

~FRIDAY FLASH~ May 27, 2022

~THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S~

- Sunday, *Worship*, 9:30 am, Sanctuary and [Livestream](#)
- Sunday, *Fellowship*, 10:30 am, Fellowship Hall

~MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SONJA~

Dear Ones,

It seems blasé to say “it is unfathomable” to be writing one week later about another shooting, in the shadow of a mass shooting at an elementary school. And yet, it should not be possible to fully understand how such loss of life, such tragedies, continue to occur. I still have no words, just deep, abiding sorrow, anger, and fear. So, I turn to words crafted for a time like this:

The ELCA'S newest hymnal, *All Creation Sings*, includes a section of prayers lamenting gun violence (below). We have a hymnal, with prayers dedicated to the loss of life from gun violence. That is how commonplace this has become. Lord, may we work for a world in which these prayers are no longer needed! Please, pray this prayer with me today, throughout the day, that we might not become numb or accept these tragedies as commonplace but act as instruments of your peace.

**Lamenting Gun Violence**

God, giver of life, you intend for humans to live together in peace. In this time of grief over gun violence, we pray for your presence among us. That, trusting in your mighty and gentle healing, we may live in hope, we pray:

*make us instruments of your peace.*

God of resurrection, we remember before you those who have died in Uvalde, Texas. We commend them to your eternal love. Grant healing and wholeness to the survivors who are wounded or traumatized, and restore all whose spirits are maimed by such violence. That we may serve as your arms of care to those in distress, we pray:

*make us instruments of your peace.*

God of righteousness, you have laid on our elected leaders the responsibility to protect our land. Strengthen their devotion to our common life, and guide legislators to enact policies that address our plague of gun violence. That our government may support our search for domestic harmony, we pray:

*make us instruments of your peace.*

God of compassion, we give you thanks for first responders, for police officers, firefighters, EMTs, and all who offer compassionate aid in situations of tragedy. Keep them safe from harm, and give them courage and sound judgment as they act. That we may join in support of those who risk their lives for others, we pray:

*make us instruments of your peace.*

God of forgiveness, we ask your mercy on the one who fired the weapon. With your grace, transform those who from malice or illness inflict violence on others. Console their families. Believing in your power to make all things new, we pray:

*make us instruments of your peace.*

God of the promise in word and sacrament, we pray for the church. Give us a voice, your voice, to plead for a society marked by justice and sustained by cooperation among diverse peoples. Train us to resist the lure of brute force. That by your Spirit we may become words and signs of your mercy, we pray:

*make us instruments of your peace.*

God of true might and redemptive mercy, receive our prayers, and grant us to become your instruments of peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Sonja

### ~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

#### **St. Andrew's Summer Worship Time – 9:30 am**

Summer Worship will be at 9:30 am Sundays through Labor Day. Service and Learning is on break Until September 11.

#### **Two Upcoming Opportunities to Support Ukrainian Refugees**

Now is the time for communities across the country to lift a unified voice of welcome and advocacy for immigrants and refugees coming to the United States. Join Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) as we stand up for welcome and speak up alongside our newest neighbors through Stand Up Speak Up: Solidarity with Ukraine.

PRAY - Join LIRS on June 2 for Stand Up, Speak Up: An Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Ukraine. Featuring speakers from diverse backgrounds and faith traditions, the vigil offers an opportunity for all to gather and demonstrate support for our Ukrainian neighbors. Attend in-person or via live stream. Register today to [watch the Zoom livestream](#).

ADVOCATE - Reserve your spot for the LIRS National Call-In Day on June 22! You'll receive training resources and a customizable template for calling your elected officials alongside LIRS supporters from across the country. [RSVP for National Call-In Day](#).

#### **Happy Spring! Ministry Plant Sale Fundraiser**

This Sunday is the last day of the Pine Ridge Ministry and Tanzania Ministry plant sale! Plants are potted, and ready for sitting on your porch or front steps or nestled in a dull spot in your garden to add some color. Please consider buying some plants to support our Ministries! Thanks!

#### **Ice Cream Social June 5**

Join us for ice cream and company in the fellowship hall on June 5 from 3 pm – 5 pm, coordinated by the Education Committee. We will have many delicious toppings. Come, join the fun!

#### **St. Andrew's Book Club June 14**

We have chosen our next book. "The Book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd. It is an extraordinary story set in the first century. It is focused on the life and struggle of a woman during the life of Jesus. It is a reverential approach to the humanity of Jesus. There are a few library copies in the office. We will gather on Tuesday, June 14 at the Village Cooperative, 2525 Bobcat Drive. Linda Hansen will be our host. ALL ARE WELCOME. If you have any questions, call Mary Johnson at 515-231-0716

## **St. Andrew's Wine Club June 24**

Please join us at the Snus Hill Winery in Madrid on June 24 at about 6:30 pm. Please bring a lawn chair and a snack to share. This is outside on the lawn and there is always an Iowa band. Join us for fun and fellowship. If you have any questions, call Mary Johnson at 515-231-0716

## **Thank You Letter from LSI for Refugee Welcome Kits**

Pastor Sonja and friends at St. Andrew's, Wow!! Thank you for your very generous donation of welcome kits and gift cards that we received yesterday. With your partnership, we will continue to provide programs and services to those new to the U.S. and Iowa. Thank you for helping us welcome the world!! With gratitude, Nancy Strutzenberg, Director of Philanthropy, IRCS

## **Pine Ridge Donations**

Pine Ridge asks that donations be cleaned prior to donation. This allows them to dedicate their energies to sorting and boxing the items for distribution and not spending funds and time to clean the items before taking them to the reservation, getting them into the hands of the people who need them faster. Thank you for your help in this.

## **~NOTABLES~**

### **Worship Assistants This Week (5/29/2022)**

Assisting Minister – **Laurie Evans**  
Reader – **Jon Christy**  
Greeter – **Linda Hansen**  
Ushers – **Don Boyle, John Kovar**  
Communion Setup – **Margaret Sherve**  
Communion Servers – **Janeen Christy, Jon Christy**  
Tech – **Brent Anderson**  
Fellowship – **Social Concerns**

### **Worship Assistants Next Week (6/5/2022)**

Assisting Minister – **Jennie LeGates**  
Reader – **Margaret Sherve**  
Greeter – **Betty Beard**  
Ushers – **Don Boyle**  
Communion Setup –  
Communion Servers – **Lynn Miller, Lynnette Jensen**  
Tech –  
Fellowship – **Fellowship**

## **Happy May Anniversary**

Natalie & Matt Hilleman (20<sup>th</sup>), Cheryl & Paul White (21<sup>st</sup>)

## **Happy May Birthday to**

Brittney Harryman (2<sup>nd</sup>), Ken Israel (3<sup>rd</sup>), Anita Klocke (10<sup>th</sup>), Nikolas Hawkins (10<sup>th</sup>), Lisa Downs (14<sup>th</sup>), Carla Sacco (15<sup>th</sup>), Natalie Hilleman, (17<sup>th</sup>), Steve Hoifeldt, (18<sup>th</sup>), Scott Gerstenberger (19<sup>th</sup>), Matt Hilleman, (23<sup>rd</sup>), Steve Loucks (23<sup>rd</sup>)

## **~PRAYERS~**

**Annette (Thompson) Bodnar** (niece of Alice Thompson), **Dick and Anita Whitaker** (Parents 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), **Marjorie Allison, 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 & Maynard 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), **Shirley Parsons, Karen Hardy** (Rita Peterson's sister), **Courtney Anderson, June Larrow** (Gayle Osterberg's sister), **Susan Teas**, the family of Lois Rand (Sarah Buck's 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.

**Please send any announcements, prayers, or updates to the office at [office@standrewsames.org](mailto:office@standrewsames.org) or call 515-292-2131 by Wednesday at Noon.**