Worship With Us
Easter Weekend!
April 4 and 5, 2015

Traditional Worship
Sunday – 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 Noon
In the Sanctuary
Choirs, soloists, organ and the St. Andrew’s Orchestra. Holy Communion celebrated at 7 a.m. and 12 noon. Interpreted for the deaf and hard of hearing at 10 a.m. Nursery provided.

Contemporary Worship
Saturday – 5 p.m.
Sunday – 9:15 & 10:45 a.m.
In the Great Hall
Heart-felt modern worship (rock with a twist of soul and gospel).
Holy Communion celebrated. Nursery provided.
Saturday worship celebrates Christ’s rising from the tomb on Easter morning.
Lent and Holy Week Worship Schedule

Wednesday Lenten Worship
Please join us every Wednesday in Lent through March 26.
10:30 a.m. ... St. Andrew’s Village
12 noon ... Great Hall
Holy Communion celebrated. Soup and sandwich luncheon follows service.
**Wednesday Night Worship**  6:15 p.m. ... Sanctuary
Sunday School and Nursery available.
Pizza and soup dinner available 4-7 p.m. in the Youth & Sports Center.

Palm Sunday, March 29
Standard Weekend Worship Schedule (see page 3)

Maundy Thursday, April 2
12 noon ... Sanctuary
7 p.m. ... Sanctuary

“Do this in remembrance of me.” We commemorate the Last Supper – a Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples the night before his death.

The service includes beautiful music by New Dimension Singers and Handbells.

Good Friday, April 3
Experiential Worship: Journey to the Cross and Experience the Passion
10 a.m., 2 and 4 p.m. ... begins outside the Great Hall
Come join us for this powerful journey to the cross from Passover to the garden tomb. You will experience the Jerusalem Marketplace, wave Palm Sunday branches, share in the Passover Meal, pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, chant “crucify” in Pilate’s Hall, follow Jesus to Golgotha, weep with Mary at the cross, and sing “Were You There” at the tomb. This will be a meaning-filled service for all ages. Bring your strollers, wagons, wheel chairs, walking shoes, and step into the powerful story of Holy Week. It’s a wonderful way to prepare for the glorious Easter celebration.

Good Friday at The Village
10:30 a.m. ... St. Andrew’s Village
A special worship service for the residents of St. Andrew’s Village and all who wish to share in this special service.

Good Friday Passion Service: Obedient Unto Death
7 p.m. ... Sanctuary
Come to worship in the sacred tradition of Good Friday focusing on the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ and our living response to the cross through the reverent and musical heritage of Bach, Holst, Clausen and Barber. The service is in the Sanctuary, led by the St. Andrew’s Choir and Orchestra and message by Pastor John Straiton.

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
**Abundant Life This Easter**

*Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

Some years back I was doing a ministry training event and was serving a four-church parish in Guyana. Guyana is located along the Berbice River along the coast of South America. One day after a powerful rainfall I found myself walking along a small dirt road on my way to a small dirt-floor church. The sun came out, strange birds sounded off, smells from the jungle floor flooded my senses. Streams of light refracted off of the rain drops. I never felt more alive. At times I have gone back to that place in my mind and it reminds me of the abundant life we have in Jesus Christ.

Let me ask you a question: When have you felt most alive? The birth of a child, on a lake fishing, by a fire with friends? When has it been? I believe that these times and places are gifts to us to remind us that God has come to us in Jesus Christ, and because of him we have the abundant life given to us now today. These glimpses of the full life in God come sometimes few and far between, but perhaps the more we open our ears and eyes to them, the more we will see them.

This Easter we will be reminded again of a love that will not be stopped. That this love brings abundant life and nothing created can stop God from loving you as you are, as is, sinner or saint. Wherever you are, I pray that your eyes are opened to the ways God’s abundant life comes to you again and again.

Happy Easter,

*Rev. Michael D. Carlson  
Lead Pastor, St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church ELCA*

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**ST. ANDREW’S WORSHIP TIMES**

**Traditional Sunday Worship**
9 & 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

**Contemporary Worship**
Saturday 5 p.m. Great Hall  
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Great Hall

**Wednesday Night Worship**
6:15 p.m. Sanctuary

*Sunday School and Nursery at all services.  
Sign Language Interpreter for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 10:30 a.m.  
Worship at St. Andrew’s Village: 1 p.m.*

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, March 29, 9:30 a.m. to noon in the Youth & Sports Center
St. Andrew’s is taking the Pancake Breakfast to a new level! Come and join us in the St. Andrew’s Cafe in the Youth and Sports Center. Get your fill of pancakes, sausage, and eggs before or after you are spiritually filled during worship on Palm Sunday! A suggested free will offering will be graciously accepted to support our 2015 summer youth mission trips and Confirmation camp.

Wednesday Night Worship
Come “ALIVE” with us!
Book Journey Continues...
Starting April 8 – May 20
As we continue the Easter Celebration that Christ is ALIVE and well, we will see how that translates into make us ALIVE as well. How do we experience this aliveness, embrace it, and bring it to others? Join us in an uprising of new life as we continue to explore the book we began as part of our Wednesday Lenten worship.

We Make the Road By Walking, by Brian McLaren
This book offers everything you need to explore what a difference an honest, living, growing faith can make in our world today. So, if you’re seeking a fresh way to experience and practice your faith, if you’re a long-term Christian seeking new vitality, or if you feel out of place in traditional church circles, this book will inspire and activate you in your spiritual journey. Dare to venture off old maps into new, uncharted territory and discover how we make the road by walking. You can read it solo, or join a small group and take the adventure together.

If you are interested in joining a small group around this book, contact Erin Morris, emorris@saintandrews.org. You can get your hard copy at the hospitality desk for $20, or download on Amazon for $12.

Care Connection — Connect for Care
• Let us know if you are going to be hospitalized …contact Lisa at 651-762-9117 or lgrundtner@saintandrews.org.
• Emergency, a pastor is on call 24 hours a day…contact 651-426-3261 and follow the prompts.
• Post-hospital visit, contact Lisa at 651-762-9117 or lgrundtner@saintandrews.org.
• TLC [Tender Lutheran Care] team members available for visitation, Lisa at 651-762-9117 or lgrundtner@saintandrews.org.

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
**News and Notes**

**New Member Class**
Sun. April 12, at 11:30 a.m.
If you would like to become more engaged in your faith, more involved at St. Andrew's or want to hear what Christ is calling St. Andrew's to be in this world, come to our New Member Class on April 12, 2015 in the Sanctuary Building. Contact Ronda Sowada should you have questions and to register for the class: rsowada@saintandrews.org. A light lunch is served and childcare provided.

**Dorothy Day**
Meals are served every other month on the 4th Tuesday to people who are homeless or struggling with poverty. The next meal serving date is Tuesday, March 24, 2015, 2:30-6 p.m. Let us know if you would like to help! Rice Krispie bars are also needed. Please deliver them to the church kitchen by 11 a.m. Contact Mike/Gayle Huseth at 651-426-4166 or ggnmike2@aol.com.

**Driver Refresher Course**
**Monday, March 9, 5:30-9:30 p.m.**
**Monday, May 11, 5:30-9:30 p.m.**
AARP Driver Safety Program refines existing skills and covers defensive driving techniques for those over age 55. The driver then qualifies for a 10% reduction in auto insurance. The 4 hour refresher course is held on Monday, March 9 and May 11, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Sanctuary Room 204. Pre-registration and prepayment are required. Cost is $24. Register on-line at saintandrews.org, through an in-house registration form, attention Lisa Grundtner, or call 651-426-3261.

**Wedding Music Workshop**
**Wednesday, May 27, 2015, 7-8:30 p.m.**
Led by organist Bill Chouinard in the Sanctuary, this informal presentation provides organ and piano settings of a variety of processions, recessions, preludes, postludes and hymns to aid in the planning of a Christian service of marriage. Other music-related issues will be discussed with ample time for questions. Sign up with Dianne Nash at 651-762-9141 or at the church offices in the Sanctuary or Great Hall.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**
*A tangible evidence of prayer.*
We have a Prayer Shawl Ministry that offers tangible evidence of prayer; prayers that are knit into the shawls and that the recipient is wrapped in with each shawl.

One member of the prayer shawl group told us that she had taken a shawl to a sick friend with the prayers and a card and was very surprised and moved by how much the shawl meant to her friend. She told her daughter of this experience and was surprised when her daughter tearfully asked her to make a shawl for her. The woman asked her daughter why she wanted a prayer shawl, and the daughter told her she wanted the shawl so she could wrap herself in God’s love and prayers for the rest of her life.

Our prayer shawl group meets the SECOND Saturday of every month in the Garden Room of St. Andrew’s Village from 9-11 a.m. Come and pray and knit with us if you can, or pray and knit at home and bring us your shawl for gifting.

Contact: Jackie O’Neill, 651-770-1155.

**GriefShare**
**Thursdays, March 5 through June 4**
**6:45 to 8:45 p.m. in Sanctuary Building**
GriefShare is a Christ-centered grief recovery support group. The Biblically-based program, focusing on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one, is presented in a 13-week video series featuring nationally respected grief experts. In group discussion you will have an opportunity to share with people who understand and to start the journey from mourning to joy.

Call Joanne Zehnder at 651-730-9073 for more information. To register, contact Lisa Grundtner at 651-762-9117 or lgrundtner@saintandrews.org. Cost is $18 which covers all materials.

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
Leader Connect Meeting
April 13, 7-8 p.m. Sanctuary Building
If you lead a Small Group at St. Andrew’s (in the Small Group Ministry, Men’s Ministry, Women’s Ministry, Bible Study, Prayer Group, etc.) we would love to connect with you. We are going to have a gathering of all leaders to get to know one another, hear about exciting things happening at St. Andrew’s, and equip you for your ministry. Mark your calendars and RSVP to Erin Morris, Diaconal Minister of Faith Engagement 651-762-9135 emorris@saintandrews.org.

What Could Be Better?
Peg and I have been attending and/or leading Bible Studies for all 51 years of our marriage. We are currently involved in four different small groups, three of which meet in homes monthly and one that meets in a larger meeting room every week. I am preparing to start yet another group. Why do we do it? How much Bible do you really need to know? It is all about fellowship, growing in faith, and striving to better understand God’s personal call to you and your response.

It is far too easy to attend church regularly and never really get to know anyone. Small Group studies have given Peg and me a great opportunity to get to know many wonderful people that we would never have gotten to know any other way. These friendships have lasted, and our large church has become much more personal in the process. For us there has always been a strong element of meaningful fellowship and friendship that comes with sharing your faith with concerned Christian people in a small group Bible study. We are drawn closer to each other and God in the process. What could be better than that?

If you are compelled in any way to join one of the many small group studies currently offered at St. Andrew’s, perhaps the Lord is calling you. Listen and respond. You will never regret it. You don’t need a Bible background to join, only an open heart. If you know anyone, St. Andrew’s or not, invite them also. Current times come with many personal challenges to everyone. Reinforcing one another and growing in faith with Christian friends brings all involved closer to the “way, the truth, and the light” of Christ. It is God’s promise to each of us.

Your Friends In Christ,
Pete and Peg Nasvik

Not just a program – a way of living
God had created us to be in community, we need others to help us, support us, and we want to be there for others as well. This is one of the primary reasons people come to church, to find community. It can be a challenge in a large church such as St. Andrew’s to find where you belong. Small Groups is one of the best ways to be in community.

Small Groups are constantly forming, and it is easy to lead one as well. The Small Group Ministry Team wants to help you get connected. Contact Erin Morris, Diaconal Minister of Faith Engagement (651) 762-9135, emorris@saintandrews.org or go to www.saintandrews.org to find out more about Small Groups.
Dear Preschool Parents:

We hope you had memorable and holy moments with family and friends over Christmas break and that the peace and joy of our Savior’s birth fills you in this new year.

We wanted to let you know as soon as possible about some of the changes that are coming our way. We are saddened to let you know that we’ve had to make some very painful and prayerful decisions concerning the half-day preschool program. For a number of reasons – among them a widespread trend towards full-day preschool, declining enrollment, and the financial challenges of sustaining the program – we have made the difficult decision of phasing out our half-day preschool program here at St. Andrew’s.

We are fiercely committed to continuing to offer full- and part-time options for exceptional Christian-based education at the full-day preschool location at St. Andrew’s Village.

Because your children are so important to us, we want our current families to be able to complete their preschool experience with us. Therefore, we will offer contracts for our currently enrolled students. You will find the contracts in your child’s folder. It is vital to us that your families’ and students’ experience with our program ends strong and well.

It is also important for you to know that before this decision was made, both Director Jill Wieland and Jan Jacobson made their intent known to retire at the end of this school year. We have been so blessed by their phenomenal leadership and gifts. We look forward to celebrating with them this spring their incredible dedication and ministry to the hundreds of students over the years.

We realize you may have some questions, and therefore we will be having a meeting at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 8, in Great Hall Room 6 to help answer any questions. If you are unable to make this meeting, know you are always free to call or email us as well.

Sincerely,

Mike Carlson, Lead Pastor
651-762-9127
mcarlson@saintandrews.org
Celebrating 4 Years of Providing Help and Hope!

by Liz Schreier, Executive Director, CRC

The Community Resource Center (CRC) commemorates four years at St. Andrew’s! We continue to see God at work in the CRC and are excited to share some of what’s been happening.

CRC has been designated as the sole family shelter for all of Washington County. As of January, 2015 the county has implemented a “coordinated access” system of shelter intake. This means that based on your demographic, you have a specific organization to connect with for assistance. Single adults call the county directly, homeless youth call Canvas Health, and families with children call St. Andrew’s CRC. This responsibility comes with recognition from the county of the success of the CRC to help orchestrate our families into stable housing upon exiting our shelter. Our goal is always to walk with our families until they are stably housed, and we achieve this with nearly 90% of our families. In addition to sheltering Washington county families, we continue to shelter our neighbors in the White Bear Lake and Maplewood/North St. Paul/Oakdale school districts. Our highest priority is to keep children in the school they are attending so that their lives are disrupted as little as possible. We continue to “fill gaps” in service by serving all that come through our doors for food, basic needs and assistance with resources.

We are grateful for the consistent support of countless volunteers and the generous monetary donations that we continue to receive. This truly is a place where we daily experience the presence of God working through so many. Thank you for your dedication to this mission of helping our neighbors in need and continuing to be a part of the solution. Together, we are making a difference.

In 4 years at the CRC:
• Shelter – 444 families
• Rent assistance – 301 families
• Emergency food – 1,800+ families
• Free community meals – 29,000 served

Tour the Community Resource Center and Shelter!
Have you ever wondered what it might be like to have to ask for help? Join us for a tour of the St. Andrew’s CRC as we travel the journey from shelter to home on Sunday, April 19, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. See what our guests might experience by having to enter into emergency shelter. Start at the St. Andrew’s CRC in the St. Andrew’s Great Hall building, inside door 6. Hear about what has been happening at the Resource Center before departing on a bus tour of our Hope for the Journey Home shelter at Guardian Angels Church in Oakdale. No registration required. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. We hope to see you there. Questions? Please contact Beth Smith: bsmith@saintandrews.org or 651-762-9148.

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
New Keys Program Continues Support After Shelter Stay

by Kris Mason, Case Management Supervisor, CRC

The transition from shelter to home is a time for celebration, but it can also be challenging for some. St. Andrew’s Community Resource Center has started a program that allows us to walk alongside families as they make this transition. Our new “Keys” program provides case management and a small rental subsidy for up to one year after a family is out of shelter. A case manager will meet with the family on a regular basis to assist with areas such as budgeting, transportation, job security, and being a good tenant. The goal is to form good habits and to ensure housing stability.

The first family in our “Keys” program is a single mom, Heidi, and her three children. Heidi worked so hard while with us in shelter. She found a job and started working but had a difficult time finding an apartment because of a poor rental history. We referred her to a landlord, and because he knew Heidi was going to receive ongoing support from St. Andrew’s, he agreed to rent to her. Today Heidi has received a promotion at her job, is working to save money to purchase a car, and has hopes to go back to school part-time!

In the past four years the CRC staff has celebrated over 400 times with families leaving our shelter program as they move in to their new home. They come in to see us right after meeting with their landlord to proclaim, “I signed my lease. I’ve got my keys!” The symbolism of their new set of keys is enormous. Keys represent something they have worked hard for, a home for their children, stability. As part of the celebration we give each family a keychain by which they can remember St. Andrew’s. Printed on one side is: “I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “…plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11.

CRC Launches Employment Mentor Program

by Beth Smith, CRC

St. Andrew’s Community Resource Center (CRC) is piloting a new three-stage career mentoring program to promote our guests’ success in securing and maintaining employment. A team of volunteer employment mentors meets with guests to 1) assess work skills and strengths, 2) develop resumes, seek potential employment opportunities, and assist with interview preparation, and 3) provide ongoing support to guests during employment and explore long-term education and employment goals.

David Brookman, one of the Resource Center volunteer employment mentors comments, “We give our guests the confidence and tools to go out into the job market. They feel comfortable applying for jobs, preparing resumes, and filling out job applications.” Case managers provide support to the employment mentors to help them better understand the needs and individual goals of each guest and family.

Resource Center guests participating in the mentoring program provide positive feedback about the process: “My resume is really good. He [employment mentor] helped me build my resume and find websites for jobs. I put my resume out on the website, and I have gotten e-mails back about job openings.”

“My work history was really horrible when I was growing up, so it is nice to have someone to talk to, tell me how to answer certain questions, and go through the interview process. It has been a help. A big, big help.”

The CRC team is also building partnerships with community colleges, temporary employment agencies, and local businesses to provide enhanced educational and employment options for our guests.

If you are interested in volunteering as an employment mentor or helping us expand our community partnerships, please contact Beth at bsmith@saintandrews.org or 651-762-9148.
**CHRISTIAN LOVE**

As a community of faith, we mourn the loss of the following brothers and sisters in Christ:

**Gilbert Marty**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Gilbert Marty. Gilbert died at the age of 79 on Dec. 16. His memorial service was held on Dec. 22.

**Richard Press**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Richard Press. Dick died at the age of 75 on Dec. 17. His memorial service was held on Dec. 22.

**Shirley Puffer**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Shirley Puffer. Shirley died at the age of 91 on Dec. 21. Her funeral service was held on Dec. 26.

**Russell Dudero**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Russell Dudero. Russell died at the age of 77 on Dec. 24. His memorial service will be held at a future date.

**John A. Evans**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of John A. Evans. John died at the age of 61 on Jan. 3. His memorial service was held on Jan. 9.

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**SYMPATHY**

**Chuck Benson**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Chuck Benson. Chuck died at the age of 57 on Jan. 7. His memorial service was held on Jan. 15.

**Cathy Rengstorf**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Cathy Rengstorf. Cathy died at the age of 77 on Jan. 9. Her funeral service was held on Jan. 15.

**Michael Vick**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Michael Vick. Michael died at the age of 55 on Jan. 10. His memorial service was held on Jan. 16.

**John Howard Straiton**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of John Howard Straiton. Howie died at the age of 97 on Jan. 15. His memorial service was held on Jan. 26.

**Gretchen Senft**
Christian love and sympathy are extended to the family of Gretchen Senft. Gretchen died at the age of 93 on Jan. 20. Her memorial service was held on Jan. 29.

*May Christ’s resurrection bring hope and comfort to those who grieve their loss.*

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**Support Groups**

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<tr>
<th>Inner Peace Alanon</th>
<th>Alanon Works Family</th>
<th>Happy and Joyous AA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Event Date: Thursdays; all year</td>
<td>Event Date: Fridays, all year</td>
<td>Event Date: Sundays, all year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Time: 7-8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Time: 7-8:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Location: Sanctuary Room 204</td>
<td>Location: Sanctuary Room 201</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursery/Childcare: Yes, call 651-762-9113</td>
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<td>Nursery/Childcare: No</td>
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**12 Step AA**

| Event Date: Fridays, all year | Time: 5:30-7 p.m. | Location: Sanctuary Room 204A |
| Registration: None required; just come | Nursery/Childcare: No |

**Gratitude in Action AA**

| Event Date: Sundays, all year | Time: 5:30-7 p.m. | Location: Sanctuary Room 201 & 202 |
| Registration: None required; just come | Nursery/Childcare: No |

**12 x 12 Step AA**

| Event Date: Fridays, all year | Time: 7-8:30 p.m. | Location: Sanctuary Room 204A |
| Registration: None required, just come | Nursery/Childcare: Yes, call 651-762-9113 |

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*St. Andrew’s Contact:*
Lisa Grundtner
651-762-9119
lgrundtner@saintandrews.org

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*We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.*
Gospel Highlights
Pastor John Straiton
Monday Mornings
10:30-11:30 a.m. Great Hall
It is the Christian belief that the entire Bible is ultimately fulfilled in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ Jesus. Join Pastor Straiton in a study of some of the key stories found in the four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Pre-register online at saintandrews.org or with a registration envelope. Registration will remain open after the start date. Fee is $10.

Living an Authentic Life: Exploring Jesus
Rev. Jack Fortin
Tuesday Evenings, 7-8:15; Great Hall
Rev. Jack Fortin is currently a Senior Fellow at the Center for Faith and Learning at Augsburg College. Jack is a graduate of Luther Seminary and a member of St. Andrew’s. His ministry has included Young Life, Luther Seminary, and authoring the book The Centered Life. He was recently the interim pastor of Colonial Church in Edina. His teaching style is engaging, informative, and has been enjoyed by many.

Pre-register online at saintandrews.org or with a registration envelope. Registration will remain open after the start date. Fee is $10.

Women’s Bible Study Basics
Studying Old Testament Wise Men!
Wednesdays 9:30 – 11 a.m. in the Great Hall (Nursery available)
OR
Every other Saturday at 9:30 a.m., meeting in homes
OR
Form your own group, and we’ll support you with books, training and multi-media materials.

Call Carrin with questions at 651-762-9119.

Men’s Tuesday Morning Bible Study
With Pastor John Straiton
A large group of men meet year round every Tuesday morning in the Great Hall from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. Come and make some new friends as you learn more about God’s word. Coffee and rolls are provided. Registration is not necessary. No fee.
**Family and Children’s Ministry**

**Family Ministry Opportunities**

**www.saintandrews.org/familyministry** – Open to families of all ages.

Parent or other adult required to attend with children and youth.

**March Event: Family Roller Skating Fun!**

Sunday, March 22, at Saints North Roller Skating Rink in Maplewood; 1-4 pm. Cost is $5 per skater. Bring your own skates, or $1 to rent roller skates or $3 roller blades. Mention St. Andrew’s to get the discount.

**April Event: Family Service Opportunity; Feed My Starving Children**

Saturday, April 18, 2-4 p.m. at the Coon Rapids Packing Facility, visit the web-link above to register. Great event for the whole family, ages 5+; adult supervision required if children under age 16 attend. Families are encouraged to bring donations to the event, but it is not required for participation.

**Important Dates**

**March:**
13: Parents’ Night Out: Friday, 5-8 p.m.
15: Communion Sunday
15: Baptism Class in the Sanctuary Rm. 204 at 12 noon
25: Communion Wednesday
28: First Communion Workshop, 9:30-12 noon

**April:**
1: Worship Wednesday: All children worship with families for Holy Week
2: Skipping Stone Celebration: First Communion, Maundy Thursday Worship 7 p.m.
3: Good Friday Family Services; 10 a.m., 2 and 4 p.m.
4 & 5: Worship Weekend: All children worship with families for Easter
10: Parents’ Night Out: Friday, 5-8 p.m.
16: Baptism Class in the Great Hall Rm. 6 at 6:30 p.m.
18: Family Service Opportunity: FMSC Blaine 2-4 p.m.
29: Communion Wednesday

**Young Families**

**www.saintandrews.org/nursery**

**Family Frolics**

Mondays: 9-11 a.m.

Parents and their preschool children are invited to the Gym at the Youth and Sports Center. There is no charge to play, simply come and enjoy. Contact Lisa Heyer at 651-762-9175 for more information.

**3 For Me**

*A Fun Break for Parents and Kids!*

“Three for Me” offers three hours of free time for busy moms and dads while their kids enjoy three hours of FUN, including Bible stories, play, songs, crafts, and group activities - all in a safe, nurturing environment. For a link to registration and more information visit us online. Contact Masako Kedrowski at 651-762-9136 or mkedrowski@saintandrews.org with any questions.

**Parents’ Night Out**

Take a break with a night away. Enjoy a quiet dinner or do a little shopping while your children enjoy Bible stories, crafts, games, and time to play with new friends. We provide a snack and lemonade (dinner not provided).

**Fridays, March 13 and April 10; 5-8 p.m.**

Ages: Birth - 5 years. Sanctuary Nursery Room 101

Cost: $10/child or $25/family

Registration closes the Monday before the event. Register online. Contact Masako Kedrowski at 651-762-9136 or mkedrowski@saintandrews.org.

**Serving Opportunities**

**Good Friday Marketplace Volunteers:**

Join us for the excitement of Passover at the Jerusalem Marketplace on Good Friday, April 3. We are in need of volunteers to be costumed vendors for the marketplace which runs for approximately 30 minutes prior to each of our Experiential Family Services at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday, April 3. To register contact Ellen Skaja at 651-762-9171 or eskaja@saintandrews.org.

**Vacation Bible School:**

**www.saintandrews.org/vbsvolunteer**

Our VBS Program brings over 500 children to campus for a week full of fun and excitement. We need your help to make it all happen in a safe, fun, friendly environment. This year we are taking a Bible Blast to the Past to discover God’s everlasting love. There are many ways to use your gifts and talents to help kids from preschool through grade 5 make this discovery.

*We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.*
Register Now for VBS!

www.saintandrews.org/VBS

Monday, June 22 – Friday, June 26, 2015, 9 a.m. – 12 noon

VBS: Ages 3 (by 1/1/15) through completed Grade 5 - $35 per child or $125 per family

God Squad (Junior Leadership): Completed grades 6-8 –
Morning only $15, Afternoon option $40

Volunteers: Completed grade 9- adult
Sunday Celebration: June 28 at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Camp WAPO

Last Chance for Priority Registration is March 15

Seeds Weekend (Completed grades 2 & 3) Friday, July 31 – Sunday, Aug. 2
WAPO Youth Camp (Completed grades 4 & 5) Sunday, Aug. 2 – Friday, Aug. 7
For more information visit www.saintandrews.org/camp.

www.saintandrews.org/skippingstones

Skipping Stones

Celebrating Baptism
Baptism Preparation Classes:
Sunday, March 15, at 12 noon in the Sanctuary Room 204
Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall Room 6

It is expected that families attend a Baptism Class before the baptism of each of their children. The class is free of charge; please register at least one week prior. Childcare is available. Contact Lisa Heyer to register for the class and set up a baptism at 651-762-9175 or LHeyer@saintandrews.org.

First Communion Instruction: Welcome To The Lord’s Table (Grade 1 and up)
Upcoming Dates: Workshop, March 28; 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Great Hall
Celebration Service: Maundy Thursday, April 2; 7 p.m.

Visit the web-link above to register

Children grade 1 and older are invited to participate in the Communion Workshop. The decision to participate is one that needs to be made by the family; each child develops differently both mentally and spiritually. Communion is always open for any believing heart to partake. The workshop is a supplemental element to aide in understanding the sacrament better. During our workshop participants will learn about the history of communion, partake in a sampling of Passover foods, baking bread and how to prepare for the sacrament itself. Parents or godparents are asked to attend class with their child but the whole family is invited to join in. If you have questions contact Kim Lewin at 651-762-9167 or klewin@saintandrews.org.
**CONFIRMATION**

6th, 7th & 8th Grade

Lent Services: March 4, 11, 18 & 25, 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Reminder: all Confirmation youth are expected to attend the Lenten services with their families and Lenten mentor.

Wednesday Confirmation: April 8, 15, 22 & 29

Sunday Confirmation: April 12, 19 & 26

We are excited that Wednesday Worship Services are offered year-round. Families can attend worship on Wednesdays, with education offered for pre-school - 5th grade, and Confirmation youth can complete worship notes. If you have commitments on the weekend, it is a great way to continue to keep the Sabbath day holy.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Movie Extravaganza**

Friday, April 17, 6 to 10 p.m.

Super exciting news! This Movie Extravaganza will be even greater this time around! With more games, more laughter (Comedy Sportz!), more sugar, more surprises, and more MOVIE EXTRAVAGANZA! Come to this event and walk away with a better understanding on how to notice God in your daily life. No cost. Questions, contact Josh Carlson at jcarlson@saintandrews.org. All Confirmation youth are required to attend at least one of the Movie Extravaganzas during the year.

**Apostle Islands Mission Trip**

Aug. 2 - 6, 2015  Cost: $249/person  Deposit of $75/person

Middle Schoolers (completed 6th-8th grade) embark on a first ever Apostle Island Mission Trip! Spend time serving in the Bayfield area, whitewater canoe on the Brule River; take a cruise on majestic Lake Superior, camp on Madeline Island, worship on rocks overlooking Lake Superior, and comb the beaches in Lake Superior. Space is limited, so get your deposit in as soon as possible or sign up online.

Questions, contact Josh Carlson at jcarlson@saintandrews.org.

**HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Good Friday Rehearsals**

Sundays: March 1, 8, 15, 22, noon to 2 p.m.

Full Dress Rehearsals: Sunday, March 29, 1 to 3 p.m. & Wednesday, April 1, 7 to 9 p.m.

**Pancake Breakfast!**

Youth & adult volunteers needed for Pancake Breakfast, March 29, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. Andrew’s is revamping the yearly pancake breakfast. Any high school students looking for financial support for their 2015 summer ministry trips are welcome and encouraged to sign up. We need youth who are handy in the kitchen, have the gift of hospitality, enjoy serving or employing any other gifts to help us. If there are any adults that would help serving, please contact Jenelle Thorvilson at JThorvilson@saintandrews.org.

**Youth Worship Band Practice**

Sundays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, April 12, 19 & 26, 5:15 to 6 p.m. in the Youth & Sports Center.

Come celebrate God’s unconditional love through songs of praise. We would really love someone that can play keyboard.

**Wednesday Night Activities**

2:45 to 6 p.m. in the Gym, Pier 7, Community Room. All activities free of charge. The Youth and Sports Center offers space for homework, gym time, organized games, outdoor games (weather permitting) and a movie room for relaxing or burning off some energy after the school day. Papa Murphy’s pizza, Donatelli’s salad and soup is available for purchase. Contact Josh Carlson by phone at 651-762-9168 or email jcarlson@saintandrews.org for more information how to serve.

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.


**Early Bird Breakfast Club**

*Every Thursday, 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.*

Mahtomedi – Coffee Cottage, 88 Mahtomedi Ave.
Stillwater – Starbucks – 5980 Neal Ave N., Oak Park Heights
White Bear Lake – Caribou Coffee – 4th & 61

*Now on Fridays (when school is in session), 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.*

White Bear Lake – Caribou Coffee – 4th & 61

Meet with other high school youth to begin your day in the WORD. Come for coffee, connections and good conversations. All high school youth welcome!

**High School Lock-In**

Friday, April 17 - 18, 8:30 p.m. to 9 a.m., Youth & Sports Center

Cost: $10 and a snack to share, registration deadline: April 15

Come for a night full of fun playing some games like Murder in the Dark, Train Wreck and Sardines! We’ll also enjoy some laughs from renowned local Comedy Sportz. Invite friends and make new ones! Stay up most of the night and get to know each other while you get to know God deeper. Register online. Any questions contact Jenelle Thorvilson.

**Blessing of the Keys**

*Workshop: Sunday, April 19, 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.*

in Sanctuary, Room 204AB

Blessing: Sunday, May 3, following 10:30 a.m. service

Everyone knows a whole new world opens up for families when a child receives their driver’s license. New expectations, new privileges, new freedoms, and new worries all come into play. What better time to come together as a family to talk through the new expectations and privileges, as well as pray and ask for guidance. Join other families and youth as we eat lunch, create covenants and choose verses to bless the cars. On Sunday, May 3, we will meet after the 10:30 a.m. service and have a formal blessing. Register online to reserve spots for the workshop and lunch.

**Summer Leader Training**

The 2015 Confirmation Camp at Camp Wapo is quickly approaching, so it is time to begin training our Counselor and Resource Team Leaders who will work with our 6th, 7th and 8th grade campers. This is a great St. Andrew’s tradition and open to all 9th graders and older. We need both adults and youth leaders for camp. There will be 4 trains this spring and leaders will need to attend all trains. There is no registration needed. Camp costs $125 for all leaders. An additional $100 is required for the leader weekend.

Feb. 8, 1:30 to 3 p.m. – All Leaders
March 8, 1:30 to 3 p.m. – All Leaders
April 12, 1:30 to 3 p.m. - All Leaders
May 3, 1:30 to 3 p.m. - All Leaders
May 31, 5 to 8 p.m. - Final Camp Meeting (all leaders)

Apirl 11 - 10 to 11 a.m - Session 1 make up; 11 a.m to noon - Session 2 make up
May 30, 10 to 11 a.m- Session 3 make up; 11 a.m to noon - Session 4 make up
June 8-12, CONFIRMATION CAMP
June 12-14, Leader Weekend

**2015 Apostle Islands Mission Trip**

Aug. 2 - 6, 2015  Cost: $249/Person  Deposit of $75/person
High Schoolers (completed 9-12th Grade) embark on a first ever Apostle Island Mission Trip! Spend time serving on the Red Cliff Indian Reservation, sea kayaking in the Bayfield area, take a ferry to Madeline Island, camp and hike on Madeline Island, worship around campfires, and swim in Lake Superior. Space is limited, so get your deposit in as soon as possible or sign up online. Questions, contact Jenelle Thorvilson at jthorvilson@saintandrews.org.

**Peer Ministry Meetings**

Sunday, March 8, 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Youth & Sports Center
Sunday, April 12, Noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Youth & Sports Center

This is our monthly check-in meeting for those who have attended the training for Peer Ministry. RSVP 24-hours in advance! Dinner is provided.
Men’s Ministry

Men’s Breakfast
Saturday, March 14, 2015, 8-9:30 a.m.
Men’s Ministry breakfasts feature a delicious meal, music, fellowship and an inspirational message. Share the invitation with sons, fathers, grandfathers and neighbors. Cost: free-will offering at the door.

Men’s Annual Banquet
Monday, April 27, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
In the Great Hall — Cost $30
Men remember this night as one of the best of the year at St. Andrew’s with inspirational speakers, powerful music, and meals that hit home. Our own contemporary Christian recording artist Sarah Renner will be the featured entertainment, with the guest speaker soon to be confirmed.

Tickets go quickly and will be on sale at church for $30. You may also purchase tickets during the week by contacting Dianne Nash at 651-762-9141.

Men’s Tuesday Morning Bible Study
With Pastor John Straiton
A large group of men meet year round every Tuesday morning in the Great Hall from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. Come and make some new friends as you learn more about God’s word. Coffee and rolls are provided. Registration is not necessary. No fee.

Women’s Ministry

Habitat For Humanity: Women Build
May 11, 13 and 18
Join us on an all-woman crew to learn new skills and help someone in need get affordable housing! Sign up at St. Andrew’s during Habitat Weekend April 25 & 26, or call Carrin Mahmood, 651-762-9119.

Movie and Reel Talk
Fridays, 6:30 p.m.
Join us for a fun night out with the girls
March 6 — “Princess Bride.” This endearing cult classic is on multiple “top films” and “must see” lists.
April 10 — “The Book Thief.” Adapted from the tremendously popular novel, this movie, with it’s unique narration, is beautiful, haunting and a wonderful conversation starter.

Women’s Book Club
All are welcome. This discussion group meets the third Monday of each month at 11 a.m. We meet in the conference room at the Maplewood Library.
March — Jewelweed by David Rhodes
April — Dancing at the Rascal Fair by Ivan Doig

San Antonio Hike, Bike, Paddle Trip
Oct. 22-25
We’ll stay in historical San Antonio, Texas.
• Biking the “Missions National Historical Park.” You’ll explore centuries of history and culture when you visit the five missions of San Antonio.
• Kayaking the San Antonio River and/or paddling through the city of San Antonio.
• Hiking the Hill Country Village-Hollywood Park Walk Loop

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
Sailing Trip
Bayfield, WI to Black River Harbor, MI
June 11-14, 2015
The night before the trip we’ll board and sleep in the harbor. We’ll spend our days sailing, anchoring at Stockton Island and others, then crossing the open lake to Black River Harbor, Michigan. This trip will include as much or little navigating and sailing as you want to be involved with. For a more detailed trip itinerary pick up a WOTE brochure or find it online at saintandrews.org. If the weather does not cooperate, this trip will be converted to a four day trip in the Islands, which is every bit as fun. $599 includes all meals, lodging and the four-day sail. A $200 non-refundable deposit is due by May 3. Call Carrin Mah- mood with questions at 651-762-9119 or e-mail at cmahmood@saintandrews.org.

North Shore Sampler
Hike-Paddle-Slide-Ride
Thursday, July 9– Sunday, July 12
Day 1 Lutsen: Alpine Slide, Mountain Tram, and Superior Hiking
Hop on the Lutsen Mountain Tram to the summit of Moose Mountain, lunch at the Summit Chalet, and then take the tram down or hike the Superior Hiking Trail back to the base area. Afternoon: Alpine Slide: We’ll spend the afternoon doing a little thrill seeking with the Alpine Slide. Enjoy a leisurely chairlift ride to the summit of Lutsen’s Eagle Mountain, then hop on our sled and cruise down an exhilarating half mile of twisting, turning track back to the base.
Evening: relax the night away in Grand Marais, enjoying the town or head back to Grand Marais Municipal Camp Ground for a campfire and relaxation.

Day 2 BWCA: Paddle, Paddle, Paddle, Stop
We’ll make our way up the Gunflint Trail and head to Hungry Jack’s Outfitters for a day of canoeing the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. ‘Tis the season for berry picking, moose sightings, and other wild life! If you have been on the dog-sled trips we will see some of the same sights from our canoes. (Daniel’s Bluff, Rose Falls, Canada…) We’ll pack our lunch in and head back to Grand Marais for dinner.

Day 3 Devil’s Kettle: International Hiking Option
This popular hike leads from the trailhead upstream along the Brule River to Devil’s Kettle, where the river splits around a mass of volcanic rock. Half of the river plunges 50 feet into a pool, while the rest pours into the mysterious hole known as “Devil’s Kettle.” Everyone can hike at their own pace. We’ll be next to Canada so those who wish to bring their passports can hike the “High Falls Trail” from the Canada side! Dinner will be at the historical Naniboujou Lodge, then we’ll head back to Grand Marais.

Day 4 Worship:
We’ll worship on the lovely shore of Lake Superior and then the day is yours to enjoy or pack up and head home!

For a more detailed trip itinerary pick up a WOTE brochure or find it online at saintandrews.org. $105 covers all activities and camping. Meals are on your own. Please register by June 10 at saintandrews.org or with a registration envelope available in any building at St. Andrew’s. For more information call Carrin at 651-762-9119, or e-mail cmahmood@saintandrews.org.

Badger Lake Dragon Boat
Fort Dodge, Iowa, Friday, Aug. 7—Sunday, Aug. 9
After 10 years of heading north, WOTE will try something new!
• Friday night: Community party, pork chop dinner for teams, parade of teams and Boogie Bash!
• Saturday: racing all day. (There are several all-women’s teams which include a mix of Breast Cancer Survivors and supporters.)
$130 covers 3 meals, race shirt, boogie bash, race fees and hotel lodging (amenities include: pool, whirlpool, exercise room). Payment due by June 1, 2015. Contact Carrin for more information at 651-762-9119 or cmahmood@saintandrews.org.

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
Music Ministry

Sunday Schedule
for Sanctuary Choirs and Instrumental groups

The schedule is revised for the month of March and April. Please take note. If any changes become necessary, you will receive them from your director.

Middle School Rehearsal Change on Wednesdays During Lent

Confirmation students are required to attend worship services at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesdays. Therefore, Celebration Singers and Middle School Choir will have combined rehearsals, 5:10-5:55 p.m., on Wednesdays – Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1. Regular rehearsals will resume April 8.

Celebration Singers and Middle School Choir will sing together at the following services during Lent: This is a change in worship time for Celebration Singers, just for March.

Sunday, March 8 – 10:30 a.m. (10 warm-up)
Sunday, March 29 (Palm Sunday) – 9 a.m. (8:30 warm-up)

Sunday, March 1
9:00 St. Andrew’s Choir
10:30 St. Andrew’s Choir; New Dimension Singers; King’s Messengers

Sunday, March 8 Daylight Saving Time begins
9:00 St. Andrew’s Choir; Handbells
10:30 St. Andrew’s Choir; Choristers; New Dimension Singers with Middle School Choir & Celebration Singers; Handbells

Sunday, March 15
St. Andrew’s Orchestra at both Sanctuary worship services
9:00 St. Andrew’s Choir; Senior High Choir
10:30 St. Andrew’s Choir; New Dimension Singers

Sunday, March 22
King’s Messengers field-trip sing at Lyngblomsten Care Center
9:00 St. Andrew’s Choir;
10:30 St. Andrew’s Choir; New Dimension Singers

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday
9:00 St. Andrew’s Choir; Sr. High Choir
10:30 St. Andrew’s Choir; New Dimension Singers; Celebration Singers and Middle School Choir (combined)

Holy Week
Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7 p.m. Sanctuary
We commemorate the Last Supper—a Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples the night before his death. The service includes beautiful music by New Dimension Singers and Handbells.

Good Friday, April 3, 7 p.m. Sanctuary:

“Stay With Us” is the theme of this service. The story is told through the biblical text and the music by St. Andrew’s Choir, St. Andrew’s Orchestra, and the 108-rank Casavant organ.

Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday Choir Schedule (Sanctuary)
St. Andrew’s Orchestra plays at all Sanctuary services
7 and 8 a.m. Senior High Choir
9 a.m. St. Andrew’s Choir and Choristers
10 a.m. St. Andrew’s Choir and King’s Messengers
11 a.m. New Dimension Singers, Middle School Choir and Celebration Singers

Noon Soloist

Sunday, April 12
9:00 St. Andrew’s Choir; Celebration Singers
10:30 St. Andrew’s Choir; Choristers; New Dimension Singers; Middle School Choir

Sunday, April 19
9:00 St. Andrew’s Choir; Senior High Choir; Orff Grades 9-12
10:30 St. Andrew’s Choir; King’s Messengers; Orff grades 2/3

Sunday, April 26
9:00 St. Andrew’s Choir; Celebration Singers; Orff Grades 4/5
10:30 St. Andrew’s Choir; New Dimension Singers; Middle School Choir; Orff Grades 6-8

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
Tenors! Tenors!
We need more tenors in St. Andrew’s Choir and New Dimension Singers. If you are a tenor, and are interested in joining one of the choirs, please call Jan Gilbertson: 651-762-9123.

Music Series

Monday, March 16, 7 p.m.
U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers’ Chorus
Ticket information: wildwoodartistseries.com

Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m.
White Bear Lake High School Choral Concert
Free-will offering

Friday, April 3, 7 p.m.
Good Friday service with St. Andrew’s Choir and Orchestra
Free-will offering

Thursday, April 9, 7 p.m.
White Bear Lake Band Concert
Free-will offering

Sunday, April 12, 4 p.m.
Two Rivers Chorale and Northwestern University
Free-will offering

Sunday, April 19, 7 p.m.
Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies Concert
Tickets: 651-291-1144

Sunday, May 3, 4 p.m.
Grand Symphonic Winds
Free-will offering

Sunday, May 10, 3 p.m.
St. Paul Chamber Orchestra
Tickets: 651-291-1144

Sunday, May 17, 4 p.m.
Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra
Free-will offering

Sports and Rec

Yogadevotion
Yogadevotion is a practice of breath, prayer, and movement led by a trained yoga instructor. Yogadevotion helps to encourage healthy living and a peaceful presence. Whether you are just beginning to explore the benefits of yoga or are an experienced yogi, you are welcomed to this community. Register through an in-house registration form, attention Dianne Nash, call 651-762-9141, or register on-line.

Six-week session – March 2-April 6; cost $45

Practicing in the Presence – Monday Mornings
Multi-level; 9 to 10 a.m., this class is open to all ages. Classes will be held in Sanctuary Room 204.

Practicing in the Presence/Yin Yoga – Monday Evenings
5:15-6:15 p.m. in the Great Hall. Yin yoga poses are intended to work passively with the fascia rather than actively with the muscles. Class will require props such as a block, strap, and blanket/pillow for the closing meditation. You may bring your own props from home or purchase the first night of the class.

Practicing in the Presence – Monday Evenings
6:30-7:30 p.m. This multi-level class is open to all skill levels from beginner to advanced.
Classes are held in the Great Hall.

Karate for the whole family at St. Andrew’s
Did you know Karate for kids and adults on Tuesday nights is offered at St. Andrew’s? Kids as young as 1st graders and adults during the same time (separate classes) It’s a great way to share mind body and spirit activity with your child. 12-week sessions ongoing. Contact: dellenbecker@gmail.com for more information.

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
“Velvet Revolution,” or “Gentle Revolution,” is the name given to a period in 1989 during which Czechs and Slovaks rose up against communism, effectively ending 41 years of Communist rule in what was then Czechoslovakia. Beginning in November of that year, hundreds of thousands of citizens staged historic demonstrations in Bratislava and Prague, driving the non-violent transition of power to a parliamentary republic.

Many Slovaks remember November 16, 1989, when Slovak high school and university students organized a peaceful demonstration in the center of Bratislava, the Slovak capital city. On the next day, November 17, riot police suppressed another large student demonstration in Prague.

(Ironically, November 17 is also International Students’ Day, a worldwide commemoration of the Nazis’ storming of the University of Prague in 1939. The Nazis executed nine student leaders, sent 1,200 students to concentration camps, and closed all colleges and universities in Czechoslovakia. International Students’ Day memorializes student activism worldwide.)

Over the next couple of days in 1989, the number of demonstrators in Prague grew from 200,000 to an estimated 500,000. On November 27, the entire top leadership of the Communist Party resigned.

About the “Velvet Revolution”

The term Velvet Revolution was coined by Czech dissident Rita Klímová, whose command of English (she spent some childhood years in the United States) enabled her to serve as the protesters’ spokesperson during the 1989 demonstrations. Klímová’s good friend, rebel playwright and human rights activist Václav Havel, was elected president of Czechoslovakia on December 29, 1989. Thereafter, Klímová was named Czechoslovakia’s ambassador to the United States. She served from 1990 to 1992, stepping down just four months before the division of the Czech and Slovak republics, to receive treatment for leukemia. Klímová died in Prague in 1993.

In observance of the 25th anniversary of the “Gentle Revolution” (as it is called in Slovakia), the Center for Christian Education—including the Lutheran Academy in Martin—held a student worship service. This special time, with musical accompaniment provided by the school’s band, included the playing of songs once banned during Communist rule.

We are reminded of the precious gifts of freedom of religion and freedom of speech, movement, and assembly, all of which became ours again after 1989.

Most of all, we remember the freedom of religion because, as we learn in John 8:36, “If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed!”

In her sermon that day, Lutheran Academy pastor Janka Bosáková pointed out that freedom brings a choice: the choice to do what we want (or don’t want) to do. We also have moral responsibility for our actions. Yet, in some situations, people have no such freedom—for example, those enslaved, imprisoned, captured, or manipulated. Pastor Bosáková also reminded us about the modern slavery found in addictions to drugs, alcohol, or other things. In such situations, she said, we cannot control our life; rather, our addictions control us.

Still, the freedom we regained through the events of the Gentle Revolution do not guarantee freedom from sin, a violation of God’s rule. Real freedom comes to us, as Christians, through the salvation of Jesus Christ: a freedom that no one can take away from us.
Reaching the Next Generation in Slovakia

How do we reach the next generation in Slovakia? I invite your participation through a unique opportunity to participate in the purchase of a building adjacent to the campus that would provide sixteen classrooms, cafeteria and gymnasium space for the future of the schools of the Center for Christian Education. A matching gift has been given to raise the critical funding for the purchase and furnishing of this building.

After 50 plus years of hostile domination by fascist and communist regimes, on Nov. 17, 1989, the Berlin Wall went down, and the Velvet Revolution created the new nations of the Czech Republic and Slovakia. In the fall of 1998 the Bible School in Martin, Slovakia, was established educating young adults to be leaders in the rebirth of congregations in Slovakia that suffered persecution during the previous regimes.

To reach the next generation of children, the Lutheran Elementary School was established in 2004 and quickly became one of the ten best bi-lingual schools in Slovakia with a present enrollment of 464 students including the first two years of high school. The enrollment in this school has grown each year until we are out of classroom space and elementary and high school students are being turned away for the fall of 2015.

How do we reach the next generation in Slovakia? You have been a partner in this ministry. In many ways this has been a hidden ministry working quietly by your supporting gifts through student sponsorships for elementary students and young adult students in the Bible School programs, and the building and renovation of classrooms.

Above all, Vision Slovakia is a ministry of faith and prayer. Out of the ashes of this war-torn area now has come the establishment of all the educational programs under the Center for Christian Education. I know of no other ministry in which we could be so closely involved in seeing that change can come about for reaching the next generation through Christian education.

How do we reach the next generation in Slovakia? I invite your participation with us in this venture as you offer your gifts and support to continue this ministry. We have a unique opportunity to participate in the purchase of a building adjacent to the campus that would provide sixteen classrooms, cafeteria and gymnasium space for the future of the school. A matching gift has been given to raise the critical funding for the purchase and furnishing of this building. Your gift essentially is doubled by the matching gift. Our deadline is Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015.

We wish to give $___________ in the support of the matching gift for purchase and furnishing of a classroom building adjacent to the present campus of the Center for Christian Education in Martin, Slovakia.

Gifts may be given by checks made out to St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church and sent to Paul Berge, Director of Vision Slovakia, 900 Stillwater Road, Mahtomedi, MN 55115. Gifts may also be given with VISA or MasterCard online at saintandrews.org/give – please indicate "Slovakia" or please contact Paul Berge at 651-762-9143.

Name________________________________________Address________________________________________

Phone____________________________________Email________________________________________

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
Habitat for Humanity

St. Andrew’s To Build Again in White Bear Lake!

Exciting news! For the second year in a row you will have a chance to sponsor and build a Habitat for Humanity home in White Bear Lake! If you ever considered putting your faith into action by serving in this local mission, this is the year to do it. The house will be built at 1916 Eugene, (near 96 and 61).

Construction will begin May 4 and St. Andrew’s will continue building the weeks of May 5 and 18, and June 1 and 15. We will partner with several other area churches for the remainder of the build.

Registration for volunteers/Site Hosts/Lunches begins on-line at saintandrews.org April 1. (click on Habitat link – if you have problems registering contact Dave Schrader 651-470-6303). Registration at the church will take place April 11/12, 18/19 and Habitat weekend April 25/26 with last summer’s Habitat family as guests on Sunday.

Here is a message from last year’s Habitat family: “BEFORE owning a house, I was paying someone’s mortgage through my hard-earned income. Keep moving whenever we had a new baby and keep changing schools too. NOW, with a new house, it is the best thing to own - an asset! We have a place to call home. When my kids grow older, they know where to find me - home! Above all, freedom - paint any color, make it castle or make your own office space. LATER, all I have to do is to save money for maintenance, vacation, career advancement and of course, more time for the kids. LASTLY, it is worth to mention moments I and my wife Khadijo shared on building our own house. Very grateful and thankful to Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity and St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church, its partners and all volunteers.” Abdirizak Mohamud, Khadijo Ali and family (five children)

Originally from Somalia the couple moved to the United States in the late 90s. They speak 3 languages; Swahili, Arabic, and English. Abdirizak has been a social worker for the past 15 years and Khadijo is finishing her 3rd year as a medical student.

Fund-raising: The Cemstone Run/Walk For Others takes place on Saturday, April 18. After Easter, Special Habitat offering envelopes will be available in the church to raise $30,000 to sponsor materials used while we build. You can designate a gift to the Habitat for Humanity fund any time. If you donate directly to Twin Cities Habitat, please ask them to apply your gift to St. Andrew’s (Mahtomedi).

Here is what your gift to Habitat will buy:
$10 = Box of Nails
$50 = Low Flow Toilet
$75 = Window
$100 = Kitchen Sink
$150 = Front Door
$1000 = Wallboard
$2000 = Flooring

2015 will be the 24th year St. Andrew’s has helped a needy family achieve home ownership. Habitat for Humanity is not a charity program. Homeowners make their down payment with 300-500 hours of “sweat equity”, and then pay a zero interest mortgage for the actual cost of the house. Homeowners are carefully selected from needy applicants: only one in ten qualified applicants is offered one of the 60 homes built each year by volunteers and Habitat families here in the Twin Cities.

Join your St. Andrew’s friends and volunteer this spring!
• Be a construction volunteer (must be 16 years old)
• Be a site host
• Bring lunch or provide snacks
• Donate to the Habitat building fund
• Run in the Cemstone Run/walk For Others on April 18 saintandrews.org/runforothers
• Habitat 500 bike tour - ride or sponsor riders from St. Andrew’s Habitat500.org
• Be the neighborhood family partner for the new Habitat family
• Put this mission on your prayer list

Contact Dave Engh 651-482-8642 for information on construction. For questions regarding food, beverages or being a site host contact Lynn Hamblin 651-653-1676. Would you like to join our Tuesday Crew? A group of dedicated retirees volunteer each Tuesday year-around.

We exist so that the whole world will know the healing power of Christ’s love.
Proclaim Jesus Christ, Live in Christ, Serve!

Staff Directory - Here to Serve!

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**Vision Slovakia**
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Bill Chouinard
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Sara Renner, Contemporary Worship Director
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**Community Resource Center**
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Case Manager
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**Youth & Family Ministry**
*6th-12th grade*
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Mary Post, Administrative and Registration: Mary Post,
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**Worship Volunteers**
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**Church Council**
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David Kroschel
Vice President
Jay Breidinger
Treasurer
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Secretary
Keith Beckman
Kris Bowditch-Kirschhofer
Hayley Boyd
Sarah Ecker
Matt Langer
Bill Miller
Diana Rehling
Kathy Stark
Rebecca Talb

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME-VALUED MAIL