

St. Andrew Lutheran Church Encounter

January 2025

Christmas Pageant December 15th

Order of standing - Daniel, Ceci, Sam, Hudson, George, Morgan, Charlie, Linnea, Abby, Maddie, Brea and Nyla.
Thanks to all of our Sunday School children and their leaders.



PRAYER VENTURES

January 2025

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

- 1 New Year's Day Ask God to grant us strength, wisdom and patience to accomplish new goals this year. Give thanks for God's forgiveness and for the support of others, which help us to continue when we fail, grow frustrated or are redirected in our pursuits.
- 2 "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!" (2 Corinthians 5:17). Our newness in Christ is realized in our present life and in the future, when we enter the kingdom of God. Pray for the Spirit to strengthen our faith and to help us embrace our new selves — every day.
- 3 Pray for the Spirit to stir our patience, understanding and respect for others when we find ourselves in conflict with our neighbors or siblings in Christ.
- 4 Pray for our synod bishops attending the Bishop's Academy in Puerto Rico as they study and reflect on the challenge and promise of Lutheran mission and theology in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.
- 5 Give thanks to God that Jesus Christ lived among us, that we might believe in God's grace and truth and be filled with joy and relief as children of God who are set free to live as Jesus did in service to our neighbors.
- 6 Epiphany "This star, as bright as day, that will never lead astray with its message so appealing, is the word of God, revealing Christ, the way, the truth, the life" (ELW 301). Praise God for the gift of Jesus Christ, who reveals to us the way, truth and life of God's love, forgiveness and promises.
- 7 Pray for a peaceful transfer of presidential power in the United States and that the Spirit will influence and guide our leaders to serve all people with compassion, wisdom and concern for justice and unity
- 8 "In [Christ] we have redemption through [Christ's] blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us" (Ephesians 1:7-8). God's boundless love and forgiveness are lavish indeed. Give thanks and praise to God!
- 9 Remember in prayer college, university and seminary students taking part in winter J-term classes and service learning, that their experiences will deepen their faith, expand their knowledge and reveal how their gifts and passions can be used to do God's work in the world.
- 10 Thank God for the ELCA's special relationship with the United Methodist Church, a full communion partner since 2009. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that we will respect our differences but embrace our unity in Christ so we can spread the gospel, serve our neighbor, and share leadership and resources for doing God's work in the world — together.
- 11 Give thanks for God's grace and the work of the Spirit, which equip us with the tools, wisdom and courage needed to face the challenges of everyday life and to bear Christ's love and hope into the world.
- 12 Pray that we will affirm our baptism by telling others about the triune God, by loving and serving our neighbors, by encouraging the faith of our siblings in Christ and by seeking opportunities for spiritual growth.
- 13 Pray for those who respond to God's call by working hand in hand with our companion churches and other organizations around the world through ELCA Global Mission. Ask God to sustain and strengthen their faith, their commitment and their diverse gifts.
- 14 "Who hears the song our sorrows swallow and offers hope to calm our fears? When all our words seem frail and hollow, God heeds the prayers within our tears" (All Creation Sings 1050). Give thanks that God hears and responds to our grief and suffering, even when our words fall short of expressing the depth of our sorrow.

- 15** Pray for the outdoor ministries of our church that are busy recruiting and hiring young-adult staff to share their faith and serve campers of all ages, backgrounds and abilities in summer programs.
- 16** National Religious Freedom Day Give thanks that the U.S. Constitution supports the freedom to embrace religion, to worship and to share our faith according to our personal beliefs. Pray that we will respect the religious beliefs of our neighbors and support their right to practice their faith openly, without constraints or persecution.
- 17** “You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts” (WOV 738). Lift up your worries, troubles, insecurities and grief to God, who understands us and grants comfort, strength and endurance in every circumstance of our life.
- 18** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Today begins a week of prayer with our siblings in Christ around the world. Give thanks that we are one in Christ and that, together, we cast a brilliant light in the world.
- 19** Praise God for the inexhaustible grace shown to us throughout our lives and baptismal journeys.
- 20** Martin Luther King Jr. Day Remember and give thanks for the life, teaching and advocacy of Martin Luther King Jr. for the sake of justice, inclusion and the value of all people, especially those who suffer persecution, racism, disdain or oppression. Pray that we will be inspired by our neighbors and siblings in Christ who are fearless and persistent in their advocacy and compassion for others.
- 21** Thank God for the gifts given to us through the Spirit, and pray that others might recognize their own unique gifts and see where they are valued and needed.
- 22** Pray for ELCA directors for evangelical mission, who serve as resources to synods in mission development, congregational renewal and stewardship.
- 23** Pray for our church’s grassroots Life of Faith initiative, meant to help us to live out our baptismal vocation in daily life, serve our neighbors and
- work for justice in the diverse contexts of family, workplace, school, community and the world.
- 24** Pray that we will open all our senses to God’s glory, power and voice as revealed in nature — the awe-inspiring and dynamic handiwork of our Creator.
- 25** Conversion of Paul Give thanks that, for God, all things are possible, even when we do not envision the possibility of lives being changed, hearts softened or faith awakened
- 26** Ask God to help us follow Christ’s example, being humble, kind, loving, merciful, attentive to our neighbors and quick to respond to their needs.
- 27** Remember in prayer youth, adults and families involved in service learning and mission trips throughout the year. Pray that they might share the gospel, serve their neighbors in need, participate in the work of global companions and ecumenical partners, and respond to the unique contexts and needs of communities.
- 28** Remember in prayer neighbors and siblings in Christ who suffer poverty, homelessness and hunger, that their hope will be sustained, their daily needs met and their human dignity respected.
- 29** “The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart” (Psalm 19:7-8). Give thanks for the word of God, for it is trustworthy and restores us, imparts wisdom, and stirs joy and gratitude in our hearts.
- 30** Pray for an end to conflicts and violence in the world, including in our own communities. Ask the Spirit to inspire and equip us to be peace-makers and bearers of hope.
- 31** Give thanks for Women of the ELCA (WELCA) and its ministry with women to encourage bold and active faith in Jesus Christ, promote healing and wholeness, address injustices, discover spiritual gifts, and encourage and equip leaders.



PEOPLE POWER – JANUARY 2025



Sunday, January 5	8:30 a.m.	
Assisting Minister:	Peter Schoenfield	Lay Reader: Lyn Hayes
Ushers:	Jason Carmona, Jeff Hayes	
Sound Tech:	Brandon Carmona	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Darrell Vander Bloomen	
Sunday, January 12	8:30 a.m.	
Assisting Minister:	Peter Schoenfield	Lay Reader: Sonia Schoenfield
Ushers:	Debbie Jacobson, Jason Carmona, Jeff Hayes	
Sound Tech:	Brandon Carmona	
Media Tech:	Steve Jacobson	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Krissy Grace & Steve Jacobson	
Sunday, January 19	8:30 a.m.	
Assisting Minister:	Peter Schoenfield	Lay Reader: Anastasia Carmona
Ushers:	Jason Carmona, Jeff Hayes	
Sound Tech:	Brandon Carmona	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Kathi Mac Dougall	
Sunday, January 26	8:30 a.m.	
Assisting Minister:	Peter Schoenfield	Lay Reader: Charlene Bestler
Ushers:	Debbie Jacobson, Jason Carmona, Jeff Hayes	
Sound Tech:	Brandon Carmona	
Media Tech:	Steve Jacobson	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Lyn Hayes & Bill List	

If you have a schedule problem, or can volunteer, please contact the following:

Assisting Ministers/Lay Reader/Greeters/Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman	847-566-8081
Lay Leaders/Lay Reader/Nursery/Sound	Anita Pahlman	847-566-8081
Ushers:	Debbie Jacobson	847-566-4764
Media Tech:	Steve Jacobson	847-566-4764
Counters:	Andrea Ammons	224-388-1041
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	224-715-2141



PEOPLE POWER – JANUARY 2025



Sunday, January 5	10:45 a.m.	
Lay Leader:	Bill List	Lay Reader: Kari Payne
Usher:	Chris Carlson, Debbie Jacobson	
Children's Message:	Bill List	
Communion Assistants:	Tami Shubin, Kari Payne	
Sound Tech:		
Media Tech:	Steve Jacobson	
PowerPoint Tech:	Annamarie Martinelli	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Darrell Vander Bloomen	
Sunday, January 12	10:45 a.m.	
Lay Leader:	Jenny Prescia	Lay Reader: Ellen Van Zeeland
Usher:	Chris Carlson	
Children's Message:	Bill List	
Communion Assistant:	Tami Shubin, Heidi Emso	
Sound Tech:		
PowerPoint Tech:		
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Krissy Grace & Steve Jacobson	
Sunday, January 19	10:45 a.m.	
Lay Leader:	Krissy Grace	Lay Reader: Steve Grace
Usher:	Chris Carlson, Debbie Jacobson	
Children's Message:	Bill List	
Communion Assistant:	Tami Shubin, Steve Grace	
Sound Tech:		
Media Tech:	Steve Jacobson	
PowerPoint Tech:	Annamarie Martinelli	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Kathi Mac Dougall	
Sunday, January 26	10:45 a.m.	
Lay Leader:	Jenny Prescia	Lay Reader: Holly Griffith
Usher:	Chris Carlson	
Children's Message:	Bill List	
Communion Assistants:	Kari Payne, Heidi Emso	
Sound Tech:		
PowerPoint Tech:	Steve Grace	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Lyn Hayes & Bill List	

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January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2 9 am Quilters 7 pm Choir Reh	3 5:30 pm Early Bird AA	4
5 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee / Fellowship Hr 10:45 Worship 11:00 Sunday School 6 Confirmation at SALC	6 6:30 Kirk Players Auditions (Jungle Book) 6:30 pm Early Bird AA	7 6:30 Kirk Players Auditions (Jungle Book) 7 pm SALC Exec. Team 7 Troop #198 7 Kirk Players-Artistic Dev	8 10 am Bible Study 7 Lucky Ducks 4-H	9 9 am Quilters 6:30 Kirk Players Auditions (Jungle Book)	10 5:30 pm Early Bird AA	11 8:30 am Women's Breakfast Bible Study
12 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee / Fellowship Hr 10:45 Worship 11:00 Sunday School 6 Confirmation at SALC	13 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:30 Kirk Players	14 9 am Men's Breakfast (Mauri's) 6:30 pm Cub Pk #98 7 SALC Council Mtg 7 pm Troop #198 7 pm Kirk Players Board Mtg	15 ENCOUNTER ARTICLES DUE 10 am Bible Study 6:30 Kirk Players Reh	16 9 am Quilters Brown Bag Lunch 12:30 Lk County HOUSE Co-Op 6:30 Kirk Players	17	18
19 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee / Fellowship Hour 10:45 Worship 11:00 Sunday School 6 Confirmation at SALC	20 Inauguration Day Martin Luther King, Jr. Day CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:30 Kirk Players	21 7:00 pm Troop #198 7 pm W&M Team Mtg	22 10 am Bible Study 6:30 Kirk Players Reh	23 9 am Quilters 6:30 Kirk Players	24	25 9 am Quilters
26 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee / Fellowship Hour 10:45 Worship 11:00 Sunday School 6 Confirmation at SALC	27 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:30 Kirk Players 7:30 Mundelein Coin Club	28 9 am Men's Breakfast (Mauri's) 6:30 pm Cub Pk #98 7:00 pm Troop #198 7 pm Kirk Play Select Committee Mtg	29 10 am Bible Study 6:30 Kirk Players Reh	30 9 am Quilters 6:30 Kirk Players	31	

Garden Update

I am getting close to catching up in all my volunteer projects and will start working at home. I have bought almost all my garden seed that I will need for 2025, a few weeks ago plus I have a lot left over and many saved seeds!

I have been cleaning out the area behind the garden to put in a compost bin. I am torn between many designs, (for looks) That and working on the rain-water drip irrigation are my big projects this winter. I need the garden to be self sufficient when I am gone as Anne and I will be gone a-lot next year. Would the Church members like more areas to pick themselves in 2025 when I am gone(either Tuesday/ Thursday/ Sunday) Or would members rather have volunteer's just pick and bring on Sunday?

I was thinking of 2 areas for members to pick cucumbers and 2 areas for cherry tomatoes for members to pick. I have 9 different recommended cherry tomatoes for next year! (I am still thinking) More info in the February newsletter!

"Thank You for letting me embrace my love of growing and hybridizing flowers and vegetables!"

Picture the start of my large compost bin, 1- 8-10'x 5 and one smaller one 5x5 !

(does anyone have a leaf shredder I can borrow? If so please send me a message)

Thank You,

Dale Anne



Gifts & Memorial Fund

The church gift/memorial fund is established for the purpose of receiving and holding money given to the church in memory or honor of someone or to honor a special occasion.

**GIFTS CAN BE GIVEN IN MEMORY,
IN HONOR,
AND WITH THANKS TO GOD FOR
BLESSINGS RECEIVED.**

St. Andrew Opportunities to help & Share

- SALC Bible Study
- Faith Formation Committee
- Service Committee
- Caring In Action (CIA) Team
- Quilting Ministry
- Women's Fellowship
- Parish Life
- Men's Breakfast
- Quilters
- Volunteer Needs
- Social Media Opportunities
- "People Power", i.e.
Volunteers for Sunday Worship Service

Nursery Support:

Please help us to keep the nursery tidied! We'd appreciate your help in keeping that space tidied and cleaned up. Thank you for your help!

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Church Council

Molly Dir {Council President; Operations Committee}

Anastasia Carmona {Vice President; Service Committee}

Krissy Grace {Secretary; Worship & Music Committee}

Bruce Dir {Treasurer, Finance Committee}

Jorge Cantu {Service Committee}

Tia Kowalewski {Faith Formation Committee} **Steve**

Payne {Property Team; Operations Committee}

And their response...
"I will,
and I ask God
to help me"

Capture the Joy of Christmas at St. Andrew

Join us for our Christmas Photo Booth session after the 10:45 am service on Sunday, December 22, and after the 8:30 am service on Tuesday, December 24.

If you're unable to make it on these dates, please let us know your availability, and we'll do our best to accommodate you.

Sessions are quick, lasting just 5-10 minutes, and your edited photos will be ready within two days. We look forward to sharing the warmth and joy of this season with you and your family!

Flowers for the Altar



If you would like to continue our tradition of sponsoring flowers for the altar, please either email the date and information to Anita or sign up on the flower calendar outside of Pastor's office. The cost is \$20. Sponsors for the eternal candle are \$20 for the month. There are still openings in the next couple of months. Let's continue to beautify and light our church with memories and remembrances and honors!!

Men's Breakfast

Please join our Men's Fellowship as they meet for breakfast at the Mauri's Family Restaurant on Hawley Street on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 9am.

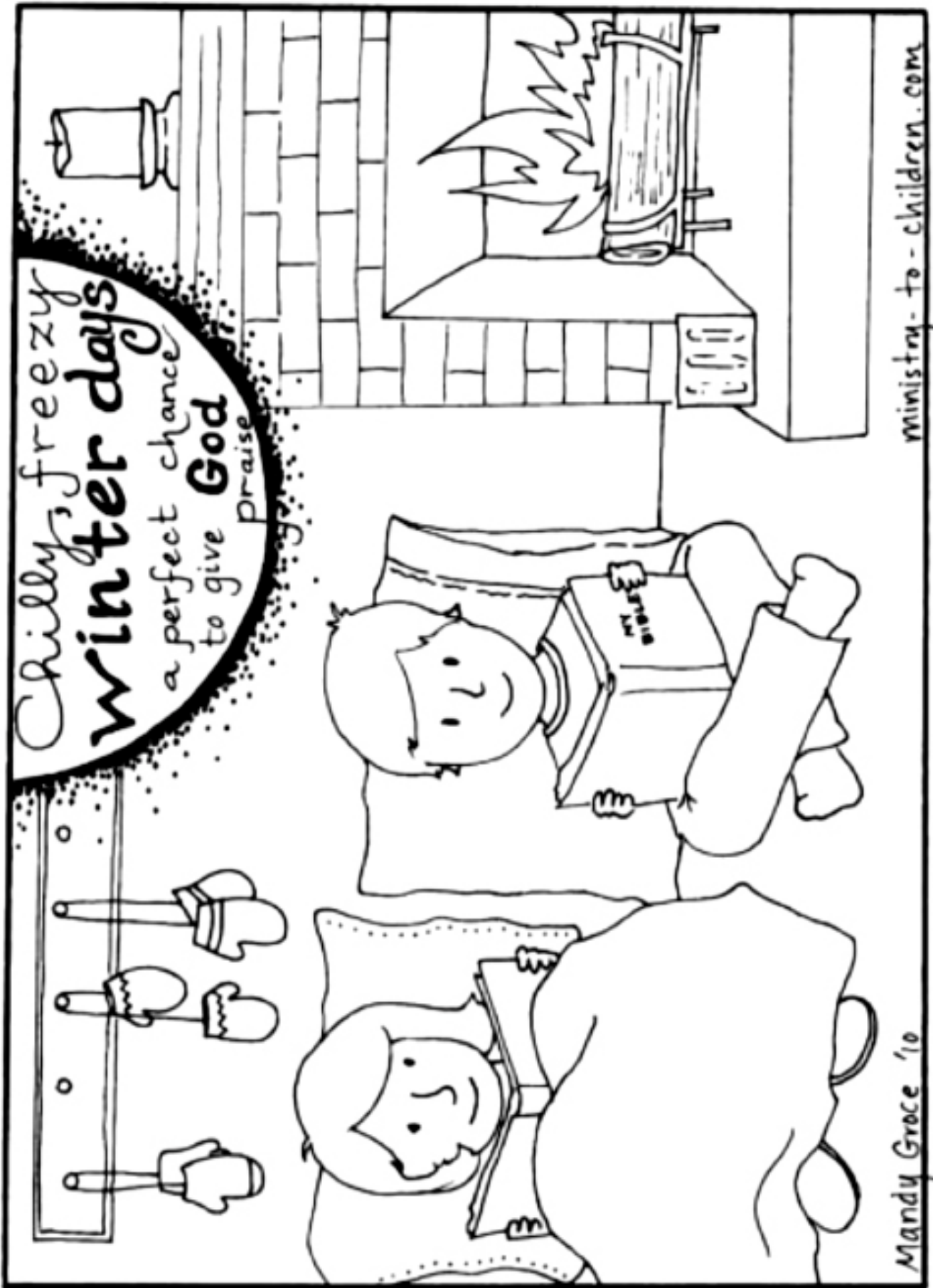
Editor's Notes

Information to share, thank-yous, articles, notes, stories & pictures. (many photographers needed!) please continue to email them to:

ajdondapati@vayunaproductions.com

Please put **ENCOUNTER** in the subject header.
Next Due Date will Be - Wednesday, Jan. 15th

For Our Young Readers



"Do not withhold good from those who deserve it,
when it is in your power to act."
Proverbs 3: 27

HOW CAN WE HELP ? SURVEY

We know there are members in our congregation who can use an occasional helping hand. If you or someone you know has a need for help, or if you are able to provide help in one or more of these services, please mark which item would be of service.

Name of a person needing a helping hand: Volunteer willing to provide service:

Name: _____ Name: _____

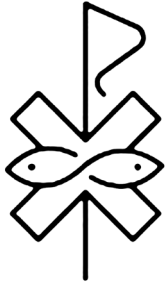
Phone No: _____ Phone No.: _____

MAY NEED HELP WITH

I CAN PROVIDE HELP WITH

<input type="checkbox"/>	----- Ride (to church or doctor's appointment) -----	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	----- Grocery shopping -----	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Errands: pick up Rx, P.O., library, cleaners, bank, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Companionship: pick up/ visit another friend or shut-in, play games & cards, read, write letters or Christmas Cards,	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	----- Time off for caretaker -----	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	----- Well-being check -----	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	----- Meals for sick or injured -----	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	----- Pet care, yard work -----	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	----- Bring or receive communion -----	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	----- Adult chaperone for youth retreats -----	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please return this form to the office, or put in offering plate.



St. Andrew Lutheran Church

10 South Lake Street
Mundelein, IL 60060

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

“Sharing Christ”

- In Faithful Worship
- Faithful Giving
- Ministry Participation
- Daily Living



www.standrewmundelein.com
Telephone No.: 847-566-8081

Dated Material
Do Not Delay

All are Welcome...

The Sunday Morning
Worship Schedule is:

Worship services are held
at 8:30 AM and 10:45 AM.

Sunday Service
can be viewed at
www.standrewmundelein.com



St. Andrew Lutheran Church (ELCA)
10 South Lake Street
Mundelein, IL 60060

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Telephone No.: 847-566-8081