

ST. ANDREWS HERALD

The Monthly Newsletter of
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

NOVEMBER 2020

VOL. 20, Issue 10



ALL SAINTS' DAY

NOVEMBER 1, 2020

JOIN US IN-PERSON
SUNDAYS AT 10AM
Or online all day beginning at 8AM

Nov. 1 All Saints Day	Mark 1:40-45 Matthew 14:22-33 <i>Miracles in Every Place, in Every Age</i>	8AM and All day Online Praise Service	10AM In-person Worship (in sanctuary w/ masks)
Nov. 8	1 Corinthians 13 Colossians 3 <i>Mail Call</i>	8AM and All day Online Traditional Service	10AM In-person Worship (in sanctuary w/ masks)
Nov. 15	Guest Preacher The Rev. Joaquin Anabe Lopez	8AM and All day Online Praise Service	10AM In-person Worship (in sanctuary w/ masks)
Nov. 22	Guest Preacher The Rev. Joaquin Anabe Lopez	8AM and All day Online Traditional Service	10AM In-person Worship (in sanctuary w/ masks)
Nov. 29 Advent 1 <i>Hope</i>	Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13:24-37 <i>Those Who Dream ~ Keep Awake</i>	8AM and All day Online Praise Service	10AM In-person Worship (in sanctuary w/ masks)

On All Saints' Day we remember those members who have passed since St. Andrews Day, 2019.

Carroll Ditzler, Anita Sauerwein, Robert Scholes, Christiane Scholes, Eric Powell, Conrad Knight, Nancy Wengert

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 Beloved People of God,

It is November and things are still not right with the world. The month begins with a contentious election and ends with a Thanksgiving, which may not look like what we long for. I remember back at Easter, coming home after recording worship and crying, for while there was a feast, there were no guests, and the table was the same as it always was. As he tried to comfort me, Troy said: *'It will probably be different by Thanksgiving.'* This made me more emotional, as I could not imagine the separation, the distance, lasting that long...and yet here we are and it is not that different, it is not over.

In these days, I am wondering whose Epiphany Word for the year is *Endurance* or *Perseverance*? Honestly, my Epiphany words are still not speaking to me, but these are. Perhaps we all need to claim these words for this long season...because it is not over yet and we need to persevere. We need to endure. We need to keep going.

As the holidays draw nearer, the Spirit keeps bringing a few scriptures to mind:

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful." Psalm 149:1


These words are not just for times when our hearts are bursting with praise. They are for every age, for every time. They are for us, right now. As smaller turkeys are bought and fewer pies are made, we are still offered a day to give thanks. In a country so divided, it is a year to remember that Abraham Lincoln set the 4th Thursday in November as a national day of Thanksgiving during the Civil War. In the hard times, we need this. We still need to pause, to give thanks, and yes, to celebrate. But it may look different than what we are longing for. And so I turn back to Psalm 149, *sing a new song*.

This is a year to create new traditions. If you usually have a table full of family or guests, what if you put together a bag for each empty chair and took it to the food pantry? What if instead of sending out invitations to a holiday party, you took cookies or candles to neighbors and friends sharing the warmth of fellowship in these long nights? Maybe a new tradition means making a funny turkey video to share with those far away or a family zoom that includes those beyond the normal circle. (There are many days I am sick of Zoom, but recently I heard someone say; 'The Israelites got sick of manna as well. Maybe these second choice ways of gathering are our manna for these days).

We already know things will look different. Maybe now is the time, to begin thinking and creating new traditions...because we need them. We need to celebrate together; we need to give thanks and to do that we must do something new. We like the 'old songs.' Maybe we will find a new one that becomes a favorite for years to come.

O Lord, we are still praying, we are still giving thanks, and we need help singing new songs, finding new ways to celebrate in these days. Go before us, as the holidays come...let love, understanding, and creativity overcome our everything else. We are your people, and we are not giving up. Amen.

In the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Pastor Robin



Thanksgiving Dinner 2020

As you have probably have already guessed, the Beattys will not be hosting a Thanksgiving dinner at church this year. We do have an alternative! If you would like to have some dinner brought to your house, we can do that. Our "Thanksgiving package" includes: turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes (packaged instant), and a bag of salad greens. All you have to do is let us know how many people we will be preparing for and if you want dark and/or white meat. Call/text Maggie Beatty at 717-304-2379, or email her at memab3@comcast.net, by November 23. We will deliver your meal on Thanksgiving morning.

**November Mission Spotlight –
Basic Canned Soups and Canned Mixed Vegetables**

**December Mission Spotlight –
Giving Tree (see article for details)**

Mission Opportunities This Christmas Season

ONLINE ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR - This has been a different kind of year! With the effects of COVID-19, we are in for a different kind of Christmas. A different kind of Christmas means we should consider different kinds of gifts! Alternative Giving is a great opportunity to bless someone in your life while bringing hope and healing to people locally and around the world. Many of your favorite organizations from years past will be returning. Beginning in early November, check out the Life of St. Andrews section of the SAPC website for details where links will be provided for you to connect with multiple charities.

How it works: Give an online donation to a charity in honor of a friend or family member to provide chickens, building supplies, books, clean water, immunizations, etc. In turn you will send a card to that person telling them a gift was given in their name. A great benefit...you don't have to wrap that knickknack.

THE ANGEL TREE this year will also offer online options with an Amazon Wishlist. Gifts can be purchased through Amazon (remember the church with Amazon Smiles) and will be delivered directly to the church. No lugging around boxes and wrapping hard to disguise gifts. Some Angels will be available at the church for those who are not online shoppers. Look for them in the Narthex in early November. Return date deadline will be announced but is expected to be within the first 2 weeks of December.

THE GIVING TREE has replaced the Mitten Tree. Needs in the community have gone beyond mittens. Infant, toddler, and women's socks, boys' and men's boxers, and boys' and girls' pajamas will be the focus of the Giving Tree this year. Donations to be delivered to LCCM will be accepted during December in the green tubs in the Narthex. When you make a donation, we ask that you write a Christmas wish or blessing on a paper ornament that will be hung on the Giving Tree.

For All the Saints

*“For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!”*

Bishop William Walsham How wrote this hymn for All Saints’ Day. It was published in Horatio Nelson’s *Hymns for Saints Days and Other Hymns* in 1864. The original title was “A Cloud of Witnesses” in reference to Hebrews 12:1:

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us ...”

The hymn’s popularity spread in 1871 when it was published in *Church Hymns* with a revised title, “For All the Saints.” It is a commentary on the statement of our Apostle’s Creed, “I believe in the Communion of Saints.” This hymn emphasizes the relationship with the faithful on earth (The Church Militant) and the saints in heaven (The Church Triumphant). The original hymn had eleven stanzas, but has been edited to six or fewer verses in most modern hymnals. Omitted verses include #3 For the Apostles’ glorious company; #5 for the Evangelists; and #6 for the Martyrs. These stanzas further the understanding of the heritage of the saints.

This hymn has been sung to several tunes. *Engleburg* by Charles Stanford (How’s teacher) was the initial tune used. For almost half of the 20th century it was sung to the Victorian tune *Sarum* by Joseph Barnaby. Today we sing this inspiring hymn to the melody *Sine Nomine* by English composer, Ralph Vaugh Williams. The final verse exemplifies the Church Triumphant:

*“From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!”*

Taking time to honor those who have run the race and gone before us is good for our earthly souls. Those saints have defined who we are, what we are and who we will become. We have been entrusted with a call and a heritage to live into the present and our future.

“Thank you, God, for all the saints who have gone before us. May we always be grateful recipients of their dedication remaining obedient to the example of your Son, Jesus. Amen”



SESSION NOTES

The Session held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, remotely via Zoom. Rev. Morgan opened the meeting with prayer and led devotions from scripture in Ecclesiastes 3:1-11.

It was reported the Session by email vote approved the resumption of Sunday School Classes starting October 4. The classes will follow safety and distancing guidelines currently in place.

A report was received from the October 3 meeting of the Carlisle Presbytery. It was reported that the structure, land and contents of the Christ Presbyterian Church in Lebanon will be donated on an "as is" basis to True Life Youth Ministries. The remaining financial assets will be donated locally to Lebanon County Christian Ministries, Coleman's Park and the Church of the Living God.

The Session received Tim and Dora Peelen as new members. Due to concerns about safety the annual Trunk or Treat event will not be held this year. In its place a Halloween outreach will be held for our church families that will follow current safety guidelines.

The annual Stewardship campaign is underway. Stewardship and Finance is recommending the church follow the 2020 budget in 2021. The Session and Trustees will meet jointly in November to act on the budget.

St. Andrews members of fifty or more years will be recognized at worship on St. Andrews Day on October 25, 2015. The fall meeting of the congregation will be held immediately after worship that day. A drive through potato lunch planned by Congregational Life will take place after the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 5 at 7 PM



DEACON DOINGS

What is a Deacon? Scripture tells us Deacons are persons who demonstrate sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ.

Deacon members, at the September Deacons meeting acknowledged that they, like many of the St Andrews Family, feel anxious and frustrated during these uncertain COVID times. Our work has had to take on new ways of serving.

We miss serving Home Communion. We miss giving hugs. We miss preparing and delivering home cooked meals for shut-ins. We miss seeing each other. We miss being TOGETHER.

Together, what we CAN all do is write more notes of caring, make more phone calls, send more emails of concern, and keep the St. Andrews Food Pantry well stocked for our neighbors. We can follow CDC guidelines to keep to our St. Andrews Family safe and, most of all we can pray for each other every day.

Stay well and be safe,
Ellen Arnold

St. Andrew's Day Potato Luncheon

It was another successful endeavor during this very different kind of year in the life of St. Andrews! Our members outdid themselves with loads of really good homemade cookies. They were shared generously in our bag lunches.

It takes many hands to put together a meal for lots of folks and it's tricky turning it into a drive-by. The church members, the staff and the Congregational Life Committee all pitched in generously with their time and creative talents. The rainy, cold day made it feel a little more Scottish and bag-pipe music created the finishing touch to a festive mood for lunch on the go!

Smiles all around and our bellies full of warm potatoes with great accompaniments!

Peace and health,
Congregational Life



EPYC Expectations

I am fairly certain that in some way I share every year that Thanksgiving is a favorite holiday! From the food, to family, to reflecting on gratitude, I love thanksgiving. 2020 of course has offered a year to consider all that we are thankful for. An example for me was, early in the lockdown, I realized that I missed being able to see my mother and give her a hug. While I have missed that, I have also come to appreciate and give thanks that I can look forward to hugging my mother again. I wonder what you are thankful for. There is a coloring page in the newsletter, would you take a moment to color it and maybe add what you are thankful for on the page?

Advent is right around the corner! This year with Advent the church is looking at how we can safely do a family Advent night similar to what we have done in the past. The desire is to continue to reach out and minister as best as is possible, but with the safety of everyone in mind. While this is being developed please pencil in December 5th as the tentative date for the gathering. More information will come out shortly!

A final note. As we continue to seek to do our best for 2020 and everyone's health. I would like to point to the guidance given for how the youth and I are will work to best practice safety in this time. With youth group we have been using separate items between the TrailBlazers and Epyc. Everyone must wear a facemask during Youth Group and Youth Activities. I am monitoring as closely as possible what is happening with each of the schools and what they are doing for the safety of the students. Finally, if you are not feeling well or have been told to isolate due to a possible exposure, stay home. The desire is to be precautious and honor everyone's needs as best we can. If you have questions, please ask.



Upcoming:

November 1st 4-6pm Seyferts

November 8th 4-5pm Trailblazers

5-6pm Epyc

November 15th 4-5pm Trailblazers

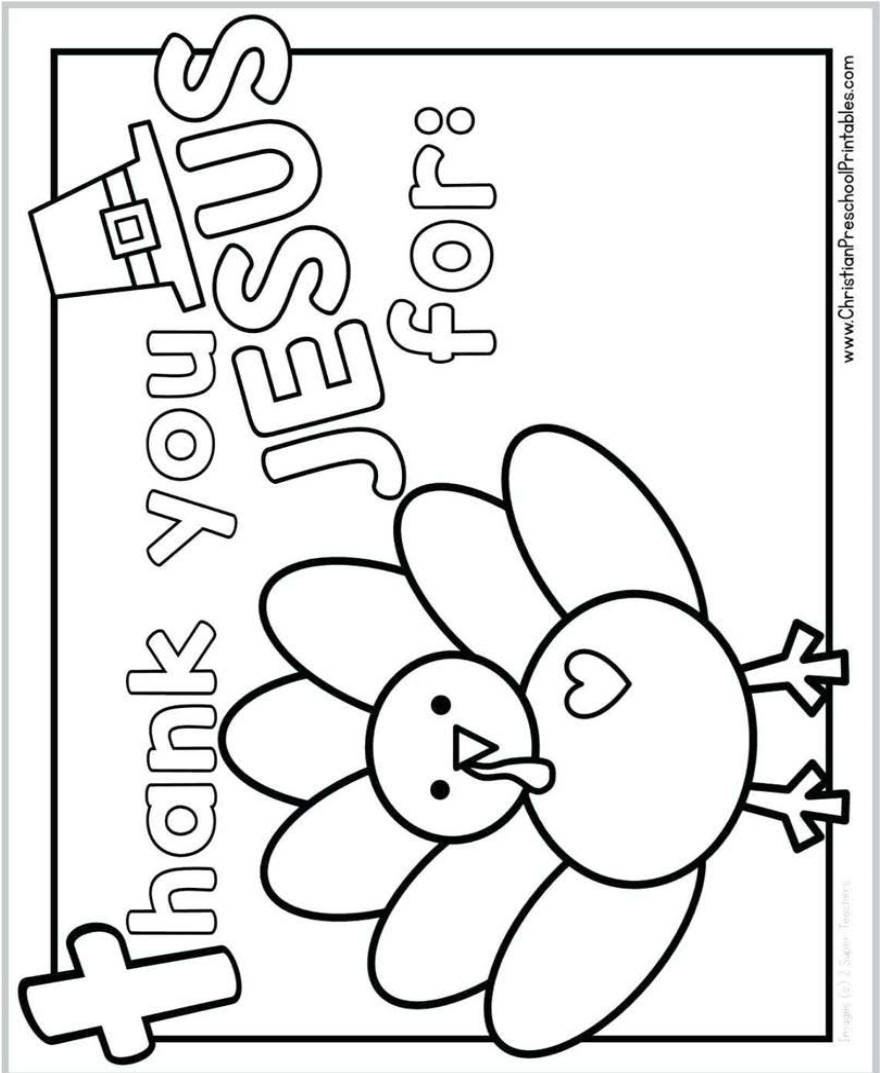
5-6pm Epyc

November 22nd 4-5pm Trailblazers

5-6pm Epyc

November 29th No Youth

December 5th Tentative Advent Family Night





Presbyterian Women



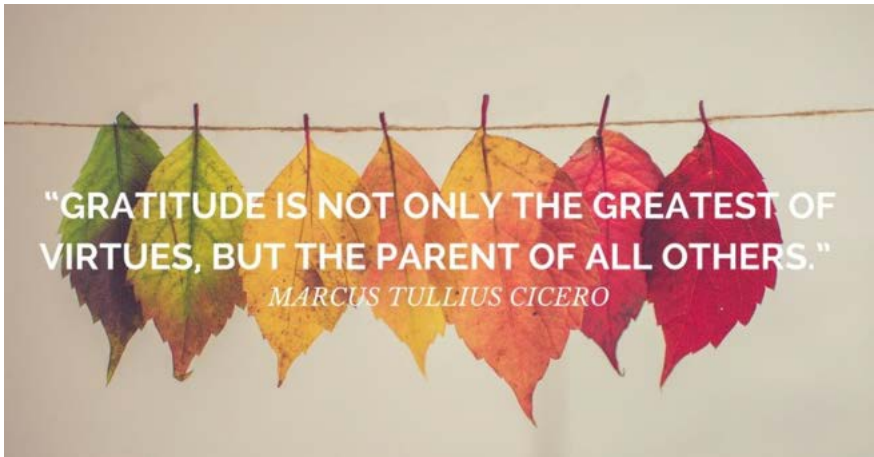
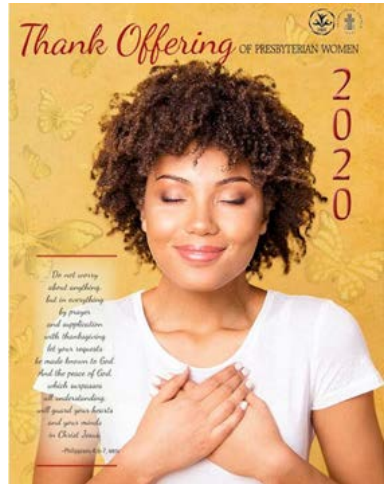
November has arrived in one of the most challenging years of our lives! Despite this stressful time may we still find a blessing in each day, a reason to be **THANKFUL**. Sunday, November 22, 2020, will be **THANK OFFERING SUNDAY**. Last year's donations from Presbyterian USA churches across the county allowed the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of PW to give out 18 grants to very worthy causes! Should you be able to attend the 10:00 service in person this month, look for the posting of all 18. We hope you will consider expressing your thankfulness by supporting this wonderful outreach again this year!

Unable to have our annual Clothing Drive this year, we want to thank anyone who took their items to one of our many second hand outlets last month. Thank you also to those taking lunch to True Life preschoolers. This year we do not get the pleasure of interacting with them, but the 12 lunches dropped off are greatly appreciated! Call Sue Mechura at 717-273-7507 should you want to be part of this community outreach. Volunteers are currently needed for March, April and May of 2021. There are funds available if you would want to turn in your receipts, and if unable to deliver to facility, someone will do that for you.

This is where PW **WISHES** we could tell you to mark your calendars the first week of December for a wonderful PW Christmas event with cookies/singing/and fellowship! Alas, this is not happening. There is however one custom we will continue – the layette items we donate to LCCM in honor of baby Jesus. Should you start your Christmas shopping early, consider picking up a baby item to place, unwrapped, in the Layette Box provided in the Narthex the first three weeks of December.

May your Thanksgiving Day, even if isolated watching parades and football, give you an awareness of the blessings we have, - past – present – and future - as God's children!

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you are called to peace. And be thankful. Col 3:15 NIV



November



BIRTHDAYS

2	Grace Oxenreider	20	Don Leshner
3	Jane Long	21	Robert Dowd, Sr.
	Charlie Whary	22	Beth Howard
4	Deb Miller	24	Nell Tice
5	Tom Bechtold	25	Laura Juppenlatz
7	Charlotte Allwein	26	Nancy Hoff
	Reilly Morgan		Adam Shreve
8	Kelsey McMillen	27	Will Juppenlatz
15	Jody DeWald		Megan Risko
17	Chris Risko		



**A Grief Support Group
of
St. Andrews Church**

Dying is a wild night and a new road. --- Emily Dickinson

One of the things so astonishing and costly about the passing of a loved one is that, while the sun continues to rise and set, newspapers continue to be delivered, traffic lights still change from red to green and back again, our whole life is turned around, turned upside down.

Is it any wonder we feel disoriented, confused? Yet the people we pass on the street are going about their business as though no one's world has been shaken to the core, as though the earth has not opened and swallowed us up, dropped us into a world of insecurity and change.

I can remember vividly my first trip to the grocery store alone after my husband died. I wondered if I looked different, if anyone could tell that I was grieving, did I act any differently? Obviously, none of that was so, unless I met someone who knew me, and then I had a few tears to share, fortunately with someone who understood.

At the meetings of our Grief Support Group we often talk about events such as this and how they are so common. No, you are not alone in thinking these thoughts and in feeling a sense of confusion and vulnerability. It is good to be able to share these thoughts and these questions with other folks who have “been there, done that” and are still here to share their stories and experiences and help guide someone else along the way.

If you or someone you know is grieving and could benefit from coming to our meetings, please feel free to come to our meetings. All are welcome! In the years that we have been meeting, we have helped a lot of people work through their grief and feel better about the life they have ahead of them. Our regular meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 2:00 PM, in Snyder Hall.. The November meeting will be on Thursday, November 12, and the December meeting will be on Thursday, December 10, both at 2:00, in Snyder Hall. Please feel free to come meet with us. You will be welcomed there among us!

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

It is, as Emily Dickinson says, “a new road” – for us as surely as the one we have lost. It will take time to learn to walk that road. Those who have had their own experiences of loss will probably be our most helpful guides. In time, we will be helpers for others.



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

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lebanon, PA 17042
Permit No. 252

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED