Pastor’s Perspective

Think of St. Andrew’s Lutheran Campus Ministry this Giving Tuesday, November 27!

Dear friends of St. Andrew’s, dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

As we have focused our mission on greater student leadership in our ministry, the Spirit has been active centering lives, bringing hope, calming anxiety, and inspiring genuine faith in action.

This year brings a newly funded part-time Student Minister to St. Andrew’s whose work has increased our visibility on campus and expanded our ministry offerings. A record number of undergraduate students are worshiping with us this fall. We continue to discern how to faithfully steward a facility that does not support our mission the way it once did. It is an exciting and a challenging time, and we could not do any of this work without you.

As we work hard to share God’s grace in Christ with students, we ask that you prayerfully consider a gift to St. Andrew’s through IL Give’s 2018 end-of-year fundraiser. We have set a bold and hopeful goal of $6,000 for this campaign, and we will update our progress on our website, Facebook page, and Instagram and Twitter accounts.

The opportunity to give an online gift through this special fundraiser takes place between November 27, 2018 and January 1, 2019. Only in this time period will you be able to donate online toward our goal. Your partnership and support make a difference in the lives of students. We give thanks to God for your support of our ministry in the Gospel.

Grace and Peace in Christ,

— Pr. Amy C. Thoren

Did You Know?

Members of Good Shepherd support St. Andrew’s by
- cooking and serving Wednesday night meals
- supplying custodian services and supplies
- financial support
- prayer

Click on the #ILGive image to the right or go to https://www.ilgive.com/organizations/st-andrews-lutheran-church-campus-center to donate between Nov. 27, 2018, and Jan. 1, 2019.
How many of us would look at a book full of sticky notes and see a miniature skyscraper scene? Or a pile of crinkle-cut potato chips and think of sand dunes? Or imagine that chopsticks could become a gothic cathedral? Well, Tatsuya Tanaka has been using tiny models of humans paired with ordinary objects to create delightfully surprising scenes. Tatsuya has created a calendar each year FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS and each day has a completely unique diorama of daily life! While I love the way Tatsuya sees the world and recreates it using everyday objects, I am most fascinated with his dedication to making a daily calendar of these events.

Our daily calendar as Christians begins and ends in November. We mark time at the beginning of November with All Saints Sunday and remember those who have come before us in the faith. It is a reminder of our finitude and mortality, that we only have so many days on this earth. Or as the Psalmist sings in Psalm 90:12, “teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.” At the time of this writing, I am 14,048 days old. Not bad mileage, but I am hoping for at least 15,000 more days should God grant them to me!

At the end of November we celebrate Christ the King Sunday and acknowledge that Jesus Christ is the beginning and the end, the Alpha and Omega. I think of Tatsuya’s work and how it had a definite beginning when he started his calendar project, and some day it will come to an end. The sand dunes, the cathedrals, the sporting events of his world and ours will all come to an end but what God has built will remain. How will you spend your days? Will you offer up each day as a sacrifice and give back to God a portion of what God has first given you? I like to think of each of Tatsuya’s creations as daily offerings.

On various social media platforms you can find something called the 100 Day Challenge, where people commit to some sort of physical discipline or craft each day for 100 days. For some it has been an amazing springboard for creativity and personal growth. What could your 100 Day Challenge look like? Could you commit to reading a chapter of scripture each day? Maybe set aside time to pray for others for the next 100 days? Certainly the Holy Spirit would honor that type of dedication with new insights into God’s activity around us. My guess is that like Tatsuya, the Holy Spirit would give us eyes to see the world in a new way, and in time create something beautiful from our devotion.

Teach us Lord to count our days so that we may gain a wise heart.

Jason Fisher
Youth Events

Parents' Night Out

Friday, November 2, 5-8pm

Walk to Bethlehem

Sunday, December 2, 4-7pm
Cunningham Children’s Home

Middle & High School students will all meet at the Cunningham Children’s Home (1301 N. Cunningham Ave., Urbana) at 4pm. Once there, we will dress up in nativity style costumes, help kids play a variety of games, and help serve them food.

CIRCA Carnival of the Animals

Sunday, November 4, 3pm
Krannert Performing Arts Center

Families with kids ages 3 and up are invited to watch as Australia’s Circa blurs the line between creative movement, dance, and theater. Come see animals brought to life through acrobats, musicians, singers, and playful animations.

Cost is $10 / youth and $30 for adults. Good Shepherd will help offset the cost by paying for adults willing to bring their children. This event will be a delight for the eyes and the imagination as we marvel at the amazing bodies God has given us!

Ski Trip & Waterpark

January 18-20, 2019

Any members or families with youth K-12th Grade who are interested in a possible ski trip / waterpark adventure next year over the Martin Luther King Jr. weekend can contact Jason.

HARDY’S Reindeer Ranch

Sunday, November 4, 3-6pm

Families with kids 5th grade & younger can join us at Hardy’s Reindeer Ranch from 3-6pm for a hay ride, pedal carts, and the corn maze. Afterwards we will have a cookout with hot dogs, chips, drinks, and S’mores! Reservations can be made with Jason.

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Pumpkin Fundraiser. We sold over $11,000 worth of pumpkins and raised close to $4,000 for our youth and their future trips! God allowed us to meet some neighbors, make some friends, and share the love of Christ. It was a win win.
Join Us for Adult Forum

Adult Forum Discussion 10:15-11:15am
Join Sunday School for Closing 11:15-11:30am

The Adult Forum Committee has planned a variety of topics for this fall in which we explore important issues, and how we as Lutherans respond. High school students are welcome and encouraged to attend!

November Adult Forum Schedule: 4-week series on the Gospel of Luke with Dean Olson (choir room)

We will meet Nov. 4, 11, 18, and Dec. 2. No Adult Forum on Nov. 25.

We are beginning to plan for December and January. If you have ideas for future topics, please email Erin Wilding-Martin at emartin@parkland.edu.

Women’s:

Anna Circle meets the first Wednesday of the month. Next meeting: Nov. 7, at 4:30pm, in the choir room.
Ruth Circle meets the third Tuesday of the month. Next meeting: Nov. 20, at 9:30am, at The Windsor, 401 W. Burwash, Savoy.
Rachael Circle meets the fourth Monday of the month. Next meeting: Nov. 26, at 4:30pm, in the choir room.

Men’s:

Men’s Bible Study meets every Friday at 7:00am at The Original Pancake House.

BOOK CLUB

November 8 at 9:30am, in the Choir Room

November book: Ship of Brides by Jo Jo Moyes.

Set in 1946 when all over the world young women are beginning to fulfill the promises made to the men they wed during WWII. This is a story of four women who join 650 other brides on a voyage from Sydney, Australia, to England aboard HMS Victoria which carries not just arms and aircraft, but also a thousand naval officers. For many women it was a time of huge uncertainty, leaving their families and everything they had known.

The author’s grandmother was one of the brides who was brave enough to trust the unknown future. This inspired her to write this fictional story and dedicate it to her grandmother and all brides who took the journey.

A sneak peek at December: A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles.

Contact: Jan Nuss at jannuss3@sbcglobal.net or 356-1298. New members are always welcome!

60-Something Luncheon, hosted by Anna Circle, will be held in the fellowship hall on Wed., Dec. 5, from noon-1pm. Please bring a side dish or dessert to pass. All members & friends around the age of 60 or older are invited to attend this fun event of food & fellowship. Hope to see you there!

Christmas Cookie Gifts

We’re asking anyone who enjoys baking to bring a couple dozen cookies to the Ruth Circle meeting at 9:30am on Tuesday, December 18 and help us deliver the treats.

Thank you for your generosity!
Thoughtful Thursdays:

LUTHER’S HYMNS
November 1, 8, & 15

You have sung many of Luther’s hymns over the years, but have you ever paid attention to the theology behind the words? Did you know some of the words of his hymns have been changed over the years? Come explore Luther’s Hymns each Thursday night in the choir room from 6-7:30pm. Dinner and refreshments will be provided.

GARDEN CLEAN-UP DAY
November 3, 8-11:30am

Many hands make light work! Come out and enjoy the fall weather and help with clean-up of the church grounds on Sat., Nov. 3, from 8–11:30am. (Rain date is Nov. 10.) You are welcome to be there for ½ hr. or an hour or two—however long fits in your schedule. All ages can assist; no experience necessary. We will be trimming plants and bushes, picking up branches, pulling weeds, raking leaves, and more. Please bring gloves, pruners, and a trowel/shovel or rake if you have those. Otherwise the church has some that people can use. If you would like a daylily or two, we will be digging a number of those up to give away that day. Coffee, cider, and snacks will be provided. Please contact Nancy Holm at nholm@comcast.net if you have any questions.

OPERATION TURKEY SANDWICH WANTS YOU!

Last Thanksgiving Day members and friends of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church assembled and delivered over 300 turkey sandwich lunches to workers at local clinics, liquor stores, hotel front desks, movie theatres and other businesses. We’re doing it again, and we need your help! We’re looking for a few (or more) good Lutherans (and others) to donate purchased pre-cooked whole turkey breasts, loaves of bread, stuffing muffins, cookies and apples. And, we’re enlisting volunteers to pack lunches and make deliveries on Thanksgiving morning, from 10 am to 12 noon.

Watch your bulletins and the Shout-Out for more information, or sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48A8AC2DA3FC1-operation3

Annual Christmas Brunch
Saturday, December 1, 10am
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Contact: Jodi Davis at Jodidavisillini@yahoo.com

MINUTE with Marilyn

Go and Invite
Invite others to come and see! At a conference I attended last year, we heard testimony from two men from Hong Kong who had been non-believers. They each had been converted because someone had invited them to church. They each spoke about how the Holy Spirit was at work in each of their lives and how they had been changed and subsequently each had become a pastor. At LOMC, I heard the testimony of a young woman who was entering seminary. She had grown up in a home of non-believers but one of her childhood friends had invited her to Vacation Bible School when she was a very young child and that friend kept inviting her and inviting her. The Holy Spirit worked in her life, too. Let’s keep inviting folks, we may be surprised by what the Holy Spirit may be doing!

Blessings and Joy,
— Marilyn
Looking for Christmas Gift Ideas?

At $12 a copy, the GSLC 50th Anniversary Cookbook makes a great, inexpensive Christmas gift for family, friends, or teachers. Pick up your copy today! Make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (please write “cookbook” on the memo line) and leave in the offering or drop off at the office.

Dear Friends in Christ,

We have a total from our Pedal for a Purpose fundraiser celebration on September 29, but God continues to show the ripples of impact that follow afterwards. Just the day itself brought in $1,080 from the support of our bicyclists, their sponsors, and friends who came to the celebration. Four additional congregations and some individuals in all three synods have sent in donations afterwards. As a result, we currently have received $15,838 (63% of our $25,000 goal)!

We are most thankful over the fact that Pedal for a Purpose introduced LOMC to many friends who haven’t yet heard of our outdoor ministry, highlighted the needs in our capital campaign, and provided an impetus of giving towards that appeal.

We’d like to give thanks and praise again to the organizer, Pr. Adam Dichsen at Faith Lutheran, Jacksonville, who initiated the flow of this funding to help support our overall capital campaign. We also give thanks to everyone who has donated, collected offerings, and run their own fundraiser in this effort to support and renew LOMC! As a result, we have now received a total of $20,374 of our entire $150,000 appeal to refurbish our bunkhouses. This is a great step forward to making all things new! We are so very, very thankful!

I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you.

—I Corinthians 1:8

Gratefully,
Adriana Plocinski, Development Director

Good Shepherd is partnering with, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) to help provide a joyful Christmas for the foster children involved in their program. LSSI staff spends time with each child to help them create a “Wish list”. LSSI and Men’s Safe House wish lists will be available on the Christmas tree in the Narthex during November. Outreach Committee is asking that all gifts be returned on November 26th. If you have any questions, please contact Agatha Barnes (agathak6@gmail.com) or Patty Hart (cookiedunker@comcast.net).

WELCA Mite Boxes

Ladies, we will be collecting the mite boxes for our national and international mission project Nov. 18. These funds go to our WELCA Church-wide Office for national distribution. Place your mite box in a wicker basket in the narthex before church. If you don’t have a mite box, they are available on the table by the office. You may also use a pew envelope and mark your donation to WELCA.
Harvest of THANKS!

Our annual “Harvest of Thanks” food drive is coming up! Each year Good Shepherd provides food to help needy families in our community enjoy a nice Thanksgiving dinner. Our goal for this year is to provide food for 50 local families.

Recommended shopping lists will be distributed at the worship services on November 4 and 11. In addition to the food items requested, we ask you to include a $20 check (payable to Good Shepherd) for the purchase of hams, perishable items and rolls. Please bring your food donations and check to the church on or before Sunday, November 18 (remember not to purchase perishable items too early as they will spoil). We will place all of the filled bags along the communion rail in the sanctuary—it is wonderful to see the generosity of our congregation!

Please join us after the service Sunday on Nov 18 to sort the food in the fellowship hall. On Monday, November 19, 2018 from 9:00 am-10:30, volunteers will be needed in the Fellowship Hall to assemble bags for each family. All of the bags must be ready for pickup by 10:00 am and many hands make light work! If you are available on Monday morning, please come and help. Distribution will be from 10:00-1:00 pm. Drivers for deliveries in the late morning/early afternoon are also needed. We will also need volunteers to be on hand Tuesday to finish distribution of bags. Please contact Ron Meyer (meyerclub@msn.com) if you can help with distribution and deliveries. Thank you!

STORYBOOK Project

If you don’t know by now, here’s your chance to learn a bit about the Storybook Project. A ministry of Lutheran Services of Illinois, Storybook brings books into correctional facilities and helps incarcerated parents record stories and messages for their children. The book and a CD of the recording is sent to the child as a gift from the parent.

In East Central Illinois a team of volunteers from Champaign-Urbana visits Danville Correctional Center (DCC) 9-10 times each year. We carry 250-300 books with us and spend most of the morning – usually a Wednesday – helping the men at DCC stay a bit closer to their children. In October six of our team’s volunteers made it possible for 47 inmates to give the gift of a book and a recording of the father’s voice reading that book to children at home. The men nearly always take advantage of the chance to write in the front of the book a note or letter to their child. Connecting books and dads with children aren’t the only ministry of this team. We also collect and deliver to DCC men’s clothing. Between 20-25 men are released from this prison each week; through the clothing the churches of C-U have donated, these men can start a new life with more confidence and a better chance at success. In the past year more than a ton of clothing has been delivered and distributed. Trousers, jeans, jackets, shirts are welcome. Larger sizes are particularly needed. You know the saying: One man’s old shirt is another man’s new start.

There is need and room for more volunteers to join the team that’s based at St. Matthew in Urbana and includes members of Good Shepherd in Champaign. The training is minimal and the reward is enormous. Contact Jon Gunderson jongund@illinois.edu or Nancy Schneider nancyschneider@hotmail.com at STM or Bob Clark jdclark322@gmail.com at Good Shepherd for information. You’ll be welcome. If you don’t have time to join the team, you can help by donating gently used books that are free of marks and names and/or cash to be used to purchase mailing supplies and new CDs or to pay for postage. Your prayers and encouragement are needed.
Church Staff
Pastor........................................... Thomas Hillertz
Pastor Emeritus......................... Edward D. Schneider
Youth & Family Minister............. Jason Fisher
Office Manager......................... Yvona Vlach
Parish Worker................................. Marilyn Dudley
Parish Media Intern.................. Mary Corkery
Treasurer.......................... Dana VanDeveer-Jones
Organist............................... Linda Pein
Choir Director...................... Emilie Williams
Parish Nurses....................... Sandy Rueter
Elizabeth Kakoma
Celeste Coverdill

Office Hours
Mon-Thu: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
(lunch hour: noon—12:30 pm)
Fridays: 8:00 am to Noon

Scroll Deadline
The deadline for the December Scroll is Monday, November 19.

Bulletin/Announcements Deadline
Wednesday at noon, each week.

Mark Your Calendar!

➢ Thoughtful Thursdays
  6-7:30pm November 1, 8, & 15, led by Jason Fisher

➢ Daylight Savings Time Ends
  November 3, at midnight

➢ Harvest of Thanks/Bags Distribution
  Sundays, November 4 & 11
  (deadline to bring filled bags back: Sun., Nov. 18)

➢ General Election / Poling Place at GSLC
  Tuesday, November 6

➢ Youth Carlinville Retreat
  November 9-11

➢ Blood Pressure Screening
  Sunday, November 11, following worship

➢ Potluck & Evensong Worship
  November 11 — 5:30pm potluck, 6:30pm worship

➢ Harvest of Thanks / Distribution to Families
  Mon., Nov. 19, 9-11am and Tue., Nov. 20, 9am-3pm

➢ Church Office Closing (Thanksgiving)
  Thurs. & Fri., November 22 & 23

➢ Thanksgiving Eve Service
  November 21, 7pm, Grace Lutheran Church

➢ No Sunday School
  November 25

Come Worship the Lord!
Weekly Morning Service:
Sundays at 9 am
(with Holy Communion)

Next Evening Service (Evensong):
Sunday, November 11
  5:30-6:30pm Potluck supper
  6:30-7pm Evensong Service

LET US KNOW
If you, anyone in your family, or another member or friend of GSLC is hospitalized or moves to a care facility, please let the church office or Pastor know! Hospitals and Nursing Homes are no longer allowed to disclose any information to anyone outside of the immediate family so we no longer get calls from them. We can’t visit, bring you communion, or even pray for you, if we don’t know.