

Network



Weekly Newsletter
February 12, 2026

A Devotion by Pr. Jack

James 3:1-12 - Taming the Tongue

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will face stricter judgment. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is mature, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of life, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse people, made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth comes a blessing and a curse. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

If you can't say anything nice, then don't say anything at all. I heard that more than once as a smart aleck kid, who thought he was being funny by quoting some vaguely mean thing from a movie or book, only to find out that saying vaguely mean things to people in real life is not actually funny, but just vaguely mean. It is a well-known piece of wisdom that unnecessary words can often lead us into trouble – as one saying goes, “speech is silver, but silence is golden.” Or, the quote usually attributed to Mark Twain, “Better to remain silent and be thought a fool, than to speak and remove all doubt.” As tired as these aphorisms are, they remain true – endless talking means one is not listening, and failing to listen means failing to learn, and failing to learn means that all those words we say don't amount to much. As this same idea is put in James 1:19, “You must understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger.”

But this moral, found in and outside of the Bible, is given greater depth in this third chapter of James, where we find the above section that is written like a little homily unto itself. Here, James not only expresses that we should talk less and listen more, but that the words we do speak must be carefully considered and controlled, because “How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!” (v. 5) Lives are made and unmade by words – if we speak in a death-dealing way to one another, hatefully or falsely or with judgement, we are capable of destroying each other. Even worse, if we use our powers of speech to both preach about a God of love and then to preach hatred for any one of our human siblings, then we undercut and subvert the message of God, and drive people away from their possible life in Christ. What James is telling us, very simply, is that we must be consistent in the words that we use. If we do believe in a God who forgives and loves all people, then that same forgiveness and love must also come from us, particularly in the words we use with one another. Thanks be to God, for giving us good and loving words to speak, not just at church, but at all times and places.



In the Hope and Promise of the Resurrection

It is with much sadness and deepest sympathy that we share Karen Gleisner passed away on Monday, February 9. A memorial service will be held at Saint Andrew on **Friday, February 20 at**

12:00 pm. Visitation will be at 11:00 am until the time of service. Her obituary can be found [here](#).

Noisy Offering

Thursday and Sunday, February 12 & 15



A Noisy Offering will be received in worship in support of **Sleep In Heavenly Peace (SHP)** - where they believe "all children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads." For more information, please visit their website, <https://shpbeds.org>. SHP established a Wausau chapter in October 2025 with SALC member, Karen Wegge as the Chapter President.

Last month we received \$338.89 in support of **Lutheran Disaster Response**. Thank you for your generosity!

Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, February 15; 9:15 am - Fellowship Hall

Come to the Fellowship Hall between the services as Social Advocacy Ministry (SAM) expresses their appreciation to the congregation for their support of all their ministries that reach from local organizations to worldwide events throughout the year. This includes anyone who volunteers regularly at one of the shelters, has donated clothing, a can of green beans at Thanksgiving, or simply has joined them in prayer for those that are in need. There will be cake and everyone will receive a special memento token! Indeed, it takes each and everyone of you to make possible what SAM achieves through ministry!

In addition, a sincere appreciation goes out to the 53 volunteers who staff 14 positions and provide meals for 90 guests at two different Wausau area shelters every Friday. Saint Andrew goes beyond our Friday commitment, with several volunteers helping out on days when the shelters are understaffed as well as volunteers who notice items that are lacking, and they personally fill the needs. Saint Andrew has provided the bulk of the people and vehicles that were necessary to move into and set up the Wausau Marathon County Shelter.



Broken and Beloved Stories of God's Steadfast Love

Midweek Lenten Service Theme

Wednesdays, February 18-March 25; 12:15 and 6:15 pm

"The Lord is near to the broken-hearted, and saves the crushed in spirit."

Psalms 34:18

Throughout our lives, we often face the reality that two opposite things can be true at the same time. Martin Luther said that we are simultaneously saint and sinner. Two different things, opposites, are both true at the same time.

This Lent, you are invited to reflect upon on the theme “Broken and Beloved – Stories of God’s Steadfast Love.” You will consider biblical characters who embody various experiences of brokenness and beloved-ness. You will wonder about how these characters speak to your own experiences. You will be invited to consider how brokenness and beloved-ness are a part of your own life experiences, and you will be reminded that amid all the different things that can be true at the same time, one thing is a constant – the steadfast love of God.

February 18: Ash Wednesday

February 25: Naomi – Broken by Grief

March 4: Elijah – Broken by Fear

March 11: The Syrophenician Woman – Broken by Desperation

March 18: Mary Magdalene – Broken by Demons

March 25: Peter – Broken by Failure

SALC Bookkeeper Needed

It is with deep gratitude that we share Deb Yellow Thunder will be stepping down from the role of bookkeeper. Her knowledge and experience has been greatly appreciated and she will be missed.

Saint Andrew is now hiring a part-time bookkeeper. This is a paid staff position. The role of the Bookkeeper involves working closely with the lead pastor, staff, and lay leadership to ensure the accurate and efficient management of the church's financial records. The Bookkeeper is responsible for maintaining up-to-date financial data, processing transactions, and assisting in budget preparation, all while ensuring compliance with financial policies and procedures. This role plays a key part in supporting the church’s mission by providing transparent and reliable financial information for decision-making and stewardship efforts. General ledger and nonprofit accounting knowledge/experience is desired. If interested, please submit a resume to office@salc-wausau.org.

Lenten Soup Supper Volunteers Needed

Sundays and Wednesdays, February 22-March 25

It is time once again to share in fellowship and soup supper. Soup will be served Wednesdays, February 25 through March 25; 11:00 am - 6:00 pm. To volunteer, use the QR code here or sign up in the Narthex.



Sunday Veggie Prep - Sundays; 9:20 am - Activity Room

- Volunteers of all ages are invited to help prep vegetables.

- No experience necessary or sign-up required—just come!

Wednesday Helpers

- **Kitchen helpers** - morning and lunchtime: Assist with food preparation and serving. Contact Sandra at 715-680-1566.
- **Dinner helpers** - support the kitchen and Fellowship Hall teams by serving soup, replenishing supplies, and helping with cleanup.
- **Donate a dessert** - drop off dessert at church.

Lenten Soup Supper Menu

Wednesdays, February 25-March 25; 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Time to share in fellowship and soup supper. Below are the weekly soup selections to include a gluten-free vegetarian soup as well as bread and desserts. *Free will donations will be received. All are welcome!*

- **February 25:** Chicken Dumpling, Chili, Cream of Potato with Ham, and Squash
- **March 4:** Cheeseburger, Navy Bean with Ham, Robust Mushroom, and Lentil
- **March 11:** Chicken with Wild Rice, Taco, Chicken Dumpling, and Winter
- **March 18:** Tomato Basil, Cheesy Medley, Hamburger and Veggies and Split Pea
- **March 25:** French Onion, Chicken Dumpling, Cabbage & Polish Sausage, and Tomato Bean

Lenten Learning – Lutheran 101

Sundays, February 22-March 29; 9:10 am

Wednesdays, February 25-April 1; 5:15 pm

Throughout the season of Lent, Pastor Jack will lead “Lutheran 101,” on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. These are two opportunities each week for the same class.

This class is intended to be a ‘back to basics’ of Lutheranism for everyone, whether you have been a life-long Lutheran, or if you are brand new to Lutheranism or Christianity altogether. Lutheranism is not a religion unto itself, but rather a tradition within the larger picture of Christianity, emerging from the Protestant Reformation with a theology centered around “salvation by grace, through faith alone.” Over the course of six weeks, we will be covering the essentials of Lutheran theology, by way of the Augsburg Confession, the first cohesive and distinctively Lutheran summary of faith that was adopted by Protestant clergy and political leaders in 1530. Although not comprehensive as a statement of belief, the Augsburg Confession is the essential starting point for all who have found meaning in a Lutheran identity as part of their identity as a child of God in Christ.

At the end of these six weeks of classes, all adults who participate who have not been baptized or would like to receive an affirmation of their baptism, are invited to participate in a baptismal Easter Vigil service on Holy Saturday. If you are interested in being baptized or having your baptism affirmed, and are not able to participate in this class, please contact the church office.

Week 1: History of Lutheran Confessions – From 1517 to 2026

Week 2: Justification by Faith - Augsburg Confession, Articles 1-4

Week 3: Church in Society - Augsburg Confession, Articles 5-8, 14-17

Week 4: Sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion - Augsburg Confession, Articles 9-13

Week 5: Free Will and Good Works - Augsburg Confession, Articles 18-20

Week 6: Correcting Church Abuses - Augsburg Confession, Articles 21-28

April 4: Easter Vigil Service



Easter Altar Flowers

Daffodils, Hyacinths and Tulips can be ordered for \$13 each and Easter Lilies for \$14 each to adorn the altar for Easter worship services. Order forms are available on the table in the Narthex or can be ordered online [here](#). **Order deadline is Sunday, March 1.**



American Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, March 6; 12:00-5:00 pm at Saint Andrew

Come to give blood with the Red Cross in March and get a \$15 Amazon Gift Card by email. Plus, successful March donations get A1C testing (diabetes screen, 1 result/calendar year). Help save lives and empower your health this Red Cross Month!.

[Click here to make an appointment](#) or call **1 800 RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)**.

One Winter Clothing Drive

Social Advocacy is sponsoring a winter clothing drive in support of Wausau area agencies and the Wausau and DC Everest School Districts. Please only bring the items listed - *thank you*.

The following items will be collected throughout this drive: sweatshirts, hoodies, winter coats and jackets for both children and adults, long underwear

(new only), snow pants, hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, socks, boots, and hand and foot warmers. These items can be donated ANY week; you need not wait for them to be the featured item of the week. All sizes of adult (especially XL/plus) and children's clothing will be accepted. ***Thank you for all that has been received!***

February 15: CLEARANCE!!! Any winter clothes you can find on clearance.

February 22: Wausau Schools

March 1: Hats, Gloves and Heavy Socks



“One in Spirit” Yoga

Transforming the mind, body, and spirit

*“Wisdom is knowing we are all One.
Love is what it feels like and Compassion is what it acts like.”
~ Ethan Walker III, Author*



*Join us during our theme of
“Honoring the Gift of Shared Humanity”
February 2026*

Mat-based Practices: Tuesdays at 8:30 am & 4:30 pm

Chair-based Practices: Wednesdays at 8:30 am

Non-profit donations will benefit NAMI Northwoods in support of their work of free mental health support, education, and advocacy available across Marathon, Lincoln, and Langlade Counties.

Practices are drop in, free-will donation. Meet in the Chapel at Saint Andrew. Props and mats available to support your practice.

All are welcome!

Saint Andrew Prayer List

Do you know of someone who is in need of prayer? *(Please ask first)*. Call the church office at 842-3333 to have names added to the list at the Prayer Center. You can also visit the Prayer Center in the back of the Sanctuary, light a candle and write your prayer request in the prayer book. The list will be updated on a regular basis. The first names of those needing prayer will be recognized in worship weekly. As you review the day to day list of events that take place at Saint Andrew, please also give consideration to those who have requested prayers.

For these we pray...

Thank you, Lord, for always answering prayer, but not indulging my every petty, private request. Thank you for winnowing and refining, vetoing and delaying, refusing and revising. Thank you for being God and never less, for freeing me for wide horizons, for protecting me from my limited vision and wayward will. Thank you for foiling my every effort to unseat you and make myself king. Thank you for keeping it safe for me to pray.

—Gerhard E. Frost

Amy	Jean	Renee
Annie	Jen	Riley
Ashley	Jenny	Robert
Bonnie	Jermaine	Robin
Brent	Jesse	Rosemary
Bruce	Jill	Sandy
Carol	Jim	Shirley
Cindy	Joan	Steve
Dan	Josh & Family	Steve & Janice
Darcy	Judy	Therese
Darnell	Katie	Thomas
Darold	Kathy	Tim
Dave	Kay	Tom
De Ann	Kaye	Virjean
Dennis	Kim	Zak & Kathy
Diane	Linda	Frank
Don	Melinda	Sherry
Doris	Monica	Danielle
Doug	Nikki	Greg
Ed	Paulette	Savannah & Kye
Gary	Pyxie	
Heidi		



Sundays, 9:15 am - Garden Room (Sign up [here](#))
Please note this study will be joining the John Bible Study in the Parish Room - January 18 & 25 and February 1 & 15

Men's Bible Study

1st Wednesday of the month, 7:00 am - Fellowship Hall for

breakfast and bible study (Sign up [here](#))

2nd-5th Wednesdays, 7:15 am - [Zoom](#)

Wonder? Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays, 9:30 am - Parish Room (Sign up [here](#))

Men's Discussion Group

Thursdays, 7:00 am - Garden Room



Connect With the Wider Church

Saint Andrew is a part of the East Central Synod of Wisconsin or ECSW. The ECSW is one of 12 synods that make up Region 5 of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) in the United States. Visit the [ECSW website](#) and read their weekly newsletter, The Wave. To stay up to date on synod news and for resources, visit the [ECSW website](#) and to stay connected to the ELCA churchwide, visit the [ELCA website](#).

Network Newsletter

Printed copies of the weekly Network newsletter are available on the table in the Narthex. If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, please call the church office at 715-842-3333 or email joy@salc-wausau.org to let us know.

Saint Andrew Sunday Worship Livestream

8:00 am Traditional

[Click here for YouTube-Traditional](#)

[Click here for Facebook-Traditional](#)

10:00 am Modern

[Click here for YouTube-Modern](#)

[Click here for Facebook-Modern](#)

Weekly Worship

Sunday

8:00 am - Traditional Worship

10:00 am - Modern Worship

(The Sanctuary is

T-Coil Hearing Loop Enabled)

Thursday

12:15 pm - Chapel



Recorded Worship on Spectrum

Sunday worship is livestreamed on the SALC Facebook page and on Youtube each week. The recorded service can then be found on Spectrum channel 980 on the following days and times:

Tuesday - 2:00 pm

Thursday - 10:30 am

Friday - 6:00 pm

Sunday - 7:00 am

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

8:30 am-4:30 pm

Network and Bulletin Weekly Deadline

Send submissions electronically for the Network and/or bulletin to

joy@salc-wausau.org by

Monday at 3:00 pm

SALC Calendar

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Worship

Education

Calendar

Contact Us

Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

(715) 842-3333

office@salc-wausau.org

www.salc-wausau.org

