

ST. ANDREWS HERALD

The Monthly Newsletter of
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

JULY 2020

VOL. 20, Issue 6



OUR BARBECUE PROS

DRIVE-THROUGH PICNIC
JULY 12

WORSHIP ONLINE ONLY

Until we can meet again.

For July we will be looking at some of Jesus' parables in the Gospel of Matthew. The parables offer a great space to consider our faith, to consider the world around us and the kingdom of God. All of these are things that are on my heart right now, and I am hoping they will speak to you as well, and to all of us.

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| July 5 th | Matthew 7:1-5 | Meditation: <i>Blind Spots</i> |
| July 12 th | Matthew 13:1-9 | Meditation: <i>Nurturing Faith</i> |
| July 19 th | Matthew 13:31-34 | Meditation: <i>Rising Up</i> |
| July 26 th | TBA – watch your email this week for more info | |

"Jesus told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds[a] of flour until it worked all through the dough." Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable." Matthew 13: 33-34

The Schedule:

Thank you for reading about the topic, but I am guessing the big question you have is: **How will be worshiping?** As I write it is June 22nd and the decision has not been made. Session has a task force working on safety measures and recommendations. When Lebanon County has a date to move to green, Session will meet to decide the time and place for worship. **We will let you know.** While we are worshiping online ONLY, the service will be at 10AM. When we move to online and in-person worship, it is likely the time(s) will change. I realize it would be helpful if the times and place were clear for this publication. But, they are not, and we are in -process. **What is clear is that we are moving toward a time soon, when we can gather together, in the safest way possible. Stay tuned...**

Updated information will be on the website <http://www.standrewslebanon.org> sent out in emails, and put on our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/standrewslebanon/>

Zoom Fellowship – is happening Sundays 11am – noon, right after online worship. Find a link in the announcements under the “Watch Live Sermons” on the website. WHILE WE ARE ONLINE ONLY

Zoom Sunday School – Sunday school classes will resume in the fall

THE HERALD is published ten times per year at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 600 S. 12th Street, Lebanon, PA 17042

A Note from Pastor Robin

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

How are you?

Welcome to July.

Welcome to a season of preaching on parables and church picnics in a new way.

In the last month, we have seen things begin to reopen, and indeed we are working to safely find ways to gather together here at St. Andrews. And as we prepare to do this, I need say a few things. It is difficult to return to a place we know well, with different habits. However we meet, we will need to continue social distancing, and taking other precautions that are being determined. If you feel comfortable shaking hands or hugging please realize that you may put the one you are trying to connect with, in a difficult place. We do not always know who is high-risk, or who may have a family member who is high risk.

I have had conversations with people who are ready to come back with no precautions and just see what happens. I have had conversations with people who worry, that others will want to come up and talk without a mask, or even hug saying '*Oh I don't mind*'.... yet they *do* and they do not want to be in the position of having to say something awkward to someone that they deeply care about. I imagine that within our congregation there are multiple ways people have chosen to respond to the pandemic, taking into consideration what is right for them and their family. As we get ready to come back together as a church family, remember that many among us are high risk, or live with those who are high risk. Please be sensitive to this. Please be willing to give one another space and to wear masks as an act of love to those around you.

I realize this letter is already heavy, and your soul longs for a break... and indeed we have one planned. July 12th we will have a modified church picnic! Our favorite grill chefs, Rob, Craig and Ken are already preparing. Cookies will be made and even picnic packs! Don't miss this time to connect and enjoy some great food! This newsletter also has some wonderful plans for mission week, some fun YouTube videos with children's books and cooking, as well as a July Zoom Theologian who is looking forward to sharing the wisdom of Proverbs with us. As you read through these pages, choose a few things to be a part of, as we try new ways of doing ministry.

Before you go on to read through the pages of this newsletter, there is one more thing we need to talk about. In the last month, we have also seen world-wide protests about the racial divide here in our country. Growing up, I learned about slavery and Jim Crow Laws as

if this were all behind us. It is not. Throughout history Christians have helped the world see that every person is of value, and work for what is just. This work is not over. We need to begin this work again, now. Our brothers and sisters are crying out in the street; let us hear them, let us pray for them, but let us find a way to do more. Are we willing to change? As we follow Christ we have to change, and not always in ways we expect.

This year is full of challenges. We are moving. Let us intentionally move through this time, through these challenges, letting God move us towards a better world.

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

O Lord let us walk humbly with you.

In the peace and love of Christ,

Pastor Robin

Just Days Away!

Drive Through Picnic July 12th 11AM-1PM.

The Lowrie/Tice team will be providing another FAB barbecue meal for us...

The MENU will be:

Pork or Chicken barbecue

Coleslaw

Potato Salad

Pinto Beans

Homemade cookies (made by members of the Congregational Life Committee)



You'll ALSO RECEIVE:

A bag containing lots of goodies to go along with this meal, including special picnic party supplies

All you need to bring is your own drink.

Enjoy this "made with love" picnic at a location of your own choosing. **If we have moved to "green" we will have some tables available. If we're still in "yellow" each car will be handed their meals by a helper. No one needs to exit their vehicle.**

IF YOU NEED A PICNIC DELIVERED TO YOU, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE—VOLUNTEERS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO DELIVER TO HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS, BUT WE NEED TO KNOW AHEAD OF TIME TO PLAN.

ZOOM Theologian
Session 1: Monday, July 13 7PM
Session 2: Monday, July 20 7PM

Title: What has Solomon to do with Google? Old Testament Wisdom and our Culture

Description:

What does modern culture and technology have to do with the Bible? We live in a world that bombards us with competing claims on our time—and offers different perspectives on what is wise, valuable, and worthy of our attention. The wisdom literature of the Old Testament provides some helpful perspective for the questions that guide our lives:

How do we measure success? How should we love? How should we live? What is wise? Join us for an introduction to the Book of Proverbs and conversation about what biblical wisdom has to do with life in the 21st century.

Anne Stewart is Vice President for External Relations at Princeton Theological Seminary. She is a Presbyterian minister and the author of *Poetic Ethics in Proverbs: Wisdom Literature and the Shaping of the Moral Self*. She is a graduate of Smith College, Princeton Theological Seminary (MDiv), and Emory University (PhD, Old Testament). Anne grew up in central Pennsylvania and was raised in the faith at Camp Hill Presbyterian Church.

(If you are ready to try Zoom, and would like some help call Pastor Robin or Rob and they will help you get set up and even do a ‘practice zoom’)



Find on YouTube:

“St. Andrews Cooks”: While we have been in lockdown, I have been enjoying leveling up my personal cooking skill. For Mother’s Day I made some amazing steaks with homemade mashed potatoes, gravy, and roasted green beans, and what I am proudest of, homemade bacon jam garnish. Maybe you have been doing the same thing, or maybe you have been experimenting with family favorite recipes. What I am looking for is a couple people who would be willing to share a video of how they cook a favorite meal that they would be willing to share with the church. Please reach out to me if you can help!

Rob

ST ANDREWS CHURCH OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

ST. ANDREWS CHURCH OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS
People of St. Andrews: the Nominating Committee seeks your wisdom and your recommendations for leaders in the congregation to lead us in this new chapter of our life together. Please prayerfully consider individuals that will lead us into our mission here at St. Andrews. We appreciate your prayers and your thoughtful recommendations.

May all of us pray for the Spirit of God to call forth the right leaders.

I recommend the following person(s) for nomination as a church officer

Elder _____

Trustee _____

Deacon _____

Visioning Committee _____

Nominating Committee _____

On the back of this card, please share with us why you see this person or persons as a leader for St. Andrews.

Place this form in the box in the Narthex or return to the office. Thank you.

Please share with us why you see this person or persons as a leader for St. Andrews.

SEEKING CHURCH LEADERS

→ The Nominating Committee has been meeting biweekly to prepare for nominating officers for next year. Now is the time for you to make recommendations for Elders, Deacons, Trustees, Visioning and Nominating committee members.

→ Since we are still “at home” we are printing the recommendation cards in this newsletter instead of placing them throughout the church. **See them on the page at left.** Please return your suggestion card to the church within the next two weeks.

→ Alternatively, you can respond with your anonymous input by using the email survey that will soon be arriving electronically.

→ We wanted to make sure that each and every church member has the opportunity and ability to participate in this important process. Thus, use the response choice that suits your lifestyle! We are looking forward to your thoughtful suggestions.

EPYC Expectations

Zoom has been an excellent tool in the past three months. It has helped to connect each of us to family, friends and work, but zoom has taken its toll and zoom fatigue has worn us all down. The good news for Epyc and TrailBlazers is that in the month of July we will meet outside at the church on Sunday's. Trailblazers will meet from 4-5pm at the church and Epyc will meet from 5-6pm at the church. There are some conditions on this, first is that we will exercise best safe practices of social distancing. Second, in person meetings are subject to change based on what is determined to be safe practices for students and families.

July 12th 4-5pm TrailBlazers

5-6pm Epyc

July 19th 4-5pm TrailBlazers

5-6pm Epyc

July 26th 4-5pm TrailBlazers

5-6pm Epyc

July 31st Frisbee Golf at South Hills Park 1pm

“When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, “I used everything you gave me.” (Erma Bombeck)



Coming your way...MISSION WEEK 2020!

SAVE THE DATES! August 2 – August 8

COVID-19 regulations have changed the way we are able to do Mission Week. We hope that with a combination of at-home and outdoor projects along with our connection to Habitat for Humanity and LCCM you will be able to find meaningful experiences.

At-home projects - Needed materials and instructions will be organized into a “kit.” That can be picked up at the beginning of the week:

Making masks -Pattern and material provided

Crossword/Sudoku/Wordsearch puzzle boards – cardboard with puzzle glued on one side, answers on other side, easier to hold and solve for our more elderly/wheelchair friends especially in hospitals.

No-sew blankets – The layers are knotted together on the sides

Writing cards to shut-ins – cards, names, addresses provided

Outdoor projects – with social distancing

Rails to Trails cleanup – Tuesday, 8/4 and Thursday 8/6
6 PM – 8 PM each night

Church yard cleanup – Date and time to be determined

Yard work for members that may need help (raking, mowing, pulling some weeds) Also need yards in which to work
(Call church office to be added to the list)

Drive Thru Pick-up/Drop off: Sunday, August 2. 11AM – 12 Noon

Pick up Kit projects, “Mission At Work” T-shirts (while supplies last);

Drop off Blessing Bags, donations to the food pantry, aluminum cans for Habitat and pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House

Drive Thru Drop-Off: Saturday August 8. 12 Noon – 2 PM

Drop off completed projects, donations to the food pantry, aluminum cans for Habitat and pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House

Other projects

Habitat for Humanity –Wednesday, 8/5, and Saturday, 8/8; working 8:15 am – 3:15 pm; 4-5 workers at a site, strict mitigation procedures in place by Habitat. Some volunteers to make bag lunches for the workers.

Free Noon Meal – Help prepare and package the meal for LCCM on Saturday, 8/8. 10AM – 1 PM

Blessing bags – In a small gift bag place “White Elephant” items that might be a blessing to another person.

Drop off the bag on Sunday, 8/2. During the week, everyone who “gave” a blessing bag would receive one. A surprise connection with someone else in the church family!

Blood bank donations – With the severe shortage of blood at the local hospitals we are encouraging volunteer blood donations. A list of local donation sites and times for the week will be made available.

Mission Week Read – Toxic Charity – How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help by Robert D. Lupton. A book recommended by the Medical Benevolence Foundation that might give us a new perspective on some of our charitable work. Read the book during Mission Week then participate in a follow-up discussion to be held on Wednesday, August 12, in the evening.

Don't forget our ongoing projects:

Filling the Free Little Pantry. It is still being heavily used. We know many of you have placed items in the Pantry and in the Library. There has also been some community support of the pantry. We ask that you continue buying one or two extra items when shopping and putting them in the pantry or drop off on 8/2 or 8/8.

Recycling Aluminum Cans for Habitat for Humanity- drop off 8/2 or 8/8

Collecting Pull Tabs for Ronald McDonald House – drop off on 8/2 or 8/8

Keep an eye out for the MISSION WEEK SIGNUPS! If you choose not to or are unable to signup online, but still want to help, please contact the church office at 717-272-9933.

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” - Mahatma Gandhi

2020 GRADUATES

Suzie Heister graduated from Cedar Crest



This year has certainly been different than how I expected it would have been. It was definitely upsetting at first because all of the main perks of being a senior were basically taken away, but the quarantining following school closure has given me time to re-evaluate my perspectives on life and my future. It has also given me a newfound focus on my goals and schooling to come.

I am planning on attending Penn State University main campus in the fall. I will be majoring in business with a focus in accounting and finance.

Jeremy Stalnecker graduated from Lebanon Career and Technology with a welding certification. Plus he graduated from Lebanon High School which includes three words tech classes. He did a few independent studies with Harrisburg University of Science and Technology which gives him a few college credits. He secured full time employment as a welder at Treyco.



Gabriella Battistelli (granddaughter of Ron and Kathy Hetrick) graduated from Palmyra High School, is currently working at the Hershey Hotel in the Activities Department and will be attending the University of Pittsburgh starting in early August to pursue her interests in biology and music, with the intent of becoming a dentist.

Zachary Michael Hetrick (grandson of Ron and Kathy Hetrick) graduated from C. Milton Wright High School in Bel Air, MD and is working in a Home Depot for the summer before he starts at Penn State, University Park, on August 24th, pursuing a career in the business world.

Halley Kucirka

College Grads include:

Adam Burgis
John Goetze
Michael Weaver

Congratulations to the
Class of 2020

St. Andrews at the Movies

The summer normally offers moments of the church coming together to enjoy an evening at the movies. With continued social distance measure the movie nights at the church are not possible at this time. There is a solution! Anyone who would like to host a movie night for your neighborhood, or just a few close friends St. Andrews is offering the chance to use our equipment and expertise! If you are interested in hosting a movie night, please reach out to Rob Cochran.

What the Church Will Provide:

- Screen
- Projector
- Sound System
- Rob, to get everything setup

What you would need to provide

- the location for the movie
- A place to plug everything in
- computer or DVD to play the movie on
- your selected movie



Wednesday Evening Bible Study Summer WEBS

The WEBS group will continue our quarantine "WEBS on the web" on Wednesday July 1st at 7:00 pm with a 6 week dvd study from Max Lucado - "You'll Get Through This - Hope and Help for Your Turbulent Times" Max Lucado shares the story of Joseph. Joseph's journey started in a pit and ended in the palace of Egypt. Joseph's life didn't end in the pit and ours doesn't have to either. If you want to join us, please contact Ken Gries or the church office for the login information.



EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN THE SCRIPTURE MEMORY CHALLENGE

Scripture memorization is a valuable part of our faith journey. Any-one at any age is welcome to participate, and for memorizing a scripture there will be prizes. The two immediate examples of prizes right now are that for a month's worth of scripture memorization any-one can get a gift card to Patches Creamery for ice cream. For the best artistic take on a scripture the artwork will be featured on the September newsletter. As the summer goes on new prizes and challenges will be announced. If you are interested in participating please contact me for the scripture list and to be put on the mailer.

July

Week one: Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Week two: Matthew 11:28-30 (NRSV)

28Come to me all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30for my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Week three: Psalm 46:10 (NRSV)

¹⁰be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.

Week four: John 1:1-5 (NRSV)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him and without him not one thing came into being. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Week five: James 1:19-21 (NRSV)

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

SESSION NOTES

The regular meeting of Session was convened by video conference at 7PM Tuesday June 2, 2020 with prayer and, devotions by the moderator Rev. Morgan.

A discussion was held considering how we move forward to reopen the church building. The Safety Recommendations from the Task force were reviewed. A motion was passed to keep the church building closed and offer live streamed services until our area is moved to the green phase of the Covid 19 Pandemic.

An email vote was taken by Session to invite Dr. James Foster to be our Zoom Theologian in June and Dr. Anne Stewart in July. .Dates and times for their presentations to be determined.

A letter of appreciation was received from Lebanon County Christian Ministries for the additional \$6000 contribution.

Deacon and Trustee reports were received. The Deacons requested that a By Law change be made at the next congregational meeting to remove the sixteenth Deacon position from the Board of Deacons.

The Trustees reported two diseased trees will be removed from the church grounds.

Worship Committee - Discussing worship ideas going forward with restrictions due to the virus.

Christian Ed Committee – Rob and youth working on Youth Sunday and graduate recognition June 28th thru Zoom meetings.

Congregational Life Committee is planning a drive by picnic July 12th after church.

Mission Committee – Mission Work Week scheduled for August 2-8

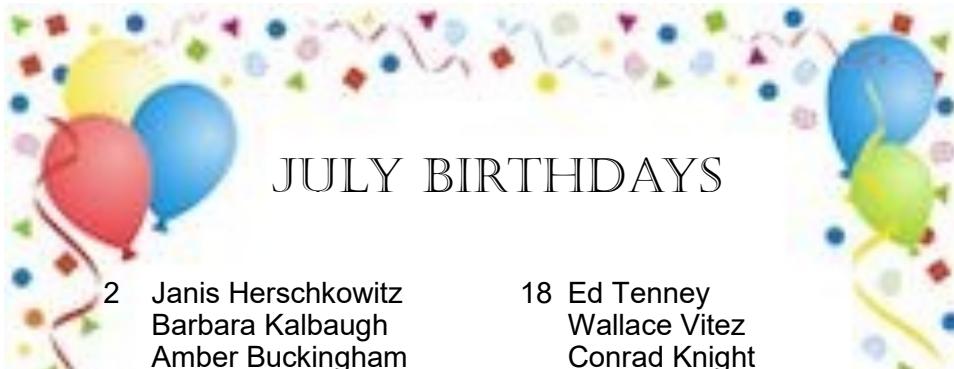
Administration & Personnel Committee- Submitted an update to the Bell Choir Director's job description which was approved. Rebecca Lister has resigned as Bell Choir director. A search committee is looking for a new director. Annual staff reviews are in progress.

Stewardship & Finance Committee – Contributions are lower than usual due to the church being closed.

The next scheduled meeting of Session is July 7, 2020 at 7PM.

Another YouTube feature: “St. Andrews Reads” Stories are an important part of each of our lives, so this summer we are going to share some of the stories that we have all loved. What I am looking for is people who would like to read a favorite children’s book, maybe it’s from your childhood, maybe it’s one you have read to your children or grandchildren. If you are interested, please reach out to Rob!





JULY BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 2 | Janis Herschkowitz Barbara Kalbaugh Amber Buckingham Ann Widger | 18 | Ed Tenney Wallace Vitez Conrad Knight |
| 3 | Joan Umbenhauer | 19 | Nicki Overholt Amy Fackler Kathy Crager |
| 5 | Dick Cassel | 20 | Evalyn Lansberry |
| 6 | Don Dreibelbis | 25 | Robert Kopp Kathy Hetrick |
| 7 | Carla Dowd Ted Kalb | 26 | Pat Herschkowitz |
| 9 | Darrylle Buckingham | 27 | Nancy Wengert Mardi Messer |
| 11 | Vasantha Ross | 29 | Stuart Juppenlatz Craig Lowrie |
| 12 | Betty Ann Seiser | | |
| 16 | Melissa Burgis Bob Ogurcak | | |



A Grief Support Group
of
St. Andrews Church

For everything there is a season...a time to break down, and a time to build up: a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. Ecclesiastes 3: 1-4

If there is one thing grievers know, it is how changeable our moods can be. One moment we are relatively calm, in control, keeping our grief at bay. The next moment we are overwhelmed, our equilibrium shattered.

Anything can set us off – a fragrance, the words of a song, the first sign of spring – and our loved one is not here to share it.

Other times we are carefree, relishing the moment, and then wonder why we are susceptible to such mood swings. We wonder – “When will my moods be more measured so I am not always in danger of being swept away with the feeling of despair?”

Those questions and many others are things we talk about when the St. Andrews Grief Support Group meets together. We have discovered that we are not alone with these feelings, that others have exactly the same thoughts and feelings. The sharing of these experiences with other people who are going through the same grieving process has become a valuable tool for many of the folks who attend our meetings. Through our conversations we realize that these sudden feelings of being overwhelmed are actually very normal among people who are grieving. These emotions even occur to those of us

for whom the grieving has been a continual journey for a number of years. Finding out that others experience the same kinds of feelings and emotions can be a comfort to us. For these reasons, I have always found great comfort in the scripture from Ecclesiastes that is quoted above and continues at the end of this article. It lets me know that in time and with God's help, I will be OK and feeling more comfortable with my grief.

Anyone is welcome to come to our meetings, regardless of how recent or how long ago the grieving process began. If you know of someone who might benefit from coming to our meetings, please encourage them to come, even if they are not St. Andrews members. A better idea would be to let them know about our group and offer to come with them for the first time.

Our meetings are usually held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 2:00 PM, in Cassel Chapel, unless we plan something special. The dates for the next two months are: Thursday, February 8; and Thursday, March 8.

If you have questions about our group, please feel free to contact our Advisor, Diane Pomeroy, at 717-454-0756; Pat Yates, at 717-273-9297; or the church office, 727-272-9933.

Our lives have been shattered by the death of a loved one. Of course it will take time for the pieces to come together in any coherent pattern. For some it takes longer than others. But with God's help we all will realize it is now "*the time to build up, the time to laugh, and the time to dance*".

I will be patient with myself, honoring the seasons of my grieving, trusting I am on my way to being healed.

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St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
600 South 12th Street, Lebanon, PA 17042
(717) 272-9933 FAX (717) 272-1526
SAPOffice@verizon.net
Www.StAndrewsLebanon.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED