

ST. ANDREWS LINE -

Transfiguration Sunday (March 2)

ST. ANDREWS LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL LCMS

260 N. NORTHWEST HWY., PARK RIDGE, IL 60068

WELCOME, AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!



Matthew J. Hoffmann, Pastor 847-420-9486

◆ Emergency Contact 224-585-3101

Jordan Holliday, Director of Music

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SCAN HERE TO GIVE TO ST. ANDREWS:



NEWS AND EVENTS:

We can face competing priorities when we think about planning our estates someday. Part of that tension flows from immediate needs versus long-term needs in our lives. In our culture, it is the "immediate" that receives the attention, resulting in us failing to plan for long-term needs. For example, if you are going to put an estate plan in place, it will cost money working with an attorney. Maybe you need new tires instead and that wins the contest. To deal with the long term, we need to plan for it and prioritize. Your St. Peter Gift Planning Counselor can meet with you, without cost, to begin thinking about the value of this long-range planning. Contact Ray Pagels at raymondpagels1@gmail.com or Ray's cell at 847-226-2262.

Thrivent Choice Dollars – March 31st Deadline!: Thank you. Thank you. Thank you! A heartfelt "thank you" to all of you who directed your **Choice Dollars to St Andrews Lutheran Church**. Are you an eligible Thrivent member and have choice dollars available to direct? Please keep St. Andrews in mind. The deadline to direct is ALWAYS March 31. Here is how you can check your eligibility to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt. **Remember to set up the direction of your Choice Dollars by March 31 of each year.**

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE: 109 households visited the St Paul of the Cross food pantry in January. Most needed items are pancake mix and syrup, and the following CANNED items – chicken, tuna, mixed vegetables, chili, SpaghettiOs and fruit. Thank you for your ongoing support!

MISSION OF THE MONTH: A college education can broaden the horizons of young people and prepare them for fulfilling careers. However, college students may also face challenges to their biblical worldview, doctrine, ethics, and practices. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's program of campus ministry, known as **LCMS U**, aims to connect and support students on college and university campuses all over the country so that they can boldly bear witness to Christ in their school relationship and later when they graduate. **LCMS U Campus Ministry** is our ministry of the month for March.

SHARE THE JOY: George Barna, head of the Barna Research Group and an astute watcher of churches in America, writes that congregations that successfully reach out to their communities have this characteristic: "Their definition of success in evangelism is that people active in the church are intentionally and obediently sharing their faith with nonbelievers." In other words, evangelism is sharing Christ in the daily life of the believer. It is a lifestyle, not an occasional activity. **Share the joy every day!**

MISC. NOTES: Please see the last few pages of the LINE for information regarding QCD and a special note regarding a new program at Concordia University.

GIFTS FROM GOD'S PEOPLE AT ST. ANDREWS
Weekly Giving Report - February 23

Internal Gifts/ Receipts - General Fund

White Envelope Giving/Plate Offering	6,313.00
Vanco Electronic Giving	<u>5,940.90</u>
TOTAL	12,253.90

External Gifts/ Receipts

Synod/Missions	75.00
Lutheran Church Charities	-----

Designated Funds:

Comfort Dog	25.00
Endowment	45.00

Other General Funds:

Facility Usage	1350.00
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<u>Worship Attendance:</u>	<u>Saturday 02/22</u>	<u>Sunday 02/23</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Attended:	50	100+64=164	214
Communed:			103

LOOKING AHEAD
REGULAR SCHEDULE

March 5th

ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00pm

March 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, Carol Mraz, Michele Genualdi, Laura Peter, Jeanette Peter

BIRTHDAYS:

3	Cesar Tarasievich
4	Salena Jason Carrie Stewarts
5	Jon Baraglia Richard Sloma Nathaniel White
6	Kevin Kendrigan
7	Vivienne Jurek
8	Jim Selzer
9	Fred Koenig

ANNIVERSARIES:

7	Edward & Kristin Lanum
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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.

IRA Charitable Rollover/Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD)

You may be looking for a way to make a significant difference to help further our mission. If you are 70½ or older you may also be interested in a way to lower the income and taxes from your IRA withdrawals. An IRA charitable rollover is a way you can help continue St. Andrews mission and vision and benefit this year.

Benefits of an IRA charitable rollover

- **Avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$108,000 from your IRA to St. Andrews Lutheran Church and other 501C charities you care about**
- **May satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.**
- **Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions.**
- **Make a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts.**
- **Help further the work and mission of St. Andrews Lutheran Church and School.**

How an IRA charitable rollover gift works

- **Contact your IRA plan administrator to make a Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD) gift from your IRA to St. Andrews Lutheran Church, 260 North Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068, Tax I/D #36-6003638**
- **Your IRA funds will be directly transferred to St. Andrews Lutheran Church to help continue our important work.**
- **Please note that IRA charitable rollover gifts do not qualify for a charitable deduction.**
- **Please contact Ray Pagels, our Christian Gift Planner, at his cell: 847-226-2262 or raymondpagels1@gmail.com for guidance or if you wish for your gift to be directed to a specific ministry.**

For Immediate Release

Concordia-Chicago announces church professional student tuition guarantee
River Forest, IL (Jan. 30, 2025) – Concordia University Chicago has launched the Prepared to Serve: Church Professional Guarantee, exemplifying the University’s commitment to equipping undergraduate students through its church professional degree programs. Beginning fall 2025, new, full-time students pursuing a church professional degree will pay a maximum of \$5,000 in tuition and mandatory fees each academic year. This amount includes all CUC institutional scholarships, Illinois MAP grants and federal Pell grants.

The University is committed to providing one of the most affordable pathways for undergraduate students pursuing church work vocations within the Concordia University System. Doing so is integral to preparing graduates for a life of service in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS).

The guaranteed tuition rate is available to all incoming, full-time church work students who enroll in one of the following programs:

- Classical Lutheran Educator
- Deaconess
- Director of Christian Education
- Director of Parish Music
- Lutheran Teacher Education
- Pre-Seminary

“As a testament to Concordia-Chicago’s commitment to supporting church professionals, I am pleased to introduce the Prepared to Serve: Church Professional Guarantee,” says Dr. Russell Dawn, president of Concordia-Chicago. “What’s more, this guarantee is not the only way that CUC demonstrates the importance of making a truly Christ-centered university education affordable. In fact, every single one of our undergraduate students receives financial aid. We have also strengthened our commitment to students who are the first generation in their families to attend college; this year, we doubled the annual financial award that these students receive.”

This University-wide commitment also supports the Set Apart to Serve initiative of the LCMS, which encourages young people to consider church vocations as honorable, sacred and joyful ways to serve God and His people.

CUC’s dedication to making a Christ-centered education achievable for future church professionals is made possible due to the support of generous donors. To learn how you can support the Prepared to Serve: Church Professional Guarantee, contact the CUC Foundation at Foundation@CUChicago.edu or call 866-448-3867.

To learn more about the tuition guarantee for church professional programs, visit CUChicago.edu/prepared-to-serve

WHAT HAS MYRA BEEN UP TO IN FEBRUARY

Like most other months, Myra has had a very busy February. The facilities she visits monthly are always fun as she, her handlers and ministry partners have come to know many of the residents and staff. Everyone looks forward to interacting with Myra and having conversations with the humans who accompany her. These visits included Central Baptist Village, Amazing Grace, New Perspective Senior Living, Ascension Life Center, Immanuel Lutheran Church Food Pantry, Sheridan, Arden Courts Elk Grove Village, Parkland Preparatory Academy, Advocate Adult Day Care & Rehab, Garlands, House of Welcome, Chicago Behavioral Hospital, Ascension Living, Carrington, Mt. Prospect Senior Living, Pearl of Montclare, Warren Barr, Avantara Long Grove, Avantara Park Ridge, White Crane Wellness Center. The White Crane Poetry Club wrote a sweet poem for Myra and the program director read it during the visit. It will be posted on Myra's board in the narthex. Upon our arrival to Orchard Village, we learned the facility was closed to participants due to the water main break in Skokie. We visited with the staff who really enjoyed having time alone with Myra.

Myra also visited a few new facilities this month. At Humboldt Park Health in Chicago, she visited the Behavioral Health unit where some of the staff were familiar with her as they had previously worked at another of the facilities she visits. Myra was as delighted to see them as they were to see her. We are thrilled that we will be visiting them on a monthly basis. She also visited Alden North Shore Rehab for the first time and was extremely well received by residents and staff and will now be visiting here on a monthly basis.

Of course, Myra attended some Chapel services on Wednesdays (when she doesn't have another job) 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.

Myra spent a weekend with Jordan Holliday at LCC in Replacement Handler Training. We are delighted to welcome Jordan, who has been a Ministry Partner, as a Handler. While Jordan was learning the Handler responsibilities, etc., Myra's previous training was being reinforced. We are still very much 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. One of the most important activities of a Ministry Partner is greets others and engaging in conversation with the persons being visited.

If you would like to know more about any of the Team roles and responsibilities or are interested in joining the Comfort Dog Ministry, contact Joanne August via email at hsmom1@comcast.net