

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

304 Morewood Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:00 a.m.

Email: St_AndrewELCA@verizon.net
Website: www.standrewpittsburgh.org
St. Andrew Church Office 412-682-3342
Pastor Ross Carmichael 773-428-0310
President Sue Sabol 412-608-9056
Director of Faith Formation Chris Atwood 724-208-9169

Returning to Worship

As vaccines continue to be administered, many of us are eager to return to worship in the sanctuary of the church, and St. Andrew's worship committee and council have outlined precautions for how the congregation can do this as safely as possible. We plan to begin opening up the church during Holy Week, beginning with Good Friday. Masks will be required for all who come to worship, and attendance is limited to 15% of indoor capacity in accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's current guidelines. For St. Andrew's sanctuary, this comes to about 37 people. Allowing for worship leaders and ushers, we will currently be able to offer 32 slots for worship. For now, we will still need to ask people to sign up for places at worship so that we have information for possible contact tracing should anyone become ill after a gathering.

The first opportunity to return to the sanctuary for worship will be on Good Friday, April 2nd, at 7:00 p.m., with our contemplative service of shadows and stones. Please sign up for Good Friday worship here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-good>

We invite those who received a stone in the Lenten resource box to bring it to the church to lay at the foot of the cross on Good Friday. A cross will be set up outside the church from 3:00-7:00 p.m. for those who will not be coming to indoor worship, but would still like to observe Good Friday and Adoration of the Cross with this act of devotion. Anyone attending the 7:00 p.m. service is invited to bring their stone then.

For Easter Sunday, the primary worship service of the congregation will be online, but we will offer opportunities to receive Holy Communion at the church at 12:00 p.m. and 12:45 p.m. Based on current coronavirus count numbers, consideration of the UK variant in Pittsburgh, concerns of parishioners, and medical guidance, we will be moving the distribution of Communion outside on Easter. Please sign up for Communion here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-easter> Communion attendees are invited to visit the decorated sanctuary briefly for prayer and reflection, provided that masks remain on.

Women of the ELCA Gathering

August 3rd - 5th, 2021 in Phoenix, Arizona

Renew your spirit with thousands of faithful women who are eager to grow, learn, pray, and share in community together! Join the group in Phoenix and live your faith in love that leads to justice.

Register at www.welcatg.org.

April 2021

Love Everyone ~ Exclude No One



St. Andrew Lutheran Congregation welcomes all who are seeking a place of healing and wholeness, a nurturing, faith-forming spiritual home.

Our community embraces people of all races, abilities, cultures, gender and sexual identities, ages and family constellations.
Come and See!

Opportunities for Service

Fresh Produce Distribution
Tuesday, April 6th
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

East End Cooperative Ministries
Shelter Dinner
Thursday, April 15th
5:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 a.m.

Via Zoom or by Phone

Click the following link, which includes an encrypted version of the password.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84733322183?pwd=UStXUEN4c2FvNE5LY21uczAvbExHQT09>

+13126266799,,84733322183#,,,,,0#,,2005177# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,84733322183#,,,,,0#,,2005177# US (New York)

Meeting ID: 847 3332 2183

Passcode: 2005177

ELCA Youth Gathering

Has been rescheduled. New Dates:

July 24th-28th, 2022

From the Pastor

As we continue this Holy Week, we join the whole church in meditating on the passion and death of our Savior Jesus, and we wait with anticipation to hear the good news of the resurrection. The text that follows below is a *Catechetical Address* from John Chrysostom (344-407). It was likely intended primarily for those who were newly baptized in the faith on Easter, but could speak to believers of every stage and duration of baptismal living who had gathered to celebrate Easter. In my reading, it also echoes the many and varied seasons of our faith life, at times stronger and more engaged, at times a struggle from a distance, and the assurance that God's love and grace are wide enough to welcome and embrace us all. Wherever you find yourself this Holy Week, I pray for God to bless you and keep you in your devotions, and bring you with all the saints of the church throughout the ages to the joy of the resurrection.

In Christ,
Pastor Ross

If any person is devout and loves God, let them come
to this radiant and triumphant feast.
If any person is a wise follower, let them enter
into the joy of the Lord, rejoicing.
If any have fasted long, let them now receive refreshment.
If any have labored from the first hour, let them today
receive their just reward.
If any came at the third hour, let them keep the feast
with thankfulness.
If any arrived at the sixth hour, let them have no
misgivings, for they shall not be deprived.
If any delayed to the ninth hour, let them draw near,
fearing nothing.
If any have waited even until the eleventh hour,
let them not be alarmed at this tardiness.
For the Lord will accept the last even as the first.
Therefore, all of you, enter into the joy of your Lord.
Rich and poor together, hold high festival.
Diligent and heedless, honor this day.
Both you who have fasted, and you who did not fast,
rejoice together today.
The table is full; all of you, feast sumptuously.
The calf is fatted; let no one go away hungry.
Enjoy the feast of faith; receive the riches of God's mercy.
Let no one bewail their poverty, for the fullness
of the kingdom is revealed.
Let no one weep for their iniquities, for forgiveness
shines forth from the grave.
Let no one fear death, for the savior's death has set us free.
He who was held prisoner by death has annihilated it.
By descending into death, he made death captive ...
Christ is risen and [death is] overthrown.
Christ is risen and the devils have fallen.
Christ is risen and the angels rejoice.
Christ is risen and life reigns.
Christ is risen and not one dead remains in the grave.

For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep, and to him be glory and honor, even to eternity. Amen.

From *For All the Saints: A Prayer Book for and by the Church*, Volume I: Year 1, Advent to the Day of Pentecost, compiled and edited by Frederick J. Schumacher with Dorothy A. Zelenko. Delhi, NY: American Lutheran Publicity Bureau, 1994, 2003. p. 980-81.

Certain portions of the text have been adjusted to maintain inclusive and gender-neutral language.

Worship via Phone, Tablet, or Computer

St. Andrew's weekly worship services will continue to be available online. There are several options for accessing worship:

Zoom, 10:00 a.m. – The Zoom platform allows people of the congregation to interact with one another before and after the service. Sign on or call in starting at 9:45 a.m. Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.

Facebook, 10:00 a.m. – Worship (which currently is pre-recorded, will be posted to Facebook at 10:00 a.m.

www.facebook.com/standrewlutheranchurchpgh/

YouTube – Worship will be posted to St. Andrew's YouTube channel, making it available to watch at any convenient time.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjNotsDrdK70XkmEYiutY8Q/videos>

St. Andrew Web Page – Worship will also be posted to our website, www.standrewpittsburgh.org, for viewing at your convenience.

For those accessing the service via Zoom, there are three ways to enter:

1) The one-step method

Click the following link, which includes an encrypted version of the password.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84733322183?pwd=UStXUEN4c2FvNE5LY21uczAvbExHQT09>

2) The step-by-step method a) go to zoom.us b) click "join a meeting" c) type in the Meeting ID: 847 3332 2183 d) then the passcode: worship

3) Dial in on your audio-only phone and put in the Meeting ID and numerical passcode.

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,84733322183#,,,,,0#,,2005177# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,84733322183#,,,,,0#,,2005177# US (New York)

Meeting ID: 847 3332 2183, Passcode: 2005177

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbyJ8Ox75>

Worship for Holy Week and Easter

Holy Week continues with the + Triduum - Maundy Thursday, April 1st; Good Friday, April 2nd; and the Vigil of Easter, April 3rd. + The Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Sunday, will be celebrated April 4th.

We have all been eager to return to worship in person, but coronavirus numbers are once again going up in Allegheny County, and these now include the UK variant, which according to medical professionals is more contagious and responsible for around 25% of current county infection numbers. We are grateful for the news that a number of people of St. Andrew have now been able to receive the vaccine, yet we recognize that there are others in our community who will likely not be able to be vaccinated for some time, and we remain committed to doing all that we can to keep people safe in worship — we have come this far, and now is not the time to compromise on the precautions that have proven effective.

All Holy Week services will be available online to ensure access for anyone for whom in-person worship will not be feasible. We still plan to hold the Good Friday service in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m., livestreaming to Facebook and Zoom. Given current considerations about the coronavirus, we will need to move the distribution of Holy Communion outside on Easter Sunday. If people remain masked and physically distanced, the sanctuary, decorated for Easter, will be accessible to those who would like to come inside briefly for prayer and reflection.

The Holy Week Schedule is:

+ Maundy Thursday, April 1 st	Worship Online via Zoom	7:00 p.m.
+ Good Friday, April 2 nd	Placing of Stones and Adoration of the Cross (Outside)	3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
	Worship in the Sanctuary - Service of Shadows and Stones (Livestreamed to Zoom and FB)	7:00 p.m.
	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-good	
+ The Vigil of Easter	Online Vigil — Watch and Pray (Zoom)	12:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.
+ Easter Sunday	Worship Online via Zoom	10:00 a.m.
	Holy Communion at St. Andrew (Outside)	12:00 p.m., 12:45 p.m.
	https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-easter	

RE-new Days Outside at St. Andrew Saturdays, April 24th, May 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd

This spring, St. Andrew will be holding RE-new Days, a time for outside work and education events at church, on April 24th, May 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd. The schedule will be from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., with programming from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Come and join us as we dive deep into Mark 4: 1-9 each week for 15 to 20 minutes, then enjoy community time in small groups as we work on the outside of the church and caring for our community. Extra time is allowed on either side of the program hour for anyone who would like to come early or stay for additional work around the church grounds. These events are for all God's children no matter their age. Check back for more information to come. In person events will require pre-registration for the purpose of contact tracing, if needed. Please wear a mask in case we are not able to keep six feet of distance for some outdoor activities or if you need to go into the church to use the restroom. Please sign up here and select what days you plan to attend: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSffGJWOO_mzSayLhIfC6j0fFAIjOe6JcgKDXYNs9eiOPCHvCw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Online ELCA Worship Service for Earth Day

Lutherans Restoring Creation, a grassroots movement promoting care for creation in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is happy to present the ELCA community with a special online service. In celebration of Earth Day, this service is intended for use on April 25th but can be downloaded to use at any time. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will be preaching as part of this special service of liturgy, visual journeys, musical offerings, pastoral insights, and inspiration from lay leaders. [Register now](#) to receive a special link with download instructions by April 18th. The service will also be played live on April 25th at 9:00 a.m. on Lutherans Restoring Creation's Facebook page and YouTube channel and available for replay any time after that. Visit [Lutherans Restoring Creation](#) for updates and details.

St. Andrew Receives Second Grant from Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation!

The congregation has received word that for the second consecutive year, we have been awarded a \$10,000 matching grant from the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation's Historic Religious Properties Initiative! The grant is for the restoration of the left section of the "Jesus and the Children" stained glass window on the Morewood Avenue side of the sanctuary and for new storm window covers for the smaller stained glass windows.

The congregation will once again be invited to give toward this project, and if we are able to raise \$10,000 we will receive the same amount from PHLF. We will formally notify the congregation when the appeal period for the grant will begin and when it will end.

We thank Jan Kurth and Scott and Sue Gaugler for all their work in putting the grant together. And thanks be to God!

Youth Updates

We will be returning to a hybrid youth ministry calendar starting Sunday, April 11th, 2021. In person events will require masks and pre-registration for contact tracing purposes if needed. Please sign up here for April 11th, 2021: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdugq0XDPmAZfy6v-jOxaDjdHixoqRg_yS2sVi7lqhVlqx8xQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Or here for April 25th, 2021:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtNNE-ztShMRdVTd7_X0MmoZsohrHclANOOwE9NM2bte_Fng/viewform?usp=sf_link

In May, we will be tie-dyeing lounge pants. Please be sure to order your lounge pants, indicating preferred size, before Sunday, April 18th, 2021:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdnldwTSSd1vLUua1TSo_LqA8OFSml6byX8PRITHqxzjXqLg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Resurrection Stories Zoom Social

Saturday, April 10th, 2021

1:00 p.m.

In most years, with all the events surrounding Easter in church or at home, we do not always have an opportunity beyond one crowded worship service to learn more about Easter, reflect on its stories, or even celebrate with our siblings in Christ! This year, we are offering that opportunity with “Resurrection Stories,” a Zoom “social” to be held on the Saturday after Easter, April 10th, at 1:00 p.m. Please see details from the Google document below, and click here to sign up to share a reading or song, or simply to RSVP to be in the virtual “audience” - https://docs.google.com/document/d/15n0_oymaOZiEqoGUgocm9EWKdUkKft5nuRzbnw7rDqU/edit?usp=sharing

Anyone who would like to perform in St. Andrew’s Resurrection Stories social is welcome! You can play an instrumental version of a song, sing a solo, make it a group number with your household, contribute a reading (on your own, through mime or dance, with puppets or a play set), etc. Please choose between one and three verses of a song. If you would like to perform a song not listed here, please email joy.eilene@gmail.com.

We will host this program on Zoom, and everyone will be muted except during their own performances. The encore will be open to everyone to sing together unmuted (it will be a big noisy beautiful mess!), and then the Zoom meeting will remain open for everyone to socialize.

This is a casual program, but feel free to dress up if you would like. Please sign up for one performance slot if you would like to participate, or add your name to the audience list. Either way, we will be so glad to see you!

Zoom Login Information:

Saint Andrew is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Resurrection Stories

Time: Apr 10th, 2021 01:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85051014344?pwd=OTNidGRrcjAyOVkzd1JkMUhVVFVNdz09>

Meeting ID: 850 5101 4344

Passcode: HEisRISEN

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,85051014344#,,,,*698849993# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,85051014344#,,,,*698849993# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 850 5101 4344

Passcode: 698849993

Young Adult Happy Hour

Thursday, April 15th

On Thursday, April 15th, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., young adults of the congregation are invited to gather on Discord for a time to share conversation, enjoy each other’s company, and talk about Summer 2021. Join the Discord Sever at <https://discord.gg/fhRX2rJE>

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)

What Is Happening with Immigrant Children at the Southern Border

Since April 2020, the U.S. has seen steady increases of families and children arriving at the southern border seeking protection from violence and environmental disasters that have ravaged Central America and beyond. Most acutely, there has been a significant increase in the number of **children arriving without a parent or guardian**. While current policy generally does not permit migrants from entering the U.S. through the southern border, there is an exception for “unaccompanied children” and they are supposed to receive certain protections and care under the law. The influx of children has resulted in **thousands in Customs and Border Protection custody**.

Who are the children at the border?

The children are largely from the **Northern Triangle**, which includes El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Many come to the U.S. without a parent or guardian in search of safety. They range in age, with some children as young as **six or seven years old**. A majority of the children (approximately 85-90 percent) have a parent or guardian in the United States and are seeking refuge and reunification with their families. Other children are coming to the United States with their families, but they are currently being **expelled immediately** under Title 42, a previously instituted public health directive.

Why are they coming now?

Historically, migration ebbs and flows. Several factors have coalesced in 2020 and early 2021 to create an **emergency situation** requiring children to seek safety outside of their home country, including: **Community violence, Political unrest and corruption, Climate crises, including hurricanes Eta and Iota**, and **Pandemic-related challenges**. They are, in many cases, **fleeing for their lives**. Under the previous administration, the children were being immediately expelled without due process. Now, their safety is the priority.

What happens when unaccompanied children arrive in the U.S.?

By law, children are supposed to receive certain protection and care. When children arrive on their own, they are first processed by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and transferred as quickly as possible to the Health and Human Service’s Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) — an agency with child welfare expertise. ORR cares for the children through its network of providers, including LIRS, until they can be safely united with a vetted sponsor. Typically, this can take a few weeks. The Office of Refugee Resettlement prioritizes environments that consider the best interests of the children — where they have access to case managers, medical care, and legal services providers. The LIRS model recognizes that the children are not just in our custody, but in our care, and we train and support foster care parents to care for children in family-like settings until they can be united with their sponsor.

What is different about what’s happening now?

Problems can arise when the ORR network is at full capacity, as it currently is due to pandemic constraints and necessary compliance with public health guidelines. When this is the case, children cannot be transferred from CBP to ORR custody quickly, and instead spend prolonged periods in CBP facilities, **which were never designed to care for children**. Additionally, the past four years significantly depleted U.S. immigration infrastructure, specifically the capacity to care for children. It will take time to rebuild, and there are certain legal requirements that must be met.

What are the temporary shelters?

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), with support from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the American Red Cross, and faith-based partners have opened temporary facilities to move children out of CBP detention. These temporary facilities provide children with a safe place to sleep, eat, tend to personal hygiene, and offer activities and certain supports while ORR builds its licensed bed capacity. Because these facilities are temporary, they are not licensed. As LIRS has testified before Congress, facilities like Homestead present significant risks to the care of children.

What is LIRS doing to help?

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is urgently working with our network of service partners, community groups, and volunteers to address the critical needs of these children and to reunite them with family in the United States.

How can I help?

There are a number of actions supporters can take to help unaccompanied children at the border. We invite you to support this work however you can — through donations, prayers, advocacy, or even applying to become a foster parent. We ask, too, that you work with us to promote compassion, empathy, and education. Children at the border, like all children, deserve love, safety, and support, and we ask you to join us in celebrating their safety and welcoming them into our country and our community. We invite you to download our **Hope for the Southern Border Toolkit**, which shares more about how you can get involved. <https://www.lirs.org/faq-what-is-happening-with-immigrant-children-at-the-southern-border/>

In Our Prayers

St. Andrew continues to provide support for people in need through the ministry of prayer. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, or if you have a prayer request, please email st.a.prayer.team@gmail.com or St_andrewELCA@verizon.net.

Thank you all for your ministry of prayer!

We pray for St. Andrew... for the pastors associated with our congregation: **Pastors Ross, Janet and Keith, Bob, Deb, Dona, Erin, Kim, Jocelyn, Larry, Martin, Melissa, Paul, Peter, and Sarah**; for discernment and wisdom as we seek new ways of sharing the Gospel; for safety and protection for the congregation and community.

We pray for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; for the **Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, Bishop Kurt Kusserow**, and our **Assistants to the Bishop, Pastor Peter Asplin and Pastor Melissa Stoller**; for our companion church, the **Tulear Synod of the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar and its bishops, Modeste and Octave Benil Andrianjafy**.

For the United States and its people, that all may know justice and peace; for the president, **Joseph Biden** and the Vice President, **Kamala Harris**; for all our elected officials and for those who serve in the armed forces; for God's blessing upon all nations, especially those suffering from internal strife, oppression, violence, and terrorism; for those who suffer from the effects of natural disasters.

For healing ... for all who are sick with covid-19 and for those grieving loved ones who have lost their lives to the virus; for all who work in healthcare; for those in the hospital; for those undergoing or recovering from surgery.

For those who are unemployed or furloughed; those struggling to secure work; those without health insurance; and all who have suffered economic instability due to the pandemic.

For those with cancer, including **Bonnie Adelson, John Aitken, and Paul Bonenberger**.

For those whose needs are ongoing: Marissa, Larry Lash, Rhonda, and Mary Sommerfeld.

For those who have been hospitalized recently.

For all who are in need or who have requested our prayers: Bonnie Adelson and Bruce Klotz, Pastor Deb Byrum, Rachel Faulkner and her family, Cindy, Deb.B., Giovanna, Karen Grecko, Allen Henderson, Rod and Beth Hermann, Chad and Wendy Hermann, Taumi Kalcich, Beth Lash, Abigail Litz, Oban McElwain, Karen Shaffer, Tom Swanson, Matthew Tesch, Thomas (Toby), and Marsha Young.

For those who are grieving: Kitty Brunkhorst, April Galyardt and her family.

For those with special needs: for those seeking racial justice and equity; for the LGBTQIA+ community; for support and protection for our transgender siblings as discriminatory laws are proposed and enacted in various states; for those living with HIV/AIDS; for unaccompanied minors, migrants, and refugees, and for parents and children separated from one another; for those who are differently-abled; for those who are in prison; for all who are awaiting additions to their families; for those who are in discernment and those who are making difficult decisions; for those who travel; for those with addictions; for those in difficult or disintegrating relationships; for those who have personally experienced the fragility of life; and for those who mourn,

We pray in thanksgiving ... for God's promises and blessings through the covenant of Baptism; for God's love and grace that come to us through the Word; for the Christian community and the gift of the Holy Spirit; and for the many ways God continues to bless us.

For all the saints ... for those who have recently died, including **Brenda McGregor**; for the promise of the resurrection to eternal life, that it would bring comfort and hope to all who mourn.

Taking Faith Home

You can now view Taking Faith Home — a resource for prayer and Bible readings at home previously featured as an insert in St. Andrew's weekly bulletins. Please find it in the "This Week at St. Andrew" Friday email.

April Celebrations

Birthdays

- 2 Cynthia Holden
- 3 Joyce Compton
- 4 Donny Downie
- 5 Ethan Wyman
- 7 Marlene Scholze
- 8 Miranda Pino
- 11 Sandy Van Dyke
- 14 Oliver Montgomery
- 15 Valerie Mae Kovak
- 16 Laura Reynolds Carmichael
- 21 Kelly Spaninger, Amelia Jane Zobrist
- 22 Oban McElwain
- 23 Amy Bartoli
- 25 Finnegan Ruhe
- 28 Hal Wilcox
- 29 Angie Sabol
- 30 Patrick Abramowich, Jessica Welker

Anniversaries

- 11 Pastor Janet Grill's Ordination
- 11 Jodie Minor and Ian Brown
- 11 Ian Brown (Baptismal Day)
- 19 Anita and Donny Downie

In Sympathy

We offer sympathies and prayers for the family and friends of

Brenda McGregor

*Rest eternal grant her, O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon her.*

Easter Flowers Are Given

In Memory of

Jo Arney and Robert Carlson

by Jennifer Novelli

Pastor August Braun

by Ginny and Tom Leech

Pastor Bruce Brunkhorst

by Wayne and Mary Sommerfeld

Loved Ones

by Kelly Spaninger and Joyce Compton

Ginny Nestor

by the Givens Family

In Honor of

Christopher Atwood

by Wayne and Mary Sommerfeld

Karen Shaffer

by Wayne and Mary Sommerfeld

In Gratitude for God's Grace to My Family

by Colleen Cooke

For the Living Body of Christ that is St. Andrew Lutheran Church

by Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer

With Love for the St. Andrew Community

by Sharon Koch

Thank You!

... to everyone who helped set up and/or distribute produce on March 2nd: **Chris Atwood, Sue and Scott Gaugler, Song Jian, Joseph Paetz, Dixie Tymitz, and Hal Wilcox.**

... to **Kristen Asplin** and **Sue Gaugler** for their contributions to the evening prayer service for Lent.

... to **Johanna Asplin** (guitar and vocals), **Isabel Doshi** (vocals), and **Clark van Beek** (vocals) for leading "Sanctuary," the Children's Song, for worship during the Lenten season.

... to **C.E. Pino, Laura Reynolds, Jennifer Stoyko, and Elsa van Beek,** for their contributions to worship on the + Third Sunday in Lent, March 7th.

... to **Timothy Kocher-Hillmer, Pastor Paul and Sharon Koch, Maria Mangano and David Rollinson, and Laura Reynolds** their contributions to worship on the + Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 14th.

... to **Victoria Al-Ebrahim, Sue and Scott Gaugler, Richard Krug, Doug Lash, Renee Makaroun, and Christy Ruhe** for preparing food for the East End Cooperative Ministry Shelter Dinner on Thursday, March 18th.

... to **Kristen Asplin, Jeff Denlinger, Noël Marsh and Colten Rohleder, and Laura Reynolds** for their contributions to worship on the + Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 21st.

... to **Jeff Denlinger, Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer, Richard Krug, Clark van Beek, and Monica and Kai van Beek** for their contributions to worship on + Palm Sunday - Sunday of the Passion, March 28th.

... to **Johanna Asplin, Eilidh Chapman, Isabel Doshi, Sarita Doshi, Crispin Galyardt, Alessandro Novelli, and Clark van Beek** for leading the Passion reading on + Palm Sunday - Sunday of the Passion, March 28th.

... to **Sharon Koch** for coordinating musicians and singers for worship.

... to **Jimmi and Timothy Kocher-Hillmer** for mixing sound for online congregational worship videos.

... to **Chad Hermann** and **Chris Atwood** for compiling and editing the congregation's worship videos during March.

... to **Kristen Asplin, Amanda Best, and Conrad Kalcich** for serving as Zoom hosts for worship.

Borrowing a Hymnal

Hymnals are available for home use until we gather again at church for worship. Sign up at the link below and we will deliver one to your home. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XVT8H6S>

St. Andrew to Begin Use of Online Platform Discord

This month, the congregation is launching a new St. Andrew server on the Discord platform. Discord is a popular group-chatting app that was originally made to give gamers a place to talk and build communities. St Andrew will be using Discord for youth events, Confirmation class, and young adult events at first, with a plan for more applications to come online in the months to come, including livestreaming worship. You can join the server with this link:

<https://discord.gg/fhRX2rJE>

Lutherlyn Looking for Volunteers on April 24th

Each spring, Lutherlyn holds a work day to prepare the camp for the many people who will visit throughout the spring and summer. Flower beds needs to be weeded, firewood needs to be cut, fences need to be repaired, sticks and leaves need to be removed, along with a variety of other jobs for volunteers of all ages and skill levels. Lutherlyn provides all the tools and a bagged lunch prepared by Chef Lisa.

This year's work day will be **Saturday, April 24th, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** To allow for adequate social distancing, this year's work day will be weather-dependent. When you sign up, be sure to provide a phone number where staff can reach you in the vent of cancellation/rescheduling. In the event of rain or inclement weather, Work Day will be rescheduled; likely to May 1st.

Please bring your mask. Masks are required indoors (bathrooms and when you go into the dining hall to get your lunch). Work projects will be outdoors and will only require a mask if social distancing is not possible.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the development office at development@lutherlyn.com or 724-865-2161.

Spring 2021 Work Day Schedule

9:00 am - 10:00 am: Check-in and project assignment (there will be no large group meeting prior to starting this year)

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm: Pick-Up bagged lunch at Dining Hall

4:00 pm: Wrap-up projects

Drinks and snacks will be available at the Dining Hall throughout the day.

To sign up, please complete the form found at this link: <https://www.lutherlyn.com/support/volunteer/workdays.html>

“Strive for Justice and Peace in All the Earth” Advocacy Opportunities

In the covenant of Holy Baptism, God's blessings come to us, and we respond in gratitude by committing ourselves to a way of life as followers of Jesus. This commitment is summarized in five baptismal promises, which include the call to “Strive for justice and peace in all the earth.” One means of answering that call is through advocacy for more compassionate and just public policies that support the most vulnerable people in our communities. Below are two links to help you get started (or to help you continue!) that work:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Advocacy Center

You can sign up for ELCA Advocacy Alerts via email at

https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Advocacy?_ga=2.100603678.1476695542.1594990714-1992371135.1579724075

or visit the Advocacy Action Center to see the latest topics being discussed and voted on.

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa)

LAMPa also has an email signup for Action Alerts at <https://www.lutheranadvocacy.org/get-involved/actionet/>.

The links will connect you directly with your elected officials and often provide an outline of talking points or sample language to help you prepare your message.

Community Ministry Updates

Emergency Food Pantry

This picture is typical of what we at St. Andrew try to stock in the outdoor Little Library every day. Every day, all items are taken. We hope we are helping at least a few people from going hungry this pandemic. Since summer, the food has been purchased (mostly) with 3 grants from Thrivent, of \$250 each. We just spent the last Thrivent grant the Gauglers are eligible to receive. The food should last approximately 6-8 weeks.

If this is a ministry the congregation would like to continue, we could use donations of foods that do not require a can opener. We could also apply for additional Thrivent grants if anyone is a Thrivent account holder. It is easy to apply for the \$250 grants for a ministry of your choice, and we would be happy to help with the process! Contact Sue Gaugler sgaugler321@gmail.com or 412-735-8872.



St. Andrew Awarded SWPA Synod Mission Endowment Grant For Outdoor Food Pantry

As the article above indicates, we at St. Andrew have seen an increased need in the neighborhood for support with basic food items, and the need has exceeded the capacity of our small little library that was originally intended for books. St. Andrew recently applied for a grant from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod's Mission Endowment Fund for construction of an outdoor pantry, and the congregation was awarded a grant of \$750.00. We hope that this covers the cost of materials for the pantry with some left over for an initial supply of food, but we know it will not last long and we hope to add basic toiletries to the pantry, so we would appreciate your ongoing support. Thank you to Sue and Scott Gaugler, Dixie and John Tymitz, Jennifer Aitken Stoyko, and Derek Bell for keeping the pantry supplied!

Fresh Produce Distribution at St. Andrew — Tuesday, April 6th Setup: 11:30 a.m. until Delivery Truck is Unloaded Distribution: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

St. Andrew continues its Produce to People Distribution following the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank's current precautionary guidelines: outdoors with masks, no-touch sign-ins, and produce brought directly to people's cars (when applicable). The produce is supposed to come pre-packaged this month but there may be a last-minute change, in which case we would need volunteers to pack boxes. If you would like to help, assistance is needed at 11:30 a.m. until the delivery arrives; at 5:00 p.m. to set up and move food outside; then from 5:30-7:00 p.m. to record names, direct cars, and distribute food boxes. Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-produce9>.

East End Cooperative Ministries Shelter Dinner Thursday, April 15th

St. Andrew provides a meal once a month, on the third Thursday, for guests at East End Cooperative Ministries (EECM) in East Liberty (6140 Station St., 15206). This month, we will deliver our dishes to the front desk of the shelter by 5:30 p.m., so please use containers you do not want returned to you. We will not stay and help serve the meal. Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-shelter24>.

The EECM is very grateful for the organizations who have continued cooking through the pandemic.

Sundays - 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

April 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.— Worship Online	2 Good Friday Worship— 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary Livestreamed	3 Vigil of Easter Online Vigil 12:00 p.m.—2:00 a.m.
4 + Easter Sunday 10:00 a.m.—Worship Online 12:00, 12:45, p.m.— Holy Communion	5	6 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.— Produce Distribution 6:00 p.m.— Confirmation Class	7	8	9	10 9:30 a.m.—Council Meeting 1:00 p.m.—Resurrection Stories Online
11 + Easter 2 10:00 a.m.—Worship 5:00 p.m.—Youth Night In Person	12 7:00 p.m.— Worship Committee	13 6:00 p.m.— Confirmation Class	14	15 5:30 p.m.— Shelter Dinner 7:00 p.m.— Young Adult Happy Hour on Discord	16	17
18 + Easter 3 10:00 a.m.—Worship 5:00 p.m.—Youth Night On Discord	19	20 6:00 p.m.— Confirmation Class	21	22 7:00 p.m.— Education/ Faith Formation Meeting	23 Newsletter Deadline	24 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.— RE-new Outdoor Activities Day 1
25 + Easter 4 10:00 a.m.—Worship 5:00 p.m.—Youth Night In Person	26	27 6:00 p.m.— Confirmation Class	28	29	30	