

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Encounter

April 2025

From Pastor Jenna Pulkowski Pastor's Pen

Dear St. Andrew family of faith,



As we draw closer to the end of Lent and the Great Three Days of Holy Week, God invites us to step into the story of Jesus' final days—not as distant observers, but as a people shaped by his life, death, and resurrection. In observing these Three Days of Holy Week, we emphasize that we are the community born again by Christ's resurrection, and that we as the church renew our commitment to the life that baptized people live. In many ways, it is countercultural to devote ourselves to the last days of Jesus in this manner, and yet, each year we do it again and again. We intentionally enter into a practice that does not let us skip from his triumphant entry to his resurrection.

Maundy Thursday invites us to the table where Jesus broke bread and poured wine, offering His very self for us. In this sacred meal, we remember his command to love one another as he has loved us. This year, we will also share in the practice of handwashing with a blessing—a tangible sign of Christ's humility and service.

Good Friday calls us to the foot of the cross. In candlelit prayer around the cross, we will witness the depth of God's love poured out for the world. As we listen to the Passion story, we are reminded that Jesus meets us in our suffering, carrying our burdens upon his shoulders.

The Vigil from Good Friday into Holy Saturday is a time of watching and waiting. In the quiet, we remember the stillness of the tomb, trusting that even in the darkness, God is at work. As we keep vigil around the cross, we prepare our hearts for the joy that is to come. And then, on Easter Sunday, we will gather with joy to proclaim the good news:

Christ is risen! The tomb is empty, and life has triumphed over death. Together, we will celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, singing with all creation that love has the final word.

I invite you to journey through these sacred days with us. Come and see, come and remember, come and rejoice—for in Christ, we are made new.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jenna

Worship Schedule for Holy Week & Easter 2025

April 13 Sunday of the Passion "Palm Sunday"

Traditional Worship -- 8:30 am

Contemporary Worship -- 10:45 am

April 17 Maundy Thursday

Worship with Handwashing, Communion and Stripping of the Altar -- 7 pm

April 18 Good Friday

Worship with Candle Lighting and Prayer Around the Cross -- 7 pm

Prayer Vigil begins -- 9 pm (until midnight Saturday)

Prayer Vigil is held in the sanctuary.

See sign-up on bulletin board outside Pastor's office.

April 20 Easter Sunday

Traditional Worship -- 8:30 am

Contemporary Worship -- 10:45 am

Easter Breakfast -- 9:00 am -- 10:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt -- 10:00 am (south lawn, weather permitting)

Quilters' Crossing

"...truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 26:40

As we move into Spring, our work continues in making our quilts which will be shipped out later in the summer. In the meantime, we continue to pray for those who they will "comfort" and for our own members going through some trials of their own, including Chris, Barb, Kathy, Debbie, Judy and any others not named but who may need our support.

We have found out that sadly, although she said she will be back on occasion to visit, our dear sister, Debbie J, is moving to southern Illinois. With that being said and with Judy P getting "tired" and needing to take care of herself (yes, Judy; you need to take care of yourself!), we will be having some "changing of the guard"; we know, though, that everyone will step up to continue what needs to be done! Sandee has already jumped in taking over administrative tasks to help us take care of each other and to let us know when someone needs extra "care". For now Judy P, myself and Khristi H will be co-leads. If I ever fully retire, I pray I will be able to give even more of my time to this Blessed ministry!

Mother's Day is fast approaching; the time when we have the opportunity to display the fruits of our labors, for all to see! We have talked and decided that this year, we will give anyone that would like to purchase one of the quilts for themselves or as a gift to be able to do so!

We continue to thank all who support our ministry by donating fabric, good used sheets and also for financially supporting us! IF THERE ARE ANY SEWERS OUT THERE WHO WOULD LIKE TO TRY THEIR HAND AT ASSEMBLING QUILT TOPS, WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE THE HELP AND SUPPORT! This can be done at home in any spare minutes that you may have. The pieces are already cut out for you; they just need to be sewed together! Instructions are provided but one on one guidance can also be given.

We continue to meet every Thursday from 9-12. More hands and thankful hearts are always welcome! If you have questions, please contact Judy Parriott, myself or call Anita in the church office.

Hugs and Blessings,

Lyn H and the Quilters



Scripture Readings for April 2025

April 6 -- 5th Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalms 126

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

April 13 -- Sunday of the Passion /

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 22:14--23:56

April 20 -- Resurrection of Our Lord:

Easter Day

Acts 10:34-43

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Luke 24:1-12

April 27 -- 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32

Psalms 118:14-29

Revelation 1:4-8

John 20:19-31

TREASURER'S REPORT

February 2025

Total Income:	\$19,179.11
Total Expense:	\$25,801.05
Net: +/-	-\$6,621.94

YTD totals 2025

Total Income:	\$46,918.65
Total Expense:	\$52,906.91
Net: +/-	-\$5,988.26

WE ARE “TOGETHER FOR JOY” TO LOVE AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER

How do we want to “share the message of the gospel”? We are all called to LOVE AND TO PUT THAT LOVE INTO ACTION!

As we have been going through this season of Lent, many of us have been praying and thinking, trying to reconcile with our Lord - this is a time for repentance and renewal. None of us are perfect and this is the perfect time to be thankful that God loves us and can use each of us, imperfect as we are - by the suffering of His Son, Jesus, and by His grace we have been forgiven and we will live with him someday.

A story from “Walking in Grace 2025” written by Carol Knapp:

“Our grandson, Isaac-then nine originated because of a book he liked called ‘Hatchet’. A young boy, stranded in the wilderness, must survive with only a hatchet. Isaac intended to be well equipped should such a thing ever happen to him.

His go-pack contents were impressive. There was a lantern and flashlight with extra batteries; an MRE (Meal Ready to Eat) and mess kit; a compass; a youth Bible; a water bottle; flint and steel for starting a fire; an emergency blanket and tent; matches; a rope; a hunting knife; a first aid kit; a whistle; a tackle set in a bottle; binoculars; two multi-tools; a nature guide for plants he could and could not eat; a toothbrush and toothpaste; and packets of garden seeds.

We grinned at that last inclusion. If he was lost long enough, he planned to grow a garden! Isaac took his pack seriously. When I began noticing multiple New Testament stories in which Jesus gives the command “go”, my thoughts gravitated to Isaac’s go-pack. Go is a two letter word with feet. It can be uttered in rejection-Jesus uses it this way once-but primarily it is His call to forward action. His “go” means transformation

is on the way-and I don’t want to miss it.

How did first century people need to be equipped-and how do I need to be listening and ready-when Jesus says, “Go”? A nine-year-old’s go-pack might hold some clues.

‘Lord, transform my go-pack into a “God pack”, filled with Your essentials for living.’”

“Now may the God of peace.... equip you in every good thing to do His will.” Hebrews 13: 20-21

Lyn H and your Service Team



Lyn H and the Stewardship Team
(Service Umbrella Ministry)

PARISH LIFE

Our LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS will continue each Wednesday through April 9th. We gather at 6:00 for supper and fellowship followed by a Hymn Sing at 6:45 and Evening Prayer service at 7:00. Bring a pot of soup or some bread to share if you can but it is not mandatory - there is always enough to go around! Please come for some good fellowship and conversation while we share a meal together!

We continue to share tasty treats during COFFEE HOUR between services on Sunday mornings. We cordially invite you to sign up to bring something to share. It has been wonderful seeing more and more folks hanging around after first service to visit and some folks coming in early before second service to visit and share treats and a cup of coffee, hot cocoa or tea! Thank you to those who help by providing treats!

The Service Team met a couple weeks ago (we will continue to meet the third Sunday of each month around noon; next meeting 4/27 since the third Sunday is Easter Sunday). We want to start planning and holding more FELLOWSHIP EVENTS so we can get to know our fellow St Andrew brothers and sisters better! A Spaghetti Dinner is being planned sometime the weekend of 5/16 - 18 in joint effort with the Scouts to have fun and also help raise funds for our Parking Lot! Please watch for more information! We are also looking to maybe have some picnics during the Mundelein Concerts in the Park, maybe Sunday evening Volleyball, joining some Village Events to promote our church as well. In order to do these things, though, we NEED SUPPORT AND VOLUNTEERS! What ideas do YOU have; what would YOU like to help with! Let us know! You can also help with our Church Garden or the Caring in Action Team!

PRAYER VENTURES

April 2025

- 1 Pray for lasting peace between nations and for the healing of people who suffer conflict, war and violence, especially in Ukraine, Russia, Gaza, Israel, Syria, Haiti, Myanmar and regions of Africa.
- 2 Arab American Heritage Month Give thanks for the contributions and impact of Arab Americans in every aspect of society, including religion, education, science, business, government and the arts. Ask God to bless and further the work of ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries and the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage.
- 3 "You have come down to the lakeshore seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy, but only asking for me to follow" (WOV 784). Praise God for seeking us out and, despite our imperfection, making us humble disciples, equipped and inspired by the Spirit.
- 4 Pray for church leaders, liturgists, scholars and scientists gathering to discuss including the Feast of Creation Day in liturgical calendars, an effort organized by the Roman Catholic Church in partnership with the Lutheran World Federation, World Council of Churches, World Methodist Council, Anglican Communion and World Communion of Reformed Churches. Ask the Spirit to guide their study and discussion of climate justice, the Nicene Creed, the role of the Holy Trinity in creation, and how Christians engage with the creation story.
- 5 Remember in prayer worship leaders and musicians participating in the ecumenical Music that Makes Community workshop in Waco, Texas, a day of building community through singing, learning and fellowship.
- 6 Pray for a spirit of humble generosity that recognizes and encourages the diverse gifts and contributions of our siblings in Christ, who give as they are able and are inspired by their gratitude towards and love for God.
- 7 Praise the Creator for the new life of an emerging spring, which inspires our joy, awe and hope.
- 8 There are about 390,000 people in foster care in our country, ranging from infants to young adults. Pray that these young people will experience love, understanding, security and encouragement in their foster families. Give thanks for foster parents and remember those young adults who, aging out of foster care, may face new uncertainties.
- 9 Seek God's forgiveness and mercy for the times when we have hurt, offended or demeaned others, intentionally or unintentionally. Pray for the Spirit to grant us humility, penitent hearts and a compassion that stirs us to make amends and heal broken relationships.
- 10 Lift up in prayer farmers, ranchers and agricultural workers. Give thanks for their efforts to feed the world and care for creation, and pray for abundant harvests.
- 11 Give thanks that God is always doing something new in and through us, wonderful things that impact others when they witness Christ's awesome love reflected in our lives as disciples.
- 12 Pray for youth in our congregations and communities, recognizing the challenges they face, celebrating the joys they experience and showing gratitude for what they add to our faith communities, which need the gifts of all generations to do God's work in the world.
- 13 Palm Sunday Pray that we might accompany Jesus in his journey of persecution, suffering, death and resurrection, a journey of love and sacrifice for our sake.
- 14 Pledge to bear hope, grace and newness in Christ to our neighbors in need, especially those who are poor, hungry, sick, imprisoned, unemployed or plagued by war or domestic conflict.
- 15 Praise God for the strength we draw from Scripture, from our siblings in Christ, from living in community and from the tireless work of the ever-present Spirit.

- 16** Pray to the Lord for comfort, strength and renewed faith when you feel broken and worn-out.
- 17** Maunday Thursday Today we end our observation of Lent and shift our attention to what God has done for the world through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, son of God and son of humankind. Give thanks for the gift of new life in Christ, a life wrapped in God's boundless grace.
- 18** Good Friday "Start being brave about everything. Drive out darkness and spread light. Don't look at your weaknesses. Realize instead that in Christ crucified you can do everything" (Catherine of Siena, 1347-1380). Pray for the Spirit to strengthen our faith so that, through us, God's love and mercy might shine brightly in the world.
- 19** Ask the Spirit for a faith that is certain and resilient, even when we don't fully understand or appreciate what God has done for humanity through Jesus Christ.
- 20** Easter Day Sing praise and thanksgiving to God! This is the day the Lord has made for us to gather as loved and forgiven children, celebrating our freedom from the bondage of sin and death.
- 21** When you reflect on who might need your presence, comfort and reassuring words of love and hope, who comes to mind? Include them in your prayers and reach out to them.
- 22** Give thanks and pray for directors for evangelical mission, who serve in partnership with ELCA churchwide ministries and synods, helping them to found "new start" ministries, renew congregations, nurture stewardship, and identify, develop and equip leaders for ministry.
- 23** Every day, Jesus walks with us, sharing good news and wisdom just as he did with Cleopas and his companion on the road to Emmaus. Pray that the Spirit will help us express that good news and wisdom in our conversations with our neighbors.
- 24** "We are not fed by only doing one way of ministry. Instead it is about seeing the face of God in every person who walks through the door, about embracing the inherent dignity of every individual, regardless of their circumstances" (the Rev. Esther K. Sianipar, "Serving With Shobi's Table: A Reflection," shobistable.org). Pray for our neighbors who suffer hunger, lack reliable access to nutritious food and yearn for the support of caring communities, and thank God for our congregational, synodical and churchwide ministries that serve them without bias or judgment.
- 25** Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Alaska Synod, Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod and Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.
- 26** Thank God for the spiritual nourishment we receive when we gather around the table to celebrate communion, and for the Triune God, who calls and equips us to do God's work in the world.
- 27** Like the apostle Thomas, we all experience moments of doubt and disbelief. Pray that God will be patient and forgiving with us, rekindling our trust in a Spirit that helps us when our faith weakens.
- 28** Thank God for volunteers who respond to the needs of the church and society by sharing their time, gifts and passion. Pray that we will extend to people of all ages the invitation to serve God.
- 29** Pray for those who suffer the trauma of gun violence in their communities and elsewhere. Ask for wisdom in responding to our stricken neighbors, for guidance in working to ending gun violence and for fearless respect for human life — a precious gift from God, our creator.
- 30** Again, we rejoice and shout, "Hallelujah! The Lord, our savior, is risen!" The good news and power of Easter that we experience cannot be confined to a single calendar day.



April 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 pm Cub Pk #98 7 Troop #198 7 pm SALC Exec. Team 7 Kirk Players-Artistic Dev	2 10 am Bible Study 11:30 Lenten Book Study 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Hymn-Sing 7 Lenten Worship	3 9 am Quilters 6 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30 Kirk Players Reh 7 pm Bell Rehearsal	4 5:30 pm Early Bird AA	5 8 am Scout Training 10 am Cottontrail – Mund Park District 10:30 Kirk Players Planning Mtg
6 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee / Fellowship Hr 9:30 Communion Class 10:45 Worship 11:00 Sun. School 6 Confirmation at Grace	7 6:30 Kirk Players Reh 6:30 pm Early Bird AA	8 9 am Men's Breakfast 7 pm SALC Council Mtg 7 Troop #198 7 pm Kirk Players Board Mtg	9 10 am Bible Study 11:30 Lenten Book Study 6 pm Soup Supper 6:45 Hymn-Sing 7 Lenten Worship	10 9 am Quilters 6 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30 Kirk Players Reh 7 pm Bell Rehearsal	11 5:30 pm Early Bird AA	12
13 PALM SUNDAY 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee Hr 9:30 Communion Class 10:45 Worship 11:00 Sun. School 12 pm Communion Retreat	14 1 pm Lk County HOUSE Co-Op 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:30 Kirk Players	15 ENCOUNTER ARTICLES DUE 6:30 pm Cub Pk #98 7 pm Troop #198 7 Kirk – Awards Comm. 7 pm W&M Team Mtg	16 10 am Bible Study 6:30 Kirk Players Reh	17 MAUNDY THURSDAY 9 am Quilters 7 pm Worship	18 GOOD FRIDAY 7 pm Worship 9 pm Prayer Vigil Begins	19 3 pm Easter Breakfast Set-up
20 EASTER 8:30 Worship 9 Easter Breakfast starts 10 Easter Egg Hunt 10:30 Breakfast Ends 10:45 Worship	21 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:30 Kirk Players	22 9 am Men's Breakfast 7:00 pm Troop #198 7 pm Kirk Play Select Committee Mtg	23 10 am Bible Study 6:30 Kirk Players Reh	24 9 am Quilters 12:30 pm Lk County HOUSE Co-Op 6:30 Kirk Players	25 5:30 pm Early Bird AA	26 8:30 am Women's Breakfast Bible Study 9 am Quilters
27 8:30 Worship 9:30 Coffee / Fellowship Hr 10:45 Worship 11:00 Sun. School 6 Confirmation at Grace	28 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:30 Kirk Players Reh 7:30 Mundelein Coin Club	29 7:00 pm Troop #198	30 10 am Bible Study 6:30 Kirk Players Reh	9 am Quilters 12:30 Lk County HOUSE Co-Op 6:30 Kirk Players	5:30 pm Early Bird AA	



PEOPLE POWER – APRIL 2025



Sunday, April 6	8:30 a.m.	
Assisting Minister:	Peter Schoenfield	Lay Reader: Charlene Bestler
Ushers:	Jeff Hayes & Jason Carmona	
Sound Tech:	Brandon Carmona	
Media Tech:	Steve Grace	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Lyn Hayes & Bill List	
Sunday, April 13	8:30 a.m. Palm Sunday	
Assisting Minister:	Leslie Parriott	Lay Reader: Lyn Hayes
Ushers:	Jeff Hayes & Jason Carmona	
Sound Tech:	Brandon Carmona	
Altar Guild:	Krissy & Steve Grace	
Counters:	Krissy Grace & Darrell Vander Bloomen	
Sunday, April 20	8:30 a.m. Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter	
Assisting Minister:	Peter Schoenfield	Lay Reader: Anastasia Carmona
Usher:	Jeff Hayes & Jason Carmona	
Sound Tech:	Brandon Carmona	
Altar Guild:	Krissy & Steve Grace	
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Kathi Mac Dougall	
Sunday, April 27	8:30 a.m.	
Assisting Minister:	Leslie Parriott	Lay Reader: Jim Kowalewski
Ushers:	Jeff Hayes & Jason Carmona	
Sound Tech:	Brandon Carmona	
Altar Guild:	Peter & Sonia Schoenfield	
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Darrell Vander Bloomen	

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

Lay Leaders/Lay Reader/Greeters/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 – APRIL 2025



Sunday, April 6	10:45 a.m.	
Lay Leader:	Bill List	Lay Reader: Bruce Dir
Usher :	Chris Carlson	
Communion Assistant:	Enrique Cantu	
PowerPoint Tech:	Jenny Paddock	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Lyn Hayes & Bill List	
Sunday, April 13	10:45 a.m. Palm Sunday	
Lay Leader:	Krissy Grace	Lay Reader: Kati Gruneisen
Greeter:	Dominick Martinelli	
Usher:	Chris Carlson	
Communion Assistant:	Kari Payne	
Media Tech:	Steve Grace	
PowerPoint Tech:	Annamarie Martinelli	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Krissy Grace & Darrell Vander Bloomen	
Sunday, April 20	10:45 a.m. Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter	
Lay Leader:	Jenny Prescia	Lay Reader: Sheeba Thallury
Usher:	Chris Carlson	
Communion Assistants:	Tami Shubin, Kari Payne, Heidi Emso	
Media Tech:	Steve Grace	
PowerPoint Tech:	Annamarie Martinelli	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Kathi Mac Dougall	
Sunday, April 27	10:45 a.m.	
Lay Leader:	Bill List	Lay Reader: Ellen Van Zeeland
Usher:	Chris Carlson	
Communion Assistants:	Tami Shubin	
Media Tech:	Steve Grace	
PowerPoint Tech:	Jenny Paddock	
Altar Guild:	Jim Kowalewski	
Counters:	Andrea Ammons & Darrell Vander Bloomen	

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Good Friday Vigil & Prayer Cards

We will once again honor Good Friday and Holy Saturday with a prayer vigil, where all those who wish to contemplate the cross, spend time in prayer, or reading scripture can do so following Good Friday worship (4/18). If you would like to write a prayer request for someone to pray over during their time keeping vigil, prayer cards are available in the narthex. Please write out your request--it can be anonymous--and leave it in the basket. During the vigil, people are invited to take a couple of cards and pray their requests, and to return the cards at the end of their time. If you have questions, please talk to (or email)

Anita or Pr Jenna.

Easter Breakfast:

Our confirmation students will be hosting our annual Easter Breakfast on April 20th!! We hope to see everyone there! It will be served this year between 9-10:30 am. Pre-Ticket sales will be offered on April 6th and April 13th. Children 3-12 are \$5 each, ages 13 and up are \$10, children under 3 are free. Please see one of our confirmation students in between services for your Easter Breakfast tickets. This is our main fundraiser. We are also looking for donations of nut-free pastries (ie; muffins, coffeecakes, banana bread, donuts, etc...). These can be dropped off to the church on Saturday, April 19th between 3-4pm or Easter morning by 8:30am. You can sign up online or on the sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex. <https://signup.com/go/MiDTUeR>
Menu will offer: Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Fresh Fruit, Pastries, Coffee, Tea, Juice & Milk
Any questions regarding the breakfast, please feel free to contact Tina Routledge at kmroutle@yahoo.com.

Summer Camp Staff at LOMC:

Join the wonderful team at Lutheran Outdoors Ministry Center in Oregon, IL as a member of their summer staff! They're looking for passionate, caring individuals to join us as counselors, health officers, and digital media specialists. For more information and to apply, please go here--<https://lomc.org/seasonal/>.

Vacation Bible School - Save The Dates!!!

VBS will be back at our church this summer the week of **July 14-18!** It will be offered from 9am-12pm. Once we have registration link set up, we will share out to the congregation and ask that you share with your friends and family! We will also need many volunteers to make this happen, if you have it in your heart and schedule to volunteer this summer, please contact our youth director Jess Villa at jess.villa@salcmundelein.org
Feed My Starving Children ELCA Event: The North Conference of the Metro Chicago Synod is hosting an All Churches FMSC packing event on May 17 from 11:30am-1:15pm. There are two ways to register for this wonderful fellowship and service opportunity:

A) Through the FMSC website. You need to create an account to sign up.

- Sign up at: <http://www.fmssc.org>
- Click the white "Volunteer" box at the top of the webpage
- Scroll down and enter "N80Y7Y" (it's a zero) in "Looking for a Specific Group?"

B) Through a Google Form to avoid creating a FMSC account.

If creating an account with FMSC is a barrier for you, you can use this Google Form link and you will be added manually. You need to complete the form separately for each person. E.g. If you and your two children will be participating, you'll need to complete the form 3 times. Here's the link to the Google Form: <https://forms.gle/exw-zqFVUiJSW5NHJ7>

Choir and Bell Choir Rehearsal

All are welcome to join our choral and bell choir ensembles at St. Andrew! Talk to Ryan, our choir & bells director, for rehearsal information. Rehearsals are on Thursdays, but not every week. Choir rehearses from 6-7pm, and the Bell Choir rehearses from 7-8pm.

Men's Group Spring Outing – Cruise, Brews, and Local Views!

No long road trips this time—our spring Men's Group outing is staying ultra-local (you could probably hit all three stops with a well-thrown Frisbee from the church lawn). Join us on **Saturday, May 3rd, 2025**, as we explore three great Mundelein spots—each with a connection to our community!

We'll meet at the church at **9:00 a.m.**, then walk or carpool a few blocks to:

North Shore Classics – Shopping for a new ride? How about a classic one? Start the day drooling over muscle cars, vintage cruisers, and collectible wheels at this local gem. Warning: you might leave wanting to trade in your minivan.

Tighthead Brewing Company – Owned by our own Bruce Dir, this local favorite is the perfect spot to fuel up with pizza and enjoy a pint or two of finely crafted beer. Great food, great brews, and even better company.

Mundelein Heritage Museum – Wrap up the day with a guided tour from our very own Jeff Hayes, as we take a step back in time to learn about the rich history of our town at the Fort Hill Museum.

No cost to attend (just cover your own lunch), and no excuse to miss this one—it's practically in our backyard!

Help Beautify Our Sanctuary

Once again, you have the opportunity to help beautify our sanctuary for Easter in honor or memory of loved ones. All members and friends are invited to place flowers in celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. The cost is \$10.00/small plant & \$20.00/large. Plants may be taken home by the donors after the last service of worship on Easter day on a first come first serve basis.

The form to the right, together with your cash or check, may be placed on an offering plate or mailed to the church office.

We cannot guarantee that forms received after April 13th will be listed in the Easter bulletins.

I wish to place _____ Easter Lily(ies) for Easter.

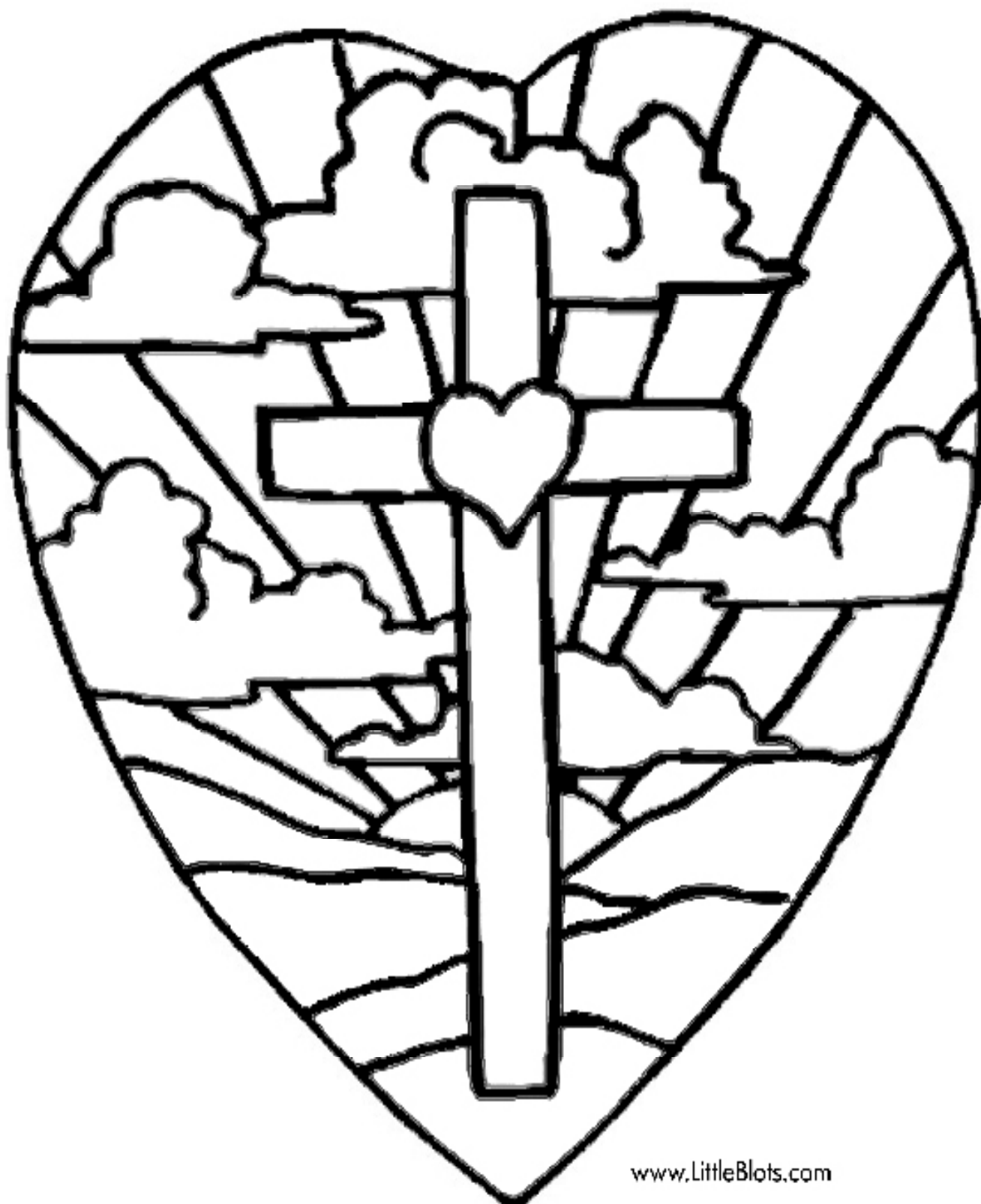
In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

In Thanksgiving for _____

Name: _____

Envelope # _____



www.LittleBlots.com

"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.

Tax free income made to a charitable organization

1. Charitable Contributions from an IRA (Qualified Charitable Distributions - QCDs)

How it works: Individuals aged 70½ or older can transfer up to \$100,000 annually directly from their traditional IRA to a qualified charity, like a church.

Tax Benefit: The amount transferred counts toward the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) but is not included in taxable income, which can lower overall tax liability and may help avoid higher Medicare premiums or taxation of Social Security benefits.

2. Donating Appreciated Assets (Stocks, Bonds, Real Estate)

How it works: Donors can transfer appreciated assets directly to the church instead of selling them.

Tax Benefit: The donor avoids capital gains tax on the appreciation and can claim a deduction for the fair market value of the asset, if they itemize deductions.

3. Naming the Church in an Estate Plan

How it works: Include the church in a will, trust, or as a beneficiary of life insurance policies, retirement accounts, or other assets.

Tax Benefit: Such bequests are typically exempt from estate taxes and allow individuals to make a significant impact on the church's future.

4. Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs)

How it works: Donors contribute to a DAF, receive an immediate tax deduction, and recommend grants to the church over time.

Tax Benefit: Contributions to a DAF are tax-deductible in the year made, and donors can distribute funds to the church when it's most beneficial.

5. End-of-Year Cash or Check Donations

How it works: Make a cash or check contribution before December 31 to claim it on that year's tax return.

Tax Benefit: Cash gifts are deductible up to 60% of adjusted gross income (AGI) if the donor itemizes deductions.

6. Donating Tangible Personal Property

How it works: Donate items like vehicles, art, or other tangible property that the church can use or sell.

Tax Benefit: The deduction depends on how the church uses the property, but donors often receive a deduction equal to the fair market value of the item.

7. Payroll Deduction or Employer Matching Gifts

How it works: Set up a recurring donation to the church through an employer's payroll system, or check if the employer matches charitable contributions.

Tax Benefit: Automatic giving simplifies tracking, and matching gifts effectively double the contribution.

8. Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRTs)

How it works: Set up a CRT to provide income for a designated period, with the remaining assets going to the church.

Tax Benefit: CRTs can provide an immediate tax deduction, reduce estate taxes, and provide income during the donor's lifetime.

9. Giving via Life Insurance

How it works: Name the church as a beneficiary or transfer ownership of a life insurance policy.

Tax Benefit: Premiums paid on a transferred policy may be deductible, and the church receives the full policy value tax-free.

10. Gifting Through 401(k) and Retirement Accounts

How it works: Individuals can name the church as a beneficiary of a 401(k), 403(b), or other retirement accounts.

Tax Benefit: Retirement account assets are heavily taxed when passed to heirs, but gifts to a church are tax-free.

General Tips:

Donors should consult their tax advisor to understand the specific implications of their gift.

Volunteers Needed for Worship Services

Volunteers are still needed for worship services, can you help? read the lessons? be a worship assistant? run the sound system for 8:30 service? record worship service?

I want you to take out a calendar and look at the Sundays, now through March and April and see what you can do to fill the needs for our worship services.

Needed for each Sunday:

- 2 Ushers (minimum – 4 is best)
- Lay Reader
- Assisting Minister
- Media Technician

Please call or email Anita Pahlman to be put on the schedule anitapahlmanstandrew@gmail.com
ph # 847-566-8081

Your Time and Talent is appreciated!

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.

Worship with us

by viewing our
service on line at:

Standrewmundelein.com

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



COUNTER NEEDED

If you have some calculator skills and an eye for detail and could devote an hour or so once a month, it would be much appreciated. Training will be provided. Counting could be done after second service on Sunday or early afternoon Monday or Tuesday. The schedule is provided on a quarterly basis. Please contact Andrea Ammons at 224/388-1041 or matti5488@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Thank you for your offering!

We continue to have 4 ways to ensure your Giving reaches the church.

- 1) "Drop-Off" - During church office hours.
- 2) Mailing it to the church
- 3) On-Line, for recurring and one time offerings. Go to standrewmundelein.com/donations to access the online giving portal.
- 4) See you in worship!

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 -
Tuesday, April. 15th**

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

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



All Are Welcome to Worship
at St. Andrew

Please Celebrate Holy Week and
Easter Worship With Us!

See page one for times and locations