

**December 16, 2022 Friday Flash**

Dear Beloved in Jesus,

**Did you know our current volunteer financial secretary, Linda Seaverson, has served since 2015 and currently puts in an average of 20 or more hours per week to ensure St. Andrew's financial records and life are handled properly?** This is in addition to the work of our accounting firm, Schnurr, and our Council Treasurer, Janet Dixon. **Please join us in thanking Linda for her significant dedication of time and her financial management gifts to St. Andrew's over the last seven years!**

**You may have noted a new personnel position in the proposed budget for 2023. – Business Manager.** This position has been added to the St. Andrew's staff to handle the tasks currently handled by Linda ([see the job description here](#)), reduce the weekly tasks of our Council Treasurer, Janet Dixon, and pick up tasks formerly completed by the Office Administrator (that the treasurer has handled since we combined the Admin/Communications/Events Position).

**Personnel conducted a search and interviews, and we are delighted to announce that the position has been offered to David Krumm, member of St. Andrew's, whose knowledge of finances and the people, ministries, and history of St. Andrew's will be an asset to this position.** David will begin January 2 in order to accompany Linda and Janet as the books for 2022 are closed out and as the work to establish the budget for 2023 is completed. **Please join us in welcoming David to this new position!**

**In our final week of Advent, we turn our eyes toward Love as we anticipate the ultimate love of God that comes to us in the birth of Jesus!** As John the Baptist calls us to "prepare the way," we prepare our hearts and minds to receive this love incarnate. And, as we experience this love come down, we are called us to Faithful Service to our local, national, and global community that abundantly shares God's love as the hands, feet and open arms of Jesus.

See you Sunday!

Grace & Peace,

Randy Sacco, Council President

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
- Sunday, *Community Christmas Celebration*, 1-3 pm, Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday, *Faith Book Study Meeting*, 7 am, Hy-Vee West Market Grille
- Wednesday, *Choir*, 7 pm, Sanctuary
- Thursday, *Pine Ridge Donation Time*, 6-8 pm, Room 2 at St. Andrew's
- Saturday, *Candlelit Christmas Eve Worship Service*, 7 pm, Sanctuary & [Livestream](#)
- *For a full listing of events, check out the St. Andrew's calendar at [standrewsames.org/calendar/](http://standrewsames.org/calendar/)*

### St. Andrew's Annual Christmas Event THIS SUNDAY, 1-3 pm

All are invited to our annual Christmas Event featuring Blessings from the Heart. This event will take place in the Fellowship Hall from 1-3 pm on December 18. Snacks, crafts, and photos with Santa will be available! The recipients of Blessings from the Heart will also receive their gifts and holiday meal bags this day! This is a family-friendly gathering; come celebrate with us!

### Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Worship Times

All are invited St. Andrew's annual Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 7 pm! Celebrate the birth of Jesus with us through fellowship, carols, amazing music, and candlelight. Then, come back for our Christmas Day service at 10:30 am! Join in our mission to Live in and Share God's Love with All this Christmas season.

### Funeral Notice: Jane Ellis

Jane Ellis died on Tuesday, December 13. Her memorial service will be held on January 7, 2023 at the Bethany Life Chapel at 11 am with a luncheon to follow. Her family requests that no flowers are sent or given, and ask that any tribute or memorial donations be sent to either Bethany Life in Story City or the Pine Ridge Ministry Team at St. Andrew's.

### Poinsettias

The time to order Poinsettias has passed. However, if you did order flowers, they can be taken home following the Christmas Day Worship Service on December 25.

### Service N Learning Breakfast- Sunday, December 18: Assorted Scones

December 25 and January 1: No Service and Learning or Breakfast

### Service N Learning – The King Who Had It All

No Service and Learning In-Person or Zoom December 25 and January 1

### Blessings Box Update

Volunteers are needed to help maintain the Blessings Box; thank you so much to everyone who has already signed up! The box is located on the front lawn of the church. A sign-up sheet to volunteer to check the box and add items is located on the table in the narthex. In addition, donations for the Blessing Box and MICA can be placed in the donation bins labeled for each organization, located in the narthex. This will give the volunteers a source of items to use.

### Now Hiring: Organist

Spread the word! St. Andrew's is on the search for an organist. St. Andrew's is searching for an organist able to lead music in worship every other week and work with Connie, Steve Hoifeldt, and Pastor Sonja to plan and lead liturgical worship services throughout the year. Please visit the website for more information.

### **Welcome Session January 8, 11:45 am**

Pastor Sonja will hold a Welcome Session January 8 at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. Individuals who want to learn more about being a part of (or reconnect with) St. Andrew's Lutheran Church are encouraged to attend. 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. Pastor Sonja will have a packet of information for each participant, so *please RSVP by signing up on the sheet on the Narthex table or contact Pastor Sonja.*

### **St. Andrew's Policy on End-of-the-Year Contributions**

St. Andrew's will adhere to the IRS rules in Publication 526, "Charitable Contributions." Contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, donations must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31, OR brought to the church office by noon on Dec. 30 (last day the office is open in December). Simply Giving or online donations made and processed by Dec. 31 also apply to the current year.

If you would like to prepay all or part of your 2023 pledge in 2022, please indicate this on the memo line of your check. If you pay online, let Linda Seaverson know so it gets assigned correctly. The donation will appear on your 2022 Contribution Statement. Questions to: Linda Seaverson, [seaverson.linda@gmail.com](mailto:seaverson.linda@gmail.com)

### **Nominations Committee Members Needed, Nomination forms for Council, Elected Committees Available**

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](mailto:randysacco77@gmail.com)) or a council member ASAP.*

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, complete a nomination form available on the Narthex table and submit in the box labeled Council and Committee Nominations.

### **~NOTABLES~**

#### **Worship Assistants This Week (12/18/2022)**

Assisting Minister – **Mary Johnson**  
Reader – **Jennie LeGates**  
Greeter – **Rollie Link**  
Ushers – **John Kovar and Al Jergens**  
Communion Setup – **Deb Schlieman**  
Communion Servers – **Glynn Frank and Pauline Miller**  
Tech – **Bruce Boeke**  
Fellowship – **Worship and Arts**

#### **Worship Assistants Next Week (12/24/2022)**

Assisting Minister – **Janeen Christy**  
Reader –  
Greeter – **Pat Thompson**  
Ushers – **John Kovar**  
Communion Setup –  
Communion Servers – **Carol Putz and Jon Christy**  
Tech – **Kris Parsons**  
Fellowship – **No Fellowship**

## **Worship Assistants Next Week (12/25/2022)**

Assisting Minister –

Reader –

Greeter – **Matthew Martens**

Ushers – **John Kovar**

Communion Setup –

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

Tech – **Kris Parsons**

Fellowship – **No Fellowship**

## **Happy December Anniversary**

Dan and Kristine Anderson (27)

## **Happy December Birthday**

Norma Elwick (4), Miriam Moreno (8), Janeen Christy (9), Makenzie Putz (12), Alice Thompson (12), Susan Teas (20), Gene Pollmann (23), Lynn Engen (27), Pastor Sonja (29)

## **~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), **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 **Alice Becher** (Stephen Loucks' mother), the family of **Anne Buck** (Sister-in-Law of Sarah and Ben Buck), the family of **Richard Doyle** (father of Monica Behning), the family of **Jane Ellis** (sister of Pat Fawcett).

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.