

# Encounter

## From Pastor Jenna Pulkowski Pastor's Pen

<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.  
(Luke 2:10-11 NRSV)

Beloveds, grace and peace to you in the name of the One who is to come. Amen.

Have you ever wondered why the angels begin their conversations with “do not be afraid”? Western depictions of angels have long presented them as very human looking, but with wings, a halo, and surrounded by blinding light. Not all that scary, if we think about it. However, ancient Middle Eastern depictions of angels show them as decidedly not human. They almost look like a creature from the 90s Nickelodeon TV show “Ah! Real Monsters”. Biblical angels ought to be portrayed as a variety of very inhuman creatures—often multiple animals in one creature, and with multiple sets of wings. It's no wonder God's messengers had to preface their encounters with, “Do not be afraid!”

And yet, knowing how we might react to an encounter with a Godly messenger, God's heavenly servants seek to soften the interaction, to help us find our balance when their mere presence would immediately throw us off. That regained balance is often temporary, because what happens next disrupts everything God's people thought they knew to expect.

During Advent, God invites us into the known-unknown. Most of us are already familiar with the rhythms of Advent—the Advent wreath lighting on Sundays, blue paraments & vestments, Christmas caroling, Sunday school kids' program, midweek services. Yet each year, and maybe this year especially,

*Continued on page two*

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Upcoming  
Events

**Midweek Services will be Holden Evening prayer via Zoom - 7:30 pm.** The link/call-in number will be the same each week, and we will include the clickable link in the midweek blast each Wednesday.

[https://us02web.zoom.](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83172812839)

[us/j/83172812839](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83172812839)

Meeting ID: 831 7281 2839

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,83172812839# US (Chicago)

**KFC Birthday Party for Jesus and PJs Movie Day** will be on December 13th. We will meet at our usual time, 10:45. Please contact Pr Jenna and Teresa for more information.

**H2H Movie Night:** December 13, and we will also meet at our usual time, 6 pm. Please contact Pr Jenna and Teresa for more information

### Blue Christmas Service:

Monday, December 21 at 7:30 pm. Please see Pastor's Pen for information on what this service is if it's new to you.

Zoom information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89896743126>

Meeting ID: 898 9674 3126

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,89896743126# US (Chicago)

+13017158592,,89896743126# US (Washington D.C)

**Christmas Eve Virtual Service:** Our services will go live via Facebook Watch Party at 5 pm & 7:30 pm on Thursday, December 24. The service will be available on YouTube after the live viewings.

**Christmas Day:** No services on Christmas Day

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

God sends us messengers to remind us “do not be afraid! I bring you tidings of great joy.” Great joy, in 2020? Great joy, amidst death and loss and loneliness? Great joy, when we cannot safely gather together for worship and holiday meals?

Yes, says God, yes. Great joy. It is great joy that we remember the One Who Is Promised, the One Who Is To Come, Immanuel. God with you—ME with you!

God's great joy does not mean we cannot grieve or lament—these are biblical practices that we too are invited into—but rather that our griefs and laments are heard, sustained, and transformed by God's wondrous love. By a baby, God's own self, sent to us. To be with us. To know us and love us, to comfort and guide us.

O come o come Emmanuel—o come o come, God with us. We may be afraid, but we know you will send your messengers. We know the One for whom we wait. And we know you will upend everything we thought we knew. O come o come Emmanuel.

Peace,  
Pr Jenna

P.S. The Blue Christmas service noted in this month's calendar is for us to make space to acknowledge the grief, loneliness, and blue-ness we can feel this time of year. God meets us in all our less-than-shiny feelings. We hope you will join us for this special service. - More information about Blue Christmas is included in the 'Pastor's Pen' on our web site at [www.standrewmundelein.com](http://www.standrewmundelein.com)



### December 6 --

2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

### December 13 --

3rd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalm 126

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

### December 20 --

4th Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Luke 1:46b-55

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

### December 27 --

1st Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 61:10--62:3

Psalm 148

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

## Annual Reports

### From Committees, Teams and Organizations

We are now accepting the 2020 Reports for the Annual Report booklet. Please send your report ASAP to Donn Hamm or by January 8th. You can email them to Donn at: [dehamm@comcast.net](mailto:dehamm@comcast.net) - Please provide the following information for the annual report:

- Ministry Team, Committee or group Name
- 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 this information by an email or attached on a word document and email to: [dehamm@comcast.net](mailto:dehamm@comcast.net)

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

Respectfully,  
Anita & Council

## Church Staff Schedule

The church staff will be taking a little well needed time-off after Christmas, and will be unavailable 12/25 – 1/3/21.

During this time, we will have a volunteer at the church on Tuesdays & Wednesdays. If you have any questions or concerns, or if an emergency arises, please contact Council President Lisa Green ([greenlisar@aol.com](mailto:greenlisar@aol.com)) attention “SALC”. She will reach out to you.

Thank you

## AED Automated External Defibrillator

We are very fortunate to have replaced our 12 year old AED with a brand NEW “Zoll AED Plus “ Model . It has many updated features. We have DVD’s that can be borrowed from Anita , which explain the operation of our machine and it’s features. Anita will also be sending some links to watch recorded demonstrations on line.

Most new or renewal classes (in person) for CPR have been put on temporary hold. Once I hear of any classes that start again I will send information. Until then remember that to refresh your memory, virtual demonstrations are useful.

*Thank you ,  
Carol Clouser ,  
Health and Wellness Coordinator*



## Treasurer’s Report for October 2020

	Oct. 2020	Budget	YTD ‘20	Budget	Annual Budg
<b>Income</b> (Interest income not shown)					
REGULAR GIVING	16,630.61	22,933.00	219,833.97	236,650.00	285,718.00
SEASONAL GIVING	0.00	20.00	2,583.50	3,620.00	6,070.00
DESIGNATED GIVING	120.41	885.00	4,872.34	13,990.01	15,790.01
MISC./EXTRAORD. INCOME	5,075.00	550.00	42,554.18	3,050.01	3,650.01
BENEVOLENCE GIVING *	1,290.74	2,180.00	17,492.73	21,940.00	26,300.00
* (Must be designated on Envelope)					
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>\$23,116.76</b>	<b>\$26,748.00</b>	<b>\$289,992.77</b>	<b>\$281,050.02</b>	<b>\$339,688.02</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$29,380.88</b>	<b>\$30,470.52</b>	<b>\$278,865.48</b>	<b>\$307,608.09</b>	<b>\$371,045.19</b>

## Landscape Crew

Have you noticed how beautiful the grounds around the church have looked this year?

Early this Spring, Charlene and John Bestler got out their rakes and hedge trimmers and did a great clean-up and trim of all the bushes and flower beds. As soon as the grass needed cutting, Neal Metts was out on our John Deere tractor/mower/plow while his wife, Polly, helped with the trimming and keeping the flower beds neat. The two of them also did the Summer hedge trimming. Fall brought the Bestlers back for a final hedge trim and flower bed cleaning. Rich Rieck attached the leaf pick-up mechanism to the tractor and Neal was on his way again, this time collecting the leaves which are then dumped and mulched into the vegetable garden. Polly helped by raking the leaves out by the fences and under the bushes. The tractor broke down several times and Rich was able to jump in, fix the problem, and have Neal back on his way again. All of this was volunteer work which saved us thousands of dollars that we had been spending in previous years.

*Thanks everyone for a great job! Chuck Fitzhugh*



## Pictures are Worth 1000 Words

As we continue to update the new website, we are in need of more pictures of the church, and of programs at the church. Please email your pictures to Donn Hamm, - dehamm@comcast.net.

# Quilters' Crossing

Many more blessings and hugs to you all as we struggle to stay positive through these still difficult days! Many of you are probably somewhat "ok" with the way things are now moving backward because your faith is so, so strong; I have to admit there are days when I really struggle! We still have our families and our strong faithful church community to help hold us up and the knowledge that God is always by our side and He will never ever leave us!



The Quilters, the STRONG AND FAITHFUL GROUP THEY ARE, are still meeting in their small, safe group with their work of love for the least of our brothers and sisters making those beautiful quilts and baby kits. We did find out that the baby kits shipped a few months back were sent to Lebanon and we are sure were received with open hearts and arms and were put to good use. **We are still IN NEED OF SHEETS AND LARGE PIECES OF MATERIAL-** they do not have to be new, just good and clean. They can be dropped off at church on Tues/Wed between 10 am – 3 pm. Please call Judy Parriott if you have any questions (847) 986-4465.

As we have moved into a more "technical world" during this pandemic, we are going to try something new and have an "on-line" **SILENT AUCTION** starting the Saturday after Thanksgiving and running through 12/19. We will be auctioning off three (3) quilts (full size) and two (2) baby quilts. Please look for more information in the weekly announcements or on the St. Andrew website. Many who have won the quilts in the past during our annual craft show/raffle have thoroughly enjoyed them and it is a way for the group to make some extra money for more supplies and machine maintenance! The quilts would make great, warm gifts for a loved one or lonely neighbor over the holidays – **DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS OPPORTUNITY!**

Please continue to pray for our leaders, our scientists and medical teams – let them hear God's voice to guide us through all of this! By the love of our Lord and Saviour, be strong and be safe!

Lyn Hayes & YOUR QUILTERS



## Quilt Auction Information

Dear St. Andrew family, as you well know this year has at times been very challenging, all of us are adapting to a new normal. St. Andrew Quilters are adapting as well. This year all of the quilts that we would normally raffle off will be available to be bid on online. This year we have 2 adorable patchwork baby quilts (both done in a rainbow of pastels suitable for a boy or a girl) and 3 beautiful quilts (one red and yellow with a bay chick theme, one in blue tones with a floral print and one in black and gold) all sized for a twin bed. **The quilts are available for viewing at [auctria.com](http://auctria.com). (See link below)** **There you can view and bid on the quilt of your choice (think Ebay!).**

Unfortunately, the bidding period ends in mid December so that the winning bidder can receive her/his prize by Christmas. So bid early and bid often and thank you for your support!

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

Debra Jacobson



# Women's Fellowship

## Winter Plans



We enjoyed a thoughtful and relaxing evening in November together. Kathy shared some pearls of wisdom and Biblical references focusing on our Father and Holy Spirit being our comforter. Thank you to all who were able to zoom with us.

### Thursday, December 10 - Christmas concert and cookies.

We will have a mini-Christmas zoom concert given by Jane Geddie who has a music theater degree and has performed in various church choirs. She is a friend of Barb's who lives in Mundelein in the summer and South Carolina in winter. She will sing some of our favorite carols (and we can sing along on mute) Please pick up our Christmas caroling booklets so you have the music. Then we will share what our new Christmas traditions are going to be this 2020. Even though we are unable to go Christmas caroling as we have in the past, we will share cookies with our elderly members and shut-ins. Please bring at least a dozen cookies on Thursday morning (while quilters are in the building - Dec 10 9:30 - 11:30am) or contact Barb Binversie. She will combine the cookies and make Christmas cookie tins to share with our homebound members. Merry Christmas, everyone!

### Thursday, January 14 -

Since our traditional Bunco evening will need to be modified, we are planning a Zoom game night using Kahoot! as an interactive game activity. We will plan to meet on zoom at 7 pm and pick some topics to play against one another using Kahoot. It should be quite entertaining.

If you have any questions, please contact Barb Binversie, 847-566-8708 or barbarabinversie@gmail.com

## Interested In Helping with the St. Andrew Newsletter?

The St. Andrew newsletter, the Encounter, is published once a month with past, current and future information about the many St. Andrew activities in church and the community.

If you would be interested in helping with this monthly communication for St. Andrew, or even becoming the new editor, please prayerfully consider this opportunity.

We are grateful for the many contributors to the newsletter with your articles and pictures and we are blessed with your leadership and communication contributions to the Encounter.

If you are interested in finding out more about the newsletter preparation and publishing, email  
Donn at: dehamm@comcast.net

## PEOPLE POWER DECEMBER

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 / Tana: 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 or Bill List – williamlist@yahoo.com**

## ST ANDREW CALENDAR – DECEMBER

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).

**Worship with us**

**by viewing our  
service online at:**

**Standrewmundelein.  
com**

# STEWARDSHIP –

## PROUDLY OUR WAY OF LIFE AT ST. ANDREW

### “He Will Hold Me Fast” *Matt Merker*

“When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast:  
When the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life’s fearful path;  
For my love is often cold; he will hold me fast.

*Refrain:*  
He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast:  
For my Savior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

Those he saves are his delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
Precious in his holy sight, he will hold me fast.  
He’ll not let my soul be lost; his promises shall last;  
Bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.

For my life he bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied; he will hold me fast.  
Raised with him to endless life, he will hold me fast;  
‘til our faith is turned to sight, when he comes at last.”

We used this hymn last year when we were able to gather together as we presented our offerings and pledge cards – read them through a couple times; they are strong, strong lyrics that truly humble me yet remind me who we are and why we are here. We have just come through, over the last four weeks, a focus on “Our Money Story” – this was the theme of our Fall Stewardship campaign. We hope that the materials given to you for consideration, study and prayer were helpful to guide you in your thoughts and decision about your commitment to God and our St. Andrew family and the finances of our church. In her sermons and in our Bible Study, Pastor Jenna helped us to “remember” how money and those who have gone before us have helped form our lives, how to “release” some of the negative feelings and the

hold money may have on us and learn to “reimagine” and share what we have even when we, at times, may think we don’t have enough, to “restore” our faithfulness to know that God will always provide what we need and that He will never ever leave us, and to “re-commit” ourselves-our finances and our talents-to God and our church family.

If you have not yet turned in your Commitment, it is not too late. Please turn them in as soon as possible. If you did not receive a Commitment card or missed it in Pastor’s email, please call the church and let us know. Also, remember that if your financial situation changes, those pledges can be amended. These pledges, though, help the Council and the Finance Team put together the budget for next year so

we know what ministries we can support and focus on. We pray that the Spirit will guide each and every one of us to grow as we are able. Please also pray about what your gifts/special talents are that can be used to keep our ministries going – we need extra minds and hands now more than ever! If you are not “asked” about how you could help, PLEASE ASK US!

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”

*II Corinthians 9:7-8 (NRSV)*

*The Stewardship Team*

## ST ANDREW CARES

# The St. Andrew Safety Team

*And what does the Lord require of you But to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God? -Micah 6:8*

The St. Andrew Safety Team has been meeting and working on refining procedures and future needs as we move through the COVID 19 Pandemic.

We all emphatically agree we wish we were open and could worship in person but WE have moved forward and new things are happening each and every week. Refinement of our new online worship service, bible study, are just a few things that are happening. There is a new poster on the entrance to St Andrew that states St Andrew Cares. What does that mean to each and every one of us? Have you reached out to another member of St Andrew with a phone call, card or just drive by and say hi from a distance? I'm as guilty as the next person and haven't done enough to reach out to others. As the Christmas season approaches, can we as a congregation do more than we've done before?

We have come up with new procedures for anyone who enters the building. A form is on the table in the narthex (where you drop your offering off) to be filled out when you are in the building. Also, please remember that a mask is required to enter the building for the safety of all of us. We ask that you continue to pray for the St. Andrew family and the many people who are working tirelessly behind the scenes to keep the many ministries going.

God's Blessings and a Blessed Christmas Season to all

*St Andrew Safety Team  
Leslie Parriott, Sonia Schoenfeld,  
Pastor Jenna, Jim Garbrecht*



## The St. Andrew Family

Several of the quilters did a walk by Lorraine Neilsen's house last Thursday, and it was such a nice day, she came out for a little chat. Lorraine hasn't been able to join us since she fell last February.



## CHRISTMAS 2020 COMING

**Christmas is still a long way away,  
but in my house I am told to stay.  
Thought of those uniform is blue,  
doctors nurses and other vitals to.  
Simply the drug and grocery store,  
where I go after I depart the door.  
Arriving where the populace work,  
from behind masks all people lurk.  
Masks can't shield eyes that glow,  
since they are all as bright as snow.  
Frivolous articles on store shelves,  
bought cause all are made by elves.  
Frolicsome products to you and me,  
are majestic gifts the children see.  
There's more to consider out there,  
why the ornamented village square.  
A light befalls on our corner church,  
show our humanity is not in a lurch.  
That light shines the world to know,  
Jesus is God's offering for all below.  
Christmas greetings on their way,  
show the manger glow every day.**

*Mervin R. Beyersdorf  
November 2020*

# PRAYER VENTURES

## December 2020

**1** *World AIDS Day* Pray for compassion, understanding and healing for individuals, families and communities worldwide that are living with or affected by HIV and AIDS. Give thanks for the dedicated service and skill of doctors, pastors, public officials, health care educators, care providers and researchers who treat the infected, bring hope to the discouraged and weary, and respond to the disease's spiritual, physical, emotional and social impacts.

**2** The Spirit is at work in times of anticipation and yearning, reminding us of God's promises and activity, helping us stay calm and patient, and redirecting our attention from ourselves to our neighbors in need – nearby and around the world.

**3** Give thanks for the new ELCA social message "Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy." Pray that it will help us understand how government is a gift from God but can also be abused and misused. Ask the Spirit to guide us as we prayerfully reflect on how we can view civic engagement as Lutherans.

**3** What do you anticipate and watch for during this season of Advent? Pray for what you yearn and hope for, and give thanks that God is faithful to God's promises, especially through the gift of life to the world through Jesus Christ.

**4** As we are immersed in the joy, festivities and busyness of Advent and Christmas, pause to pray for our global neighbors who have suffered through devastating natural disasters and need our support, generosity and assistance. Pray particularly for the many nations that have experienced drought and for those impacted by the earthquake in Turkey and Greece, Typhoon Goni hitting the Philippines and multiple hurricanes impacting Mexico, the Caribbean region and the United States.

**6** Pray that the Spirit will give us a measure of John the Baptist's boldness, commitment, humility and resolve as we share the good news of Jesus Christ and the promise of God's love and mercy with everyone we encounter or approach throughout our baptismal journey.

**7** Give thanks for caregivers, staff and nurses in senior communities, nursing homes, rehabilitation hospitals, and memory-care and assisted-living facili-

ties. Ask God to grant them strength, wisdom, skill and a spirit of hope and joy as they go about their difficult and often tiring work.

**8** Pray for patience, caution and concern for our neighbor during the continuing COVID-19 pandemic; pray that the Spirit and our siblings in Christ will help us cope with and adjust to the implications of the pandemic for this season in which we are accustomed to gathering in person for meals, celebrations, worship, family gatherings and community events.

**9** Pray that God will help us lead lives of holiness, godliness, peace and active engagement with the world as disciples of Christ who wait patiently for the day of the Lord.

**10** This has been, and continues to be, a very difficult year of coping with and recovering from natural disasters across our country and around the world. Pray that the presence and hope of God will be evident where there is despair, grief and uncertainty over how to begin rebuilding and healing. Pray that neighbors, communities and nations will work together to provide assistance, resources and relief workers where the needs are most critical.

**11** Ask for God's forgiveness and take to heart God's word of love, peace, healing and guidance that restores our faith and spirit as children of God.

**12** Give thanks for the church traditions that remind us of God's actions throughout history and inspire our faith, generosity and commitment to serve our neighbors in need. Pray that we will carry these meaningful traditions forward and create new rites and traditions that inspire and strengthen all generations in today's changing contexts.

**13** Pray that we might passionately witness to the light of Jesus Christ and boldly invite others to believe and to be baptized into the body of Christ and the community of all believers.

**14** ELCA Good Gifts provide an opportunity for you to support the ministries and programs — domestic and global — that mean the most to you and the people you love. Give thanks that our church believes God is calling us into the world together and that, through our generosity and love, we can make a difference.

**15** What do our gifts mean, and what impact do they have? Pray for thoughtfulness when we buy gifts, for awareness of who we include and exclude, and for mindfulness of how the money we spend during this time of thanksgiving might fulfill God's loving, merciful and generous promises.



**16** *Los Posadas* This traditional celebration, popular in Mexico and observed by some ELCA congregations, uses lighted paths and processions to follow Mary and Joseph's journey through Bethlehem in search of lodging. Pray that our recollection of Mary and Joseph's experience might prompt us to welcome strangers, immigrants and neighbors in need.

**17** "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." Pray that we will support and encourage each other in these good works and disciplines that keep our spirits, minds and bodies healthy and whole.

**18** Pray that, in anticipation of Christmas, we will invite others into the joy of our meals, celebrations, community events and faith. Pray that the Spirit will move us to reach out with acts of love, hope, inclusion and good news to people who are alone, incarcerated or homeless.

**19** "The Lord has done great things for us." Rejoice, laugh and shout with joy!

**20** Pray that we will be receptive to angels and divine beings sent by God to guide us and bring us good news, as the angel Gabriel did to Mary and Elizabeth. Pray that we will hear God's assurance that "nothing will be impossible with God" and that our response will echo Mary's: "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

**21** *Winter solstice* On this day with the least amount of daylight, observed as the beginning of winter, pray that we will be drawn to the eternal light of Christ born into the world — a gift for all people and all generations that illuminates God's redemptive love for us and God's desire and intent for how we might live together.

**22** Remember in prayer the approximately 26 million refugees, immigrants and asylum-seekers around the world and at our borders, awaiting entry into safe, welcoming countries and communities so that they can rebuild their lives without threats of conflict, persecution, violence or economic crisis. Pray for their safety, that their spiritual, physical and emotional needs will be met, that they will find caring advocates, and that their faith and hope will be strengthened and sustained by siblings in Christ and our faith communities.

**23** With prayerful sighs of relief and expressions of gratitude, give thanks for God's covenant to grant humankind love, forgiveness, new life and redemption through the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ.

**24** Remember and give thanks for the people in your life who taught you the nativity story and recounted the promise God made to us and fulfilled through Jesus Christ.

**25** *Christmas Day* Give praise and thanks for God's boundless love, mercy and grace, revealed to the world and all humanity through the light of Jesus Christ — son of God, son of humanity; our source of truth, salvation, new life and wholeness.

**26** *Beginning of Kwanzaa* Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration of African culture and traditions that stresses family, community and shared principles. Give thanks for the rich and meaningful traditions, celebrations and practices of our African American siblings and the global African community.

**27** Pray for the Spirit to help us understand and have faith in Jesus as the son of God, born to walk among us, live through our daily struggles and needs, teach us God's ways and word, and restore our relationships with God, one another and creation.

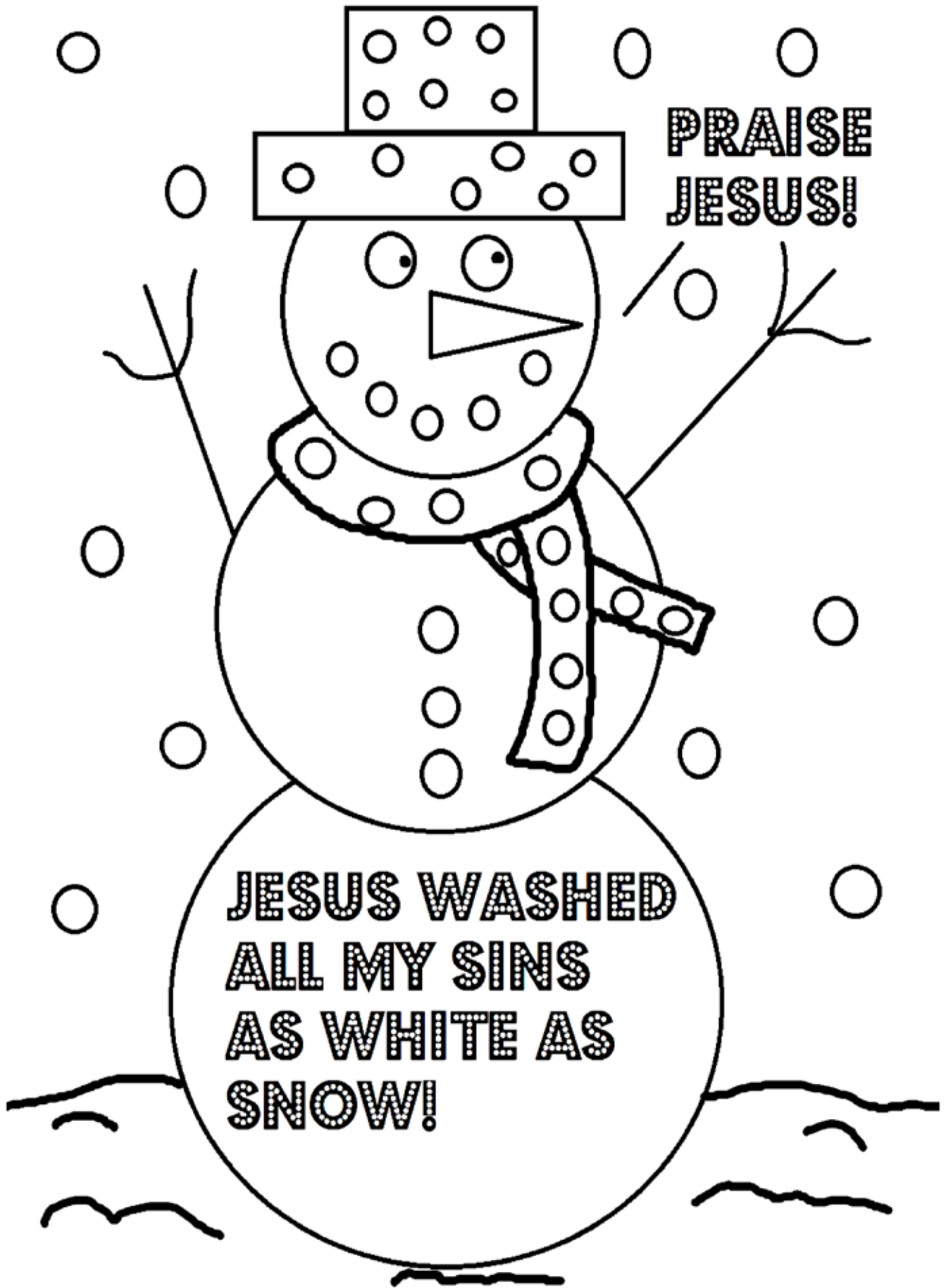
**28** Pray that we will carry forward the story and significance of Jesus and their implications for our daily actions, relationships and decisions as loved and reclaimed children of God. Ask the Spirit to guide us in responding to God's call to proclaim the gospel, make peace, work for justice, propagate hope and serve our neighbors in need — without partiality, foot-dragging, embarrassment or expectation of reward or credit.

**29** Let our prayers, creation and all living things give glory and honor to God, our creator, sustainer, guiding light and redeemer.

**30** Pray that the light, celebration and blessings of community we experience as followers of Christ will continue far beyond the Christmas holidays and permeate our daily lives as we participate in God's life-giving work and witness in the world.

**31** *New Year's Eve* A new year can offer hope and enthusiasm for starting anew, or it can bring fear and despair stirred by our human weaknesses and failures. Ask God to help us achieve our new endeavors and resolutions and reground ourselves in God's grace, forgiveness and newness when we fall short of our expectations and goals. Ask the Spirit to help us encourage, assist and surround with grace people who stumble or whose confidence is unsteady.

*For our young readers*



## We still need your offering!

Going forward, there are 3 ways to ensure your Giving reaches the church.

- 1) **“Drop-Off”** - days will be Tuesday & Wednesday between 10 am & 3 pm.
- 2) **Mailing** it in is still always an option.
- 3) **On-Line**, if you don't want to leave your home & have internet access, you can make one-time contributions using the on-line giving offered on the St. Andrew website. This can be done weekly, monthly or however you wish to do.

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

## 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

Building  
Faith  
In Our  
Future

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

Not  
Equal  
Giving  
But  
Equal  
Sacrifice

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!

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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.