

~FRIDAY FLASH~ April 8, 2022

~THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S~

- ❖ Sunday, *Service & Learning*, 9 am, Fellowship Hall and Zoom with Breakfast.
- ❖ Sunday, *Worship*, 10:30 am, Sanctuary and Livestream.
- ❖ Sunday, *Fellowship*, 11:30 am, Fellowship Hall
- ❖ Wednesday, *Choir Rehearsal*, 7 pm, Sanctuary
- ❖ Thursday, *Maundy Thursday Worship*, 7pm, Sanctuary and Livestream
- ❖ Friday, *Good Friday Worship*, 7pm, Sanctuary and Livestream
- ❖ Sunday, April 17, *Free Easter Breakfast*, 8:30-10 am, Fellowship Hall
- ❖ Sunday, April 17, *Festival Easter Worship*, 10:30 am, Sanctuary and Livestream

~MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SONJA~

Dear Siblings in Christ,

This Sunday begins our Holy Week Journey with Jesus to the cross. On Sunday, we begin our worship service remembering the exaltation of Jesus with song and palms as he entered Jerusalem, with the crowds crying:

“Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!”

Our gospel reading from Luke moves us into the passion as Jesus is arrested, beaten, executed, and buried – 49 verses to convey the agony Jesus underwent, joining us in the very human experience of pain and death. However, in this shortened alternative gospel reading (the prescribed reading is 70 verses!) we miss part of the story.

I invite you to consider joining us on Maundy Thursday, April 14, at 7 pm as we remember Christ’s last meal with his disciples and hear his commandment to give and receive love in humble service to one another. The service continues on Good Friday, April 15 at 7 pm with a full dramatic reading of the Passion from John’s gospel.

The world around us continues to demonstrate that pain and suffering are still very real and destructive through stories of refugee service providers overwhelmed and struggling to meet the basic needs of Afghan refugees; the devastation of war that continues to play out in Ukraine; the cries of those affected by food insecurity, housing needs, and underemployment; in addition to our own, very real, human suffering and need. Jesus has taken that pain and suffering into his very being, joining with us in our humanity and in doing so demonstrating the undeniable love of God who enters into our suffering to bring new life.

In the coming week we journey with Christ to the grave so that we can be raised and celebrate with Jesus in his resurrection at Easter. I invite you to take advantage of these services, to enter into the week fully, both the last moments of Christ with his disciples and his suffering on the cross, so that we might celebrate, all the more, together with joy on Easter.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Sonja

Pastor Sonja's Winter Schedule: Please contact Pastor Sonja directly at pastorsonja@standrewsames.org or 515-292-2131 to schedule an appointment so she can set aside time to meet with you. When not attending to needs outside the office, Pastor Sonja is generally in the office Mondays-Thursday, available via email, Saturdays by mobile phone, and any time via mobile phone for urgent needs at 515-554-4348.

~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

Holy Week Services – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday

Join us for a festival worship service Sunday, April 10 for Palm Sunday with a Processional and dramatic reading of the Passion Narrative. We continue on Thursday, April 14 at 7 pm with Maundy Thursday worship including a laying on of hands for healing, communion, and stripping of the Altar. This service continues on Good Friday, April 15 at 7 pm. Plan to join us as we follow Jesus' journey to the cross in preparation for Easter.

Easter Flowers for Sale

St. Andrew's will be selling Easter flowers to decorate the sanctuary again this year, for you to honor/remember your loved ones. We have Lilies for \$18 each and Tulips for \$12 each. We have 8 Lilies and 3 Tulips left for purchase. Help us decorate the sanctuary for Easter! Envelopes will be available in the narthex to fill out for your purchase. If you have questions, please call Mary Johnson at 515-231-0716.

Spring FREE All-Community Event: Easter Breakfast

Easter Breakfast will be an all-church-supported event this year. This year's breakfast will be St. Andrew's third FREE community-wide gathering, following the Christmas Event and the RenFaire – ways we are reaching out to gather together with the Ames community and share the love of Jesus. It will be a time of celebration of Easter and a time to connect with neighbors near and far. We encourage you to invite your family, friends, and neighbors to come and enjoy community together at the St. Andrew's Easter Breakfast, 8:30-10 a.m. April 17. Members who wish to make donations to defray the cost of the breakfast are asked to note Easter Breakfast in the memo line and give them to the church office or place them in the offering plate. No donations will be received at the breakfast to make it as inviting and welcoming as possible for our guests.

Easter Breakfast Art Display

If you'd like to donate to the Lenten offering and take home an original painting, here's your chance! Paintings will be on display at the Easter breakfast. The first \$15 covers the cost of supplies. Anything paid over that amount will go to St. Andrew's Lenten offering for refugee support through Lutheran Services in Iowa. A variety of *free* paintings will be available as well, gnomes and llamas and kittens, and more!

Calling All Children! Bible Milestone April 24

Parents and children of preschool, elementary, and entering Middle School are invited to join us Sunday, April 24. Pastor Sonja will pass out age-appropriate Bibles during worship and meet with kids and parents briefly after worship for a "Bible Milestone" Class to explore the Bibles and talk about ways to use your Bibles in your homes and begin talking about Jesus and a life of faith. If you know you will be coming, RSVP to Pastor Sonja (pastorsonja@standrewsames.org) or call the church office and provide the names and ages of your children. All are welcome! Kids. Grandkids. And Kids at heart!

St. Andrew's Book Club is Back!

We're back. Have you missed reading and sharing your insights with other readers? Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 12 at 6:30. We will meet at 6:30 in the Community Room at the Village COOP, 2525 Bobcat Drive. Please bring your ideas for our first book. We will also discuss what day of the month works for most. ALL ARE WELCOME. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Johnson at 515-231-0716.

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.

Office Administrator and Communications Manager Transition

Heather Eddy has served as Office Administrator for St. Andrew's for the last seven years. She shared this week that she will be moving to Chicago, Illinois in April. Her last day with us will be April 15. Please join us in thanking Heather for her many years of dedicated service to St. Andrew's! We celebrate this new chapter with Heather, even as we are sad to see her go.

Congratulations!

Mike and Laura Van Vertloo welcomed a new son, Ian, born on March 21, 2022. Big brothers Cole and Edwin look forward to teaching him all about heavy construction equipment and farming machinery.

~NOTEABLES~

Worship Assistants This Week (4/10/2022)

Worship Assistants Next Week (4/17/2022)

Assisting Minister – **Kyra Meyer**
Reader – **Margaret Sherve**
Greeter – **Nora Nelson**
Ushers – **Don Boyle, John Kovar**
Communion Setup – **Paul & Cheryl White**
Communion Servers- **Pauline Miller, John Kovar**
Tech – **Don Behning**
Fellowship – **Social Concerns Committee**

Assisting Minister – **Jennie LeGates**
Reader – **Mary Johnson**
Greeter – **Pat Thompson**
Ushers – **Don Boyle**
Communion Setup –
Communion Servers – **Margaret Sherve, John Kovar**
Tech – **Kris Parsons**
Fellowship – **Community Breakfast 8:30-10**

Maundy Thursday Assistants (4/14/22)

Assisting Minister – **Mary Johnson**
Reader – **Philip Dixon**
Usher – **Don Boyle**
Communion Setup – **Paul & Cheryl White**
Communion Servers – **Margaret Sherve**
Tech – **Don Behning**

Good Friday Assistants (4/15/22)

Reader – **Margaret Sherve**
Usher – **John Kovar**
Tech – **Kris Parsons**

Happy April Anniversary

Brett & Shari Redies (19th)

Happy April Birthday to

Kris Peterson (5th), Analise Gerstenberger (6th), John Kovar (12th), Betty Beard (17th), Roy Teas (17th), Nikki Gerstenberger (17th), Adeline Andersen (17th), Pat Thompson (17th), Laurie Evans (21st), Mary Johnson (21st), Carol Moran (21st), Janet Dixon (22nd), Laura Frescoln (22nd), Serena Paulson (26th), Richard Olson (27th), Miriam Takle (30th)

~PRAYERS~

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), **Mary Martens** (going through chemo), **Lester & Alycia Carlsborg**, **Ben Buck**, **Stu Endorf** (Dagmar Frank's cousin), **James Loritz** (nephew of Alice Thompson), **Shirley Parsons**, **Doreen Blackmer** (Martha Huinker's daughter), **Karen Hardy** (Rita Peterson's sister), **Bob Buck** (Ben Buck's brother), **Courtney Anderson**, **June Larrow** (Gayle Osterberg's sister), **Susan Teas**, the family of **Milt Allison**.

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 or call 515-292-2131.