
Network



Weekly Newsletter September 24, 2026

A Devotion by Pr. Jack

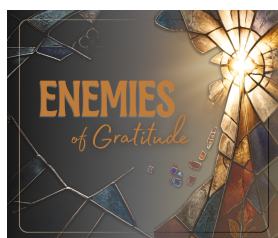
Matthew 21:28-32

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

The above teaching from Matthew's gospel was spurred by controversy. The Pharisees and other spiritual leaders of Jesus' day were concerned that Jesus was giving people the wrong impression, that he was somehow endorsing the actions of these obviously sinful people by eating with them. Of course, Jesus did not endorse the predatory behavior of some tax collectors or their support of the Roman power, and neither did he approve of prostitution (at least, not as far as I can tell). But to his critics, any

association with such people meant one at least tacitly supported their past actions and was thus complicit in their sin. In other words, once a sinner, always a sinner.

By contrast, Jesus calls us to pay attention, not to our past mistakes, or even our best intentions, but instead to what we are doing in the present moment. Jesus fully understood that he and his disciples would be criticized for associating with known sinners like tax collectors and prostitutes, and yet he continued to meet with them as his friends, offering them the same wisdom and love that he would give to everyone else. To Jesus, sin was not contagious – we do not become sinners by who we meet, but instead by what we do, and the choices we make every single day. Whatever is in our past, we know that our stories are not yet finished – in Christ we are called to courageously begin again each day, trusting in God’s grace, with open hearts ready to obey. In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ – Amen!



Next Service Series: The Enemies of Gratitude

Most followers of Christ likely try to practice an “attitude of gratitude.” However, there are many patterns and trappings that prevent us from living each day with gratitude. This series offers an opportunity to witness stumbling blocks God’s people ran into in the Old and New Testaments, call out the habits and thoughts that are enemies of gratitude, and train our hearts and actions towards grateful and faithful living.

- **September 24 & 27: Nostalgia**
 - **October 1 & 4: Worry**
 - **October 8 & 11: Entitlement**
 - **October 15 & 18: Greed**
 - **October 22 & 25 (Reformation/Confirmation): Disappointment**
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Roofing Repairs To Begin

Roofing repairs will begin by the end of this week. The work is being completed to maintain the building and help protect it from weather-related damage. During the project, you may hear construction noise and see contractors, equipment, materials, and disposal containers around the property. Work will generally take place during daytime hours, Monday through Saturday and may be adjusted because of weather or other conditions.

For your safety:

- Stay clear of marked work areas, equipment, and roofing materials.
- Follow any temporary parking, entry, or walkway restrictions posted on the property. Some entrances will be closed at various times, potentially with short

notice.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation while these necessary repairs are completed. Additional updates will be provided if the schedule or access arrangements change. If you have any questions, contact: Patrick, Facility Coordinator, at 715-842-3333 or patrick@salc-wausau.org.

High School Gatherings

Begin Wednesday, September 30; 5:30 – 7:30 pm

As Sunday School and Confirmation begin again, new gatherings for high school age students will be held at Saint Andrew one Wednesday a month. Month to month, we will be organizing different activities to do together, from games in the Youth Room to seasonal outings, as well as opportunities to express our faith and serve our neighbors. We especially want to encourage all those who are interested in attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in June 2027 to participate in these gatherings so we can get to know each other before we go to the Gathering in Minneapolis.

Dinner will be provided at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall with confirmation students; high school youth group time will be 6:00–7:30 pm in the Youth Room.

Upcoming Fall Dates: *September 30; October 28; November 18*



ELCA Youth Gathering Information Meeting

Sunday, October 4; 5:00 pm - Fellowship Hall

Every three years, thousands of high schoolers and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) come together for the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through inspiring speakers, experiential learning and transformative connections, young people experience the church in bold, unforgettable ways. Each night, participants share a unique faith experience through high-energy worship and powerful storytelling.

Interested youth and a parent are invited to join us to learn more about the 2027 Youth Gathering including theme, cost estimates, program overview, and how to sign up. Youth participants in the ELCA Youth Gathering must be in **8th to 12th grade** at time of registration (fall 2026).



OWLS Oktoberfest— Oom-Pah-Pah!

Wednesday, October 7; 10:30 am

Dust off your dancing shoes—or just bring your toe-tapping ones! Join the OWLS for an Oktoberfest celebration featuring lively recorded polka music, German and Wisconsin trivia, fun heritage games, plenty of laughs, and a delicious potluck lunch.

Bring your appetite, your sense of humor, and a friend. Lederhosen optional!

Come and enjoy the fellowship! Prost!



Cookie Decorating Class

Wednesday, October 14, 6:00-8:00 pm

Join us for a creative culinary class where you will learn professional cookie decorating using royal icing. Our evening will feature hands-on decorating practice. Learn essential cookie techniques including outlining, flooding, piping, and wet-on-wet designs. You will create a beautiful fall-themed set

of cookies to take home and receive a personal take-home starter tool kit along with signature dough and icing recipes. Class size is limited to 30 people, high school age and older.

Sign up in the Narthex by **Sunday, October 4** or text or call Sandi Rusch at 715-581-8876. Cost is \$10.

SALC Food Pantry Current Needs

Please help us stock the food pantry shelves for families in need. The following is a list of items the pantry currently needs to restock.

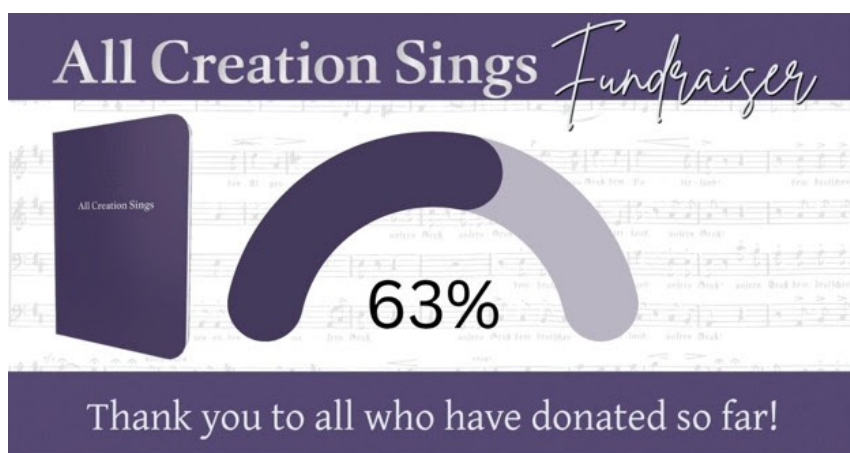
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Soup
- Cereal
- Pancake Mix
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Tuna
- Canned Chicken
- Macaroni & Cheese

Donated items can be placed at the entrances of the church in the marked Food Pantry baskets. Thank you for supporting the Saint Andrew food pantry!



Let's Support Our Neighbors!

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Wausau is now serving **over 150 families** per month through Maggie's Pop-Up Pantry. Food insecurity is a reality many families in our community are facing. Good Shepherd provides free food for anyone in need with no judgement. They open Maggie's Pop-Up one advertised day each month. Their goal is to not turn anyone away, but they are struggling to keep up with the demand. Saint Andrew is here to support God's work in our community! We are inviting you to participate in donating non-perishable food and monetary gifts throughout the month of October to support Maggie's Pop-Up Pantry and families in our community. Watch for more information.



All Creation Sings Hymnal Update

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far to the All Creation Sings hymnal fundraiser! We have made significant progress, with 220 hymnals of the 350-hymnal goal being dedicated or purchased anonymously.



There is still time to donate. Dedicate a new supplemental hymnal, All Creation Sings (ACS) for \$20. Pay via cash, check, or online using the QR code (please designate ACS Hymnals in the online donation description). A drop box and paper dedication forms are available near the Giving Corner. Help us reach the goal of 350 hymnals!

Saint Andrew Spending Plan Monthly Update

Looking back at August:

	Current Month	Year-to-Date	Annual Plan
Our Weekly Offerings	\$49,142	\$471,300	\$660,000
Costs to do Our Ministry	\$57,060	\$443,461	\$691,000
Extra or (Shortage)	(\$7,918)	\$27,839	(\$31,000)

Average weekly attendance: 233 In Person; 62 Online

For more information, please see the Finance and Stewardship bulletin board just outside the office.



Christ in Our Home Devotionals

The 2026 fourth quarter of “Christ In Our Home” devotionals are available in the Narthex. All are welcome to pick up a copy for your family.

Endowment Fund Questions and Answers

In the upcoming weeks, a variety of questions about the Saint Andrew Endowment fund will be answered. We hope that you become more aware of how you can use the Saint Andrew Endowment Fund to “*plant a seed and create a legacy.*” For more information about the fund, please contact the church office and they will direct you to a member of the Saint Andrew Endowment Fund Committee.

#13 – How are my gifts acknowledged?

Gifts to the Saint Andrew Endowment Fund are acknowledged in a couple of ways. A letter will be sent to the donor acknowledging their gift. This is a letter that can be used for tax purposes. Also, if you permit us, we will commemorate for what purpose the gift was given (e.g. “In memory of...”) on our “Created A Legacy” plaque which will be hung at Saint Andrew.

#14 - How can I “Plant a seed and create a legacy”?

There are many ways in which you, your family, friends or employer can give to the Saint Andrew Endowment Fund:

- **Cash Gifts:** Memorializing or honoring a family member or friend on a special occasion
- **Gifts By Will:** Bequests recognize the opportunity to make a lasting contribution to support the programs of the Fund.

- **IRAs, Profits Sharing & 401(K)s:** Because these assets can be subject to both income & estate tax at death, designating the church as a beneficiary can help reduce taxes to be paid.
 - **Insurance:** You may wish to designate the Fund as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy.
 - **Charitable Trusts:** Trusts are a very useful tool for estate planning, and they can be tailored to serve your special needs and support your legacy.
 - **Charitable Gift Annuity:** If you are over 65 and want to leave a gift to support the endowment, but need to create a current income source, a charitable gift annuity may be the answer.
 - **Donor Advised Funds (DAFs):** May be used to make a charitable contribution to the fund, receive an immediate tax deduction, and then recommend grants to your favorite charities, including the endowment fund, over time, allowing flexibility in giving.
 - **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD):** You can use your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to support the endowment through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This can help you reduce your taxable income and while creating a legacy.
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“One in Spirit” Yoga

Transforming the mind, body, and spirit

Yoga for Beginnings

Fall is a fabulous time to consider beginnings! From the change of weather to changes in routines to changes in mindset, **fall is the perfect time to begin!**

Whether you have never practiced yoga or have practiced thousands of times, a beginner’s mind is always the start. You are invited to join us as we begin a series of “Yoga for Beginnings” with the conclusion on the week of November 10 & 11, featuring a relaxing restorative yoga practice!

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

Chair-based Practices: Wednesdays at 8:30 am

Donations during this series will support food insecurities in the Wausau community through Maggie's Pop-Up Pantry at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, whose demands have increased significantly in recent months.

Donations from May-August of \$875 are supporting the important work of The Hagar House of Wausau. A donation of \$115 was also given to Saint Andrew towards lights, heat, etc.

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.

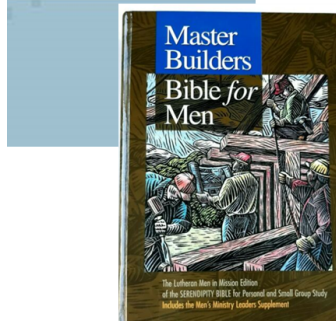
—Gerhard E. Frost

Allan	Gloria	Pyxie
Allen	Heath & Missy	Renee
Amy	Heidi	Riley
Annie	Janine	Robert
Bev	Jean	Robert
Bonnie	Jean	Rosemary
Brent	Jen	Sandy
Carol	Jermaine	Sharon & Sally
Cheryl	Jill	Shirley
Chuck	John	Steve
Dan	Josh & Family	Steve
Darold	Julie	Terry
Dave	Julie	Therese
Dave	Kathy	Thomas
Delores	Kay	Tim
Dennis	Kaye	Tim
Diane	Kenadie	Tom
Doris	Linda	Tom
Doug	Monica	Troy

Ed
Frank
Gary

Nikki
Paulette
Paulette G.

Virjean
Family of Tiffany Wilson



Adult Studies

Adult Bible Study

Sundays, 9:15 am - Garden Room (Sign up [here](#))
September-May

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



ELCA

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

9:00 am Blended Worship

[Click here for YouTube](#)

[Click here for Facebook](#)

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

About

Worship

Education

Calendar

Contact Us

Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

(715) 842-3333

office@salc-wausau.org

www.salc-wausau.org



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