

The St. Andrews NET - Volume XLVII, No 11

November 2025 - Serving, supporting and sending families in Christ

ST. ANDREWS LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

260 North Northwest Highway

Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

(847)823-6656 (church phone) (847)823-9308 (school phone)

standrewsparkridge.org



Matthew J. Hoffmann - Pastor

Ethan Luft - Associate Pastor

Jordan Holliday - Director of Music

Laura Boggs - Principal

Greg Lendy - Director, Contemporary Worship

Serving, supporting and sending families in Christ

St. Andrews Lutheran
Church & School Park
Park Ridge, Illinois
standrewspr.org

Official Acts - September



Baptisms:

Henry Albert Kon

Son of Rybecca and Thaddeus Kon

Born: March 1, 2024

Baptized: September 14, 2025

LCMS FOUNDATION

Sally called her daughter to let her know a company had just installed an alarm system on her house. It was complete with motion sensors, door sensors, window sensors, a panic button, and even glass breakage sound sensors. Sally remarked, "After the rash of break-ins in the neighborhood lately, I installed this to give me peace of mind. But now that I have all these protections in place, I almost feel captive in my home, not feeling safe to go outside anymore." Sally's experience is what happens when we focus our lives merely on "protecting what is ours." God has not given us blessings to store them, but to use them. With his blessings, we bless our families, and we bless ministries so that the life of Jesus is shared in our communities and world. While there is no harm in taking precautions in an often dangerous world, our hope is not found in those precautions. We never want those precautions to take the place of active blessings.

That same thing is true about putting together our Christian Estate Plans. It is easy to get caught up in all the "what-ifs" of life, trying to protect against them that in the end we lose our focus on blessing the next generation with Jesus. Ray Pagels, your Christian Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Ray at his cell: 847-226-2262 or Raymondpagels1@gmail.com

NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

2 Greg Lendy
3 Conner Mckeon
Charlie Owens
Wendy Stoeven
4 Linda Hunsicker
Trey Lanum
Sydney Lee
Margaret Upstrom
David Wetzell
5 Jim Fizzell
Lydia Grabske
Elizabeth Plant
6 Christina Burke
Janice Rizzo
Herbert Wandel
Ardith Wilk
7 Alexander Panagakos
8 Michael Bauer
Alec Fredriksen
9 Avila Kilroy
Judy Szkwarek
10 Luke Kendrigan
11 Madison Campise
Samuel Louie
12 Zach Glasebrook
Al Lundsberg
Jennifer McCarty
Bob Ungar
14 Connor Goecking
Margaret Murray
Kinnison Ward
16 Oscar Marquis
Lynn Webb
Rita Weyland
17 Mike Murray
18 Sharon PUNCHES
19 Kathleen Kinell
Laura Muresan
20 Kirstin Matej
Ian Stoppa
Justin Stoppa
21 Peter Muresan
22 Carol Ann Prueter
23 Jocelyn Gillaspie
Patrick Pflingsten
24 Elizabeth Hauer
Emma Heller
Elizabeth Penney
Kim Raetzman
25 LaReine Hellermann
Cristina Tobias

Jacob Valadez
26 Rob Nash
27 Elizabeth Claybaker
Stephen Claybaker
Marla Everett
Lisa Johnson
Damaris Oseguera
28 Karen Buric
Evelyn Everett
Charlie Giovannelli
Jeff Heller
29 Declan Upstrom
30 Brian McKeon
Dylan Rowe
Eileen White



BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

James Jordan
Susan Bragg-Suwinski
10 Alyssa Matej
14 Matthew Anderson
15 Sydney Stotts
Matalynne Wandel
John Wolf
18 Tom Garcea
20 Erica Hauer
Ian Stoppa
Justin Stoppa
25 Herbert Wandel
27 Ryan Mirow
Janet Reich
30 Daniel Ellsworth

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1 Ashley & Peter
Herrnreiter
9 Rae & Fred Koenig
10 Jennifer & Jason Barney
11 Rita & Gerry Klevenow
Kate & Mike Vitulli
20 Linda & Al Hunsicker
21 Marlene & Don Hacke
22 Rosie & Ed Fechner
Tiffany & Kevin
Kendrigan
27 Sherry & Frank Avila
Jennifer & Alan Lasch
Cori & Charles Tiberi
28 Mellissa & Al Ellsworth
29 Dawn & Bruce Mikulski

Happy Anniversary!

If your special day
is missing from this list,
please call Nichole
in the church office
at 847-823-6656, X100.
Thanks.

Dear St. Andrews Family,

I recently had someone ask me how things are going at St. Andrews. My response, "We are BUSY! But it's OK because we're busy with GOOD THINGS!" And we are indeed!

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Our Strategic Plan Steering Committee has already met, and we are now in the process of forming some sub-committees, focus groups, and surveys. Keep this group in your prayers, and please agree to participate if asked to be in a group or do a survey. I am so excited to see where the Lord is leading us as a Church and School family. Our goal for this process has two major pillars.



- To reach as many people with the Gospel as effectively as possible in the next 5 years.

- To use our resources (financial, staff, and volunteers) as effectively as possible to aid in goal number 1.

People have been asking me if our goals have to do with increasing numbers or financial benchmarks. They do not directly. However, I believe that a proper focus on our mission and alignment on our goals will result in excitement about the future, increased stewardship, and more people coming alongside us in ministry in the Church and School.

Please join me in lifting up this important process in prayer!

The Steering Committee

PRINCIPAL CALL COMMITTEE

With Ms. Laura Boggs retiring at the end of this school year, we have begun our search for a new Principal. We have a great Call Committee and we are in the process of trying to set up interviews with candidates for November. We are very sad about Ms. Bogg's departure, but it is also an exciting time as we consider who the Lord has in store for us as our next leader!

Join me in praying for our School and this search process!

In Christ,
Pastor Matt Hoffmann



SCHOOL NEWS

St. Andrews Lutheran School

Journey of Faith and Wisdom

November 2025

As we head into November, we're excited to start our 2nd quarter of school! The first quarter was packed with activities MAP testing, pep assemblies, donut days, Fall Fest, PTL events, and plenty of learning.

Congratulations to Nathan, 8th Grade, for competing in the State Cross Country Meet. We are so proud of him and his accomplishments. Thank you to Coach Dombroski for leading our Cross Country team this season. Thank you to all the Cross Country athletes who put the running shoes on and ran all the miles this season. GO PANTHERS!!!

Looking ahead, we're preparing for our choirs to sing in church, Advent services, field trips, and the Christmas season.

As always, we ask that you keep St. Andrews Lutheran School in your prayers. We look forward to sharing with you the talents of our students this coming year.

Working together for Christ,

Ms. Laura Boggs

St. Andrews Mission Statement

St. Andrews Lutheran School nourishes the whole child in spiritual and academic growth by partnering with families to prepare the child

for Christian living as an exemplary light in God's World.

Hello St. Andrews Family!

October has been a great month for our youth groups. Our High Schoolers had a great time participating in the CROP walk. Our confirmation class has been journeying through the 10 Commandments. And the Middle Schoolers are continuing to discover God's love for them in Jesus.

The month of October has a fifth week. So, we took a step away from the normal rhythm and decided to have movie nights for the High Schoolers and Middle Schoolers. Sometimes the Body of Christ is studying, sometimes it is singing, sometimes it is praying and meditating on the Holy Word of God. Other times, the Body of Christ is joined together around a TV, watching movies and eating pizza!

Each of our youth groups has been very consistent in attendance. Looking at our youth program as a whole, from Wednesday to Wednesday there are over 60 young people (between grades 6-12) connecting each week at St. Andrews! Praise God for that!

One thing that has been a big focus this year is communication and safety. Thanks to our new Church Center software, each youth group (High School, Middle School, and Confirmation) has their own Group within the app. I have been able to stay in contact with students and parents with much ease and consistency. Along with this, our parents have done an amazing job volunteering. At every youth event, there is a parent present to be an extra set of eyes and encouragement. I have been so grateful for the willingness and involvement of the parents this year!

Please pray for the kids (and their families) who are connected to our youth program. Our goal at St. Andrews is to CONNECT people to Christ, the Church, and the Community. Let this be our pray and our aim for all people of all ages.

Thank you St. Andrews!
Sincerely,
Pastor Ethan

Below is a picture of what 'lesson time' looks like at our Middle School youth group. And to the right is a picture of the of Highschoolers who participated in the CROP walk.



Be A Bethlehem Walk Volunteer

December 7 & 8, 2024

We Need YOU!



Use the QR Code to Sign Up



Casting Call:

We are in need of Shepherd and Stable Families for Saturday and Sunday. **Costumes are provided.**

Please contact Kathleen Heller at kheller21@gmail.com if you are interested.

Help that is Needed:

- ◇ Set up Thursday December 5th 6-9 pm
- ◇ Set up Friday Dec 6 morning shift
- ◇ Set up Friday Dec 6 afternoon shift
- ◇ Set up Friday Dec 6 evening shift
- ◇ Take Down Sunday Dec 8th 7 pm
- ◇ Miscellaneous Saturday 3-8 pm

BETHLEHEM WALK

A living re-enactment of our Lord's Nativity.

Saturday - Sunday December 7-8, 2024

3:00 to 8:00 p.m. (Sat) 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Sun)

ST. ANDREWS LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

260 N. Northwest Hwy. Park Ridge, IL

New groups leave every ten minutes



Reservations required!

Email or call with your contact information and the date and time frame you are requesting to reserve and the number of people in your party.

Email: standrewsbethlehemwalk@gmail.com Phone: **463-600-9681** Free Will Donation Appreciated



POINSETTIA ORDERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Once again, it's time to start thinking about decorating our sanctuary for Christmas!

Poinsettia orders to beautify our church will be taken from November 8 through December 7. Cost is **\$18.00** per poinsettia. Poinsettias can be ordered in memory or in honor of family and friends. Poinsettias can be picked up Christmas Day after the church service or donated to a home bound/nursing home person. Order forms available in church publications, narthex area at church or by contacting Terri Mirow at 925 Wesley Drive, Park Ridge, IL 60068; at dtrm925@comcast.net or at 847-823-0974. Payment by check or electronically.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS



Number of plants ordered: _____

Please list my order as follows:

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

I will pick up my plant after worship (by 12:00 pm) on Christmas Day.

Please deliver my plant to a homebound/hospital or retirement home resident.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Checks should be payable to **ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**
("Christmas Poinsettia" written in the memo portion of the check)

ORDER DEADLINE: December 7, 2025

SERVICE MINISTRY



Members of St Andrews families and youth group participated in the CROP Walk on October 19th! Overall, 178 walkers participated and \$25,000 was raised including \$1000 from St Andrews members. 25% of all donations benefit the Maine Township Food Pantry.

A special thanks to all the volunteers, pictured and behind the scenes, who partnered with volunteers from First United Methodist Church and St Paul of the Cross for a Sunday Night Supper and the St Paul of the Cross volunteers for the food pantry distribution during October!



65 pairs of glasses were recently sent to MOST Ministries for distribution to those in need. No longer needed pairs (without cases please) may be placed in the basket on the slat boards in the Social Area.

CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

Collection of items to support St Matthew and Operation Christmas Child will be held November 8 thru 16.

