

ST. ANDREW TRUMPETER

MAY 2023

Pastor's Soundings in the Trumpeter...

So we went from our Voters Meeting on April 16th to our Congregational Planning Meeting on April 22nd. Every board had members elected, though we're still missing 7 new elders, 3 on stewardship and 1 on the Board of Christian Outreach. At the Planning meeting 5 Plans of Action (POA's) were started in the areas of Youth, Coordination with other LCMS congregations, Wednesday Nights, Facility Usage, and Finance. Next is the orientation of new board members and working our planning on Sunday, May 7th. We'll be discussing what it means to work together for the good of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12) and its growth, how to act among the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 13). Then we will continue the work on the Plans of Action developed at the April 22nd meeting. Not all the details will be worked out, but we'll get started!

However, life isn't always so hopeful. For this I'll have you turn to Psalm 77. Maybe you've been where the Psalmist has been in verses 1-9. There's nothing that comforts him. He even claims that God is holding his eyes open at night (4) and is too troubled to speak. Everything looks hopeless for him that he even starts questioning God's promises, grace and mercy.

What does he do? He looks back to what God has done before in verses 10-20, pondering His mighty deeds, especially the Exodus. The Exodus is God's salvation, His deliverance! Looking back to what God has done, gives him hope for the future. So too, when things look dark, even to the point where we start despairing of hope, we too are to look back to what God has done. It is good to recount what he has done in our lives, but we need the sure foundation and witness of His Word. Go back to the Scriptures, especially to Jesus. He gave His life for you. He rose so that the resurrection would be for you! In Him is the removal of all your sins, all of God's anger, and eternal hope.

Jesus makes hope secure!

In Christ's service;



Pastor Jahnke

Philippians 4:4-8



SPRING CLEAN UP

We will be doing Spring Cleanup on Saturday May 6th, starting at 9am. Please join us to clean windows, pick up around the exterior, and clean the Sunday School classrooms. Pizza will be served at noon. Many hands make light work!

CUSTODIAN

St. Andrew is looking for a custodian. Please contact Tom Moltzan or the church office for details.

BOARD INSTALLATION & MEETING

The installation will be happening on Sunday - May 7th for those who are newly elected and re-elected as officers and all board members. They may be installed at either service. After the second service the newly elected, re-elected and those who are continuing to serve will be meeting for a potluck meal together and then discussing what it means to work together for the good of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12) and for the growth of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. We'll be asking what we need to stop, start, continue or do differently as boards? Also, working on how we move forward with the Plans of Action developed at the meeting on April 22nd. Not all the details will be worked out, but we'll get started! Anyone is welcome to attend, but Council and Board members need to be there. Also, set aside Tuesday, May 16th for the Council meeting at 7pm. The Council meets the third Tuesdays of each month, except Voter Assembly months, which are April and November.

NEWLY ELECTED & REELECTED

Secretary: Alicia Severson

Financial Secretary: Celeste Moltzan

Treasurer: Connie Klug

Elders: Robert Eidbo (1yr), Dan Klug (1yr), Joe Carjobe (3yr), & Ken Koehler (3yr)

Human Care: Peggy Brager, Sandie Eaton, Paulette Franklin, Trudy Ruff, & Cindy Viken

Christian Outreach: Janel Beauchamp, Grace Dennis, Grady Graveline, & Cassie Skalicky

Stewardship: Joe Franklin & Angie Schweitzer

Education: Carolyn Fiechtner, Mariah Hendrickson, Vicki Roberts, Lisa Vosberg, Stephanie Wilde

Red River Lutheran School: Art Weidner (2yr)

Trustees: Todd Berg, Alan Hall, Tom Moltzan, Lloyd Ruud

Endowment: Jim Meyer, Dave Pistorius

NEEDED

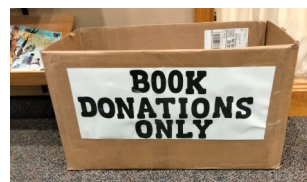
We need more ushers! There are several tasks, none of them difficult, but all very important. So, what does this volunteer job include? On a monthly basis, assist with the church service by handing out bulletins/handouts and greeting people as they walk into the sanctuary to make them feel welcome, assisting with opening doors, gathering offerings, communion cards, & handing out and gathering Friendship Registers, dismissing pews for communion & end of service, taking attendance, turning on/off lights during service, cleaning & stocking pew racks, assisting with placing fans, etc. You can even designate early or late service and sign up for date of your choosing. If you have questions 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.

NEED CHRIST-CENTERED COUNSELING?

Our ND District has teamed up with Lutheran Family Services of Iowa, which is an LCMS congregational supported ministry now available to us. If you or someone you know needs Christ-centered individual, marriage, or family counseling, please consider reaching out to Lutheran Family Service for help. You can contact them by calling 515-573-3138 or email LFS at info@lutheranfamilyservice.org/contact. Remember, all things are possible with God."

LIBRARY CORNER

If you would like to donate a good book or DVD to the church library, please leave the item in the large box by the children's library section. Please do not leave books on the library shelves. Thank you.



FOOD PANTRY

Human Care would like to remind you that we have a food pantry here at St. Andrew. If you have a need or if you know of someone who has a need for food or paper goods, please feel free to use the food pantry. Items on the display table by the library are past the date. Anyone who thinks they will use these past the date items is free to take them.

APRIL PASTORAL ACTS

Transfer In:

- Glenn & Mae Murphy from Immanuel in Rolla ND

Release:

- Joseph Pistorius

Voters Removal:

- Logan Borah
- Miles Borah
- Kaeden Glanzer
- Andrew Hovland
- Bethanie Jamgochian
- Jennifer Larsen
- Erin Moody
- Austin Oien
- Mykin (Gunning) Severson



MAY BIRTHDAYS



Patricia Dale, Hunter Beltz, Sierra Shoman Young, James Ruud, Preston Peterson, Glenda Clark, Scott Jess, Emmett Hoeper, Shane Bruns, Adam Harvala, Sandie Eaton, Lillia Oakland, Michael Glanzer, Lynette Vollmer, Brandon Mallea, Eileen Sweeten, Lyla Fiechtner, Betty Trapp, Josh Gervais, Lois Hehr, Jessica Bachmeier, Aubrey Else, Nicole Marcy, Saffron Hoff, Milton Deplazes, Lorenzo Alaniz, Bill Kitzman, Doug Millar, Carolyn Fiechtner, Patty Walth, Breyette Hoff, Janet Baker, Bill Thoemke, Destiny Heinen, Whitney Lau, Alexis Tollefson, Asher Brandt, Jodi Pierce, Victor Gruber, Layne LaPorte, Vicki Roberts, Logan Matzke, Rebecca Rosenfeldt, Erica Waters, Robert Cataldi, Aubree Hample, Aly Wagner Dick, Lincoln Haugen, Jordan Sommerfeld, Nicolas Cajobe, Christopher Erickson, Dinah Sommerfeld, KaidenSchweitzer, Jessica Somsen, Rebecca Deplazes, Mia Severson, James Doyel, Shari Else, Hardy Glanzer, Brittany Heiden, Corrine Reber, Brayden Jensen, Jon Grenz, Halsey Steen, Sarina Olson, Tianna Vetter, Scott Johnson, Wyatt Nelson

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Todd & Crystal Reber, Tim & Alana Ratz, Tim & Tami Hertel, Ward & Rebecca Kitzman, Bruce & Liz Clark, Halsey & Jeremy Steen, Jon & Brenda Renfrew, Dan & Annalise Hammer, May-sie & Brent Aaestad, Glenda & Michael Clark, Wanda & Robert Terry, Curtis & Evelyn Helmer, Haylee & Shad Hagen, Tom & Celeste Moltzan



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

"MAIN STREET LIVING NORTH"

MAY 2023:

"Mass shootings, floods and other natural disasters, a decaying moral culture - these are evidences of the fallen creation "groaning in travel" all around us!" These are the same words I used four years ago for the introduction to that month's MSLN article - and they continue and even accelerate today. And yet, those whose trust is in Jesus can live with a "peace that passes all understanding" and a sure hope in the sure promise of the resurrection! This is the message broadcast weekly by our MSL Media Ministry.

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 "Fargo". Worship services from the five other MSL broadcast areas, as well as weekly This Is the Life programs, are also available for viewing on the website.

Thank you for your 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

"MSL North" Programs for May 2023:

May 7: Rev. Ronald Hobbie, Zion & St. John Lutheran Churches, Ada, MN, presents the message: "The Way" based on John 14:6. This Is the Life program: "Break up" - A divorced couple struggles with direction in their lives after meeting again.

May 14: Rev. Brian Shane, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, presents the message: "The Unknown God" based on Acts 17:16-31. This Is the Life program: "Alibi" - A father tries to reconnect with his estranged son after the death of his mother.

May 21: Rev. Kirk Lee, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Parkers Prairie, ND, presents the message: "Under the Mighty Hand of God" based on I Peter 5:6-11. "This Is the Life" program: "No Place to Hide" - A pastor, who has to face the death of his wife, cannot find comfort.

May 28: Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck, President of the North Wisconsin District LCMS, presents a Pentecost Sunday message. Visit www.mainstreetliving.com for more information. "This Is the Life" program: "The Main Event" - A boxer who is hit by a car becomes embittered until he meets a cheerful 8-year old girl.



Dear Friends in Christ,

We rejoice in the seasons as God created them, but no one is happier to see spring than our teachers and students. Throwing off a coat on a 50 degree day is an important rite of passage for a child!

We had a wonderful day at Pasta With a Purpose on April 29! Thank you for joining us and enjoying the fellowship of this association-wide event. Between this and last year's spaghetti dinner and memorials given on behalf of departed friends of Grace, we have officially raised enough money to purchase a new stage!

Camp Grace summer childcare will get underway at the end of May. We are seeking a full time lead teacher to plan and oversee activities, work with the children, and be a main point of contact for Camp Grace families. We could also use a couple more part-time childcare assistants to spend the summer with our kids. Email secretary@gracels.com for an application or pop over to the school and pick one up.

Our students collected chapel offerings for Mercy Meals. They will pack meals on Tuesday, May 23 in the afternoon. Their goal is to pack 1000 meals to send on the Orphan Grain Train around the world! If you would like to assist with this fun-filled outreach event, please contact Amy at ahirsch@gracels.com.

We have two important policy updates that affect our Association students (and prospective students). Students who attend GLS from kindergarten through 7th grade will receive a 90% tuition discount for 8th grade. Kindergarteners who start now will be eligible for this discount when they are in 8th grade. Additionally, students coming from St Andrew, Our Redeemer, and Trinity (Sabin), will automatically qualify for a minimum 20% tuition discount. If you have any questions about either of these programs, please contact Mrs. Susan Jahnke at 701-232-7747.

Alumni, please continue to register at www.gracelutheranschoolfargo.com. We are in the process of preparing our first alumni newsletter to mail out this summer.

Upcoming Events:

Music Concert for Pre-K -8th Grade - Monday, May 15th at 6:30 pm

Mercy Meals Packing - Tuesday, May 23rd from 12:30-3:15 pm

Graduation (Kindergarten and 8th Grade) - Thursday, May 25th at 7 pm



Growing Together in Grace Capital Improvement Campaign Update April 2023

Grace Lutheran School has received majority approval to move forward with the Growing Together in Grace capital improvement campaign. The Association approved by majority "Motion 1," which OK'd the spending for Phase 1 of the campaign not to exceed \$1.5 million.

"Motion 2" addresses each church's individual financial commitment and must be voted on by August 15, 2023. Each church's "Motion 2" will be congregationally specific. Suggested financial commitments were shared with each church, but a congregation may choose any amount. GTIG must have 66% of the total budget committed from Association and non-association sources prior to making any purchases.

On Saturday, May 6, GTIG will be holding their first official fundraising committee meeting. If you feel called to be part of this project, we invite you to join this committee. Please contact Art Weidner at artweidner@yahoo.com or Ken Koehler at dcekkoehler@outlook.com with interest.

If you wish to contribute to this project, please contact Amy Hirsch at Grace Lutheran School or speak to your church treasurer for giving details.

CALLING ALL GLS ALUMNI!

If you went to Grace Lutheran School at any time in your life since 1948, we'd like to connect or reconnect with you, keep you informed on what's happening at your alma mater, and learn more about your life at and after Grace. History matters and your stories are important. It is time to preserve these memories. Please take time to fill in the information online including as much or little information as you'd like. In exchange, we will send you a twice-yearly newsletter and invitations to other events, if you'd like.

If you would like to share photographs or have more to share than is asked here, please email secretary@gracels.com. Mail can be sent to 1025 14th Avenue South, Fargo, ND 58103.



FAITHFULLY FORWARD *Together*

PHASE II



THE RACE IS ON!

Over & Above Regular Giving

Received to Date:

Phase I - \$129,313
Year 2022 - \$14,934
January 2023 - \$9,369
February 2023 - \$1,398
March 2023 - \$11,414
Thru April 23, 2023 - \$11,510

Principal Payments Made in 2023:

January - \$32,000
February - \$10,000
March - \$15,000

New Mortgage balance as of 4.30.23 \$92,345.

Total interest savings for the Full FFT Campaign:

Phase I – Roof Loan Portion - \$5,299.00
Phase I – Mortgage Loan Portion - \$11,523.00
Phase II – Mortgage Loan thru April-\$4,303.00
TOTAL INTEREST SAVINGS TO DATE: \$21,125.00

LET'S BE DEBT FREE IN 2023!

Faithfully Forward Together
Debt **Elimination** Committee

1-1-1 MISSION GIVING

The people of Israel brought a voluntary offering to the Lord. Every man and woman whose heart was willing contributed to all the work which the Lord had commanded Moses to do. - Exodus 35:29

That's 1-1-1 Mission Giving! It's simple. Not burdensome and it includes every baptized member from the newest baptized baby to our oldest congregational member. Letting your children put their dollar in the giving box teaches them to be involved in supporting missions and spreading the Gospel. All it takes is \$1, 1 Member, every week to support missions in the North Dakota District. Each one of us is the body of Christ, and each one of us can accomplish so much with just a dollar a week. Help us spread the Gospel.

There is a giving box set up in the Narthex for your weekly contribution of \$1. There is power and strength, in many giving a little. Thank you.

BY THE NUMBERS

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN FINANCIAL UPDATE

	MARCH	YTD
General Fund Income:	\$30,399	\$ 101,308
General Fund Expenses:	-\$29,694	-\$ 82,836
Net	\$ 705	\$ 18,472
Mortgage Fund Income:	\$ 2,329	\$ 9,769
Mortgage Loan Payments:	-\$ 6,386	-\$ 19,158
Net	\$ (4,057)	\$ (9,389)

APRIL GIVING HAS BEEN A MIXED BAG:

- April 16th, which was the Sunday **after Easter**, our General Fund giving was less than what we receive during the summer months, when attendance is low, and members are at the lake or on vacation.
- Our General Fund monthly average income requirement to hit our budget is \$32,750. This is a very achievable goal! We should be hitting this easily!
- We received a very nice Mortgage Fund donation on Easter. This will help us get through the summer months before money in that fund runs out. Regular giving to our Mortgage Fund has been very low, causing us to use up \$4,000 a month to make the monthly loan payment.
- We received a nice FFT donation April 16th. But response to Phase II hasn't had nearly the excitement of Phase I, and we are so close to having this weight off our shoulders and being debt free! Our April principal payment from FFT donations will be our smallest one yet.
- All of this is especially troubling when you consider there is no NOL (Shortfall) from 2022 to clear. Usually, we are promoting hard to pay off a Shortfall loan IN ADDITION to regular giving.

THERE IS STILL SOME GOOD NEWS:

- We pledged we would provide honest reporting on our financials. The good news is that the General Fund is IN THE BLACK for 1st QTR 2023 vs. last year when we were (\$22,000) in the hole.
- The remaining balance on the mortgage loan is now under \$100K – currently sitting at \$92,345

We've reached a major milestone here and the debt-free finish line is in sight!

FAST FACTS

MORTGAGE LOAN “WHAT IFS”

We are approaching the time when we can realistically see our financial future without a \$6,386 monthly mortgage payment weighing us down. After nearly 20 years – this loan is getting close to being retired.

A LITTLE HISTORY

We wish we could say that post-mortgage we will suddenly have \$76,632 more a year in donations to use for other items, but the math doesn't quite work out that way. Here's why. We take in member donations every month that are 100% directed to the mortgage payment; unfortunately, it isn't anywhere near the required \$6,386 amount. We also maintain a reserve of cash in the Mortgage Fund. The reserve was established shortly after we signed the mortgage papers, to have about 5 to 6 months of payments set aside for an emergency situation (think tornado, fire, etc.). Lately, since the direct donations toward the mortgage payment have been dwindling down, we have been forced to tap into the cash reserves of the Mortgage Fund. Currently, this fund has been taking it in the shorts to the tune of about \$4,000 each month. We were hoping to maintain a \$20,000 balance in that fund through most of 2023 and then zero it out when we make our final payoff on the mortgage. Sadly, at the end of March, the Mortgage Fund has dropped to just over \$12,000, meaning it will be tapped out in a matter of a few months.

We started making mortgage payments in 2006, and within a few years, it became obvious that we weren't taking in enough direct donations to cover the \$6,386 monthly payment. We then implemented this concept of “crossover”, where we added a line item to our General Operating budget, so funds would crossover from our general operations to subsidize the mortgage payment. For 2023, we dropped the crossover subsidy from the operating budget. We tightened our belt and cut some key expenses to be “ALL IN” on getting this mortgage paid off. The General Operating Fund and the Mortgage Fund are now operating independent of each other. As you can see, direct support toward the mortgage payment looks to be an ongoing struggle every month until we can make our final payment. Rather than finishing strong in 2023, it looks like we will limp across the debt-free finish line sometime in early 2024.

WE CREATED THIS ISSUE OURSELVES!

Shame on us for not promoting the mortgage loan payment and the Mortgage Fund to our members more heavily. We should have also educated new members joining our Church what it's all about. It happened 20 years ago. But the benefits of the expansion are still being felt. We can't expect people to donate to a fund they don't know anything about or understand what is happening with it. We should have used our time wisely and promoted this with the hope of getting more monthly donations to this Mortgage Fund account.

WHAT IF?

Currently we have about 24 members who regularly donate to the Mortgage Fund thru EFT or envelope giving. Think about that...only 24 individuals or families out of our whole congregation! The big unknown - once this loan is paid off, will these members continue to donate these funds to St. Andrew?

We are currently running Phase 2 of our capital campaign Faithfully Forward Together (FFT) for debt reduction. Once the mortgage loan is retired...

WHAT IF Faithfully Forward Together (FFT) switches gears, and is no longer for debt reduction, but rather a cash reserve safety net for future repairs and maintenance, or a growth fund for wish list items related to ministry or our facility?

WHAT IF the current 24 givers to the Mortgage Fund choose to maintain their level of giving to this new FFT? That would be approximately \$40K toward something other than mortgage debt.

WHAT IF we can gain 15-30 additional members (maybe even more??) who see the benefit of having this fund and contribute to it on a timely basis. Whether that is weekly, bi-weekly or once a month, this account could grow and help St. Andrew become a financial stable entity – a church that maintains a general operating fund sufficient to support its ministry, is very prudent in the use of debt, and is growing some cash reserves to cover contingencies and achieve long-term goals.

A LOT OF WHAT IFS TO START THINKING ABOUT AND PLANNING FOR!

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Come and Worship!

Sundays: 8:00 & 10:45 am

Holy Communion celebrated at all worship services.

May 2023

Contact Us At:

Telephone: 701-282-4195

Email: office@standrewlcms.org

Web: www.standrewlcms.org

Church Office Hours:

M-F 8:00am—4:00pm

Facebook:

St. Andrew Lutheran Church LCMS

Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. C. H. Jahnke

701-281-9367

PastorJahnke@standrewlcms.org

Church Administrator

Mary Pierce

701-282-4195

office@standrewlcms.org

Board of Elders

Aarestad-Borah	Wade Trzpuc	701-561-1147
Bormann-Cliner		
Coady-Fischer	Dan Norton	701-799-4503
Flaskerud-Haugen	Ray Wasness	701-200-5783
Hehr-Hussey	Ken Koehler	701-429-3092
Jacobson-Klug	Jeff Pierce	701-367-0827
Koehler-Maynard	Larry Weil	701-205-7093
McCollum-Olson	Robert Eidbo	218-329-9566
Oltman-Remmen	Dan Klug	701-866-9737
Renfrew-Shoman	Emmett Wilson	701-212-0476
Simenson-Visto	Lenny Heupel	701-371-3204
Vogel-Zong	Joe Cajobe	701-730-4718

Council & Board Chairs

Chairman:	Del Ruff
Vice-Chair:	Tim Ratz
Financial Sec:	Celeste Moltzan
Treasurer:	Connie Klug
Secretary:	Alicia Severson
Trustees:	Tom Moltzan
Education:	Mariah Hendrickson
Stewardship:	Joe Franklin
Human Care:	Cindy Viken & Sandie Eaton
Outreach:	Janel Beauchamp

Red River Lutheran School Board Members

Pastor Jahnke	Alana Ratz	Art Weidner
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