



Vol. 7, Issue 1

# St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Home of WEE GROW  
Christian Preschool

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## February/March 2011



### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends and Members  
of St. Andrew,

I found a quote in a devotion that I thought fit with my first newsletter message of 2011. It reads as follows: "Be thankful for what you have. Be creative in using your gifts and talents. Be innovative in sharing your life with others. Think differently and positively and watch the world unfold before your eyes."

"When life gives a 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence, knowing that Jesus has paid the price for your sin. Prepare for the future trusting God to open the doors of opportunity."

"Keep the faith, drop the fear, and live with confidence." (Author unknown)

Whoever wrote it must have read these words of Paul, "For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past. And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die. For to me, living means

*living for Christ, and dying is even better. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ..*

*So I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live." (Philippians 1:2-24, NLT)*

A while ago, I received this story and thought it had a great message. I hope and pray that it might give you a new focus for your day.

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said, "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat.

A man was walking by and noticed the young boy and his sign. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words.

Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were going. The boy recognized

his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"

The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way." I wrote: "Today is a beautiful day but I cannot see it."

Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign told people that they were so blessed that they were not blind. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?

When you change your perspective and attitude, everything around you changes. The last two weeks, I have asked those who attend St. Andrew to wear bracelets that say: "It Starts with Me." I have been sharing with you how things around St. Andrew can be different.

May this story help you to understand what I mean. I pray that you begin to understand more each day what it means. The people who have been missing from weekly worship and the people who have never been in weekly worship need us.

They and all of us need to understand the blessings we have. Let's help them through telling our stories of how we are blessed. "It Starts with Me."

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Filter

### Change Clocks ahead

### March 13th



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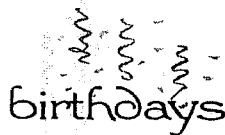
**Birthday Wishes go to...**

**February**

- 02/01 Kathy Peters
- 02/03 Kenadee Lefke (14)
- 02/04 Cassandra Cummins (6)
- 02/05 Jennifer Larimer (Holdren)
- 02/07 Brenda Simpson
- 02/08 Jack Sandborn
- 02/11 Zachary Cooke (14)
- 02/13 John Bauer
- 02/14 Abigail Frost (10)
- 02/15 Trenton Arbour (13)
- 02/16 Emily Filter (19)
- Jordyn Spitzley (13)
- Kevin Veale
- 02/17 Ann Dennis
- 02/21 Dillon Chapman (11)
- 02/22 Lauren Marcum
- John Gustafson
- 02/23 Mandy Tahvonen
- Nick Lefke
- 02/24 Kathy Kenyon
- 02/25 Jeff Massey

**March**

- 03/1 Emma Richards (14)
- 03/2 Ellie Rutkowski (10)
- Parker Sprague (11)
- Mike Haworth (15)
- 03/03 Jackie Hartner
- 03/09 Nicholas Wright
- 03/10 Alexis Martin (14)
- 03/11 Lynn Holdren
- 03/13 Thomas Felzke (11)
- 03/15 Calvin Simpson
- 03/16 Nathan Sprague
- 03/17 Marian Ruehs
- Terry Tahavonen
- 03/22 Ryan Bauer
- 03/24 Amber Perry
- Minxia Turnquist
- 03/25 Jared Scheurer(19)
- 03/26 Tim Ruehs
- Sophia Novara (8)
- 03/28 Sandy Peabody
- 03/29 Jeff Brooks
- 03/31 Jil Scheurer
- Kris Spitzley
- Penny Jugovich
- Cindy Jugovich



**Anniversary Wishes go to...**

**February**

- 02/01 Deane & Marsha Battley (47)
- 02/13 John & Susan Martin
- 02/14 Rob & Shelley Heindel

**March**

- 03/07 Pat & Sandy Peabody (19)
- 03/11 Dave & Cathy Hoort

**Our sincerest sympathies**

Our condolences go out to: the family of Jim Goodman; the family of Bruce Hall; the family of Nina Bosworth; Darlene Bekins and family in the death of brother Mike Reister, family of Marion Gensterblum, family of Sue Ramsey, and June Simon and family at the death of her mom.

**PRAYER SUPPORT FOR OUR TROOPS**

It is now more important than ever to keep our men and women who are serving our country in our prayers.

These men and women deserve our utmost respect and a place of honor in our daily prayers.

Dan Miller, Pfc. Lucas Terpstra, LTC. Judy Fryover, PFC Nicholas Hartwick, Dustin Rhodes, Brain Howard, Steve Divish, Scott Divish, Ross Fuller, Major Gary Beard II, Kim Bates, Benjamin Gyger, Thomas Debler, Christopher Simon, Mike Tiemann, Randy Bebee Jr., Michael Bebee, Gale Jugovich, Danny Lathers, Joe Webster, Corey Culy (Afganistan), Casey Culy, Daniel Richards , Eric Ritchie and Chris Roof (Afganistan).

We would like to keep this section current and include as much information as possible. **If you suggested someone's name for this list, please let us know if they are still serving or have been discharged.** If they are still serving we'd like to include where they are. If you can let us know so that we may include it in the next newsletter.

If you would like your loved one or friend listed here, please contact the church office.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

The following students received attendance rewards.

**5**-Sadie Veale, Jacob Veale, Sophie Novara, Kelly Ward, Robin Ward.

**10** -Cameron Roof, Charlotte Kleitch.

*Ladies Guild*

**Ladies Book Talk**

Our Current book is the "Waters Roar" by Lynn Austin. We will meet on Saturday, February 19th at 9:15 a.m. at Jerry's for fellowship (breakfast, then the bookstore at 10:15 a.m. for discussion.

**Secret Soul Sisters**

We will be finding out who our Soul Sister was for the year at our next meeting on February 27th, bring a little thank you gift for your person.

**ADULT INQUIRER'S CLASS**

Pastor will be offering an Adult Inquirer's class for those who attend St. Andrew who would like to know more about what the Lutheran Church teaches. Also invited will be all the unchurched families in the Preschool. The class can also lead to membership at St. Andrew. Talk to Pastor soon if you are interested so that we can figure out a day and time for this to happen. Members, think about inviting friends or family members and attending with them to make them more comfortable about the whole experience. There is no homework required!



## Ministry Update

At the last Council meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>, the Preschool Board requested permission to investigate the possibility of opening Daycare to go with our traditional Preschool. It would better meet the needs of families in our area and give us a chance to get more families into our building so that we might share the love of Jesus Christ with them. The council was unanimous in giving that permission.

Mark Haworth presented this to the congregation in church on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> and a sub committee is being formed for a feasibility study and or possible business plan. We need your help on this committee. Please sign up on the form in the narthex along with those already volunteering so the process can get underway quickly. Also keep it your prayers so we might follow God's will in this new opportunity.

## Prayer Requests

### Please remember the following in your daily prayers:

A young pregnant mom, Suzette Atwood, Cole Barlett, Marilyn Baldwin, Bob Baker, Baby Natalie, Deane Battley Jr., Amy Bekkering, Nancy Bebee, Nancy Bebee's mom, Trent Bengel, Alice Bengel, Linda Bindle, Susan Brown, Sue Calkins, Shannon Connell, Tom Church, Darlene Dahlem, Barb Darling, Eileen Dewberry, Marylou Duncan, Frank Eisenhauer, Ron Eisenhauer, Judy Fryover, Tom Fryover, Gina struggling with cancer, Paul & Shannon Hardway, John Hengesbach, Ray Hitchcock, Country of Haiti, Jackie's daughter after surgery, Rob Kleitch, Richard Jones, Robert Kipp, Elijah Kenyon, Steve Lantrip, Lexie Derosha, Adam Livingston, Pastor Dave Maier, Marcia Lewis' co-worker-Shelley, Connie Manshum, Kate Mason, Joanne Manzini's mother-Betty Hincer, Becky Miller, Bonnie Miller's father, Leonard Nelson, Mindy Nowak's sister-in-law Lorna, Mindy Nowak's Uncle and Grandmother, Marjorie Pate, Kamy Oliver, Tim Perry, Bev Platte, Paul & Kaci & pre-mature baby, John Pline, Cheryl Pugsley-Shaun Pugsley, Joe Pugsley, Alex Pung, Bobby Quintos father-co worker of Judy Fryover,

Debbie Reed, Ashely Reynolds, Sandy Reister, Jason Rheams, Paula Ritz, Judy Royston, Carl Ruhl, Baby Lillian Grace Russell, Becky Ruehs, Becky Ruehs' grandfather, Jordyn Sanderson, Penny Sandborn-co-worker's son, Penny Sandborn's nephew Max; Jim Simon, Brody Smith, Kris Spitzley's mom, Faye Stephens, Dot Stringer, Neva Swagart, Terry Tahvonen, Pastor Dave Thiele, Chris Thomas, Josh Thompson, Pastor Fred Traugott, Gary Van Vleck Jr., Kathy Walker, and Chip Wolfe.

As well as the many others we know in our hearts.

### Prayers for those battling Cancer:

Jerry Adams, Kelly Arens, Rev. Jack Bartholomew, Marsha Battley, Jeff Burns, Heather Chunko, Sally Cook, Bob Densmore, Lois Duff, Alvena Evans, Nick Falsetta, Angela Garza, Ted Haworth, Cindy Knoop, Mary Leik, Rev. David Maier, Joel Maier, Kathy Naseman, Dan Partell, Leo Rockey, Linda Russman, Sue Simmons, Henry Waggoner, Sue Ward, Mary Williams, Nan Wheaton's friend Sandy.Linda Wolverton-Altina, and Father of young children who has cancer, a single mom with cancer.

## PRAYER AND GROWTH MEETING

We are looking for a Prayer Leader so that we can continue the process outlined by Pastor Gatz, when he was here last fall. There was an insert in the bulletin that describes characteristics and responsibilities of such a leader. There are also copies on the table in the Narthex.

Begin praying today about whether God would guide you to be that person for St. Andrew. Ask any of the people that you see wearing a blue bracelet with "It Starts With Me", on it what that's all about as well.

The next meeting of this group will be Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Consider joining us even if you haven't come before!

## Family Friendly Partnering

We intend to offer the Parenting Challenge series again soon and are looking at offering a marriage series by Dr. Randy Carlson as well. The Parenting Challenge is a six week opportunity for parents of children of any age to find out ways to deal with the challenges of parenting. See Pastor if you are interested in either of these studies.

## Lenten Choir Practices

Choir practices will begin during the Lenten season so that we can prepare to sing during holy week and on Easter. The first practice will take place on **Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 p.m.** (after the Lenten service). They will continue each Wednesday after the service through Lent. See Nancy Filter if you have questions.





## Saint Andrew Lutheran Church Financial Position 12/31/2010

Financial Position	<u>12/31/2010</u>	<u>%</u>	Fund Balances:	
<b>Income:</b>			Checking	789.81
General Fund	76,706	66.3%	Discretionary	28,104.33
Special	6,931	6.0%	Mission Trips	2,784.16
Interest	2,056	1.8%	Land/Bldg	<u>14,581.51</u>
Annuity	<u>30,000</u>	<u>25.9%</u>	Total	46,259.81
Total In- come	115,693	100.0%	Scholarship	<u>10,810.25</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>			Grand Total	57,070.06
Wages & Benefits	93,168	69.9%		
Worship	3,652	2.7%		
Supplies, etc.	5,759	4.3%		
Utilities	6,432	4.8%		
Donations Communica- tions	12,045	9.0%		
Maintenance	4,010	3.0%		
Insurance	3,316	2.5%		
Advertising	419	0.3%		
Conferences	634	0.5%		
Stewardship	<u>180</u>	<u>0.1%</u>		
	133,264	100.0%		
Expenses over income	<u>(17,571)</u>			



In 2010 Saint Andrew's expenses exceeded income by \$17,571. Also, each year the annuity income is reduced by \$6,000. Budgeted expenses for 2011 have been cut and people will be asked to donate some supplies. Flowers will only be placed on the altar when someone signs up to donate them. Members are being asked to donate expense items rather than reimbursed. The music for services is now being donated. Outside donations will be 10% of the general fund contribution and will no longer include 10% of the annuity income.

Also, all interested members have been asked to participate in monthly meetings to discuss how to proceed. So far the discussions have centered on prayer and church growth. Growth has been discussed in regards to strengthening spiritually the present membership and in bringing in new members. In recent services the "It Starts with Me" bracelets have been distributed to members to serve as a reminder. A prayer leader is being sought.

Continue to pray for the financial well being of Saint Andrew and for God's guidance in growing the church.

Dave Frick  
Treasurer



## SAYG NEWS



### SAYG (St. Andrew Youth Group)

The next Youth activity will be Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup> after church. Per the Youth's request, there will be a Movie afternoon just for the Youth. Food will be provided and as the date gets closer Amanda will choose a movie and a food menu. Look to the bulletin announcements and e-mail for more info.

We received all the material for Lock-in at Concordia called Tool Time that Amanda would like the Youth Group at attend. The dates are a week later than she thought. The dates are Friday evening March 18<sup>th</sup> through Saturday evening March 19<sup>th</sup>. The cost for early registration before March 1<sup>st</sup> is \$45 and includes food, lodging and a T-shirt. We are looking at Youth Group Funds paying the first \$15 which would serve as a deposit. Talk to Pastor to see the materials. The letter will be in each of your mail boxes at church on Sunday.

Hopefully, there will be a second activity during the last weekend in March but that will be determined at the February meeting. Facebook Amanda or call her at 517 526-3445 on her cell if you have any questions..

#### **PUPPEN FUR CHRISTUS**

If you don't read German the words above are translated Puppets for Christ. They are a group of dedicated Christians from St. Lorenz Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth, MI. They will be here to, among other things, to lead worship on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. They will conduct the Sunday School and participate in a potluck after Church.

The Preschool will be singing that Sunday, so the Preschoolers and their brothers and sisters will be invited to Sunday School and their families to the Potluck after church. The picture in the newsletter is from their one thousandth performance so put this special group on your calendar and plan for a blessed time. Look for more information as it comes closer.



#### **ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

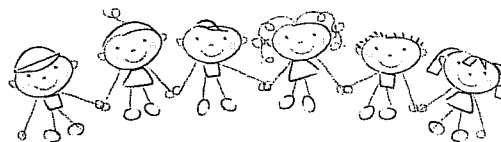
Our Wednesday night Bible Study continues to study the Biblical book of Hebrews, using the LIFE-LIGHT format. It will continue until Wednesday, March 2nd, which works out great because the next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and we will take a break for Lent so that you can all attend Lenten services. We will begin a new study in April but even if you haven't been attending the Hebrews study, pray about joining us for the last 5 weeks.

On Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, Pastor will begin a Video Bible Study entitled "How Did We Get the Bible," featuring Dr. Paul Maier, professor emeritus at Western Michigan University and well known Lutheran Biblical Scholar. Bible Study is important to your personal spiritual growth and this would be a fantastic time to start. The class begins at 9:10 a.m. after Pastor finishes the opening for Sunday School. If we are going to grow the church, it is essential that we have members growing spiritually and there is no better way to do that then through study of God's Word. Praying that many of you will be there.





## A Note from Wee-Grow Pre-School



The preschool has started their pasty fundraiser. The pasties will be made by Viki's Pasties in Saranac. We will be offering 4 different kinds of pasties, which will cost \$4.50 each. You can choose from veggie, beef with or without rutabaga and chicken. We will make a profit of \$1.00 on each pasty sold. There is an order form in your mail box or you can talk to any board member.

It is also time to start registration for the 2011-2012 school year. Any church member can start registering on February 1<sup>st</sup>, before the currently enrolled students. The current 3 year olds that will be going to the 4 year old class will start registering on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m. Our community Open House will be on March 3rd from 4:30-7 p.m. If you know of someone that might be interested in attending in the fall, please let us know and we can get you a registration form.

At the current time, we will be holding class for the 4 year olds on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. The 3 year old class will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Both classes start at 8:45 a.m. and end at 11:15 a.m. If there is enough demand, we would also like to open an afternoon 4 year olds class.

Both the classes just finished having pajama day. We had a great time reading bear books, going on a bear hunt, having a picnic and making bear projects. As one little said, "It was the best day of her whole life!" The children talked about Martin Luther King, Jr., penguins, directions, read some winter books and experimented with salt and ice.

We will be getting ready for our Valentine parties and learning about different shapes in February. The children will learn how much Jesus loves them and how we can show love to others. We will also be learning the ground hog's visit, dental hygiene and chocolate. The preschool will once again be performing on February 13<sup>th</sup> during the service. Hope to see you there!



### JESUS COMPANY

Jesus Company continues to meet the First Thursday of each month from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. under the direction of Becky Ruehs. Dinner is included at each gathering. As of December 2010, Becky expanded the age group to 2<sup>nd</sup> graders through 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The next meeting is Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and Becky is offering a prize to each member who brings a friend with them to the meeting. They will also meet on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> as well. Contact Becky if your family can volunteer to bring the food to one of these gatherings.

### MEN'S NETWORK

The Men's Network continues to meet on the Fourth Sunday of the month at 9 a.m. Pastor has been disappointed in the attendance. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:10 a.m. Pastor Filter invites all the men of the congregation to join him for breakfast that day. We will meet at 9:10 and head out for breakfast and a discussion of how we can improve this ministry and how we can get men to attend on a regular breakfast. Some ideas have been brought up at the Prayer/Growth meeting and this will give us a chance to discuss them. On March 27<sup>th</sup> then, we can meet together again to hopefully begin to implement some of these ideas.



**Ministry Schedules for February thru March**

**Acolyte**

- 02/06 Megan Kleitch
- 02/13 Evie Beavers
- 02/20 Hunter Sandborn
- 02/27 Matt Haworth
- 03/06 Karlie Sprague
- 03/09 Dree Novara
- 03/13 Brock McCrumb
- 03/16 Evie Beavers
- 03/20 Hannah Huhn
- 03/23 Trissa Sandborn
- 03/27 Karlie Sprague
- 03/30 Mark Brooks

**Fellowship Host**

- 02/06 Dave & Sue Ruehs
- 02/13 Jeff & Elena Brooks
- 02/20 Nathan & Diane Sprague
- 02/27 Jack & Mary Sandborn
- 03/06 Tracy Kleitch
- 03/13 Frank & Mary Eisenhauer
- 03/20 Pastor & Nancy Filter
- 03/27 Nita Massey

**Greeters**

- 02/06 Brooks Family
- 02/13 Huhn Family
- 02/20 Jack & Mary Sandborn
- 02/27 Haworth Family
- 03/06 Tom Fryover
- 03/09 Brooks Family
- 03/13 Filter Family
- 03/20 Tim & Becky Ruehs
- 03/27 Jack & Mary Sandborn

**Nursery**

- 02/06 Nancy Filter
- 02/13 Mary Brooks
- 02/20 Karlie Sprague
- 02/27 Emily Huhn
- 03/06 Nancy Filter
- 03/13 Mary Brooks
- 03/20 Karlie Sprague
- 03/27 Emily Huhn

**Worship Readers**

- 02/06 Mary Eisenhauer
- 02/13 Elena Brooks
- 02/20 Tim & Michelle Perry
- 02/27 Nancy Filter
- 03/06 Nita Massey
- 03/09 Jeannie Bauer
- 03/13 Mary Sandborn
- 03/16 Mary Eisenhauer
- 03/20 Tom Fryover
- 03/23 Nancy Filter
- 03/27 Elena Brooks
- 03/30 Nita Massey

**Family Movie Day**

In the past 3 months we have held two successful Movie afternoons for families from the church and the community.

Plans are being made for another one, most likely the second weekend in February. As soon as specific information is available, we will send out postcards and notify you through e-mail and the bulletin announcements.

Thanks to the Ladies' guild for sponsoring these special events and especially to Tracy Kleitch for all for hard work in getting them going. Talk to Tracy at church if you have any questions or if you might like to help out!

**Altar Guild**

**February/March Schedule**

**February**-Jeanne Bauer and Brandee Novara  
**March**- Karen Sprague and Becky Ruehs

**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

Easter is late this year, Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, so Lent will also start later than we often see it. Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and we will begin Lent with a penitential service at 7 p.m. The optional Imposition of Ashes will be offered as well Communion. Our fifth graders will also have their First Communion. Our theme throughout Lent and Holy Week, leading to Easter will be Jesus, Peter and Me. Plan now to attend as many of these services as possible to prepare for Good Friday and Easter. We will include the schedule and themes for all of Lent and Holy Week that you might be prepared for all of the services in this special season.

**Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday service with Ashes and communion. Our Theme will be: "It's All about Pride".

**Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** Lenten Service at 7 p.m. The theme will be: "It's All About Complacency".

**Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**, Lenten Service at 7 p.m. The theme will be: "It's All about Misunderstanding".

**Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**, Lenten Service at 7 p.m. The theme will be: "It's All about Distant Discipleship".

**Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**, Lenten Service at 7 p.m. The theme will be : "It's All about the Company You Keep".

**Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**, Lenten Service at 7 p.m. The theme will be: "It's All about Denial".

**Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**, Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. with communion. The theme will be: "It's All about Cleansing".

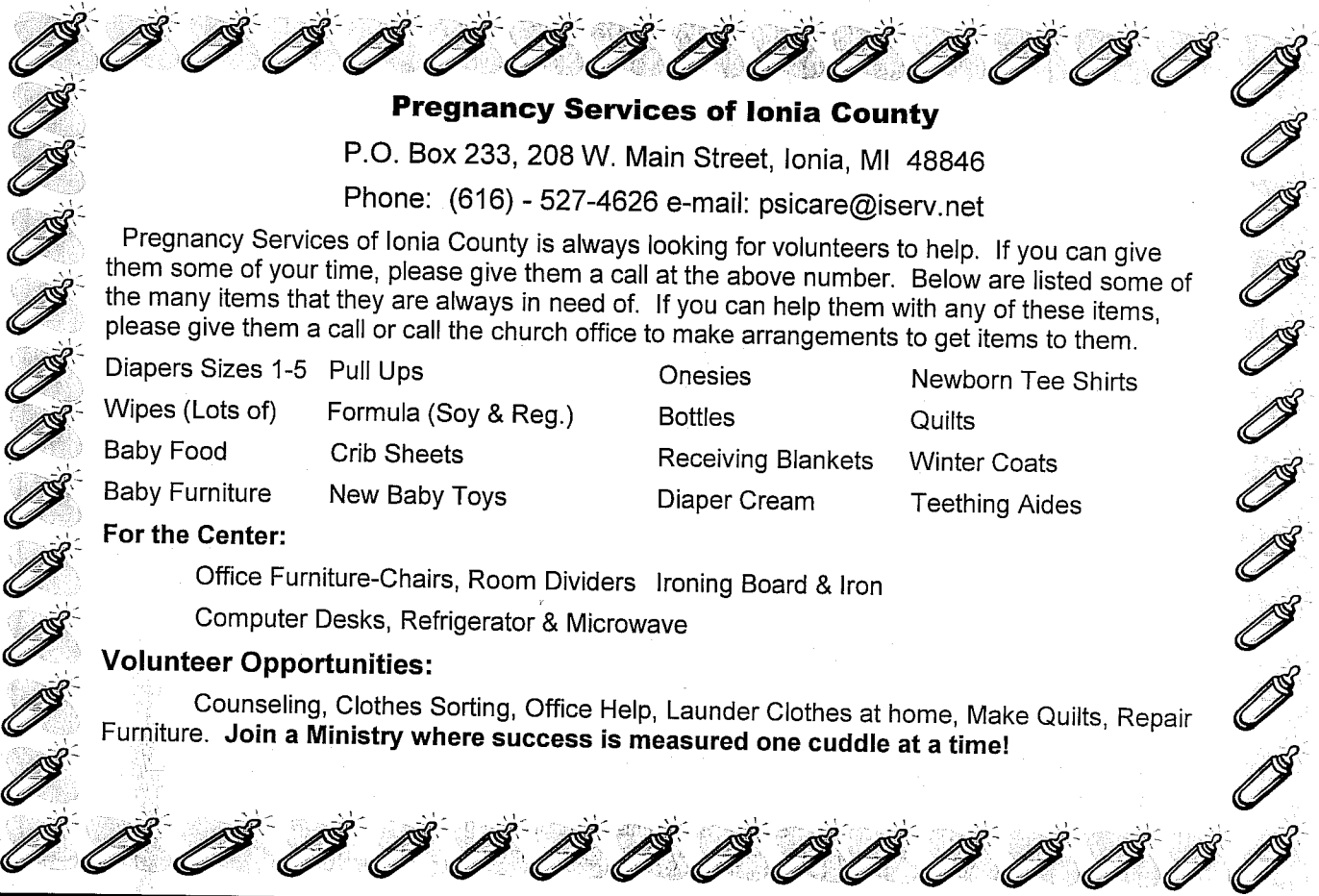
**Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**, Good Friday meditation time from noon to 2 p.m.

**Good Friday Tenebrae service** at 7 p.m. The theme will be: "It's All about death"

**Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>** Easter Services at 7 and 10 a.m. (Easter Breakfast in between.) The theme will be: "It's All about Life".



**Easter Egg Hunt**  
**April 16th**  
**See Elena Brooks**  
**If you would like to**  
**Volunteer!**



**Pregnancy Services of Ionia County**

P.O. Box 233, 208 W. Main Street, Ionia, MI 48846

Phone: (616) - 527-4626 e-mail: [psicare@iserv.net](mailto:psicare@iserv.net)

Pregnancy Services of Ionia County is always looking for volunteers to help. If you can give them some of your time, please give them a call at the above number. Below are listed some of the many items that they are always in need of. If you can help them with any of these items, please give them a call or call the church office to make arrangements to get items to them.

- |                   |                      |                    |                    |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Diapers Sizes 1-5 | Pull Ups             | Onesies            | Newborn Tee Shirts |
| Wipes (Lots of)   | Formula (Soy & Reg.) | Bottles            | Quilts             |
| Baby Food         | Crib Sheets          | Receiving Blankets | Winter Coats       |
| Baby Furniture    | New Baby Toys        | Diaper Cream       | Teething Aides     |

**For the Center:**

- Office Furniture-Chairs, Room Dividers Ironing Board & Iron
- Computer Desks, Refrigerator & Microwave

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

Counseling, Clothes Sorting, Office Help, Launder Clothes at home, Make Quilts, Repair Furniture. **Join a Ministry where success is measured one cuddle at a time!**

**ENRICH** of Ionia County currently has over 317 families on our waiting list for the following items listed. If you have any of these that are in good condition and working order, we can get them to the less fortunate:



**10 Dressers, 10 twin beds, 7 couches and chairs, 7 queen beds, 6 washers.**

As you can see some of our numbers have increased from the last update. The volunteers are trying to fill the requests as soon as possible. Beds (mattresses) are still one of the most requested items; we have many people who are sleeping on the floor. We continue to receive requests daily from families who need our assistance.

If you can deliver items to our building (343 W. Main St., Ionia) it would be appreciated, but if you can't we can pick up items. For either give us a call at **616-522-1126** for our open hours.

We are also in need of volunteers. **ENRICH is operated totally by volunteer staff.** We need truck drivers, truck helpers, store workers and office help., If you can help, please call the above number. **THANK YOU!**

There are brochures at the church or you may call the ENRICH office (616-522-1126) for more information.

Enrich's need for used furniture such as twin beds, couches and dining room tables and chairs continues to grow. Some families are forced to wait up to a year due to the demand. Please remember ENRICH as you begin your spring cleaning. There also has been some discussion about the need for a used but serviceable pick up truck to be donated to help with pick-ups and deliveries across the county since ENRICH's box truck is no longer in service. If you have or know of someone with such a vehicle, please talk to Pastor Filter





## Community News

### Church Extension Fund

There are plenty of ways you can save for the future. One of the best is with an IRA from Church Extension Fund. You get financial peace, knowing you're also investing in Missouri Synod Lutheran churches and schools across Michigan. To learn more about CEF and what we can mean for you, your family, and your church, visit us online at [www.mi-cef.org](http://www.mi-cef.org) or call 800-242-3944.

### "Planning for Eternity" Seminar

Have you planned for your funeral, and for your loved ones' future when you are gone? Maybe you've had thoughts about it, but never got around to actually discussing or planning for the inevitable. It's not too late!

Hope Lutheran Church in DeWitt and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans invite you to attend the seminar "Planning for Eternity". This seminar will be held on Saturday, February 19, 2011 at Hope Lutheran Church, 1180 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt MI from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Presentations will focus on how and why to make advance preparations for a Christian funeral, as well as ideas for Christian estate planning.

There is no cost to attend this event, and a continental breakfast will be served before the seminar with a luncheon at noon. Please call the church office at 517-669-3930 by Feb. 14th and make your reservation to attend this informative gathering. Church office hours are Mon. thru Thurs. from 9 am to 3 p.m.

## LEADERSHIP TEAM PROFILES

**Congregational Chair-** Nathan Sprague

**Congregational Treasurer-** Dave Frick

**Education Chair-** Elena Brooks/Ruth Helmreich

**Properties Chair-** Becky Ward

#### Board of Elders:

Tom Fryover     Mark Haworth     Dave Ruehs

**Altar Guild-** Tracy Kleitch

#### Preschool Board:

Mary Eisenhauer Ruth Helmreich

Teri Huhn                     Nancy Filter, treasurer

Pray for these people regularly and let them know how much you appreciate their service to the Lord as they represent you in this special way! In future newsletters we will highlight these individuals, who they are and just what it is they do as they serve.

### AMERICAN RED CROSS

#### COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

February 4 (10am-3:45 pm) Ionia Sparrow Hospital

February 15th (12-5:45 pm) Knights of Columbus-Portland

February 21st (12:30-6:30 pm) Saranac Community Church

February 23rd (11am-4:45pm) Ionia Knights of Coulmbus

### THRIVENT OPPORTUNITY

THRIVENT FOR LUTHERANS has changed the way they allocate their dollars to congregations and other non-profit organizations. Each congregation is allowed 4 Congregational Advocates who vote at different times of the year to allocate those dollars to these groups, including our church and preschool. Pastor and Nancy have volunteered to do this but we are still looking for 2 more Thrivent members who would be willing to volunteer to do this. It's all done on the computer and should not take much time but it is important as it may get us more dollars. Pastor will be contacting individuals with Thrivent insurance but if you would like to volunteer, contact Pastor Filter as soon as possible.

### *Our Home Bound*

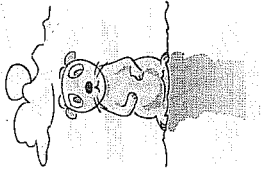
Pray for those who are homebound:

**Dorothy Vollen**  
10893 Deerwood Dr.  
Lowell, MI 49331

**Oleta Koeppen**  
329 East Isham  
Street  
P.O. Box 223  
Lyons, MI 48851


#### **Marilyn Baldwin**

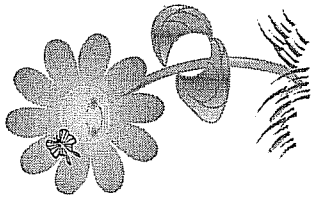
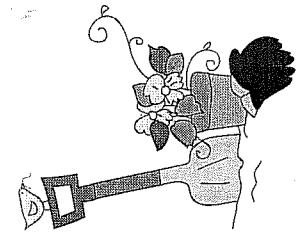
Heartland Health Care Center  
814 E. Lincoln Ave. Room #32  
Ionia, MI 48846



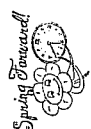
# February 2011

29 Feb  
15-

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Sunday School:</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>Worship Service:</b> 10:00 a.m.	Elder: Mark Haworth <b>Altar Guild:</b> Jeanne Bauer Brandee Novara	1 Pastor @ conference Presch Reg. for church members	2 7 pm Adult Bible Study	3 5:30-7:30 pm Jesus Co	4 St. Pats Paper Drive	5 10 am Festival of lights @ Nazarene Church
6 Comm 11:15 am Conf. Class Presch. Pasty orders due	7	8 Presch Reg. for church members	9 7 pm Adult Bible Study	10 7 pm Adult Bible Study	11 St. Pats Paper Drive	12
13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>  6:30 pm Prayer/Growth	15 Presch Reg. for church Returning students 7 pm Adult Bible Study	16 Presch Reg. for church Returning students 7 pm Adult Bible Study	17	18 St. Pat's Paper Drive → Music	19 9:30 am Ladies Booktalk @ Jerry's Portland Band's Day of Music
20 Comm 11:15 am Conf. Class Presch Pasty order pick up	21 7 pm Presch Board Mtg.	22 7 pm Adult Bible Study	23 7 pm Adult Bible Study	24 25 No Preschool	25 No Preschool	26
27 9 am Men's & Ladies Mtg 11:15 Youth Group Mtg Movie afternoon	28 6 pm Council Mtg.					



# March 2011

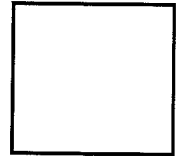
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Sunday School:</b> 9:00 a.m. <b>Worship Service:</b> 10:00 a.m.	Elder: Dave Ruehs Altar Guild: Karen Sprague Becky Ruehs	1 WINKEL Mtg.	2 7 pm Adult Bible Study	3 4:30-7p m Presch Open House 5:30-7:30 pm Jesus Co.	4 World Day of Prayer	5
6 Comm 11:15 am Conf. Class	7	8	9 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 7 pm Lenten Service 1st Communion	10	11	12
13 Preschool Sing	14	15	16 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Choir Prac.	17	18	19
20 Comm 11:15 am Conf. Class 	21 7 pm Presch Board Mtg.	22	23 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Choir Prac	24	25	26
27 9 am Men's & Ladies Mtg 11:15 am Youth Group Mtg.	28 6 pm Council Mtg.	29	30 7 pm Lenten Service 8 pm Choir Prac	31		



**Saint Andrew Lutheran  
Church  
& WEE GROW Christian  
Preschool**  
8867 Kent Street  
Portland, MI 48875

Rev. Ed Filter, Pastor  
Sandy Peabody, Preschool Director  
Sue Platte, Secretary

Phone: (517) 647-4473  
Fax: (517) 647-5153  
E-mail: [portlandstandrew@sbcglobal.net](mailto:portlandstandrew@sbcglobal.net)  
[standrew.secy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:standrew.secy@sbcglobal.net)



**April/May 2011  
Newsletter  
deadline is  
March 20th**

### **Church E-Mail**

The e-mail addresses  
Pastor Ed Filter:  
[portlandstandrew@sbcglobal.net](mailto:portlandstandrew@sbcglobal.net)  
Church Office:  
[standrew.secy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:standrew.secy@sbcglobal.net)  
If you would like to be added to  
the e-mail prayer chain list please  
call the church office.