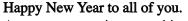
January 2020

St. Andrew Lutheran Church Encounter

A Message from Pastor Mark Sundberg

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Dear Friends in Christ,



A new year promises new things. I want you to be hopeful about the

potential of another year. We all pray for good things in 2020.

It is easy for us to become disgruntled or disillusioned about the future. For those of us who have been around for a while, we sometimes think we "have seen it all." "There's nothing new under the sun," we may think. Yet our faith tells us to look for the new. God says in Isaiah 43, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" Christians see in this verse the foretelling of the coming of Christ. God has reached out to his people over and over, and the people over and over were disobedient, rebellious, seeking after other Gods. So, God was going to do something new: make himself available in human form, in Jesus, and embrace the brokenness of the word on the cross, bringing peace and forgiveness. We Christians are recipients of this promise. Christ forgives our sins - we are constantly being renewed.

Jesus says in John 13: "I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you." In other words, love one another in self-sacrifice: do loving things for each other. This is new with Jesus, no one before has given his life for the world. We are part of a new community: we are loved by a God who gives himself in Jesus Christ, so we reflect that love in everything we do.

Continued on page five

St. Andrew Annual Meeting

Jan. 26th at 12:15 p.m.

Please Be a Part by Taking Part

Our very important Annual Meeting will be held January 26th, 2020. A light lunch will be served following the 2nd service.

We must have a Quorum present, which is 50 members, before we can begin the meeting and officially vote on budgets and other business.

If you are completing an end-of-year report for your committee or activity, please send it as soon as possible to dehamm@comcast.net so that it can be included in the annual report. Also, see suggestions to your report content in the article on page 5.

Please plan on attending!

Sermon Titles for January

From Pastor Mark Sundberg

Jan 5 "The Word and the World" Jan 12 "Baptism: God Identifying with Us!" Jan 19 "Come and See" Jan 26 "Fishing for People"



Quilters' Crossing

A NEW YEAR, A NEW SEASON IS UPON US!

We have welcomed our Savior, Our Lord, Jesus! Let us show those around us His love by supporting our St. Andrew ministries!

The Quilters continue to meet every Thursday and the fourth Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon. New workers are always welcome who want to help and are willing to be shown what work is needed. It is not difficult; you do not need to know how to sew! Can you tie a knot? Please join the group for fellowship and a time of working together.



The fellowship in December included a

Christmas luncheon on Dec. 19. The Christmas quilt raffle and craft fair was held on Dec 8 and 15. It was a great time to show support to the group by picking up a few Christmas gifts which helped to earn some funds for shipping costs, material supplies and sewing machine repairs and tune ups. THANK YOU ALL WHO HELPED TO MAKE IT A SUC-CESS! The winners of two beautiful quilts were Karen Jarrett and Anne Kisha.

The Quilters are making quilts and baby care kits throughout the year. This could not be done without others at St. Andrew who provide materials, sewing quilt tops at home and support this ministry in other ways. Adult size t-shirts (large and extra large) for diapers, t-shirts and sleepers for 6-24 months are always needed. When we are going through our closets and drawers doing spring cleaning, keep these things in mind. Also, there is an URGENT NEED for blankets and mattress pads for fillers and sheets that are used for the backs of the quilts. This has always been such a wonderful ministry at St. Andrew and the quilts that are made we are certain make the recipients feel important, loved and extra special. What a wonderful feeling we should have to give someone such a WARM HUG!

A special thank you to Diane Sanderson for the many Quilters' Corners



that she has written over the past several years, and thank you to Lyn Hayes for becoming the new reporter.

If you have questions, please call Judy Parriott (847-986-4465).

The Christmas quilt raffle and craft fair was held on Dec 8 and 15. Karen Jarrett (pictured) won one of our quilts, the second quilt was won by Anne Kisha.



January 5 – 2nd Sunday of Christmas Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:[1-9] 10-18

January 12 – **Baptism of Our Lord** Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17

January 19 -2nd Sunday after Epiphany Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42

January 26 – **3rd Sunday after Epiphany** Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1, 4-9 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-23

Worship Attendance for November

Date	8:30	10:45	Total
11/3	81	73	154
11/10	60	70	130
11/17	91	83	174
11/24	78	78	156

- 11/3 All Saints
- 11/10 Veterans
- 11/24 Pledge Sunday & Christ the King
- 11/27 Thanksgiving Eve - combined w/ Community Protestant at Community Protestant

Total 8:30 - 310 Total 10:45 - 304 Total for November: 614

Page 2

President's Corner

Ephesians 4:2 NIV

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

2 Thessalonians 1:3

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.

2 Corinthians 13:11

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

As I sit and think about the last two years on council I have seen a great many things change. We have had a few growing pains but for the most part we have stood strong as a congregation.

The three Bible verses I have put in here this month is what I think all of us need to remember and practice throughout our every day and church lives.

- 1. Be patient and kind. We all do things differently. We all know different things and to always remember that all of us are mere mortals.
- 2. Our faith continues to grow. With each other and within the church. I see people come forward to volunteer (although we need more volunteers) for different things. To join hands in serving our church and our community.
- 3. **Praise God!** In all things, give praise and thanks to our Lord

and Savior. Give each other your support, love, feedback and prayers. All of us need kind words. All of us need new ideas. All of us need care from someone else.

This will be my last President's Corner letter. I am stepping down from council as our constitution calls for. This position has been very memorable. We have been through great emotions and many transitions, that may have left this church shaky at times, but intact and stronger. I am proud to call this my home!

I will leave you with this song:

O be careful little eyes what you see. O be careful little eyes what you see.

For the Father up above is looking down in love. So, be careful little eyes what you see.

O be careful little ears what you hear. O be careful little ears what you hear. For the Father up above is looking

down in love.

So, be careful little ears what you hear.

O be careful little tongue what you say. O be careful little tongue what you say.

For the Father up above is looking down in love. So, be careful little tongue what you say.

We are God's children and Blessed by Him to be a Blessing to others.

May God's Blessings be Yours in 2020 and the years to come.

Teresa Maki Out-going Council President

PADS NEWS

This is the 10th year St. Andrew is serving at the Messiah Lutheran PADS shelter site which operates weekly from October through April. Our service dates are every 4th Saturday/Sunday of the month (see dates below) beginning around 4pm Saturday through 6 am Sunday morning. With the help of volunteers, the PADS team sets up sleeping and dining arrangements, prepares a home cooked dinner, makes a sack lunch for the next day and prepares a fresh breakfast in the morning. The team also offers our guests hospitality and fellowship during their stay along with movies, games or other things to help them feel at home.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Laurie Turner at turnerlaurie24@gmail.com or look to the church directory for phone number. You can also contact Tom Girmscheid at tgirm58@gmail. com or 847-814-5401 for other info about this ministry.

Also, please look to the Social Ministry table in the narthex for donation info and volunteer signup sheets. Thank you for your support!

Service Dates:

- January 25th
- February 22nd
- March 28th
- April 25th



Women's Fellowship - 2019-2020

Women's Fellowship: Most meetings will meet the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pm in Nelson Hall. We do have a few special events, so please note the Thursday dates and times. Mark your calendars for an excellent line up. *Hope to see you at all the upcoming events!*

January 9 - Bunco Fun - our annual bunco event which is an easy fun dice game with white elephant prizes. We will meet at church at 7 pm. Please bring a few wrapped "white elephant" gifts to share with the others for laughs and giggles. Please bring a a snack to share, too.

February 13 - New Pastor introduction - if we have selected our new pastor by this time, we will have the opportunity to meet him/her and introduce ourselves with a meet/greet evening.



March 12 TBA - Guest Speaker

April 16 - Karina's Bakery - we will visit this family operated local

(3rd Thursday) bakery to view preparations for baking and enjoy some tasty baked goods. 401 North Seymour Street, Mundelein

May 14 - Gale Street Inn Dinner - our annual Mundelein local dinner to review our year and discuss future plans. We will meet for dinner at Gale Street at 6:00 PM. 935 North Diamond Lake Road, Mundelein

> Movie Night: Saturday, January18

Movie at 6:30

Food served from: 5:00-6:15

St. Andrew Fellowship/ Movie Night



Who Are You?

Life changes overnight for coach John Harrison when his high school basketball team and state championship dreams are crushed under the weight of unexpected news. When the largest manufacturing plant shuts down and hundreds of families leave their town, John questions how he and his family will face an uncertain future. After reluctantly agreeing to coach cross-country, John and his wife, Amy, meet an aspiring athlete who's pushing her limits on a journey toward discovery. Inspired by the words and prayers of a new-found friend, John becomes the least likely coach helping the least likely runner attempt the impossible in the biggest race of the year. <complex-block>

St. Andrew Annual Meeting

Jan. 26th at 12:15 p.m.

Please Be a Part by Taking Part

<u>If you are completing an end-of-year report</u> for your committee or activity, please send it as soon as possible to dehamm@comcast.net so that it can be included in the annual report.

Please plan on attending!

A Typical Annual Meeting Agenda

- 1 Devotions
- 2. Establish Quorum
- 3. Call to Order
- 4. Adoption of Agenda
- 5. Last Meeting Minutes
- 6. President's Report
- 7. Pastor's Report
- 8. Ministry Team Highlights
 9. Treasurer's Report
- 10. 2020 Budget Discussion
- 11. Nominating Committee
- s 12. Old Business
 - 13. New Business
 - 14. Benediction & Adjournment

Annual Reports Needed

From Committees, Teams and Organizations

We are now accepting the end of year reports for the Annual Report booklet. Please send your report ASAP to Donn Hamm or by January 15th. You can email them to Donn at: <u>dehamm@comcast.net</u>

Please provide the following four points of information for the annual report:

- Ministry Team, Committee or group Name
- Members (*or at least the name of* <u>who is submitting the report.</u>)
- Goals for the year Goals for next year
- Successes
- DisappointmentsComments

Please submit this information by an email or attached on a word document and email to: <u>dehamm@comcast.net</u>

Thank you for all of your commitment & dedication during 2019.

Respectfully, Anita & Council

Pastor Mark Sundberg

Continued from page one

Ephesians tells of a new community – unheard of at the time – a community of Jews and Gentiles: "He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity . . ." Christianity was a new creation, a community of different peoples, classes, men and women and children together. This was a new idea in the ancient Roman Empire.

When we celebrate Holy Communion, we hear the words "this is the new covenant in my blood . . ." from 1 Corinthians 11 (also in Matt., Mark, and Luke.) When we receive communion, Jesus is working something new in us. The new covenant (promise) is for all people in Jesus.

So I hope all of you will expect something new and good in the New Year. In Christ, all things have a new start – all people in Christ have a new hope! Happy New Year!

In Christian service, Pastor Mark Sundberg (transitional pastor)

Gift/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.

Memorials for January Encounter

In Memory of Ron Wiesner Gayle Wiesner Sandy Wiesner Maher In Honor of Virginia Sallach's 100th Birthday Donn & Tana Hamm

Editor's Notes:

Information to share, thank-yous, articles, notes, stories or <u>pictures</u>, (many photographers needed!) please continue to email them to:

dehamm@comcast.net.

Please put ENCOUNTER in the subject header.

Next Due Date will Be Wednesday, Jan. 15th

PEOPLE POWER – 8:30 a.m. – JANUARY 2020

	0.20				
Sunday, January 5	8:30 a.m.				
Assisting Minister:	Anita Pahlman				
Lay Reader:	Carol Bertrand				
Acolyte:	Naomi Routledge				
Welcomer:	Laurel Caldara				
Greeter:	Tom Girmscheid				
Ushers:	Roger Bacci, Steve Jacobson, Nea	al Metts, Peter Schoenf	ield		
Sound Tech:	Sean Burchard				
Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman				
Altar Guild:	Janet Shanahan & Ann Burchardt				
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Carol Bertrar	nd			
Sunday, January 12	8:30 a.m.				
Assisting Ministers:	Dave Bender				
Lay Reader:	Leslie Parriott				
Acolyte:	Norah Emso				
Greeters:	Bill & Laurie Turner				
Ushers:	Jean Fagerstrom, Marion Collins,	Gary Schuessler, Lew	Bovd		
Sound Tech:	Tom Girmscheid				
Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman				
Altar Guild:	Janet Shanahan & Ann Burchardt				
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Bob Hernqui				
Sunday, January 19	8:30 a.m.	••			
Assisting Minister:	Judy Boyd				
Lay Reader:	Mary Hanson				
Acolyte:	Isabella Rizzo				
Greeter:	Laurel Caldara				
Ushers:	Dave Bender, Tom Girmscheid, J	ose & Jason Carmona	Sean Burchard		
Sound Tech:	John Bestler	,			
Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman				
Altar Guild:	Janet Shanahan & Ann Burchardt				
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Karen Jarrett				
Sunday, January 26	8:30 a.m.				
Assisting Minister:	Leslie Parriott				
Acolyte:	Addison Kalmus				
Greeter:	Marion Collins				
Ushers:	Laurel Caldara, Lois Laedtke, Debbie Jacobson, Chris Binversie				
Sound Tech:	Tom Girmscheid				
Altar Guild:	Janet Shanahan & Ann Burchardt				
Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman				
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Kathi MacDo	llan			
		- -			
Acolytes:	blem, or can volunteer, please contact t	Teresa Maki	847-687-8422		
	eader/Greeters/Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman	847-566-8081		
Nursery Attendants (Both	*	Anita Pahlman	847-566-8081		
Ushers:		Lois Laedtke	847-336-0505		
Sound Tech:		Tom Girmscheid	847-814-5401		
Counters:		Andrea Ammons	224-214-6723		

PEOPLE POWER -	10:45	JANUARY	2020
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Sunday, January 5	10:45 a.m.		
Worship Leader:	Bill List		
Welcomers:	Danny, Cindy & Tim Mivelaz		
Greeter:	Jackie Schmidt		
Ushers:	Tom Beyer, Tim Mivelaz		
Nursery Attendant:			
Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman		
Altar Guild:	Janet Shanahan & Ann Burchardt		
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Carol Bertrand		
Sunday, January 12	10:45 a.m.		
Worship Leader:	Bill List		
Welcome Team:	Mivelaz Family		
Greeter:	Kari Payne		
Ushers:	Tom Beyer, Kari Payne, Tim Mive	laz	
Nursery Attendant:			
Altar Guild:	Janet Shanahan & Ann Burchardt		
Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman		
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Bob Hernquist		
Sunday, January 19	10:45 a.m.		
Worship Leader:	Jenny Prescia		
Greeters:	Mivelaz Family		
Ushers:	Tom Beyer, Tim Mivelaz		
Nursery Attendant:	-		
Altar Guild:	Janet Shanahan & Ann Burchardt		
Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman		
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Karen Jarrett		
Sunday, January 26	10:45 a.m.		
Worship Leader:	Bill List		
Welcome Team:	Mivelaz Family		
Greeter:	Chris Ihlenburg		
Ushers:	Tom Beyer, Tim Mivelaz		
Nursery Attendant:			
Altar Guild:	Janet Shanahan & Ann Burchardt		
Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman		
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Kathi MacDou	gall	
If you have a schedule pr	oblem or can volunteer please conta	ct the following:	
Worship Leaders/Lay Re	ader/Greeters/Phone Receptionist:	Anita Pahlman	847-566-8081
Nursery Attendants:		Anita Pahlman	847-566-8081
Ushers:		Tom Beyer	847-566-0474
			004 014 (ECC

Counters:

Andrea Ammons

224-214-6723

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed		Thu	Fri	Sat
			HAPPY NEW YEAR!	1	9 am Quilters	3	4 9 am Bible Study 10 am Power of Praise
					7 pm Prayer Meeting	5 Brownies 45730 5:30 pm Early Bird AA 6 pm Wolf Scouts	Rehearsal (POP)
5	6	7		8	9	10	11
8:30 Traditional 9:30 Coffee Hour		7 pm Daisies #46021 7 pm Evangelism	10 Bible Study 5 Tiger Cub Scouts		9 am Quilters		8:30 am Women's Breakfast Bible Study 9 am Bible Study
9:40 Sunday School 9:45 Adult Forum 10:45 Contemporary	6:30 pm Early Bird AA 7 pm Kirk Players	Ministry Team mtg 7:30 Troop #198	5:30 pm Lucky Ducks 4-H Club 6:30 Webelos 2		6 pm Brownies #45730 7:00 Kirk Players	5:30 pm Early Bird AA 7 ECOH	10 am POP Rehearsal 3 pm Eagle Court of
5:15 pm H2H M/up #7 6 pm H2H Lesson #8	7:30 Bells Rehearse	8:30 pm Mund. AA	7 Cub Pack Mtg 7:00 Choir Reh.		7 Women's Fellowship 7 pm Prayer Meeting	7:30 Kirk Meeting	Honor Ceremony
12	13	14	-	15	16 	17	18
8:30 Traditional 9:30 Coffee Hour 9:40 Sunday School	9:30 am H.O.U.S.E. 6:30 pm Early Bird AA	8:00 am Men's Breakfast (Hillside)	ENCOUNTER ARTICLES DUE		9 am Quilters – Brown Bag Lunch – all are welcome!		9 am Bible Study 10 am POP Rehearsal
9:45 Adult Forum 10:45 Contemporary	7 pm Kirk Players 7:30 Bells Rehearse	7 pm Council	10 Bible Study 6:30 Webelos 1		7:00 Kirk Players	5:30 pm Early Bird AA	MOVIE NIGHT 5 pm Dinner
		7:30 Troop #198 8:30 pm Mund. AA	7 pm Kirk Players 7:00 Choir Reh.		7 pm Prayer Meeting	6 pm Wolf Scouts	6:30 Movie
19	20	21		22	23	24	25
8:30 Traditional 9:30 Coffee Hour 9:40 Sunday School	MLKing, Jr Day Church Office Closed	<i>L</i> 1	10 Bible Study		9 am Quilters	LΤ	9 am Quilters 9 am Bible Study 10 am POP Rehearsal
9:45 Adult Forum 10:45 Contemporary	9:30 am H.O.U.S.E.	7 Warahin 9 Musia	6:30 Webelos 2		6 pm Brownies #45730 7:00 Kirk Players	5:30 pm Early Bird	iv ani FOF Neneaisai
2 Junior Scouts #45193 5:15 pm H2H M/up #8	6:30 pm Early Bird AA 7 pm Kirk Players	7 Worship & Music Ministry Team mtg. 8:30 pm Mund. AA	7 pm Kirk Players 7:00 Choir Reh.		7 pm Prayer Meeting	AA	
6 pm H2H Lesson #9	7:30 Bells Rehearse						
26 8:30 Traditional 9:30 Coffee Hour	27 9:30 am H.O.U.S.E.	28 8:00 am Men's Breakfast (Hillside)	2 10 Bible Study	29	30 9 am Quilters	31	
9:40 Sunday School 9:45 Adult Forum 10:45 Contemporary	6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:30 pm G.S. #40310		7 pm Kirk Players		7 pm Prayer Meeting	5:30 pm Early Bird AA 6 pm Wolf Scouts	
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	7:00 Kirk Players	8:30 pm Mund. AA	7:00 Choir Reh.				

PRAYER VENTURES January 2020

- 1 What is the significance of your name? On this day we recall the naming of Jesus and pray that when we hear, say or think his name, we will recognize him as our salvation, our uniter and our sure source of love, forgiveness and new life.
- 2 Throughout National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, remember in prayer the men, women and children who are victims of this global tragedy, which disproportionately affects women and girls. Pray for an end to human trafficking and that all who suffer its abuse, injustice and oppression may find freedom, support, healing and safety, especially in our communities of faith.
- **3** Give thanks for the cloud of faith-filled witnesses who surround us as mentors of faith, vocation and life skills, enriching our lives through their example and sharing their faith, wisdom and knowledge.
- 4 Pray for the people and communities affected by the recent fires in California, that they will not lose hope but will experience God's presence and encouragement through the care and support of others. Give thanks for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response with the California synods, Lutheran Social Services of Northern California and Lutheran Social Services of Southern California to respond with physical, emotional and spiritual care.
- **5** Pray that the Holy Spirit will help us bear witness in the world to the light and truth of Jesus Christ, that we will be infused with enthusiasm for inviting others to believe and follow, and that all will experience the grace and fullness of God.
- 6 Feast of Epiphany God's glory is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, born among us and immersed in the messiness, complexity and commonness of humanity for the sake of the world. Pray that we will recognize God's divine presence and activity in the world for the redemption and healing of humankind and for the nurturing of our lives to better emulate Jesus.
- 7 Give thanks for the gift of wisdom that comes from God. Pray that our faith, with the encouragement of the Spirit, will compel us to share, teach and cultivate God's wisdom and ways among all people young and old alike.

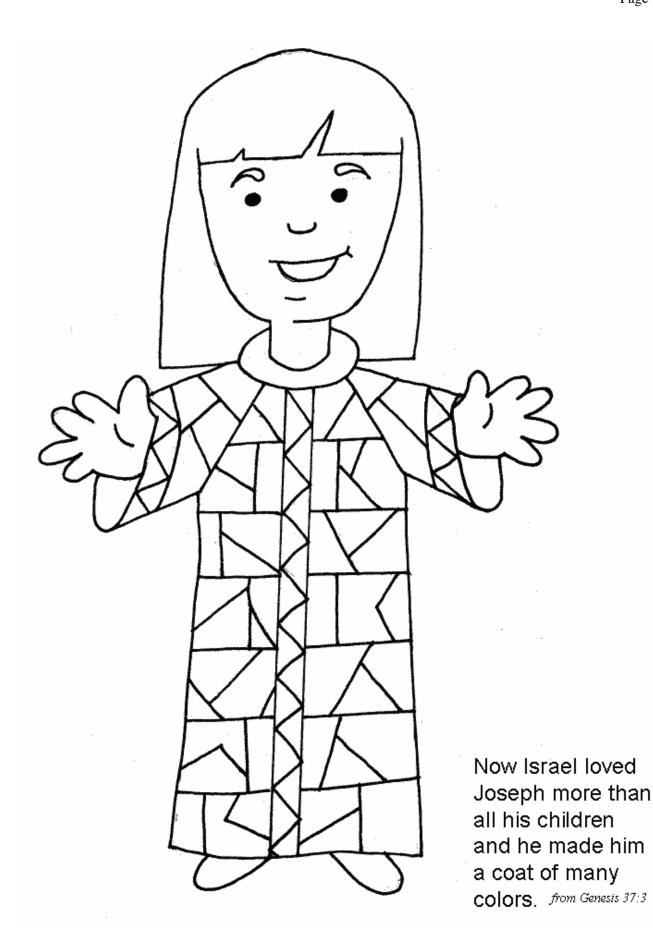
and called children of God through Jesus Christ, an immeasurable gift of grace, love and forgiveness in which we are immersed.

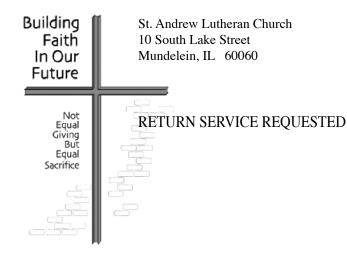
- **9** Pray for the ministries that have received ELCA World Hunger Big Dream Grants, which support domestic ministries as they pursue innovative and sustainable approaches to ending hunger. Ask God to help their work flourish and inspire others to seek new ways of ending hunger and lifting the human family.
- 10 The good news of Jesus Christ embodying God's love, forgiveness and promise of eternal life is for all humanity; no one should be excluded from this good news and mystery of grace. Ask that the Spirit fill and inspire us to speak enthusiastically about our faith and serve our neighbor every neighbor in the name of Christ.
- 11 Do you have goals, plans, hopes and ventures for this new year? Give thanks and take comfort and courage in the promise of God's love, forgiveness, renewing Spirit and acceptance of us just as we are in all our human endeavors.
- 12 Washed in the waters of baptism and touched by the Spirit, Jesus began his ministry and was made known to the world as the Son of God bringing the light and truth of God to the world. Remember in prayer how we are cleansed and renewed daily through our baptism, filled with the Holy Spirit, prepared for a life of praising God and serving our neighbor, and called to share the good news of Jesus Christ.
- 13 Pray for people who struggle with substance abuse and addictions and for those who are working to rebuild their lives and relationships through sobriety and the support of companions who understand the challenges of recovery. Pray that they will have faith in God's unwavering love and forgiveness in moments of despair, joy, accomplishment, weakness and stumbling.
- 14 God's voice and presence throughout creation are powerful and awesome. Give glory and praise to God as a humble member of the body of Christ, seeking God's strength each day.
- **15** Martin Luther King Jr. Day Give thanks for saints, martyrs and leaders, throughout history and today, who have dedicated their lives to racial justice, equality for all people and an end to racism and discrimination, and who stand with the neglected or weary. Pray that our actions, words and service for the sake of our
- **8** Give thanks and praise to God that we are adopted

neighbor will be inspired and guided by the witness and example of these bold leaders.

- 16 Pray for ELCA churchwide staff, volunteers and planning committees as they prepare for "boundless: God beyond measure," the 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. Ask the Spirit to guide them as they help youth, young adults and adults catch a glimpse and develop a deeper understanding of Christ's love and what it means to live a life filled with God.
- 17 Give thanks that God shows no partiality or exclusivity in sharing love, mercy and forgiveness; the good news of Jesus Christ is for everyone and every nation!
- 18 The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins today. Give thanks for the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, the Lutheran World Federation, the World Council of Churches and the ecumenical organizations and ministries with whom we journey together toward unity — unity that we celebrate and share in Jesus Christ.
- **19** Pray that in moments when God says, "Come and see" (meaning "trust and follow"), we demonstrate the same curiosity, hope and faith that moved the first disciples of Jesus, imperfect and uncertain as they were even when face-to-face with the Messiah.
- 20 Lift up in prayer the names of staff paid and volunteer — whose vocation and faithful, generous service enhance and support the daily ministry and mission of our congregations and synods, including administrative assistants, business managers, custodians and people responsible for digital communications.
- 21 Pray for the leaders of every nation, including our own, that they will heal long-standing and recent rifts, pursue just and peaceful agreements and solutions for the well-being of the people they serve, and share resources to relieve hunger and poverty everywhere, without concern for profit or gain for any single nation.
- 22 Ask God to help us actively mend the suspicion and hatred in our nation and around the world that divide us, frustrate compassion and generosity, and undermine our understanding of how to live in community. Pray that where we are broken or in conflict, God will show us how to be whole.
- 23 Pray that we will find joy in following the will of God as it is written in our hearts and revealed in Scripture.

- 24 Thank God for our special relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1997; pray for the church, its diverse ministries and its members and leaders; and pray that together we will find mutual support, new partnerships and new resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.
- 25 Conversion of Paul Reflect on how God has transformed you. Give thanks and praise to God for stirring our lives and calling us to be witnesses and servants doing God's work in the world. And give thanks for our faith, our unique personal histories, our strengths and weaknesses, and our gifts and skills, even when we are uncertain of their usefulness and relevance in the body of Christ.
- 26 Praise God for Jesus' life, teachings, ministry and personal example, which instruct us today as modernday disciples called to follow Christ, share the gospel, serve our neighbor and grow the church in an everchanging world.
- 27 Remember in prayer women of the early church, throughout history and today, whom God has called and equipped as witnesses, bearers and teachers of the faith, and leaders in every corner of the world. They are a blessing to the church.
- 28 Give thanks for theologians and teachers in our church, in our educational institutions and in our midst. Pray that God will grant them insight and wisdom to help us connect faith with daily life and deepen our understanding of God's word, ways and desires for us.
- 29 Ask God for forgiveness for the conflicts that divide our church and our congregations. Pray that when we disagree, we will exercise humility, love, respect and reconciliation, remembering and reaffirming our unity of spirit and purpose as siblings in Christ.
- **30** Ask God to help us when we feel discouraged or overwhelmed by or detached from the difficult challenge of reducing gun violence. Pray for wisdom, courage and boldness in advocating for legislation and cultural shifts that, though complex or unpopular, will protect the gift of life and honor the handiwork of our Creator.
- 31 "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Praise God and shout with joy!





<u>"Sharing Christ"</u>
 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:

Traditional Service: 8:30 a.m.

Contemporary Service: 10:45 a.m.

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

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Being a Christian is less about cautiously avoiding sin than about courageously and actively doing God's will.

Our mission as a congregation is to *Share Christ*. More specifically, it is to help people come to *know* Christ, to *grow* in their relationship with Christ and his Church, and to be equipped to *serve* and *witness* in Christ's name. We would love to have you join us in this mission.

Dietsich.