



ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH

1353 White Road - Houston, TX 77055

713-468-9565 · office@standrew-lcms.org

[www.standrew-lcms.org](http://www.standrew-lcms.org)

*The Net*  
*March 2018*



# The Net

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St. Andrew Lutheran Church



and Early Childhood Center

1353 Witte Road, Houston, Texas 77055 , Tel: 713-468-9565

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## Lenten Season

On February 14, 2018, many Christians throughout the world went to their churches for Ash Wednesday where they received the imposition of Ashes on their foreheads. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent, a solemn religious observance in the Christian liturgical calendar that lasts for forty days and will end before Easter.

When I was growing up in a mission in Africa, I remember the Lenten Seasons well. In those days, during Lent we would abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all the following Fridays till Easter. In my teenage mind then, I thought that was rather a cruel joke to not eat meat on a given day, when that may be the only day one could get meat. I always wondered what eating meat or not had to do with Lent then!

What is Lent and what is the goal or significance of it in the liturgical Season. Now that you are well along in your Lenten journey, what are you doing that reflects your Lenten observance?

“The purpose of Lent is to prepare believers for the coming Easter through prayer, repentance of sins and self-denial”. In the U.S., it seems common knowledge that during Lent, many Christians commit to fasting, as well, as “giving up” certain luxuries such as chocolates, soft drinks, or even giving up smoking in an attempt to replicate what Jesus did in the desert for forty days. The question is “does any amount of fasting, abstaining or self-denial really purifies us before God”?

My understanding is that “for Lutherans, giving something up for Lent is entirely a matter of Christian freedom.” Scripture does not require it! However, individual Christians are free to give up something for Lent as a way to remember the great sacrifice that Christ made on the cross for our sins.

Perhaps there is a deeper meaning in Lent than meets the eye; Jesus spent forty days in the desert; we believe he was preparing to undertake his earthly ministry and wanted to spend time with his heavenly Father. What scripture tells us is that after forty days, Jesus was hungry so Satan took advantage of his human hunger to tempt him. Perhaps in the same forty days of Lent we can meditate on the suffering, crucifixion, death and the resurrection of Christ for the sins of the world by getting close to our heavenly Father as Jesus did. So during this time of Lent, we pray that our Lord will prepare us for the joy of His resurrection; Lent gives us the opportunity to grow in our faith; a time for reflection, prayer and preparation for the coming Easter!

I pray that the Lord will strengthen your faith and keep you in His grace. In Jesus name.

God's Blessings to you,

*Angelo Okuma*

President of the Congregation

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A colorful poster for an Easter Egg Hunt. The word "EASTER" is written in large, yellow, 3D block letters with a white outline, each letter topped with a small yellow flower. Below it, "EGG HUNT" is written in the same style. The word "March" is in red, followed by "(DTBD)" in black. The location "St. Andrew's Front Lawn" is in red. Below that, "Hosted by St. Andrew Lutheran, Hilltop, Centro Familiar Cristiano" is in red. The address "1353 Witte Rd. Houston TX 77055" is in red. The background features a large green Easter egg with white spots, and a grassy field with several smaller colorful Easter eggs (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) and yellow daisies at the bottom. The entire poster is enclosed in a red border.

**EASTER**  
**EGG HUNT**  
March  
(DTBD)  
**St. Andrew's**  
**Front Lawn**  
Hosted by  
St. Andrew Lutheran, Hilltop,  
Centro Familiar Cristiano  
1353 Witte Rd.  
Houston TX 77055

Mark your calendars for this year's Spring Craft Show and Farmers Market, **March 17th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

The show will have crafters and artisans from all over Texas. All items are handcrafted. The Andrew Café will be open, serving mouth watering brisket sandwiches and hotdogs. All proceeds from the vendor booth fees and sales from the café will go towards the youth summer mission trips.



SaYoga Session  
Every Monday 10:30 a.m.  
& Every Wednesday 4:30 p.m.  
SALC Gym  
FREE!   
Bring a yoga mat & water bottle.

## Shadow Wood Civic – Home Owners Association

*Dear Members of St Andrew Lutheran:*  
*Our board of directors and neighbors*  
*wish to thank you for allowing us*  
*to present our Annual Homeowners*  
*meeting in your meeting room.*

*Sincerely,*  
*Sherry Kelm*  
*Secretary*

## Camp Lone Star - March Retreats

### Women's Renewal Retreat: March 2-4

Jennifer Rasch the presenter and will lead sessions on Saturday and Sunday. This is an opportunity to reflect on Christ and His Word, be in fellowship with other sisters in Christ, and spend time in His creation. The cost is \$146 per person and includes motel-style lodging, meals, and all programming.



### Lutherhostel: March 5-9

This is a 5 day Senior Getaway designed for learning, fellowship, and renewal. Participants will enjoy a casually paced program of Bible Studies, worship, and activities of local points of interest.

This year's theme of "anchored in Hope" will be lived out through the speaker's breakout sessions and during

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The Lutheran High North choir will present a concert, "Holy is He" on Sunday, April 8th at 3:00pm in the courtyard at LHN. The choir is already working hard to put this concert together. The concert center's on the life and victory of our Lord, Jesus Christ. A wonderful post celebration for just celebrating Easter.



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### The Concordia Choir 2018 Tour

Friday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m.  
Grace Presbyterian Church  
Houston, Texas

## **Stewardship Corner - Edie Bourland**

Hudson Taylor, a Nineteenth Century British missionary to China, is reported to have said, "God's work, done in God's way, will not lack God's supply." To know God's way, we need to know His Holy Word. Or to say it another way: you need to know your Bible.

St. Paul, before he spends two chapters on giving, wrote that every thought is to be taken captive to the obedience of Christ (*2 Cor. 10:5*).

Doctrine matters. And doctrine matters because the Scriptures matter. And the Scriptures matter because this is where we learn the teaching of Christ. Our thoughts must be brought into line with the teaching of Scripture so that our work is what God wants done and so that we do this work in His way.

A good tree bears good fruit. A bad tree bears bad fruit. We have been made good trees in holy baptism. We are fertilized and pruned for bearing good fruit by constantly hearing God's Word preached and taught in sermon and Bible Class and in receiving the life-giving, faith-sustaining food of the Lord's Supper. Remember your doctrine, hold on to the Lord's teaching, and your thoughts will be taken captive to the obedience of Christ.

Bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ is recognizing that God does provide. The Lord's Prayer teaches us to pray for daily bread. Praying this day in and day out reminds us that the Lord is the giver of our daily bread, and that we are to give thanks for His daily provision of it.

God is rarely early and never late in His work, as Abraham learned, "on the mount of the Lord it will be provided" (*Gen. 22:14*). The Lord's generosity forms our generosity in return. Thus, we set aside for the work of God a generous, first-fruits, proportion of the daily bread that God has given to us. This act of trust in the Lord's provision is the working out of our faith in Him.

When budgetary discussions pop up, our natural reaction is to point fingers. But remember your doctrine, and what your mother taught about pointing fingers. Our first natural reaction is not always right. In fact, when our thoughts are brought into captivity of Christ, our first reaction should be repentance.

It should raise questions in our own lives. As good trees in Christ who are to bear good fruit, we should ask whether our thoughts are taken captive by obedience to Christ. Have we given generously? Have we given our first-fruits? You know. And God knows. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him" (*2 Chron. 16:9*).

## Stewardship Corner - continued

God will provide. He always has and He always will. He gives His meat in due season. He has not left you as orphans, but has grafted you into His own family. You belong to Him. Remember this, letting this thought dwell in you richly. And you will then be rich toward others.



*\*Midweek Meal each Wednesday at 5:45 p.m.*

### **Lent Worship**

\*March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

\*March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

\*March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m.

### **Palm Sunday**

March 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.

### **Holy Week**

#### **Maundy Thursday**

Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

#### **Good Friday**

Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

#### **Easter Day**

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. & 10:40 a.m.

*\*\*Easter Breakfast serving from 8 a.m. till 9 a.m.*



# Pray For Us Calendar

These prayer requests were submitted by coworkers in the Lord's mission.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at [lcms.org/prayforus](http://lcms.org/prayforus) or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

MARCH

2018

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES — MARCH 1-31** “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God,” Jesus says in Luke 18:16. God wants all His children to have faith in Him, yet sin and brokenness permeate the lives of His people. Children are orphaned, and families are ripped apart. Over the years, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has reached out to care for God’s precious children through the mercy ministries of congregations, missionaries and Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs).

*Remember God’s love and will for children and families as you pray:*

**1.** for all Christians, that they would help and defend the orphan and widow, the poor and lonely, the helpless and oppressed.

**2.** The purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord: for mothers, that they might rejoice in their vocation and raise their children in the Lord.

**3.** for adoption and foster-care agency workers, that they would make good and right decisions concerning what is best for all involved — enabling them to find proper families and resources to meet the needs of the children they serve.

**4.** for all children, that they might be brought to the waters of Baptism and taught God’s Word.

**5.** Jacob (Israel), Patriarch, thank God for Jacob, through whom came the promise of the Messiah and the 12 tribes of Israel: for fathers, that they might raise their children in the Word.

**6.** for men as they grow up, that they may be godly in their youth and their adult years.

**7.** for orphanages around the world, that they might receive proper funding, food, resources and godly caregivers so that they can provide the best care possible to the children entrusted to them.

**8.** for orphanage workers, that they might be refreshed by Your Word and be good role models and teachers as they provide loving care to those in their charge.

**9.** for all orphans, that they might find Christian families who will nurture them with the love and knowledge of Christ.

**10.** Silas, Fellow Worker of St. Peter and St. Paul, thank God for Silas, lesser known, but essential to the work of the Kingdom: for all church workers, that all might work as God calls them to serve Him.

**11.** for all foster children, that they might find peace among the chaos as they wait for a proper family to be established.

**12.** for all who suffer from domestic violence, that the Lord would deliver them from danger and comfort them with His peace and forgiveness.

**13.** Aquila, Priscilla, Apollos, thank God for these examples of earnest learning and meditation in the Word of God.

**14.** Valentine, Martyr, pray that the love of Christ might be the love celebrated above all loves.

**15.** Philemon and Onesimus: for all Christian workers and those in authority, that all might serve God in their vocations.

**16.** Philipp Melancthon (birth), Confessor: thank God for the Augsburg Confession and the other writings of Melancthon that proclaim the truth of the Gospel.

**17.** for all caregivers, that they might raise children in the truth faith.

**18.** Martin Luther, Doctor and Confessor: thank God for Luther’s proclamation of salvation by grace through faith for Christ’s sake.



**19.** for children and parents who are deaf, that they might know Jesus's voice and be filled with His peace.

**20.** for widows, that they might know Christ as their faithful bridegroom who will supply for their needs as they live their lives in prayer and purity.

**21.** for the homeless, that they might find a warm and safe place to lay their head, food for their bellies, hope for the future and rest in the love of Christ.

**22.** for the unemployed, that they might find suitable and fulfilling employment, fair wages and encouraging support.

**23.** Polycarp of Smyrna, Pastor and Martyr: thank God for those who continued the teachings of Jesus and gave their lives for the Gospel.

**24.** St. Matthias, Apostle: thank God for his quiet witness and those who gave their lives for the Gospel without any recognition.

**25.** for the poor, that they might find true riches in the Word of God and be blessed by the generosity of others.

**26.** for children who are missing, that the Lord would keep them from danger, restore them to their families and give them His peace and protection.



**27.** for peace among siblings, that the Lord would help them love and support each other throughout their lives, instead of being divided by bickering and jealousy.

**28.** for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, that they might be treated with respect and love as beloved children of God.

**29.** for families, that they might attend worship to hear the Word and receive the Sacraments.

**30.** For all children at the ECC, to daily feel the love of Jesus through the Staff.

**31.** for SALC, fulfill the needs of those in the community.

**The Houston Lutheran Chorale**, under the direction of Kerry Talley, is seeking singers to celebrate the birth of our nation on the 4th of July. **No auditions are required!!!** You only need to love the Lord to sing. Chorale rehearsals begin for the spring season on Sunday afternoon, January 28, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. Rehearsals are held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 800 Houston Avenue.

For more information call 832-489-6773 or visit the Chorale's website at <http://www.hlc-tx.org>.

**HOUSTON  
LUTHERAN  
CHORALE**



## 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Saturday, March 24, 2018**

9:00 a.m.-12 Noon | Shopping from 12 noon-1:00 pm  
Hosted at Sugar Creek Baptist Church | 13223 Southwest Fwy  
Sugar Land, TX 77478

# Rising Above the Storm

----- HONORING -----  
HURRICANE HARVEY  
FIRST RESPONDER  
CHURCHES

----- KEYNOTE SPEAKERS -----



**Anita  
Carman**  
Founder &  
President of  
Inspire Women



**Ron Hall**  
Author of  
*The Same Kind of  
Different as Me*



**Sheretta  
West**  
First Lady of  
The Church  
Without Walls





You shop. Amazon gives.

## PROFIT from Shopping

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the add-ed bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

How do I select St. Andrew Lutheran Church to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you need to select SALC as your charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will re-member your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, we may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply. Please see the relevant promotion for complete details.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.



March coffee donations will go to Fair Haven Food Pantry, whose mission is to provide emergency food assistance to people in the Spring Branch/Memorial area, whatever the need. Several St. Andrew members have been dedicated volunteers at the Food Pantry for many years.



March 16 , 2018



Joe & Amanda Asher.....March 12



Ruth White.....March 2  
 Laurie Ziegler..... March 3  
 Joey Norman.....March 5  
 Betty Marquardt..... March 7  
 Joshua Murray..... March 10  
 Katilynn Asher..... March 11  
 Edie Bourland..... March 12  
 Edgar Steinsiek..... March 13  
 Richard Peyton..... March 14  
 Viona Howe-Steinsiek... March 15  
 Joyce Dube..... March 17  
 Reya McQuillin..... March 18  
 Ruby Moore..... March 20

### Please Notify the Church Office When...

- You or a member of your family is hospitalized.
- You have a change of address
- Your phone number has changed.
- Your email address has changed.
- Your board or committee changes a meeting date or time.
- Members of your family are students attending school away from home or are living at a different address

**Your help with all of the above is very much appreciated!**

## *Duties Schedule for the Month of March*

<b>Date</b>	<b>March 4</b>	<b>March 11</b>	<b>March 18</b>	<b>March 25</b>
<b>Duty</b>	Name(s)	Name(s)	Name(s)	Name(s)
<b>Acolyte</b>	Tarik Dandy	Ava Cantu	Kirby Garcia	Caleb White
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Vi Howe-Steinsiek	Vi Howe-Steinsiek	Vi Howe-Steinsiek	Vi Howe-Steinsiek
<b>Elder</b>	Angelo Okuma	Angelo Okuma	Angelo Okuma	Angelo Okuma
<b>Counting</b>	Bill Meinecke Steve Inskeep Dottie Bonura	Bill Meinecke Steve Inskeep Dottie Bonura	Bill Meinecke Steve Inskeep Dottie Bonura	Bill Meinecke Steve Inskeep Dottie Bonura
<b>Trustee</b>	Charles Hansen	Charles Hansen	Charles Hansen	Charles Hansen
<b>Greeters</b>	Dan & Joyce Leitko	Hal & Betty Marquardt	Dottie Bonura Vi Howe-Steinsiek	
<b>Usher Team</b>	Steinsiek	Rearick	Steinsiek	Rearick
		<b>Midweek Cooking Schedule</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>March 7</b>	<b>March 14</b>	<b>March 21</b>	<b>March 28</b>
	Outreach	Council	Board of ED.	Elders

## St. Andrew Early Childhood Center - ECC– Shatha Razzook

*Does your child know who Jesus is and what He has done for us?*

Have you told your child ...Jesus knows our pain and promises to be with us when we feel hurt or alone ...Jesus puts His arms around us when we are scared or unsure ..Jesus our friend, waits for us to talk to Him when we are lonely or need His forgiveness...Jesus is our merciful, loving, forgiving God and He loves us no matter what.

At this Lenten season, we stop to think about it, because of me Christ was nailed to a cross, Christ was raised from the dead; He overcame sin, death and the devil. We get to see the tremendous blessing that came from the consequence of our imperfection. Our future is bright with hope; lets always remember the ultimate price that was paid.

Tell your child every day that Jesus loves him/her...Jesus came into this world to live and die for all of us. He died on the cross to take away our sins.

He became alive again to give us the gift of eternal life.  
We will live with Him forever! Does your child know this wonderful news?



*“We Love Him Because  
He First Loved Me”*



6 <sup>th</sup>	Benjamin Mital	2yrs
6 <sup>th</sup>	Scarlet Morrison	3yrs
8 <sup>th</sup>	Jerry Ballard	1yrs
25 <sup>th</sup>	Camila Bermudez	4yrs
31 <sup>st</sup>	Camila Rico	11yrs

## ECC continued...

### ***We Will Be Closed on Good Friday, March 30th***

During Lent, we invite you to travel with us down the path that Jesus took to the cross. Please join us for Lenten Worship services at 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday evening for our Journey to the Cross. You are always welcome at St. Andrew!

### **To Let You know.....**

If you are in need of a willing listener, a friend, or someone to share, St. Andrew Lutheran Church and Pastor David Jung will serve those in need or in time of trial. Please let me know if I can help.

### **Tax Form Available**

Please be aware your expenses at St. Andrew Early Childhood Center are allowed as income tax deduction based on your individual tax rate. We are tax exempt and a record of monies paid in 2017, according to our records are available in the office.

### **Welcome**

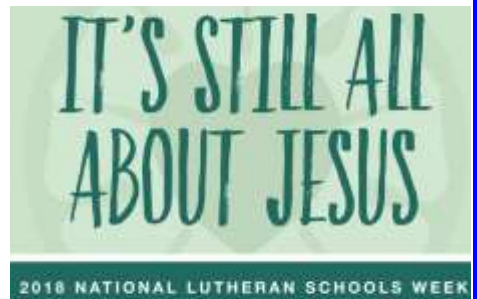
Spring is in the air with new growth in the Infant room. We like to welcome our new babies Aiden McCleary and Alexander Aguilar.

### **National Lutheran School Week--"It's Still All About Jesus"**

March 19th-23rd, the ECC will celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week. This year's theme, "It's Still All About Jesus," is based on *Heb. 13:8*:

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." During this week nearly 2,300 preschools, elementary schools and high schools will celebrate God's work among us in Lutheran schools. We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the

children we serve. We are grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families. National Lutheran Schools Week gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within Spring Branch.



### **Grandparents Day**

March 21st is a special day which will begin at 10:30 a.m. visiting their grandchild's classroom and later at 10:45 they will be attending Chapel with Pastor David Jung followed with Luncheon prepared by SASC group from Church. Please let me know if your child's grandparent will be attending as soon as possible.

*But Jesus said, let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to me: for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14*

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH  
EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

1353 Witte Road - Houston, TX 77055  
713-468-0026 · [ecc@standrew-lcms.org](mailto:ecc@standrew-lcms.org)  
[www.standrew-lcms.org](http://www.standrew-lcms.org)



*March 2018*