

ST. ANDREW CHURCH

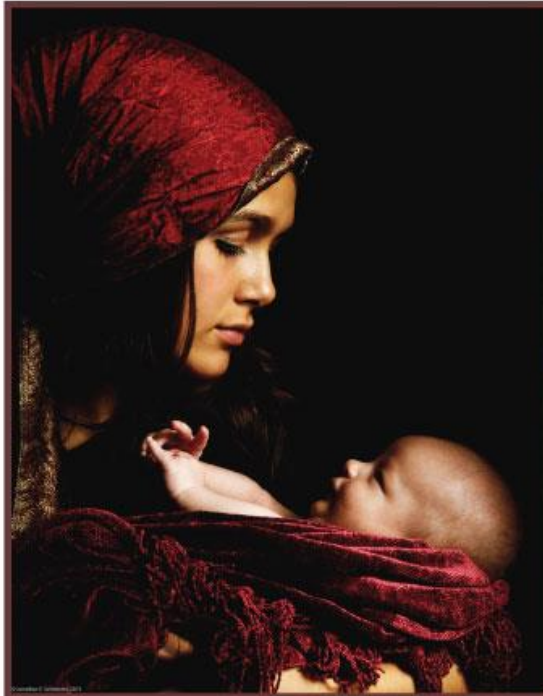
NEWSLETTER



December 2015

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." to men on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:8-12
(NIV84)



*Born to
Save
us*

A Savior has been born to you.
He is Christ the Lord!

THE HOPE, PEACE, JOY, LOVE AND STRESS OF CHRISTMAS

The four Advent Candles on the traditional Advent Wreath are appropriately named the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love Candles. We can certainly understand why. Jesus gives us the hope of eternal life, the peace of sins forgiven, joy knowing he was born to save us and the ultimate act of love when he died for our sins. In our current society it seems as if we should add a fifth candle and call it the stress candle. It is a proven fact that the Christmas season is a source of stress for most people. We become overwhelmed with all the things that we have to get done. We stress over getting decorations put up, the baking done, the presents purchased and the parties planned. The stress can often rob us of the hope, peace, joy and love that is really Christmas. The only way to relieve that stress is to keep focused on Jesus. Let's keep our focus on Jesus and not allow stress to rob us of the hope, peace, joy and love that are ours through Christ.

Upcoming Events

- Christmas Eve Worship 7:00 and 11:00 PM
- Christmas Day Worship 9:30 AM
- New Year's Eve Worship 7:00 PM

St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 3658 S. Honore Chicago, IL 60609
St. Andrew Ministry Center, 3650 S. Honore, Chicago, IL 60609
773-376-5370 Visit us on the web: standrewchicago.org

ELECTIONS HELD AND BUDGET ADOPTED

At an Open Forum followed by a Voters Meeting on November 8, 2015 the members of our Ministry Council for 2016. Those elected for two year terms were: Dale Taylor, chairman; Kristopher Taylor, Treasurer; Ronald Wilhelm, Property Elder; Samuel DeLaurentis, Evangelism Elder; Tom Pindelski, Christian Education Elder. Continuing there service for 2016 are Brian Garcia, Adult Spiritual Growth Elder; Michael Salas, Secretary and Tom Pindelski, Vice-Chairman. We currently have no one holding the office of Stewardship Elder. Please keep all of these men in your prayers as they serve St. Andrew and our Lord.

A budget of \$124,510 was adopted. This is \$3,200 less than last year. Since offerings fell well below projections, we have a \$3,250 deficit if offerings remain the same. The Ministry Council is making plans to have a Stewardship drive in January to encourage our members to increase their offerings.

St. Andrew Church News

The focus of St. Andrew Church is exactly where it should be. We are focusing on the celebration of God's greatest gift to us, his Son and our Savior Jesus Christ. The Theme for our Advent and Christmas Worship this year is Ring out the Good News. We have been looking at people in the Bible who rang out the Good News of Jesus in our Wednesday and Sunday Services. Our service at 7:00 on Christmas Eve will feature a live Nativity as we focus on how we all can Ring Out the Good News of our Saviors Birth. At 11:00 pm on Christmas Eve we will continue a tradition that has been around for many years with our Candle Light Service. We will sing our favorite Christmas Hymns. In a darkened sanctuary lit by candles held by each worshipper, the congregation will join in singing *Silent Night*. Tom Pindelski will sing *O Holy Night*. We invite all of you to join us if possible as we worship our newborn King.

Boiler Update

The new church boiler is now installed and running well. The final cost of the project was around \$40,000. Our Ministry Council has established a boiler fund to help cover the cost of this unexpected expense. We are hoping and praying that some of our former members and friends of St. Andrew will help us with this project. If you are willing to contribute towards the new boiler, please simply mail your offering to St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 3650 S. Honore, Chicago, IL 60609 and designate it for the Boiler Fund. Any donations will be appreciated.

Our Pastor:

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Cell: 708-899-9059
Email: pastor@standrewchicago.org

Our Secretary:

Margie Hendricks,
773-376-5370
Email: secretary@standrewchicago.org

Our Worship:

Sunday at 9:30am

Our Bible Study:

Sunday at 10:45am
Friday at 10:00 am

Our Sunday School:
Sunday at 10:30 am

Advent Worship:

Dec. 2, 9 & 16
7:00 pm

Christmas Eve
Worship: 7:00 &
11:00 pm

New Year's Eve
Worship: 7:00 pm

Sermons

Listen to Sunday sermons on our web page. Go to standrewchicago.org Click on Church at the top then click on sermons to see a list of available sermons.

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