



# ST. ANDREW'S Lutheran Church

DECEMBER 2022



## ADVENT DAY

Sunday, November 27, 11:30 a.m.  
We will be making Advent wreaths  
and other crafts. Hamburgers and  
Hot Dogs will be served for lunch.

## SUNDAY ADVENT WORSHIP

Sunday Mornings, 8:30 a.m. & 10:30  
a.m. November 27, December 4, 11, 18

## WEDNESDAY ADVENT WORSHIP

Wednesdays, Dinner at 5:45 & Wor-  
ship at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall  
November 30, 7, 14, 21

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 11 during  
10:30 a.m. Worship

## CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24

Service of Holy Communion, carol  
and candlelighting at 12:00 p.m.

Service of Holy Communion,  
carols and candlelighting  
Music begins at 5:00 p.m.; liturgy  
begins at 5:30 p.m.

## CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25

Service of Holy Communion  
10:00 a.m.

Please join us at  
this special time  
of year!

Advent Starry Night 2 © 2006 Virginia Wieringa, virginiawieringa.com

## Inside this Issue:

Pastor's Page	2-3
Education	3
We Gather	4
Finance	5
Council Highlights	6
Christmas Pageant	7
Angel Tree	7
Music News	8
Youth News	9
Fellowship/Opportunities	9
Celebrations	10
Prayers and Memorials	11
Ministry Assignments	12
Christmas Party	13
Share the Joy with Walter's	14
Calendar	15

## PASTOR'S PAGE



Another year has passed. For those who are confused and think I am jumping the gun, the reality is that in the church ADVENT marks the beginning of a new church year. This makes me pause to reflect on the past year here at St. Andrew's.

First, it was a year of not being controlled by Covid. We worshipped and ate and gathered together. There is still a virus out there, and we must still show caution and care, but we can be a community in person again.

During this year we have seen the full integration of our new choir director and Youth Associate Paige Gibbons added elementary music to her plate. While we may find the children simply "cute" up front, let us never forget that such programs as this are ways we seek to fulfill baptismal promises.

We promise to teach them the ways of Christ, to bring them to worship, to help them know and love God. These seeds are planted early.

The major event and program of the year was undoubtedly the WE GATHER CAMPAIGN to address the narthex, kitchen, gathering area, and parking lot. Our goal was to have gifts or pledges of \$500,000. I have never been a part of such a campaign. I have to say a word of thanks to Pastor John Wertz who told us: "You can do this. This church can do this." He had had a lot of experience in his ministries with such campaigns. And he was right! As of this writing we are at approximately \$430,000. The council will be looking at how we will move forward with the projects. While "construction" is not my favorite thing, the further ministries that these projects will enhance are! Excitement is contagious.

Well, while I am mentioning money, I want to say thank you for your generous support this past year to our ministry plan. You will hear more in January, as due to the We Gather Campaign we have delayed our stewardship effort. We did have some unexpected expenses mostly with property. The church still spent less than budgeted, however, we are unfortunately as of this writing in the "red" for the year. If we don't catch up in December it will come out of savings.

This year we also saw an increase in the number of refugees in our Refugee Welcome House. In some ways, we need to pray for the day when there are none, but right now there have been many Afghanistan families in the home. This is a critical ministry that connects us to God's wider world.

We have also had an ongoing "issue" with our resident homeless on the property. What do we do? How do we show compassion, but still care for the property and have a place where children can play?

Our relationship with Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary remains vital and strong. The second half of the year saw the completion of Stephen Abbott's internship with us. He was a real blessing and joy. Now, we have our "field education student" Dr. Lilly Okoronkwo. She is learning about the Lutheran church, with a focus right now on worship. If you haven't talked with her you are missing out! We will be sad to see Dr. Mary Shore and Hank Shore move away this next year, as her time as Dean of the Seminary is ending.

(continued)

## ***PASTOR'S PAGE***

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This year the Rev. Leroy Cannon and his wife Helen joined our church. I mention him because he serves on the council for the ELCA, our national church. We can have some firsthand information about how the church works and the problems and joys we share.

This year we have of course a new congregational council. I have made jokes about the fact that it is overwhelmingly female! Yet, think about it. For how many years were women not even considered for council? I remember the first female president of council. THANKFULLY leadership in the church is wider and more diverse than it once was. Think of all the talent and gifts the church “left on the table” by ignoring women, people of color and other ethnicities and more. This church is blessed with excellent volunteer leadership. This next year will be exciting. In the midst of all the projects and such, let us hold onto what is central, namely our community in Christ. Let us put care before construction, ministry before money, and labor in love of God and neighbor.

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## ***EDUCATION***

### **DISCIPLES BIBLE STUDY:**

As of NOVEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> through Advent, we will have ONLY THE MONDAY CLASS that meets at 11:00, but will add ZOOM. The link is below. This is due to the Wednesday Advent Evening worship. Unfortunately, there are one or two of our regular Wednesday “disciples” who will not be able to attend. Maybe there are others who will join us? We will be looking at the prophets Obadiah and Jonah! It’s a “whale” of a story, that’s hard to “swallow”, but once it gets its “hooks” in you, you are caught.

**LINK: Pastor Trump’s Bible Study and Zoom Sunday School** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88529105196>

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON CHRISTMAS DAY. Join us for 10:00 a.m. worship.



## We Gather



A Capital Funds Campaign for  
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

November 15, 2022

Dear Fellow Congregants of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church:

We have gathered, and we have gathered well. Thank you for your faithfulness expressed in your support of the WE GATHER Capital Campaign.

### **Where We Are:**

To date, we have on hand \$246,445, which combines the \$91,262 transferred from the Narthex Fund started before COVID, plus the \$155, 183 in campaign pledges already received. By the end of the two-year campaign, we expect to have received a total of \$446, 157 (the \$246, 445 on hand now + the \$199,712 in additional pledges).

Most impressively, ninety-four giving units/ individual members have pledged!!

### **Where We Are Going:**

The steering team is meeting and planning. We are gathering information on when the different projects could start and timelines for the work. We will be making decisions based on this data and the money on hand. This will be an ongoing process over the next two years as we receive additional funds, and as work schedules develop. We hope to start in the next couple of months, if possible, but this will depend on project management in the context of ongoing worship schedules.

### **What to Expect:**

We will communicate updates with monthly Mission Moments and newsletter updates. Before we spend any money, with the guidance of the project teams and congregation council, we will bring this before you, the congregation, for approval on each part of the project. We are thankful for our ongoing teams working together to make the best decisions as we feel the forward momentum and excitement of things to come.

### **What to Do:**

Continue to pray for the leadership of our church and wisdom to use our resources in a way pleasing to God as we work to further our space for continued fellowship in His Word. Continue to work toward meeting your pledge. Continue to read the updates.

Most importantly, thank you.

Thank you for your support.

Thank you for your faithfulness.

Thank you for your prayers.

Claire Birdsong MD and Curtis Amick

Co-chairs, WE GATHER Capital Campaign of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church		
Statement of Income and Expense		
October of Fiscal Year 2022		
Fund: 01- General		
	October Actual	2022 YTD Actual
Current and Benevolence Giving	\$ 40,026.45	\$ 423,318.51
Expenses	\$ 41,987.44	\$ 449,964.62
Expenses under (over) Giving	\$ (1,960.99)	\$ (26,646.11)
Current and Benevolence Giving	\$ 40,026.45	\$ 423,318.51
Budget	\$ 43,640.77	\$ 454,707.70
Giving (under) over Budget	\$ (3,614.32)	\$ (31,389.19)

What do these numbers mean?

- Your church has spent LESS than was budgeted.
- We have spent MORE than was donated.
- There were several large expenses this year, mostly due to property, that have contributed to our “debt.”
- Any debt that we have at years end comes out of our savings. Those savings were cut in half when we had to repair the HVAC system. Presently we have *approximately* \$120,000 in “undesignated” funds. There are other savings in such places as the “Cemetery Fund,” “Pastor’s Discretionary Fund”.... etc. These funds are designated for a specific purpose and may be used with permission of the Council, or the Congregation, or in the case of the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund, the pastor.
- We can pay for deficits such as this for one more year. After that, harder questions about expenses would have to be considered.

Unfortunately, the vast majority of our annual budget have become “fixed costs.” We try to reduce the energy bill, or office maintenance, or other such things but they can only go so low. Salaries are within guidelines. Our Synod giving is at 10%. There is very little fluff left in the budgeted Ministry Plan.

Maybe you are a little behind in your giving for the year?

Maybe you are someone who can give a little extra to your church to help close this gap?

Thank you again, for all your faithful stewardship and the ministry that has happened.

## ***COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS***

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Council Highlights, Thursday, November 17th

1. John Bass offered devotions. Minutes from the October meeting and the November congregational meeting were approved.
2. Anna Berger gave a WE GATHER CAMPAIGN update with financial numbers plus a reminder of all that there is to do. A group will be meeting to write thank you notes.
3. The Pastor's and Deacon's reports were accepted.
4. A substantial discussion was had regarding the homeless situation around the church. Fencing in the back "porch" at the end of the single-story wing was considered, as were other ideas. In the end the council agreed that putting up fencing was not what we wanted to do and not the message we want to communicate to the neighborhood. Pastor Trump will continue contacting the city regarding resources.
5. The Finance Team gave their report. Giving was flat in October despite a 5 Sunday month. Non-dedicated funds (our "savings") are down to \$110,000. The council agreed with a Finance Team recommendation that beginning this December, our Synod benevolence will be "adjusted" at the end of each year so that we tithe based upon actual giving rather than what we have budgeted. This applies in years of deficit and in years of excess.
6. Social Ministry reported that they are still working with schools regarding the "backpack" program.
7. The Communication Team is working on a new platform for the website.
8. The Property Team reported that there will be some outside cleaning up done by a professional crew.
9. A request by Karen Baptist Church (the group that uses our facility each Sunday afternoon) to meet on Christmas Eve in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM was approved.
10. The council discussed having its January retreat on the weekend of the 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> at the Derrick residence on Lake Hartwell.

The meeting adjourned with prayer concerns.

## ***CHRISTMAS PAGEANT***

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***A REFUGEES CHRISTMAS***, the newest hot off the presses pageant, will be held during worship on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be an email out to all “Bible Playday” age youth to ask if they want to participate. Here is the schedule for practice and rehearsal:

Sunday, December 4  
 8:30 a.m.-Speaking Parts  
 9:15 a.m.-All parts, including Nativity roles

Sunday, December 11  
 8:30 a.m.-Speaking Parts  
 9:15 a.m.-All parts, including Nativity roles




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## ***ANGEL TREE OF GIVING***



The Angel Tree in the Narthex has plenty of angel tags to choose from. We are supporting five families this year. Please consider an offer of joy and goodwill to some that are in need. Unwrapped gifts are due by December 11. Thank you for your generosity!

## MUSIC NEWS



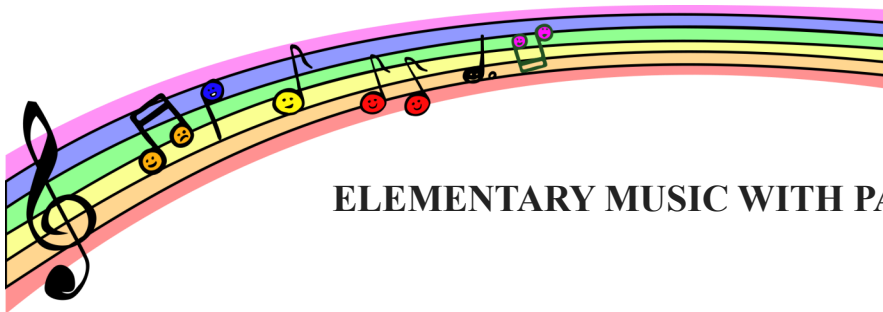
**COME ONE, COME ALL!**

*Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:45 to 2:30*

Join your church friends to spread some Christmas cheer on **Sunday, December 18**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 11:45 a.m. for a light lunch and then head out to various care facilities and houses to visit St. Andrew's members who are no longer able to get to church. A parent/grandparent is required to attend and transport all children younger than 3rd grade. The Luther League group (3rd-5th graders) and youth group will travel together on a rental van.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Jenny Walrath

Please let us know by December 11<sup>th</sup> if you are coming so that we can provide sufficient food and transportation. [Click here to register](#), or contact the church office (803-772-6034) or Jenny Walrath at [jwalrath@salutheran.com](mailto:jwalrath@salutheran.com).



### ELEMENTARY MUSIC WITH PAIGE

The next session of elementary school music is underway. We will be working on an instrumental piece for December 18. All 1st-5th grade students are invited to participate! Please register using this link: <https://forms.gle/3x41tqJvrS4sLiLz8>

Rehearsal Dates:

December 4: Rehearsal 11:45-12:30

December 11: Rehearsal 11:45-12:15

December 18: Play at 10:30 worship. Meet at 10:10. Lunch and Christmas caroling at 11:45.

(Please see article above and sign up so that we can plan accordingly.)



## ***YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S NEWS***



### **DECEMBER YOUTH GROUP NEWS:**



#### **CHRISTMAS YOUTH GROUP**

When: December 4, 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Where: St. Andrew's

Details: You're invited to a Christmas celebration including games, food, and other festive activities! There will be an opportunity to start (or continue) painting your brick in the youth room.

**LUTHER LEAGUE (3<sup>RD</sup>-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS) AND LITTLE LUTHERAN FAMILIES** are invited to join in the Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 18 after the 10:30 worship. (See caroling article on p. 8; remember to sign up so that we know how many to plan for.)

## ***FELLOWSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES***

### **COLLEGE CONNECT LUNCH**



All college students are invited to meet for lunch at Chapala Mexican Restaurant in Irmo on Thursday, December 22 at 11:45 a.m. If you can join us, please let Deacon Sandra know by texting 803-269-9659.



**Lutheran Men**  
St. Andrew's  
Lutheran Church

Lutheran Men meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. They will not meet in December, but will resume on January 10.

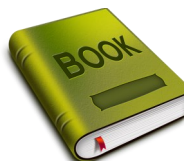


**LUTHERAN WOMEN**  
ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

Lutheran Women will be having their Christmas lunch at Harbor Inn, December 7, 2022. We will have a gift exchange. The limit has been set at \$15.00. Please be at the church on the 7th at 11:30 to car pool to the restaurant for lunch at 12:00.



Please watch the bulletins and e-news for our plan for the December event, which will be held on December 15.



**ALL BOOKED UP LADIES BOOK CLUB:** We will be meeting the first week of January. Host TBD. See Deacon Sandra to get a copy of the book we are reading this month – *Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid.

## CELEBRATIONS

### WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

*We are so happy to have two new families joining our St. Andrew's family:*

*Mathew and Meghann Buckles, and their children Madison, McKenna and Marshall;  
The Reverend Leroy Cannon, Helen Gilliam Cannon, and Gilliam Cannon.*

*Please take a moment to introduce yourself and  
welcome these new disciples to our church family!*



### BIRTHDAYS

Dec 1 Chris Daly	Dec 14 Joseph Ray	Dec 19 Geoffrey Gibbons
Dec 1 Kimberly Von Schweinitz	Dec 14 Tyler Senn	Dec 22 Chris Land
Dec 4 Kasarah Boiter	Dec 14 Andrew Von Schweinitz	Dec 23 Barbara Galarneau
Dec 5 Sandra Ringer	Dec 15 Dollie Lunsford	Dec 24 Susan Hentz
Dec 9 Amy Vickers	Dec 16 Emma Smith	Dec 28 Ruth Lackstrom
Dec 10 Reagan Gibbons	Dec 17 Hannah Smith	
Dec 10 Mary Ann Jacobs	Dec 17 Eric Young	
Dec 12 Kristine Thompson	Dec 19 Donna Birdsong	



### BOXES ARE GONE!

Thanks to all who helped with the **ELCA World Relief Quilt and Kit Gathering**. The boxes were loaded on the truck, on November 16. Our church sexton, Garry Woodard showed up on his own time to help out.



# ***PRAYERS AND MEMORIALS***

## **FRIENDS & RELATIVES**

- Ed Saye, brother of Vicky Saye Henderson
- Katie, Tom and Theresa Henry's niece
- Corbett Anderson, nephew of Amy Vickers and grandchild of Mike and Susan Beeler.
- Stephen Finger, friend of Jan Bass
- Sandra Ouzts, sister of Debra Ouzts
- Ernie Davis, friend of Lee Bowling
- Jimmy Asbill, son of Shirley Swanson
- Bonnie Seibert, cousin of Jada Mitchell
- Mike Chase, cousin of Vicky Henderson
- Frances Dyches, sister of Bobbie Bell
- Emily Wheeler, Edna Wheeler's granddaughter
- Davis Bowling, son of Judy and Lee Bowling

## **HOMEBOUND**

- Sarah Cook
- Jackie Darby
- Sharon Guest
- Dot Meador

## **MEMBERS IN EXTENDED CARE**

- Miller Shealy, Wellmore Assisted Living
- Adrian Trexler, The Brian Center
- Mitch Mayer, Lexington Extended Care
- Jim Chapman, North Carolina
- Vern Free, Generations, Chapin
- Buddy Lewis, The Blake, Columbia
- Madalynn Wessinger, Agape Hospice, Lexington
- Shirley Swanson, NHC Lexington
- Betty Dawkins, Presbyterian Home
- Carolyn Swittenberg, NHC, Lexington

## **MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS**

- In honor of Mary DeHihns, given by Gibbs and Deborah DeHihns
- In honor of Steve Slice, given by Billy and Loretta Eubanks

## **IN OUR PRAYERS**

- Jim Lucas, Encompass Rehab
- Beth Trump, recovering from surgery
- Vivian Gehlken, Hospice
- Susie Derrick, recovering from surgery
- Allen Semones, recovering at home
- Dana Robinson, Lexington Hospital
- Mari Frye, surgery November 29,
- Deb Varco, upon the loss of her Uncle, Duane Schumaker
- Dusty and Amanda Ratiff, Teresa Ratcliff, Carroll and Greta Robinsin upon the death of Kaleb Anthony Ratliff, beloved son, grandson and great grandson

A Note from Mari: Although I may be out for a few days, I will be working remotely from home and will check my emails. If you need anything specifically from me, please don't hesitate to call or text me, 803-422-4168. Please leave a message if I don't answer. Thank you.

## *MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS*

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### December 4

**Lay Assistant:** Phillip Jenkins  
**8:30 Reader:** Lilly Okoronkwo  
**10:30 Reader:** Brian Teusink  
**Communion Assistant:** Sandra Holland  
**Crucifer:** Sean Egan  
**Acolyte:** Evie Casey  
**Council Collections:** Robbie Derrick  
**Recycling:** Sharon Berger  
**Altar Guild:** Bobbie Bell  
**8:30 Ushers:** Layne Birdsong  
**10:30 Ushers:** Mari Frye, Brian Haley  
**Counters:** Bobbie Bell, Susan Beeler  
**Nursery:** Connaker  
**Flowers:** Andrew Connaker

### December 11

**Lay Assistant:** Pat Gagliano  
**8:30 Reader:** Tom Bane  
**10:30 Reader:** Lilly Okoronkwo  
**Communion Assistant:** Deborah Slice  
**Crucifer:** Addison Connaker  
**Acolyte:** Maya Skillman  
**Council Collections:** Robbie Derrick  
**Recycling:** Sharon Berger  
**Altar Guild:** Bobbie Bell  
**8:30 Ushers:** Robert Luther, Paul Osmundson  
**10:30 Ushers:** Layne Birdsong, Steve Metze  
**Counters:** Bobbie Bell, Barbara Weaver  
**Flowers:** Beth Mullins  
**Nursery:** Frye

### December 18

**Lay Assistant:** Vicky Henderson  
**8:30 Reader:** Becca Kelly  
**10:30 Reader:** Youth  
**Communion Assistant:** Youth  
**Crucifer:** Jonathon Varco  
**Acolyte:** John Driggers  
**Council Collections:** Robbie Derrick  
**Recycling:** Sharon Berger  
**Altar Guild:** Bobbie Bell  
**8:30 Ushers:** Mari Frye, Paul Osmundson  
**10:30 Ushers:** Layne Birdsong, Curtis Amick  
**Counters:** Mary Ann Jacobs, Sharon Berger  
**Flowers:** TBD  
**Nursery:** Casey

### December 24

**Lay Assistant:** Mandy Glowacki  
**Reader:** Darrick Williams

### December 25

**Lay Assistant:** Jay Folk  
**Reader:** Kristine Thompson  
**Counters:** Bobbie Bell, Susan Beeler  
**Flowers:** Tom and Theresa Henry

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

COME ONE, COME ALL!

Congregational Adult Christmas Party  
at the Home of Jay and Tracy Folk

December 9, 6:30 p.m.

*Bring a dish to share. Drinks will be provided, but feel free  
to bring a favorite if you'd like.*





## Let's Share the Joy of the Season!




Come help with worship and dinner at Walter's Residential Home. This ministry will be held on **December 11 at 5:00 p.m.** If you are interested in helping, please contact Beth Trump, [btrump6659@gmail.com](mailto:btrump6659@gmail.com) If you are unable to help, but are able to come to this event, the residents would truly appreciate your time.

## *WOMEN'S RETREAT*



Fifteen women of St. Andrew's gathered at Lutheridge in November to begin a tradition of an annual retreat! It was a great weekend of sharing, laughter, reflection, worship and cozy time by the fire. Make plans to join us next year!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div><div>DECEMBER</div><div></div></div>				1	2	3
4 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Elementary Music	5 11:00 a.m. Disciples Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	6	7 Noon Lutheran Women meet at Harbor Inn for Lunch 5:45 p.m. Advent Meal 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	8	9 6:30 p.m. Adult Christmas Party	10
11 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Elementary Music 12:00-2:00p.m. Confirmation Class 5:00 p.m. Worship and Dinner at Walter’s Residential Home	12 11:00 a.m. Disciples Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	13	14 11:00 a.m Retired and Restless Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Advent Meal 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	15 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	16	17
18 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:45 Caroling	19 11:00 a.m. Disciples Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	20 2:00 p.m. Youth Scavenger Hunt	21 5:45 p.m. Advent Meal 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	22 11:45 a.m. College Lunch	23	24 12:00 p.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Music 5:30 p.m. Liturgy
25 10:00 a.m. Worship	26	27	28	29	30	31



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

1416 Broad River Rd.

Columbia, SC 29210

RETURN SERVICE

REQUESTED

To Reach Us

Telephone: 803-772-6034

Email: [officemgr@salutheran.com](mailto:officemgr@salutheran.com)

Website: [www.salutheran.com](http://www.salutheran.com)

**Pastor**

The Rev. John P. Trump

**Deacon**

Sandra Holland

**Director of Music Ministries**

Jenny Walrath

**Choir and Ensemble Director**

Nancy Gibbons

**Office Administrator**

Mari Frye

**Children's Music and Youth Ministry Associate**

Paige Gibbons

**Congregational Council**

President: Anna Berger

Vice President: Georgia Godfrey

Secretary: Beth Hutchison

Treasurer: Judy Venturella

Financial Secretary: Sharon Berger

Council Members:

John Bass

Whanna Bouknight

Jason Bradley

Robbie Derrick

Ingrid Driggers

Mary Lynn Fulmer

Brian Teusink

Darrick Williams