

ST. ANDREW TRUMPETER

DECEMBER 2020

Pastor's Soundings in the Trumpeter...

We have arrived once again at the end. Perhaps not the end we've been hoping for, but an end all the same. It is the end of another year and of another church year. At such times, we turn our focus in the church to The End, the Last Day when our Lord will return in glory to judge the living and the dead. We are bombarded, it seems, with End Times lessons and discussion during the month of November, and even though Advent is the beginning of a new liturgical year, it is yet another time to "prepare the way of the Lord" and "make straight his paths." We ready ourselves for his coming at The End of all things by recalling his first coming in time and through his ongoing coming in these intervening days by means of his Word and Sacraments.

Current events have also intensified this preoccupation with the Day of Judgment. The outbreak and spread of COVID-19; strife in politics and government; civil unrest; hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, and fires. These all have inspired many people to wonder—perhaps more than usual, "Is this it? Could this really be the end of the world?" You've probably heard people talking that way; you may have said them yourself. After all, Jesus declared, "You will hear of wars and rumors of wars," and, "Nation will rise against nation," and, "There will be famines and earthquakes in various places," and even, "Many false prophets will appear and deceive many people." But he also says, "Watch out that no one deceives you," and, "See to it that you are not alarmed," because, "The end is still to come," and, "These are the beginning of birth pains" (see Matthew 24:4-14).

As if the times aren't confusing enough on their own, one of the primary texts of the Bible to which people turn to make sense of them is one of the most challenging and perplexing of all—the book of Revelation. It's a difficult book to understand, with bizarre images and startling events, and for many people that only serves to heighten the anxiety and despair. But when understood properly, the message of Revelation is a very simple—and a very comforting—one. Jesus wins! It's no accident or coincidence that the book begins and ends with a vision of Jesus in triumphant glory and with words of comfort and hope: "Do not be afraid. I am the first and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." "The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed." "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain." "Behold! I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

Everything in between must be understood in the light of these opening and closing frames. Through all the bizarre images and startling events, Jesus is victorious, and his saints overcome. That was a crucial message for John and his readers, suffering the very things depicted in the vision at the hands of their persecutors. By endurance to the end—whether their end or The End—they would gain the life promised and accomplished for them by Christ, the Lamb who was slain and is alive forevermore. And so too will we. Through all the events that make us cry out, make us wonder and worry, and leave us longing for Jesus to come and end this once and for all, he remains the Lamb who was slain and is alive forevermore, who has redeemed us with his holy precious blood that we may be his own. May that glorious vision and comforting fact sustain you through the end of this church year, the end of this year, this season of Advent, and always—until The End.

God's peace,



Pastor Harvala

P. S. Our confirmation students and their parents will be examining the book of Revelation this Advent season through the visual arts, to gain a deeper understanding of and greater appreciation for the blessed message of this great book. You are welcome to join us as well for "Painting Revelation," December 2, 9 & 16, following our Advent midweek worship.

THE CHRISTMAS TREES ARE GOING UP EARLY

Some of my neighbors already put up Christmas lights. Some already have theirs lighted, which seems early. There are practical reasons. For some it was the nice weather. For others it our age. For some, turning them on is to bring light to early darkness and the “clouded atmosphere” and restrictions the pandemic has brought about. Some have the tradition of putting up trees, setting out decorations and turning on the Christmas lights the day after Thanksgiving. As before, much of the commercial world is jumbling up all the seasons, but this year Christmas items are out well before Reformation Day (also known as, “All Hallows Eve”) and starting “Black Friday” on the first of November. Unfortunately, the season of Advent gets covered over and even forgotten, even in some churches and many Christian homes.

This year, our Christmas trees are going up early specifically for Advent to focus on Advent. Advent means “coming.” What are we looking to come? Celebrating of coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, Our Lord and Savior at Christmas. But why? It is to gain what was lost. We lost Paradise and our positive relationship with God. Jesus comes to restore our positive relationship with God and to bring us back to His Paradise. Jesus said in John 14:2-4, “I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.” We lost the first perfect created Paradise, but through Jesus we look forward to the re-creation: Paradise restored.

There are many relationships between the first Paradise or the Garden of Eden and the new Paradise. During the Advent Mid-week services we will explore the meanings and the applications of the Garden, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and the tree of life for our lives. The fruit will focus on the sin of man and the grace of God as we travel through Advent. For Advent is the time of preparation for the coming of Christ and His opening for us the way of Paradise.

See the schedule and thoughts to meditate on, on the next page.

Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas,



Pastor Jahnke

ADVENT DEVOTIONS



God with Us, Lutheran Hour Ministries’ Advent devotions for 2020 are available in the Narthex.

GIVING TREE

The Board of Human Care has set up the 2020 Giving Tree in the Narthex. If you would like to pick a card from the tree & purchase a gift, please sign the sheet next to the tree. We ask that you wrap the gift & return it with the card attached to the gift. All gifts need to be brought to the church office by Sunday, December 13th. All the names on the tree are members from St. Andrew. God’s Blessings to you this Holiday season.

STEWARDSHIP DRIVE

Your ongoing support is needed to make our voter approved budget. Thank you for your financial support in 2020. As we close out this year, prayerfully consider a special year end contribution. We value your regular electronic giving. Electronic giving offsets monthly ups and downs of ad hoc giving. Is now the time to increase your regular giving? Your financial gifts are appreciated. Thank you!

- Board of Stewardship

ALTAR GUILD UPDATE & THANK YOU

It's been a year since we asked for more volunteers to help with the Altar Guild. The response was wonderful and we appreciate everyone who is now helping with this behind the scenes yet critical area for our worship services. Our current list of volunteers:

Donna & Ernie Feland, Janet Baker, Chris Paul, Rose Rios, Joslyn Pierce, Tami Hertel, Celeste & Tom Moltzan, Dan & Connie Klug, Margaret Burkhardtsmeier, Diana & Mike Peterson, Rachel Kitzman, Sara Sell, Peggy Brager, Karen Berg, Larry & Diana Weil, Brenda & Lenny Heupel, Lanae Cajobe, Linda Glass, Jolene Flath, Steve Beltz, Deb Cook, Kristy Dillard and Sara Moreland. Plus, Corrine Reber is a substitute.

As you can see, it takes quite a few volunteers and we still have three months where we could use more help. We have several people who are scheduled for two months or we have some handling the month alone. Our goal was to make sure this wasn't overwhelming to anyone's schedule. If this is an area you would like to help with or learn more about, please contact Connie Klug, Deb Cook or Sara Moreland for more information. We will gladly discuss this with you. Thanks very much!

"One gives freely, yet grows all the richer..."

Proverbs 11:24

LWML NEWS

Christmas: The LWML is still planning to have a Christmas Celebration the night of our regular Christmas Party, Dec 8, at 6:30pm.



We are going to order in. You don't have to bring anything except yourself. It will be fun. All women of the congregation are invited to attend. We will have the Red Stocking box out for collection and also the Mite Box.

Red Stocking: The Red Stocking box will be out the night of Dec 2, (Advent Service) and Sunday Dec 6. What is the Red Stocking?, you ask. I know I did the first time I heard about it at LWML. The Red Stocking is a fund raiser that the LWML has done for many years. There is a poem that goes with it that says each month of the year you are to put a nickle in a red stocking corresponding to the number of the month. 1 nickle for January, 2 for February etc. (It's an old poem). The money collected from the Red Stocking goes to buy gift cards for either gas or food, depending on what Human Care is in need of. Due to the lack of social attendance, we're asking the congregation to help us with this fund raiser this year.

MAILBOXES

Many people have very full mailboxes due to the recent extended absence from the Lord's house. Please check your mailboxes routinely. Those of you with confirmed children & multiple boxes of envelopes should also check the top of the mailboxes.

BOARD OF HUMAN CARE

Food Donations The Board of Human Care is in need of nonperishable food items such as Hamburger Helper & canned or boxed pasta meals. Donations can be dropped off in the office or put in the basket near the coat rack area.

Meals The Board is also looking for more volunteers who would be willing to make a meal for someone recovering from surgery or illness or someone who has experienced a death in the family. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex.



"MAIN STREET LIVING NORTH"

DECEMBER UPDATE

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name of Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21. Herein lies our hope and the hope of the nations! Hope is something that seems to be in very short supply from the world these days - and yet, that is the way it has always been, and always will be whenever trust is put in anything or anyone other than the Creator & Savior Himself!

Please continue to share information about our LCMS "Main Street Living" media ministry with others. In addition to being broadcast each Sunday morning, you can view archived programs anytime at www.mainstreetliving.com - then click on the link under the picture identified as "North (Fargo)."

Thank you for your much-needed financial support! Checks may be sent to "Main Street Living NORTH", 821-5th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by Credit Card or your PayPal account on the website. God's blessing in Christ! -Ken Koehler / MSL North Volunteer Coordinator

"Main Street Living North" Programs for December 2020"

Dec. 6: Rev. Matt Thompson, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND, presents the message: "Prepare the Way of the Lord" based on Mark 1:1-8. Lutheran Hour Animated Series: The Stableboy's Christmas - A family experiences the excitement of the holidays, while trying to keep the true meaning of Christmas at the center of their preparations.

Dec. 13: Rev. Justin Woodside, Bethel Lutheran Church and Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND, presents the message: "Preparing the Way" based on John 1:6-8, 19-28. Lutheran Hour Ministries Animated Series: Red Boots for Christmas - One shop in the small town of Friedensdorf doesn't have any Christmas decorations, and no Christmas spirit inside the store.

Dec. 20: LCMS President Matthew Harrison will present the Christmas Sunday message. Lutheran Hour Ministries Animated Series: Christmas Is - A journey back in time to the first Christmas with Benji and Waldo to rediscover the feeling and message of this significant day.

Dec. 27: Rev. Roger Paavola, President, Mid-South District, presents the message: "On the Other Side of Christmas" based on Luke 2:22-40. Lutheran Hour Ministries Animated Series: The Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery - It's Christmas, and some mysterious events have occurred which require some special investigative talents.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/1: Robert Eidbo, Annelise Hammer
12/3: Gladys Hopkins
12/4: Amanda Reber
12/5: Cubahiro Irutingabo Binagana, Brianna Olson,
Gladys VerValin
12/6: Cooper Haugen
12/7: Vanessa Gunning, Kathryn Osmondson
12/8: Elizabeth Geist
12/9: Charles Weible
12/10: Kim Hinz, Cindy Vollmer-Hansen
12/11: Myrna Church
12/12: Kyle Bredine, Kristy Dillard
12/13: Kristi Hopkins
12/14: Nora Armbrust, Jacob Renfrew
12/15: Aubrey Bickel, Gavin Hruza, Rachel Kitzman,
Jacob Marcy, Shonteau Wasness
12/17: Sue Jahnke, Ryan Teigen, Sharon Wilson
12/18: Isaac Berg, Tim Hertel
12/19: Jessica Schatz
12/20: Paulette Franklin, Jennifer Larson, Tatum
Riebe
12/21: Addie Rossow, Andrea Samsten, Shawn
Schweitzer
12/24: Barbara Hall, Keri Olson
12/27: Cybil Johnson
12/29: Amy Deng, Tom Moltzan
12/30: Vi Abraham, Margaret Burkhardtsmeier, Greg-
ory Else, TessAnna Rossow
12/31: Caleb Rossow



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12/15: Mike & Diana Peterson
12/22: Andrew & Alyssa Hovland
12/28: Gary & Kristy Dillard, Ernie &
Donna Feland
12/30: Arthur & Cari Weidner



ST. ANDREW FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:

	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$ 28,324.64	\$312,848.76
Expense	\$ 40,359.25	\$389,774.13
Net	\$ -12,034.61	\$ -76,925.37

Mortgage Fund:

	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$ 5,078.61	\$ 58,885.68
Expense	\$ 6,386.00	\$ 48,759.96
Net	\$ -1,307.39	\$ 10,125.72

UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION

Please remember to let the church office know if you have a new address, changed your phone number or email. Thank you!

AUGUST PASTORAL ACTS

Baptisms:

- Elon Hopkins baptized 11/8, son of Kristi & Cameron Hopkins

Deaths:

- June Beck, passed 11/9, funeral 11/12

COFFEE & TREATS

Would you like to help serve coffee and treats in the kitchen during fellowship? And/or- would you like to bake and bring treats for a Sunday? Simply add your name to the sign-up sheet located in the Fellowship Hall or on the table in the Narthex. Thank you!

USHERING!!!

We are in great need of ushers. This is an area we were low in prior to COVID-19, but now we are especially hit hard because many of the normal ushers are not able to attend our actual worship services. You can designate early or late service and sign up for dates of your choosing. The tasks are easy to do and currently modified during this COVID period. If you have questions, please ask one of the ushers after service or contact Mary in the office. If you wish to become an usher, let Mary in the office know with your preferred service and dates. Thank you!



Greetings from Grace Lutheran School!

We are coming in on 3 solid months of in-person learning. The challenges are plentiful, but the children are thriving. We both ask and thank you for your continued prayers for the health of our students and teachers.

CELEBRATION OF GRACE

The Celebration of Grace, formerly the Grace Auction, was held entirely online this year. It was a wild success! We set a goal to raise \$26,000 in donations as of this writing we are on target to smash that goal. Thank you to ALL who partnered with us in sharing the event on social media and all who participated in the event through item donation, bidding, and the reverse bid and cash donations. We are truly humbled by the love shown to our school. Your school. We are a family and this school belongs to all of us.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED

We are in dire need of substitute teachers and other people who can monitor classrooms on short notice.

YOUTH & EDUCATION **UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES &** **EVENTS:**

Open Youth Room: For grades 9-12 every Wed from 6-8pm for homework & fellowship

LYF Bible Class: Meets in the Youth Room Sun mornings from 9:45-10:30, Sept through May

YOUTH GROUP FUND RAISING

2021 God's Creation wall calendars are now available for purchase. Brighten a wall of your home with uplifting Scriptures coupled with beautiful photography. They also make great gifts! A sample is available to view in the narthex; speak to a youth member to purchase. These efforts help our youth pay for youth gatherings, conferences, camps, and other opportunities for service and growth. Your support is greatly appreciated!

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING

Did you know that our youth group participates in MinnKota Recycling's donation program? By bringing your aluminum cans in for recycling, you can help to support the work of our youth ministry here at St. Andrew. Simply bag up your aluminum cans and leave them in the enclosure between the two sheds at the church, and when we bring them in for recycling, MinnKota donates the proceeds to our youth! (There is also a receptacle for aluminum cans in the youth room.) You can also bring your cans to MinnKota yourself and then donate them to Saint Andrew Lutheran Church Youth. It's a great way to do good for God's creation and for his church, and we appreciate your support!

YOUTH CHOIR

Grades 4th and up, come join us for youth choir! We meet in the youth room right after second service and go until 1:30. An insider note, we do more than just sing! Come for games, devotion, singing, and get to know other youth of our church. This is your time to witness to others, through song worship. Hope to see you there! Parents, if you have any questions please visit with Carolyn Fiechtner.

EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS **NEEDED!**

The Board of Education is looking for volunteers to help in a variety of ways:

Busy Bag Maintenance Make sure our activity bags are stocked with coloring sheets & crayons, books, & an animal. Also, periodically clean the bags & animals.

Board of Education Member Meet once per month to discuss our education programs. Interest in making sure we share God's Word with ALL members or our congregation & beyond.

Librarian Keep shelves neat. Display seasonal or topical materials. Reshelve returned items. Record & label new materials.

LCMS Youth Gathering 2022: **"IN ALL THINGS"**

The next LCMS National Youth Gathering theme has been revealed. "In All Things" will meet in Houston, Texas in July of 2022. Youth in grades 7-12 this year will be eligible to attend. Learn more at lcmsgathering.com, and follow on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube @lcmsgathering.



HIGHER THINGS 2021: "FORGIVEN"



"I forgive you." The three most powerful words in the universe. They don't just change the universe for someone. They change someone's eternity. They change your eternity! Higher Things Conference 2021 is coming next summer to Texas, Michigan, Colorado, and... (wait for it) ...**FARGO!** Join with other Lutheran youth from around the region for four days of worship, teaching, fellowship, and fun. Registration opens November 1. Learn more at higherthings.org or follow on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @higherthings.



St. Andrew Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
1005 First Street East
West Fargo, North Dakota 58078

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Come and Worship!

December 2020

Sundays: 8:00 & 10:45am
Coffee & Fellowship at 9:00am
Sunday School & Bible Class at 9:30am
Holy Communion celebrated at all
Sunday worship services.

Contact Us At:

Telephone: 701-282-4195

Email: office@standrewlcms.org

Web: www.standrewlcms.org

Church Office Hours:

M-F 9am-4pm

Facebook:

St. Andrew Lutheran Church LCMS

Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. C. H. Jahnke

701-281-9367

PastorJahnke@standrewlcms.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Adam Harvala

701-936-1156

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Church Administrator

Mary Pierce

701-282-4195

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Board of Elders

Aarestad-Borslien	Ken Koehler	701-429-3092
Bosser-Dietzman	Dan Klug	701-866-9737
Dillard-Gruber	Emmett Wilson	701-212-0476
Guler-Hurt	Bill Kitzman	701-526-8022
Hussey-Kolubah	Ray Wasness	701-200-5783/
	Larry Weil	701-793-6355
Kraft-Milligan	Joe Cajobe	701-281-5227
Moellenkamp-Peterson	David Pistorius	701-793-8229
Pfahl-Schatz	Robert Eidbo	218-329-9566
Schiffner-Torgerson	Kevin Osmondson	701-793-4955
Trapp-Zong	Lenny Heupel	701-371-3204

Council & Board Chairs:

Chairman:	Del Ruff
Vice-Chair:	Arden Glanzer
Treasurer:	Sara Sell
Secretary:	Rose Borslien
Trustees:	Tom Moltzan
Education:	Leanne Muhl
Stewardship:	Joe Franklin
Human Care:	Glenda Pistorius
Outreach:	

Red River Lutheran School

Board Members:

Pastor Jahnke	701-282-4195
Alana Ratz	507-828-7069