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The StAND

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

Dear Siblings in Christ:

"Go and...listen." Listening...really listening...is very hard work. Listening is different from hearing. We hear noise, music, the chatter of our children or grandchildren, or the drone of the TV in the background of our consciousness. Hearing is an awareness that something is going on, even if we do not quite know what that "something" is. Listening, on



the other hand, IS that awareness. We know what song is being played on the radio, who sang it, and what the words are about. We understand what our children are saying to us. We comprehend what is being said on the news. All too often, we hear each other, but we do not listen. We hear just enough of what is being said to be able to respond to them, but often we fail to listen to understand what is being said.

As Christians, we are called to listen to the words of Jesus, to let those words penetrate our hearts and our lives, and to do what he says. Many times, we read the words of Jesus and we hear what he says, and like the Parable of the Sower we read a few weeks ago, those words bounce off the hardness of our hearts or get choked out by the other cares in our lives. We hear what we are supposed to do, but we either refuse to do what Jesus says, are unable to, or simply

choose not to. But when we LISTEN to Jesus' words and allow the Gospel to penetrate our hearts, when we LISTEN to what he says and allow the way of Jesus to change our evil ways, those seeds land on fertile soil and produce thirty-, sixty-, and a hundred-fold. "So," Jesus says in Matthew 13:9, "if you have ears, use them!" In other words...LISTEN!

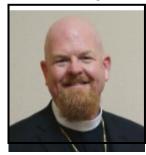


Nebraska Synod has provided several resources for our use to explore what means to "Go and...Listen." To use the QR code, open the camera app on your phone or tablet and center the picture on the box. A link will pop up, and if you click on that link, it will take you to the Synod website and the resources posted there.

I hope we all will take advantage of this invitation to "Go and... Listen." What a different world it would be if we could.

Walking with you along The Way, Pastor Kim

From Bishop Scott Johnson..."Go and...Listen"



I vividly remember sitting with my CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) group at St. Luke's Hospital in Sioux City, IA, being absolutely floored to hear from our supervisor that the greatest gift I could give to the patients to whom I would be ministering would be good listening. I was a young(ish), confident, happy seminarian who thought for certain that the crucial gift God was calling me to offer was to speak words of hope. I learned that summer, and I'm still learning today, that while there is certainly a place for words of hope, those words will land most effectively when they come from someone who has proven first to be a devoted and attentive listener. That same CPE supervisor likened holy listening to

journeying into a chasm with the ones to whom we are listening: every sentence is another step into the valley of shadow, and we establish trust by listening more and more deeply, willing to hold off on words of assurance that are often addressing our own discomfort more than that of those who speak to us.

Studies tell us that many instances of interpersonal conflict can begin to heal as soon as both parties feel that their cares, concerns, and statements have been heard accurately and generously, even if the central issue of the conflict remains unresolved. Deep listening like this tells the people in our lives that they matter, that they, too, bear he image of God within themselves, that we see, recognize, and cherish who they are and how God is blessing the world through them.

Far too often, particularly in difficult situations, we listen with ears that are itching to defend, deny, or retaliate. We listen to protect ourselves. We listen to protect our sense of security. We listen for the snarky rebuttal or the devastating putdown. We listen as something we must do, instead of something we have been blessed to do. How might things change for the better if all of us approached the art of listening as a gift we can give to each other in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ? How might the communities in which we live be inspired if they saw us practicing this art of deep

listening with one another? We often talk about how God might change the world through the things we do: is it possible that the world could be changed by God through our attentive, careful, holy, listening?

Listening is a skill at which I have had to work, as a pastor, spouse, father, brother, child, friend, and community member. It has not come easy, and an improvement has also been marked by failures which remind me that listening is a discipline which requires diligent practice. During my first call, a member of the mutual ministry committee told me, "I can see the instant you check out of a conversation, and if I can see it, it's absolutely certain the people who are talking to you can see it, too." Those were hard words to hear – thankfully, they were offered as a kind, constructive critique, and for once I was listening well enough to hear them. I invite you to do the same: go and listen this month. Listen to the people around you. Listen to understand, to welcome, to affirm the image of God in your neighbor. Practice the art of holy listening with one another, and see what God can bring about in the world through listening to each other.

Yours in Christ, Bishop Scott Johnson



The information below is from Nebraska Synod:

RESOURCES

How do we listen with our full selves? In reality, all of our senses are used when we listen—with our ears, our eyes, our mouths, and our bodies. As disciples, we listen to ourselves, our neighbors, and God. When we listen, we find new perspectives, shared history, and common ground.

Questions to Consider:

- What is something you learned from listening to your heart?
- What is something you learned from listening to a stranger?
- In a year of GOING, how will you listen to those around you?

Prayer: Listening God, help me stay open to the surprises you provide while on the road this summer. Amen.

Suggested Song: Listen, God is Calling (ELW 513)

ACTIVITIES AND MEMBER NEWS AT ST. ANDREW'S

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY SURROUNDS:

—- David and Marsha Jensen, Scott, Steph, Colton, Connor, and Cailin Jensen on the death of David's father, Gene, on July 10.

May God enfold this family with love and light, and give them hope and comfort through the promise of eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Dear Friends at St. Andrew's,

Thank you so much for your care, compassion, cards, and prayers for me as I recover from a car accident on July 10. I feel blessed to be cared for by such a loving community. While the recovery may take longer than I'd like it to, I am grateful for your prayers and patience as I take time to fully heal from this trauma.

With much love to you in Christ, Pastor Kim



The Kona Ice Truck is participating in the August 9 Faith, Family, and Food Truck event from 5-7pm. They will be donating 20% of their sales that night to St. Andrew's Youth!

These pictures were taken during the cookie sales which brought in \$72 during the July 12 evening gathering.





YOUTH GROUP MEETING ON AUGUST 6, 6-8PM

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST:

FOR THE AUGUST M.O.M. WE ARE ASKING FOR PERSONAL CARE ITEMS FOR THE **LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY.** Did you know the Lutheran Food Pantry packs emergency food boxes for approximately 160 families a month which helps 436 people in need in our community? In each box, personal care items are added for the family's hygiene health. Families with limited incomes cannot afford to purchase these items in addition to the food necessary to feed their family and personal care items cannot be purchase with food tamps. At this time, the Pantry is desperately in need of personal care items (large and hotel sizes) such as shampoo, bars of hand soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes, lotions, conditioners, deodorant, hand sanitizer, mouthwash, dental floss/picks, razors, and combs. Please place your donated items on the M.O.M. table in the Narthex and thank you for Reaching Out-Sharing Grace.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUPS will not meet in August.

Plan to attend the WELCA State Convention, October 6-8, at Carol Joy Holling Camp.

Quilters meet every Tuesday from about 9am to 12 noon. Do join the guilters on Tuesday mornings to put guilts together. No sewing ability is required.



Dominoes anyone? Come to church on August 21 at 1:00 p.m. for fun and fellowship! The ability to match numbered tiles is helpful. You don't need to bring dominoes as other members share theirs.

CHURCH NIGHT: Please join us

on August 9 from 5-7pm for "Faith, Family, and Food Trucks", an evening of food and fellowship. The **Tastee Trailer and the Kona Ice Truck** will be in our south parking lot providing an opportunity to purchase some delicious food. Please ask your friends and neighbors to join us!



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PASTOR WILL BE ON VACATION VACATION beginning August 25 and returning to the office on August 29. If there is an emergency and you need pastoral care, please call Council President, Gene Veburg, 402-580-1018, to be connected to the pastor on-call.

MOVIE NIGHT!

Please join us on Sunday, August 13, at 6:30pm, to watch "Angels and Demons", a action mystery thriller starring Tom Hanks (a sequel to "The Da Vinci Code"). Bring a lawn chair and a beverage, if you wish; the popcorn will be provided.



Dear St. Andrew's Church,

Thank you for your recent in-kind donation to Houses of Hope which serves individuals whose lives have been impacted by substance use and mental health. You donated men's jeans, pants, shirts,, socks, shoes, and hangers with an estimated value of \$1,570.00.

We appreciate your on-going generosity and support of Houses of Hope .

Gratefully, Brenda Mueller, MS, LMHP, LADC **Executive Director**

THE LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY

The Lutheran Food Pantry appreciates all donations of shelf-stable food and personal care items. Items always needed include (the items with ** are especially needed at this time): **Canned peaches **Canned pears **Canned chicken and tuna **Dry dinners (Hamburger Helper) **Fruit juice, small boxes/packets/bottles **Macaroni and cheese **Pasta, dry (spaghetti, macaroni, noodles, etc.) **Potatoes, boxed instant mashed **Ramen noodles **Rice, white 1# or 2# bags **Snack items (small packages of cookies, nuts, fruit-flavored snacks, etc.) **Personal care items (shampoo, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes) Breakfast bars (Pop Tarts, granola bars, oatmeal/fruit bars Canned fruits (peaches, pears, mandarin oranges, pineapple) Canned meals (ravioli, SpaghettiOs, etc.) Canned variety beans (chili, kidney, pinto) Canned meats (tuna, chicken, spam) Canned vegetables (**especially mixed vegetables, peas, corn, green beans) Cereal, dry Fruits, canned (pears, peaches, pineapple, fruit cocktail, mandarin oranges) Fruit juice, large bottles and small containers Jam and jelly Pancake mix and svrup Peanut butter Pork and beans Saltine crackers Snack items Soups, condensed (vegetable, chicken noodle, tomato, cream of chicken, cream of mushroom) Tomatoes, canned We know the Lutheran Food Pantry is a blessing to hungry families in our community and we are thankful for your donations and prayers in making it successful. Tom and Lynn Ochsner,

Coordinators, The Lutheran Food Pantry

IT'S BACKPACK TIME!!!!

Soon the school bells will be ringing and members of St. Andrew's congregation will again be packing food bags in the parsonage basement for delivery each week to Meadow Lane School.

These are the facts by numbers:

- 14 year partnership between Meadow Lane School/St. Andrew's/Lincoln Food Bank
- 50 backpacks St. Andrew's has committed to fund each year
- **\$250** to fund one backpack/child/year
- \$12,500/year the congregation pays the Lincoln Food Bank for food to fill these 50 backpacks
- **\$6,250** equal payments made two time a year to Lincoln Food Bank to cover the \$12,500

Three ways the congregation can support the Backpack Program:

- 1. Continued prayers for the success of this important St. Andrew's Ministry
- 2. <u>Volunteer support</u> to pack, deliver, and distribute backpacks
- 3. <u>Monetary support</u> of any amount is accepted. Remember, \$250 funds one backpack/child. Put your contributions in an offering envelope found in the pews. Label for "Backpack Program" and put in the offering plate.

There is **<u>\$1,300</u>** in the Backpack Program budget right now. We need **<u>\$4,950</u>** to reach our first payment of \$6,250.

Unmeasurable is how appreciated your prayers, time, and money will be to the students and families in need of food at Meadow Lane School.

If you have questions, please contact Nancy Weller.

CHOIR AND HANDBELLS PRACTICE

On September 6, 6:30pm in the Music Room off the Sanctuary, we will resume choir and handbells practice. Please consider joining as we learn and celebrate our Lord with joyful praise.



SAVE THE DATE!! BBQ COOKOFF WILL BE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29! To sign up to compete, please sign up at the Connection Center. Please bring a side dish to share!



PASTOR'S COUNCIL REPORT JULY, 2023

- 1. I took most of 2 days off (Wednesday and Thursday, July 12 and 13) to recover from a serious car accident on July 10. In addition, under orders from my physician, I was on bedrest July 18-24 in order to recover from a concussion caused by this car accident.
- 2. I have been asked to officiate at a wedding on Saturday, November 4 at Roca Berry Farm. This couple are not members of St. Andrew's, but they both grew up in the ELCA. I will meet with them three times for premarital counseling and then officiate at their wedding.
- 3. At the time of the writing of this report, we have six Harvest Host guests scheduled to stay with us in July. We had four guests in June.
- Eight people came to Movie Night on July 9. We watched "The Imitation Game."
- 5. We had a nice turn out for the Family, Faith, and Food Truck event on July 12. I think because the weather was warmer, and because the truck had to park further away from the street, it was not as well attended as it was last month and we had less street traffic from the neighborhood. Next month is the Tastee Truck and Kona Ice on August 9. The Youth Group had a bake sale and made \$72.00.
- 6. St. Andrew's will attend the Saltdog Baseball game on August 1.
- 7. I offered a slideshow of our vacation adventure (June 20-July 3) after worship on Sunday, July 16.
- 8. I have been invited to lead Vespers at the Lincoln Senior Apartments on August 4. This will be a communion service, so I will help with that, too.
- 9. There will be a quarterly meeting of the Synod Deans on August 10 (Zoom).

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS JULY, 2023

- The sanctuary roof has been damaged at the apex shingles, allowing water to enter. The ridge 1. cap shingles need to be replaced. Insurance may cover this expense.
- 2. The Boy Scouts will build four Bat Houses for Eagle Projects, pending Scout admin approval.
- 3. Holes in the FH outside wall need to be plugged and patched.
- Pianos need to be turned.
- 5. The Home School coordinator has moved to Omaha. The school will no longer be meeting at St. Andrew's.
- 6. Lutheran Food Pantry 2nd Quarter Report: Total persons 1305. Families served: 497. Pounds of food donated: 2122. Persons served have increased by 9%. Families served have increased by 6.6%. Donations are down 49% from the 1st Quarter.
- 7. The new cameras have been installed in the sanctuary. The presentation computer has also been installed and in use since June 25. Tech Team will meet next week to discuss software directions.
- We had 6 Harvest Host Guests in July.
 Regular giving in June was \$5,934.62 less than the budget estimate. Year to date regular giving is less than the budget estimate by \$21,186.49 Special giving for June was \$643.71.
- 10. Checking Balance opened with \$17,566.73 and ended with \$18,513.05. Savings opened with \$34,140.82 and ended with \$34,145.03.

St Andrew's Lutheran Church Church Council Meeting Minutes June 13, 2023

Present - Pastor Kim Osborn, Gene Veburg, Jonathan Gordon, Ryan Bates, Ron Lehms, Annette Henry, Laura Hahn, Curt Weller, Doug Wageman, Charlotte Burke, Julie Cummings

Absent - Julie Cummings

Call to Order - Gene called meeting to order at 7:06 PM

Opening Prayer - Gene Veburg offered prayer.

Open Time For Congregation - Charlotte Pasco: Building Repairs. AC not working in the hallway and Library. Charlotte will get the right company to take care of the problem. Charlotte will get bids for roof repairs

Adoption of the Agenda- Ryan moved and Annette seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

New Business

Sanctuary Candle Repair: Doug and Pastor Kim are working on a project Pastor Vacation Coverage: Pastor Liz Kocher and Matt Schur Communion Update: Intinction during summer months

Old Business

Update on Home School with Ashley Lowe: Charlotte Burke is following up on documents. Social Media Intern Shilo: Gene and Charlotte will meet with him. Sunday School Group will meet to discuss Fall Session. Tech Team: Jonathan working on Motherboard System Meeting on June 14, 2023.

Council Minutes May 16, 2023—Jonathan made a motion to accept the Minutes as presented. Charlotte seconded. Motion carried.

Reports

Pastor's Report - See attached report. Pastor will be looking at the Prayer and Care Committee after vacation. St. Andrew's will attend a Saltdog game on August 1.

Treasurer's Report

Opening balance in checking was \$18,801.84 and the ending balance was \$17,566.73. Opening balance in savings was \$34,136.47 and the ending balance was \$34,140.82.

Financial Secretary's Report

See Doug Wageman's report.

Upcoming Events

August 20-Faith Forum, Suicide Prevention September 13-Public QPR Training (Suicide Prevention) October 15-Justice in Action November 12-Pastor Otto Schultz on Dependency

Adjournment

Adjourned at 8:09 PM. Ryan moved and Jim seconded. Motion carried.

Closing Prayer

Pastor Kim

Recorded and submitted by Laura Hahn, Council Secretary

June 2023 Financial Secretary Report Respectfully Submitted by Douglas Wageman

Regular giving in June was \$5,934.62 less than the budget estimate. Year to date regular giving is less than the budget estimate by \$21,186.49 Special giving for June was \$643.71

Mo		Prior Year			
	Month	Yr-to-date	Budget 2023	Jun 2022	YTD 2022
Pledged/Unpledged	\$15,129.30	\$102,746.01	\$250,347.00	\$16,594.00	\$111,878.00
Loose	\$15.00	\$95.00	\$800.00	\$34.00	\$235.50
Misc	\$0.00	\$2,446.00	\$1,800.00	\$400.00	\$850.00
Total Operating Income	\$15,144.30	\$105,287.01	\$252,947.00	\$17,028.00	\$112,963.50
Total Special Gifts	\$643.71	\$19,731.46		\$256.23	\$14,639.70
Total Non-Operating Income	\$643.71	\$19,731.46		\$256.23	\$14,639.70
Total Church Income	\$15,788.01	\$125,018.47		\$17,284.23	\$127,603.20
Number Sundays Average Operating/Sunday	4 \$3,786.08	26 \$4,049.50	53 \$4,772.58	4 \$4,257.00	26 \$4,344.75

2023 Special Giving Summary

			Thrivent Choice Dollars		
Special	Month	Yr-to-date	Allocated To:	Date	Received
Adult Education	\$0.00	S0.00	Back Pack Program	02/08/23	\$12.00
Back Pack Program	\$50.00	\$556.00	Food Pantry	02/08/23	\$25.00
Building Fund	\$195.00	\$917.50	Back Pack Program	03/21/23	\$192.00
Carol Joy Holling Scholarships	\$0.00	S0.00	Quilt Ministry	03/21/23	\$29.00
College Scholarship Fund	\$0.00	\$324.00	General Fund	04/07/23	\$52.00
Cross at the Heart	\$0.00	S0.00	Back Pack Program	04/07/23	\$2.00
Donuts	\$49.75	\$301.25	Food Pantry	04/07/23	\$103.00
Easter Lilies	\$0.00	\$333.76	National Youth Gathering	04/07/23	\$46.00
Food Pantry	\$45.00	\$893.81	-		
NYG & SCRIP	\$200.00	\$2,297.47			
ELCA World Hunger	\$0.00	S10.23			
Immanuel Community Foundation	\$0.00	\$6,000.00			
Worship Technology	\$0.00	\$650.00			
Betty Dasenbrock Memorial	\$0.00	S25.00	+		
Clinic With A Heart	\$0.00	\$100.00			
Lent, World Central Kitchen	\$0.00	\$1,702.00			
Harvest Host	\$103.96	\$246.44	741		

\$29.00

\$335.00

\$5,010.00

\$19,731.46

\$0.00

\$0.00

\$0.00

\$643.71

Quilt Ministry

Total

Scholarship Fund

Pat Kent Memorial



ST. ANDREW'S STAFF, CHURCH COUNCIL, & PILLAR CONTACTS

	<u>pastor@standrewslutheran.net</u>	(402) 419-9031 ce
Mandy West, Director of Music	<u>music@standrewslutheran.net</u>	
Children's Choir needed		
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Prayer Shawls Co-Chair Anna Schundro		
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Stewardshin heeded		
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CHURCH SUPPORT		
CHURCH SUPPORT Nominating David Jensen	<u>davidjensen101@gmail.com</u> <u>cpasco1@neb.rr.com</u>	

9:00am Worship/Prayer Station 6:30pm Movie Night: "Angels and 6:00pm Youth Group 9:00am Worship/Church Chat: 9:00am WELCA "Saved to Serve", 9:00am Worship 9:00am Worship/Church Chat: Backpack Program Axtell NE 10:00am Fellowship Time Demons' 10:00am Fellowship Time God's Work. Our Hands. 10:00am Fellowship Time 1:00pm Eagle Scout Ceremony 10:00am Fellowship Time Sunday Pastor on Vacation 20 27 13 6 Group Meeting OFFICE CLOSED 6:00pm Iris Society OFFICE CLOSED OFFICE CLOSED OFFICE CLOSED 1:00pm Dominoes Monday 28 2 9:00am Quilting 9:00am Quilting 9:00am Quilting 7:00pm Executive Team 9:00am Quilting Saltdogs 9:00am Quilting 7:00pm Council 7:05pm St. Andrew's @ Tuesday 29 22 15 8 Meeting Kona lce Truck 5:00pm Tastee Trailer & Meeting 7:00pm Tech Team 12:00pm Faith Partners Wednesday 30 23 16 9 2 12:00pm Juvenile Club Retreat 1:00pm Yoga 1:00pm Yoga 1:00pm Yoga 7:00pm Stamping Up 1:00pm Yoga Leadership Team Probation District 1:00pm Yoga Thursday 31 24 17 10 έ 7:00pm Pack Meeting 9:00am WELCA "Saved to Serve", Axtell NE Friday Pastor on Vacation 25 11 18 Shower 9:00am WELCA "Saved to Serve", Axtell NE 12:00pm Bridal Saturday 26 12 19 S

AUGUST, 2023 CALENDAR - ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

1015 Lancaster lane Lincoln, ne 68505

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Phone: 402-483-1692 E-mail: secretary@standrewslutheran.net Office Hours: 8:00am-3:00pm Tuesday-Friday

