

**St. Andrews Lutheran Church**  
4910 Claremont Ave.  
Stockton, CA 95207

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# The FishHook

August 2016



**St. Andrews Lutheran Church**

*Inspiring Our Community to Live Out the Hope Found in Christ*

## Youth Mission Trip Recap

At the end of June, ten youth and two adult leaders traveled to the Nez Perce Native American Indian Reservation in Idaho. Joining with other youth, who were also volunteering through Youth Works, they had the opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through service projects, games and Bible stories. They were the hands and feet of Jesus as they painted and helped with home repairs, building relationships with the homeowners who were there. They shared Christ with kids and their families through a VBS like program in a local park as well. Not only were they able to form stronger relationships with one another but, with other groups volunteering as well. They clearly saw God at work in each other and in those around them.



*Recap continued inside...*



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## August

**August 1st-5th** - Preschool Inservice

**August 3rd** - Stone 6: Surviving Adolescence @ 6:30pm

**August 7th** - Operation Christmas Child Begins  
- Cross+Gen @ 9:45am

**August 8th** - Worship @ Rio Las Palmas @ 1:30pm

**August 9th** - 1st Day of Newday Preschool

**August 10th** - Stone 6: Surviving Adolescence @ 6:30pm

**August 11th-12th** - Office Closed for Staff Training

**August 13th** - Courage House Quilts @ 9:00am

**August 14th** - Fall Discipleship Starts @ 9:45am

**August 15th** - Newday Preschool Back-to-School Night @ 5:00pm

**August 17th** - FishHook Due  
- Stone 6: Surviving Adolescence @ 6:30pm

**August 18th** - Commodities @ 6:30am

**August 19th** - Taize @ 7:00pm

**August 20th** - Outreach Choir Rehearsal @ 9:00am

**August 24th** - Youth Mentor Meeting @ 6:30pm

**August 27th** - Outreach Choir Rehearsal @ 9:00am

**August 28th** - High School Youth BBQ @ 12:00pm

**August 30th** - St. Mary's Dining Hall @ 9:30am  
- MOPPETS Volunteer Meeting @ 10:00am

**August 31st** - H2H Registration @ 6:30pm  
- High School Youth Parent Mtg @ 6:30pm



If you have a question about an upcoming event please contact the church office: 957.8750 or Admin@standrewsstockton.org.

## FAITH STEPPING STONES



Faith Stepping Stones is a faith based parenting education from cradle to graduation through eight short-courses, which pull parents into the role of primary faith mentors for their own children every night through blessing, prayer, scripture, Highs & Lows, and faith dialogue. All classes are held on Wednesday evenings throughout the year.

### Stone: Surviving Adolescence

This class consists of three sessions on "Surviving Adolescence" where 6th grade youth and parents learn and commit to talking about their faith and how they see God at work in their lives on a daily basis. Adding this to the previous faith practices of confession/absolution, Bible reading, Highs & Lows, prayer and blessing. This class will start **Wednesday, August 3rd** at 6:30pm and run through Wednesday, August 17. Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, August 1st.

### Stone: My Bible

(Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28; Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26)

This class is for children going into 2nd and 3rd grade along with their parents. This class will run for eight weeks and be taught on Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM starting on **Wednesday, September 7th**. At the end of this class children will receive a Bible from the church. Children and parents commit to read a Bible verse nightly, and continue with Highs & Lows, prayer and blessing nightly. Older children and their parents who have yet to receive a Bible from the church are also welcome to join us for this class. Please RSVP to the church office by September 1st.

## YOUTH BBQ

All high school youth and their families are invited to join us on **Sunday, August 28th** for a BBQ immediately following the 10:45am worship. We will provide the meat. Please bring a dish to share with the group. After lunch we will have a water war including water balloons and super soakers. If you have a water gun please bring it along. Please RSVP to Tracy at 209-406-1788 or email at [tracy@standrewsstockton.org](mailto:tracy@standrewsstockton.org) by August 24th.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL MTGS

### Sunday School Teacher Meeting

A reminder to all Sunday school teachers that we will meet on **Sunday, July 31st** at 9:45am in the church library.



Whether this is your first time teaching or you have been teaching for a lifetime, please plan to attend this meeting so that you receive all of the necessary information for the year. Please let Tracy know if you will not be attending.

### Jr. High & High School Youth Mentor Meeting

A reminder to all H2H & high school youth mentors that we will meet on **Wednesday, August 24th** at 6:30pm for training. Please let Tracy or Ann Marie know if you will not be able to attend.

### High School Youth Parent Meeting

All parents of high school youth are invited to join us on **Wednesday, August 31st** at 6:30pm to hear about the plans for high school youth this coming year. Contact Tracy for more information.



### Childcare Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to work in the childcare room on Sunday mornings from 9:30am-10:45am to watch over the children ages 3 and younger. Please contact Tracy at [tracy@standrewsstockton.org](mailto:tracy@standrewsstockton.org) to volunteer or for more information.

### Sunday School Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to join the Sunday school teacher team. We need teachers for preschool on up through 8th grade. Teachers are only responsible for one-two Sundays a month and everything you need to teach will be provided for you. Please contact Tracy for more information.

## MOPPETS VOLUNTEERS

All MOPPET volunteers are asked to please attend a short meeting on **Tuesday, August 30th** at 10am. We will look at what this new year of MOPS has in store for us. Please let Tracy know if you will not be attending.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kids need a vital and living relationship with Jesus, and they need to grow weekly in their faith. Sunday School is for children ages 3-fifth grade. It's highly relational and uses small group and large group settings. Be sure to register your children for the up coming year. Sunday school begins again **Sunday, August 14th** at 9:45am.



### Infant/Toddler Class

Childcare will be available for children under age 3 during the 9:45am discipleship time starting **Sunday, August 14th**. Please be sure to register your children for the upcoming year on the Sunday school registration form.

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Our high school youth will be asked to join our adult classes during the Sunday 9:45am discipleship time. We see our high school youth as confirmed members of our congregation and want them to be fully engaged in Bible study with our adult members. We know how important it is for high school youth to have adults in their life that help them grow and mature in life and faith and we see this discipleship time as just one more opportunity for adults to pour into the lives of our young people. The youth will still have regular high school meetings on Wednesday evenings with topics that will be geared specifically toward their age group. Wednesday night meetings will resume **September 7th** at 6:30pm.



## JR. HIGH YOUTH

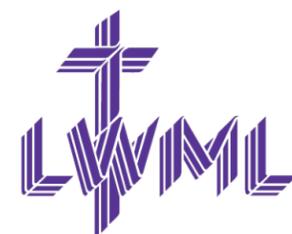
The 6-8th graders (Jr. High Youth) will have a class geared specifically for them that will cover a variety of different topics throughout the year including conflict, sexuality, doubt and fear, worship, evangelism and more. They will meet in the youth room starting **Sunday, August 14th** at 9:45am. Be sure to sign up on the Sunday school registration form.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child Boxes will be available on **August 14**, when the Fall Discipleship Begins. Why are we doing this so early? One reason is that our schedules and demands become greater the closer we get to Christmas. Another reason is that we want you to take advantage of all the back to school sales. This year we decided to try it earlier and see if this works better for everyone. The boxes can be returned any Sunday from **August until October 16**. Boxes cost \$7.00 for Operation Christmas Child to send, and information will be available when you pick up the boxes. If you cannot fill a box, this year we are also going to have a large box available for you to contribute items and we will assemble the boxes. There is always the option to contribute toward postage.



Contact Joanne Fisher (474.3704) for more information.



Just a reminder that we will be starting up our Women in Mission Group on **Tuesday, September 6th** at 1:00pm in the Church Hall. All women of the congregation are invited to attend and we encourage you to invite someone new. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet new people and to fellowship together.

This year we hope to find new ways to reach out into the community and the world to spread God's saving message. This is a mission field ministry and our proceeds are used to get His message out.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the 1st Tuesday of every month and bring your Mite Boxes. Any questions, please contact Sheryl Bettencourt at 368.8991.

## "Get out of the house and do something." - Michael Centers

Continued from front page...

"I saw God working through everyone there, because no matter what we had to deal with that day, we powered through it and finished the tasks set out to us." - Nick Curtright



"Going on this mission trip was an amazing experience. I saw God working in my group members during the week but especially when we were painting. Everyone was really helpful and supportive of each other." - Natalie Johnson



"Coming back from the mission trip changed my point of view, looking and talking to everyone. I'm trying my best to be confident and kind to everyone I meet! Also, I'm trying my best to show God's love through me and to others." - Jordan Wagner



"You get to connect with people." - Calvin Kelly

"I saw God working during our mission trip because our group was hard working, helping the community and working in the sun. It was a great experience." - Beckham Johnson



"I saw God working through the kids in Lapwai. We had a really fun time with them, and they seemed pretty happy, no matter their situation. All they wanted to do was play! That is really moving for me." - Jacob Sherman



"My favorite part was playing with the kids. We should help the churches that need help." - Brooke Kelly

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

I wanted to share with you all about how God has worked through the recent mission trip you all sent me to in the Ukraine this past June 2016.

Prayer was a vital necessity throughout the journey from the beginning weeks of training, through fundraising and all the way through travel and return from the Ukraine.

From day one, prayer was required as Diana, our leader, was diagnosed with the incurable disease, ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). She has led teams on five separate trips and when she was told by her doctor, her first question was..."Can I still lead the team to the Ukraine"? Through all the adversity, she heard God's call to go and share the love of Christ despite her circumstances. We all knew prayer was needed to help give Diana the strength she needed to make, what will most likely be, her last trip to the Ukraine.

As we all know, Satan despises God's plans and will go to whatever lengths to put fear, doubt, and worry in our minds to distract us from His master plan. During the second leg of our flights, Kathy Posey, a fellow team mate, experienced a bad case of lock jaw. She was experiencing severe pain and needed medical attention immediately. Diana's husband went with Kathy to the hospital in Amerstadam leaving the rest of us to wait at the airport. We all had our separate worries about how Kathy would be: if they would be able to fix it so we could continue our journey, would she need to be sent back home and would we have to carry on ministry without her? This put a tremendous strain on Diana as she was fearful for Kathy's well being. I asked if we could pray, as this is all I know to do when things go awry...and so we did. We sat together in the diner and prayed fervently that God's will be done. A gentleman overheard us in the diner and asked if he could assist us. At this point we had gone 9 hours with no contact with Tom or Kathy. We were unsure if we should catch our rescheduled flight to Kiev. Diana didn't want us separated from each other so she was at a loss of what to do. We were able to make a plan to call Tom at a certain time to see if we needed to get Kathy a flight back home and as we were calling him, Jaime Eisenbeisz messaged me telling us the hospital was able to get Kathy's jaw back in place and she was going to be

fine. Praise God!!!! Every obstacle that satan tried was being cared for through many prayers from you here at St. Andrews, St. Peters Church in Elk Grove and many who were praying for our team to arrive safely. Together we arrived in Kiev, Ukraine at 1:30am and surprisingly, all 13 of our ministry suitcases made it as well. God is good all the time. He called all of us to serve the people of Ukraine and he removed all the obstacles the devil tried to throw our way. Our team went on to thrive at camp. Diana, an amazing testimony, participated fully in camp singing songs, games of duck, duck goose, joining in on our water battle and even smashed some raw eggs on her head in a game of egg roulette!!! Although the illness was taking its toll on her speech, she still spoke of Christ's love for these kids and she was a living example of it.



During the second week of ministry, we delivered wheelchairs to homes on 5th and 6th floors in buildings with no elevator. I'm so blessed to have been a part of this team. Diana was an amazing encouragement and inspiration to so many. She truly is glorifying God with every day she has left on this earth. I want to thank you all so very much for this opportunity to share the love of Christ with the people of the Ukraine. Without senders, we cannot go. You truly are building the kingdom of Christ when you send others to go and make disciples in all nations. God's peace be with you all.

~Rachelle Moreno



2015-2016 Theme:  
We Are The Starry Eyed

Please invite any moms of children 6 and under to join us at our first meeting, **Tuesday, September 13 from 9-11am** in the Parish Hall. Our loving moppets workers take care of the children while the moms meet for encouragement, fun and learning about how we can open our eyes to wonder and choose hope over fear at this stage in our mothering. If you have any questions call Deaconess Ann Marie Rehbein in the church office.

## NOTE from CHOIR DIRECTOR

Share the love of Christ and the Gospel through music! Our new outreach choir will prepare a set of simple but fun songs to take into places in our community such as shelters, retirement homes, and nursing centers. How can you be involved? 1) Sing with us! Open to 6th grade and beyond. 2) Play hand percussion with us! Some of our songs have easy instrument parts anyone can learn. 3) Pray! Pray for our message and our audiences, either coming with us or praying from your homes. When and where do you show up? Rehearsals: 9-11am on both **August 20th and 27th**. At that time, we will make plans for our outreach presentation dates. Please contact Rachel McGehee at [rachel@standrewsstockton.org](mailto:rachel@standrewsstockton.org) to get involved!



Mixed Choir rehearsals will resume **September 8th, 6:30-7:30pm** in the Sanctuary (continuing weekly).

Women's Chorale rehearsals resume **September 15th, 7:30-8:30pm** in the Sanctuary (continuing on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month).

## CROSS + GEN

What is Cross+Gen?

Cross+Gen Faith Formation brings all ages together to learn and grow in faith-together through prayer, praise, the reading of scripture, movement and discussion. The aim is to build lasting relationships across generations where the gifts of the younger meet the needs of the older and vice versa. Check out this exciting opportunity to make an impact in the lives of those in this congregation. Contact Holly or Tracy with questions ([holly@standrewsstockton.org](mailto:holly@standrewsstockton.org), [Tracy@standrewsstockton.org](mailto:Tracy@standrewsstockton.org), 957.8750).



## H2H

Head to the Heart

St Andrews three year faith forming ministry for youth in grades 6-8 who wish to grow in the faith into which they were baptized.

To kick off H2H 2016-17 we require all youth and parents to attend a Registration Night, **Wednesday, August 31, 2016 at 6:30pm** at church. Confirmation fees of \$40 per child will be collected, the new curriculum and program schedule for this year will be shared.

Our Theme this year is Living Faith. We will study the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer and some Hot Topics to see how our story connects with God's story and how we can live out our faith every day.

We meet Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:15pm. Fall semester is 11 weeks from **September 7 – November 16, 2016**. Winter semester is 8 weeks, **January 4- February 22, 2017**. Spring semester is 6 weeks from **April 19 – May 24, 2017**. Along with our Wednesday meetings there will be service and fellowship events throughout the year.

If you have any questions call Deaconess Ann Marie Rehbein in the church office.

## SUNDAY AM DISCIPLESHIP

9:45am – Starting August 14th

Summer is already over!?! It is hard to believe. August marks the beginning of our Fall 9:45am Discipleship and our plans are as follows:



1st Sundays –

Cross+Gen (all generations) Faith Formation (see Cross+Gen Column)

2nd, 3rd, 4th (and 5th) Sundays –

Text/Theme Based Discipleship for all ages:

- 1) Sunday School (Preschool to 5th Grade)
- 2) 6th-8th Grade
- 3) Adults (high school and up)

Each age group will use the Sunday Worship Scripture text as the basis for their lessons in order to solidify and better understand the weekly text as it relates to our lives as followers of Christ. Adult discipleship will meet in the Fellowship hall and include a mixture of large group and small group discussion lead by different facilitators from the congregation.

There will also be childcare available for those under age 3.

This will be our set-up through the end of 2016. When Pastor Dan returns mid-October, we'll work on getting feedback from the congregation to see how this set-up works as we prepare for the start of 2017. Looking forward to growing in faith with you!

The Prayer Group is also planning to resume on **Sunday, September 11th**. This group is open to anyone who would like to join or pop in when available. For more information, contact Sheryl Bettencourt at 209.368.8991.



Charlie Johnson's Bible Study is planning on resuming, as well, to finish the remaining 7 weeks. This study will resume **August 14th at 9:45am**. They will not meet September 4th. For more information, please contact Charlie at 209.951.8655.

## CONNECTION & CELEBRATION

If you missed the Liberty Quartet concert we sponsored in June, you missed a great evening of family worship and praise. If you ever have the opportunity in the future to attend one of their concerts, you will not want to miss it. In July we participated in VBS and also attended the Ports game for Lutheran Fellowship night.

In June, the committee had a planning meeting for this year's events. August starts with:

Operation Christmas Child  
(see page 6)

The following is a list of events that are being planned by the committee, or other organizations within the church to give you a chance for CONNECTION & CELEBRATION:

- **September:** Bowling event 
- **October 22:** Good Shepherd Oketoberfest 
- **November:** a) Thanksgiving Baskets  
b) Nov 23: Pie Sharing 
- **December:**  
a) Dec 3: Good Shepherd Christmas Program  
b) Dec 11: Christmas Concert
- **January 28:** Trivia Night 
- **February:** Family Night
- **March:** Lent Services
- **April 13:** Seder Meal
- **May:** Wine Tasting

More information will be available as we get closer to the individual events. As always, we are open to any ideas.

Contact Joanne Fisher (474.3704) or Terry Clark (477.8935) for more information.

## LIFELIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Get ready to dig deep into God's word once again. We will be resuming our bible study on **Monday, September 12th at 9:00am**. This year we will begin our study with the Book of Exodus. And the end of February, finish with 1st and 2nd Peter. This is a wonderful way for you to grow in the knowledge of God's word, and to fellowship with other Christians.

For more information, please contact Sheryl Bettencourt at 368.8991.



# VBS

This year we had over 200 children join us for Barnyard Roundup VBS. Over 60% of the kids that came through our doors over the week of VBS do not have a church home and for many of them this is the only week of the year that they hear about Jesus.

A huge thank you to all of the volunteers. We had over 100 volunteers this year who came out and helped with everything from

band, to kitchen crew, to crafts, cleanup, and more. We couldn't do it without all of your help!

We also had 40 Jr. High youth join our service club this year. They went out to the local homeless shelters and led VBS activities there three nights during VBS. They had a lot of fun and learned a lot about sharing their faith with others.

Throughout the week of

Barnyard Roundup VBS we learned that Jesus cares, provides, leads, forgives, and is our Savior now and forever! We also memorized Psalm 23 as we learned that Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

We are already starting to plan for next year. So mark your calendars for July 17-21, 2017. See you there!

