the call we share to be “Open to All.”

If you would like to learn more about the various ministries at Saint Andrew, check out the details [here](#).

Each ministry will meet either in-person in designated areas of the church this evening with social distancing and masking in place, online over Zoom, or in a hybrid format (in-person/on-line). If you are coming to church to participate, please be aware some ministries will be meeting entirely over Zoom. If you are not sure if or how your ministry is meeting, please call the church.

If you are planning to be present in person for a ministry meeting, please wear a mask, practice social distancing, and head directly to the space where your group will be meeting. There will be signs available to let you know which space has been designated for you.

If you are not on a ministry team and would like to listen in or check out a ministry and participate, just come!

Ministry Night Zoom Meeting Information:

Click [here](#) to join the meeting.

Meeting ID: 864 8272 6925

Passcode: 381960

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## Created for Community Lenten To-Go Bags

Please stop by the church, **Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, or following the annual meeting, Sunday, February 14, 11:00 am-1:00 pm** to pick up a **Created for Community** Lenten To-Go Bag which will include:

- Ashes for **Ash Wednesday, February 17**
- Communion elements
- “God is Love” pocket token
- A daily Lenten devotional resource for adults or families

If you are homebound or quarantined and need a bag delivered or need an alternate time to pick up a bag, please call the church office.

For more information on Lent, click [here](#) to view the Lenten Mailer.

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## Soup for Community

SALC will be serving Lenten Soup To Go as a part of its Created for Community mission for this season of Lent. There will be a few different soup options available weekly to be picked up at church on each Wednesday from **Wednesday, February 24 through Wednesday, March 24**. Make sure to order your soup [here](#) and place your order week-to-week by 4:30pm each Monday the week of.

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## Financial Secretary to Retire

Mike Howlett, our dedicated Financial Secretary who has served faithfully for over 35 years, is retiring this year. The Finance/Stewardship Ministry, on behalf of council, is seeking a replacement for this important volunteer position.

*The financial secretary at Saint Andrew is responsible for maintaining records of pledges, contributions, electronic contributions, for maintaining the church database/Powerchurch contributions module and for sending quarterly contribution statements and providing reports as needed by the Bookkeeper, Treasurer, Finance/Stewardship Ministry or Church Council.*

If you are interested, you can find a copy of the duties [here](#) or pick up a paper copy from the church office. Thank you Mike for your many years of faithful service!

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## Saint Andrew

The invitation to Lent spoken on Ash Wednesday reminds us that we enter this season together “**with the whole church**” because “**we are created for communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation.**”

Though many common Lenten practices rightly invite us to individual acts of “repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love,” Lent is also a time for deepening of community relationships with one another and our neighbors.

Especially in this time of feeling further apart from one another, isolated, and socially distant, Christ calls us to be sewn into the quilt together – an array of patches with different patterns, shapes and sizes. Using readings from Mark’s gospel, we invite you to reflect on what it means to be in community with one another, with the world, with creation, and with God. Here is an overview of what you can expect this Lent:

- We will kick off Lent with a live-stream worship on **Ash Wednesday at 6:30 pm**. You can participate in this as you would any Sunday morning live-stream.
- “**Created for Community**” **bags will be available** which will include ashes to-go and a blessing to share with your family and friends for Ash Wednesday, communion elements for each Sunday in Lent, Lent tokens, and a Lent devotional booklet.
- We will worship together in a new format, over Zoom, on Wednesdays in Lent beginning **February 24 at 6:30 pm**. If you would rather join via the live-stream on Facebook, you can do that as well and engage through the chat.
- **Soup for Community!** is launching to provide the Lenten soup you love “to go.” It will be available for pre-order on-line and by calling the office. Each week it is offered for a free will donation of your choosing – or for free, based on need – and proceeds not used to cover costs will go to support local partners in our community. Also there are opportunities to safely volunteer to help with soup delivery, curbside pickup, or filling orders.



## t.R.I.B.e. - Small Group or At Home Sunday School Resumes!

Are you looking for an at-home Sunday school resource? tRIBE, our small group curriculum, will be starting up again on **February 14**. We will be continuing our lessons exploring Jesus' Ministry. If you are new to tRIBE, and your family would like to start receiving lessons, or join a small group, you can find a sign-up form [here](#).

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## Videos Available on YouTube

Did you miss worship live? Was there something in particular that you'd like to listen to again? A children's sermon that tickled your ear? Facebook not your thing? Church is uploading these video resources to our YouTube channel. Check out [this link](#) or search for Saint Andrew and hit "subscribe" to see and share the latest content.

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### Plan to Gather Weekly Update: 2/3/2021

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

## SALC COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 2/3/2021

Date	Burden #	Trajectory	Burden Status
1/13	607.8	No Change	Very High
1/20	515.8	Shrinking	Very High
1/27	382.2	Shrinking	Very High
2/3	279.8	Shrinking	High

**Current SALC Status: Phase One**

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