

# ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

*Where All are Welcome. No Matter Where They Are on Life's Journey.*

JANUARY, 2024  
VOLUME 69, ISSUE 1

## New Worship Time and Format!



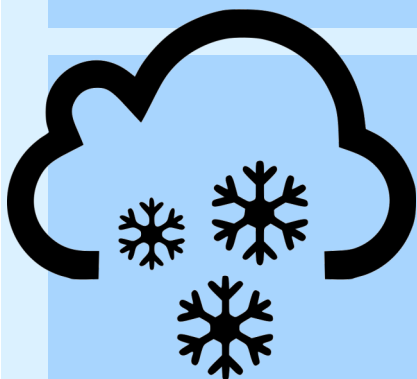
After much discussion with the Worship and Music Team and input from the Congregation, the Congregational Council has approved moving to one worship time each Sunday morning at 9:30am.

Please see the Pastor's article on Page 2 for additional information.

## Annual Congregational Meeting and Celebration of the Congregation

Sunday, February 11  
after 9:30am Worship

Be sure to mark your calendars now!



As in previous years, all

## Weather Related Cancellations

will all be posted on  
WFMZ.com.



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**FEBRUARY CROSS DEADLINE:**  
Monday, January 15

**ST. ANDREW'S CROSS**  
IS PUBLISHED TWELVE TIMES A YEAR BY:  
**ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

3900 FREEMANSBURG AVENUE  
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## *Pastor's Pen*

### **Worship Changes—The “When and What Type”**

First, I want to thank you for your wonderful participation with the worship surveys and open conversation we have had concerning worship at St. Andrew's. Again, thank you.

But to the decision you tasked us with. When do we worship and what style will it be?

Please know that our decision was guided by our discussions and the survey forms. With that said...

We have chosen a 9:30am worship time. In part, we chose that time because we felt it would allow for Faith Builders to happen at 8:30 or 8:45, when it begins again.

We will offer a worship style with both Traditional and Alternative components. This begins on December 31st, when our time changes to one worship at 9:30am (although worship on December 31st will feature Lessons and Carols). On January 7th, we will continue with the 9:30am worship time and will debut the new worship format.

We pray that this is a good experience for everyone. Thank you for your participation and continued feedback.

*Pastor Neel*

### **- Annual Report Deadline Approaching Fast -**

**If you are a committee or team leader, please submit your annual report (in an editable format) to the church office as soon as possible, but no later than January 6th.**

**Reports submitted early help us a great deal with formatting.**

# CHURCH COUNCIL

Highlights from the December 11th Council Meeting are available by request in the Church Office.

## General Fund Financial Position Summary For the Month Ending November 30, 2023

	<u>November</u>	<u>2023 YTD</u>
Offerings	\$16,306.00	\$192,290.97
Expenses	\$16,217.40	\$208,264.39
Surplus (Shortage)	\$88.60	\$(\$15,973.42)

## St. Andrew's 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL

Laurie Roth, President: 610-252-7619

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

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

Diane Dutko: 610-428-5339

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

Sue Himmelreich: 484-226-0165, \*Congregational Care

Diana Laustsen: 610-217-0448 \*Community Care

### Non-Council Appointed Officers:

Jonathan Bleice, Treasurer: 610-462-9488

Elizabeth Campbell, Secretary: 610-252-2258

**Interested in joining Council? Speak with  
any member of Council or Pastor Neel.**

## **Redner's Save-a-Tape**

When you make a purchase at Redner's, **using your Redner's Rewards Card**, St Andrew's can receive 1% of your purchase amount when you bring us your receipt. Just place it in the basket in the Narthex or drop it off at Hope House. All funds received from this program go to the Pastor's Discretionary Account, which helps people in need of assistance.

## **Altar Flowers**

Altar Flower dedications are a special way to show gratitude and love. If you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers, in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please sign up in the Narthex or contact the church office. The cost of flowers is \$30 per week.



## Community Care Team

Thursday, January 25 @ 7pm via Zoom

The Community Care Team works quietly in the background, coordinating much needed assistance to the community. If you are interested in joining the Team, or learning more about the ministry, contact Terry Diehl, Diane Laustsen, or the church office at 610-252-2258. You are also invited to join the Zoom call on the fourth Thursday of the month. As a reminder, the group continues to collect non-perishable food items, diapers, and baby wipes. These items can be dropped off at Hope House or in the Narthex.

## Adult Bible Study

The Bible Study Class, which typically meets on Wednesday evenings via Zoom, is taking a break during the month of January.

## St. Andrew's Comforters

Wednesday, January 17th, 10am-3pm - Church Social Room

Each month a faithful group of ladies, St. Andrew's Comforters (aka Comfort Quilters), meets to make quilts. These quilts are not always fancy, but are designed for comfort. The quilts are distributed locally to those in need, and are also given annually to our high school graduates. The group meets monthly in the church Social Room. For more information about the group, contact Mary Ann Gaumer, the church office, or show up for their next meeting. All are welcome!

## St. Andrew's Women

Weds, January 10th, 10am

Church Social Room

**Speaker:**

**Devotions:** Laurie Roth

**Hostesses:** Brown bag and left over Christmas cookies

**Business:** Set the date and location for Tea Panning Committee meeting in February. Take down Christmas decorations and tree, and put in storage.



SAW is open to all women— members and friends of St. Andrew's are welcome to attend on a come as you can basis. SAW provides support to the church, community, and many other charitable organizations through a number of unique and widely anticipated annual fundraising events. SAW meets in

## CHARITABLE BEQUESTS

*Helping to Ensure a Future for St. Andrew's*

Gifts provided through wills and personal trusts have become an essential part of the financial support of many churches. In fact, the vast majority of future gifts established for, and ultimately received by, churches are the result of charitable bequests established in one's will or personal trust. Such gifts enable a donor to make significant contributions that may not have been possible during their lifetime.

Charitable bequests can take various forms. You may leave a bequest of a specific sum of money, percentage of your estate, or the residual of your estate. If your will is already written, your advisor can add a simple amendment to provide a charitable bequest to St. Andrew's Church. For more information, contact Pastor Neel.

# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1/01 Julie Kraft, David Matase, Clara Steckel, Doris Wanamaker
- 1/02 Dean McMillin, Matthew Murray, Irene Neel, Rhiley Okumo
- 1/03 Matthew Daiello, Judy Orcutt
- 1/04 Christopher Hess, Brian Rooks, Jackie Seiple, Allen Sensinger, Abby van Horne-Brett
- 1/05 Reeves Brehm, Gabrielle Mariconda
- 1/06 Kathy Brandt, Marion Misero
- 1/07 Maureen Brehm
- 1/08 Naomi Schaffer
- 1/10 Ella Combi, Cynthia Frantz, Melanie Maietti
- 1/11 Brandon Bonnell, Ryan Celia, Patrick Fahie, Rhiannon Perry, Adam Price, Rob Reese, CJ Ward, James Wolff
- 1/12 Geoffrey Bechtold, Angela Ryan, Nancy Semanick
- 1/13 Lucas Daiello
- 1/14 Connor Fahie
- 1/15 Brielle Carr, Michael Enea, Jean Fielding, Kolla Riggs
- 1/16 Nicolle Zanoline
- 1/17 Rebecca Coriell, Michael Ravese
- 1/18 Justin Agren, Nanci Oakley, Brady Westbrooks
- 1/19 John Donnelly
- 1/20 Dot Nixon, Thomas Rooks
- 1/21 Connie Hynes
- 1/22 Chad DiFelice
- 1/23 Jesse Brinker, Kevin Forik, Michael Simko
- 1/24 Allie Casterline, Aubree Oraschin, Kelley Sweitzer
- 1/25 Cody VanManen
- 1/26 Madilyn Reese
- 1/27 Victoria Hulsizer, Kathleen Mashintonio
- 1/28 Reese Hajdu
- 1/29 Ethel Diefenderfer, Rebekka Fehnel, Matt Jackson, Jesse Mowrey
- 1/30 Melissa Groninger
- 1/31 Peyton Bush, Zoe Mashintonio, Amy Beth Nelson



*Thank you*

Dear Pastor Neel and the Congregation of St. Andrew's,

My husband and I would like to thank you for the cards and greetings of well wishes from all of you. Life seems to be getting a little less hectic as of late. We still have a long journey ahead but, God willing, we will be able to overcome the obstacles. We're looking forward to 2024 being a year of good health. Thank you for everything.

Angelica and John Gydish



If you, or someone you love, is in need of prayers, please contact the church office. Note that individuals will drop off of the prayer list after a couple of months, unless a request is made to continue.



# January Calendar



**Monday, January 1**  
**New Year's Day**

**Tuesday, January 2**  
**Nursery School Closed**  
7:00pm Easton Musical Arts  
7:00pm Property Committee via Zoom

**Thursday, January 4**  
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, January 5**  
7:30pm Crossroads AA

**Sunday, January 7**  
9:30am Worship  
6:30pm Confirmation Class at Hope House

**Monday, January 8**  
9:30am SAW Fall Fair Planning Cmte., Hope Hs.  
7:00pm Church Council via Zoom  
7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

**Tuesday, January 9**  
7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

**Wednesday, January 10**  
10:00am St. Andrew's Women Meeting

**Thursday, January 11**  
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, January 12**  
7:30pm Crossroads AA

**Sunday, January 14**  
9:30am Worship  
6:30pm Confirmation Class at **Safe Harbor**

**Monday, January 15**  
**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
**Nursery School Closed**  
7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

**Tuesday, January 16**  
7:00pm Easton Musical Arts  
7:00pm Spiritual Gifts Committee via Zoom

**Wednesday, January 17**  
10:00am St. Andrew's Comforters

**Thursday, January 18**  
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, January 19**  
7:30pm Crossroads AA

**Sunday, January 21**  
9:30am Worship

**Monday, January 22**  
7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

**Tuesday, January 23**  
7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

**Thursday, January 25**  
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:00pm Community Care Committee via Zoom

**Friday, January 26**  
7:30pm Crossroads AA

**Sunday, January 28**  
9:30am Worship

**Monday, January 29**  
7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

**Tuesday, January 30**  
7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

