



ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

And

Early Childhood Campus

7750 State. Hwy. 144 N
www.standrew-westbend.org
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

West Bend, WI 53090
standrewchurchwb@gmail.com

(262) 335-4200
St.AndrewECC@gmail.com
Sunday School and Bible Class 10:15 a.m.

MARCH 2025

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

THE HAND OF THE LORD

Whether tightening a bolt, crocheting, or typing on a computer, there is so much that we do with our hands. The Greek physician Galen called them the instrument of instruments. Indeed, hands are instruments that can do a great deal of things. Hands can be used to heal or hurt, work or wreck, build or break, seize or surrender, and on and on.

It is no surprise that mentions of hands appear all over the Bible as God's Word speaks to us in ways that we can understand. All things are the work of the hand of the Lord (Psalm 102:25). The Lord's hand is referred to over two hundred times in the Old Testament. The Lord's hand is active in creation, power, control over happenings of the world, judgment, and salvation. The hand of the Lord is both Law and Gospel.

Perhaps surprisingly, specific references to the "hand of the Lord" are not all that frequent in the New Testament. However, it is precisely in the New Testament where the hand of the Lord takes on literal meaning. The One through whom all things were created took on real, literal hands in His incarnation (John 1:1-14). We have several examples throughout Scripture that speak of the way that Christ used His hands alongside His life-giving words to bring forgiveness, life, and salvation. Jesus used His hands to save drowning Peter, to feed the multitudes, to touch those who were unclean, to stop a funeral procession in its tracks, to lift up Jairus's daughter, and to bless the children. The hand of the Lord has come to us in Jesus.

On the other hand, the literal and figurative actions of mere human hands in the Bible are often the means of our own sin. After all, our own Lord was "delivered into the hands of men" (Luke 9:44). However, on a greater level, we know that it was the hand of the Lord at work all along, most especially in His crucifixion. Christ laid down His life of His own authority as He allowed Himself to be delivered into the hands of sinful men (John 10:18). His hands were pierced for the sins of the world. His hands rested on Holy Saturday. Yet, on the third day, He rose again. He now holds us in His hands, and no one can snatch us from His hand (John 10:28). Our Lord has hands, real hands. Jesus has accomplished all that we need. Amazingly, He takes our manipulative, distorted, self-serving hands and restores them into useful hands for His purposes, both to literally use them in service and to make our whole lives into His instruments of witness, service, and praise.

As always, dear brothers and sisters, please contact me if you or a loved one is in the hospital, celebrating a milestone, or would just like a visit. You can reach me at pastor@standrew-westbend.org.

Let's connect!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have **all** newsletter articles in by **Tuesday, March 25** to Ginger Carerros at standrewchurchwb@gmail.com.

BOARD OF ELDERS

March is here and Easter is just around the corner. Is your heart prepared to walk with Jesus to Holy Week? We will have extra Lenten services on Wednesday nights starting with Ash Wednesday on the 5th of March to help us focus on the saving grace of our Lord and Savior. It's my prayer that these services help us to prepare for our journey to the cross with Jesus.

We will again have soup suppers @ 6:00 before the Wednesday Lenten services. The Board of Elders will host the first soup supper on Ash Wednesday and other boards will host on the weeks after. Anyone can bring something to share during the suppers. Please join us for a time of fellowship before we worship together.

There are quite a few options to study the Bible at St. Andrew.

- Sunday morning after church (10:15am).
Currently studying the book of Hebrews.
- Tuesday morning (9:30am) Women's Group @ Sandy Berres' house.
- Week night (various nights depending on schedules) Women's Group. Meets at homes and church- Currently studying the book, Joy by Deb Burma.
- Saturday morning (8:30am) Men's Group led by Dan Berres meets at church- Currently looking for a new study.
- Monday evening (6:00pm) Men's Group led by Bob Buehler -Currently studying the books of the New Testament.

Talk to Pastor Vierkant or one of the elders and we will help get you plugged into God's word at St. Andrew.

Please contact Pastor, an Elder, or the church office if you are going in for surgery, having a hospital stay or have anything else you think we should know about. We are concerned for our members but if you do not tell us what is going on, we will not know to contact you to see if you would like a visit or would like to be included in our prayers.

This is your church home and we are your church family so we are very interested in what your concerns are. Please contact one of the Elders and let us know if you have any concerns, questions, need help or just want to talk. We are here to help you in any way we can. Below is the list of Elders and which area of responsibilities they are heading. You can talk to any Elder about any concerns or questions and we will bring it up to the full board and most importantly, please keep us in your prayers.

In God's service,
Randy Sheffield—Chairman, Sick/Shut-Ins & Care Ministry
Thai Hua—Secretary, Ushers
Mark Oehme— In-Actives
Jeff Grande – Youth/Confirmation
Rory Hetzel—Lay Readers
George Muth—Fund Raisers/Personnel

BOARD OF MINISTRIES

March 2025

The Bible verse "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it" appears in Psalm 118:24. We, here at St Andrew are so very blessed with what God has blessed us with and should be thankful each and every day for all that we have and the opportunities we have to share Christ with others!

Monthly Mission Collection

With Easter right around the corner, we will be collecting items to help make peoples meals a little special that come to Kewaskum Food Pantry. Items like small Hams, eggs, potatoes, etc. Please put items that need to be refrigerated in the refrigerator in the kitchen and mark it for the food pantry.

Prayer Sunday

The 1st Sunday of every month. We are truly blessed to be able to talk to God through our prayers. Feel free to put as many prayers in the box as you would like!

St. A's Weeders and Seeders (foraging and gardening group)

Meet the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:30 here at church. This month they are having a Seed swap, so bring your extra seeds and plan on what seeds you would like to find. Sure, do learn a lot there!!!!

Plant Sale

The plant sale will be held May 11th, right after church. There will be plants from Lamm's plus some that the Weeders and Seeders will be donating.

Game Night

The Game Nights have been a big hit!! Plans are in the making to have something planned on the Final Friday of each month. February 28th – Game night; March 28th – Fish Fry; and more Puzzle Races in the future with plans to invite the public and friends to attend.

Brat Fry

Dates for the Brat Fry has been set for June 7th and 8th, so mark your calendars. More information to come,

VBS

Katie, again, is very busy planning this year's VBS. Watch for more information in the next couple of weeks.

A few more events are being planned, so make sure to check back with us to see how we are trying to share Christ in a number of different ways, through fun, fellowship, worship, devotions and prayer!

We have been blessed to have 3 new members join the Board of Ministries: Laurie Pree, Taylor Sandidge, and Jessica Janz. Looking forward to having new ideas and ways we can share Christ with others.

Blessing from the Board of Ministries
Sarah Peterson, Sue Hetzel, Laurie Pree
Taylor Sandidge, Jessica Janz, Sandy Berres

SISTER'S IN CHRIST

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10

As we begin the season of Lent, may the coming weeks help us focus on God's grace and all that Jesus suffered for us, so that we may have eternal life.

What is ahead...

Tuesday morning Bible study continues. We have a wonderful group of 13 women and Sisters in Christ. We will meet March 4th to finish up our "Hugs" study. We will not meet on March 11th but will begin a new study (to be determined) March 25th. Time: 9:30am Place: Sandy Berres' home. Please join us!

Fill Easter Eggs-Thursday, April 3rd beginning at 9:00am we will be filling the Easter eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt. Join us at church!

Easter Egg Hunt-Saturday, April 5th at 10:00 sharp. Meet in the back parking lot, bring a basket/bag, and enjoy finding lots of Easter Eggs! Then join us in the gym for crafts and cookie decorating. All are welcome so invite your family, friends, and neighbors! Please sign up the number of children coming on the sign-up sheets located on the ECC bulletin board or the church bulletin board.

Candy, small toy items, and stickers are needed! Please consider donating to our Easter Egg Hunt. A marked basket is in the narthex. Thank you for your donations!

*Sisters will be working on a special Good Friday gift that will be handed out to everyone attending the Good Friday evening service.

*New items are now on our Mission Store shelves! Go shopping! Donations are appreciated and go to help fund our mission projects and activities.

*We are always looking for opportunities to serve our community and church family. If you have a suggestion, please, speak to us about it.

May you follow the footprints of Jesus this
Lenten season.

Abundant Blessings Dear Sisters in Christ,

Sandy R., Judi B., and Kathy M.

CARE MINISTRY

God's blessings to all of you! I wanted to remind you of our "Care Ministry" opportunity here at St. Andrew. This ministry can be used by any of you that may be going through a difficult time. It may be for only a short time like coming home from the hospital and would like someone to come and share a prayer or two and a brief devotional with you. Or something more long lasting like finding out you are not able to drive any more or health related trials perhaps dealing with the struggles with aging. Divorce or marriage difficulties.

There are many reasons to take advantage of this ministry. It may be a feeling of loneliness and just need to talk and need a listening ear to listen. You may be struggling with your faith, let us know! You may have received serious diagnoses from the doctors! Family difficulties! Life change decisions! Depression! Perhaps just asking "why am I always sad!" Do you have a family member in a nursing home? We will walk through the muck and brokenness of this world with you.

This ministry is for all of us from time to time, and no need to feel embarrassed or reluctant to ask. Please reach out to Pastor or myself, please reference the Church Directory for the phone number. Don't hesitate to let us know. We are trained to be care ministries; all is kept private and is our privilege and blessing to serve God and His people in this way. You are a blessing to us and we don't want you to ever think you are alone because you are "never alone" "Please, please, please," let us be a friend and have a meaningful relationship with you!

Dan Berres

EARLY CHILDHOOD CAMPUS

Dear St. Andrew Congregation,

All of our students are learning and growing so much. They are developing such amazing friendships. They are also showing God's love in all that they do. In 3K the other day, one of our little girls was helping another little girl to write her name. This little helper knew all the letters in the other girl's name...which is quite the feat for a 3 year old. Lately, in 4K anytime a friend is sad, numerous children come over to check on him or her, to see if they can help that friend feel better. If they can't make that friend feel better, they come to get a teacher. It is so amazing to see how these children are growing, learning, and sharing God's LOVE!!!

Blessings,
Lindsey

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Patricia Jantz
- 5 Craig Ellis
- 5 Sheriane Sauter
- 5 Joshua Vierkant
- 9 Deborah Osgood
- 11 Mary Bandler
- 12 Susan Johnson
- 12 Willow Krueger-Jantz
- 15 Amy Brehmer
- 15 Caleb Sommer
- 16 James Keaton
- 17 Lori Turenske
- 18 Aaron Heinz
- 21 Emma Sommerfeld
- 27 Kendrick Miller
- 29 Karen Callen
- 29 Sharon Ellis
- 29 Clifford Hetzel
- 31 Fred Legate



MARCH BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Daniel Woods
- 3 Bradley Sommer

- 5 Mark Kraft
- 6 Lois Dummann
- 9 Darren Keaton
- 10 Daisy Knox
- 10 Melissa Knox
- 11 Brittany Neumann
- 12 Debbie Yenter
- 15 Henry Grande
- 16 Myron Kraft
- 17 Brittany Osgood
- 17 Kiara Osgood
- 19 Sandy Berres
- 19 Harper Ratzel
- 19 Stephanie Reynolds
- 20 Beverly Struebing
- 22 Kayla Kasuboski
- 22 Christopher Struebing
- 23 Darrell Harrison
- 26 Sheriane Sauter
- 26 Joshua Vierkant



MARCH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARIES

- 12 Pamela & Gary Beaupre'
- 20 Kenneth & Dorene Betz



LENT

