



ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

APRIL 2023

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But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.

- Matthew 28:5-6

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MAY CROSS DEADLINE: APRIL 14

Get on Board



Sunday, April 23

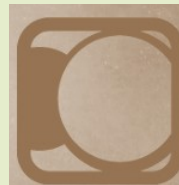
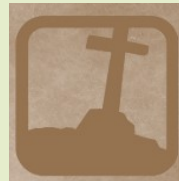
ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

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ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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HOLY WEEK Worship Schedule

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 2nd, 9:00am Worship

Maundy Thursday

April 6th, 7:00pm Worship

Good Friday

April 7th, 7:00pm Worship

Easter Sunday

April 9th, 9:00am Worship

Please note that, due to the special services planned, there will only be one worship service on both Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.



Annual SAW Ladies' Tea Saturday, May 13th at 2pm

\$12 per person

Tickets will be available after worship on April 16 & 23.

While supplies last.

See any member of SAW for additional information.

FROM THE PASTOR

What Gives Us Peace

Picture, if you will, a baby talking on a cell to her best friend saying: "So today, in church, a guy in a dress tried to drown me! And, I kid you not, my family just stood there taking pictures!" Thank you to Betty for this little comedic treasure. And hopefully everybody understood that the baby was talking about her baptism.

But, as much as the baby had NO clue as to what was going on, God did. And as much as it makes no logical sense that God gives the baby (and all of us) the gift of eternal life, God does! It is this illogical process that we call faith.



Faith helps us to accept and have peace with the gift that God gives us. Having a "large" amount of faith does not mean we are assured the gifts God offers. We don't have that kind of control over God. God chooses to give the gifts, we've got nothing to do with it!

Does any of this make any sense... NOPE! And, my dear friends, it never will make any logical sense. Faith, our belief in a loving God, is what gives us peace.

- Pastor Neel

Bible Study is About to Restart!!! Wednesdays at 7:00pm

After a long break, it will be a joy to gather again around the words of scripture, good fellowship, and growth in faith. Please consider joining us for Bible Study starting April 26. We meet on Zoom for 60-90 minutes.

This session, we are working with Jeremiah and Lamentations. This covers a time when the Israelites were in a period of decline, and ultimately were conquered by Babylon. There is much we can relate to as Christianity finds itself in decline. The prophet offers much wisdom to the Israelites, and to you and I as well.

I encourage you to join us. Study books are available at Hope House.

- Pastor Neel



**The Prophet Jeremiah
By Michelangelo
Sistine Chapel**

CHURCH COUNCIL



Highlights of the March 13th Council Meeting—

The annual audit will take place in April, and will include St. Andrew's Nursery School. Additional volunteers are needed.

After researching a new programmable LED sign, we were disappointed to learn that the Township will only allow them for schools. We will look at other ways to become more visible from the road.

The Parish Nurses will be at an upcoming St. Andrew's Women meeting to offer blood pressure checks.

A motion was passed to purchase blinds for the windows and doors at the front of our worship space, as recommended by the Chief of Police.

The Property Team has recently upgrading lighting, removed accordion doors, and made other security improvements in Hope House. Damaged pews have been repaired, and the AED was moved in the church building to provide access to outside groups using the building.

The Spiritual Gifts Committee is planning a celebration, fellowship, and brainstorming event for 4/23.

A group is being formed to look into the laws and logistics involved with burying ashes in the Memorial Garden.

2023 CHURCH COUNCIL

Laurie Roth, President: 610-252-7619

Ed Schaeffer, Vice President: 610-258-4280, **Mutual Ministry*

Teresa Diehl, Exec. Cmte. Secretary: 610-248-2421, **Community Care*

April Shaheen, Exec. Cmte Financial Secretary: 610-559-1038, **Resource Management*

Deborah Ealer: 610-330-0209, **Finance*

Sue Himmelreich: 610-258-2313, **Congregational Care*

Diana Laustsen: **Community Care*

Non-Council Appointed Officers:

Jonathan Bleice, Treasurer: 610-462-9488

Elizabeth Campbell, Secretary: 610-252-2258



General Fund Financial Position Summary for the month ending February 28, 2023

	February	Year to Date
Offerings	\$21,184.00	\$34,335.00
Expenses	\$20,069.88	\$40,115.66
Surplus (Shortage)	\$ 1,114.12	(\$5,780.66)

Council meets the second Monday of each month on Zoom.

All are invited to attend, but only members of Council may vote.

Links to meetings can be found in the calendar on our website.

St. Andrew's Women (SAW)

The Strong. The Proud. The Backbone.

Wednesday, April 12
10:00am in the Church Social Room

Guest Speaker: Sylvia Gallop & Rev. Donna Deal
"Art in Our Lives"

Devotions: Sue Petit

Hostesses: Gwen Krapf, Jean Pleiss, April Shaheen

Business: Rummage Sale Plans: Distribute Flyers, Posters, Yard Signs. Review Tea Plans: Helpers, Ticket Sales, Announcements. Discuss June meeting picnic/party.

SAW provides support not only to the church, but also to our community and other charitable organizations, through a number of unique and widely anticipated annual fundraising events.

SAW is open to all women. Members and friends of St. Andrew's are welcome to attend on a come as you can basis.

Community Care Team

Thursday, April 27 - 7pm via Zoom

The Community Care Team coordinates much needed assistance to the community, including collecting non-perishable food for the Easton Area Neighborhood Center, as well as purchasing diapers through Altar Basket donations.

If you are interested in joining the team, contact Terry Diehl, Diane Laustsen, or the church office. You are also invited to join the Zoom call on the fourth Thursday of the month (see Zoom link on the calendar page of our website).

Steel Magnolias

Tuesday, April 11—12:30pm
Outback Steakhouse

All widows are invited to join. Reservations can be made by contacting Gwen Krapf. No reservation? Feel free to just show up.

Annual SAW Ladies' Tea

The Annual Tea is Saturday, May 13 @ 2pm. Tickets will be sold April 16 & 23, after worship, for just \$12.

This event sells out quickly. Don't hesitate!

See any member of SAW for details.



Please Don't Forget

One of those weekly chores that I never look forward to is grocery shopping. My motto many times is the quicker I can get in and out of the store, the better.

But now and again I wonder how someone who can't afford groceries feels. How wonderful it would be for them to spend time in the grocery store finding the best buys and bringing home bags of food. To be able to fill their pantries and, for that matter, their stomachs.

So, I am requesting that on your weekly shopping trip grab two cans of soup rather than one, or two boxes of cereal rather than one. While you may not be helping someone go shopping at the grocery store, you will be helping someone have a full stomach.



I promise on my next trip (and future trips) to the grocery store I will always get two of something, even if it takes me just a bit longer, because everyone needs a full stomach.

- Pastor Neel

St. Andrew's Comforters

Fiber Arts and Fellowship

Wednesday, April 19
10am-3pm; Church Social Room

The Comforters meet monthly to make quilts and other comfort items for people in our congregation and community.

Do you like to sew or crochet?

Contact Mary Ann Gaumer at 610-258-2219 for more information.

Thank You

David continues to improve, due to a loving God, good work from a dedicated medical staff, and because of love and prayers from all of you. Your kind thoughts and prayers meant (mean) a lot to both of us.

As always, you continue to show us what it means to be a part of a loving community of Jesus. Thank you! We will be forever grateful.

Pastor and David

BLOOD DRIVE

We are encouraging all St. Andrew's friends and family to donate blood to the Miller Keystone Blood Bank in the name of David Abel.

Donating is easy now that they are in our neighborhood at 3725 Nicholas Street (next to Redner's). Schedule your appointment now at www.giveapint.org or call 610-559-7100.



Thank you to Pastor Neel for his visits to our mother at her home, in the hospital, and nursing home, over the last six weeks.

Thank you to all who sent cards and prayers. And thank you to the SAW group for providing a lovely post-funeral lunch.

We greatly appreciate the kindness and support of her St. Andrew's family.

Sincerely,
*Sue Becker, Brian Gulick, Bob Gulick,
and Kevin Gulick*

In Loving Memory

Memorials were received in memory of Irene Bradbury, who died on February 14th, from Ella Mae Mushlitz, Bobbie and Richard Rau, Cindy and Mike Rau and Family, and Sharon VanSyckle and Family.

Memorials were also received in memory of Shirley Gulick Brugger, who died on March 6th, from Linda and Keith Baskwell, Edward J. Becker, Sylvia Gallop, Herbert and Donna Giobbi, and GT and GF Krenik.



Too Much Clutter?

The Rummage Sale is Coming!

June 2nd and 3rd

Donations accepted May 28, after the 10:30 service, and May 30 & 31 from 9am-7pm (no donations on Memorial Day). See the May Cross for further details.



The Spiritual Gifts Committee
invites you to attend...

“A Time to Dream” on April 23rd

We will gather in the Social Room after the 9:00 worship service to enjoy some food, socialization, and discussions about our hopes and dreams for the future of St. Andrew's.

There will be only one worship service on this day.

This will be an opportunity to think and talk about how we can follow our mission – as individuals, small groups, and the congregation as a whole.

Please plan to stay after worship to enjoy this event. We promise that it will be a fun, interesting, spiritual, and valuable part of our growth as a congregation.

And we promise to have good food!

April Birthdays

- 4/01 Austin Schneck
- 4/03 Tyler Azzalina, Regan Hoerl
- 4/04 Gabriella Gruhler, Elizabeth Korp, Brendon Pickel
- 4/05 Mike Barilone
- 4/06 Quamere Grant, Alexander Snyder, Lucas Snyder
- 4/07 Lucas Foulk, Brooke Neve
- 4/08 Laura Heebner, David Sales, Kim Snyder, Nicholas Stocker, Susan Thorpe
- 4/09 Arianna Heimbach
- 4/10 Diane Frantz, Ashley Price
- 4/11 Pat Zungolo
- 4/12 Rev. Kathleen Coleman, Jacob Derr, Rick Game, Bonny Reese, Alan Schaeffer, Jack Wuchter
- 4/13 Eric Belshaw, Karen Hardy-Kutz, Denise Klabunde
- 4/14 Samantha Krout, Gayle Ryan
- 4/15 Judy Nelson
- 4/16 Camiyah George
- 4/18 Nancy Hartzell, Madison McClary, Elizabeth Saville
- 4/19 Meredith Saville, Charles Sensinger
- 4/20 Logan Brinker
- 4/21 Leslie Snyder, Antonia Spadafora
- 4/22 Barbara Reiss
- 4/24 Shennon Bush, Eric DiFelice, Victor Machado, Michael Moyer, Mary Saville
- 4/25 April Shaheen
- 4/26 Courtney Gimbar, Greg Pickel
- 4/27 Valerie Carr, Alexander White
- 4/28 Tabitha Hanlon, Jean Pleiss, Sean Reese
- 4/29 Alicia Gonzalez, Alicia Mansfeld, Olivia Mansfeld, Marty Schaeffer
- 4/30 Brian Amato, Ryan Himmelreich, Kristen Reese



Did You Know?



One of our membership requirements, from our Constitution, is that communion be taken at St. Andrew's at least once a year.

Please complete one of the Holy Communion Record cards (found in the pew) and drop it in the Offering Plate. This doesn't need to be done weekly, but please be sure to fill one out every so often to assist with our record keeping.

Please note: We keep record in the office of communion that is given to our home-bound members.

Easton Musical Arts Annual Lenten Concert

Easton Musical Arts will present their annual Lenten Concert at St. Andrew's on Sunday, April 2 at 3pm.

Everyone is welcome and tickets will be available at the door.



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GOTCHA!!! ... SIMON DIDN'T SAY 'YOU MAY BE SEATED'

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 2

Palm Sunday

9:00am Worship Service
3:00pm Easton Musical Arts Concert

Monday, April 3

7:00pm Worship & Music at Hope House
7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

Tuesday, April 4

7:00pm Property Team via Zoom
7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

Thursday, April 6

Maundy Thursday

7:00pm Worship Service

Friday, April 7

Good Friday

7:00pm Worship Service

Sunday, April 9

Easter Sunday

9:00am Worship Service

Monday, April 10

Church Office Closed

7:00pm Church Council via Zoom
7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

Tuesday, April 11

12:30pm Steel Magnolias
7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

Wednesday, April 12

10:00am SAW Membership Meeting

Thursday, April 13

7:00pm Chancel Choir

Friday, April 14

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, April 16

9:00am Alternative Service
Faith Builders
10:30am Traditional Service
6:30pm Confirmation

Monday, April 17

7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

Tuesday, April 18

7:00pm Spiritual Gifts Committee
7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

Wednesday, April 19

10:00am Comforters in Social Room

Thursday, April 20

7:00pm Chancel Choir

Friday, April 21

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Saturday, April 22

Earth Day

10:00am Confirmation, Stirner Arts Trail

Sunday, April 23

9:00am Alternative Service
Faith Builders
Gathering after Worship, Social Rm.

Monday, April 24

7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

Tuesday, April 25

7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

Wednesday, April 26

7:00pm Bible Study

Thursday, April 27

7:00pm Community Care Team
7:00pm Chancel Choir

Friday, April 28

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, April 30

9:00am Alternative Service
Faith Builders
10:30am Traditional Service

