

**St. Andrew Lutheran Church (E.L.C.A)**  
**6255 Telegraph Road**  
**Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-1678**  
**Phone: 248-646-5207**  
**Fax: 248-646-3564**

**Dated Material: December, 2009**

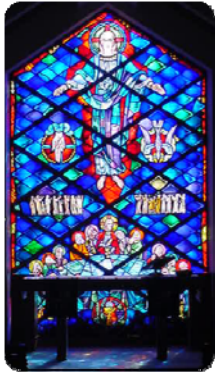
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**Our Mission:**  
**“Welcome, Grow, Share, and**  
**Serve in Christ’s Name.”**



**Worship: Sunday at 10:45 am**  
**Sunday School at 10:00 am**  
**Staffed Nursery is available on Sundays**

Reverend Janet Marvar, Interim Pastor  
Dr. Rachel Morin, Director of Music  
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 7:30 am to Noon—Vicki  
Wednesday 9:30 am—4 pm Delores  
Congregational Council  
Dan Bingham, President; Sandy Bergh, Vice President;  
Gary Archinal, Treasurer; Carole Doll, Secretary;  
Bill Berlin, Laurie Lupton,  
Delores Reum, Katie Wiese, Members at Large



St. Andrew Lutheran Church

# *The Invitation*

December, 2009

*God's Purpose for St. Andrew Lutheran Church*  
**Reaching Out to Everyone to Share Jesus**

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“The Intentional Interim time – what’s supposed to happen? What are we supposed to do?” Questions like that from people in both St. Andrew and Sylvan Lake congregations spur me to use this space to briefly outline some of the process we shall be engaged in over the next months. First, of course, we must have a Transition Team formed in each congregation, folks who, coached by the interim pastor, will guide how the congregation performs each developmental task leading to discernment of the Spirit’s guidance for the future. I am still looking for committed volunteers for these task groups, folks who are not currently chairing a committee or serving on Council because of the time commitment involved at the outset.

Some of these events have already happened. Both congregations have celebrated 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries within the past two years so historical moments are more freshly in mind than they would be if such a “birthday party” had not happened so recently. However, the pastor needs to hear some of that history from you, so we shall find a time to “Tell the Pastor” about times that were of significance in the congregation’s life, both positive and negative, from your unique perspective.

Along with that review, or possibly at a separate event, we will identify what are called “norms”. Norms are the unspoken, unwritten “rules” we live by as a congregation, mostly without being fully conscious of these manners. For instance, waiting as a group at the altar rail for a “table blessing” is one I have noticed, whereas the “table blessing” has been written into the liturgy since the publication of the Lutheran Book of Worship in 1978 to be done “after all have communed”. The congregation’s expectation that “this is the way to do it” has been unspoken and unwritten for the new pastor. Imagine how a newcomer to worship might feel when they meet up with such customs! We hope to see ourselves with wide open eyes when we identify our norms, and then decide how to use or amend these customary behaviors.

Assessment of our ministries, reflecting on what we have heard and learned at each event, and making particular decisions about these “doings” will take place as we go along. As we learn more about who we are and how we do things, we’ll be on our way to defining our identity as a congregation. We may wish to make changes that will change our identity but, at the least, we may have a better understanding of our “footprint” in the community, in this Southeast Michigan Synod of the ELCA, and in our impact on the world. There are a few specific items that each Council identified as important to examine in each congregation and we’ll address these items, as well. Throughout our time together, as in the recent past, the congregation will seek the resources and to be a resource for our synod. We shall answer the question of what unique ways do we connect to and fit into the wider Church.

Finally, we hope we shall be discerning the leading of the Holy Spirit about our future ministry. What would be the best use of the gifts we have been given by God? How will our decisions impact our own congregation and, also, the communities around us? I hope that our discernment events will have brought us closer together, more open with our opinions, thoughts and personal spiritual discernment. For that is the main purpose of our being together as a congregation – to support one another as we search the Scriptures, pray for sensitivity to God’s guidance rather than our own desires, and move forward as we feel led by the Spirit to give to others what the Lord is pouring through us as channels of God’s loving care.

We are on a journey of faith!

Shalom, Pastor Jan

# Advent, 2009



Christmas Blessings from the staff!

As we worship the Christ Child let us remember his name, Jesus, means Savior.  
Let us determine that we shall worship Him by acting in his Name, not just at  
Christmas time but all the days of the year!  
May you have a joyous Christmas celebration!

## Christmas Poinsettias

Orders for Christmas Poinsettias are due to the church office no later than December 6<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$13.00 per plant.

## Christmas Decorating

Help decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, December 12th at 10:00 am. This includes setting up the tree and decorating it. Also hang the wreaths, and make the church look more festive.

Help is needed. Please join us. A lunch will be provided by the worship and music committee.

## Lighthouse Holiday Help Program and Mitten Tree

In the spirit of the Christmas season, Saint Andrew has adopted two families served by Lighthouse for the holidays. Please sign up with Carole Doll to donate items to help make the holiday merrier for those in need. All items need to be brought to church by December 20<sup>th</sup> as they will be delivered on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Christmas Tree in the Narthex will serve as a Mitten Tree for foster children at LSSM. Help fill the tree with mittens, hats and scarves. Those items will be taken to LSSM Foster Care after Christmas

## Christmas Eve Services

- 11:00 am at Maple Village—Open to All
- 7:00 pm at Sylvan Lake Lutheran Church
- 10:30 pm at Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

## Transition Team

Wanted: Committed member of St. Andrew congregation for the Transition Team, a group that, coached by Pastor Jan, guide the congregation through the interim process. You should not be on council or chair a committee while serving on this vital team. Interested? Speak with Pastor Jan (248-858-2817) or a council member.

## Stewardship update:

A stewardship letter and pledge card will be sent out on December 2nd. Please be generous in your pledge of time talents and treasures. St. Andrew needs your support. To plan next years budget we need to get the cards back as quickly as possible.

## Adult Fellowship

Please join us on Thursday, December 3 for a Christmas Sing-A-Long with Mary Lou Siefken. Communion is at noon followed by lunch at 12:30 p.m. Please see sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

## St. Andrew Cookbook

Orders will be taken for the long awaited St. Andrew Cookbook. Cost is \$15.00 for a spiral bound book containing over 100 recipes. This cookbook has German and Scandinavian recipes as well as old and new recipes from the talented cooks at St. Andrew.

## Monthly Book Discussion Group

Sponsored by Ascension, Still Alice, by Lisa Genova on December 10 at 6:30 p.m. Location to be determined.

## Cover Girls

Every Tuesday 9:00 to 11:00 am at Ascension "Cover Girls" quilting group. Open to all to piece, sew and tie comforters/

**Please sign up for altar flowers  
and/or coffee hour on the  
bulletin board just outside the  
sanctuary!**

## Please Pray for the Following. . .

Kevin Hurtz (12 year old friend of Vicki's with brain tumor); Berry Morris (Friend of Archinals); Pastor Betsy Diver; Rocco Salvatore; Neal Kay (Friend of Wieses with a brain tumor); Pastor Roy Langset; Virginia Muller; Florence Gundacker; Beth Allison; Debbie Loeswiek (cousin of Chris Andary); Madisyn Belenger (8 year old friend of Bick's with Leukemia); Janet Bingham; Jan-William Vester; Audrey Morin (Rachel's Aunt); Christina Lowe (niece of Maxine); Bob Stiteler; Niklaus Creek (infant friend of the Stiteler's); Helen M. O'Connor; Ronald McAskell (Prostate cancer); Janet Davenport; Ann Wilke; Ron Renstchler; Reverend Tim Havlicek; Deb Taggart; Lorrie Dopke; Carter Bowen; Erica Jackson; Alan Kramer; Barb Stiteler; Dorothy McLennan: Shut ins: Margareth Csernezcky and Edith Wavrek.



## Happy Birthday to . . . .

### December

- 2 Laurie Lupton
- 2 Maxine Lowe
- 2 Tom Bergh
- 16 Kristen Fenby
- 19 Ferd Doll
- 20 Karen Bingham

### January

- 6 Don Ziemer
- 11 Andy Wiese
- 11 Betsy Thompson
- 18 Ruth Ann McVay
- 24 Roy Beal
- 24 Edith Wavreck
- 27 Dennis Dopke
- 29 Vicki Selznick
- 31 Mark Soberger



## Happy Anniversary to . . .

### December

- 22 Ferd & Carole Doll
- 31 Corman & Millie Bean

### January

- 27 Don & Audrey Ziemer

