

# STAy Connected

With St. Andrew's Lutheran Campus Center



## Jumping Right In

*Matthew Felbein*

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When I started my freshman year at the University of Illinois this past fall, I was excited for all of the amazing opportunities that I knew would be waiting for me on campus. I knew I would be in fun classes for my music education major and I was a member of the Marching Illini, so I had already met lots of people in the week before school started. But one of the things that I was looking forward to the most was getting involved with St. Andrew's after my youth pastor from back home connected me.

This past semester, I had the opportunity to serve this community on the St. Andrew's council, and while it was an eventful semester both in the St. A's Community and in my academics, it was definitely one of the things I've been most thankful for. In a period of transition, my heart was constantly warmed by the incredible work of my fellow council members and other members of the community that I was able to work with. The council was able to plan worship services, host fun Chat & Chow activities including a Lenten bible study, and make progress on keeping our faith and community moving forward. I am incredibly grateful for all of the upperclassmen that have been at St. Andrew's for a while and were able to guide me in serving this community, whether that was through their expertise in worship planning, theological knowledge, music, making meals, or all of the other strengths and gifts that are shared in our congregation. I'm very excited to continue serving on council for this upcoming year and to see all of the amazing things that St. Andrew's will continue to do!



## Synod Support

### Bishop John Roth

This past year has been a year of changes and challenges for St. Andrew's. Nevertheless, God is faithful and abounding in steadfast love, and I am grateful for the prayers and financial gifts that have sustained the mission of St. Andrew's through this time. I cannot think of another setting in Illinois where the church has a greater opportunity to touch the lives of young adults with the love of God in Christ Jesus than St. Andrew's. The University of Illinois has an enrollment of 50,000+ students and Parkland College chips in with another 6000. Students are transitioning to more responsibility, higher expectations, and a wider range of options for life and lifestyle priorities. This journey is as spiritual as it is intellectual, as relational as it is individual. In the midst of this, St. Andrew's Lutheran Church and Campus Center offers Christ-centered worship and spiritual enrichment, opportunities for reflection and hands-on service, and fosters a supportive and inclusive community among students, faculty, administrators, and staff.

The Central/Southern Illinois Synod (C/SIS) is strongly committed to St. Andrew's. The synod itself has budgeted funds for St. Andrew's and other campus ministries in Illinois annually since the synod's formation in 1988. These are dollars provided by the generous offerings of congregations of the C/SIS. While income to the synod has declined 33% over the past 15 years, the synod has steadfastly maintained support to campus ministry at \$49,500 annually. Also, C/SIS congregations in and around Champaign/Urbana support St. Andrew's both financially and with volunteers who serve St. Andrew's in various ways. The people of the C/SIS are generous, love Christ and Christ's church. We support St. Andrew's joyfully and willingly because we want to be part of what God is doing at St. Andrew's. God is faithful and abounding in steadfast love. We trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to heal, guide, and sustain St. Andrew's into the future that God has for us. I see this movement of the Holy Spirit as I have become more familiar with students, other young adults affiliated with St. Andrew's, and faithful laypeople from surrounding congregations who give their time and effort. And I sense the movement of the Holy Spirit in the area ELCA pastors who have stepped up to offer their service to St. Andrew's. Not that everything is perfect; it is not. But God's people are seeking God's will through God's grace. Thanks be to God.

## Student Leadership

*Emilie Schramer, Council President,  
Student Minister of Communications*



Saint Andrew's is blessed to have a large body of active students. As student minister and council president, I've had the honor to get to know these young people and their gifts this past year. Many of our students have become leaders in the church, eagerly serving on council committees and volunteering their time to give back to the ministry and to the surrounding community.

This past year especially, our leadership has stepped up greatly. I am proud to see how our student-led Sunday services come together as beautiful opportunities for worship and praise. This past Good Friday, the worship committee on council planned a stations of the cross service that was delightfully interactive and engaging, yet thought-provoking and reflective. Another highlight has been the many Taize or Holden Evening Prayer services we've been able to have which provide students with a dedicated time for contemplation and connection with God. We've also forged great connections with local clergy, including those from other denominations.

While worship is pivotal, our ongoing fellowship activities are a key factor in attracting students. Student leaders work tirelessly to engage members of St. A's with events such as Chat and Chow, volunteering, or other special events. Some highlights include: game nights, communion bread baking, educational nights, bowling, Christmas decorating, and more. We always enjoy traditions, too, like going to the corn maze and reindeer ranch, Cocomero runs, interfaith events, and more. Because our student leaders attend and help plan these events, it is always a gratifying experience to come together, thus making my job easier as a student minister.

I'd like to thank our students again. It can be hard to juggle the various responsibilities that come with this busy time in our lives. However, when we can find the time as we have this year to come together and make time for leadership and service, it produces a beautiful community. I hope to continue to promote our church as a place of solace for others as it has been for me.



As with any ministry, a steady, reliable income of donations is important for keeping the most basic functions of the ministry going. Our Sustainability Partners are key to keeping our ministry thriving. They help us keep the lights on, maintain the building, and support our staff, worship, and programming.

I invite you to join us as we aim to enhance our Sustainability Partner program. As a Sustainability Partner, you are ensuring the future of our ministry.

**We have a goal of gaining 25  
New Sustainability Partners  
by October 1st.**

By helping us achieve our goal, you will receive a welcome kit with special Sustainability Partner information and of course some cool swag.

In Peace,  
Mary Corkery,  
Assistant Director



**Scan the  
QR Code or  
go to our  
Website to join  
The Sustainability  
Partner  
Challenge**

### **What Is A Sustainability Partner?**

A Sustainability Partner is someone who regularly donates (weekly, monthly, or quarterly) to help support our ministry.



# **Get Involved!**

**Provide  
Meals**



- Clean-Up Days
- Join the Handy-Person List
- Help with gardening and landscaping
- Assist with preparing mailings
- Special Projects

**Volunteer**



"Wanting to contribute more to my church about 30 years ago, with limited funds, I began doing outdoor tasks in my spare time. Now, including St. Andrews in my schedule, I tell questioners 'It's all about the beauty--after all, this is God's place and I meet him here.'"

Myrna Johnson

Good Shepherd Lutheran, Champaign

**Serve on a  
Committee**

Development Committee  
Assist with fundraisers, events, and alumni and community relations.

Finance Committee  
Help maintain the financial infrastructure of the ministry.

Property Committee  
Assist in maintaining the property.



Mealtime is an excellent time of community where folks gather, share stories from their week, explore topics of faith and beliefs, and have fun just being with each other.

We ask for members of the local community to provide a homecooked meal for our Chat and Chow's. Those providing meals are welcome and encouraged to stay and share in the meal and community time.

If you would like to provide a meal, please sign up on our Meal Train.

If you would like to provide groceries or funds for a meal but are unable to prepare and deliver the meal please sign up to be paired up with a student team who loves to cook!

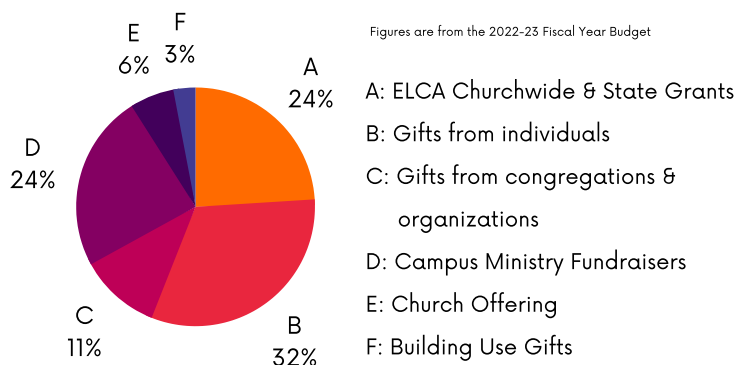


# WHERE DO WE GET OUR FUNDING? HOW IS IT SPENT?

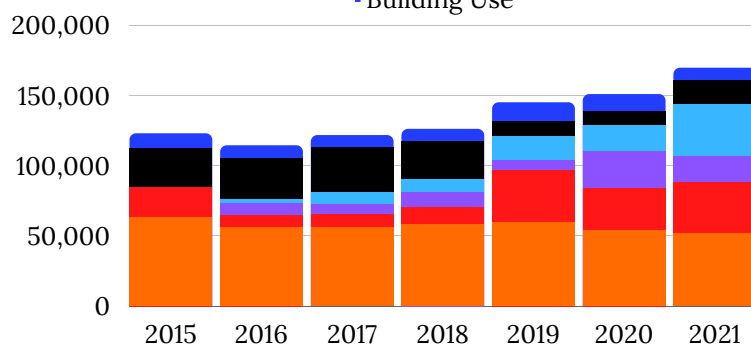
## INCOME

St. Andrew's is able to thrive because of the generosity of churches and individuals. A much smaller portion comes as gifts from those using the facilities.

Figures are from the 2022-23 Fiscal Year Budget

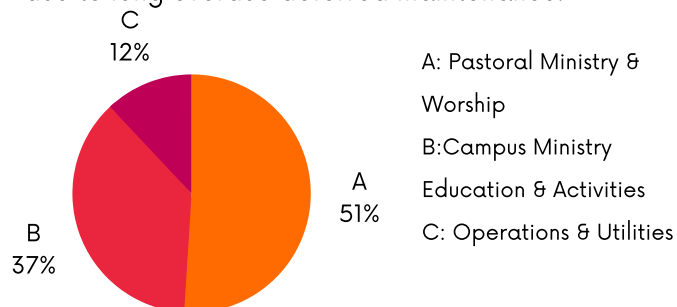


- ELCA ■ Gifts from individuals
- Gifts from Congregations & Organizations
- Campus Ministry Fundraisers ■ Church Offering
- Building Use



## EXPENSES

The largest expense for St. Andrew's is for staff. Building expenses vary greatly mostly due to long overdue deferred maintenance.



## Accessibility Upgrades

Thanks to generous donors and an estate gift, the board was able to apply for and received a \$26,200 grant from NLCM to complete 2 property projects. These projects improved the accessibility at St. Andrew's and enhanced the capabilities for all.







## A Song Of Welcome

Nathan Waterson, Music Minister

The last few years have been a time of challenges and excitement at St. Andrew's, this last semester especially. That said, this community is blessed with so many amazing people without which worship would not have been possible. I first want to thank the many pastors and worship leaders who offered their services this last semester, including:

- Claire Vail, SAM, Grace Lutheran, Champaign
- Rev. Nate Brantingham, Community UCC, Champaign
- Pr Ron Poe, Lutheran Church of Mahomet
- Pr Paul Chapman, St. Matthew Lutheran, Urbana
- Pr Lynette Chapman, Good Shepherd Lutheran, Champaign

Thank you all for your support!



I am forever inspired by how blessed this community is with passionate student and community leaders. Without these folks, St. Andrew's would not function as successfully as it does. From leading the spoken and musical parts of worship, to helping to set up EVERYTHING, to ushering and greeting, and anything else integral to worship. I thank each and every one of you for your commitment to this ministry.

Ever since I joined back in 2020, it has been evident that the community is at the forefront of creating a safe and welcoming space for any and all to enter. Many folks have left C-U or joined St. Andrew's in those two years, but one thing has remained constant: that safe, inviting space. When I first started worshipping with St. Andrew's, a majority of our events were on Zoom. Fellowship is a must at all St. Andrew's events, so after worship, folks would remain on Zoom just to chat (or maybe play Among Us). I may have been new, but I never felt like an outsider and was immediately immersed in the vibrant ministry. In the last two years, I have created friendships that will last the rest of my life. I will forever be grateful for that and look forward to creating more.

Creating that safe, inviting space is something that any church community is constantly striving to cultivate and uplift, and our student- and community-driven worship never ceases to amaze me on that front. Y'all are a blessing beyond compare.







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