

November 18, 2022 Friday Flash

Dear Beloved in Christ,

Did you know the cost to wash and dry laundry at the laundromat for a family of 6 can be around \$20 a week? This is a considerable chunk of the budget for many who rely on laundromats to provide clean clothing for their families.

St. Andrew's Saving Suds program started in January 2020. The program raises funds throughout the year through donations, and members volunteer from 4-7 pm on the third Thursday of each month, providing quarters for washers and dryers, no questions asked, no financial qualifications required. Assistance to launder clothing may make the difference in a family's ability to purchase needed food or medication in a given week.

In an effort to expand the ministry, Saving Suds coordinator Mary Johnson reached out to other congregations in Ames to invite their participation. Bethesda Lutheran Church joined the team and provides the funding and volunteers for the first week of each month, also from 4-7 pm. Other organizations responded by donating to the Saving Suds fund, including Ames Noon Kiwanis, The Society of Friends and Century 21. Raising Readers has also become a partner and provides children's books to distribute each month.

In 2021, our Saving Suds ministry served an average of 14 households a month on St. Andrew's night, distributing an average of \$275 each month. As the program has grown in visibility and participation, the program now serves approximately 23 households a month, distributing as much as \$600 each month.

Savings Suds is one way St. Andrew's demonstrates our commitment to Live in and Share God's Love for ALL in the Ames community. Thanks to volunteers Dean Jansen, Mary Johnson, Nora Nelson, and Carla Sacco and to all who give generously to support this ministry. If YOU are looking for a way to spread God's Unconditional Love in relationship with our neighbors, Saving Suds is a way to get involved!

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Sonja

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S~

- Sunday, *Service and Learning*, 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/Friday, *Thanksgiving*, Office and Church Building Closed for Holiday
- *For a full listing of events, check out the St. Andrew's calendar at standrewsames.org/calendar/*

99th Birthday Card Shower for Alice Thompson

All are invited to participate in a card shower for member Alice Thompson, who turns 99 on December 12. Please send cards to Alice Thompson at 2200 Hamilton Dr. #304 Ames, 50014. The sooner the better!

Help Us Decorate the Sanctuary!

The Worship and Arts committee will be decorating the sanctuary on Saturday November 26, gathering at 9 am. We welcome all to join us as we prepare our sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas seasons. There are many bows to hang and a tree to put up. What a great way to spend a Saturday following a big Thanksgiving dinner! When the decorating is finished, we will get together in the Fellowship Hall for conversation and a light brunch. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Johnson at (515)-231-0716.

2023 Budget Hearing Meetings in December

The Stewardship and Finance Committee will present the proposed 2023 budget at two Budget Hearings: 1) December 4, 11:30 am following worship, in person and 2) December 6, 6:30 pm, via zoom.

Login details to join the Zoom meeting are:

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87002790333?pwd=dHU5M3l3T3l3MXVadXF6UUlkS1kvdz09>

Meeting ID: 870 0279 0333

Passcode: 324623

Dial in number: 312-626-6799 US

Gather Bible Study, Wednesday, December 7, 5:30 pm

Pastor Sonja will offer a Bible Study based on the November/December Gather Magazine Study "Jesus and nature: Teachers of Faith," the first Wednesday of December at 5:30 pm. Sign up on the Narthex Table or email Pastor Sonja to RSVP, and note if you would prefer to do so by Zoom or in-person at St. Andrew's.

Nominations Committee Members Needed

As outlined in our governing documents, a nominating committee is formed each year to recruit and forward nominations for the St. Andrew's council and elected committees (Audit, EMF, Personnel, Nominating) for election at the Annual Meeting. At the 2022 Annual Meeting, the congregation voted that the congregational council would form the nominating committee for 2022. If you are available to serve in this important role, contact council president Randy Sacco (randysacco77@gmail.com) or a council member as soon as possible.

Consider Council or Committee Leadership for 2023

At the 2023 Annual Meeting, St. Andrew's will elect three new members to council, identify and elect the council officers from the council membership, and elect the following: Extended Ministry Fund - 3 additional members; Audit Committee - 3 members for 2023; Nominating Committee - 6 members for 2023. If you would like to submit a name for nomination, contact council president Randy Sacco (randysacco77@gmail.com) or a council member as soon as possible.

Poinsettias Now Available to Order

Order envelopes are available on the Welcome Center in the Narthex! The deadline to order is December 14, and envelopes should be turned into the church office. If you have any questions, contact Mary Johnson at (515)-231-0716.

Wine Down- Date Change

Due to the fact that Thanksgiving is next week, Wine Down will be on December 2 at the home of Gene and Miriam Takle (2720 Meadow Glen Rd.) Come around 6:30, and bring your favorite wine or other beverage and a snack to share. All are welcome. For questions, please contact Mary Johnson at 515-231-0716.

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, contact Pastor Sonja at pastorsonja@standrewsames.org, or call the office to let us know you would like to participate!*

Now Hiring: Organist

Spread the word! St. Andrew's is on the search for an organist. We have enjoyed the musical talents of organist Sarah Buck for the last (nearly) 25 years. Please join in thanking Sarah for her dedicated service and musical contributions to St. Andrew's worship experience! As Sarah anticipates retirement, St. Andrew's is searching for an organist able to lead music in worship every other week (on rotation with Connie Sweeney and the instrumental ensemble) and work with Connie, Steve Hoifeldt, and Pastor Sonja to plan and lead liturgical worship services throughout the year. See the job posting at standrewsames.org for more info.

Blessings from the Heart – Collecting Gift Items for Families

This year, we are 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 families and individuals. Visit us to select the people 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!

Blessing Box Caretakers Needed

The Blessing Box located on the front lawn of the church needs your help. This box helps serve St. Andrew's more local community with immediate needs. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, or call the office!

What is needed:

- checking the Blessing box once or twice during your time to see if items are needed (2-week time slot)
- providing items to the box, lists available for suggestions on Narthex table
- notifying Social Concerns Chair/Monica Behning (mbehning31@gmail.com) with any maintenance

Help Supply Edwards Elementary with Classroom Snacks!

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!)

November 20: Coffee Cake and Sausage Links

November 27: No Service and Learning

Service N Learning November 20, The Faith of a Foreign Woman

November 21-27: No Service and Learning

~NOTABLES~

Worship Assistants This 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**

Fellowship – **Outreach**

Worship Assistants Next Week (11/27/2022)

Assisting Minister – **Laurie Evans**

Reader – **Margaret Sherve**

Greeter – **Pat Thompson**

Ushers – **John and Carol Moran**

Communion Setup – **John and Carol Moran**

Communion Servers – **Kris and Rita Peterson**

Tech – **Bruce Boeke**

Fellowship – **Property**

Advent Lighters – **The Rice/Johnson Family**

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), **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), **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 **Don Ekstrom** (brother of Mary Johnson), the family of **Janet Bentley** (mother of Janet Dixon), the family of **Nathan Saetveit** (previous member), and the family of **Alice Becher** (Stephen Loucks' mother).

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.