

**ST. ANDREWS LINE -
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany (February 2)
ST. ANDREWS LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL LCMS
260 N. NORTHWEST HWY., PARK RIDGE, IL 60068
WELCOME, AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!**



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SCAN HERE TO GIVE TO ST. ANDREWS:



NEWS AND EVENTS:

We can face competing priorities when we think about distributions from our estates someday, even as we consider gifts that will support ministry. The thought might arise, "If I support ministry with my estate, I'll be taking away from my family inheritance." Take a step further back and begin asking yourself why the Lord gave you these financial assets to manage in the first place. Pray fervently. Have conversations with fellow believers. Strive to discern God's will. Your St. Andrews Gift Planning Counselor can be one of these supportive people. Contact Ray Pagels, Christian Gift Planning Counselor at his cell 847.226.2262 or Raymondpagels1@gmail.com

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE: 207 households visited the St Paul of the Cross food pantry in December. Most needed items are Cold cereal (no Cheerios please), toothpaste, ketchup and mustard and 1 lb bags or boxes of WHITE rice (no flavored rices please). Thank you for your ongoing support!

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN: The Board of Service Ministry is sponsoring two events in Schaumburg. Please see the attachment to this LINE for more information.

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Our Mission of the Month for February is **Open Doors International**. This organization was founded in 1955 as a response to the plight of Christians around the world who are being persecuted for their Christian faith. A global membership organization, **Open Doors International** supports persecuted Christians worldwide, Last year it distributed more than 1.6 million Bibles, as well as Christian materials in many different languages. It also trained 3.3 million persecuted Christians around the world in leadership and discipleship courses, trauma care, and persecution survival seminars. Inviting your prayers for persecuted Christians, the organization declares, "Our prayers go where we cannot. There are no borders, no prison walls, no doors that are closed when we pray."

SHARE THE JOY: Christians are called to share the joy of the Gospel in the Great Commission set forth in Matthew 28. Thom S. Ranier writes in his book Breakout Churches that we should pay attention to the fact that this call to share the Gospel is called the Great Commission not the Good Commission and concludes that "It is a sin to be good if God has called us to be great." Think about how much effort you exert on behalf of the Gospel. Is your effort a half-hearted attempt, or are you actively involved in reaching people for Christ?

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: Statements are available on the welcome desk.

MYRA (1/15 – 29/25)

These last couple weeks of January have kept Myra, her handlers and ministry partners busy. While some of the days were bitter cold, Myra's visits brought warmth and smiles.

Myra started this period with a visit to the Chicago Behavioral Hospital (CBH) in DesPlaines where the patients and staff are always so welcoming, loving and anxious to spend time with her and her handler. She also made a visit to the CBH Outpatient Clinic. Her regular visits included The Garlands in Barrington, the House of Welcome in Northfield, Avantara in Park Ridge, Mount Prospect Senior Living, Warren Barr in Skokie, Arden Courts in Elk Grove Village, Avantara in Long Grove, and White Crane Wellness Center in Chicago. She visits these facilities monthly or more frequently and along with her handlers and ministry partners has made friends with many of the residents, patients and staff. She also made a visit to Synapse House, a rehabilitation facility, in Downers Grove and is now scheduled to visit them every other month.

New to Myra was a visit to the South School, a pre-school, in Westmont where she was loved on by many little ones and their teachers. At the Shorewood Troy Library in Shorewood, Myra attended Family Reading Night. The Librarian read a story about a colorfully spotted dog and then the children and their parents spent time petting Myra and asking questions about her "job." Another visit with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers was at Concordia University's Early Childhood program in River Forest. This is very large program and both dogs were petted and loved on by all of the children, each class coming to visit with the dogs for 15-minute intervals. These dogs are so patient with the little ones and know to be in a down position making it less intimidating for those who may be a bit afraid or unfamiliar with bigger dogs.

Myra also had the opportunity to attend the commissioning of Shadrach Comfort Dog at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Palatine. She met some of her old comrades – Tobias, Samson, Emma and Hannah – and others that she hasn't seen in a while or was meeting for the first time – Charity, Samaria, Michael, Jael, Abednego, and Rejoice. While the dogs are not allowed to visit and interact with each other when together at events, they still enjoy seeing each other, as do their handlers.

Of course, Myra attended Chapel services on Wednesdays with the St. Andrews students and Saturday and Sunday worship services. She enjoys being present at these services and looks forward to the attention she gets following the services.

The Comfort Dog Ministry team is in need of Ministry Partners and would welcome anyone who is interested in becoming involved. Ministry Partners do not handle the dog but are present on visits to assist the handler in various ways. This may be crowd control, handing out cards, observing for possible issues such as another dog approaching, someone carrying food or spills on the floor. The Ministry Partner also greets others and engages in conversation with the persons being visited.

GIFTS FROM GOD'S PEOPLE AT ST. ANDREWS
Weekly Giving Report - January 26

Internal Gifts/ Receipts - General Fund

White Envelope Giving/Plate Offering	16,606.00
Vanco Electronic Giving	<u>6,627.37</u>
TOTAL	23,233.37

External Gifts/ Receipts

Synod/Missions	-----
Lutheran Church Charities	-----

Designated Funds:

Chancel Flowers	55.00
Comfort Dog	120.00
Endowment Fund	50.00
Strengthening Our Future	420.00

Other General Funds:

<u>Worship Attendance:</u>	<u>Saturday 01/25</u>	<u>Sunday 01/26</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Attended:	50	122+150=272	322
Communed:			180

LOOKING AHEAD
REGULAR SCHEDULE
February 8th and 9th

SATURDAY
5:00pm with Holy Communion
SUNDAY

8:30am and 11:00am with Holy Communion

PRAYERS: Please keep the following people in your prayers... Pam Lendy, Pat Malone, Carol Mraz, Michele Genualdi, Laura Peter, Jeanette Peter

BIRTHDAYS:

- 4 Genivieve Huston
Corine Tiberi
- 5 Corrine Antemann
Isaac Fuentes
Margaret Garcea
William Hoshizaki
- 6 Ashley Herrnreiter
Sophia Tobias
- 7 Joel Holler
Augusta Paulik
Lowell Punches
Juliana Rieger
Jessye Wright
- 8 Rafa Gonzalez
- 9 Eliot Higgins

HEARING ASSISTANCE: St. Andrews has upgraded the assisted listening system in the church (including the chapel and balcony) that now allows us to stream audio directly to your hearing aids. If your hearing aids already have their "T-Coil" feature enabled, you should be able to easily switch over to the church's audio channels. If you don't have hearing aids but want more clarity for the spoken word, we have handheld receivers with headphones that you can use to listen directly to our audio channels. Please ask Pastor Matt or an usher to get you one and show you how it works.

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS

This monthly magazine is written and provided especially for members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. It features important aspects of Christian life, the ministries of congregations, worldwide missions, and people of faith. Bible studies that help you apply God’s Word to your life are a regular feature. In addition, every month has a message from the synodical president, as well as news updates on the last synod developments.

To become a LUTHERAN WITNESS subscriber or to renew your present subscription (which ends in April), please complete the following form and return to the church office with your check payable to St. Andrews Lutheran Church. You may also place your subscription request/renewal in the offering plate, marked “Lutheran Witness”. Thank you!

YES! I want the LUTHERAN WITNESS in my home – \$20.65 per year (\$1.72 per issue).

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

Checks should be payable to St. Andrews Lutheran Church

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 26, 2025



**The Board of Service Ministry is sponsoring two events at
FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN**

in Schaumburg on

Saturday, February 8 from 2:30 - 4 pm

Tuesday, February 11 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm

We have openings for 10 people in each of the two time slots.

This enjoyable service activity is a way for individuals or the entire family to create food packs for children around the world who are food insecure.

Pre-registration is required and can be done by using the signup sheet at the Welcome Desk or by eMailing Jennifer Babich at jnbabich@icloud.com.

For more information regarding FMSC, please visit their website.