

St. Andrews Lutheran Church
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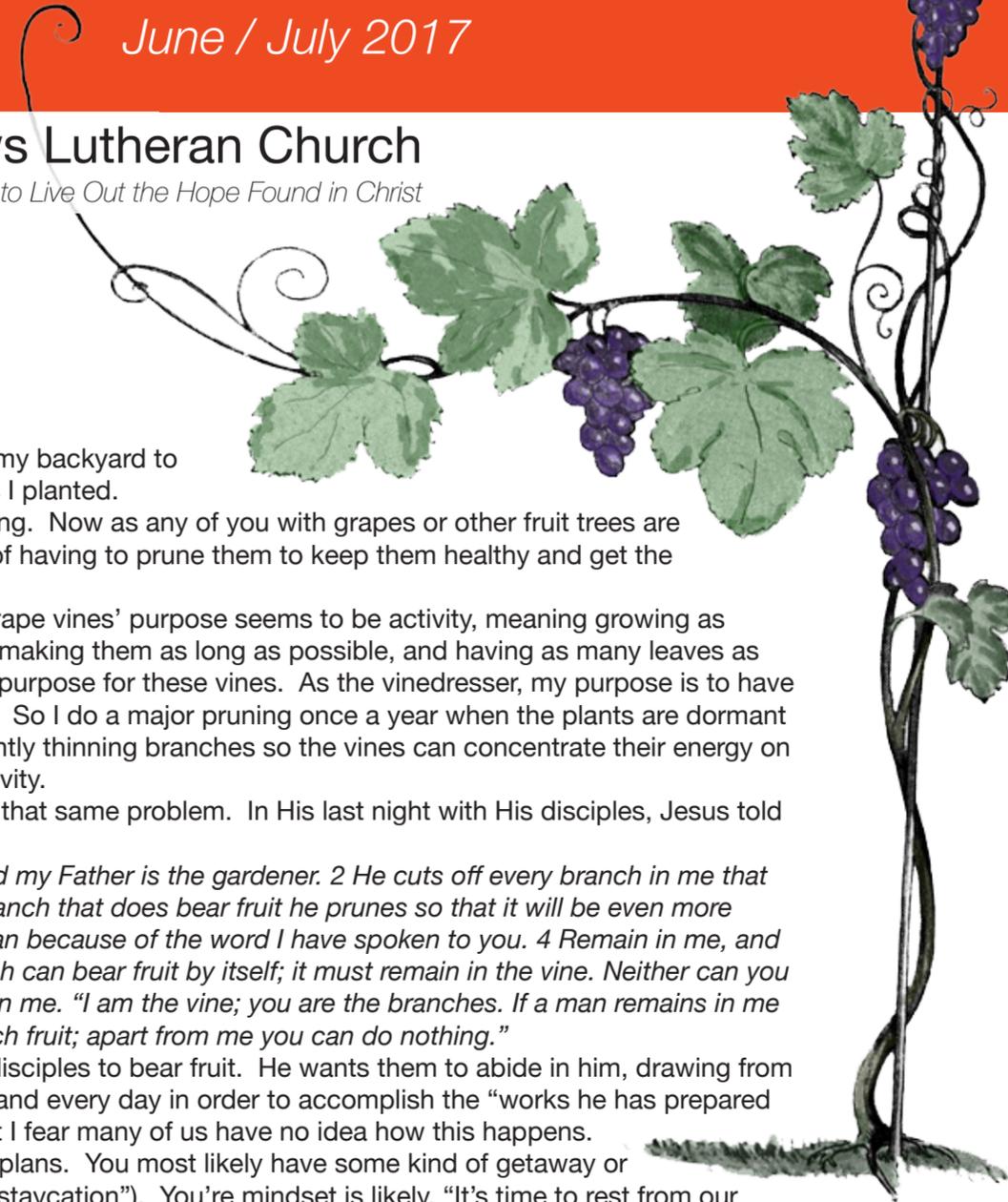
The FishHook

June / July 2017



St. Andrews Lutheran Church

Inspiring Our Community to Live Out the Hope Found in Christ



So I built this trellis in my backyard to support the three grapevines I planted. Amazingly, it's actually working. Now as any of you with grapes or other fruit trees are familiar, you know the irony of having to prune them to keep them healthy and get the most fruit from them.

I've noticed that the grape vines' purpose seems to be activity, meaning growing as many branches as possible, making them as long as possible, and having as many leaves as possible. But that's not my purpose for these vines. As the vinedresser, my purpose is to have them bear fruit for my family. So I do a major pruning once a year when the plants are dormant in the winter, and am constantly thinning branches so the vines can concentrate their energy on bearing fruit, not frenetic activity.

I think a lot of us have that same problem. In His last night with His disciples, Jesus told them these words,

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

Jesus also wants his disciples to bear fruit. He wants them to abide in him, drawing from the well of living water each and every day in order to accomplish the "works he has prepared in advance for us to do." Yet I fear many of us have no idea how this happens.

Consider our summer plans. You most likely have some kind of getaway or vacation planned (maybe a "staycation"). Your mindset is likely, "It's time to rest from our work." That seems to be the pattern of our culture. Work, work, work. Rest. Work, work, work. Collapse. Work, work, work. Recreate. Perhaps I can show you a better way.

You'll remember how God created the world in six days and then rested. What is interesting is that humanity was created on the sixth day, so *their first day was one of rest*. Rest a day (meaning connect to God and community), then work. To the Hebrew mind (and all authors of Scripture), the day begins at sundown. Thus the pattern of living was rest (meaning eat with family, connect with God and community, then head off to sleep), and then work beginning at sunrise. You can call this "*working from your rest (in God)*."

This is the pattern of Jesus' life. Consider:

- Luke 5:16 *But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.*

SAVE the DATE - REFORMATION CELEBRATION

This is your one chance in a lifetime to celebrate a centennial anniversary of the Reformation! And it's the 500th! And it's *still* all about Jesus! Mark your calendars to join with other area churches for a celebration concert and worship service followed by a raging Oktoberfest to celebrate the freedom we have in the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We'll have other events, classes, and resources in the late summer and fall to prepare us for this momentous anniversary of a movement still gaining momentum worldwide. Feel free to ask any staff if you have any questions or ideas on how to celebrate the upcoming Reformation.

October 29th, 2017
Zion Lutheran Church, Lodi, CA
2:45 PM Concert
3:30 PM Worship
Reception/Oktobertfest to follow.



REFORMATION
2017 It's Still All About
Jesus

Info continued inside...

FAITH STEPPING STONES



Faith Stepping Stones is a faith based parenting education from cradle to graduation through eight short-courses, which pulls parents into the role of primary faith mentors for their own children every night through blessing, prayer, scripture, Higs & Lows, and faith dialogue (FAITH 5). All classes are held on Wednesday evenings throughout the year.

Stone 3: Entry into School is for parents of children entering kindergarten. This is a one-night class that covers the spiritual development of children at this age. This class will be taught **Wednesday, July 12th at 6:30PM**. Childcare will be provided. Please contact Tracy by Monday, July 10th if you are interested in attending this class.

Stone 8: Graduation (High School Seniors) Three sessions spread over the fall, winter, and spring where high school seniors and their parents look back on God's blessings, look to the moment, and look to the future of their new callings.

- 1) **Wednesday, July 26th, 2017 @ 6:30PM**
- 2) **Wednesday, January 24th, 2018 @ 6:30PM**
- 3) **Wednesday, May 23rd, 2018 @ 6:30PM**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who donated to help us send Hua to school for another year. Through your generosity we were able to raise over \$1100! Also a huge thank you to all of the teachers this year. We were blessed to have 20 adults mentoring our children in the faith and encouraging parents to keep the learning going at home. It was a great year!



Be sure to join us over the summer on the first Sunday of each month for Cross+Gen faith formation for the whole family to get involved in growing in our faith together!

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the VBS workday! We got a ton of work done, which puts us one step closer to being ready for VBS. Thanks again, we couldn't do it without all your support!



YOUTH MISSION TRIP



Through our Buy-A-Mile fundraiser we have raised over \$1500. Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's youth mission trip. We are about \$600 away from being fully funded. If you would still like to donate please contact Tracy at 209-406-1788 or tracy@standrewsstockton.org.

Our youth and their leaders leave for Idaho on **Saturday, June 24th and return on Saturday, July 1st**. Please pray for the youth and their leaders as they travel to Idaho and share the saving message of the gospel. People attending include: Michael Centers, Justin Centers, Nicholas Curtright, David Deuel, Natalie Johnson,

Shawn Johnson, Beckham Johnson, Christian Keller, Brooke Kelly, Calvin Kelly, Ryan Lew, Joshua Lew, Zachary Lew, Dylan Marlowe, Carl Swanson, Luke Weber, Doug Wagner, Kara Rehbein, and Pastor Dan.

Also, please note that everyone attending this summer's mission trip needs to join us for team training on **Saturday, June 3rd from 9am-4pm**. We will also have a short debriefing meeting after the trip on **Wednesday, July 5th at 6:30pm**.

VBS

Each year we reach out to over 200 children with the gospel message through our week long VBS. It takes many people to make this happen each year. We have been blessed with some awesome volunteers that have served for over ten years or more! We also look for new volunteers every year to help us generate new ideas and help keep us fresh. Many people have built new friendships, strengthen relationships, and reconnected with old friends while serving together at VBS. We also see children each year who are introduced to Jesus for the first time as well as many children who continue to grow in their faith. It is great to see God at work through the hands and feet of the people serving our community through VBS each year. Thank you for all your support!



- Sign up today to join us for Passport to Peru VBS @ St. Andrews **July 17-21 from 5:30pm-8:15pm**.
- We will have a VBS celebration for all ages on **Sunday, July 23rd. There will be only one worship service at 9:45am.** Lunch will be served after worship and all the craft shops will be open for anyone who would like to make a craft from VBS. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun!
- VBS Volunteer sign-ups have now started between all Sunday services. We will need many volunteers from set-up to clean-up and all of the fun in between.



Sunday, July 16th at 9:45am there will be a meeting for all VBS volunteers. We will be going over the schedule and making sure everyone knows what their role will be during VBS. Volunteers will also receive their t-shirt. We will meet in the parish hall at church. Whether this is your first time or your 100th time volunteering for VBS your presence at the meeting helps to make sure we are all on the same page and ready to go for VBS. Please contact Tracy by July 13th if you will NOT be able to attend. Thank you! Immediately following the 10:45am worship, we will be setting up the dinning room and all help will be welcomed!

Cross+Gen Faith Formation

We, the church, are blessed with an opportunity no other communities and groups have on a regular basis - all ages together, in one place, at one time.



Over the last several years we have learned and shared that for faith to stick with our children as they grow and step into adulthood it takes a minimum of five adults - beyond their parents - who are building relationships with them. These relationships are not just about adults speaking into and guiding the next generation, but also about the faith of the young encouraging and building up the faith of those older. Keeping that in mind we want to be more intentional in helping these relationships happen.

We see Cross+Gen as a place where people of all ages can build and strengthen relationships with others through fun activities and faith conversations. We see it as an opportunity for adults to pour into the life of children as well as be reminded of the child like faith that Jesus calls us to. Cross+Gen is a great place to meet people that attend a different service time than you do. It is also a great place to invite new people to come and learn about the faith we try to live out in our daily lives.

Cross+Gen continues to meet the first Sunday of each month, even over the summer! Our next Cross+Gen faith formation time will be **Sunday, June 5th at 9:45am**. Join us as we continue building relationships and building up the body of Christ today, for the future. For more information, contact Holly or Tracy at holly@standrewsstockton.org or tracy@standrewsstockton.org



GOOD SHEPHERD TALENT SHOW

Good Shepherd's 3rd Annual Talent Show seems to show off a little more talent each year. MC'd by John Droge with a cast of volunteers to help (Robert, Chris, Kelly and Barbara) and pianist Sue Gruber, the show kicked off with a flash mob performance led by Russell Roehl. The show opened with Sue tinkering on the ivory keys, followed by all havoc and the group dancing to "The River" by Felix Jordan.

This year for the first time, we had a Good Shepherd member sing while playing the piano. Manuel, who lives in one of Estrella's care homes, has a gift of playing without sheet music.

Following him was Antone, who read Good Shepherd's passage Ephesians 2:10. St. Andrew's members Carrie Flanary and Jonathan Grace performed classics "My Girl" and "Hakuna Matata", respectively.

Altogether, 31 cast members performed 22 songs and 1 scripture reading. The only thing missing was St. Andrew's own Jackie Addison who missed her first class in over 5 years because she was in the hospital. Good Shepherd members come from Lodi, Stockton and Manteca with a wide array of talents and gifts. Music ranged from Gospel music to Disney classics and just plain rock n roll.

Barbara Britton and Cathy Pauley both believe it is important to show the community that God does have a purpose for these special people and it's the ministry's purpose to demonstrate this through the "Christmas Nativity", "Talent Show", semi-annual Vacation Bible School and semi-annual Lake Tahoe retreat.

Owners of area care homes and organizations such as UCP and VMRC are amazed how Good Shepherd Family Ministry and its volunteers come together weekly and provide fellowship and community awareness of the disabled adult community.

St. Andrew's has baptized more than 40 Good Shepherd members since 2004 and started a Bible study two years ago in one of the care homes because one of the residents "asked" us to.





June 1st

- Women's Chorale @ 6:30pm
- Combined Choir Party @ 7:30pm

June 3rd

- Youth Mission Trip Training @ 9:00am

June 4th - Pentecost

- Cross+Gen @ 9:45am
- Confirmation @ 10:45am
- St. Mary's Serving @ 4:45pm

June 6th

- LWML @ 1:00pm
- St. Mary's Serving @ 4:45pm

June 7th

- St. Mary's Serving @ 4:45pm

June 8th

- Plymouth Square @ 1:30pm

June 10th

- Courage House Quilts @ 9:00am

June 11th

- **Congregational Meeting @12:00pm**

June 12th

- Worship @ Rio Las Palmas @ 1:30pm

June 15th

- Commodities @ 6:30am

June 16th

- Taize @ 7:00pm

June 18th

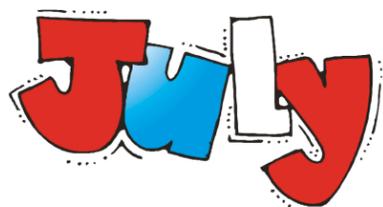
- Doughnuts with Dad @ 9:45am

June 21st

- Serving in Worship Training (FIT, Tech, Live Stream) @ 6:30pm

June 24th

- Youth Mission Trip Departs - (Returns July 1st)



July 2nd

- Cross+Gen @ 9:45am
- St. Mary's Serving @ 4:45pm

July 5th

- St. Mary's Serving @ 4:45pm
- Mission Trip Debrief @ 6:30pm

July 8th

- Courage House Quilts @ 9:00am

July 9th

- Prayer Walk @ 9:45am

July 10th

- Worship @ Rio Las Palmas @ 1:30pm

July 13th

- Plymouth Square @ 1:30pm

July 16th

- VBS Volunteer Mtg @ 9:45am

July 17-21

- Vacation Bible School

July 17th

- FishHook Materials Due

July 20th

- Commodities @ 6:30am

July 23rd

- **One Combined Worship @ 9:45am**

July 25th

- St. Mary's Serving @ 9:30am



It's possible to reverse your diabetes. If you or a loved one has diabetes you are invited to join Dr. Mike Rehbein this August for an 8 session course entitled "Diabetes Undone", a research tested intervention in reversing type 2 diabetes and other lifestyle diseases. The sessions will be held every Monday and Thursday at 6:30-8:00 PM from August 3 through August 28th. The cost is \$50.

Each session will start with a food demonstration, followed by group interaction using the workbook and video resource. You will learn how to form new habits and make better choices based on increased knowledge, skills, and encouragement. By addressing the cause of illness rather than just treating the symptoms, type 2 diabetics can experience dramatic health improvements, avoid complications, and possibly even reverse the condition. For more information contact Mike Rehbein at 474-7828.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We are currently scheduling for the Pictorial Directory picture days. These dates are scheduled for **June 15th - 18th**. Sign up today either on Sundays in the entryway of the church or call the office. Spots are filling up fast.

You can also check our website for the posted link to view spots available and schedule them yourself. Website is available for viewing and edits Monday afternoons - Thursday afternoons.



One Combined Worship Service
Sunday, July 23, 2016
@ 9:45am

Join us for a combined worship service the Sunday following our week of Vacation Bible School and enjoy the opportunity to worship and gather with our whole congregation and visitors from the past week of VBS.



MOPS

Our "Starry Eyed" MOPS year is over. Once again Moms said they need this time of support, encouragement and growth, and their relationships with Jesus are growing too! Thank you to all the Moppets workers for caring for the kids so that their moms can enjoy this time of refreshment. While some moms are moving on, we have 7 moms going to a leadership conference in July with Ann Marie to learn how to continue MOPS at St. Andrews in the coming year. Please hold this ministry in your prayers over the summer as we plan for another MOPS year!

"Every topic makes me reflect upon my life, both current and past. Also helps me and motivates me as I make choices for the future."

"I think MOPS has helped me to know that it is ok to make mistakes. As long as my children know I love them and there for them, then they will be ok in life. Nobody is perfect and that's ok."

"Connecting with other women/Moms and getting wonderful lessons that encourage me in my walk with the Lord and my family is important."

CONNECTION & CELEBRATION

The following are opportunities for CONNECTION & CELEBRATION

June
 Oakland "A's" vs. New York Yankees (if you already purchased tickets).
 - Thanks to Joanne Fisher for organizing this event.

July
 17-21 VBS 5:30pm - 8:15pm
 23 One Worship @ 9:45am

Watch for the August FishHook for additional events!

If you have any information/ suggestions, contact any C & C person:
 Jaime Marlowe | 662-1884
 Donna Sherman | 475-8494
 Vanessa Alvarado | 326-5372

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

A huge thank you goes out to Dan Baker, Bonnie Centers, Kara Rehbein, and Doug Wagner for mentoring our high school youth this year. They are truly a blessing!



Just a reminder that we are breaking for the summer, but be sure to join us for the following activities this summer!

- Come help with **VBS July 17-21, 5:30-8:15pm**. VBS is a great chance to reach out to the children of our community with the love of Jesus. VBS is also a great way to get some service hours done. Check out the VBS volunteer table Sundays between all services to see how you might like to help!

- BBQ and water games on **Sunday, August 27th at noon**. Bring your water guns and food to share. We will provide the burgers, dogs, and buns. Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 23rd to 406-1788 or tracy@standrewsstockton.org.

H2H

Thanks to H2H Mentors Debra Thompson, Jeff Kramer, Eric Weber, Bob Marlowe, Karen Kelly and Bobby Moore for all their support and help serving Faith in our youth this year!

While we break for summer, we will register for next year **Wednesday, August 30th**.

VBS Service Club is **July 17th-21st** - great chance to serve!

Continued from Front Page...

- John 5:19 *Jesus gave them this answer: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."*

- It's very obvious as you read through the gospels that Jesus did not come close to doing everything people wanted him to do. He did what the Father wanted Him to do and dealt with the disappointment it created in others (cf. Luke 7:18-35), even when that meant the cross.

And yet how often do we say things like:

- I'm too busy to read the Bible (spend time with God).
- I've got too much going on to pray.
- Life just keeps getting faster and faster.
- I need a vacation. . . from my vacation!

These are things we say from a "rest from work" mentality. You'll never catch up. . . but you're more than welcome to keep trying.

However, God's divine whispers of what's important will keep being drowned out by the shouts of the "urgent."

Or you can try working from your rest. Seeking first God's kingdom (meaning what He is doing in, around, and through you). Abiding in the vine, allowing pruning and trimming, and bearing the fruit God desires to bear through you. It's a process. It's a challenge. You'll face many distractions and temptations. But on the days you "get it," you'll rejoice seeing how God is at work in you.

Abide this summer. Abide in the vine. Abide in Jesus. Grow in that relationship. Experience that much more grace, peace, and purpose. And work from your rest daily, weekly, and beyond.

~ Pastor Dan

Confirmation Retreat 2017



We have 9 students confirming their faith this year at the 10:45am Service on Sunday, June 4th:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Grant Aistrup | Jayden Allen |
| Calvin Kelly | Emily Deuel |
| Karen Gibson | Emma Glanville |
| Justin Centers | Dustin Moore |
| Carl Swanson | |

"In conclusion, I don't believe in God because of my parents,; I understand that God is real and I choose to follow Him." - Dustin Moore

"It was one of the first times I felt fully connected to God." - Carl Swanson

In closing, I want all of you to know that I believe in God, the father almighty and maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, the one who died for my sins. I believe in the Holy Spirit, who brought me to faith and helps me to turn towards God for forgiveness and a new life. I know that God has renewed and transformed me. I pray that God continues to give me courage and strength to make wise decisions even when they are difficult. I pray that God continues to give me determination to overcome all the obstacles that lie ahead of me through out my life. I pray that God continues to deepen my faith and knowledge in the promises that Jesus made. Thank you all.

- Grant Aistrup

"Another time when I really needed God was when I went to Ropes Camp back in 6th grade. I was really afraid of heights so I wasn't too excited to go to Ropes Camp. One of the courses was called "Leap of Faith", which was where you jumped off of a telephone pole while attached to a harness and try to catch a rope attached to a bell. With the help of God, I was able to climb to the top, stand on the pole, jump off, and catch the rope to ring the bell. My verse, Psalm 46:1, kind of reflects what Ropes Camp was about and how I needed Him for strength."

- Calvin Kelly

My faith is stronger and I know God was listening. It made me know God was there.. I felt God watching over me in a very bad time of my life. He came to me and comforted me. . . The verse that helped me through this was John 14:18, "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

- Jayden Allen

"Over the past 2-3 years, we have helped each other grow in faith and friendship. I have learned that faith isn't just saying you believe. It is literally trusting and putting your whole life in God's hands knowing that He will take care of you and any problems you have. It's knowing that when no one else is there for you, God still loves you, no matter what."

- Emma Glanville

"As an actress, I've been told by my director many times not just to say the part, but be the part. . . And that's what I hope to do. I don't want to be any different at home, or in school, or at church. I want it to be obvious what I believe in."

- Emily Deuel

Then I realized something very important that I'd been forgetting to do. Pray. As 1 Chronicles 16:11 says, we shall "Look to the lord God for his strength and seek his face." So I prayed to God, and asked him for strength to get through the stress of my day, and focus to stay on things. God answered my prayers by giving such amazing people to help me through my stressful times and who I'm incredibly thankful for.

- Justin Centers

"Definitely have to go! It helps you to feel good about your faith statement."

- Grant Aistrup

"It was ok until 4th grade when I was getting bullied hard. In the 5th grade and up to now I liked Anime; I was bullied for liking it. It says in the Bible passage of Luke 6:27-28, 'But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.'"

- Karen Gibson

