

**St. Andrew Lutheran Church
1005 First Street East
West Fargo, North Dakota 58078**

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December

2010

ST. ANDREW TRUMPETER



St. Andrew Lutheran Church West Fargo, ND

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

**A member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
and the Red River Lutheran School Association**

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Website: www.gracelutheranschool.org

DECEMBER 2010

Pastor's Soundings in the Trumpeter...

I was sitting on the steps of the Minnesota Capitol. I didn't recognize anybody. That was the trouble. What is a 12 year old from the country suppose to do in the big city? I was with my cousins on their Park Board tour of the Capital. We were looking at paintings of the Governors of MN. I came across J.A.O Preus I. I had heard that name. This was the father of our LCMS president. Then, my attention was drawn to the silence and the lack of people around me. My tour group was gone. I checked down the hall. No group. I checked outside. No bus. No group. No cousins. No one I knew. Worried? Scared? Afraid? Out of control? **Separation Anxiety?** You bet!

But what about the decisions we make? What about the situations in which we find ourselves? What about not seeing family this holiday season? Are we worried? Do we fear the outcome? Do we feel things are beyond our control? You and I are suffering from **Spiritual Separation Anxiety.**

It's a result of sin in our lives. If our decisions and actions are **separated** from God's will, there should be separation anxiety. I would hope, even God hopes, such anxiety would scare you straight! Straight to Him!

But even those who call themselves Christian have separation anxiety to one degree or another. Sin is not just our doing and thinking. Sin is also our condition that we are born and even conceived with (Ps. 51:5). It is passed from generation to another.

But as Christians we also know the cure. God has come to us in Jesus Christ. In Jesus Christ humanity and God are joined together in one person. When we are joined together with Jesus through Word and Sacrament, we are assured that God is with Us, for He is our Immanuel. He has placed his Name on us (Baptism). We are His. We are given His body and His blood. We are joined with Him. We are forgiven for being afraid, worrying, letting things get out of control, for the sin that separates us. God has intervened. Jesus has come and is coming.

Psalm 50:15 says, "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me." Jesus is our solution to **spiritual separation anxiety.** Happy Holy Days!

Happy Thanksgiving. Blessed Advent. Merry Christmas.
A Revealing Epiphany.

In Christ's enduring love;

Pastor Jahnke Philippians 4:4-8



Poinsettias
To Beautify Our
Sanctuary
During The Christmas Season

You can help beautify our Sanctuary during the Christmas season by ordering Poinsettia plants.

Please fill out this order form with your payment made out to St. Andrew Office Account. You may place it in the offering plate or drop off at the church office.

Please order by December 19!

(A total of 35 plants are needed to make the Poinsettia tree)

I'd like _____ (number of plants) at \$9.00 per plant.

Total amount: _____ cash _____ check number

My plant/s are given to the Glory of God and
In memory of: _____

In celebration of: _____

Your Name: _____

**ND DISTRICT ANNUAL MEN'S
WINTER RETREAT**

February 4-5, 2011

Shepherd's Hill at the Crossroads, St. John. ND

"Caution—Construction Zone

Men at Work in the Home & Church"

Presenter:

Rev. Dave Suelzle

Pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Fargo

28 years in the ministry

Experience in the church you can trust

The goal of the retreat is to strengthen men in their God-given role as leaders in their family and congregation.

For some 25 years men have enjoyed the camaraderie of these retreats --- thought-provoking Scripture-based presentations, fellowship, music, good food, games, skeet shooting, sleigh rides, etc. Come and join us!

Begins with 6 PM Supper Friday

-ends 3:30 PM Saturday

Cost - \$75.

(includes 3 meals, lodging, speaker, book (Wild at Heart) snacks, games, fire-side chat, sleigh ride, skeet shooting (all supplied), etc.

Bring: Bible, bed roll, personal items warm clothing, & friends

To register:

Call 1-800-289-2992 or E-mail: shcr@utma.com

By January 24, 2011



ADVENT SOUP & SANDWICH

Wednesdays, December 1, 8 & 15 from 5:15-7:00pm
Free will offering taken Sign up sheets for food donation can be found at the information tables in the gathering area. Be sure to stay for Advent Worship at 7:30pm!

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

You will find two different Advent Devotionals from Lutheran Hour Ministries. This is a great way to prepare your heart for the coming of our Messiah!



LWML CHRISTMAS PARTY

Do you have an eye for detail – Would you like an opportunity to let your creativity shine? Then this year's **"Tables by Design"** LWML Christmas Party Potluck is just what you've been looking for. We are in need of volunteers to decorate a table for the Christmas Party on December 8th. Look for the sample table set up in the narthex to sign up if you are interested in designing a table. But please don't worry if you're not feeling creative, we need people to come and enjoy these creations too, so you will also find a sign up sheet on the table if you're interested in attending the Christmas Party Potluck. For more information or for any questions, please contact Sheila Meyer at 235-2406. Hope to see you there!

MANY THANKS!

With a heart filled with Thanksgiving, we praise the Lord and thank Him for the wonderful 50th Anniversary celebration at St. Andrew last month! We are very thankful to Revs. Krueger, Asmus, Zellers, Judson, Jahnke and their families for making it an even better experience. Hats off to all the volunteers who spent hours working to make this event a possibility and a reality! Praise the Lord!

Ruth Coughlin, 50th Anniversary Publicity Coordinator






BOARD FOR HUMAN CARE

Christmas Giving Tree: The Board for Human Care will sponsor the Christmas Giving Tree again this year. The tree went up on November 21 in the Library area. Tags on the tree will indicate adult or child with name, age and gift ideas. Instructions on wrapping of gifts and when they need to be returned to the church will be given on the instruction sheet. All gifts need to be returned to church wrapped by **Sunday, December 12.**

S.S. CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS & PRACTICES

CHILDREN IN GRADES PRE-SCHOOL THRU GRADE 2  will be practicing during part of their S.S. Sessions on Sunday mornings leading up to the program, and:
Sun/Dec 19: Final practice & preparation for program from 9:30-9:50am
Sun/Dec 19: Christmas Program for Grades N-2 @ 10am

CHILDREN IN GRADES 3-8 WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING PRACTICE & PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

- Sun/Dec 5: Practice for Grades 3-8 @ 2pm
 - Sun/Dec 12: Practice for Grades 3-8 @ 2pm
 - Sat/Dec 18: Final Practice for Grades 3-8 @ 2pm
- Sun/Dec 19: Program for Grades 3-8 @ 2pm**



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BAGS

The tradition of giving each child a "Christmas Bag" following the annual Sunday School Christmas Program is again being planned for this year. As the cost of these bags is not placed in our congregational budget, donations are used to cover most of these expenses each year. A basket will be placed in our narthex each Sunday between now and the December 19th program to receive donations for the bags. Thank you for your help.

(St. Andrew Board of Education)



THREE TREES

Matthew and I were talking one night as he was preparing for bed. We were discussing Advent. We spoke of the three kings, the three gifts... Then he remembered the story of the three trees. Could that story be a worthwhile Advent sermon series?

Some of you know the story about how these trees had dreams of what they wanted to be. But they became so very disappointed. Yet, God in His wisdom used them for noble purposes.

What about the Christmas Tree that you are using this year? What will happen to it after Christmas? Stored or tossed out? Stripped of its glorious branches? Used for fire wood?

More importantly what will happen to you? What about our dreams and life? How is God working in your life to accomplish His purpose? How is He using you to warm the hearts of others with the One who came and is coming?

Come together for short Wednesday Evening Advent devotions after the Soup-n-Sandwich or Parent-Student Sessions. Messages are for single or married, young and old, including small children.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” (Jeremiah 29:11–13, NIV)

Have a Blessed Advent, a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and a Revealing Epiphany.

Pastor Jahnke



Your Refrigerator PINUP

**Mid-Week Advent Services at 7:30pm
Immediately following the 6:30pm Confirmation
Parent-Student Sessions and the Soup-n-Sandwich
Supper starting at 5:15pm**

*We will focus on:
The Three Trees*

12/01 "What Treasure Can I Hold?" 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

12/08 "This is All I Am?" Matthew 8:23-27

12/15 "How Can I Point to God?" Romans 18-25

In addition to the Sunday Advent Services at 8 and 10:45am on
11/18, 12/05, 12/12 & 12/19
Holiday schedule is as follows:

December 19 **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

10am: Grades N-2

2pm: Grades 3-8 Christmas Program

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

3:30pm Christmas Eve Candlelight service

5:30pm Christmas Eve Candlelight service

8:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight service

December 25 10am Christmas Day Festival Communion Service

December 26 10am only Communion Service

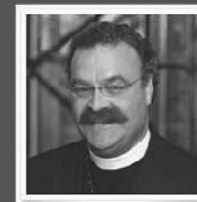
December 31 7pm New Year's Service

January 2 10am only Communion Service



**January 13-14, 2011
The Best Western Doublewood Inn
Fargo, North Dakota**

*Joint Conference of the Minnesota North
and North Dakota Districts LCMS*

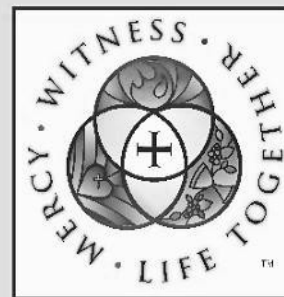


Conference Speaker
Rev. Matthew C. Harrison
President
The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

Joint North Theological Conference

The Church as the Body of Christ

Where are we? Where do we go from here?



- How does the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod impact an unbelieving world?
- How does the local congregation show mercy to those outside her walls?
- How does the Church's Life Together impact the Church and the world?

Register online at www.regonline.com/911837

Conference with Banquet
\$40 before January 1, 2011
\$50 after January 1, 2011

President Harrison will be the banquet speaker on Thursday evening. Banquet tickets can be purchased separately for \$25 each. Visit www.regonline.com/911919 or send checks to the ND District, PO Box 9029, Fargo ND 58106-9029 before January 7, 2011

YOUTH NEWS

(activities since our last newsletter)

After a crazy busy month in October with Confirmation, the annual ND Middle School Gathering (with grades 9-12 Teen Counselor involvement), the Homeless & Hungry Weekend, and a Friday Fun Night - the first half of November has been pretty quite. As I write this column on November 11th, we have a Friday Fun Night and an LYF Holiday Bazaar coming up later this month. We are also gearing up for the annual S.S. Christmas Programs.

UPCOMING CHURCH YOUTH ACTIVITIES & EVENTS:

Sundays: Worship Services/8:00 & 10:45am...S.S. & Bible Study/9:30am
Thursdays: Worship Service/7pm(7:30 Wednesdays during Advent & Lent)
Tuesdays: Grades 9-12 Youth led Bible Studies alternating week by week between St. Andrew & Immanuel, Fargo), 7pm
Fri/Dec. 3 Gds 3-5 Christmas Caroling 7-9pm
Sun/Dec 5 Gds 3-8 S.S. Christmas program practice/2pm
Sun/Dec 5 Gds 9-12 Zone Christmas Party/4-8pm
Sat/Dec 11 Movie Night @ Immanuel, Fargo/leave at 6:00pm
Sun/Dec 12 Gds 3-8 S.S. Christmas program practice/2pm
Fri/Dec 17 Gds 3-5 & 6-8 Christmas Caroling/Fun Night/7-9:30pm
Sat/Dec 18 Gds 3-8 Final S.S. Christmas program practice/2pm
Sun/Dec 19 Pre-School thru Grade 2 Christmas Program/10am
Sun/Dec 19 Gds 3-8 S.S. Christmas Program/2pm
Jan 22-30 St. Andrew Mission Society trip to Mexico



YOUTH SELLING 2011 CALENDARS & CHRISTMAS CARDS

The annual **God's Creation Calendars** are now available! They are still just \$7 each, with the proceeds going to help out our youth program. Also available are Christmas cards.

There are 12 in each package for just \$6. You may place your order at the display table in our gathering center and/or pick them up right away from DCE Ken or one of the LYF youth.



Baptism

11/6 Emily Grace Heller, infant daughter of Brad & Angela Heller. Her sponsor is Christopher Heller and Christian Witness is Renae Heller.

Changes in membership:

Cheryl Beiswenger, communicant member transfers from Our Redeemer (LCMS), Moorhead, MN

Dawn Doyel, communicant member by Profession of Faith from Bethany Lutheran, Nevis and children James & Thomas, baptized members

G.R.O.W PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR OCTOBER

Pre-K: Brady Pfaff-Christianson, Katie Ill, Jacob Sell, Natasha Volk

1st Grade: Matthew Heupel, Evan Ohren, Caleb Rossow, Emily Sell, Gracie Skalicky, Paris Volk

3rd Grade: Brayden Berg, Milton Deplazes, Nick Ill, Matthew Klemz, Trae Volk

4th Grade: Abbey Berg, Jenna Johnson, Sidney Leier, Addie Rossow

5th Grade: Cheyenne Deplazes, Samantha Heupel, Matthew Jahnke

6th Grade: Ashley Johnson, Christian Klemz

7th Grade: Calvin Anderson, Angela Grecco, Sabrian Leier, Hannah Rossow, Riley Ruud, Shantel Volk

8th Grade: Joshua Pistorius



Deadline for the January Trumpeter is December 15!



2011 Stewardship Campaign

“As For Me and My House”

Beginning in January, St. Andrew Lutheran Church will begin its 2011 Stewardship Campaign titled “As for Me and my House.” These words will carry new power and richness of God’s purpose. This will be a 4 week program focusing on the 4 phrases of Joshua 24:14b “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”. The campaign will conclude on week 5 with Celebration Sunday.

Please be watching for letters in early January that will further explain the program and what to expect. A powerful blessing of challenge and encouragement is promised. Joshua’s words “AS for me and my house we will serve the Lord” will be repeated by the lips and lives of our entire congregation. Our services and Bible study will be a blessing to us all.

ST. ANDREW FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund:

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$31,203.28	\$ 278,374.66
Expense	<u>\$32,797.04</u>	<u>\$ 324,319.13</u>
Net	\$ - 1,593.76	\$- 45,944.47

Mortgage Fund Income vs. the loan payment

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$ 7,249.05	\$ 68,759.62
Expense	\$ <u>7,092.38</u>	\$ <u>70,923.80</u>
Net	\$ 156.67	\$- 2,164.17

Short term Line of Credit **\$20,094.97**

ANNUAL SKI TRIPS SCHEDULED

Though the dates have not been finalized yet, we will again be planning on some Skiing/Snowboarding trips again this year. The LYF Zone Retreat for Grades 9-12 will likely be in January; and the all ages invited Family Skiing & Snowboarding Day at Andes Tower Hills near Alexandria, MN, is being planned for Super Bowl Saturday (whenever that falls). Watch for more information and registration forms.



NEW YOUTH PICTURES DISPLAY

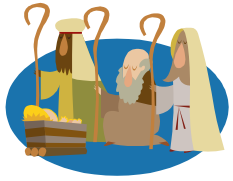
LOOK By now you’ve likely seen the new picture display boards mounted near the library in our gathering area. I’ve had so many wonderful comments about the display that I wish we had put it up years ago! The idea is to provide for a longer lasting display of our congregation’s youth events than the normal 1 or 2 weeks that we have usually displayed pictures after a youth event. The pictures currently being displayed go back to 2008; however as time allows, (if that ever happens), I’d also like to gather up all the pictures from the previous years (which are mostly still in boxes) and place them in dated photo albums to be kept in the shelving below the new display. That way everyone would be able to take a trip down memory lane from whatever year they or their children were in youth group activities. (If anyone wants to help with this project just let me know!) Finally, a word of thanks to the Dilworth Wal-Mart for donating the swinging poster display unit that now display these pictures.

(Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministry, Ken)

PROJECT COMFORT FUND

Every year countless Lutheran groups and individuals join their hearts and hands in sewing quilts and assembling layettes and health, school and sewing kits to be distributed to people in need by Lutheran World Relief. A stamp collecting project has been organized by Sara Frank from Texas District LWML who volunteers to sell the collected stamps with ALL the proceeds going to World Relief to help in the shipping costs of these projects. We’re asking our church to save cancelled stamps, leaving 1/4” around the perforation of the stamp. A container is in the narthex for collection. Check the LWML bulletin board for more information.





What am I doing for Christmas?

So if I go away for Christmas and attending a worship service that has communion, what should I do? If it is a sister congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS), the privilege is usually granted and we celebrate our unity. But if it is not a sister congregation or not in fellowship with the LCMS, the decision can be a challenging emotionally, mentally and relationally. Not all of my extended family is LCMS.

First of all there is my relationship with my Lord and Savior. We have learned this well, especially in confirmation to examine ourselves to see if we rightly believe according to the Scriptures. If the congregation I am attending doesn't teach what I believe Scripture teaches, I'd make myself a hypocrite by participating if I believe as they taught.

Second, there is my relationship with those who are communing. Is it right for me to give them the impression that they agree with me and I with them when I know and others may know there are disagreements in belief? Our Lord has called us to be witnesses of the truth. My not participating in communion in that congregation gives a witness that something is different. This can also begin conversations on the subject. It also can be a source of suffering for the truth. Either way we testify to what we believe the Scripture says. We are reminded in 1 Peter 3:15-16, "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience...."

Note from Congregation President Dave Pistorius

Tis the Advent Season. Remember to attend Wednesday night Advent Services as we prepare for the celebration of Jesus Birth at Christmas. Church services are a great way to keep focus on the "Reason for the Season". We continue to need your support to make up the financial shortfall. How wonderful it would be if we were able to end the year with our income equaling or exceeding our expenses!

Dave Pistorius

Crosspointe Lutheran Greetings in Christ from southwest Fargo; It is with great joy and much thanksgiving that I share a quick update regarding the blessings and goodness of God that remain evident at Crosspointe. At the end of October, the North Dakota District Board of Directors approved the constitution and bylaws that had been submitted earlier in the year. That moves Crosspointe forward in the process of becoming a fully recognized congregation of the LCMS with the ability to receive members. In early 2011, that transition will be completed and celebrated and the congregation will continue with its mission to impact lives with the love of Jesus Christ.

As 2010 comes to a close, God continues to draw His people closer to Himself even as He equips and sends us into the world to declare His praises. Participation in Sunday morning worship, Bible Study, Sunday School, and Wednesday confirmation are all increasing. Small groups are connecting worshipers outside of Sunday mornings to strengthen their relationships with one another and their faith in God. Our partnerships in the community are creating great opportunities to share God's love with others.

A couple weeks ago, one local congregation marked its 50th year of ministry while another celebrates its 60th this week. Thanksgiving is just over a week away and then we move into the season during which we rejoice in the coming of our Redeemer King and anticipate His return. The support provided to Crosspointe by other North Dakota congregations has brought on-going encouragement as it expands the capabilities of the ministry in its early stages. We are thankful for your partnership in the Gospel and pray that God continues to guide and bless your congregation through the Christmas season and in the year and years to come.

God's peace and joy, Pastor Mike



UPCOMING EVENTS AT GRACE SCHOOL

December 9 & 10: Meet Me At The Manger, 7:00pm

January 20: Winter Band Concert, 7:00pm

February 26: Annual Grace Auction

MRS. SCHOLTEN TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR 25 YEARS AT GRACE

Before the Christmas program on Thursday, December 9 we will be recognizing Mrs. Scholten for 25 year of faithful service to her Lord at Grace Lutheran School. If you would like to send her a personal thank you, please send it to the school office and we will include it in the packet that evening.