

ST. ANDREWS HERALD

The Monthly Newsletter of
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

SEPTEMBER 2021

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St. Andrews All-Church Picnic

Sunday, September 12th
Following the 10AM Service



The meals will be bagged “to go” but there will also be tables and chairs set up if you’d like to eat and fellowship on site.

Any bakers wanting to contribute cookies may drop them (enclosed in Ziploc bags of two) at the church during the week of September 6th. Thank you!

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

As we continue to return to the “new normal” post pandemic, we have looked forward to gathering as a united church. To allow us to gather and reconnect, **Session has approved continuing a single service option at 10 AM Sunday mornings** with a variety of music options as part of our worship and praise. **The service will continue to be live streamed and recorded** as we have been doing for those who are unable to attend physically.

Session has also approved exploration of other worship options. The family oriented outdoor worship service on Wednesday evenings this summer is an example of this. We will continue to explore other worship options while we gather on Sundays at 10 as one congregation.

Our Weekly Schedule this fall:

9AM Sunday School (starting Sept. 12)
10AM Worship
11AM Coffee Hour Fellowship
(starting Sept. 19)

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A Note from Pastor Troy

First, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to fill in as your pastor for the last few weeks. It has been much appreciated. This has allowed Robin the time to truly get to know little Dashiell and help him learn how to eat. Since my first Sunday was mission Sunday, it was interesting that that became the theme of my time with you, preaching on St. Andrew's Mission. I enjoyed getting to know how you do mission and what mission means to you. I am excited that you have begun to take up the call to reach out to others in the community. This is not something which is easily done or easily motivated. It is easy to stay with the familiar including familiar faces. But God has called us to make a difference in the lives of people we know and people we don't know.

While it has been a privilege to preach on Mission, we have missed the regular Lectionary texts for this time of the year. The main text dealt with Solomon. Solomon ruled over Jerusalem in a relative time of peace. It was a period when the Hebrew state expanded before the kingdom split in to northern and southern pieces. To be honest, I think that is what we need again. We need leaders who will usher in peace. So the question is, how did Solomon do it? The answer lies in 2 Kings 3:5, 7-14

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said..."I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people... Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life."

Wisdom is so incredibly important. My own feeling is that during

these days of trouble and strife around the world, we need God's wisdom. Wisdom to govern? Definitely, but we need so much more than that. Today we have factions who are vying for our allegiance, some are political, some ideological, some social. We need to constantly be asking ourselves, "give us understanding" "help us discern between good and evil." It is in God's power to do just that. But we do need to ask. (James 4:2-3)

Let us be reminded of Psalm 111

1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the Lord!
they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor,
and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered;
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

5 He gives food to those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works
in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice;
all his commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever;
holy and awesome is his Name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.

In Thanksgiving,
Pastor Troy Morgan



The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who has been contributing to the Little Free Pantry. It is getting a lot of use, so please continue to add items. A few reminders:



Please contribute only **non-perishable** items.

Canned goods, boxed items, soups, peanut butter, and any kind of hygiene products are some ideas.

A **BIG** shout-out and thank you to Ebenezer United Methodist Church for their Love Offering donation to our Little Free Pantry!

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without know it. Hebrews 13:1-2



September's Mission Spotlight

Canned Potatoes & Canned Meats

Christian Ed Volunteer Opportunities!

Sunday School classes for all ages will begin in September. The Christian Education committee is seeking volunteers to be a second adult in classes for children, youth, and the nursery. (The nursery attendant will need to be vaccinated and wear a mask while in the classroom.) Your help every week or once a month is critical!

Please contact Beckie Dreibelbis (bdreib@comcast.net/717-926-1867) if God is leading you to serve our kids!

EPYC Expectations

The 2021/22 school year is here! Students have returned to, what can only be described as a conflicted school setting. College students are going out into the world, in a time of division. Educators are trying to navigate a path that is best for their students and reflects safety and normalcy as best as possible. There is no easy path for anyone within the education system right now as the debate on best safety practices rages on.

I believe that this moment offers us the best possibility as the church to show our care and support for the teachers and students. I want to encourage everyone, to take a moment and find a way to share the Love of Christ in action to this community that is centered around our current debates and turmoil. Sharing this love is simple, it may be nothing more than a kind word, or maybe a gift card for coffee to a teacher. Maybe it's just adding in the students and educators to your daily prayer. Whatever your ability and desire, we can show love to the students and educators!

As the opportunity to show the love and grace to our students continues, I look forward to the start of youth group this fall! Epyc and TrailBlazers will resume on Sunday September 12th. With the current case spread in the county we will continue with the safety practices and times that we used last year. This means:

TrailBlazers Sundays, 4-5pm in the Youth Center
Epyc Sundays, 5-6pm in the Youth Center

We will also continue with the practice that the church task force has started. If you are vaccinated, you are welcome to not wear a mask with students who have had the opportunity to get the vaccine. For students who have not had the opportunity masks will be required of students, staff and volunteers.

I look forward to the day when this moment has passed. I trust that the Lord has us in His hands as we navigate this moment in history that he has given us, to reveal His love and Word.

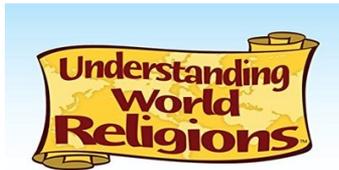
LEND A HAND UPDATE



On behalf of Lend A Hand, I would like to thank the Presbyterian Women of St. Andrews for their generous donation of \$500. This will help us in our efforts to help others in our disaster relief programs. Because of COVID, Lend A Hand has been inactive as a

group. Our last trip was in January, 2020, to Tarboro, N.C. However, individuals from Lend A Hand have been active in Central Pennsylvania working on smaller projects. Plans have been made for this fall! There are two trips scheduled to go to New Bern, N.C. The first is October 10-16. The second trip is November 14-20. The registration form is located on the Lend A Hand website, www.lendahand.net. An additional requirement is that you must have a COVID vaccination and show proof of the vaccination. The cost of the trip will be \$175. This covers room and board.

If you are looking for interesting work to do for a week and helping others, the contact information is listed below. As always, it doesn't matter if you are skilled or unskilled, we can teach those skills necessary to do most jobs. Come, enjoy the work and the fellowship.



The WEBS (Wednesday Evening Bible Study) group will begin our new study season on **Wednesday September 15th** at 7:00 pm in the chapel. We will begin the year by trying to understand some of the most popular religions in the world and how they relate to Christianity. Have you ever wondered what the differences are between Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and other world religions? Join us for this study. There is no book required. The start of a new study season is a great time to check out what WEBS is about.



Looking for a Mission?

Join the “Lunch Ladies”!

When I was teaching, I remember the students really looking forward to lunch. Not only was it a time to sit and talk with their friends, but the “lunch ladies” served up great meals, and always with a smile!

Did you know there is a small group of “Lunch Ladies” at St. Andrews? On the first Thursday of each month during the school year, we prepare and drop off lunch at the True Life Youth Ministry (formerly Youth for Christ) pre-school at their classroom at 10th and Lehman Streets. We keep it simple, we keep it healthy, and we need YOU!!

Please consider joining Beckie Dreibelbis, Maggie Beatty, Kathy Hetrick, Sue Mechura, Ann Ormond, and Karen Register in our mission: just one Thursday, out of one month, out of one school year. You’ll be an official Lunch Lady! Being an Equal Opportunity Mission, men are welcome! Contact Sue at 717-273-7507 or smechura@hotmail.com to see how you can help!

SESSION NOTES

Session met for its monthly meeting on Tuesday August 3, 2021 at 7 PM in person. Rev. Robin Morgan moderated the meeting. She opened with a devotion using Acts 14 where Paul and Barnabas are spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. We were invited, in this day, to continue to offer the Good News and God's Grace to those we encounter.

Highlights from the meeting:

- Commissioners needed for Saturday, September 25 Presbytery meeting.
- 20 children and 8 volunteers participated in St. Andrews Exploration Days. This was the summer program that was held at SAPC, 9AM – 3 PM, Wednesdays in July.
- Sunday School will resume on September 12 at 9 AM followed by worship at 10 AM. Weekly Coffee hour/Fellowship will begin on September 19 following worship. (The church picnic will follow worship on September 12.)
- New digital projectors will replace 2 of the failing sanctuary projectors. Anticipated installation is mid to late September.
- We are down one of our 2 paid nursery attendants.
- Your Deacon wants to hear from you. If you have not been in communication with your Deacon recently reach out to them and give them an update on your life.

Help Needed:

- Liturgists for weekly worship service.
- Hosts for weekly coffee hour.
- Sunday School helpers for several classes (We will assist in getting clearances).
- Nursery Attendants (We will assist in getting clearances).

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Gries



September Birthdays

3	Tim Chevalier	17	Annette Chevalier
4	Fay Peterson	18	Danielle Chevalier
	Ken Tice		Caitlyn Gelgot
5	Joanne Fairlamb		Barry Kohr
	Margi Hearson		John K. Goetze (dad)
	Charles Jones III	19	Cynthia Condrack
6	Dan Dowhower	20	Nicholas Chevalier
	Bill Long		Gayle Reilly
7	Louise Kreiser	23	Claude Miller
11	Alexamarie Lowrie	25	Bonnie Tenney
13	Jim Reilly	26	Lewis Sauerwein
16	Nadine Jones		Summer Hakkinen
	Carol Hockenbury		



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

*Give sorrow words; the grief that does not speak
Whispers the o'er fraught heart and bids it break.*

William Shakespeare

The pressure of unspoken grief is like that inside a pressure cooker – it builds and builds until one feels as though another tiny increment of pain will drive one mad.

Speak. Tell a friend. Tell another friend, or the same friend again. A wise friend will know one must tell this tale again and again.

One way to begin – particularly if death has been unexpected and hard to believe – is to recount to this understanding friend, in as much detail as you can remember, the events of the day on which death occurred.

Telling the story is an important part of what happens within the St. Andrews Grief Support Group. Especially when someone new comes for the first time, it is so important to let them tell their story, if they are able to tell it at first. We find that many are more

than ready to share their story with others who have had the same type of experiences. Often they might say, “It’s just such a strange feeling,” or “I have the strangest thoughts,” or something along that line. And those of us who have been there for a while can try to reassure that person that the feelings and thoughts are not “strange” – they are quite normal when you are grieving. It is so very helpful to be able to tell your story to others who understand and who care about what you are experiencing. The people in the group are great listeners, but we also have comforting and helpful suggestions and ideas to share as well.

If you or someone you know could benefit from being part of our group, please don’t hesitate to join us. Our regular meeting time is the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 2:00 PM, in Cassel Chapel. The meeting for September will be on September 9

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

The kind of retelling of the day grounds the event in the real world and helps us begin to believe the terrible thing we can put in a bubble and hold away from the rest of our life. It took place in real time, on a real day, and while it will be terribly sad to recount, the recounting will help release the pressure inside and activate the flow of healing – friend to friend.



Photo by [Aaron Burden](#) on [Unsplash](#)

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