



Partners in Ministry

Serving God and others through
the Evangelical Lutheran Churches of
America

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

1409 South Eighth Avenue, East
Newton, Iowa 50208
Church Phone: (641) 792-1683
www.HTLchurch.com

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 242, 8290 Hwy. F-62, East
Sully, IA 50251
Church Phone: (641)-798-4651
www.standluth.com

Words from Pastor Kari's Pen.

*Office Hours for
Holy Trinity :
Tuesday-Thursday
1:00 - 4:00 PM.
By appointment
only.*

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Pastor Kari Lee
Pastor's Phone:
(541)525-1618
pastorkari18
@gmail.com

*Isaiah 40:8 (NIV)
"The grass withers and the flower fades,
but the Word of our God
endures forever."*

It's obvious to see the leaves falling to the earth these days. Our grass is still surprisingly green, but we know it too will wither and fade as it does each year. We love the changing color of the leaves, the joy of sweater weather arriving, and the crispness in the air. We do not, however, love when our lawns go brown. It leads this pastor to wonder, "Can we be thankful for the promise that withering grass reminds us of?"

God's word is that you are loved, redeemed, made righteous in Christ. While we fall time and time again to follow through on our promises, God never fails to accomplish what God has planned to accomplish. Which is reconciling you through Christ.

This is good news that we can indeed be thankful for. But it takes

us a while to see the promise of resurrection and renewal in the brown and decay that we are trained to fear and avoid. The changing of the season and the withering of the grass are not enemies to God's promise of salvation. It's part of our journey to that hope that only Christ offers. And when we do believe it, then we see the bitter sweet beauty in the withered grass. We recall its beauty and life and learn to trust that it will come to pass again.

I pray that you are being filled with the gorgeous, often haunting, beauty that this season can bring. Do not shy away from the withered grass. But see in it God's word to never fails you. Give thanks for these reminders to live boldly and vibrantly in the season of life you are in.

And don't forget the third commandment to take sabbath. Take time to nap. Live biblically and say no to some things so you may be recharged and avoid

the withering of burn out. Say thank you for the life the green grass gifted you this year and say a fond "see you soon".

Because in no time at all we shall be singing songs of praises "As the Green Blade Rises". (Easter hymn joke for those who missed it there!)

This pastor loves you all deeply.
Peace,



CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION AT ST. ANDREW'S

On Sunday, Oct. 29, five St. Andrew's youth, Charly Fenner, Peyton Sharp, Addi Collum, Dominic Peart, and Hunter Neleman were confirmed. During the service while reaffirming their baptismal vows each was yoked with a red stole signifying they are now called to minister and serve Christ. Each confirmand was also gifted a Bible from their St. Andrew's church family. Following the service confirmands, their family and friends along with congregational members gathered to celebrate this important occasion with a cake and ice cream reception.

Thanks to all who have supported and will continue to support these young people on their spiritual journey.

The body, glorified

"I believe in ... the resurrection of the body," we confess in the Apostles' Creed. Yet often we speak of death of the body, reassuring ourselves and others that the person's soul is in heaven with God. The body/soul split is rooted in ancient Greek understanding, not Christian teaching. God chose to take on the physical body as the person Jesus, and Paul uses that very image to describe the Church.

Author Flannery O'Connor reflects on this wonder in *The Habit of Being*: "For me it is the virgin birth, the Incarnation, the resurrection which are the true laws of the flesh and the physical. Death, decay, destruction are the suspension of these laws. I am always astonished at the emphasis the Church puts on the body. It is not the soul she says that will rise but the body, glorified."

Through him you
BELIEVE IN GOD,
who raised him
FROM THE DEAD
— and —
GLORIFIED HIM,
and so your
faith and hope
ARE IN GOD.

Exciting News!

St. Andrew's has a new way of giving. We now have a Venmo account. You can look us up at @standluth. We are also working on a QR code that will make giving in the app very easy. Of course you are always welcome to give the same ways you always have.

This will just be 1 more convenient way for you to give.



Scott Sevenbergen (Nov. 1st)
William (Bill) Bennett (Nov.2nd)
Rosie Caldwell (November 2)
Alexander Ver Heul (Nov. 3rd)
Christopher Ver Heul (Nov. 3rd)
Dalton Wolf (Nov. 3rd)
Patty Farland (Nov. 4th)
Lynn Vermillion (Nov. 7th)
Jim Hiemstra (Nov.12th)
James Sharp (Nov. 12)
Doug Bell (Nov. 13)
Mike Philby (Nov.13)
Jacob Bell (Nov. 15)
Kimberly Herzberg (Nov.21)
Ross Ford (Nov.22nd)
Ross Fellen Jolley (Nov. 23)
Jack Pettlon (Nov.24)
John Freeborn (Nov. 29)

HAPPY
Birthday
FROM YOUR
CHURCH FAMILY

HAPPY
Anniversary
FROM YOUR
CHURCH FAMILY

Bob and Bonnie Sudbrink
(Nov. 8th)

Joe & Beth Fenner
(Nov 2nd)

Eugene & Sherri Peart
(Nov. 11th)

Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give _____ in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

- A. alms
- B. praise
- C. thanks
- D. offerings



The Answer is on pg. 4

SUNDAY MORNING ASSISTANTS

	LITURGIST	READER
11/05/23	Devon Wolf	Devon Wolf
11/12/23	Wes Ranard	Sue Ranard
11/19/23	Shawnae Nilles	Shawnae Nilles
11/26/23	Vicky Bennett	Vicky Bennett
	USHERS/GREETERS	ACOLYTES
11/05/23	Rhonda & Dalton Wolf	Runa or Eloise
11/12/23	Diane Clemon & Marilyn Butler	Runa or Eloise
11/19/23	Bill & Vicky Bennett	Runa or Eloise
11/26/23	Bill & Linda Bennett	Runa or Eloise

Any questions contact Linda Bennett
Phone 641-218-1547

2023 St. Andrew's Lutheran Church - Service Helper List

updated 1/21/23

Date	Greeter	Lector	Comm. Asst.	Altar Guild	Candle Lighting
11/5/2023	Marcia Goodrich	Teri Bowlin	John Freeborn	Nancy Wright	Charly Fenner
11/12/2023	Mark & Amy Collum	Pat Johnson			
11/19/2023	Beth, Madie & Charly Fenner	Jessica Winegar			
11/26/2023	Sophia & Jacob Bell	Carol Naeseth			
12/3/2023	Stacey Simbro	Doug Bell	Mike Paulson	Marlene Sharp	Peyton Sharp
12/10/2023	Katie & Hunter Neleman	Nancy Wright			
12/17/2023	Wayne & Marlene Sharp	Teri Bowlin			
12/24/2023	Mike & Norene Paulson	Pat Johnson			
12/31/2023	John & Barb Freeborn	Jessica Winegar			

MISSION REPORT

Our October mission support to the Southeastern Iowa Synod was \$482. There was also a donation of \$350 to ELCA World Hunger and \$400 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Our monthly mission for October was St. Nick's Christmas Club, and we have collected \$145 in donations for a total of \$645 with our budgeted funds.

Our mission emphasis for November is Discover Hope 5:17. They are a faith-based non-profit organization dedicated to providing recovery and restoration for those struggling with addiction. Their mission statement is: "Discovering hope through Christ Jesus for those who want to transform to a new life and break free from their past." If you'd like to contribute to this mission, please write "Discover Hope" on your check or offering envelope.

We collected a trunk load of snacks and drinks for the PCM Backpack Buddies program, and an additional \$175 in cash donations.

Bounty of Thanks

We thank thee, Lord, for the glory of the late days and the excellent face of thy sun. We thank thee for good news received. We thank thee for the pleasures we have enjoyed and for those we have been able to confer.



And now, when the clouds gather and the rain impends over the forest and our house, permit us not to be cast down; let us not lose the savor of past mercies and past pleasures; but, like the voice of a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memory survive in the hour of darkness. If there be in front of us any painful duty, strengthen us with the grace of courage; if any act of mercy, teach us tenderness and patience..

—Robert Louis Stevenson

Take time to recharge

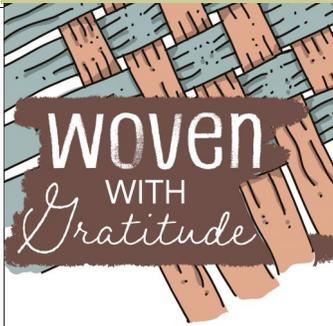
"Then Jesus said, 'Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.' He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat" (Mark 6:31, NLT). Can you relate? Especially during the holidays, we're "coming and going" so much that we often run out of steam.

As an introvert, I learned an important lesson while navigating a busy graduation season for my son. I was happy to host a celebration for family and friends, but about 20 minutes into the party, fatigue clouded my spirit. My social battery was empty and desperately needed charging.

I sought out my cousin — who "gets" me — and admitted I needed a break. He kindly replied, "Then go into another room and just be. We've got things covered." I was heard and assured that it was okay to press pause. Even Jesus and his disciples sought privacy and rest.

In what ways do you need a break today? Even if you're an extrovert, how can you care for your whole self during the holiday rush? Pay attention and give yourself permission to proactively recharge your battery.

—Janna Firestone



Handicrafts can spark appreciation for simple items. Weave this basket as a gift.



What you need:

- Paper plate
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Yarn (different colors)

What you do:

1. In the center of the plate, trace something round. Draw 9 lines (evenly spaced) from the circle to the plate's edge.
2. Cut along each line, stopping at the center circle. Trim more of the plate off so the cuts make a gradual V shape.
3. Fold the plate's sides upward to form basket sides. Keep these upright as you weave a bowl-shaped basket.
4. Begin weaving a length of yarn at the circle's base. Hold the end of the yarn in place as you spread the length over and under each side of the plate.
5. Switch colors to make a pattern. Keep the yarn tight as you weave up the sides.
6. To finish, bend down any remaining paper. Leave a tail of yarn and tuck it under a woven portion. Share your craft with a friend!

National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month, a time to honor families who have opened their hearts and homes to children and teens. This month at LSI, we celebrate the families we support through Foster Care and Adoption and raise awareness for the hundreds of Iowa children needing a safe, healthy home.

Iowa foster families, like the Smiths*, raise the bar by opening their loving households to children and teens in need of a place to call home.

At LSI, we understand the importance of keeping youth in their communities to help maintain connections and stability during times of transition. So, when our staff received a referral for a teenage girl needing foster care placement, they looked inward toward the community.

At the time, homes in the area were either full or not open to accepting teenage placements. Coincidentally, the Smiths were present at a meeting the same night the referral came in. When they heard about Rebecca's* situation, they immediately knew who the child was and wanted to help in any way they could.

The Smiths were already over their licensing capacity, having been granted a variance to accept a sibling group. To be able to bring Rebecca into their home, they would need to be given

another variance, which was almost unheard of.

"It was by chance, or the grace of God, that the Smiths were able to accept another child, and give Rebecca a stable placement with a family in her community," said Dawn Luetje, LSI Director of Resource Family Licensing and Support, working in conjunction with Four Oaks Family Connections.

Thanks to the combined support of the Smiths, LSI staff, and the community, Rebecca was placed in the foster home, where she could maintain her daily activities with the teachers, coaches, and friends she was comfortable with. Rebecca continues to thrive in a stable, loving foster home environment and a caring community.

Stories like these are possible through our many community partners and generous donors. To learn more about supporting Iowa children in foster care, visit LSIowa.org/Foster, or contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

*Names have been changed to protect client privacy.

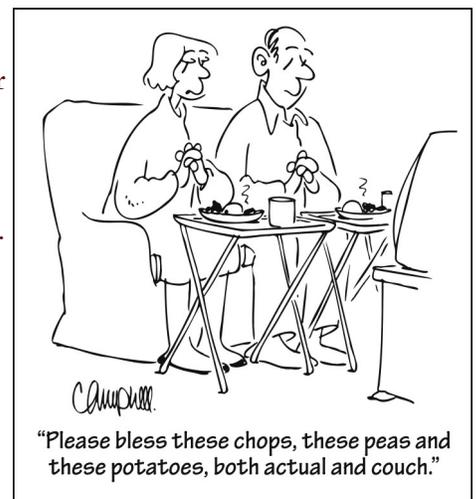
Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA

Thanksgiving humor

Need to lighten the mood at your holiday dinner table? Share some laughter with these Thanksgiving-themed jokes.

- Why did the turkey decline dessert?...Because it was stuffed.
- Why did the turkey cross the road twice?...To prove he wasn't a chicken.
- What smells the best at Thanksgiving dinner?...Your nose.
- Why didn't the chef season the turkey?...There wasn't enough thyme.
- Why did the turkey leave the band?...

People were fighting over the drumsticks.



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Worship Times are as follows.

9:00 am St. Andrew's Worship

10:00 am Fellowship & Sunday School

Holy Trinity Worship 10:30 am

Fellowship @ Holy Trinity 11:30 am.

*How can we
pray for you today?*