

~FRIDAY FLASH~ March 25, 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, *Lenten Service - Holden Evening Prayer*, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary and [Livestream](#).
- ❖ Wednesday, *Choir Rehearsal*, 7 pm, Sanctuary

~MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SONJA~

Dear Beloved in Jesus,

We have reached week four of our six-week observance of Lent. On Sunday we explored The Reconciling Story from our Lenten Devotional during Service and Learning ([You can download a copy of the devotional here](#)). We hear the story of God's reconciling love throughout scripture: from the moment of creation, to the salvation of Israel from slavery in Egypt, to the Israelites journey to the Promised Land, to the promised return after exile, to the birth of Jesus and the unfolding of his story through the New Testament. Always reaching out and bridging the Jesus sized gap that is our aching for God's Kingdom on earth.

On Wednesday during Midweek worship, I shared one of the ways I experienced the continuing unfolding of God's reconciling story of grace in my own life, through the graciousness of a Pastor and community of faith that chose the gospel over the law. I invite each of us to consider how we continue to participate in the reconciling story of God's love and grace in our lives this week.

One of the ways St. Andrew's extends God's grace and love in community is through communion visits to members unable to attend worship. Since the pandemic, Pastor Sonja has filled this role, making communion visits as often as her schedule allows. In the coming months, Pastor will be forming a Care Team, to increase the frequency of visits by offering visits from members in addition to her visits and helping those unable to attend in person feel more connected to St. Andrew's.

Care Team members will meet to receive training in how to make a communion visit, be provided with a communion kit (sent from a worship service), and receive names of individuals to visit. If you are interested in participating on the Care Team, please contact Pastor Sonja at [pastorsonja@standrewsames.org](mailto:pastorsonja@standrewsames.org) or call the office at 515-292-2131.

Grace & Peace,  
Pastor Sonja

***Pastor Sonja's Winter Schedule:*** Please contact Pastor Sonja directly at [pastorsonja@standrewsames.org](mailto: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~

### **Spring New Member Classes**

Pastor Sonja will be meeting this spring with individuals who want to learn more about the ministries of 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; and basics of faith, worship, the Bible, and grace from a Lutheran perspective (sometimes these are known as New Member Classes). If you are interested in being included or learning more, please contact Pastor Sonja, [pastorsonja@standrewsames.org](mailto:pastorsonja@standrewsames.org).

### **Communion Visitation Care Team**

One of the ways St. Andrew's extends care in community is through communion visits to members unable to attend worship. Since the pandemic, Pastor Sonja has filled this role, making communion visits as often as her schedule allows. By forming a Care Team, Pastor Sonja hopes to increase the frequency of visits and help those unable to attend in person feel more connected to St. Andrew's.

Care Team members will meet to receive training in how to make a communion visit, be provided with a communion kit (sent from a worship service), and receive names of individuals to visit. If someone on a communion visit list is hospitalized/has surgery, Care Team members will be encouraged to visit first and identify if a Pastor Care visit is needed.

If you are interested in participating on the Care Team, please contact Pastor Sonja at [pastorsonja@standrewsames.org](mailto:pastorsonja@standrewsames.org) or call the office at 515-292-2131.

### **Dramatic Reading Volunteers Needed**

We will be utilizing a dramatic reading of the Passion narrative according to the Gospel of John for Good Friday, April 15, 2022. If you are interested in participating as one of the readers, please contact Heather in the office at [office@standrewsames.org](mailto:office@standrewsames.org) or Pastor Sonja at [pastorsonja@standrewsames.org](mailto:pastorsonja@standrewsames.org).

### **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.

### **All Community Easter Breakfast**

Easter Breakfast will be an all-church supported event this year. This year's breakfast will be St. Andrew's third 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 time to connect with neighbors near and far. Be on the lookout for opportunities to volunteer. A mailing advertising the breakfast will be sent to Ames neighborhoods, and 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.

### **Lenten Artistic Installation**

The Worship and Arts Team is coordinating a Lenten artistic installation that will “grow” over Lent. All are invited to add leaves with important moments from your faith life. As we each share our stories, our tree will blossom into spring, a visual representation of God at work in our lives. Leaves will be available on the table in the Narthex. You may either bring your leaf to the front and place it on the tree before worship, or place it in the labeled basket and it will be put on the tree for you. If you worship online and would like to have a leaf added to the tree for you, email Carol Putz at [carol.putz@gmail.com](mailto:carol.putz@gmail.com) and we will get your leaf added. We look forward to this opportunity to “share our stories” and “see” how God is at work in and through the people of St. Andrew’s!

### **Holy Week Services**

Join us for a festival worship service Sunday April 10 for Palm Sunday with 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 Good Friday, April 15 at 7 pm. Plan to join us as we follow Jesus’ journey to the cross in preparation for Easter.

~ELCA~

### **Eastern Europe Crisis Response**

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis in Eastern Europe. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits.

**We learned that gifts designated for “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000.** Gifts will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region. Donations can be made at [community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response](http://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response). Or mail a check payable to Lutheran Disaster Response, Write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on your check's memo line and send to: **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ~ P.O. Box 1809 ~ Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.**

~COMMUNITY~

### **Senior Variety Show Auditions**

Auditions for the 26th Senior Variety Show will be Saturday, April 2, between 12:30 and 4 pm at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 1416 20<sup>th</sup> Street. Call-backs will be Saturday, May 7, from 12:30 to 4 pm. This year’s theme is “Antics Roadshow.” Individuals and groups 60 years old and above are invited to showcase their musical, acting, comedy and dancing talents to interpret this theme on the Ames City Auditorium stage at the August 19 and 20 shows. Acts are limited to 3 minutes. (Younger volunteers are invited to be accompanists, stagehands, and ushers.) Questions: Pat Meek (President), 292-8203. [SeniorVarietyShow.org](http://SeniorVarietyShow.org)

~NOTEABLES~

**Happy March Birthday to**

Randy Sacco (1st), Lynnette Jensen (1st), Nathaniel Behning (9th), Linda Hansen (10th), Sarah Buck (16th), Michael Madson (17th), Leslie Miller (22nd), Almira Uemura (24th), Justin Upah (24th), Phil Parsons (26th), Monica Behning (31st)

**Worship Assistants This Week (3/27/2022)**

Assisting Minister – **Mary Johnson**  
Reader – **Jennie LeGates**  
Greeter – **Paul & Cheryl White**  
Ushers – **John Kovar**  
Communion Setup – **Paul & Cheryl White**  
Communion Servers- **John Kovar, Al Jergens**  
Tech – **Bruce Boeke**  
Fellowship – **Property Committee**

**Worship Assistants Next Week (4/3/2022)**

Assisting Minister – **Jennie LeGates**  
Reader – **Jon Christy**  
Greeter – **Linda Hansen**  
Ushers – **Don Boyle**  
Communion Setup – **Dan & Kris Anderson**  
Communion Servers- **Margaret Sherve**  
Tech – **Brent Anderson**  
Fellowship-**Fellowship Committee**

**Worship Assistants Midweek Service (3/30/2022)**

Holden Evening Prayer Cantor – **Kyra Meyer**  
Greeter –  
Ushers – **John Kovar**  
Tech – **Don Behning**

~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**, 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 Parish 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.**