St. Andrew Lutheran Church Encounter

From Pastor Jenna Pulkowski Pastor's Pen

14"Allow the children to come to me," Jesus said. "Don't forbid them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to people like these children."

(Mt 19:14 CEB)

Dear St. Andrew family of faith,

One of our practices as Christians of the Lutheran variety is an affirmation of infant baptism. Although many of our sister traditions practice believer's baptism—the individual/s being baptized must be able to confess their belief in God—Martin Luther took a different route in his writings and teachings. Overwhelmed by God's grace in baptism, Luther steadfastly maintained that "there is no greater comfort on earth than baptism".

It is in baptism that we share in Christ's death and resurrection, and it is where we are justified by grace through faith alone. This is why we invite families with infants and small children to the baptismal font—God's gracious and saving act towards humanity is made clearest in the sacraments, and infants and children make it clear that salvation in Christ is first and foremost God's gracious act that justifies us sinners.

You may recall from your own catechism that our tradition celebrates two sacraments: baptism, and communion.

Our congregation has a long history of beginning First Communion education when a child has reached 5th grade. This is a common practice in many Protestant churches! However, it is just that—a practice.

So, this year, I am working to expand the ways in which we invite all people to worship, including our youngest children.

As ELCA Lutherans, we affirm in our sacramental theology that the sacraments are where the elements (bread, water, wine/juice) meet the promises of God. Those crackers that we offer the kids in lieu of the bread or wafer are consecrated in the same way that the bread or wafers are consecrated. We just don't say that we're already offering the kids communion because we have been taught that they have

Other Notes Continued on page 3

Women's Fellowship

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!

Thursday, May 12 at 7 PM at church for an informative and exciting guest speaker, Lisa Colbert Schwartz who will speak about Jewish traditions and raising children today within Judaism. She is delightful and enlightening. You will not want to miss her presentation.

Thursday, June 9 at 6 PM for our annual Women's Fellowship dinner. We will meet for an outdoor dinner at Park Street

Craft Kitchen & Bar 14 E. Park St. Mundelein. Bring your ideas and suggestions for new future events.

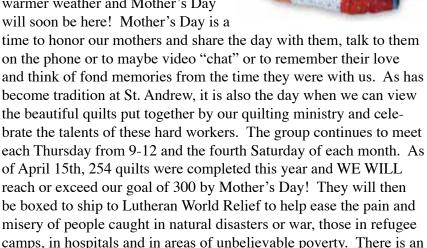


Barbara Binversie

Quilters' Crossing

Greetings and continued blessings to all!!

It is hard to believe that another month is now behind us - spring, warmer weather and Mother's Day will soon be here! Mother's Day is



The ultimate purpose of a homemade quilt is to provide warmth, an essential need for people in every climate. In addition to being a cozy clean new bed cover, it can be: a baby carrier tied around a mothers back, a market display spread on the ground and piled with vegetables, a sack for transporting those goods to market, a sunshade, a shawl and, most importantly, a constant reminder that someone far away cares a lot! LWR's mission is: Affirming God's love for all people. They work with Lutherans and partners around the world to end poverty, injustice and human suffering.

increasing need and call for these LWR quilts!

Your St. Andrew Quilters will also have an auction starting on Mother's Day that will be "open" for two weeks for some lucky winner to take home one of these quilts to keep for themselves or use as an awesome gift of love and warmth. Thanks be to our God over and over for this opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ! If you have questions or want to learn more about this ministry, please feel free to call Judy Parriott (847) 986-4465. I am so honored now to be part of this group to help continue this wonderful mission!

Sincerely - Lyn H and the Quilters





May 1 -- 3rd Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

May 8 -- 4th Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

May 15 -- 5th Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

May 22 -- 6th Sunday of Easter
Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5
John 14:23-29

May 29 -- 7th Sunday of Easter Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

Summer Worship Schedule for SALC

As our life schedules change, our worship schedule will shift from June 5th through September 11th. During this time, worship will be one blended service each Sunday, held at 9:30 AM.

June 5th will be a Pentecost Sunday Musicale and September 11th will be our Rally Sunday.

The ZOOM schedule is to be determined.

Pastor's Pen - continued from pg. 1

to understand communion in order for them to be allowed to take it—and then that teaching is regularly reinforced.

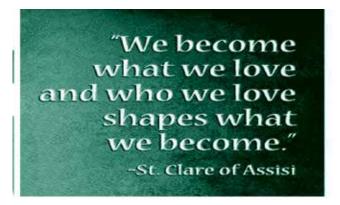
In "The Use of the Means of Grace", an ELCA Statement on the Practice of Word and Sacrament, a variety of communion practices are outlined and affirmed, including communing young children.

In both the waters of baptism and the food of the Table, God nourishes our faith, forgives our sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the gospel. We do not participate out of our own goodness, righteousness, or holiness, but because the eucharist is a gift from Christ living in his church.

On May 15 at the 10:45 service, those children who have spent the last few weeks learning about communion and spending time in fellowship with one another will celebrate the eucharist with their whole family of faith. I hope you will join me in praising and thanking God as we witness the beauty of his table, and a foretaste of the kingdom to come.

Flowers for the Altar

You can still donate flowers for 2022. The Flower Chart has not been easily accessible these days! If you would like to continue our tradition of sponsoring flowers for the altar, please email the date and information to Anita. The cost is \$20. Sponsors for the eternal candle are \$20 for the month. Let's continue to beautify and light our church with memories and remembrances and honors!!



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.

MEMORIAL GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

DON LUECK

Robin & Carolyn Vucitech

JESS PORRES

Bob & Sue Hamilton Robin & Carolyn Vucitech Mickey Donahue Yolanda Oakson Joyce & Christopher Sweet Chris & Barb Binversie Andrea Ammons

Church Council - 2022

Leslie Parriott { President }
Molly Dir { Vice President }
Steve Jacobson { Secretary }

Anastasia Carmona

Heidi Emso

Lisa Green

Donn Hamm

Mary Hanson

Lyn Hayes

Nancy Milne

Steve Payne

Note that Deb Slaughter is our Treasurer but is not on church council.

And their response...

"I will, and I ask God to help me"

"Water Marks"

by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed, from *Full to the Brim devotional* shared by Rev. Jenna Pulkowski

Jesus probably kneeled down. He probably took Peter's heel in his hands to wash his feet.

And I wonder if they both thought of Jacob—the heel-grabber,

the trickster who wrestled with God.

I wonder if it felt like a do-over, a fresh start for creation.

I wonder if the basin overflowed when Jesus poured the water out.

I wonder if it splashed,

leaving water marks on the floor—proof that love was really there.

I wonder if I would have let Jesus do the same. Would I have been like Peter and said,

"Not just my feet but my head and my hands"? I suppose I can look at my life today

and answer the question.

Have I allowed myself to be loved? Are there water marks on the floor?

Flowers for the Altar

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

Children, Youth, and Family

(CYF) Ministries at St. Andrew: -KFC Sunday School Support!

KFC at St. Andrew Lutheran
Church is going strong but we need your
help. Would you consider signing up to teach a week
or two to help us through the year? The curriculum is
well set up and Leslie and I will be on hand to help.

We appreciate your gift of service to bring the word of God to our children. Just click on the "Sign Up" button below and find a date or dates that fit your schedule. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4da8a92faafac43-kfc20212022

Thank you for considering, Sonia Schoenfield

Altar Guild How Can I Help?

Church services are up and running! This would be a good time to get involved in one of the most enjoyable St. Andrew's many on-going ministries.

It is usually a very quiet time that you can go about preparing the altar for the Sunday service. Work at your own time and own pace.

The Altar Guild prepares the altar for Sunday's service and communion. Traditionally, this was Saturday morning but it can work on different schedules.

The assignment schedule is prepared a year in advance and can involve only one month. It is a good opportunity for moms/dads and an older child to serve in this important ministry! Complete "how -to" information is available. Please contact Tana Hamm (tanahamm@comcast.net) if you would like more information.



Tana Hamm

"Do everything for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31

Updated Covid Safety Policy:

Updated Covid Safety Policy: Our church Council has approved a protocol for Covid safety. The current Lake County positivity is 3% and 17.2 cases per 100,000; so masks are optional for all church events. St. Andrew Covid Protocol:

- To follow the State and IDPH guidelines for safety recommendations
- Should the Covid infection rate for Lake County reach 10% positivity, to reinstate masking while indoors
- Should the Covid infection rate for Lake County reach 20% positivity, to move church events to a temporarily virtual format

Men's Breakfast

Our Men's Breakfast group meets for breakfast at the TRIANGLE RESTAURANT -- 83 & Washington St., Grayslake, on every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. We start at: 8:00 AM and end at 9:00 AM

All St. Andrew Men are welcome for faith, food and fellowship.

Pictures are Worth a 1000 Words

Both in our newsletter and website, we are in need of more pictures of the church, the programs and activities at the church. Please email your pictures to Donn Hamm -

dehamm@comcast.net.

Thank you



Editor's Notes from Donn Hamm

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 <u>ENCOUNTER</u>
in the <u>subject header</u>.

Next Due Date will Be - Monday, May, 16th



Celebrating Pentecost

Pentecost Sunday Worship, June 5th

Every year on Pentecost Sunday, we deck out our worship space in a bloom of red--red paraments, vestments, banners, you dressed in red, and geraniums!--as we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit's permanent

presence with us.

If you would like to order a geranium (or two!) to help decorate our worship space on June 5th, please use this form to do so. We need them by Sunday, May 23rd. Email and telephone orders will be accepted.



Geranium Order Form

Orders must be into the church by May 23rd Telephone or email orders will be accepted. 847-566-8081 or parishadmin@standrewmundelein.com

High quality zonal geraniums from Turks nursery

12 in.	Geranium Plant(s)	@	\$22.00	\$
6.5 in.	Geranium Plant(s)	@	\$10.00	\$
4.5 in.	Geranium Plant(s)	@	\$ 5.00	\$
			TOTAL	\$
	* * * * *	*		
Your Name				
In Memory of/ For Blessings Received				

Plants may be taken home by the donors after the last service of worship on Pentecost Sunday on a first come first serve basis.

STEWARDSHIP — OUR WAY OF LIFE HERE AT ST ANDREW - A Community filled with LOVE & HOPE - "FULL TO THE BRIM"

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. I've been encouraging you to think about our St. Andrew mission statement - the "how" and the "why" behind our plan of "Sharing Christ". We were to consider the "KNOW" This may have had us thinking about ourselves and our values. Would others know that I follow Jesus if they were to spend time with me today? Did I extend Christ's kindness today? I asked you then to consider how you may "GROW" in your faith and your love of God. Did you seek ways to grow spiritually? Did you obey the teachings of Jesus? How have you been living these measures so far? As we just passed through the season of Lent and Easter, Jesus' suffering for our sins and his glorious resurrection to be with us always, our cups should not only be "filled to the brim" but OVERFLOWING with much to share!

Thus we move on to the next point - SERVE "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them". Ephesians 2:10 "For I know the plans I have for you, "declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11 "From the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as

each part does its work." Ephesians 4:16

Stewardship is taking care of what God has given us including our very lives, our talents (even when we think we have none or wonder what we have to share), our time (even when we feel it is not a good time or the right time to share our precious time with others); it is our responsibility also to serve others (love one another). These things are our response/our responsibilities to God for him allowing us to be here on this earth. We must grow courageous in our love to SERVE. Consider these questions: Did I see every person as a child of God today? Did I make someone's life better today or at least try to do so? Was Christ, not just myself, my priority as I used my time, talents and treasurers today? We may be surprised at times when we don't think something we have done matters, but God is with us and will continue to guide us in the right time! We also will reap many benefits by following Jesus' teachings and following our hearts!

I'll share another story with you today (honestly I had a very difficult time picking just one!) - written by Jerusha Agen and published in the 2022 Daily Guideposts devotional:

"The woman poured out her story in bits and pieces, each sliver more terrible to hear than the last. I sat across from her at a Bible study I lead for inmates at the county jail. Yet in that moment, I didn't feel like an adequate leader. I was stunned in the face of a nightmare she'd lived through as a child. During my time of service at the jail, I'd heard many tales of woe, but never had I met someone who had been through such horrific trauma. What could I say? Why in the world did the Lord send me to help this woman? I'm not a psychologist or social worker. I'm not a brilliant theologian.

Yet, I opened my mouth and words came out. True words about God's role in suffering. About the comfort we have in His sovereignty, justice and grace.

Believing these truths, the student lit with a tearful smile as she embraced the hope set before her.

Often when I set out to teach this Bible study, feelings of inadequacy overwhelm me. Honestly, for many things in my life, I feel unequipped, unskilled, or simply not good enough.

But then God gently reminds me I am His workmanship, I am equipped for the good works He calls me to do because He created me for them and them for me. All I have to do is walk with God through each day, confident He will provide all I need to accomplish His work."

Lord, help me to remember You chose and equipped me

for the task at hand, not because of anything good in me, but because of everything good in You. Amen.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH!

Lyn H. and the Stewardship Team



YOU matter, YOU are important! You may find your place, your comfort zone and find out you are stronger than you thought.



PRAYER VENTURES May 2022

- Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage
 Month Praise God for Asian and Pacific Islander
 members, congregations and ministries of the
 ELCA that use God's gifts of culture, language
 and heritage to share the good news of Jesus
 Christ, loving and serving our neighbor in a multicultural world.
- Pray for the safety and well-being of those directly impacted by the war in Ukraine both the people inside its borders and the nearly 4 million who have left the country. Pray for peace, wisdom, justice, repentance and reconciliation, and give thanks for the assistance provided by Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, and our partners and companion churches in Ukraine and across Eastern Europe.
- 3 "O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me" (Psalm 30:2). Pray for healing, comfort and peace for all who suffer sorrow, trauma, illness, fear or hardship, and ask the Spirit to equip us for responding to our neighbors in need with love, hope and support.
- 4 Give thanks and pray for Lutheran Men in Mission and other ministries with men in our congregations, that they will reach and serve men of all ages, strengthening their faith in Christ, equipping them to love and serve their neighbor, and creating faithful communities of men.
- 5 Remembering the story of how God transformed Paul's life, purpose and spirit, pray that people everywhere might be changed by the grace of God, the work of the Spirit and the influence of caring and loving people, including ourselves.
- Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Metropolitan New York Synod, the New Jersey Synod and the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

- Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 8 On Mother's Day, thank God for mothers, stepmothers, foster mothers, expectant mothers, women struggling with parenting, women trying to conceive and women who cannot bear children of their own but serve as loving and caring adults in the lives of children and youth.
- Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Rocky Mountain Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 10 Remember in prayer students at college, university and seminary as they prepare for final exams, celebrate graduation or begin their careers, that they might find opportunities to use their gifts, faith and passion in service to their neighbors and communities.
- 11 "The Lord is my shepherd" (Psalm 23:1). Pray that we might find clarity and be reassured of God's love and attention through the psalmist's description of a shepherd who restores, leads, nourishes and accompanies us, calming our fears and showing us mercy.
- 12 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Delaware-Maryland Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 13 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Oregon

Synod, the Saint Paul Area Synod, the Northeastern Ohio Synod and the East Central Synod of Wisconsin, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.

- 14 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northern Great Lakes, Southeast Michigan and North/West Lower Michigan synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 15 Pray that we will be faithful to Jesus' commandment to love one another, and pray that we might be recognized as disciples of Christ and communities of faith through our Spirit-inspired acts of love, kindness, service, justice and hospitality.
- 16 Remember in prayer the conflict in Ethiopia, which has caused displacement, suffering and loss of life among the most vulnerable women, children and older adults. Pray for relief, hope and strength for those who have been impacted and for an end to the violence and ethnic discrimination. Give thanks for the relief work of Lutheran World Relief and the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus, and for the financial support of Lutheran Disaster Response.
- 17 Ask the Spirit to stir our enthusiasm for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ throughout the world, that all people might know the boundless love of God that renews and unites us as siblings in Christ.
- 18 Pray that we might not grow weary or apathetic about the needs of our neighbor, especially when their difficulties and situations seem complicated, overwhelming or distant from us. Ask the Spirit to nurture within us love and concern that are enduring, impartial and wise.
- 19 Praise God for everything that brings joy, hope, encouragement or brightness into our lives.
- 20 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Pacifica,

- Greater Milwaukee, Southeastern Iowa and Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 21 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders, proclaim the gospel, serve our neighbor and do God's work in the world.
- 22 Promise to respond to those we encounter who are struggling, homeless, lonely, grieving or ill; ask the Spirit to encourage, equip and guide us when we feel ill-equipped to love and care for our neighbor.
- 23 Thank God for our special relationship with The Episcopal Church, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1999. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor, especially in these challenging times.
- 24 Among your siblings in Christ, who has surprised you with their welcoming spirit, generosity, wisdom or eagerness to share their faith? Give thanks to God for people who unexpectedly enrich our lives.
- 25 Give thanks for young adults from across the country who have responded to the call to serve in summer ministries at ELCA camps. Ask the Spirit to equip, inspire and sustain them for sharing their faith in Christ and developing caring communities of faith with campers of all backgrounds, abilities and ages.
- **26** Ascension Day "Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth" (Psalm 47:1-2). Praise and honor our wonderful God!

Continued on page 9

Looking Forward:

Another Milestone, Graduation ---

We would like to rejoice with those members of the congregation who are completing a course of study at the Jr. High, High School, College or Graduate School level in 2022. In order to have accurate information about your achievements we would appreciate parents or students filling out the information to the right and returning it to the church office so that we might publish it in future newsletters.

Name
Phone
School graduating from
Degree
E-mail
Future Plans:

PRAYER VENTURES - May 2022

Continued from page 8

- 27 "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you" (John 14:26). Remember in prayer the gift of the Spirit in our midst, working through us to call, gather, enlighten, bless and unify the church on earth.
- 28 Pray for the ELCA Justice for Women program and its work fostering gender awareness, justice and dignity, that our congregations and communities might value, embrace and be shaped by the unique voices and experiences of people across race, ethnicity, ability, class, sexuality and age.
- 29 Ask God to unite us as communities of faith and siblings in Christ, introducing others to what God has done in the world through the life, teachings, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus.
- 30 Memorial Day Remember, honor and give thanks for members of the armed forces who sacrificed their lives for the sake of peace. Pray for those who serve in harm's way today and for our neighbors around the world who have served their own countries in pursuit of peace, justice and freedom.

31 Pray for congregations as they prepare for mission trips, service-learning experiences and local community ministries, that their efforts might exemplify compassion, respect, mutual relationship, intentional partnership and our call to love and serve our neighbor as Christ loves and serves us.

Who Cares Anyway?

St. Andrew Cares Fund is in Need!

St. Andrew Cares is a special assistance fund administered by Pastor Jenna and used to help people in need.

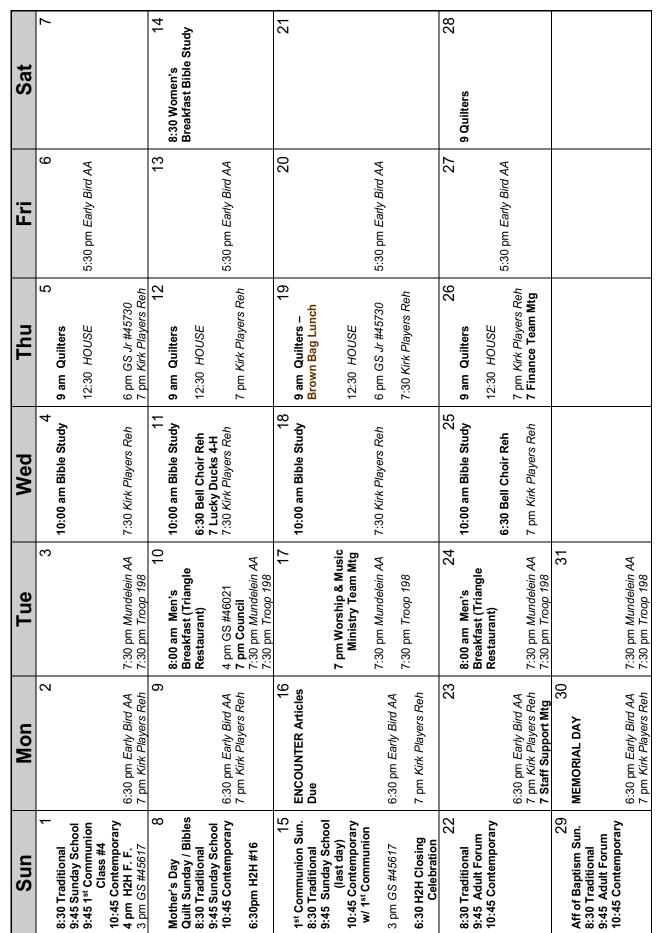
Many times during a month individuals and families come to our church with real needs.

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!



May 2022







"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:

> **Traditional Service:** 8:30 a.m.

Contemporary Service: 10:45 a.m.



Sunday Service can be viewed at www.standrewmundelein.com

St. Andrew Lutheran Church (ELCA)

10 South Lake Street Mundelein, IL 60060

Telephone No.: 847-566-8081



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.