

# St. Andrew Lutheran Church Encounter

January 2021

## From Pastor Jenna Pulkowski Pastor's Pen

*<sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and made his home among us. We have seen his glory, glory like that of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.*

(John 1:14 CEB)

Beloveds, grace and peace to you in the name of Immanuel. *Amen.*

St. Andrew Family of Faith, a blessed new year to you all.

Early in 2020, I went to get my nails done with a few of my friends. The owner of the nail salon, a lovely woman named Linda, had written on her entryway blackboard: "2020 is going to be your best year yet". Anytime we reminded her of this sentiment throughout the year, she would exclaim, "Oh don't remind me of that!" in a rather chagrined tone.

While I know most of us want to put the old year behind us and embrace the new one—a group among which I am eagerly counting myself—I've been reflecting on my willingness to dismiss this dumpster fire of a year. I don't think this desire is an attempt to avoid the losses and grief and pain we have all encountered in the past calendar year, but rather a deep, deep desire to return to some semblance of normalcy. And what better way to do that than with some New Year's Resolutions?!?!?!?

All around us we have messages of "new year, new you!", and the pressure for new years resolutions. We are told that who we are, on every level, can or should be improved. That somehow, who we are isn't enough. We aren't skinny enough, clear-skinned enough, eating all the right foods enough.

God, I would argue, does not appear to agree with the world's messaging. Surprising, I know—God disagreeing with the ways of the world. The miracle we just paid honor to as we remembered and celebrated the birth of Jesus is that bodies matter to God. Bodies matter to our loving Creator. Our physical selves are not an afterthought or something to be dismissed. By taking on human flesh in the form of Jesus, God tangibly showed us just how much matter matters.

This can be hard for those of us who on the best of days are apathetic about our bodies, and on the worst of days actively hate our bodies.

*Continued on page two*

## Annual Meeting ZOOM . . .

*Sunday January 31 @ 11:00*

St. Andrew Lutheran Family of Faith, welcome to 2021! While there is light at the end of the tunnel to Covid-19 safety measures, we still need to practice safety and care for our community. To that end, we will be conducting our 2021 Annual Meeting via Zoom.

The Executive Team is still sorting out the details, but we wanted to make sure you all have the date and time on your calendars. It will be Sunday, January 31 at 11 am. Anyone is allowed to attend, but our church constitution maintains that only members may vote. Please stay tuned for the Zoom link and call-in information. --

Lisa Green,  
*SALC Council President*



## Pastor's Pen (Continued from pg. one)

My own health struggles have often put me at odds with my own body, and the whole Body Positive movement can be really hard for me to embrace—although on an intellectual level I am 100% supportive of it.

Instead of setting New Year's Resolutions this year that revolve around weight loss, health routines that may or may not actually support our health, or making lists of "good" foods versus "bad" foods—which is a whole other topic for another day, but suffice it to say food is not an issue of morality, and we are not bad people for eating so-called "bad" foods—what would it look like for us to start out the year with our focus on God? The same God who chose to take on human flesh so that we could be reconciled to him? The same God who made his home among us?

Beloveds, our bodies matter. They matter to our community, and they matter to God. May this new year be a time for all of us to remember that we are created in the image of God, and that God's love for us meant taking on the fullness of humanity—wrinkles, fat, scars, and all.

Peace,  
Pr Jenna



**Bible study in the new year:** We will be doing a deep dive into the book of Esther when we return to Bible study on Wednesday, January 13 at 11:30 am. We continue to meet via Zoom. All are welcome! The information will ALWAYS stay the same!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86863678432?pwd=R29OL3d3bTVrdkxCa1haY0dRM3pWQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 6367 8432

Passcode: 196338

Or Call In Via Phone: (312) 626-6799 US and follow the prompts

**Borrow a church hymnal!** If you would like to borrow a church hymnal until we are able to safely gather in-person again, you are welcome to do so. Please contact the church to arrange a check-out. You can also purchase one of your own ELWs through Augsburg Fortress. Search "ELW" at [augsburgfortress.org](http://augsburgfortress.org).

**Find us on Facebook!** <https://www.facebook.com/standrewmundelein>. We have so much going on at church, and this is a great way to stay up to date on it all.

**Want to know when we've posted a new worship service** on our YouTube channel? Find us here [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpKWaDnSHH4DPVRFfVBhJ8A?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpKWaDnSHH4DPVRFfVBhJ8A?view_as=subscriber). Click "subscribe", and new videos will automatically pop up on your YouTube page!

**If you want to be included on our email list,** please contact our parish admin, Anita. Her email is [anitapahlmanstandrew@gmail.com](mailto:anitapahlmanstandrew@gmail.com)



### January 3 -

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

### January 10 -

Baptism of Our Lord  
Genesis 1:1–5  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1–7  
Mark 1:4–11

### January 17 -

2nd Sunday after Epiphany  
1 Samuel 3:1–10 [11–20]  
Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18  
1 Corinthians 6:12–20  
John 1:43–51

### January 24 -

3rd Sunday after Epiphany  
Jonah 3:1–5, 10  
Psalm 62:5–12  
1 Corinthians 7:29–31  
Mark 1:14–20

### January 31 -

4th Sunday after Epiphany  
Deuteronomy 18:15–20  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1–13  
Mark 1:21–28

## A Special Thank You For Flowers

A special thank you to Lolita Boldt who sent in a special donation for Christmas flowers in memory of her husband, Matthew J. Boldt.



# St. Andrew Annual Meeting

Jan. 31st at 11:00 a.m.

*Please Be a Part  
by Taking Part*

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.

**Please plan on attending!**  
and submitting a report.

The following reports have been included in the past!

- Church Council
- Church Staff
- President's Report
- Pastor's Report
- Memorial Report
- Property Report
- Quilter's Report
- Communications Report
- Staff Support
- Stewardship Report
- Women's Fellowship Report
- Scouting Report
- KFC (Kids for Christ)
- Gods Squad
- Head to the Heart
- VBS (Vacation Bible School)
- Wedding Report
- Nominating Report
- Worship and Music Report
- PADS
- Mundelein Lunch Program
- COOL
- Health and Wellness
- Evangelism
- Finance Report
- Social Ministry Report
- Audit Reports
- Annual Meeting Minutes

## Treasurer's Report for November 2020

	Nov.2020	Budget	YTD '20	Budget	Ann Bdgt
Income (Interest not shown)					
1500 REGULAR GIVING	19317.37	25233.00	229151.34	261883.00	285718.00
1503 SEASONAL GIVING	310.00	250.00	2893.50	3870.00	6070.00
1504 DESIGNATED GIVING	7733.13	865.00	22605.47	14855.01	15790.01
1505 MISC/EXTRA INCOME	106.00	150.00	42660.18	3200.01	3650.01
1507 BENEVOLENCE GIVING*					
*(Must be designated on Envelope)	1451.11	2180.00	18943.84	24120.00	26300.00
Total Operating Income	\$28,917.61	\$28,858.00	\$318,503.25	\$309,908.02	\$339,688.02
Total Expenditures	\$43,225.43	\$32,720.52	\$322,090.91	\$340,328.61	\$371,045.19

## Annual Reports Needed

### From Committees, Teams and Organizations

- This report is a summary of 2020 with a hopeful look into the future
- Please NOTE additional request for a picture!

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

**Please put ANNUAL REPORT in the subject line (so I don't confuse it with newsletter articles.)**

Please provide the following eight points of information for the annual report (if this information is available:)

- Ministry Team, Committee or group Name
- Picture "Selfie" of person submitting report (we need more community recognition)
- Members (*or at least the name of who is submitting the report.*)
- Goals for the year      • Goals for next year
- Successes                      • Disappointments
- Comments

Please submit your report information in an email or in an email with an attached word document and email to:  
[dehamm@comcast.net](mailto:dehamm@comcast.net)

***This year everyone will be sent a PDF of the Annual Report to be viewed and reviewed at home!***

Thank you for all of your commitment & dedication during 2020.

Respectfully,  
Anita , Donn & Council

# Quilters' Crossing

Hello, again & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!  
We wish many blessings to all for the coming year!  
Things have got to be better than 2020 – what a crazy year! We do continue to pray that soon, soon we will be able to be together again!



In December, we held an on-line/virtual quilt auction in lieu of our annual in-person auction and craft sale. Five beautiful quilts were auctioned off. The funds raised (\$225) will be used toward shipping costs for all the quilts and for sewing machine maintenance. Thank you to all that participated in the auction. The winners are: Sonia Schoenfiled - Baby Blanket, Tana Hamm - Baby Blanket, Lisa Green - Twin Quilt, Brenda Belanger - Twin Quilt.

The Quilters continue to work their wonders –over 300 quilts so far this year have been created! Monetary donations are always appreciated as well as those SHEET donations we are continually asking for. They can be dropped off at the church on Tues/Wed between 10 am – 3 pm. Please call Judy Parriott if you have questions (847)986-4465.

Our leaders, our scientists and medical teams have been working diligently to create a vaccine. Please continue to pray for them and us all that we can still stay safe and healthy to the end of these difficult times! We have our God by our side and must continue to trust that He is taking care of us – let His voice continue to guide our actions each day to help us show love to our brothers & sisters.

A heartfelt thank you to all who participated!

*Lyn Hayes and the Quilters*



## How and When to Best Contact St. Andrew

St. Andrew Family: please note that the church staff will only be answering calls, texts, and emails during business hours for non-emergency contacts. This applies to Sunday morning service inquiries.

Please do NOT call Anita on Sunday mornings for troubleshooting help--she isn't involved in the Zoom worship management, and is unable to help you figure it out.

Please make an appointment with Pr Jenna during the week if you would like help navigating Sunday worship. Anything that is an emergency--e.g. hospitalization, vehicle crashes, house fires--is of course an appropriate reason to reach out to one of us.

## PEOPLE POWER JANUARY 2021

We are attempting to pre-schedule Lay Readers and Altar Guild staff. If you are interested in either of these areas and have not been contacted by Anita Pahlman or Tana Hamm, please feel free to reach out to them.

Anita: [anitapahlmanstandrew@gmail.com](mailto:anitapahlmanstandrew@gmail.com)

Tana: [tanahamm@comcast.net](mailto:tanahamm@comcast.net)

If you have a gift / skill for technology and would like to be part of the Virtual Worship Tech Team, please feel free to contact Pastor Jenna –  
[revjennap@gmail.com](mailto:revjennap@gmail.com)

or  
Bill List –  
[williamlist@yahoo.com](mailto:williamlist@yahoo.com)

## ST ANDREW CALENDAR – JANUARY 2021

While we may not be gathering indoors, our church is still alive and functioning.

As you are able, we strongly encourage you to stay home, stay healthy, save lives.

Offerings and items for PADS and/or COOL may be dropped at the church on Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 10 AM to 3 PM.

Call ahead and/or ring the doorbell (to the left of the door).

# Women's Fellowship

## Welcomes 2021



Thank you very much to the SIXTEEN families who donated dozens of delicious Christmas cookies to be shared with FIFTEEN elderly/shut-in St. Andrew members. There were over twenty different varieties. Even though we were unable to sing Christmas carols with them, we helped make smiles and pleasant memories to these members. Thanks!!

On Thursday, December 10, we enjoyed Christmas stories and songs with Jane Geddie. She is a Community Bible Study leader and has a degree in music education. She read from Martin Luther's Christmas book, shared information about being a shepherd, sang "Go Tell It On The Mountain" and gave history about other carols. She sang our traditional carols as we sang along via zoom. We enjoyed sharing our Christmas traditions and some new ideas for Christmas 2020. Thank you Jane (who currently is living in South Carolina, so it was nice to be able to zoom with her) and everyone who participated.

• **Our next zoom meeting** will be on Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 P.M. Our traditional white elephant Bunco evening is being modified to a virtual game night. We will use Kahoot! as an interactive game activity. We will also have a fun "scavenger hunt" that will have prizes!! It will be a fun engaging evening to celebrate the arrival of 2021. Be ready to have a great time. Please use the recurring zoom codes:

Topic: St. Andrew Women's Fellowship

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89119193404?pwd=NEZZTkRnekIHSk54MERRV2QrcnU2QT09>

Meeting ID: 891 1919 3404

Passcode: 550280

Our February 11 zoom meeting will be based upon having a healthy heart and a gentle yoga "zoom class." More information to follow. Again, if you have any ideas for future events in 2021, please contact Barb Binversie with your suggestions. We hope that this spring we will be able to have an on-site service project.

Happy New Year! Stay well.  
Barb Binversie

## Your Gift to God Brings Blessings!

Please remember that our payroll and utilities don't stop, so we still need your offering.

So, what can you do when you don't go out in public? It is called online giving and it will still allow you to make your offering. It is safe and secure with special protection so your identity cannot be stolen.

**How do you do this?** First, go to your computer and enter '[www.standrewmundelein.com](http://www.standrewmundelein.com)'. It will open the Church's website and on the middle right-hand side is a section called 'Online Giving'.

The second step, if you have never done this before, is to create a 'profile'. This will be your Profile and you will use your email address and password to get in in the future.

To make a single donation, click on the [Add Transaction button](#). Now you can enter the amount for Regular, Building, Benevolence, Youth, World Hunger or Chris Ed. Next enter a credit card, savings account or checking account and finish the transaction.

You can make it a one-time or recurring giving, and print a copy for your own records. That's how it is done. And don't forget to Log Off in the upper right corner.

**This site is secure and works through Vanco Payment Solutions ([cs@vancopayments.com](mailto:cs@vancopayments.com)) theirs to do it and you don't have to share your login email address and password with them.**

# STEWARDSHIP —

## PROUDLY OUR WAY OF LIFE AT ST. ANDREW

God is and always will be with us – for this we continually must praise him and give thanks! One way to do this is to be faithful, to be brave and unafraid, to confess that we are children of God and to share our love with others. We are messengers of God’s good news as John the Baptist was when he had the special assignment during another pivotal time in the world’s history. He had a special purpose to announce Jesus’ coming. Another way is to be a faithful and cheerful giver, to share what God has graciously given to us while we are here on earth.

We just completed our Fall Stewardship Campaign and we were able to hear and think about our Money Story. We have only received about half of the pledge commitments so far than what we normally receive totaling around \$155,000. This number is far short of our annual operating budget and as the Finance Team and Council are trying to put together a budget for 2021, this poses a huge challenge. Last year the congregation approved an “unbalanced” budget but due in large part to some unexpected anonymous donations, we were able to keep in good financial standing. We cannot count on this again. Most pledges were kept up-to-date which the Finance Team said helped to keep us financially strong even though we also had a large expense that had to be paid to bring our boiler heating system up-to-date. **OUR MOST SINCERE THANKS TO ALL!** Please prayerfully consider how you each can support our ministries and the operations of OUR church. If you have not yet turned in a pledge, it is not too late but is possible, this should be done as soon as possible. Contact the church office with questions or if you do not have a pledge form.

Many good things have happened at St. Andrew, despite the pandemic and we want to continue our ministries to St. Andrew families and the community. And, as we are sure, all of us want to be

able to get back together soon and be able to worship and work together face to face and side by side!

### In 2020:

We searched for, found and called a new pastor!

We pre-recorded the service every Sunday for 23 weeks. Each week, this involved the gifts and talents of 7-9 people and over 40 hours of labor from all parties.

We gathered outdoors while the weather allowed us to do so, and began to celebrate the Eucharist each week. This practice has continued as we moved exclusively online.

Our church grounds were kept up with the help of some very awesome volunteers.

We began to gather virtually each week including worshipping live via Zoom, to the 14 kids in 8 households in KFC, to the 12 kids in 7 households in H2H, to now hosting regular weekly Bible study, coffee hour fellowship, and Advent midweek services. We hold Council, Worship & Music, St. Andrew Cares Safety Team, TST & Finance, Staff Support, and other team meetings via Zoom on a regular basis, committing our evenings and our energy to the business of the church. Our Women’s Fellowship has begun to regularly gather again, via Zoom. The time has been edifying and encouraging.

Our H2H youth were able to gather as safely as possible for fellowship at Richardson’s Farm and to pass out candy during the Mundelein Boo Bash (where we ran out of candy before we were even halfway through the Trunk or Treat time!).

We are staying connected with mid-week Email Blasts with LOTS of good info.

“Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices; Who wondrous things has done, in whom the world rejoices. Who, from our mothers’ arms, has blest us on our way. With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.”

-- *Martin Rinkhart*

Phone calls are being made by our Caring in Action team to those without email access to “check-in.”

The Women’s Fellowship group couldn’t carol to our shut-ins this year, but did deliver homemade cookies to 14 people to bring a bit of holiday cheer.

We supported our Quilting Ministry, who through loving labor made over 300 quilts so far this year.

We continued to work hard to support our commitment to COOL & PADS-both financially and with item donations-as well as our benevolence to the Synod and ELCA global ministries.

We always made payroll for our staff. We always paid our bills.

We must look forward to 2021 and move forward. Also, please look for the “Gift & Talent Survey” that will be sent out after the first of the year to give each of us the opportunity to do our part to keep the church running. Please ASK “how can I help” if someone doesn’t reach out to you. Remember **THIS IS YOUR CHURCH!**

“All praise and thanks to God, the Father now be given. The Son, and him who reigns, with them in highest heaven. The one eternal God, whom earth and heav’n adore. For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.” AMEN.

*The Stewardship Team*

# Important Message for H2H and KFC

Thank you parents for all that you do to help the youth! I am enjoying teaching your child(ren).

Please read below the upcoming lessons and events for H2H and KFC.



## H2H Head to the Heart Confirmation Program (6-8 grade)

### Syllabus/Schedule

January 10 .....	Lesson 6 Grace Alone - 6:30 P.M.
January 17 .....	Skiing at Wilmot Time TBA
January 24 .....	Lesson 7 Does God Exist - 6:30 P.M.
February 7 .....	Lesson 8 How is God 3 in 1 - 6:30 P.M.
February 21 .....	Lesson 9 Believing is Jesus - 6:30 P.M.
February 28 .....	Ice Skating Time TBA
March 7 .....	Lesson 10 Is it okay to angry - 6:30 P.M. With God:Can I lose my
March 14,2021 .....	Trail Hike (Libertyville) - 2-4 P.M.
March 21-27 .....	Spring Break
March 28 .....	Lesson 11 Why so many different religions? - 6:30 P.M.
April 4 .....	Easter Breakfast (maybe) 7:30 A.M.
April 18 .....	Horseback riding Time TBA
April 28, .....	Next years plan/ craft 6:30 P.M.
May 2, .....	Affirmation of Baptism Practice 6:30 P.M.
May 9 .....	Off/ Mothers Day
May 16 .....	Affirmation of Baptism celebration TBA

## KFC Kids For Christ Sunday School (3-5 grade)

### Syllabus/Schedule

January 10 .....	The Greatest Commandment
January 17 .....	The Holy Spirit
January 24 .....	Jesus feeds 5000
January 31 .....	The Great Commission
February 7 .....	Doubting Thomas
February 14 .....	Valentines celebration
February 21 .....	Phillip and the Ethiopia
February 28 .....	Paul's Letters (our letters

### First Communion Classes start

March 7 .....	Angels for Peter
March 14 .....	Trail Hike (Libertyville)
March 21 .....	Off for spring
March 28 .....	Holy Week
April 4 .....	Easter celebration
April 11 .....	Empty Tomb
April 18 .....	The Ascension
April 28 .....	Transfiguration
May 2 .....	First Communion

# PRAYER VENTURES

## January 2021

**1** Give thanks and praise that God knows intimately our complexities, failures, accomplishments, questions, goals and hopes, and still looks upon us with loving kindness, newness and a desire for us to thrive as individuals and communities.

**2** Pray for our companion churches and international leaders as they confront multiple waves of the pandemic. Ask the Spirit to fill them with hope, resilience and reassurance that our faith in the presence and love of God, which we share as siblings in Christ, will unify us in caring for one another and in doing God's work in the world, using our diverse gifts, cultures, languages, resources and perspectives in every circumstance.

**3** Give thanks and praise to God that we are children of God, knowing and testifying to the good news that Jesus Christ became flesh and lived among us, and that we have seen the glory of God's only son, full of grace and truth for the world.

**4** *National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month* We remember and pray for victims of sex trafficking, involuntary servitude, debt bondage and forced labor in our nation and around the world, and we ask God's guidance in caring for victims and actively working to end this abuse, injustice and oppression.

**5** Pray for Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton, members of the ELCA Church Council and the Conference of Bishops. Give thanks for their humble service, their faith in Christ, their leadership and gifts, and their commitment to wrestle with difficult decisions and issues for the sake of the church and the world.

**6** *Epiphany* As people of faith, we are not immune from wondering about God, Jesus Christ and the Spirit. Pray that God will be patient with us, illuminating the truth of who we are as baptized children of God and the reality and certainty of the good news of Jesus Christ, the true Son of God, our Savior, Messiah, Redeemer and teacher.

**7** As the pandemic continues, pray for doctors, nurses, emergency responders and health care workers who need renewal, strength and our gratitude and recognition as they continue to serve at great personal

risk and sacrifice for the sake of our health and well-being.

**8** Give thanks for the people in our lives who inspire hope, faith and courage, and whose words and actions touch us, teach us the meaning of grace and move us to become bearers of mercy in the world.

**9** In Christ we have received forgiveness of our sins and salvation through God's unfathomable grace, showered upon us every day. Praise God!

**10** Give thanks for God's love and forgiveness in baptism, which marks the beginning of our journey with our siblings in Christ to share the good news, serve all people, grow the church and strive for peace and justice in the world.

**11** Pray for parents, students, employees and business owners whose plans and routines change day by day and week by week due to the uncertainty of the pandemic, that they might be hopeful, resilient and able to adapt, change and endure.

**12** Pray for our faith-based schools, early childhood education programs and day care centers as they provide experiential education, social interaction, stability and calm for the youngest of our children, who are often most vulnerable during times of uncertainty and anxiety.

**13** God is mighty, majestic and eternal throughout the universe, generously sharing strength and blessings with us. Give glory and thanks to God, and shout for joy!

**14** Ask God to help us practice justice, generosity and care for creation, sharing our resources with others who have few or who have lost resources or productive land as a result of natural and human-caused disasters.

**15** Pray for the young adults who have applied for a yearlong journey in international service with our companion churches and organizations through the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program, which will resume in 2021-2022 after a time of sabbath during the pandemic.

**16** 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 members and its leaders, and pray that together we will find strength and new resources for the work of



sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these uncertain and challenging times.

**17** Jesus invited Philip to follow him as a disciple, and Philip, in turn, invited Nathanael. Ask God to help us be faithful followers, students and, at the same time, disciples eager to invite others to join in God's good work in the world.

**18** *Martin Luther King Day* Today we remember the life, ministry, sacrifice and activism of Martin Luther King Jr. Pray that his life and the legacies of others who have fought for civil rights and social reform will inspire our own commitment and persistence in working for racial justice, dismantling racism and combating white supremacy.

**19** We may argue about what is legal, what we are entitled to or what we have the right to do with our bodies and lives. But Paul reminds us that we have been made one with the body and spirit of Christ; we "were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body." Pray that the Spirit will guide us to live with humility and deference for who we are in Christ and in obedience to the ways and desires of God.

**20** *Inauguration Day* As members of society and the church who represent varied political affiliations and perspectives, pray together for our nation's newly elected president and vice president, that the Spirit will grant them wisdom, strength, commitment to serving all people, a deep understanding of justice and mercy, and the courage to enact change for the well-being of our communities and nation.

**21** Pray for the ELCA World Hunger Leadership Gathering, an online event happening right now that gathers ELCA World Hunger leaders for learning, networking, sharing ideas and planning for our common ministry to address hunger and its root causes.

**22** Pray for reconciliation, understanding and renewal in our divided nation so that we might work together for justice, compassion and generosity, serving our neighbors in need and the well-being of our communities as they struggle with vexing, deep-rooted problems. Ask the Spirit to inspire and guide our lives so that our values, decisions, actions and words reflect the gospel, the teachings of Jesus and the ways of God, who is good, gracious, merciful and just.

**23** Praise God that, as small and insignificant as we might be in the vast universe, we are wonderfully

made and God knows every little thing about us and our human ways.

**24** In Scripture we read about Jesus' simple, personal and compelling invitations to Simon, Andrew, James, John and the other disciples to drop everything and follow him. Pray that when God calls us to follow and serve, we will respond with faith and trust, even if we do not yet know where God is leading us or what God is calling us to do.

**25** Pray for ministries, nonprofit organizations and agencies that serve the daily needs of communities, families and individuals; pursue justice and equity; build resilience to cope with disasters and crises; accompany immigrants and refugees; and bring the hope and love of Christ where there is despair and weariness.

**26** When, like Jonah, we are reluctant to forgive, practice mercy or share the gospel with those we deem undeserving, ask the Spirit to help us discern God's ways, grace and mercy for all people, and to act boldly without personal bias.

**27** *Lydia, Dorcas and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith* Praise God for the witness and ministry of women of the early church. Give thanks for women of all ages and backgrounds who, responding to God's call, continue to use their gifts, life experiences, knowledge and passions to grow the church, serve all people and be bearers of hope and healing in the world.

**28** Give thanks for the Lutheran liturgy and worship practices that equip us for daily life, helping us to praise God, listen to God's word and experience unity in the body of Christ.

**29** Give thanks for the self-sacrificing generosity of people who demonstrate their gratefulness for God's gift of life and their concern for their neighbors' well-being by donating blood, plasma and even organs.

**30** Remember in prayer those who continue to struggle with unemployment, underemployment and job searching as a result of the economic and health impacts of COVID-19.

**31** Though our creeds do not speak of Jesus' teachings, miracles or example, give thanks that, through Scripture, the Spirit reveals Jesus to be the source of our redemption and a trustworthy guide, instructing us how to live with one another, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world today.



**Genesis 15:5**

"Then He brought him outside and said, 'Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.' And He said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'"

# Spiritual one-liners

- Give God what's right - not what's left.
- Man's way leads to a hopeless end - God's way leads to an endless hope.
- A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.
- Plan ahead - It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
- We don't change God's message - His message changes us.
- Never give the devil a ride - he will always want to drive.

*The Church does not close, only the building. Because we are the Church, the living body of our Lord Jesus and we are everywhere.*

# Who Cares Anyway?

## St. Andrew Cares Fund

St. Andrew Cares is a special assistance fund used to help people in need.

**Many times during a month individuals and families come to our church with real needs.**

If you would like to make a contribution to this fund, you may give it to Pastor Jenna, send it to the church office, or place it in the offering plate in the Narthex.

**Giving a gas card or a gift certificate from a grocery store is also a great way to help meet the needs of those who come to the church seeking help.**

*Thank you for your generosity!*

# Gifts and 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.*

# Church Council

## Ministry Team Liaisons:

- Christian Education:.....Jackie Schmidt
- Communication: .....
- Evangelism:.....Leslie Parriott
- Finance:.....Mary Hanson
- Memorial:.....Steve Jacobson
- Parish Life:.....Lyn Hayes
- Property:.....Matt Sample
- Social Ministry:.....Nancy Milne
- Staff Support:.....Lisa Green
- Stewardship:.....Ellen Van Zeeland
- Worship and Music:.....Rhonda VanderBloomen
- Youth:.....Erika List



# 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](http://www.standrewmundelein.com)  
Telephone No.: 847-566-8081

**Dated Material  
Do Not Delay**

## All are Welcome...



*Sunday Service  
can be viewed at*

[www.standrewmundelein.com](http://www.standrewmundelein.com)

A special thanks to  
Pastor Jenna Pulkowski  
for leading us through  
these challenging times.

We give Glory to God  
for you Sharing Christ with us!

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

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*Sending you the blessings of Christ  
on this New Year! May God always  
shower you a lot of joy and  
happiness!!*

**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.**