



St. Andrew Lutheran Church



August, 2020

Reverend Ed Filter, Pastor

Worship Service Sunday 10 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study Sunday 9 a.m.

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Home of Wee Grow Christian Preschool

From The Pastor's Desk

Dear friends and members of St. Andrew,

Some one shared this anonymous quote with me recently and I think it sums up what our responsibility is as Christians in this changing world of Covid-19 and protests against racism and protests against mask wearing and other restrictions that people are resisting. It is hard to know which side of the political fence to jump to or what to believe about who is right and who is wrong. As Christians this quote, I believe is what we are called to do and be:

"No one else has to care, so long as you do. No one else has to do the right thing, so long as you do. No one else has to make a difference, so long as you do. No one else has to stand up for Jesus, so long as you do. A lasting legacy and a life that makes a difference is achieved by those who are not afraid to stand alone for what they believe. "

As the political process heats up we are being subjected to more and more polls to try and discover what people are thinking. Along with these polls we are being reminded that so many people are guided by opinion polls, the desire to be popular, a willingness to go along with the crowd especially when it comes to protesting racism. In recent years we have been reminded that polls can be wrong and can come to wrong conclusions.

In contrast to the results of many polls we are reminded of the power of one person who will purpose in their heart to do the right thing no matter what the consequences. It would be good for all of us to remember that great things are accomplished by men, women and children who are led of the Holy Spirit to stand up for truth, character and integrity. In the midst of a world that is looking for the easy road of popularity and pleasure at the expense of the harder road of obedience to God's living Word, the Holy Spirit is calling us to take our stand.

In Hebrews 12, the Holy Spirit reminds us that the key to a faithful life is fixing our eyes on Jesus. Since we have the testimony of those who have gone before, we need to run the race of the Christian life in a particular way, as verse 2 explains: "Fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Tony Evans, a pastor and Christian author notes, "Don't fix your eyes on how you feel inside or what is happening around you, but fix them on Jesus. Keep your eyes set on God and His promises, and remember that the issue is whom you are going to believe. Faith is no mystical concept. It is simply taking God at His Word and acting in light of that."

Even if we are all alone may we purpose to listen to the Holy Spirit and commit to live like Jesus, and not be afraid to love others as He has loved us. May we pray for His grace to not be afraid to stand alone for His Word so that others may experience His love and forgiveness. Remember that one person who lives by their conviction built on God's word is more powerful than a hundred people with an opinion.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Filter

August Schedules

Acolyte

Will be covered by Elder

Fellowship

Suspended until further notice

Greeters

2 Jeff & Elena Brooks
9 Dave & Marty Frick
16 Tracy Kleitch
23 Mary & Jack Sandborn
30 Jeff & Elena Brooks

Worship Readers

2 Nancy Filter
9 Elena Brooks
16 Mark Haworth
23 Mary Sandborn
30 Elena Brooks

Altar Guild

Jeanne Bauer and Nancy Filter

Elder

Jeff Brooks



THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Our Thursday Adult Bible study continues to meet by Zoom until at the end of July. Unless the Covid-19 cases begin to drop it will most likely continue that way into August. Listen to Pastor announcements on Sunday to follow whether it will be zoom or a combination of zoom and in person study. We continue to study the lesson for the Pentecost season each week at 10 a.m. Email or call Pastor if you like to join if you haven't participate before and he will send the materials each week as well as a zoom invitation.

RECORDED SERVICES AND SONG DEVOTIONS

Until we can get the bugs out of our system to live stream our Sunday services, Pastor will continue to record a Song, Scripture and Sermon service each week-end. It will be posted on face book, the link will be emailed to you and the link will also be posted on our link. As long as Covid-19 continues to be an issue Pastor will publish 3 Song devotions a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you have songs to suggest to Pastor let him know. That has been or most popular offering, sometimes reaching 100 hits a day.

PRAYERS

Prayers for Larry Ransom who is in the hospital in Ann Arbor.
Sue Rueh's sister-in-law Randee Pline who had surgery to amputate her right leg just above the knee

ENRICH of Ionia county continues to serve those in need through their Community Circle project. The Thrift Store will reopen next week as well. The Community Circle depends on community support from folks like you donating the items needed. Furniture and beds are always needed. Right now, box springs are our greatest need. If you have any gently used box springs of any size you are not using, consider donating them to ENRICH. Please contact Pastor Filter who serves on the ENRICH Board if you have items to donate. Your past donations have enabled ENRICH to receive enough funds to replace the roof on their building in Ionia and the work is being done right now. Praise the Lord!



NOISY OFFERING

On Sunday, August 9, 2020 the noisy offering will go toward Concordia University (Ann Arbor) Save your change (and bills) and bring them to church and drop them in the buckets to help us "Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord."



LADIES GROUP

Book Talk

Please visit the web page for our Current book.

<http://www.standrewbooktalk.weebly.com> If you have any questions about the book, the date or location of the next Book Talk, talk to Ruth Helmreich or Nancy Filter for more information.



Ladies Group Meeting

We will meet on **August 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** at church. We will be making plans for our yearly events.

MEN'S GROUP

Men's Breakfast



The Men's breakfast group has not met since Covid-19 began. If all goes well Pastor plans to meet with them on **Sunday, August 17th at 8:30 a.m.** If Denny gets the Riverfront Grill open on time we will plan to meet downtown for breakfast. If that does not happen we will meet at Fabiano's. Check with pastor the week before to confirm.

PRAYER GROWTH MEETING

On **Monday, August 17th at 6:30 p.m.** we will bring our Prayer Growth meetings which have been suspended since the beginning of the Shelter in Place order. Right now we plan to make it combination In person and zoom meeting. Watch for the zoom invitation



and email to see if the In person part will take place or if it will be zoom. We will be praying for our congregation and community, looking at ways to bring back our Children's ministries as well look at ways to reach out to our community with Jesus' love during these trying times.

AED IS INSTALLED

Way back last fall before Covid-19 the St. Andrew Ladies' group challenged you to a one to one match to raise funds to purchase and install an onsite AED or defibrillator. The funds were quickly raised but the purchase and installation were delayed. During July our leaders were trained in it's use and it was installed in the Narthex near the front entrance. Thanks to the Ladies for their generous gift and to Mark Haworth for installing the device in it's new cabinet. Thanks especially to Tim O'Connor of Heartbeat LLC. For providing the device and cabinet at cost and also for donating the first \$100 to it's cost. He also provided the training for free. Due to his generosity a device which would cost over \$1300 was our for just over \$800. We pray it is never needed but we are now prepared if it is.



PRESCHOOL NEWS

We are not certain what our Fall 2020 preschool program will look like. The pandemic has created evolving variables and uncertainty. We are closely monitoring the COVID-19 developments and working closely with licensing to determine the best and safest path forward.

LWML - Women In Mission

Convention news update!

The LWML Michigan District has just completed its first Virtual Convention, not like a real personal convention, but still with goals for Mission projects, elections of officers, and mission speakers. The total mission goal adopted was \$251,250, with 14 Mission grants selected. We thank and praise God as we support these Mission Grants for the next biennium. Special thank you to Nancy and Cathy for being our delegates.

Mission Grants:

(Detailed description given on the LWML website)

1. Filling Pulpits by providing Scholarships for Michigan Men in Seminary - \$25,000
2. Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Food and Clothing Co-op to purchase Food - \$10,000
3. Scholarships for Female Students studying to be a Deaconess or professional church worker - \$20,000
4. Bringing Christ and Hope to Michigan's Urban communities - \$25,000
5. Providing Hope for Children with Learning needs - \$25,000
6. New Outreach to Hindus, Sikh, and Buddhist Communities in Mich. - \$25,000
7. Support for Concordia Seminary's International Graduate Students - \$10,000
8. Healing Spaces for At-Risk Children - \$7,000
9. Outreach Community Center: St Paul Community Lutheran, Pontiac - \$25,000
10. Expanding Christ's Love with the Aging and unchurched in Michigan through Weekly Television on Worship Anew - \$25,000
11. Share Missions with a Friend Most Scholarships - \$25,000
12. Filling Haitian Tummies open ears to the Gospel - Trinity, Hope - \$15,000
13. Growing in Faith Together: Women to Women \$10,000
14. Support at just the Right Time, Mission Central (partial) \$4,250

Special Thanks to our members of St. Andrew for your mite giving support on July 12th. We collected \$138.15 and that will be sent to help with these new Mission Grants.



AUGUST EVENTS CALENDAR

Today < > August 2020		Washington, D.C. • Today 89° F / 76° F Tomorrow 88° F / 77° F Friday 90° F / 76° F Month ▾				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 2 10:00am Worship Service	3	4	5	6 10:00am Adult Bible Study	7	8
9 10:00am Noisy Offering (Concordia University of Ann Arbor) 10:00am Worship Service	10	11	12	13 10:00am Adult Bible Study	14	15
16 Food Collection Day! 8:30am Men's Meeting (Breakfast) 9:00am Ladies Group Meeting 10:00am Worship Service	17 6:30pm Prayer and Growth Meeting	18	19	20 10:00am Adult Bible Study	21	22
23 10:00am Worship Service	24 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	25	26	27 10:00am Adult Bible Study	28	29
30 10:00am Noisy Offering (Enrich) 10:00am Worship Service	31	Sep 1 Alter Guild: Nancy Filter and Mary Sandborn Elder	2	3 10:00am Adult Bible Study	4	5



ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Home of Wee Grow Christian Preschool

8867 Kent Street

Portland, MI 48875



Welcome...

may all who enter as guests
leave as friends ☺