

October, 2018

THE VOICE

ST. ANDREW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Words from the Pastor...

I like to walk in the mornings. Recently, we'd had a couple of days of heavy rain, which is not exactly the ideal walking condition. So, as I leaned toward my excellent excuse not to walk the morning of that first bad rain, I reasoned with myself that I would be out in the rain later in the day anyway, so why act now as though the rain was a valid reason not to walk? I put on my rain poncho, picked up my umbrella, and started out on my journey.

I don't consider myself to be among the die-hard walkers who are determined to get out there in any weather come what may. But that day, I decided to walk. I didn't particularly want to walk in the rain, but I could not control the conditions. I could only determine whether or not to allow the conditions to control me. And this time, I decided to stay the course.

My goal was not to stay dry, even though that was desirable. My goal was to walk. So, with some minor, very common adjustments and some willingness to put up with a little moisture, I was still able to accomplish my goal.

With each goal we have, we must determine our level of commitment to achieving the goal. There will be some ideal days when all conditions are working in favor of the goal. Yet, if we subject our goal to external conditions, we will not fully or consistently achieve the goal.

Too often, we allow external factors to dictate our actions or to determine whether or not we will continue to follow a particular course. What that means is that we are not committed to the goal but that we are committed to the conditions. And we will never get anything accomplished that way.

My goal was not to stay dry, even though that was desirable. My goal was to walk.

Excuses to delay or abort the mission will always be in plentiful supply and we can embrace them at will.

Conditions may resist us, but they don't have the ability or authority to stop us.

We must bring our will up to the level of our resources. God has given us what it takes to get the job done. Are we willing to do what it takes?

As I pondered staying home because of the rain, I had to admit that I am no victim to

the rain, nor is my walk subject to the rain. The hard truth is that the rain can only stop me if I don't really want to walk. I have the equipment it takes to complete the walk, even in the rain.

- ◆ The words Jesus spoke, giving us the mission to make disciples, are power-packed with the life of God to successfully work through those who yield to Him. (John 6:63)
- ◆ God has given us abundant grace and the gift of righteousness so that through obeying Him, we can reign as kings in life. (Romans 5:16-21)
- ◆ We can do all things through Christ, who strengthens us. (Philippians 4:13)
- ◆ We can embrace God's faithfulness instead of fear. (Lamentations 3:22-23)
- ◆ Let us not get weary. Our consistent, diligent efforts will produce fruit. (Galatians 6:9)

(Excerpted from Pastor Audrea's Sermon Notes, Sunday, July 1, 2018)

Blessings,

Pastor Audrea



October

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 14	SWIFT Fall Forum, Faith UMC, Orland Park	2:30 p.m.
Oct. 20	PRHeSS Annual Banquet & Silent Auction	4:00 p.m.



Did You Know?

We can now access our church services online, thanks to the dedicated work of church member Gerald Scrutchions. Simply go to [Soundcloud.com](https://www.soundcloud.com), search St. Andrew UMC, and select the date of the sermon you wish to hear. There you will find the portions of the service that were accessible to a microphone, generally the sermon and scripture.

Our Condolences to...

the family of **Lorena**, who passed away Friday afternoon, September 5. Visitation will be held at St. Andrew on Saturday, October 13, at 3:00 p.m.; the service will begin at 4:00. Dinner will follow immediately afterwards.



Charge Conference

This year's Church Charge Conference will be held on Friday, November 2. Staff Parish will meet at 7:30 p.m. and the conference will begin at 8:00 p.m.



SWIFT Interfaith Dinner

The annual SWIFT interfaith dinner will be held this year at St. Andrew on Sunday, November 11. More details will be coming soon as well as ticket information (usually \$20). We are not responsible for the food, only coffee and water.



Prayer Bookmark

If you have a prayer request which you would like to have added to the monthly prayer bookmark, please let us know. You can write your request on one of the "Prayer Needs" cards you can find in the attendance pads, email standrewspeaks@gmail.com, or call the church office at 798-8904.



United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women are selling Golden Opportunity Books and Bean Soup kits. These fund-raisers, along with the spring salad luncheon, enable them to make their pledge to support the UMW and its missions in the US and around the world.

The DebEst Circle met on Sept. 18. They assembled 24 school supply kits to be taken to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center, where they will be available for use by UMCOR and/or CWS in times of disaster or need around the world. In October they will assemble baby items for the Franciscan Hospital in Olympia Fields. There, they are given to needy mothers and babies.

Choir Rehearsals

Chancel choir is again in session, and YOU are invited to join in. **Rehearsal time has been changed to 4:30 p.m. on Thursdays.** This year the choir will sing only twice a month; you can come as little or as much as you would like, but please come. Bring a friend! Let's make a joyful noise to the Lord together!

Bells--If you can read music and have ever thought about playing bells, please see Dr. Morris, our music director, after the service. You can also call the church office at 798-8904 and let Karen know. Bell choir rehearsals will begin soon.



Movie: *Before the Flood*

Our Missions and Social Concerns Committee joins with the Homewood Science Center to sponsor *Before the Flood*, 4:00 p.m. Sunday, November 4, at the Homewood Science Center.

"Before the Flood," a documentary produced by a team from National Geographic and narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio, is a real eye opener about the impact of climate change on our planet and its inhabitants. Using his celebrity status to draw attention to the problem of global warming, one of the most important and pressing issues of our time, actor and United Nations Messenger of Peace, Leonardo DiCaprio, travels the globe to witness firsthand the effects of an impending environmental disaster. It's a look at how climate change affects our environment and what society can do to prevent its demise. Don't miss this opportunity to see for yourself the scientific evidence about climate change. **There is no charge to attend this event.**

[Anyone who wishes to participate in the Science Center's annual fundraiser, "Walk the Walton," on **Sunday, October 21**, can go online. Search "Homewood Science Center" for further information. Tickets for the "Walk the Walton" went on sale Sept. 1--\$25 for adults; children are free. There is a video of last year's event, and it looks fantastic.]

Lap Blankets for Veterans

Plan to stay after worship on Sunday, November 18, to help make lap blankets for veterans in the home in Manteno.

Absolutely NO sewing skills are required. We only cut fringe and tie simple knots, so everyone can participate. If you have sharp scissors that can cut fabric, please bring them. Your help is definitely needed. Everyone is welcome.

Donations will be accepted on the 18th to help with the cost of the fabric.

A Little Good News for the Environment...

Replace Disposables and Avoid Creating Trash

Wherever possible, replace disposable products with reusable ones (i.e., razor, food storage, batteries, ink cartridges (buy refillable ones), coffee filters, furnace or air conditioner filters, etc.). Buy a stainless steel water bottle to eliminate most of your need to use bottled water. Avoid creating trash wherever possible: when ordering food, avoid receiving any unnecessary plastic utensils, straws, etc. (ask in advance), buy ice cream in a cone instead of a cup, don't accept "free" promotional products, buy products with the least amount of packaging, etc. Every little bit of trash avoided does make a difference!



PADS Homeless Shelter on Wednesday Nights

Our PADS shelter season, where we offer shelter, food, and hospitality to women and their children on Wednesday nights from October through April, has begun. We need volunteers for four shifts:

6:15 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

10:45 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.

2:45 a.m. to 7:15 a.m.

5:00 a.m. to 7:15 a.m.

Each volunteer serves on their shift one Wednesday per month. Call Lucy if you would like to give this opportunity a try.



Respond Now

Our regular monthly food collection for Respond Now is taken on the first Sunday of each month, but donations can be left in the shopping cart near the front door at any time. Any nonperishable food items are accepted and appreciated. Possibilities: peanut butter, jelly, potato products in a box (scalloped, instant mashed, etc.), canned fruit (especially pears and peaches), canned chicken, canned soups. Monetary donations are also accepted.

PRHeSS Banquet

Pan-African Rural Health & Social Services (PRHeSS) is holding its 11th annual banquet and silent auction on Saturday, October 20, beginning at 4:00 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Edward J. Morris, Sr., Senior Pastor at Parkway Gardens Christian Church, will be the guest speaker. Come and enjoy authentic African cuisine! Minimum donation is \$50. RSVP by October 13 at kormoi@yahoo.com or 708-668-6020. Online payments can be accepted at www.Africanhopeanddignity.org.

May God bless you for caring for the least of these. See you there!



Caring Crafters

Crocheters and knitters are welcome, and so are other crafters. We'd love to have you come and share your projects and ideas with the group. We are making prayer shawls as well as other handcrafted items. Caring Crafters meets in the narthex on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.



TOPS

TOPS invites you to check out the local chapter that meets here in the Wesley Room every Thursday morning, 9:30—11:00.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes 7:30 pm-Scouts	2 7:30 pm-Prayer Service	3 9:00 am-Men's Coffee, Panera Homewood 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 6:00 pm-PADS	4 9:30 am-TOPS 2:30 pm-Worship Committee 4:30 pm-Choir 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes	5	6
7 9:00 am-Worship Holy Communion Food Collection	8 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes 7:30 pm-Scouts	9	10 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 6:00 pm-PADS	11 9:30 am-TOPS 2:00 pm-Finance 4:30 pm-Choir 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes	12	13 3/4:00 pm-Lorena memorial service
14 9:00 am-Worship Sunday School 2:30 pm-SWIFT Fall Forum	15 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes 7:30 pm-Scouts	16 1:30 pm-UMW DebEst Circle, St. Andrew 7:00 pm-Church Council	17 9:00 am-Men's Coffee, Panera Homewood 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 6:00 pm-PADS	18 9:30 am-TOPS 4:30 pm-Choir 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes	19	20 10:00 am-Book Club 4:00 pm-PRHeSS Banquet and Auction
21 9:00 am-Worship Loose Change Sunday School After worship-Communications UMW Mission Team	22 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes 7:30 pm-Scouts	23	24 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 6:00 pm-PADS	25 9:30 am-TOPS 4:30 pm-Choir 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes	26	27
28 9:00 am-Worship Sunday School	29 7:00 pm-Adult English Classes 7:30 pm-Scouts	30	31 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 6:00 pm-PADS			

the Voice

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St. Andrew United

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18850 Riegel Rd.

Homewood, IL 60430

Phone: 708/798-8904

E-mail: standrewspeaks@gmail.com

Website: homewoodsaintandrew.org



Editor: Karen Patterson

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Audrea F. Nanabray

Mission Statement

St. Andrew seeks to be
a community of faith
that is

Christ-centered
compassionate
and inclusive,
sharing gifts and resources
while spreading the gospel
and serving others
locally and globally

Worship with us at 9:00 a.m.

Child care provided

Welcoming Statement

Jesus said, “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.” John 15:12

St Andrew UMC prayerfully strives to be a faith community of open hearts, open minds and open doors. We believe all people are of sacred worth and dignity as part of God’s creation and as demonstrated by the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. As God’s love extends to all, we therefore welcome everyone into participation and membership regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, family structure, socio-economic status, marital status, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, faith history, or life experience. We acknowledge that no two of us are alike, except in God’s love for us. We believe that our differences make us a stronger community of faith as we worship together and as we grow in our relationship with God and one another.

Jesus said, “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.”

—Matthew 10:40

