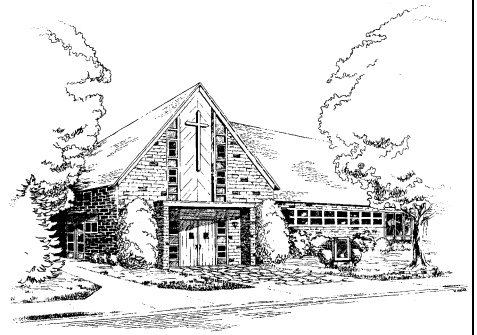


THE CALLING



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church • December 2016/January 2017



Upcoming Events

Bible Group, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, December 6

Tuesday, December 20

Worship at Plattduetsche, 10:30 AM

Thursday, December 1

Holy Communion at Plattduetsche, 10:30 AM

Thursday, December 15

Congregational Council, 7:30 pm

Monday, December 19



Bible Group, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, January 3

Tuesday, January 17

Tuesday, January 31

Worship at Plattduetsche, 10:30 AM

Tuesday, January 5

Congregational Council, 7:30 pm

Monday, January 16

Holy Communion at Plattduetsche, 10:30 AM

Thursday, January 19

See the enclosed calendar for a complete listing of St. Andrew's events.



AT ST. ANDREW'S

Sunday mornings at
8:30 and 10:00 AM

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4:30 PM Family Service with Holy Communion
11:00 PM Candlelight Service of Holy Communion

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School Church

During the 10:00 AM service

Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays at 7:15 PM Beginning Sept. 14th

Little Saints Preschool

2-, 3-, and 4-year-old Programs

Weekdays at 9:15 AM and 12:15 PM

Call 516-483-6540 for more information

Bible Group

Tuesdays at 10:00 AM

(CHECK CALENDAR)

54 Nassau Boulevard • West Hempstead, New York
516-483-8650, Fax 516-483-8694,
Email: salcwh@optonline.net



In this Issue of *The Calling*

A Word from the Pastor 3
 WELCA News 4
 Little Saints Preschool News 4
 Mark your Calendars 5
 And then there's 6
 The Funds of St. Andrew's 7
 Thrivent Choice Program 8
 Birthdays and Anniversaries 9, 10
 December at St. Andrew's see separate insert
 December Worship Participants see separate insert
 January at St. Andrew's see separate insert
 January Worship Participants see separate insert

The Staff of St. Andrew's

The Rev. Frederick L. McElderry, Pastor
 Dr. Kenneth Lord, Organist and Choir Director
 Janis Maracic, Secretary
 Bonnie Reid, Bookkeeper
 Elaine McGrath, Preschool Director
 Carrie Baumgardner-Zollinger, Sexton

Support St. Andrew's ongoing canned and nonperishable Food Drive!



Bring items to church and leave them in the basket on the narthex.
 Donations are taken to Lutheran Social Services
 New LIFE Center—Nassau.

**DECEMBER IS CANNED MEATS & FISH
 JANUARY IS LUNCH ITEMS**

(peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese, SpaghettiOs, etc.)
 (Thank you, Cara Donaldson, for doing this important work.)

Your contribution makes a difference!



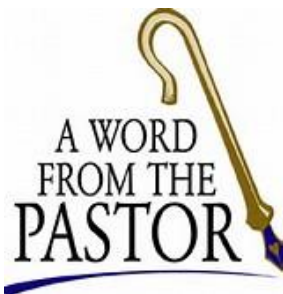
Term Expires

- '16 Pastor Fred McElderry, President
- '16 Linda Robertson, Vice President
- William Vogel, Treasurer
- '17 Peter Johansen, Financial Secretary
- '16 Wendy Schulze, Secretary
- '17 Vicki Jacksin (appointed to complete year for Joni Steiner)
- '16 George Guinan
- '16 Tom Reid,
- '16 Bev Gregory (appointed to complete year for Davis Whelpley)
- '17 Diana Schimkus
- '18 Gerry Laudani
- '18 Joe Salimbebe
- '18 Donna Dill
- '18 Dr. Cara Donaldson

THE CALLING

The newsletter of
 St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
 December 2016/January, 2017
 published monthly

St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church
 54 Nassau Boulevard
 West Hempstead, NY 11552



Recently I was listing some of my medical symptoms to someone at St. Andrew's. I mentioned, among other things, that I got "hot flashes". Then I went on to say that I often had abdominal cramps, and recently an aversion to food. To which she replied, "Are you expecting?" Hmmm. Have to think about this. They did so much to my body back when I had my surgery that anything is possible. But since nothing has shown up on my scans, I think I am safe.

But, in another sense, I AM EXPECTING. This is the theme of Advent. We are in a state of expectation. Of course, on a basic level, we are preparing for Christmas, at which time we celebrate the birth of a child, Jesus, our Savior. But that holds few surprises. We know what gender, what name, and what he grew up to be.

On another level, we are in a state of expectation about our own lives here and now. Where are we headed, as individuals, a church, a nation, a world? This has a lot more uncertainty. We cannot see beyond the next moment. This uncertainty is perhaps the most prominent one in our lives. We can plan all we want, but we are still day to day. Some react to this news with resignation, others with anger and frustration. Still others look for some guidance and help.

That's why we turn to our third sense of expectation, the coming of our Lord. We have seen who he is in the Gospels and know his promises and his invitation. Facing our

uncertainties about the present with our knowledge of the child who came into the world two thousand years ago and our trust in his promises and presence can help us be more confident about some of our present fears. We are not alone. There is a purpose to our lives. God is up to something and we are a part of it. We are forgiven. I cannot help but believe that those who trust in these statements have a little more ammunition to use in facing their lives. No, it doesn't answer all our questions as specifically as we want. It never can. But Advent points us to Christmas, where we are promised that "God is with us" (the meaning of Emmanuel).

As we enter Advent, prepare for Christmas, and anticipate a new year, I hope we can lean on these promises. I pray we can gather often to be reminded and to remind others of them. I was talking with someone just today and she mentioned that she had a child that she never quite knew what to do with. Her life and his life were a constant struggle. Finally, as an adult, his life has settled into some shape. She rejoiced that God took her helplessness and brought forth some hope. This is Advent. "Oh, God, we offer our helplessness. Give us your hope." Amen.

In Christ,



The deadline to submit articles for the September issue of *The Calling* is
Sunday, January 15, 2017.

Articles can be e-mailed to salcwh@optonline.net
or submitted to the church office.

Your cooperation is much appreciated.

January/February Meeting

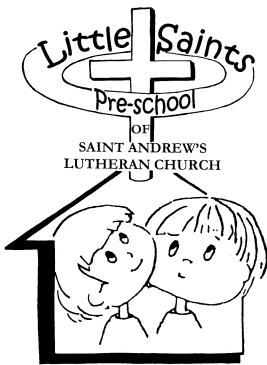
Our next WELCA meeting is scheduled. We will meet on Friday, January 6 at 7:00 pm at our church. The topic we will be discussing will be "Where'd You



for February 6. Our Book Group will meet at Nanette Turner's house. The book we will be reading is "Go Bernadette?" by Marie Semple.

Our Christmas card mailbox will be in the narthex from Sunday, November 27 to Sunday December 18. Please use this to send cards to people in the congregation and put the postage you would usually pay in the small box. There is also a tree in the narthex for mittens, scarves, hats, etc. These will be given to needy families.

Little Saints Preschool News



Our 3 and 4 year olds classes will attend a performance of "Elf, Jr." at the Broadhollow Theater in Elmont in December. This will be a wonderful adventure for the children and their families and it is right in our own neighborhood. They will be going to see "Curious George and the Golden Meatball" in the spring. Check out this theater for your own family or friend outings.

The children are looking forward to Saint Nicholas Day (December 6) when they put out small paper shoes in hopes that he would leave them a surprise (usually gold coins filled with chocolate). Later in December he will visit us and tell us his plans for Christmas while we get a chance to tell him what we are all wishing for. We will be hearing the Christmas story while we make presents for our families. The teachers will help the children fill bags with magic reindeer dust to help Santa find their houses as we get ready to celebrate the birth of Baby Jesus.

Sharing Christmas with small children helps you experience the magic and excitement as seen through their eyes. The 3 and 4-year-old classes will entertain their families in the church and have refreshments in the Social Hall following the pageants. The 2 year olds will celebrate in their classrooms and may have a Christmas pajama party.

Registration for September 2017 is in full swing and we are filling our classes as registrations are received. If you are interested in enrolling someone in our school, please call us as soon as possible to check availability. We offer a *Together We Grow* program for the younger children and their caregivers, a 2-year-old separation program, a 3-year-old nursery program and a 4-year-old preschool program.

January will find us celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Chinese New Year (the year of the Rooster). We will also be conducting Parent Teacher Conferences for our 3 and 4 year olds.

We can't believe 2016 is over and 2017 is here. As we enter 2017, let's take time to appreciate all the blessings that God has given us. We wish you all a Happy New Year.

God Bless,
Elaine McGrath

Mark your Calendars

• FLOWER CHART •



Altar Flowers

Got a special date coming up or just want to let someone know you are thinking of them? Why not sponsor the Altar flowers!

There is a large sign up chart in the Narthex. And yes it is ok for multiple people to pick the same date.

Then fill out an envelope from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

Flowers are often given to someone who is ill or shut-in.

Thank you for your support.

Toy drive to benefit the INN



Thomas, Matthew and Grace Mage are holding their 7th annual toy drive to benefit the INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network). The INN is located in Hempstead and helps to feed and clothe people in need here on Long Island. The items will go to children in need and

will help to make the lives of these children a little happier this holiday season. Last year over 150 toys were collected from the residents of Garden City! A new, unwrapped toy can be dropped off at 57 Nassau Blvd. Any type of new toy would be great! The deadline for toy donations is December 10th, or December 11th in Church.. Thank you for your help!



Please join us Saturday, December 17 at 11am to decorate the Church for Christmas.



The Youth Group is planning a trip to NYC on December 28th to see the tree, look at the windows and a few other fun things. More info to follow.



The following members of St. Andrew's are at home:

Bill Johnson
Gloria Kovelman
Ruth Quintero
Bea Schnetzler
Marion Schulze
Muriel Speller

And then theres...

Community Thanksgiving Service

On Wednesday, November 23, St. Andrew's hosted the Franklin Square Community Thanksgiving Service. Clergy from the local churches in Franklin Square participated in leading the service



From left to right: Pastor John Jurik, Interim Pastor at Ascension Franklin Square; Pastor McElderry; Monsignor Rick Figliozzi, St Catherin of Sienna RC Church; Pastor Nelson Kalombo Ngoy, Wesley United Methodist; and Fathers Allan Arneaud and Johnny Mendonca, both from St. Catherine's}

There was a combined choir made up of members of the congregations. It was led by Ken Lord, with Melyssa Neumann accompanying on flute. The offering went to Island Harvest and \$721 was raised. Following the service, there was a reception in the Social Hall. Thanks to Donna Dill and her crew for organizing this. People from Ascension Lutheran also contributed goodies to the reception. Thanks to all.

We had the first such service after September 11, 2001. Over the years we have now had thirteen of these services. We miss the presence of our Jewish brothers and sisters and Rabbi Dresner since the Jewish Community Center closed three years ago. The clergy will be meeting together in the next few weeks to plan further activities.

Anti-Racism

This year the Metropolitan New York Synod has engaged a substantial amount of time, financial and human resources to dismantle systemic racism in relation to how it hinders our ability to be the Church and live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. There were 5 trainings held, of which 4 members of St. Andrews attended the fifth training located in Yorktown Heights, NY. The participants at St. Andrews, consisting of Linda Robertson, Nanette Turner, Maureen Green and Vicky Jackson, are interested in establishing congregational resources to reach out to members of all different races, cultures and ethnic backgrounds. The Synod is anticipating more opportunities for grace-filled discussions and trainings to bring back to our members. Anyone interested in joining us please contact Vicky Jackson: Tel: 516-280-5114/email: victoria590@optonline.net.

Correspondence to the Church

To St. Andrews,
Thank you all so much for allowing us to use the church social hall for our annual Thanksgiving celebration. We appreciate it very much that our long standing tradition is able to be kept alive.

The Quintero, Ferrer & Cannava families

Dear Pastor McElderry & Members of St. Andrew's Lutheran,

Thank you for welcoming the children, their families and friends to St. Andrew's for our annual St. Lucia Fest. The children prepare for this all year long and to be able to celebrate it each year here at St. Andrew's is very special to us.

Please accept this donation. We wish you a Merry Christmas (God Jul) and a Happy New Year (Gott Nytt Ar).

Sincerely,

Barnklubben Elsa Rix #1

The Funds of St. Andrew's



Gifts to the Shepherd's Fund
were given

**IN HONOR OF
LYN BERBER'S 90TH BIRTHDAY**

by Janis & Jim Maracic

Bonnie & Tom Reid

Wendy & Al Schulze

Audry Gardner

Vera Fischer

Carol Fritz

Irene Ketelsen

Paul & Angela Salerno



We thank everyone who went online or called to have their Thrivent Choice Dollars designated to St. Andrew's.

So far that list includes:

- H
- Christine Butterfield
- Glenn Butterfield
- Wilma Von Holton
- Elsie Berbert
- Lyn Berbert
- Carol Fritz
- Jim Maracic
- Heidi Mann
- Peter Johansen
- Robert Hoffmeyer
- Joseph Licata
- Ginny Licata
- Ken Lord
- Marion Schulze
- Dirk Zuhlke
- Fred McElderry

Thanks to them, Thrivent donated a total of \$2958 in 2016. If you are a Thrivent Financial member,

please check to see if you are eligible to give Thrivent Choice money to St. Andrew (no "S"). This program has replaced Thrivent's former donation of matching funds for certain church-related activities.

Please note that this is extra "free" money. It does *not* come from your account and you *cannot* get it for yourself—you can only give it away.

So please help us get their money! Go to www.thrivent.com/choicedollars. Or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" when asked in the phone menu.

Please We now all need to call again every year to ensure that our \$\$\$ are going to St. Andrew's. Thank you.





DECEMBER 2
Denise Johansen

DECEMBER 3
Bill Shillalies

DECEMBER 5
Kirk Pearson
Al Schulze

DECEMBER 9
Pat Cipollina
Bernard (Kip) Wease

DECEMBER 10
Madison Schimkus

DECEMBER 11
Katherine Johansen

DECEMBER 12
Vanessa Zanelotti

DECEMBER 14
Dorothy Bristol
Christopher Schimkus

DECEMBER 19
Leah DeFalco

DECEMBER 21
Carol Bliefernich
Christopher Johansen

DECEMBER 23
Michael Lucszynski

DECEMBER 24
Christine Mage

DECEMBER 25
Danielle Wease

DECEMBER 26
Christine Butterfield

DECEMBER 29
Walter Perlak

DECEMBER 30
Shelby Terrell

DECEMBER 31
Cindy Caleca

DECEMBER 3
Joan & Kip Wease

DECEMBER 6
Eileen & Mike Closs

DECEMBER 21
Pat & John Cipollina

DECEMBER 24
Ginny & Joe Licata



JANUARY 2
Dolores Hurster
Jessica Lee
Thomas Sanchez

JANUARY 3
Robert Kalb

JANUARY 4
Paul Salerno

JANUARY 7
Christie Conforti

JANUARY 8
Lisa Maracic

JANUARY 13
Melyssa Neumann
Joyce Padesky

JANUARY 17
Cara Donaldson

JANUARY 18
Sam Ward

JANUARY 21
Louise Seagren

JANUARY 22
C.J. Gioia

JANUARY 23
Diana Zanelotti

JANUARY 25
Arnold Preuss
Samantha Prior

JANUARY 26
Nanette Turner

JANUARY 28
Christine Jeremias
Deirdre McGrath
Amanda Pagano

JANUARY 30
Tom Ganz

JANUARY 31
Warren Terrell

JANUARY 18
Gayle & Bob Lohrer