

The St. Andrews NET

APRIL 2026 - 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 - Lead Pastor

Ethan Luft - Associate Pastor

Jordan Holliday - Director of Music

Laura Boggs - Principal

Greg Lendy - Director, Contemporary Worship

Official Acts - February

Baptisms:

Finley Violet English & Edward Beckett English

Children of Shane English, Amy English, Stacie Janak

Baptized: February 14, 2026

Carmela Amelia Ori

Daughter of Michael and Mandy Ori

Baptized: February 18, 2026

First Communion Recipients - February 18, 2026:

Colin Gregory Andiorio

Karl Hans Bonatz

Rita Rose Delaney

Beckett Edward English

Addison Rae Janak

Leyna Ann Johnson

Brianna Mi-Hyun Kim

Aleeah Rose Lidik

Lee Patrick Lidik

Cora Jaime Leigh Olson

Josephina Maria Ori

Anabelle Rose Ramunni

Angelo Pasquale Schittino

Ian Anthony Stoppa

Justin Kenneth Stoppa

Tyler Dean Tizura

Aubrey Belle Ungurait



Dear St. Andrews Family,

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA! I love this phrase, and that as we proclaim it, we are joining in with millions of other Christians around the world, and throughout the centuries in sharing the foundation of our faith! We are, at the core, Resurrection people.

As we enter into this Easter Season, we are filled with joy in Christ and hope for the future. Of course our eternity is secure in Christ, crucified and risen, but we have so much reason for hope in the near term as well.

On Saturday, April 11 at 6pm, the Strategic Planning Steering Committee will be meeting with our Church and School family in the gym to share about our strategic plan for the next 3 to 5 years. We have a LOT to share about new things we will be doing AND what we have already begun because of all of your input and hard work!

As we address the pillars of the Plan – Communication, Engagement, Accountability, and Growth, we are looking to add two part-time positions. Look over these brief job descriptions and please reach out to me if you or someone you know might be interested in joining the St. Andrews Team!

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR – 5 hrs/wk

Help onboard new members into service opportunities

Maintain and update Time and Talent Survey database

Work with boards, pastors, and principal to assess various needs for volunteers

Help fill volunteer roles by directly contacting people

Share volunteer opportunities with the congregation and school

Attend Worship regularly at various services to get to know people

Attend meetings of the Nominating Committee

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA MANAGER – 5 hrs/wk

Establish and maintain standards for communication and logo usage

Establish and maintain standards for physical communication (billboards, etc.)

Create slides using Canva for communication across various mediums

Work with church and school secretaries to determine media plans

Create media timelines for when events need to be publicized

Maintain and develop church social media presence

Put together a photo team to keep images current on website and socials

In Christ,

Pastor Matt Hoffmann



Hey there St. Andrews!

As we head into the month of April and wrap up our Lenten season together, I pray it has been a chance for each of us to spend some intention time in prayer and meditation on God's word.

Some things to know about our youth groups:

Confirmation concludes this month. We have 10 students completing their confirmation journey! We will celebrate them at the 11:00 am service on Sunday, May 3.

Middle School has continued to be a great group full of energy! High School has solidified a smaller group of young people who have been a blast to work with. Both groups saw a drop in attendance after the Christmas season. Moving forward, we are thinking how we might approach the schedule with more intentionality as to create stronger rhythms, giving us a better means to develop the faith of our young people.

Both groups have spent time looking at Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount. They are challenging when we take them seriously. They show us what it truly means to live out our faith in our everyday life. We've also gotten more familiar with some bible stories by using iMovie to create short movie trailers for stories like David & Goliath!

Lastly, I am so thankful to all the parents who have volunteer to be at each youth night. This has been an important part of ensuring the safety of everyone at a youth night. And it also has given parents a chance to see what their kids are learning and how their faith is developing!

Updates on VBS:

As we get closer to VBS from June 15-19, we have opened registration for both participants and volunteers! The registration link can be found on the home page of the website.

Please continue to pray for VBS, for those working diligently to make it happen, and that the adults, youth, and kids involved would be impacted by the Gospel proclaimed during that special week.

St. Andrews is in the midst of so many exciting things right now. Please pray that God would use all of it as a means to prepare us to share the Gospel as clearly, boldly, and impactfully as possible.

The Lord bless you and keep you,
Pastor Ethan



SCHOOL NEWS
St. Andrews Lutheran School
Journey to Faith and Wisdom
April 2026

As spring arrives, we begin the fourth quarter of our school year. Time has gone by so quickly, and it is a joy to see how much our students are growing each day—both academically and spiritually.

Our students recently celebrated Lutheran Schools Week from March 16–20. It was a wonderful week filled with dress-up days, special activities, and opportunities to come together as a school community. One highlight was our annual Geography Bee for students in grades 4–8. Congratulations to Samuel in 6th grade for his achievement!

We are also incredibly grateful for the success of our Dinner Dance Fundraiser held on March 7, 2026. A heartfelt thank you to all our friends, families, and church members who supported the Maroon and Gold Gala. Your generosity and support truly make a difference in our school.

Looking ahead, our school will participate in the SHINE event sponsored by the Northern Illinois District. This meaningful opportunity allows us to share the love of Jesus through acts of service. Students and families will collect and assemble care bags for residents in assisted living facilities, and our middle school students will personally deliver them to The Sheridan on Northwest Highway.

Registration for the upcoming school year is now open. If you know a family seeking an excellent Christian education, we encourage you to share St. Andrews' mission and ministry with them. We also ask for your continued prayers for God's blessings over our school community.

There is so much to look forward to in the months ahead—STEM Night, the Art Show, Walcamp, the Spring Concert, a trip to Milwaukee, field trips, and, of course, kindergarten and 8th-grade graduation. We are excited for all the memories still to come at St. Andrews.

Working together for Christ,
Ms. Laura Boggs

St. Andrews Mission Statement

We nurture the Christian faith, determination, and academic excellence children need to thrive in an ever-changing world.



HYMN FESTIVAL: FATHER, SON AND HOLY GHOST: Join us for our second annual collaborative Hymn Festival! This year, we'll be exploring the various ways the Holy Trinity is presented to us in our hymns. The Hymn Festival will take place in the sanctuary on Sunday, April 26 at 4:00p.m.

WHAT'S MYRA BEEN UP TO IN MARCH

While March marks the transition from winter to spring with increasing daylight and gradually warming temperatures along with some wet and windy days, Myra, her handlers and ministry partners did not let the weather stop them from visiting and interacting with patients, residents and staff we have come to know so well.

Myra made visits to all of her regular facilities this month which meant 30 visits. She will be ending the month with a visit to an Advocate Medical Group facility which will be celebrating and recognizing the staff physicians. You might wonder what it is that Myra, her handlers and ministry partners do on these visits. The visits generally start with Myra greeting residents, patients, program participants, and/or staff either in community rooms or individual rooms. While everyone enjoys petting Myra and often commenting on how gentle, soft and well-behaved she is, this often leads to more meaningful conversations. Some of these people just want someone to talk with while others reminisce about pets they have had. Often interacting with Myra triggers memories which they enjoy sharing with the handlers and ministry partners. Myra is truly the "bridge" to initiating conversation. In instances where people might be feeling sad, anxious or depressed, Myra's presence often helps to calm and alleviate those feelings.

Myra also attends our weekly church services and visits Sunday School each month. Wednesday chapel services, usually led by the students is always a highlight for her.

Being a member of the Comfort Dog Ministry is very rewarding. Myra is "the bridge" to starting conversations, to bringing smiles to people's faces, to providing comfort when needed, and so much more. We need your help! Prayerfully consider joining our team.

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

Board of Service Ministry



Saturday April 25 - Stewardship of God's gift of nature by participating in a Roadside Cleanup. Signup on the SA Website Home Page.



Thank you! to our youth groups and school families for conducting a special collection during January and February. 63 pairs of eyeglasses



St Andrews will sponsor and our volunteers will serve the Sunday

APRIL**BIRTHDAYS**

1 Carole Cox
Nancy Frank
2 Lisa Radosav
3 Donald Hanson
Alexis Kilroy
Ella Panagakos
Emily Weisheit
5 Elijah Andrews
Jim Brander
LouAnn Grabowski
Alexis Gross
Sophia Rouse
6 Sean Holler
7 Benji Reiger
Karen Rybowicz
8 Jessie Kim
Josie Owens
9 Nancy Bergman
Mark Paulik
11 Michael Tobias
12 Garrett Cupp
Patrick Scalzitti
13 Rev. Matt Hoffmann
14 Levi Bauer
Stacy Nelson
Casey Stanton
15 Diane Kiepura
16 Zachary Lasch
17 Sammy Fredriksen
Aubrey Ungarait
18 Mike Vitulli
Adam Laurich
19 Arthur Clexton
Cathy Cupp
20 Cathy Fredriksen
Jeanette Peter
21 Jackson DeSantis
Benjamin Huh
22 Deb Ness
23 Elizabeth Polmanski
24 Andrew Cupp
Connor Hanson
25 Ronald Knapp
Vincent Ori
Gary Trapp
26 Carol Guthr
Justin Trapp

28 Christie Warren
29 Marlene Hacke
Alyssa Vitulli
30 Aleeah Lidik
Lee Lidik
Dan Rieger

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS**

Grace Brander
James Upstrom
2 Steven Guthr
Luke Kendrigan
3 Teresa Hanck
7 Paul Weisheit
8 Bode Herrnreiter
11 Megan Ellsworth
16 Alfred Ellsworth
26 Gary Somerman
28 Garrett Cupp
Lee Lidik

**WEDDING
ANNIVERSARIES**

8 Harry & Carol Mirkin
Jennifer & John
McCarty
20 Rev. Matt & Anne
Hoffmann
26 John & Carole Par