

# Encounter

## From Pastor Jenna Pulkowski Pastor's Pen

*For everything there is a season,  
and a time for every matter under  
heaven (Ecc 3:1, NRSV)*



As we turn to our summer season and schedule, I often feel the shift in the energy. It's a bit more relaxed, a bit slower, a bit more of the every day pace. In the life of the church year, this season after Pentecost is called "Ordinary Time".

Like many terms we use in the church, "ordinary" is not meant to describe the time as lacking in distinction, or being less special than other seasons. "Ordinary" is derived from *ordinal*, which means "to count the numbers". We are simply counting the Sundays after Pentecost up through the first Sunday of Advent.

Rather than being an invitation to complacency, the Ordinary Season instead invites us into a rhythm of implementing what we have learned and encountered during the other seasons of the church year. With no major church events to focus on, we can turn our attention to intentionally living out what God has called us to as the beloved community of Christ.

Wherever your summer journeys might take you, we remember that in God every day is extraordinary, and that God is with us every moment of the way.

("How Firm A Foundation")

Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

Peace,  
Pr Jenna

*Continued on page 3*

## Wellness and Harmony

By Jenny Prescia

We have survived a Pandemic – something none of us thought we would see or experience in our lifetime. In the midst of that pandemic, we welcomed a new pastor at St. Andrew. Her first few years were spent guiding our church through some "never been done before" changes! What I am most proud of is the way our congregation adjusted to these changes. What I also respect, is Pastor Jenna's resiliency throughout these changes.

A recent national survey showed that 80% of adults said they intend to be more mindful about practicing self-care after the pandemic. The definition of wellness is individual, but in general, wellness includes: Better health, better fitness, improved nutrition, enhanced appearances, better sleep and a more mindful approach to stress.

Employers across the country are having to adjust their cultures to include safety, wellness and work/life harmony. Investing in these strategies will benefit not only the employee, but the but the organization for which they work. I recently attended a seminar that focused retention strategies for clergy (the Spiritual Care Department at Northwestern Medicine hospitals report to me) and it made me ponder how we are doing in supporting our own Pastor Jenna. Here are some of the notes from that seminar on how to manage stress and resilience for effective ministry but can be used by any one of us:



*Continued on page four*

# STEWARDSHIP – God’s Work/Our Hands, Hearts and Lives as Disciples of Christ Jesus

As we enjoy summer and our break from school year activities, even though we take breaks for vacations, the church is still open and St. Andrew is looking to expand our “People Power”! We are looking for volunteers to help with our worship services - altar guild, communion assistant, ushers, lay readers, assisting minister, media techs. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex or PLEASE talk to Pastor Jenna or Anita about these exciting and fulfilling opportunities. WE EACH CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVEN IF WE DO A SMALL PART! As Pastor Jenna said in her message last Sunday, we should be “taking responsibility for God’s credibility”. By serving our brothers and sisters and showing love to those around us, we can accomplish this goal for ourselves, show our thankfulness to God for all he has done for us, show that we trust in his love and that He is truly worthy of glory and our praise! And I hope many of you were able to hear Mr. Bill’s children’s message showing us that “God calls us”, each of us!

I love to share stories from my daily devotions - the whole year is focused on “Walking in Grace” (the title of the book). It is so full of wonderful stories and writings by folks truly dedicated to sharing their faith with others, it is hard for me to choose one at a time -

Here is another story written by Shanelle Eliassen:

“My family sat on our back porch and listened to the night song. The serenade of frogs broke through twilight’s haze.  
‘We could be at the old house,’ my husband said. ‘The sound takes me back.’  
‘It’s close,’ I said. ‘But there’s a breeze. My wind chimes would be tingling.’  
There was only the melody of creation until fourteen-

year-old Gabriel spoke. ‘What happened to the chimes, Mom? They were on the front porch of the old house my whole life.’

I shared that the chimes had broken in a harsh wind and were put in the shed. In the stretched-long process of moving, who knew what happened to the pieces and parts.

‘That’s sad,’ he said.

A few weeks later, my family filled our plates and headed to the back porch to share breakfast. I heard the chimes as soon as I sat on our rusty glider. A smile that spoke a million words broke over my most quiet son’s face. ‘I found the pieces, Mom,’ he said. ‘Mostly. I replaced the sail with wood. It’s like our home now. Old mixed with new.’

I could hardly breathe.

Gabriel is my fixer, working wonders with his hands. He mends the broken and builds things new. It’s a talent the Lord gave him. But then there’s his spiritual gift. Gabriel is a servant. He was intentional in weaving cord through metal and wood to create a balance that was just right.

He cared for my soul.

I hugged Gabriel tight as the breeze chimed a song of love.”

THANK GOD FOR OUR MANY SERVANTS AT ST. ANDREW!

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” -1 Peter 4:10



Lyn H and the Stewardship Team

Lyn Hayes

## 2023 Flowers for the Altar & Eternal Candle

Our 2023 flower calendar is posted outside Pastor’s office. Flowers are \$20 per Sunday, and the eternal candle is \$20 and for the whole month. Please contact Anita if you have any questions regarding the altar flowers.

We are very grateful that there are only a few spots left for flower donations. Thank you to all that have signed up for the flowers to continue to beautify and light our church with memories, remembrances and honors!!

# QUILTERS CROSSING

**Happy Summer! Thank you for your continued support of our ministry!**



We are continuing our work & praying for our faithful leader, Judy P, as she is “on break” recovering from shoulder surgery. But, as we know Judy, she will not be down long!

We are looking to collect as many good usable sheets (queen or king preferable but we will accept any) and men’s large or larger t-shirts. These things are used to help us complete quilts and make diapers for our Baby Care Kits. There is a collection bin at the bottom of the stairs from the narthex to the basement. As our blessings are overflowing, let us fill this bin to overflowing!!

Please join us on Thursday mornings if you want to help with our work -IT IS REALLY FUN! There are also Quilt Top Kits in a basket in the narthex. If you are a sewer, you can take one (or more) of these kits home and try your hand at assembling a beautiful top for a quilt. Instructions are included. We wouldn’t be able to complete as many quilts as we have without our “home sewers”!

While Judy is out, please feel free to call Deb Jacobson (847) 566-4764 or Lyn Hayes (847)566-2537 with any questions.

*Lyn H. for the Quilters*

## PARISH LIFE



We pray that everyone is enjoying their summer!

We will see you all in church and, hopefully, around town enjoying the beautiful weather and having fun!

Remember if anyone has any ideas for fellowship, let us know. We would love to have some fun together!



*Lyn Hayes*



**Dear St. Andrew family of faith,**

**- Merv Beyersdorf -**

It is with a heavy heart we share the passing of our beloved Merv Beyersdorf. God called him home Sunday afternoon, May 28th, after a wonderful morning of worship and a lovely family lunch. It was a peaceful and quiet passing.

Merv always had a kind word and smile for everyone he met. A gentle giant, he frequently shared what was on his heart and mind through his poetry and his last poem was in the June Encounter for all of us to enjoy, and to remember him.

Gracious God, we thank you for the long and full life of your beloved child, Merv, and for giving him to us to know and to love. We entrust him back to you, the One who lovingly made him and who now lovingly calls him home, and we look forward to the day of our reunion. We pray this in your name, Amen.



*In God's Abundant Love,  
Pr Jenna*

**“Do everything for the glory of God.”  
1 Corinthians 10:31**

### Editor's Notes from Donn Hamm

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

**dehamm@comcast.net.**

Please put **ENCOUNTER** in the subject header.

**Next Due Date will Be -  
Monday, July 17th**





**Bible Readings for the Month**

**July 2 --**  
**5th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 Jeremiah 28:5-9  
 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18  
 Romans 6:12-23  
 Matthew 10:40-42

**July 9 --**  
**6th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 Zechariah 9:9-12  
 Psalm 145:8-14  
 Romans 7:15-25a  
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

**July 16 --**  
**7th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 Isaiah 55:10-13  
 Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13  
 Romans 8:1-11  
 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**July 23 --**  
**8th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 Isaiah 44:6-8  
 Psalm 86:11-17  
 Romans 8:12-25  
 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**July 30 --**  
**9th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 1 Kings 3:5-12  
 Psalm 119:129-136  
 Romans 8:26-39  
 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



# Wellness and Harmony

*Continued from page one*



- 1) Be intentional about health and well-being promotion
  - a. Daily!
  - b. Exercise (regular exercise is linked to better mental health)
  - c. Spiritual practices (prayer, bible reading, meditation)
  - d. Relational Activities (time with family and friends)
  - e. Leisurely Activities (fishing, hiking, golf)
  
- 2) Participating in God’s Work and Emphasizing Process over Outcome
  - a. See your work as God’s work or a calling rather than merely a participant in that work.
  - b. The process of ministry is often emphasized over “results”.
    - i. Practically this is said to begin and end with prayer.
  
- 3) Having a Bounded approach to Ministry/Work
  - a. Proactively create boundaries between work life and homefamily life
  - b. Creating boundaries allows for fulfillment of family obligations as well as to help with engaging in health and well-being promoting practices
  - c. Practically, this can look like:
    - i. Weekly Sabbaths
    - ii. Annual Vacation time
    - iii. Sabbaticals
    - iv. Fixed Office Hours
    - v. Not taking calls at home after a certain time (unless in emergencies)
    - vi. Delineating clergy’s role and responsibilities from those of lay leaders and staff
    - vii. Manage phone and email so they don’t manage you!

As I sat through this seminar, it occurred to me that Pastor Jenna does many of these practices to ensure she is fully with our church when needed, but also caring for her and her family’s well-being. Praying all of you can do the same...I know many of these practices are included in my attempt at life/work harmony. Be well!

*By Jenny Prescia*



# PRAYER VENTURES

## July 2023

- 1** Give thanks for the work of social service organizations, ELCA Disability Ministry and the Total Inclusion! initiative of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries to fully include, affirm and respond to the diverse needs of people who live with a range of physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities.
- 2** Pray that we will equip one another for the challenges and share with one another the blessings that come from being disciples of Jesus, called and sent to do God's work in the world.
- 3** Remember in prayer all those who have been impacted by disasters, including those related to extreme weather, climate change, economic upheaval, political unrest, and war, and by other events that cause suffering, loss and displacement.
- 4** Independence Day Give thanks for the freedom and abundance we enjoy in our country, and ask God to help us exercise generosity in our national life, addressing root causes of the poverty, hunger, injustice, racism and lack of opportunity our neighbors experience on a daily basis.
- 5** Pray for the worship leaders and musicians gathering in Philadelphia for the conference of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.
- 6** So far in 2023 there have been over 18,500 gun violence deaths in our country, including 280 mass shooting incidents (gunviolencearchive.org). Ask God to hear our cries of grief and anger; pray for the comfort, healing and strength of individuals, families and communities suffering sorrow and trauma; and ask the Spirit's strength to do all we can to prevent gun violence.
- 7** Praise God that sin and death have no control over our lives now that we have been set free by God's unearned gift of grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ.
- 8** Thank God for the ELCA's special relationship with the United Methodist Church, a full communion partner since 2009. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.
- 9** "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Pray with relief and gratitude that we are never alone or without a loving rabbi, instructing and rejuvenating us to navigate life as followers of Christ.
- 10** Ask God to guide and bless the Truth and Healing Movement of our church, an initiative to increase our understanding of past and present injustices and harm borne by Indigenous people and to encourage action to build right and healthy relationships, healing Indigenous and non-Indigenous people alike.
- 11** Thank God for inspiring our generosity to new congregations and ministries, especially in places that lack the resources for growth and self-sufficiency.
- 12** "Help us to put aside the angry word, the clenching fist, the wish and will to hurt. Teach us the way in which love is best served" (ELW 615). Pray that we will treat our neighbors — including our enemies — with a kindness and respect that delight God.
- 13** Give thanks for the ELCA's Resourceful Servants initiative, which promotes the financial wellness of ELCA congregations, rostered ministers and seminarians; lessens the strains on those who lead faith communities; and enables them to more effectively carry out the mission of the church — making disciples for Jesus Christ.
- 14** God is gracious and good to all and has compassion for all creation. Pray for God to help us spread the good news throughout the world and to every generation.

- 15** Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire those planning the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event, the tAble event (for youth living with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities) and the Young Adult Gathering.
- 16** Pray for patience when our ministry doesn't produce the results we expect; ask the Spirit to help us reflect on our work, adapt, and understand that sometimes positive results ensue without our knowledge.
- 17** Pray for rostered ministers gathering with colleagues from across the church for fellowship, renewal, continuing education, worship and Bible study at the ELCA Rostered Ministers Gathering in Phoenix, Ariz.
- 18** Remember in prayer members of the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church as they reconsider statements of purpose for each expression of the ELCA and the principles of our church's organizational structure.
- 19** Lift up prayers of joy and thanksgiving, for God has given us new life, freedom and an eternal inheritance through the risen Christ — a gift for all people!
- 20** Give thanks, today and every day, for those who stir our joy and hope, and resolve to be a source of joy and hope for others.
- 21** Doing God's work in the world and sharing the gospel is never a fruitless endeavor — God accomplishes what God intends. Pray for the Spirit to deepen our trust in God's power and renew our strength for continuing the important work to which God has called us.
- 22** Pray that, together, we will always work to identify and encourage potential leaders, deacons and pastors, so that they might respond to God's call and use their gifts to share the gospel, nurture congregations, grow the church and serve our neighbors in need.
- 23** Pray for wisdom to discern good from evil, and for faith to know God's truth reigns.
- 24** The brutality and destruction of the Russia-Ukraine War have gone on for over a year. Pray for a permanent end to the violence, and remember in prayer people of all ages who yearn for peace and normality.
- 25** Pray that we will not judge or disparage people whose religious beliefs differ from our own or who belong to no community of faith. Promise to trust the work of the Spirit when listening to our neighbors, responding to their questions and opinions and inviting them to embrace the gift of unconditional love we experience through Jesus Christ.
- 26** "Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth" (Psalm 86:11). Pray that, as disciples and students of Christ, we will attend to the truth of God and what the Spirit may reveal anew.
- 27** Citizens of Louisville Organized and United Together (CLOUT), an ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grant partner, has assisted in providing over 4,200 units of safe and affordable housing in Louisville, Ky. Give thanks for what we accomplish together when we share our gifts and resources!
- 28** Pray for those whose mental and physical pain goes unnoticed in our communities and congregations; ask the Spirit to help us reach out to them with care, support and respect.
- 29** Give thanks and praise to God, who knows us inside and out and guides and supports us throughout our journey.
- 30** "Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39). Thank God for this sweeping proclamation, which gives us peace and assurance in this uncertain world.
- 31** Pray for the Spirit to refresh and sustain the health, spirit and faith of young adult staff and their leaders as they serve in our summer camp ministries across the country.

# St. Andrew's Cares

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

The St. Andrew's Cares Fund has been hard at work, with a big uptick in assistance requests. We've provided 24 Walmart gift cards just this year alone. Each guest is allowed one gift card a month, and can receive up to three gift cards in a calendar year. I also share resources provided by the county and PADS that are available for people experiencing chronic homelessness and food insecurity. My hope is that folks will seek long-term solutions to their chronic needs.

Since this is a discretionary fund outside of our general budget, I occasionally ask for donations directly to the Cares Fund. We are getting low on resources due to the increased needs of our community. In order to keep things as equal as possible, I am only asking for financial donations.



Please do not donate gift cards as we are no longer able to use them with our Cares' guests.

St. Andrew Lutheran  
A little church with a BIG mission

Thank you for all your generosity to this ministry- while our support is small, our community appreciates that St. Andrew's cares.

Peace,  
Pr Jenna

## TREASURER'S REPORT

May 2023

Total Expense:.....\$25,845.84

Total Income: .....\$23,834.50

Net:.....\$2,011.34

Donn Hamm, Treasurer



Thank you for the delicious food for dinner from Olive Garden the week following my father's passing.

A special thanks to Teresa Maki and Anita Pahlman for organizing the food and to Donn and Tana Hamm

for delivering the food to my sister's house. The family loved the pasta, breadsticks, and salad and there was enough to serve a second night! It was such a relief to not have to plan to feed our large family for those two nights as we had over 30 people at each dinner. Your cards, words of support, and hugs have sustained us these past few months as we adjust to life without our patriarch. We will always be grateful to you all!

Love in Christ,

Jenny and Joe Prescia  
And the family of Walter Tyszko

## (CIA) Caring in Action

If you are homebound, or know of anyone who is, or would just like a visit for companionship or perhaps to play a game of scrabble or cards .....

**contact your Caring In Action Team –**

We are available to visit, pray, chat, read scriptures, offer communion or help with your needs of picking up some groceries or medications and other errands. We could arrange some help with rides to Dr. appointments or perhaps Church. Call Anita to get in touch with our team: Pastor Jenna, Myrna Wells, Carol Clouser, Tana Hamm, Paulette Metts, Ellen Van Zeeland and Carol Clark. We extend an invitation to others who can find time to

also add their name to this important mission of serving others. Please contact Anita in the church office at 847-566-8081.



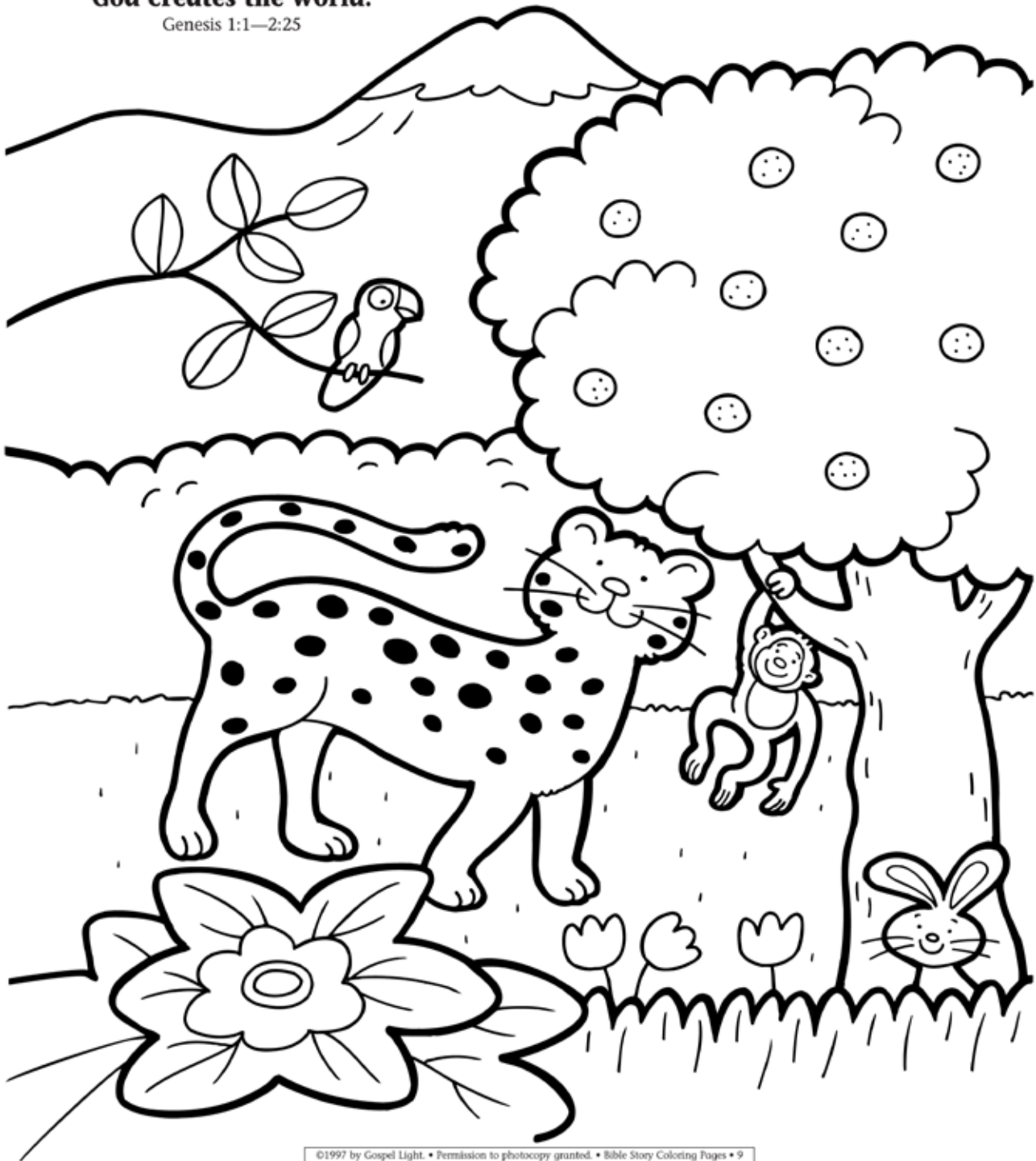
# July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
9:30 Worship 2	3	4 Independence Day Happy 4 <sup>th</sup> ! 7:30 pm Troop #198 7:30 pm Mund. AA	5 7 pm Kirk Players Mtg	6 9 am Quilters 12:30 pm Lk County Co-Op	7 5:30 pm Early Bird AA	8 1-4 pm Hayes Party
9:30 Worship 9	10	11 9 am Men's Breakfast (Mauri's) 7 pm Council Mtg 7:30 pm Troop 198 7:30 pm Mund. AA	12 12:30 pm Lk County Co- Op Ice Cream Social 5 pm Lk County Co-Op Pizza Social 7 pm Kirk Players Mtg 7 pm Lucky Ducks 4-H	13 9 am Quilters 7 pm Kirk Players Mtg	14 5:30 pm Early Bird AA	15 ENCOUNTER ARTICLES DUE 10 am Memorial Service for Alice Arroyo
9:30 Worship 16	17	18 7:30 pm Troop #198 7:30 pm Mund. AA	19	20 9 am Quilters - Brown Bag Lunch	21 5:30 pm Early Bird AA 7 pm ECOH Rehearsal	22 9 am Quilters
9:30 Worship 23	24 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:45 pm Kirk Players Auditions	25 9 am Men's Breakfast (Mauri's) 7:30 pm Troop #198 7:30 pm Mund. AA	26 6:45 pm Kirk Players Auditions	27 9 am Quilters 6:45 pm Kirk Players Auditions 7 pm Operations Umbrella Team Mtg	28 5:30 pm Early Bird AA	29
9:30 Worship 30	31 6:30 pm Early Bird AA 6:45 pm Kirk Players Rehearsal					



**God creates the world.**

Genesis 1:1—2:25



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**God creates the world. - Genesis 1:1-2:25**

In the beginning, before anything was anything, God made the heavens and the earth. He just said, “Let there be light,” and there was light! Then God made the sky and the land and the oceans. God made the plants and the sun, moon and stars. He liked what He made. It was very Good!

Then God said, “let the sky be filled with birds that fly.” And it was. He said, “Let the waters be filled with all sorts of creatures.” Then there were fish, dolphins, jellyfish, and many other creatures in the water. Next, God made every kind of animal. When God saw all the creatures that He made, He said that they were very good.

Then God did something even more special! He took some dirt and formed it into a man. Then God breathed into the man and he became alive. Next, God made a woman. They were the first people—people like you and me. They were named Adam and Eve. God loved Adam and Eve. Everything God made was very good.



## 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...

### *The Sunday Morning Worship Schedule is:*

May 28th - September 10th.  
Summer Worship is one  
service, held at 9:30 AM.



*Sunday Service  
can be viewed at*  
[www.standrewmundelein.com](http://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.**