

Weekly Newsletter November 22, 2023

A Message From Pr. Gary, Interim Pastor

I call it the Ministry of Persistent Invitation. I probably coined the term. I use it to describe how I came to pursue ministry.

I was in my late teens or early 20's when my pastor decided that I would be a good fit for the Social Ministry Committee. In my late teens/early 20's that didn't seem very exciting. So, I put him off or told him "later" or did any number of things to avoid his invitation.

Except! He never stopped inviting. For him, "no" just meant "not right now." As time progressed I joined the Social Ministry Committee, then joined the Youth Committee, then became a Sunday school teacher and confirmation mentor, then became a council member and on and on and on until, finally I entered the seminary. All because of the Ministry of Persistent Invitation.

Today I extend an invitation to you – each one who reads this note. Come Home! We are preparing for Christmas. It is the season of coming home. Not just to be with your nuclear family but – this year, especially – to be with your church family. Come Home!



I also encourage you to enter into a shared Ministry of Persistent Invitation. I bet you know some folks who have taken a brief sabbatical from worship at Saint Andrew. Ask them to Come Home. It is a time of transition. It is a new beginning. Ask them to experience Saint Andrew once again. Ask them to Come Home!

As I have been visiting with Saint Andrew leaders, I am impressed by the number of people who came here because of someone's Persistent Invitation. Remember "no" only means "not right now."

God bless you in this ministry we share. I will see you at worship!



Thanksgiving Eve Shared Worship at First English Lutheran Church

Wednesday, November 22; 7:00 pm

Last year, Saint Andrew and other Wausau area congregations participated in a Thanksgiving Eve service together. This year, Saint Andrew will continue to partner with other area congregations to collaborate in a shared ministry Thanksgiving Eve service hosted at First English Lutheran Church, [402 N. 3rd Avenue, Wausau](#). The loose

offering received in worship will support Neighbors' Place and Blessings in a Backpack. Enjoy a pie social following worship. If you would like to bring a pie, please sign up in the Narthex.

No Confirmation Class

Reminder there will be NO Confirmation Class **Wednesday, November 22**. Students and families are invited to attend Thanksgiving Eve worship at First English Lutheran Church at 7 pm.

Sunday School Schedule

There will be NO Sunday school classes the following Sundays:

November 26: Happy Thanksgiving

December 3: Families are invited to the Fellowship Hall for the annual Gingerbread House decorating event.

Christmas Poinsettias

Help beautify the altar at Christmas with a poinsettia to remember or honor a loved one. Order forms are available [online](#) or near the Information Bulletin Board in the Narthex.



Deadline: **Wednesday, November 29.**

Communion for the Homebound

Saint Andrew is starting a ministry of distributing Communion to the homebound. This will require 15 volunteers to visit one person each Sunday after worship, or at a minimum of twice a month. Please contact Pastor Gary at pastorgary@salc-wausau.org with any questions, or to let him know you plan to attend the training on Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.



Communion Subs Needed

Saint Andrew has expanded to 5 communion stations including gluten-free to better serve the congregation. Communion Server subs help fill in the need when a scheduled server is out of town or sick. This role is ideal for those with variable Sunday schedules. Please email jonathan@salc-wausau.org if you are willing to serve as a sub.

Art Devotions

Wednesday, November 29, 1-8 pm

No experience in art is necessary and it is set up like an open house. Bring whatever craft or art you are currently working on and enjoy social time with others. Dedicated projects that Pam will be sharing will take place from 1-3 pm and 6-8 pm. Create a project on small canvases and cardstock with pressed flowers and leaves.



Advent is Coming and Coming Soon!

This year, Christmas Eve is on a Sunday. To accommodate for that, Saint Andrew will start Advent 1 on Christ the King Sunday, November 26, where scriptures and themes from both Sundays will be intertwined by seminary student Christina Johnson.

Advent 2023 Schedule

November 26 - Advent 1/Christ the King Sunday: Christina Johnson, sermon

Pr. Sharon Fox Bogen, Presiding Minister of Communion

December 3 - Advent 2: Pr. Gary Froseth

December 10 - Advent 3: Pr. Sharon Fox Bogen

December 17 - Advent 4: Pr. Gary Froseth

December 24 - Christmas Eve: Pr. Gary Froseth

4 pm and 6 pm - Candelight Worship with Chancel and Handbell Choirs

10 pm - Candelight, Contemplative Worship



**Gingerbread House
Decorating Event
Sunday, December 3
10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Fellowship Hall**

Get into the holiday spirit by decorating gingerbread houses that will be on display at church and at a local nursing home. The gingerbread houses, frosting and decorating supplies will be provided along with beverages and snacks.

Bring your creativity and join us for some fun!

Sign up in the Narthex.

Christmas Food Baskets

If you or someone you know would appreciate receiving a Christmas Food Basket, please call the church office at 715-842-3333 by **Thursday, December 7**. Baskets will be ready to be picked up at the south entrance on **Thursday, December 21 between 3:00 and 4:00 pm**.

If you would like to donate items for these baskets, please bring them by **Tuesday, December 19**. Non-perishable items can be placed in the baskets inside the church entrances and hams can be put in the marked area in the freezer.

Suggested items to donate:

- Ham (Half Hams Preferred)
- Canned vegetables
- Stuffing Mix
- Canned Pie Filling
- 5 lb. Bag of Potatoes
- Canned Cranberry Sauce
- Christmas Candy Treats

Weekend Snow Shoveling

Are you available to help with weekend shoveling?

6-8 volunteers are needed to help clear sidewalk entrances on weekends prior to Sunday morning worship on a rotational schedule with 2-3 volunteers each week. If you would be interested in helping

out, please sign-up on the sheet below the Narthex bulletin board or contact Patrick at patrick@salc-wausau.org.



Christmas Decorating

A few volunteers are needed to help coordinate, plan, recruit volunteers and decorate the church for Christmas which would include the exterior lights as well as the interior spaces. There are many lights and decorations available! Please contact Patrick in the office or at patrick@salc-wausau.org.

Ministry Opportunities at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Wausau

Details are also posted on the Saint Andrew Information Bulletin Board in the Narthex.

* Thursday, November 30

A Day of Prayer held in their Sanctuary

[Click here for details.](#)

* Saturday, December 16

2:00 pm - Christmas Singalong followed by light refreshments

[Click here for details.](#)



Budget Review Meeting

Sunday, December 10 at 10:15 am, Activity Room

Using giving records for 2023, pledged support for 2024, and ministry needs, a proposed estimated Spending Plan will be presented. Anyone is welcome to attend this informative meeting and to ask questions about the proposed Spending Plan and learn about the budget process before the **Annual Meeting is held in 2024.**

Worship

Sundays

9:00 am

*(The Sanctuary is
T-Coil Hearing Loop Enabled)*



Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

8:30 am-4:30 pm

Recorded Worship on Spectrum

Sunday worship is livestreamed on the SALC Facebook page each week. The recorded service can then be found on channel 980 through Charter/Spectrum on the following days and times:

Tuesday - 2:00 pm

Thursday - 10:30 am

Friday - 6:00 pm

Sunday - 7:00 am

SALC Calendar

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Contact Us

Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

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