

~~~Welcome to the Friday Flash for September 17, 2021~~~

~MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SONJA~

If you attended the Renaissance Faire last Sunday, in any capacity, you may be riding the “high” of meaningful time spent serving together and growing in relationship. I’ve heard many comment that it was great to see people and connect with one another beyond committee work or small talk at Fellowship.

I cannot agree more. I would suggest this is the abundant life God promise in Jesus. It is not easy! There was much hard work on Sunday. Another common theme I have heard is that, “I wasn’t sure how this would all turn out, would anybody come?” followed by the pleasant surprise that not only did members of the congregation participate, but a wide variety of people from the broader community came and enjoy an afternoon together.

And what if all we did last Sunday was give everyone a nice afternoon of food, games, crafts, and relationship? What if not one new person joins in worship? What if membership changes not one iota? Here’s the thing. God has called God’s people to spread the love of God in Jesus to all. I felt the love poured out on Sunday, and I wager those present did too. Funny thing ... it was the ELCA Gods Work. Our Hands. Sunday ... and by reaching out with an offering of joy and love for the community around St. Andrew’s you did God’s work. And if you were not there, because of scheduling, or covid, or you just didn’t want to, you were no less a part of God’s work.

You see, that’s the thing about community. We do this together. It is never about the work, efforts or gifts of any one person but of the community together. Together St. Andrew’s reached into the community with a gift and, by virtue of being Church, that gift was associated with the work of God in the world. And the thing is, we have no idea what fruit it will bear. And we may never see. But God’s work continues. God will continue to nurture seeds planted. God is at work, making all things new, and we have the beautiful opportunity to play our role. Thanks be to God!

*“Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:27-31*

**Pastor Sonja’s Fall Office hours will be: Tuesday and Thursday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Office Hours are times you can generally come and Pastor is here and available for a drop-in visit. Pastor’s day off is Friday. If you wish to schedule a time outside of office hours, you are invited to contact the church office to arrange an appointment.



## ~MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES~

### **Giving Garden Seeks Volunteers for Fall Produce Transport**

The St. Andrew's Giving Garden supporting Story County Plant-A-Row for the Hungry will continue collecting produce through October 10. Volunteers are needed to transport produce to Reiman Gardens on Sundays after worship and to assist harvesting produce for an hour each weekend at the Plant-A-Row community garden on Maple Street in Ames. Please sign up here: <https://standrewsames.org/local-ministries/>.

### **Pine Ridge October Meeting & Donations**

The October Pine Ridge Ministry Team meeting is cancelled and we will be taking donations by appointment only. It is a busy month. Please contact Kris Parsons 515-231-9318 or Almira Uemura 5157081617 for appointments.

### **Edwards School Needs Snacks**

You can bring snacks for Edwards School to St. Andrew's between 9am-3:30pm weekdays to drop off or on Sundays before/after worship. The kids at Edwards Elementary thank you!

### **Help Provide Hospitality and Welcome: Seeking Fellowship Committee Volunteers**

The St. Andrew's Fellowship Committee is looking for additional members to help plan fellowship events to provide hospitality and welcome to all. Fellowship coordinates coffee hour after worship, funeral luncheons, and special meals. If you feel a nudge to get involved, please contact the church office at [office@standrewsames.org](mailto:office@standrewsames.org), or committee chairs Gayle Osterberg [osterberggayle@gmail.com](mailto:osterberggayle@gmail.com) and JoAnn Kovar [joannkovar31@gmail.com](mailto:joannkovar31@gmail.com). There is a place for you here!

### **Looking for ways to help? Check out Worship Volunteering!**

We are delighted to offer in-person worship again. As we express our deep gratitude for the volunteers who have made livestream worship happen this last year-plus, it will take many more willing hands and hearts to make in-person worship happen. You are invited to consider how you may feel led to use your gifts in worship. The following volunteers are currently needed each week: Assisting Minister, Reader, Greeters, Ushers, Communion Setup, Communion Servers. You can see the volunteer needs and signup at [www.standrewsames.org/worship](http://www.standrewsames.org/worship), or call the church office at 515-292-2131 and Heather will help you sign up.

### **Love Singing? Choir Meets Wednesdays at 7 p .m.**

Come one and all! Director Steve Hoifeldt has a wonderful selection of music planned to enhance worship through choral music. Come to the sanctuary at 7 p.m. and join in the fun. Masks required. Questions? Contact [shoifeldt@standrewsames.org](mailto:shoifeldt@standrewsames.org).

~NOTEABLES~

**Happy Anniversary to**

Glynn & Dagmar Frank (September 3rd), Jim & Judy Denato (September 4th), John & JoAnn Kovar (September 4th), Jamie & Julie Riesselman (September 28<sup>th</sup>).

**Happy September Birthday to**

Emily Frescoln (1st), Lucas Gerstenberger (3rd), David Krumm (9th), Al Jergens (10th), Jamie Riesselman (11<sup>th</sup>), Harlan Baker (13<sup>th</sup>), Glynn Frank (13<sup>th</sup>), JoAnn Kovar (15<sup>th</sup>), Jim Denato (17th), J. Ben Buck (22nd), Kathryn Baker (25th).

**Worship Assistants This Week (9/19/2021)**

Assisting Minister – **Laurie Evans**  
Reader – **Steve Hoifeldt**  
Greeters – **Paul & Cheryl White**  
Ushers – **Don Boyle, John & Carol Moran**  
Communion Setup – **Paul & Cheryl White**  
Communion Servers- **Monica Behning, John Kovar**  
Tech – **Don Behning**  
Fellowship – **Outreach Committee**

**Worship Assistants Next Week (9/26/2021)**

Assisting Minister – **Jennie LeGates**  
Reader –  
Greeters – **Lynnette Jensen**  
Ushers – **John Kovar, Don Boyle**  
Communion Setup –  
Communion Servers-  
Tech – **Bruce Boeke**  
Fellowship – **Property Committee**

~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), **Susan** (Glynn & Dagmar Frank's daughter), **Roxanne Labandz** (niece of Alice Thompson), **Pat Fawcett**, **Kolleen Tweed Sogard** (daughter of Violet & Maynard Tweed), **Robert Pollmann** (Gene Pollmann's brother), **Harlan Baker**, **Stuart** (cousin of Dagmar Frank).

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, of Pine Ridge Reservation, and of 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.

~LOCAL~

**Martha's House of Hope Fundraiser**

Martha's House of Hope, a home in Ames for expecting mothers, is partnering with the Rustic Rose Barn in Roland for an upcoming fundraising event. Sunsets at the Rose, a Farm to Table event, will be held on Saturday, September 25th from 6 – 10 pm at the Rustic Rose Barn at 3275 400th Street in Roland. Join us for fresh food, local brews, and live music! This Farm to Table event will feature a local dinner catered

by Silver Spoon Catering, featuring local meats and produce at a century-old barn. Throughout the night, enjoy locally brewed beer by Exile. After dinner, enjoy some dessert by The Bakery while enjoying live music from Old School, who specializes in jazz, blues, and classic rock music. Come enjoy a relaxing evening in the country with us! Tickets are \$45 and must be purchased in advance at [www.marthashouseofhope.org/upcoming-events](http://www.marthashouseofhope.org/upcoming-events) or by calling Missy Sanow at (515) 337-0618.

~NATIONAL~

### **Lutheran Disaster Response Giving Opportunity to Aid Hurricane Ida Relief**

Hurricane Ida hit New Orleans on August 30 as a category 4 hurricane, 16 years after Hurricane Katrina devastated the area. Massive flooding, wind damage, and storm surge have left over 1 million people without power and stranded.

The full impact of this storm is yet to be assessed, but the cost will likely be high and it will take years to rebuild from this hurricane. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with local ELCA synods and Lutheran social services to provide immediate needs such as food, basic necessities and temporary housing. But they need your help.

100% of your donations to the hurricane response-U.S. line go directly to assist those affected by the hurricanes. Scan this QR code or go to this link <https://community.elca.org/hurricane-relief> to give to Hurricane Response – U.S.

