



St. Andrew Lutheran Church



July / August 2015

Reverend Ed Filter, Pastor

Worship Service Sunday 10 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study Sunday 9 a.m.

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Home of Wee Grow Christian Preschool

From The Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends and Members of St. Andrew,

The oath of office for the Sate of Delaware in their constitution (until 1792) read as follows: "I do profess faith in God the Father, and in Jesus Christ His only son, and in the Holy Ghost, one God blessed ever more; I do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by divine inspiration." (quoted by Gary Demar, "God and Government", volume 1, Woguemuth and Hyatt, Publisher's', Inc, Brentwood, Tennessee, 1989, 163).

This echoes the words of the psalmist who says: "Unless the Lord builds the house, the work of the builders is wasted. Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good. It is useless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, anxiously waiting for food to eat; for God gives rest to his loved ones. (Psalm 127, NLT).

As our culture rushes to distance the public square from anything that is Christian, there is much talk that we are not now or ever were a Christian nation. What foolish ideas we come up with to deny the truth of history and the working of the Holy Spirit. Anyone who will take a few minutes and look at the beliefs of our forefathers will not escape the importance of their faith in God and His Son King Jesus.

On July 3, 1776, the signers of the Declaration of Independence were British citizens, living under a British form of government. On July 4th they became outlaws and men without a country. On July 5th they went back to their homes and had to establish a new form of government.

As they prepared their state constitutions they all included statements on their dependence upon God's blessings for their success and belief in the truth of God's Word as the foundation for holding office. From the very beginning God was to play a central role in the running and success of the great experiment. The one thing they did not want was for the government to establish a state or national religion which everyone would have to accept and follow. What they understood was that no home, family or nation can be truly free without the blessing of God. How times have changed!

This July we remember that nothing we do will have lasting benefit without a living faith in Jesus Christ. May each of us thank God for the blessings we have and pray that He will continue to bless this great nation. It is my prayer that every follower of King Jesus will speak and share their convictions that the free expression of their faith in God His Holy Bible is what this made this country the greatest the world has ever known. We are approaching the day when we will cross the line of no return. Stand up today for King Jesus and watch God's Holy Spirit do great work.

Also thank God that we live in a community like Portland that lets us meet together in a public place like our High School auditorium and thank King Jesus for saving us physically from the tornado that affected our community on June 22nd. May we also realize that it is God who takes care of us, not our country, not our insurance that we are depending on so much after the storm, not the way we work together in a crisis, though that is a blessing. It's only Jesus and his life, death and resurrection for us that gets us through. Have a great day with Jesus today and through the month.

In Christ Service,
Pastor Filter

July Schedules

Acolyte

- 5 Charlotte Kleitch
- 12 Sadie Veale
- 19 Cam Roof
- 26 Jacob Veale

Altar Guild

- Nita Massey
- Marsha Battley

Elder

- Tom Fryover

Fellowship

- 5 Jeff & Elena Brooks
- 12 Jack & Mary Sandborn
- 19 Nita Massey
- 26 Chris & Laura Roof

Greeters

- 5 Brooks Family
- 12 Jack & Mary Sandborn
- 19 Pastor & Nancy Filter
- 26 Tracy Kleitch

Nursery

- 5 Mary Brooks
- 12 Hannah Wakley
- 19 Charlotte Kleitch
- 26 Karlie Sprague

Worship Readers

- 5 Elena Brooks
- 12 Tim & Michelle Perry
- 19 Tom Fryover
- 26 Mark Haworth

*Rejoice always,
pray continually,
give thanks in all
circumstances;
for this is God's will
for you in Christ Jesus.*

I Thessalonians 5:16-18



July Birthdays



- 1 Shelley Rutkowski
- 2 Sara Filter
- 6 Dominic Novara
- 7 Kendra Sptizley
Margaret Gustafson
- 8 Sue Scheurer
- 10 Charlotte Kleitch
- 12 June Simon
- 14 Karen Sprague
Pastor Charles Burhop
William Roof
Harlow Wieland
- 16 Rob Heindel
- 17 Jim Rutkowski
Linda Bigelow
- 19 Marsha Battley
- 20 Darlene Bekins
Diane Sprague
- 21 Cathy Haworth
- 22 Penny Sandborn
- 24 Alex Holdren
- 25 Liam Bowerman
- 27 Christina Frost
Steve Ward
- 30 Judy Fryover

July

Anniversaries

- 3 John & Brandee Novara
- 4 Paul & Christina Frost
John & Minxia Turnquist
- 8 Tony & Cherrie Sporer
- 15 Ray & Judy Bodak
- 20 Dick & Marie Howell
- 22 Terry & Judy Tahvonon



Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School will take place July 27th through July 30th from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. each morning. The theme will be Jesus, Our Superhero. On Sunday, August 2nd we will invite the families and children from VBS to join us for worship and an Ice Cream Social. There will be no communion that Sunday. Invite all your relatives and friends ages 3 through 5th grade to attend.

We are looking for snack item donations (see list below) and volunteers for VBS. Please talk to Laura Roof about donations and volunteer opportunities.

Snack Items Needed for VBS

- Vanilla Pudding
- Vanilla Oreos
- Animal Crackers
- Pretzel Sticks
- Grapes
- Cheese

Bible Study

Our Wednesday morning Adult Bible Study is taking a break for the summer to make room for the Ladies (& Men's) Summer Walk and Bible Study. See page 4 of this newsletter for all of the details on the new Co-Ed Walk and Bible Study.

SAYG

Pastor will be meeting with Laura Roof and Mary Brooks to plan some summer activities for our youth Group. We hope to take a trip to Michigan Adventure as well as a trip to the Sandborn's pond. Watch your email and the bulletin announcements for details.

September Newsletter

The deadline for submitting information for the September newsletter is August 16th.

August Schedules

Acolyte

- 2 Mya Collins
- 9 Sadie Veale
- 16 Dawson Collins
- 23 Hannah Wakley
- 30 Charlotte Kleitch

Altar Guild

- Ruth Helmreich
- Elena Brooks
- Tracy Kleitch

Elder

- Tom Fryover

Fellowship

- 2 Sue Ruehs
- 9 Nathan & Diane Sprague
- 16 Pastor & Nancy Filter
- 23 Chris & Laura Roof
- 30 Tom Fryover

Greeters

- 2 Tom Fryover
- 9 Roof Family
- 16 Jack & Mary Sandborn
- 23 Brooks Family
- 30 Tracy Kleitch

Nursery

- 2 Charlotte Kleitch
- 9 Hannah Wakley
- 16 Mary Brooks
- 23 Hannah Wakley
- 30 Charlotte Kleitch

Worship Readers

- 2 Mary Sandborn
- 9 Tim & Michelle Perry
- 16 Elena Brooks
- 23 Nita Massey
- 30 Nancy Filter

I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 14:6



August Birthdays



- 3 Allison Peabody
- 5 Trissa Sandborn
- 8 Christine Heindel
- Tracy Kleitch
- 10 Ricky Simon
- 11 Kenny Heindel
- Michelle Perry
- 12 Jeff Dole
- 13 Catherine Pline
- David Peters
- 14 Shelly Heindel
- Cooper Ruehs
- 15 Mya Collins
- 16 Dan Bekins
- Judy Bodak
- 18 Joyce Petrie
- 19 Nick Scheurer
- 20 Dorothy Vollen
- Paige Arbour
- 22 Paige Platte
- 24 Sandy Fyan
- Abigail Pennington
- 25 Angie Brown
- 26 Caleb Felzke
- 28 Dave Frick
- 29 Hannah Huhn
- 30 Julie Lefke
- 31 Chris Huhn

August Anniversaries

- 7 Bruce & Kathy Kenyon
- 10 Duane & Simone Margraf
- 12 Nathan & Diane Sprague
- Mark & Cathy Haworth
- 17 Sam & Karlyn Beavers
- 20 Corey & Erin Otis
- 25 John & Margaret Gustafson
- 28 Pastor Charles & Ruth Burhop



Wee Grow Christian Preschool

Sandy Peabody, Preschool Director
phone: 517-526-4147



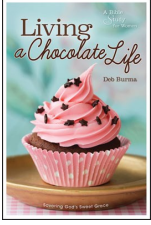
The preschool board and staff would like to send a HUGE Thank You to Mary Eisenhauer for her dedication, commitment and service to Wee Grow Christian Preschool. Mary has served on the board for a number of years and she has been an irreplaceable asset. Mary's support (along with Frank) for the preschool is one reason that this ministry is still reaching children in the Portland area. Words cannot express how much her presence will be missed. We understand the reasons Mary and Frank are leaving and will be praying for their future endeavors. Thanks to you both for being such a blessing!!!

Wee Grow Preschool will be hosting an activity time on August 5th from 10 to 11 a.m. We will be reading books, performing some dancing tapes, singing some songs and playing outside. This is open to all 3 to 5 year olds that are interested in attending Wee Grow in the fall.



Wee Grow will host an Open House on August 25th from 4:30 to 7 p.m. The classroom will be set up and staff will be on hand to answer questions. Registrations for fall are still being accepted for both classes. If you are interested in sending your child to Wee Grow in the fall please contact Mrs. Peabody at 517-526-4147.

Ladies Group



Summer Walk & Bible Study: It isn't just for Ladies anymore! This summer we are inviting the men to join our weekly walk and Bible study! The Summer Walk & Bible Study will begin on **Wednesday, July 1st** at 6:30 p.m. The plan is to walk for a half-hour and then to begin the study at 7 p.m., so if you can't walk, join us then. The study is called "*Living A Chocolate Life*" and is based on the book of the same name (including some interesting chocolate recipes.) Books are available or you can get it for your Kindle as well. See Nancy Filter to get a book. The study will last 8 weeks and should be done on Wednesday, August 12th.

Book Talk: Fulfill a lifelong dream to work in the White House or respect a dying sister's wish and return home to Wisconsin? *The Second Sister* by Marie Bostwick, our current book, is an emotionally rich, inspiring new novel about family, second chances—and the connections that bring women together in hope and healing... The date for our Book Talk for *The Second Sister* has not been set as of yet. Please contact Elena Brooks, Nancy Filter or Ruth Helmreich for the date and location. Please visit our website www.standrewbooktalk.weebly.com for a complete list of the books that Book Talk has read over the years...a great list to consider for your summer reading!



Helping Out: On **Tuesday, August 4th** the Ladies will be providing a meal for the workers that will be putting up the pavilion at the Red Mill. We will be serving around 50 persons. Please watch your email for further details on how you can help with the meal.

Next Ladies Group Meeting: Our next meeting will be on **Sunday, August 16th** at 9 a.m. in the Conference Room. All ladies are invited to join us to help plan events and support the ministry at St. Andrew. We have fall activities to plan and prepare for and can use your help! Please consider joining us.

Camp Scholarships: Scholarships Still Available! If your child has attended or will attend Camp Concordia this summer, please contact the Ladies Group so that we can get scholarship funds to you. Simply talk to Elena Brooks, Nita Massey or Pastor and we will get the \$50 scholarship to your youth—no application to complete. It's that simple!



Game Night: Game Night is on summer break at the present time. Look for Game Night to return this fall.

Mens Group



The next Men's meeting will take place on **Sunday, August 16th**. We will meet at the Red Tomato at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast. Mark this date on your calendar now so you don't forget and can help us get ready for our fall events.

Prayer Growth

Our Prayer Growth group will take July off and then jump in to planning for fall at our August meeting. The meeting will take place on **Monday, August 17th** at 6:30 p.m. We will pray for our congregation and community especially in the wake of last week's tornado. We will also continue plans for the Community Corn Roast and Barbeque with music by Dave Britton and possibly others scheduled for Saturday, September 19th.



Reaching Out To Those Devastated by the Tornado

Please continue to support those devastated by the tornado. We praise God that no one was hurt badly, including members of St. Andrew. A large tree fell on Tom Fryover's house. The work place of Cathy Haworth and Tim Perry was damaged—part of the roof was torn and there was a partial collapse of the building. Praise God for Tim's response in helping others as well.

As you know, four churches suffered serious damage or were destroyed. The leaders of St. Andrew have decided to reach out to those congregations, offering the use of our building as needed. Pray that the offer may be a blessing as we work together to see what that will mean. Please encourage and support Cathy, Tom and Tim and any others you know who have been affected by the storm and pray for continued healing and cooperation that our community continues to be a light for Christ to the world.

4th (3rd, really) of July Parade



Portland will hold its Independence Day events on **Friday, July 3rd** this year. The parade will take place at 8 p.m. We will have an entry in the parade as usual. Mary Sandborn, Elena Brooks and Laura Roof are planning the decorating of the Sandborn's pick-up and plan to decorate during the day on the 3rd at church. In addition to needing help decorating, we will need walkers to hand out fliers for VBS and some goodies for the kids. Talk to Mary, Elena or Laura to volunteer to help decorate and or walk in the parade. We will meet at the middle school at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd for the parade.

Family Messages

During the summer when children are gone a lot, we will try something new during our services. We will hold Family Messages instead of Children's Messages. Families of any shape can come forward for the messages to help Pastor. Pray that God will bless this new tradition and be patient with Pastor as he works the kinks out of this special way to praise God.

Weddings



Congratulations to Will Graham and Tori Gryns who were married at St. Andrew on Saturday, June 20th and to Kevin Veale and Julia Wakely who were married by Pastor at Kevin's house on Saturday, June 27th. Keep these couples in your prayers as they begin their lives together along with their families.

Community Corn Roast

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 19th** from 3 to 6 p.m. as we will host our first Community Corn Roast and Barbeque with music by Dave Britton. Pray for this event and plan to pitch in and help in its planning and execution. Start to invite your friends as well, especially those who have suffered loss in the tornado.



Musician Needed

Nita Massey has asked to be relieved from her duties as our Sunday morning musician. She is having medical issues with her hands and it is too painful to play regularly. The leaders of the church have been searching for someone who could play each week in her place. So far we have been unsuccessful. Please pray for someone to step forward. If you know anyone who has these skills, talk to Pastor. Nita's deadline is the end of July, so we need your help now. Our budget is tight, but we are wonderful to work for, so please get the word out!

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 pm Ladies & Men Walk and Bible Study	2	3 8 pm Portland 4th of July Parade (Fireworks afterward)	4 4th of July
5 10 am Worship Service	6	7	8 6:30 pm Ladies & Men Walk and Bible Study	9	10	11
12 10 am Worship Service Noisy Offering—LWML	13 12 pm Legislative Lunch	14	15 6:30 pm Ladies & Men Walk and Bible Study	16	17	18
19 10 am Worship Service Food Pantry Donations	20 6:30 pm Prayer Growth Meeting	21	22 6:30 pm Ladies & Men Walk and Bible Study	23	24	25
26 10 am Worship Service	27 VBS Jesus Is My Superhero 9:30—11:30 am	28 VBS Jesus Is My Superhero 9:30—11:30 am	29 VBS Jesus Is My Superhero 9:30—11:30 am 6:30 pm Ladies & Men Walk and Bible Study	30 VBS Jesus Is My Superhero 9:30—11:30 am	31	

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10 am Worship Service VBS Family Day	3	4 Ladies Group to provide meal for workers at the Red Mill 6:30 pm Preschool Bd Mtg	5 10-11am Preschool Activity Time 6:30 pm Ladies & Mens Walk and Bible Study	6	7	8
9 10 am Worship Service Noisy Offering—Beacon of Hope	10 12 pm Legislative Lunch	11	12	13	14	15
16 8:30 am Mens Group Mtg 9 am Ladies Group Meeting 10 am worship Service Food Pantry Donations Deadline for Sept. Nwsltr	17 6:30 pm Prayer Growth Meeting	18	19 6:30 pm LAST Ladies & Mens Walk and Bible Study	20	21	22
23 10 am Worship Service	24 6:30 pm Council Meeting	25 4:30—7 pm Preschool Open House	26	27	28	29
30 10 am Worship Service Noisy Offering- Beth. Lutheran Home	31					<i>Page 7</i>

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Home of Wee Grow Christian Preschool
8867 Kent Street
Portland, MI 48875



Graduation Recognition

On Sunday, June 7th St. Andrew recognized recent graduates. During the service Mike Haworth and Emily Filter spoke to the congregation about their recent graduations and their future plans. Mike graduated from Portland High School, where he was very involved in Band. Mike plans to attend Lansing Community College where he will work to earn a Business Administration degree. Emily graduated from Central Michigan University with a BSW (Bachelor of Social Work) degree with a minor in Psychology. Emily is presently employed, utilizing her BSW degree. Future plans for Emily include returning to school to earn her Masters degree in Social Work. During fellowship time there was a cake and punch reception for the graduates. Other St. Andrew graduates include: Arek Bell, Emily Huhn and Drew Livingston.



Graduation cake made by Mrs. Brooks



Mike Haworth and Emily Filter on Graduation Recognition Sunday