

November 11, 2022 Friday Flash

Bwana Yesu Asifiwe! Praise the Lord!

This Swahili greeting is one of many ways members of St. Andrew's Tanzania Ministry Team greet our partners in the Agape and Hedaru parishes. For several years, members of St. Andrew's were able to make the trip to Tanzania at least once a year to visit, to learn about, walk with, and assist our siblings in Tanzania. These visits have paused due to covid travel changes.

Did you know, one outgrowth of the Tanzania Ministry Team partnership is walking with our companion congregation as they build and expand academic opportunities for their young people? [The Hedaru School is one example.](#) In 2019 work began on the St. Andrew's Pre and Primary English Medium School in Hedaru. The school has been operating since 2020 and currently offers Kindergarten, Class I, and Class II, with three teachers and 78 pupils. The school serves students from different areas of Hedaru and other communities. Funding provided through St. Andrew's Tanzania Ministry Team has provided building improvements and enabled the construction of the two new classes and staff offices.

As we consider what it means to partner in Sharing God's Love in our local, national, and global communities, the work of relationship and support in Tanzania provides opportunities for sustainability and education, building up the body of Christ to be light for the world! See the pictures of the [children](#) and [progress on the school facilities](#) here.

Thanks to the members of the Tanzania Ministry Team for their continued commitment to connecting with our sister congregations: Amanda Kress, Kris Parsons, Randy Sacco, Almira Uemura, and Laurie Evans.

Did you ALSO know the Pine Ridge Ministry Team has moved to Room 2 at St. Andrew's and now has weekly donation collection Thursdays from 6-8 pm? A 16-foot rental truck, 2 pickups, and a trailer were loaded on October 11 for last the trip of 2022 to Pine Ridge Reservation. Seven members of PRMT and 4 Feathers (Kris Parsons, Dave Krumm, Almira Uemura, Carol Putz, Laurie Evans, Phil Meraz and Randy Sacco) traveled to Pine Ridge Oct 12-15.

The volunteers joined in celebrating the grand opening of a new youth center building, Named Oyate Ta Kola Ku, meaning Friend of All Nations. The celebration included food trucks and a pow wow, with special guest Billy Mills (Oglala member, 1964 Olympic gold medalist 10K run and Running Strong Co-Founder), planned by Rose Hauser. Chief Joe American Horse provided the prayer (Wocekiye in Lakota) and blessing of the building. Rose mentioned to the crowd on hand that she "only takes clothing donations from those people from Ames, Iowa, as they bring me good stuff, not junk."

The team delivered donations to Pine Ridge, to Danny's store in Porcupine, and to Rose at Oyate Teca in Kyle. Before leaving the Ogalala gave the volunteers a traditional blessing for safe travels (burning of white sage and sweet grass in a pot, the smoke which you draw over yourself; known as Azilya in Lakota which means to smudge yourself). [Check out pictures from the trip here.](#)

Thanks to the members of the Pine Ridge Ministry Team for their continued dedication to these relationship and ministry! Chris Parsons (chair), Randy Sacco (council liaison), Almira Uemura, Laurie Evans, Carol Putz, Janet Dixon, Al Jergens, Amanda Ahrens, Kris Miles.

By accompanying our siblings in faith, we learn about ourselves, God's work throughout the world, and grow in faith by encountering the faith of our neighbors in the unique circumstances of their lives.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Sonja

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S~

- Sunday, *Service and Learning + Breakfast*, 9 am, Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, *Worship*, 10:30 am, Sanctuary & [Livestream](#)
 - If you have trouble with this link, go to [St. Andrew's YouTube Page](#)
 - [Last Week's Livestream Recording](#)
- Sunday, *Fellowship* 11:30 am, Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday, *Faith Book Study Meeting*, 7 am, Hy-Vee West Market Grille
- Wednesday, *Choir*, 7 pm, Sanctuary
- Thursday, *The Story Zoom*, 11 am, Zoom
- Thursday, *St. Andrew's at Saving Suds*, 4-7 pm, Squeaky Clean Laundromat
- Thursday, *Pine Ridge Donation Time*, 6-8 pm, Room 2 at St. Andrew's
- Thursday, *Church Council Meeting*, 6:15 pm
- *For a full listing of events, check out the St. Andrew's calendar at standrewsames.org/calendar/*

Advent is Coming!

Part of our Advent rituals includes the lighting of the Advent wreath each week. We need households that are interested in participating. You will light the candle for the week and read a short reflection. We need volunteers for November 27, December 4, December 11, and December 18. Please sign up on the sheet on the Narthex table!

Welcome Session Coming Soon

Pastor Sonja will be holding a Welcome Session in the coming weeks with individuals who want to learn more about being a part (or reconnect with) St. Andrew's Lutheran Church. We will talk about: opportunities to get involved and get to know others at St. Andrew's; current ministries; hopes and dreams for the future; basics of faith, worship, the Bible, and grace from a Lutheran perspective. *The session will be offered based on interest and participant availability, so please sign up on the sheet on the Narthex table or contact Pastor Sonja pastorsonja@standrewsames.org or call the office at 515-292-2131 to let us know you would like to participate!*

Blessings from the Heart

This year, we are so excited to announce "Blessings from the Heart," a program created by Lisa Downs, who is working in conjunction with the Education Committee. This program gives community members the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts to a number of families and individuals in Ames. The gifts will be given to the families during our annual Christmas Event on December 18 from 1-3 pm.

We will have a table set up in the Narthex on November 20 and 27 with the names and wish lists of these families and individuals. The wish lists will show the wants and needs of these folks for Christmas this year, and you can select the individual or family for whom you would like to purchase gifts! In addition, Fareway is sponsoring food bags available for purchase in-store (\$25 each) that will also be given to the recipients on December 18 along with the gifts.

Please contact Lisa Downs or the church office if you would like to sign up to bless a family or an individual, or if you know of any individuals in need this Christmas season whom we could possibly add to our list!

Now Hiring: Business Manager

St. Andrew's has relied on the generosity of volunteers to handle the financial management of its business affairs (responsibilities in addition to the work of our accounting firm, Schnurr). See the full job description at standrewsames.org with instructions to apply, and encourage any qualified applicants to apply!

New Book Club Selection Now Available for Pickup in the Office!

“In an American suburb in the early 1980s, students at a highly competitive performing arts high school struggle and thrive in a rarified bubble, ambitiously pursuing music, movement, Shakespeare, and, particularly, their acting classes. When within this striving “Brotherhood of the Arts,” two freshmen, David and Sarah, fall headlong into love, their passion does not go unnoticed—or untold—by anyone, especially not by their charismatic acting teacher, Mr. Kingsley.

As captivating and tender as it is surprising, Susan Choi's *Trust Exercise* will incite heated conversations about fiction and truth, and about friendships and loyalties, and will leave readers with wiser understandings of the true capacities of adolescents and of the powers and responsibilities of adults.”

The St. Andrew's Book Club will next meet at Linda Hansen's home at the Village Coop, 2525 Bobcat Drive, on December 13. We hope to see you there!

Help Supply Edwards Elementary with Classroom Snacks!

With the programming year and the school year both in full swing, we are again requesting YOUR help in supplying classroom snacks to Edwards Elementary. We are so excited to begin this program again, and request that snacks follow these guidelines: No Nuts, No Perishable Items, and Little to No Mess! Some of our favorites include *granola bars, cheese-based or other crackers, fruit snacks, and even applesauce* (GoGo Squeez is a popular brand at the moment!) Please contact the office or Mary Johnson at jsmjohnson36@msn.com with any questions! Drop off donations on the Fellowship Hall donations table.

Service N Learning Sunday Breakfast 9 am (All breakfasts provide juice, milk, and coffee!)

Please contact Miriam Moreno at miriam@standrewsames.org with any questions regarding the breakfast or with any allergies/food sensitivities if you plan to eat breakfast! We can accommodate most allergies or sensitivities if given a heads-up by Friday evening!

- November 13: Breakfast Tacos
- November 20: Coffee Cake and Sausage Links
- November 27: No Service and Learning

Service N Learning November 13, *A Few Good Men and Women*

We continue our chronological overview of God's great Biblical story this week. If you would like a copy of *The Story*, books are now available in the office during office hours. All are welcome to attend weekly sessions Thursdays on Zoom at 11 am or Sundays at 9:30 am; no need to register in advance. The following readings will be discussed on the each listed week.

- November 14-20: Chapter 9 “The Faith of a Foreign Woman”
- November 21-27: No Service and Learning

~NOTABLES~

Worship Assistants This Week (11/13/2022)

Assisting Minister – **Amanda Kress**

Reader – **Philip Dixon**

Greeter – **Paul and Cheryl White**

Ushers – **Al Jergens, John Kovar**

Communion Setup – **Paul and Cheryl White**

Communion Servers – **Lynn Miller, John Kovar**

Tech – **Kris Parsons**

Fellowship – **Pine Ridge and Tanzania**

Worship Assistants Next Week (11/20/2022)

Assisting Minister – **Kyra Meyer**

Reader – **Jennie LeGates**

Greeter – **Rollie Link**

Ushers – **Al Jergens, John Kovar**

Communion Setup – **Kris Miles**

Communion Servers – **Lynn Miller, Margaret Sherve**

Tech – **Brent Anderson**

Happy November Anniversary

Pastor Sonja and Scott Gerstenberger (1), John and Carol Moran (19), Sharon and Richard Olson (29)

Happy November Birthday

Gayle Osterberg (2), Sharon Anderson (3), McKenzie Geisinger (3), Ruth Shreve (4), Travis Jergens (6), Laurie Hoifeldt (15), Rosemary Nelson (19), Pauline Miller (22), Sam Houk (23), Anna Wolc (30)

~PRAYERS~

Phil Parsons, Alice Thompson, Lowell Elwick, John Sherve (brother of Margaret Sherve, battling cancer), **Annette (Thompson) Bodnar** (niece of Alice Thompson), **Anita Whitaker** (Mother of Sheri Krumm), **Troy Eagen** (Sharon Anderson's son-in-law), **John Litzel, Libby Litzel Gull, Mark Ekeren** (brother of Sarah Buck), **Jane Ellis, Wayne Thompson** (brain tumor), **Marilyn Saunders** (Gene Pollmann's sister), **Alice Becher** (Stephen Loucks' mother), **Gene Takle, Lou Jordan** (Dagmar Frank's cousin), **Nancy Owen** (Carol Putz's cousin, battling cancer), **Roxanne Labandz** (niece of Alice Thompson), **Pat Fawcett, Kolleen Tweed Sogard** (daughter of Violet Tweed), **Robert Pollmann** (Gene Pollmann's brother), **Mike & Kayla Endorf** (cousins of Dagmar Frank), **Joan Dubberke, Diane** (Carol Putz's sister w/long COVID), **Lester & Alycia Carlsborg, Ben Buck, Stu Endorf** (Dagmar Frank's cousin), **James Loritz** (nephew of Alice Thompson), **Karen Hardy** (Rita Peterson's sister), **Susan Teas, Douglas John Putz** (brother of Dave Putz), the family of **Jim Bacino** (grandfather of Kyra Meyer), the family of **Marjorie Allison**, the family of **Don Ekstrom** (brother of Mary Johnson), the family of **Janet Bentley** (mother of Janet Dixon), the family of **Nathan Saetveit** (previous member).

For all those suffering from loneliness and grief, addiction and illness-both mental and physical, poverty and need, war and strife; we pray to the Lord to bless them and give them peace. We continue to pray for the health and needs of the people in the Ames Community, the Pine Ridge Reservation, the Hedaru and Agape Parishes in Tanzania, and all communities throughout the world.