

ST. ANDREWS LINE -

Lent (March 9)

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

Email: Jcholliday301@gmail.com

Greg Lendy, Contemporary Worship 773-631-0004

Laura Boggs, Principal 847-384-9319

Church Office 847-823-6656

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School Office 847-823-9308

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. Many seniors are concerned about the high cost of nursing home care and believe their only estate priority is protecting assets. But there are many other legal and financial issues that should be considered, including how to bless family with inheritance and support ministries that the Lord has laid on the heart. Your St. Andrews Gift Planning Counselor can broaden your consideration. 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: 149 households visited the St Paul of the Cross food pantry in February. Most needed items this month are spaghetti, pasta sauce, mac and cheese, and boxed saltine crackers. Thank you for your continuing support!

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Research shows that about six out of every ten young adults who were active in their church during their high school years put their faith lives on hold when they go off to college, and many remain unconnected after college. A dedicated campus ministry program is important to help these students stay connected and grow in faith. The purpose of our church body's campus ministry program **LCMS U** is to help build up the Body of Christ. This campus ministry outreach of our church, together with our partners in ministry and mission, not only provides worship and study opportunities, it also provides college students with opportunities for service. These service projects impact neighborhoods and communities with the love of God.

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?

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN: We have six slots available on Thursday, March 13, 7-9 pm. If you are interested in creating meal packs for children in need, please contact Jennifer Babich at jnbabich@icloud.com to register.

On Sunday 3/16 join the St. Andrews community and march in the Northwest side St. Patrick's Day Parade! Parade steps off at 12 noon from Onahan School. Register to march with us and view the signup genius link for event details: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944A4A722A5F9C07-55484589-stpatricks#/>

GIFTS FROM GOD'S PEOPLE AT ST. ANDREWS
Weekly Giving Report - MARCH 2

Internal Gifts/ Receipts - General Fund

White Envelope Giving/Plate Offering	6,701.00
Vanco Electronic Giving	<u>5,507.74</u>
TOTAL	

External Gifts/ Receipts

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

Designated Funds:

Endowment	117.00
Sunday School	5.00

Other General Funds:

Facility Usage	600.00
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<u>Worship Attendance:</u>	<u>Saturday 03/01</u>	<u>Sunday 03/02</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Attended:	43	105+196=301	344
Communed:			310

LOOKING AHEAD
REGULAR SCHEDULE

March 15th and 16th

SATURDAY

5:00pm with Holy Communion

SUNDAY

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

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

BIRTHDAYS:

11	Sheryl Black Jordan Holliday Donald Schap John Wolf
13	Thomas Peyer Susan Bragg-Suwinski
14	Ray Benson Michael Bulinski Wes Davis
15	Al Neve Carole Par Alison Wetzel
16	Elsa Bonatz Lee Lidik

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