



Fall 2025

# MESSENGER

Rooted in Faith | Growing to Serve

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church | 140 Gathering Place Lane  
Iowa City, Iowa 52246 | [www.saintandrew-ic.org](http://www.saintandrew-ic.org)



## 2 LOOKING BEYOND, FINDING JOY, & KNOWING OUR DIVINE PURPOSE

"To infinity! And beyond!"

This programmed mindset shaped *Toy Story's* Buzz Lightyear. The problem is that he arrived ready for a space odyssey, not for being a companion to a young boy.

Spoiler alert (if you haven't seen the movie, it's over 30 years old, I don't feel too bad spoiling...): Buzz Lightyear learns to reimagine his place in the universe and finds true joy and purpose in being Andy's toy.

It doesn't feel like too much of a leap to suggest that many of us find ourselves identifying with Buzz. We have oriented much of our lives around a particular set of values, beliefs, expectations, norms, rules, and the list goes on. Simply put, there is just a way things are supposed to be. Any disruption to this way, and begin to feel like our world is falling apart. We want to know how to belong, but something feels amiss.

Jeff Charis-Carlson often gets a little nervous whenever I ask him "How have we done this in the past?" He kindly reminds me that the way something was done in the past doesn't mean that's the way it *has to be* ... before telling me the St. Andrew way. And even then, "the St. Andrew way" usually includes a variety of different options. The Spirit continues to animate our congregation in fresh and emerging ways.

So, much like Buzz, we listen to the friends around us, opening our eyes to a reality much more expansive than the one we were handed. We allow our hearts to be moved by the Divine's stirring in those around us. There comes for us a moment when the mantras we were given take on new meaning; we don't (necessarily) need to abandon where we have been for us to go where we are being led.

Then, just like Buzz, may we find ourselves having reimaged our place in the universe, finding true joy, and knowing our Divine purpose.

A few tidbits:

- During All Saints Sunday, Nov. 2, we will be trying something a little different. You won't need to bring items to worship this year; we are reframing how we honor and recognize those who have passed. More details will be shared as we get closer.
- A note of gratitude as we move from one stewardship ask into another. St. Andrew faithfully gives and your generosity will be an incredible gift to your next pastor. Please be in prayer for Session, Staff, and Teams as they discern the Spirit's prompting for next year. I know it feels like we ask a lot, and your generosity makes so much possible!
- This year for Advent we are exploring a congregation-wide art project to help decorate the sanctuary. We've identified an exciting way to utilize stars as a part of our seasonal decorations and need some folks to help lead the charge. If you are willing, please contact myself, Austen Wilson, or Colette Soultis. More details will be shared as we get closer.
- My office hours this fall: Monday through Wednesday, I am typically in the office from 9 a.m. to noon(ish) and 10:30 a.m. to noon(ish) on Thursday. I enjoy getting out to meet with folks, so I usually dip out at least once a week during these times. Afternoons I work from home, and I try to limit myself to one evening out of the house per week.

Please feel free to call or email if you need to reach me.

*Pastor Carl*



Sisters Vivian, Lydia, and Vera Tanas—daughters of Munir and Jamie Tanas—were baptized on August 3, 2025. The sacrament reminds us how, even in seasons of transition, God calls us to look beyond the present toward lives shaped by grace, promise, and new beginnings.



**The Rev. Dr. Carl Anderson**  
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**Cover Photo:** Kaevion Heidger helps pick corn on Aug. 16, 2025, during St. Andrew's harvest day with **Fields of Faith**, a local non-profit that has helped provide produce for St. Andrew's monthly Food Market.



# THROUGH TRANSITION AND BEYOND: NEW THEMES FOR ST. ANDREW 3

I've been feeling a bit of monotony when it comes to selecting themes for St. Andrew's monthly Messengers. Regardless of the season—Fall, Advent, Lent, Summer—the overwhelming theme for at least a decade has been ... *transition*.

It has felt like we are always in-between: moving into a new building, navigating a pandemic, searching for a new pastor, and then searching again when illness altered our plans. We make it through the wilderness to a new land, but never feel we've fully arrived. Always sensing we are yet again "on the way" to somewhere else.

So I've been searching for a broader theme. Not just transition, but what lies *beyond* it.

And that's the word that keeps coming back to me: *beyond*.

Matt Moore used the word in describing the Sunday morning class he's co-leading with Pastor Carl Anderson, "Faith Beyond Youth Group." It's about moving past the uncomplicated answers of childhood into a faith resilient enough for life's complexities.

Pastor Carl pressed further in his recent Learning Academy class, "Non-Dualistic Thinking," asking what happens when we move beyond the binaries that so often trap us: Apple or Android; Old Testament or New; Right or Left. Too often we're told we must choose one side or the other. But real life is not that simple.

Non-dualistic thinking invites us to live beyond the limited vision of two sides, to see not just opposites but the richness in-between. That's where God often shows up—not in the rigid categories we defend, but in the space that surprises us, unsettles us, even liberates us.

After all, as I've seen attributed to several writers lately, "It wouldn't be God unless you were totally mind blown."

So that's the theme of this Messenger: *Through Transition and Beyond!* Beyond anxiety, beyond simplistic answers, beyond the limits of our imagination, and beyond the divisions that threaten us.

That's what our Children's and Family Ministry Team has been teaching our children: how to look beyond fear and embrace the safety, fun, and surprise God has in store.

That's what our Music Ministry reminds us of as we prepare to say good-bye to Abby Chen and her family—remembering how once we never dared dream we would find an organist so perfectly suited to our congregation as Abby has been.

That's what our Stewardship Team has been encouraging as St. Andrew prepares to move beyond the debt that has shackled our giving (*and our thinking*) for the past decade. What new Mission, Outreach, and Service opportunities will arise when we no longer spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each year on a building loan?

And that's what we can start envisioning as our Pastor Nominating Committee, Personnel Team, and Session continue to search for our next pastor, our next organist, and more people to help care for our building and grounds.

Yes, St. Andrew remains in transition, but just as every season is always transforming into the next. And beyond that transition is something we can't yet imagine.



A drone's-eye view of 140 Gathering Place Lane, taken by Leif Charis-Carlson shortly before worship service begins on August 24, 2025.



**Jeff Charis-Carlson**

Director of Communications  
and Media Ministries

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Jeff



## 4 'FAITH BEYOND YOUTH GROUP': A NEW SUNDAY CLASS OFFERING

Lately I've been reflecting on how much student ministry has changed since I first started in 2012. Thirteen years may not seem like a long time, but in student ministry it feels like an age.

The pandemic certainly accelerated change, but even before then, the landscape was shifting. Students today are busier than ever. More demands, more expectations, more activities—all competing for their time. With so much on their plates, it can be difficult to make church or faith formation a priority.

This fall, Pastor Carl Anderson and I will be leading a Sunday School class we're calling *Faith Beyond Youth Group*, after a recent book of that title. Together, we'll explore ways students can actively engage with their faith, reflect on what practices truly help, and learn habits that endure well beyond high school. In a world where anxiety and depression among teens are on the rise, the need for grounding, life-giving practices has never been greater.

We won't claim to have all the answers—there are no quick fixes to life's challenges, and faith itself is often a journey full of questions. But what we can offer is a safe place for honest conversation: a space to talk openly about priorities, faith, and the practices that can carry us into adulthood.

I'm excited for this conversation, and I hope parents and students alike will be too. I look forward to learning together and discovering how faith can grow deeper than youth group.

### Confirmation Resumes This Fall

Confirmation is back in 2025! One of the highlights will be a retreat at Camp Stronghold with churches from the Blackhawk and East Iowa Presbyteries on Nov. 7-9. Both the retreat and confirmation process are open to any students currently in 6th-12th grade.

In Iowa City, we will also hold three fall gatherings covering Presbyterian history, Christian life and community, and personal discipleship and faith. After experiencing the retreat's larger community of young Christians exploring faith together, these sessions will help students connect what they've learned to St. Andrew's specific context and what it means to be part of this congregation.

Confirmation is a time for students to grow deeper in faith, understand what it means to be a Christian, and begin discerning how they want to engage with life in community. At St. Andrew, we are committed to creating space where students can ask questions, explore, and discover what faith means for them personally.

In early spring, we will hold a celebration of our confirmation students to mark their journey and, for those who choose, welcome them as new members of St. Andrew.

If your student is interested in participating in Confirmation, please let me know so we can get them signed up!

*Matt*



A photo collage of the teens who helped kick off ETC, St. Andrew's high school ministry, for the 2025-26 program year with an Escape Room experience on August 31, 2025.

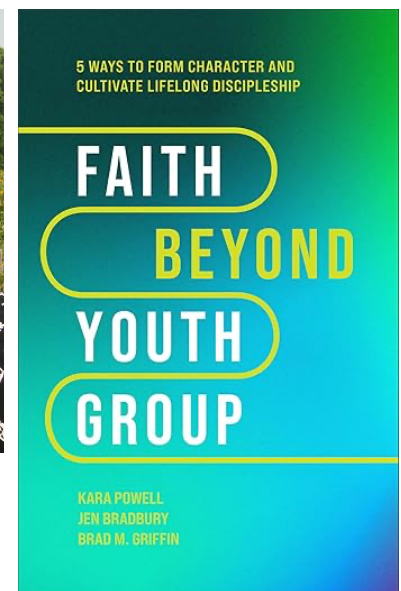


**Matt Moore**

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# BEYOND THANKS: ABBY CHEN & OUR ORGAN'S NEXT CHAPTER 5

This fall brings many changes to the music ministry at St. Andrew.

We are deeply thankful that **Abby Chen** has agreed to serve as interim director for the Brass and Woodwind ensembles. At the same time, a search is beginning for a new organist/accompanist and a new assistant director of Instrumental Music Ministries. Candidates are welcome to apply for one of the positions, or for a combined position.

The interview team includes **Dick Crusinberry, Laura Kastens, Gregs Thomopoulos, Nelda Wittig, and me.** As soon as we have more information, we will give an update. Please pray for the team as we make important decisions for the future of St. Andrew.

Unfortunately, this means that we will be bidding Abby and her family farewell, as her final Sunday with us will be **Nov. 2, All Saints' Sunday.** A reception will follow in the Atrium.

Before then, however, Abby will offer one last gift: a recital at **7 p.m. on Monday October 27.** This farewell concert will also serve as a fundraiser for the continued care of the **Krapf Organ**—an instrument Abby has cherished as a daily teacher and companion in ministry.

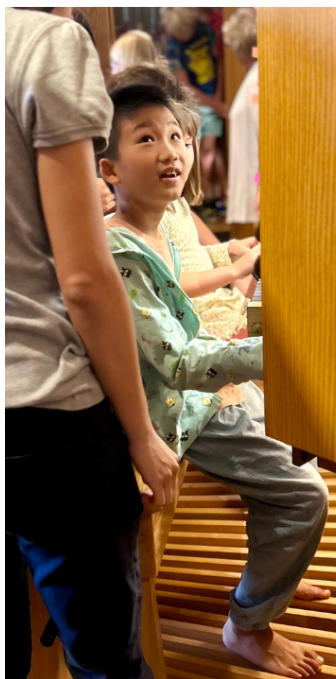
In preparation for Nov. 2, I'm inviting high schoolers and adults who would like to be part of the choir for that Sunday. Rehearsals will be on **Wednesday Oct. 22 and 29** from 7:15-7:55 p.m. If you're interested, please email me at [awilson@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:awilson@saintandrew-ic.org).

## Exciting Kickoff for the 2025-26 Melodious Harmony Season

We kick off the 2025-26 **Melodious Harmony** season at 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 8 with **Come Hell or High Water: Stories of Hope and Perseverance**, featuring the magnificent Krapf Organ. Sponsored by the River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, this outstanding program will tell the fascinating story of the Krapf Organ at St. Andrew, from its beginnings at the University of Iowa to how the organ made its way to St. Andrew.

You'll also hear local organists bring the instrument to life through solo organ pieces and hymns, including **Gerhild Krapf** (daughter of Gerhardt Krapf, the organ's namesake), **Matthew Penning** (former St. Andrew music director), and **Greg Hand** (University of Iowa professor of organ), together with several university students.

The program is free of charge, although a freewill offering will go toward the Organ Fund.



Abby Chen, St. Andrew's outgoing organist/accompanist, led a "Pedals & Pipes" event on Sunday Aug. 24 to introduce St. Andrew's Krapf Organ to a new generation.



**Austen Wilson**

Director of Music Ministries

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*Austen*

ROOTED IN FAITH ...



## 6 MISSION, OUTREACH, & SERVICE WITHIN & BEYOND CHURCH WALLS

St. Andrew's Mission, Outreach, and Service Team is busy spreading kindness this season!

Thanks to your generosity, we continue to support wonderful partners like **Shelter House**, **Table to Table**, **Unfolding Word**, and **United Action for Youth**. As fall moves into winter, these groups will receive vital funds to continue their amazing work. Planning for next year's budget will also begin in November.

### Senior Moments

Senior Moments is ready for a fun-filled fall!

- **Sept. 16:** Laugh and reminisce with **Doris Montag**, a collector, storyteller, and curator who uncovers the humor and history in everyday objects.
- **Oct. 21:** Learn from the **Heritage Area Agency on Aging** as **Harrison March** shares about the agency's services.
- **Nov. 18:** Enjoy our fall luncheon.
- **Dec. 16:** Celebrate with Christmas music with the **Alone Tonight Quartet**.

### Compeer's "Sound of Friendship"

Mark your calendars for **Friday Oct. 3**, when Compeer's annual **Sound of Friendship Concert** returns! Join us for music from community bands, delicious desserts, and an evening that celebrates connection and friendship.

### Conversations with Pastor Luis

We are delighted to welcome **Pastor Luis Martinez** from Impacto Ministry, Guatemala, during his visit this fall. Join us in the Hub on **Oct. 3** to hear updates, reconnect, and look ahead to future mission trips planned for Summer 2026 and Spring 2027.

### Minds Matter: Mental Health Resource Fair & Homemade with Heart Craft Sale

On **Saturday Nov. 1**, join us for a day of learning, connecting, and shopping for a cause. The event will highlight **Mental Health Matters: Learn. Share. Connect. Across Generations**.

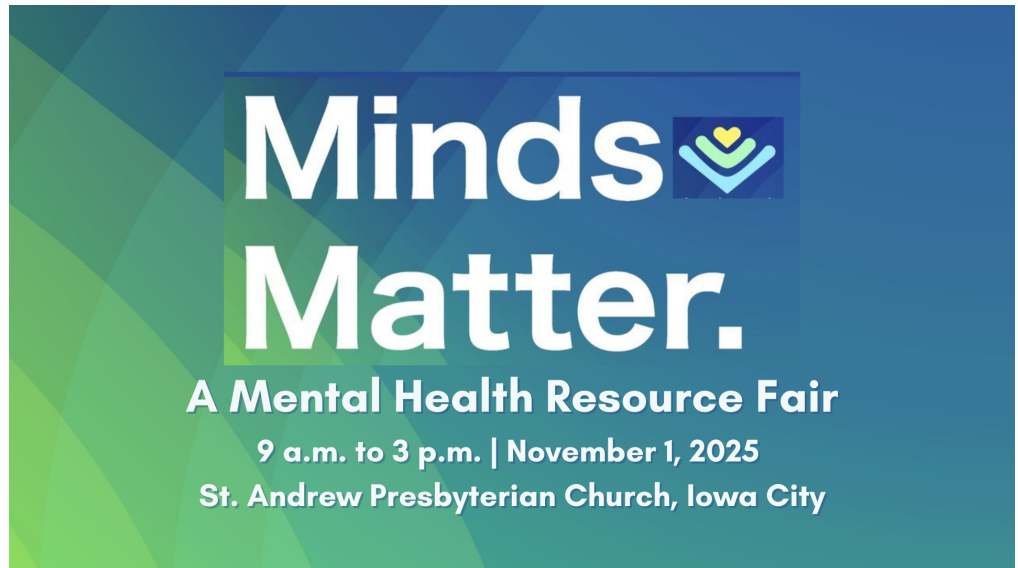
Our guest speakers begin at 10 a.m.:

- **Laura Semprini** – Peer support and Johnson County resources
- **Dementia Friendly Training** – Practical tools for building awareness and support
- **Mollie Schmelzer** – Teens and trauma

Throughout the day, you'll also find delicious food and baked goods available for purchase.

The **Homemade with Heart Craft Sale** will feature a wide variety of vendors—perfect for kicking off your holiday shopping. Browse unique, handmade items including crochet pieces, baby blankets, quilts, cards, plants, jewelry, lotions, and original artwork.

Come learn, share, shop, and celebrate community together at St. Andrew!



**Amy Schmidt-Rundell**  
*Mission & Outreach Coordinator*  
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*Amy*



# CHALLENGING TOPICS, RICH DISCUSSIONS, AND HOPE BEYOND 7

Here is the list of upcoming options from St. Andrew's **Learning Academy**. All classes will take place in The Hub and will begin shortly after worship ends on Sunday mornings. All teens and adults are welcome.

**Oct. 5 & Oct. 26: "Why Is Evil Allowed?" with Aaron Shileny:** Come join a thoughtful conversation about one of life's hardest questions. We won't promise easy answers, but we will draw on scripture, tradition, and shared stories to listen and learn together.

**Oct. 12: "Poverty in America" with Twila Finkelstein:** This one-week class will feature a conversation with Rima Afifi, director of the Prevention Research Center for Rural Health at the University of Iowa.

**Oct. 19: "Reckoning with History" with Twila Finkelstein:** In a conversation with William Yoo about his new book, *Reckoning with History*, this class examines how slavery and settler colonialism shaped American Christianity—and how churches can face that legacy.

**Nov. 2 & Nov. 9: "Walking through the Bible" with Robert Cargill :** Join University of Iowa professor Robert Cargill for a dynamic tour of the Bible, informed by archaeology, digital humanities, and biblical scholarship.

**Nov. 16 & Nov. 30: "LGBTQ+ 101: Becoming a Welcoming Church," with Angela and Virginia Ibrahim-Olin:** Curious how churches can move from tolerant to truly welcoming? We'll get real about what inclusion means and why it matters.

**Nov. 23: Alternative Gift Market:** Looking for a holiday gift that makes a real difference? Stop by our annual Alternative Gift Market to discover meaningful ways to honor loved ones while supporting local and global ministries.

**Dec. 7 & Dec. 14: "Stories of Advent" with Christina Charis-Donelson:** Advent isn't just candlelight and cocoa (though we love those too). Dig deeper into the stories that carry us toward Christmas with hope, honesty, and a little holy mystery.

## Why Is Evil Allowed?

led by Aaron Shileny

Oct. 5 & 12, 2025 | The Hub

A Learning Academy Class



with Rima Afifi

## Poverty in America

Oct 12 | Learning Academy




## RECKONING with HISTORY

Settler Colonialism, Slavery, and the Making of American Christianity

WILLIAM YOO

## Reckoning with History

with Twila Finkelstein & Dr. William Yoo



Oct. 19 2025 | The Hub

A Learning Academy Class

## Lydia's Circle

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

9:30 2ND TUESDAYS  
THE ATRIUM

## Ecumenical Women's Bible Study

9:15 a.m.  
Wednesdays

The Hub

## Men's Bible Study

7:30 a.m.  
Tuesdays

The Atrium

## Sweet Saturdays

8:30-10 a.m.

Room #128

GROWING TO SERVE ...



# 8 'BOO!': LOOKING BEYOND FEAR TO FUN, SAFETY, AND SURPRISE

As I am sitting here writing, it is early September, and I'm still in the early stages of grieving summer. So, I say "Boo!" to summer ending—I'm showing my disapproval with this word.

But sometimes we hear "Boo!" when someone is trying to elicit fear. Fear is something many of us might be feeling right now. The daily news, the uncertainty of our world, and perhaps our personal life circumstances can all stir up fear in us. The word "Boo" can be frightening and startling. It can be an unwelcome word.

We, as a **Children's and Family Ministry Team**, want to assure you that we are doing our best to make St. Andrew a safe, welcoming, and comforting place for you and your family—not a fearful one. As you may already know, all staff, volunteer teachers, and caregivers have been certified through the **Safe Gatherings** program, which trains us how to respond to child abuse, elder abuse, and best practices for care.

Through St. Andrew-specific policies, created by the **Child Protection Policy Team**, we have been trained on things like the two-adult rule, roving adult policy, what to do in the case of a same-family adult volunteer, and our check-in/check-out procedures. Additionally, the staff received training from the **Iowa City Police Department** on how to respond in the case of a violent intruder in our building. We learned ways to make our doors more secure and created emergency routes for each classroom.

**Thomas Hartley, Nichole Hoffman**, and I are parents and teachers whose main passion lies in caring for the children under our own roof and in our daily lives, so we want you to know we take the protection of your children very seriously. Children's safety, health, and happiness are our top priorities. But learning and serving are right up there too, and that leads us to our last meaning of the word ...

"Boo!" can be said in fun! It can be surprising and exciting! And we have so many fun events in store for you and your family and friends.

First, our **Gifts of the Heart** school supply collection is going on until Oct. 1. Please leave supplies in the in the Atrium collection bins, or make a financial donation online: <https://tinyurl.com/gifts-of-the-heart>. Like last year, we plan to invite everyone to join us at 10 a.m. on Nov. 15 in the Pop-Up Ministry Room. We will pack school supplies in bags to prepare them to be sent to families across the country who find themselves displaced by natural disasters. Be on the lookout for a SignUpGenius for this packing event soon!

Our second season of **25Live@Home**, our weekly web series geared toward families with children PreK-5th grade, premiered Sept. 14. We are opening the year with a focus on mental health. Please join us on the St. Andrew YouTube channel.

The **Dane Family Hayrack Ride** will be returning this year as well. Join us between 4:30-8 p.m. on Saturday Oct. 11 at the **Dane Family Farm** (4507 Dane Road SW) for a catered cookout, hayrack ride, games, fellowship, and s'mores! Sign up here, as spaces are limited: [bit.ly/hay-ride-2025](https://bit.ly/hay-ride-2025).

Last, but not least, one of my favorite events of the year: **Trunk-or-Treat**, hosted by Children's and Family Ministry and the ETC students! You won't want to miss this one. This fun, family-friendly event is filled with creative trunks, silly costumes, exciting games, lots of candy, and even a trophy for the best trunk! Come join us for a spooky-good time, and consider being part of what makes this event so great by signing up to decorate your vehicle trunk or donating bags of individually wrapped candy. We can't wait to see what you can "cook" up! [bit.ly/sapc-trunk-or-treat-2025](https://bit.ly/sapc-trunk-or-treat-2025).

May your autumn be BOO-ti-full and blessed,

*Sara*



**Sara Penn**

*Family Ministries Event Coordinator*

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# WHAT JOINING A CHURCH MEANS BEYOND MERE MEMBERSHIP 9

Kathi Anderson looked at me in the middle of worship recently, and said, “I need to talk to you afterwards.”

For a split second, I wondered what I had done wrong, who were the witnesses, and how could I get out of it. ... But this overly dramatic thought passed. After Abby Chen’s postlude, I found Kathi. She asked if I could write a few words for the Messenger about why I joined St. Andrew.

To be honest, I hadn’t given that question much thought.

I was baptized by the Rev. Al Desterhaft as a 3-year-old, went through confirmation, BASIC and ETC, and grew up in this family of faith. Youth directors Phil Butin and Randy Hausler, musicians Doris Eckert and Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, and a host of other amazing people showed me what it was to be the body of Christ. I have so much gratitude for these family members.

Moving away in the 1990s for grad school, and for my music career, St. Andrew still was my spiritual “home” and a regular destination during my Iowa pilgrimages.

In 2024 I moved back for family and career reasons. St. Andrew has been such a rich part of my past, but as Ella Winter said to Thomas Wolfe, “Don’t you know you can’t go home again?”

And of course, she’s right. My history with this church shaped me, and it lives richly in my memory. But that’s the past.

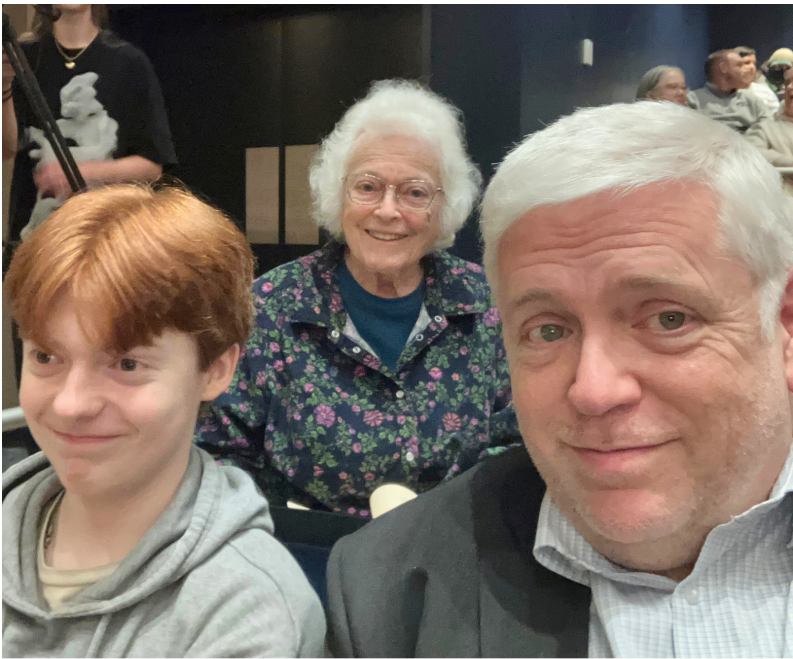
Kevin DeYoung wrote in his blog, “Six Reasons Why Membership Matters,” that joining a church and sticking with it can be difficult in this age of infinite choices.

“We prefer to date the church,” he says, “have her around for special events, take her out when life feels lonely, and keep her around for a rainy day. Membership is one way to stop dating churches, and marrying one.”

And to be sure, church relationships have ups and downs, and when something is annoying or painful, it can be tempting to “swipe-left” and leave like Eric Cartman. My membership means I’m trying to be a member of the body of Christ.

I joined (or re-joined) St. Andrew with my son Abraham (aka “Abe”) to be a part of the church’s future.

— David Meyer



David Meyer, son of Peggy Meyer, grew up in the St. Andrew community, moved away in the late 1990s. He moved back to Iowa in 2024 with his teenage son, Abe. They officially (re)joined the church earlier this year.



**Want to Learn More about  
the St. Andrew Community?**

**Sign Up for a Next Steps Class**  
**11:45 a.m. After Worship**  
**Sept. 21 | Nov. 16 | Jan. 18**

**[office@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:office@saintandrew-ic.org)**



ROOTED IN FAITH ...



# 10 KICKING OFF THE PROGRAM YEAR WITH ART, MINISTRY, AND JOY



**Above.** This August, a bright new welcome appeared in the lower level entryway: *Birthday Cake*, an original pastel by local artist Loret Mast. The Interiors Team first spotted it at Artifacts, the antiques and consignment shop in Iowa City that has supplied many of our bulletin cover images.

Its joyful colors and playful shapes immediately felt like a natural fit for the children's ministry wing.

At heart, the picture celebrates what children already know instinctively: that life is a gift meant to be enjoyed and shared. A cake, with its candles waiting to be lit, carries the promise of laughter, gathering, and delight.

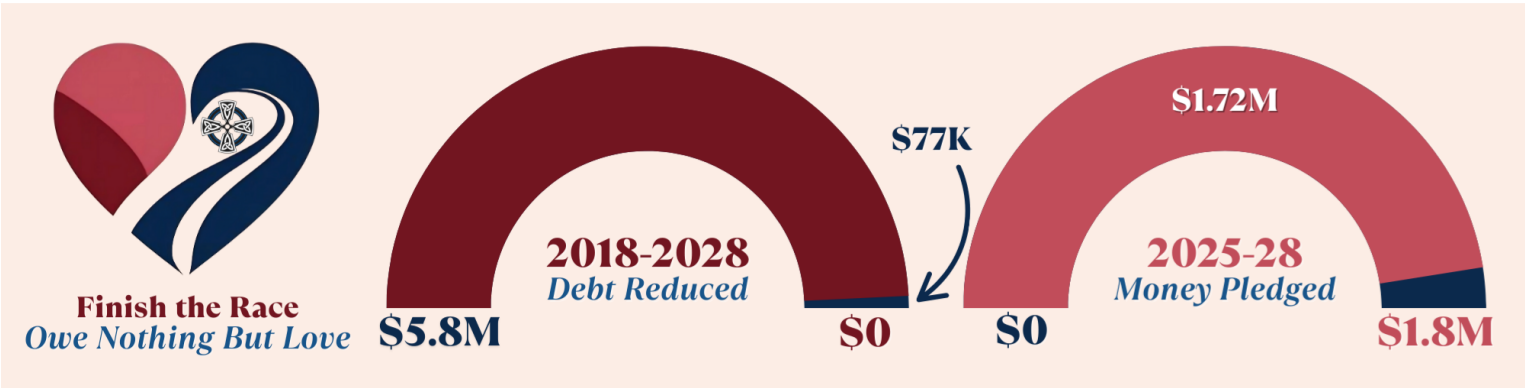
The art also calls to mind words once spoken by the Rev. Fred "Mister" Rogers: "You always make it a special day for me. Cakes or no cakes. I like you just the way you are."

That gentle reminder, paired with Mast's joyful vision, makes the piece a perfect companion for our children. Its presence whispers celebration: you are cherished, your life matters, and this community rejoices that you are here.

— The Interiors Team

**Left:** On Sept. 7, 2025, St. Andrew kicked off the 2025-26 program year with a Ministry Fair, Sunday School Field Day, and the Celebrating All Abilities Art Exhibition.





With hearts full of thanks, we celebrate the close of the pledge period for the **Finish the Race | Owe Nothing But Love** campaign. As of Sept. 14, the people of St. Andrew have promised **\$1,723,135** toward our **\$1.8 million** goal—leaving less than \$80,000 between us and the joy of being debt-free.

This outpouring of generosity is a vivid sign of God’s abundance at work among us. For 17 years and through five campaigns, you have given faithfully, sacrificially, and joyfully. Each gift—large or small—has been part of weaving a story of trust in God’s provision and commitment to one another.

As we near the finish line, our gratitude only deepens. We thank God for your steadfastness and vision, and we thank you for making this dream possible. Together, we are not just paying off a loan; we are opening wide the future for ministry, mission, and welcome.

General Fund	Actual 2025 Year to Date	Budget 2025 Full Year	Actual 2024 Year to Date	Actual 2024 Full Year	To keep it brief, we're experiencing a slowdown in the third quarter. Our expenses have started to outpace income for the year. This is expected, as many people tend to contribute a larger portion of their giving end in the year. Thank you!
Income	568,716	940,000	585,610	933,667	
Expenses	-588,168	-940,000	-622,933	-928,141	
Net Positive	-19,452	0	-37,323	5,526	
<u>Breakdown of Expense Categories:</u>					P.S. Our required loan payment is \$13,777/ month but we now pay \$25,000. It comes out of the building (capital campaign) fund. That's not included in the figures to the left.
Personnel	349,380	545,540	396,571	569,240	
Mission	79,587	131,600	81,643	130,376	
Premises	112,560	166,960	99,004	150,591	
Ministries	20,806	41,805	22,446	36,048	
Other	25,834	54,095	23,269	42,155	
Expenses	588,168	940,000	622,933	928,410	

Capital Campaign History		Total Pledged	Total Received	Avg Pledged Per Year	Required Loan Payments Per Year
2022-2025	Rooted in Faith-thru 6-30-25	1,045,760	1,075,792	348,587	165,324
2019-2022	Connecting Hearts	1,365,868	1,573,550	455,289	Unpaid Loan Balance
2016-2019	With Our Eyes on Christ	1,390,008	1,476,830	463,336	
2013-2016	Our Journey With Christ	2,307,254	2,206,847	769,085	
2008-2011	Our Place to Grow	1,553,382	1,501,118	517,794	1,808,700
<b>Unpaid Loan Balances-as of:</b>					
6/15/18	5,115,000	12/31/22	3,420,886		
12/31/18	5,045,792	12/31/23	2,385,476		
12/31/19	4,500,000	6/30/24	2,202,611		
12/31/20	3,925,142	12/31/24	2,062,918		
12/31/21	3,566,394	8/31/25	1,808,700		

**How to Automate Your Giving** - Please give in the manner most meaningful to you. If you like convenience, then here are a couple good ways to automate your giving:

1: **Let us set it up:** Send Finance Administrator Walter Sparks a voided check (slip in black box outside the office) and email desired monthly amount to Walter at [finance@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:finance@saintandrew-ic.org) (or call 319-333-0203). To change amounts later, just call or email him.

2: **You set it up:** You can set up (or change) your giving by going to <https://bit.ly/sapc-stewardship-2025>.

**Special Planned Giving Note #1:** If you donate stock (can be tax-advantages to do so) please alert Walter Sparks ahead of time.

— Walter Sparks



# MESSENGER

Fall 2025

## St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

140 Gathering Place Lane  
Iowa City, IA 52246

**Website:** [www.saintandrew-ic.org](http://www.saintandrew-ic.org)

**YouTube:** <http://bit.ly/SAPCYouTube>

**Email:** [office@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:office@saintandrew-ic.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/saintandrewic.org](https://www.facebook.com/saintandrewic.org)

**Phone:** 319-338-7523

### Worship Schedule:

- **Weekly Worship** | 9:30 a.m. Sundays
- **At the Table** | 7 p.m. First Thursdays

## Rooted in Faith | Growing to Serve

If you would like to start/stop receiving the Messenger electronically, please email [office@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:office@saintandrew-ic.org)

Non Profit  
Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Permit Number  
66

Address Service Requested



## Pastoral, Ministry, and Administrative Staff

### Pastors

The Rev. Dr. Carl Anderson, *Transitional Pastor*  
The Rev. Colette Soultz, *Pastoral Care Associate*  
The Rev. Mark Wilson Martin, *Pastor Emeritus*

[pastorcarl@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:pastorcarl@saintandrew-ic.org)  
[pastoralcare@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:pastoralcare@saintandrew-ic.org)  
[pastormwm@gmail.com](mailto:pastormwm@gmail.com)

### Office, Finance & Communications

Walter Sparks, *Finance Administrator*  
Jeff Charis-Carlson, *Director of Communications and Media Ministries*

[finance@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:finance@saintandrew-ic.org)  
[jcharisc@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:jcharisc@saintandrew-ic.org)

Amy Schmidt-Rundell, *Mission Outreach Coordinator*  
Vacant, *Building & Grounds Coordinator*

[amysr@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:amysr@saintandrew-ic.org)  
[hiring@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:hiring@saintandrew-ic.org)

### Children, Family & Student Ministries

Matt Moore, *Director of Student Ministries*  
Thomas Hartley, *Director of Children's & Family Ministries*  
Nichole Hoffman, *Family Ministries Outreach Coordinator*  
Sara Penn, *Family Ministries Activities Coordinator*

[mmoore@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:mmoore@saintandrew-ic.org)  
[thartley@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:thartley@saintandrew-ic.org)  
[nhoffman@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:nhoffman@saintandrew-ic.org)  
[spenn@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:spenn@saintandrew-ic.org)

### Music Ministries

Austen Wilson, *Director of Music Ministries*  
Abby Chen, *Organist & Accompanist*  
Laura Kastens, *Assist. Director of Handbell Ministries*  
Vacant, *Assist. Director of Instrumental Ministries*

[awilson@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:awilson@saintandrew-ic.org)  
[achen@saintandrew-ic.org](mailto:achen@saintandrew-ic.org)  
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