

ST. ANDREW'S CROSS

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

NOVEMBER, 2024
VOLUME 69, ISSUE 10

Special Days in November

SUN, NOV. 3: **ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**
TUE, NOV. 5: **ELECTION DAY**
MON, NOV. 11: **VETERANS DAY**
SUN, NOV. 24: **CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**
THURS, NOV. 28: **THANKSGIVING DAY**
SUN, DEC 1: **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



Annual Budget Meeting

The Annual Budget Meeting will take place on Sunday, December 1st, immediately after worship. The snow date will be December 8th. The 2025 Budget will be discussed, voted on, and the 2025 Congregational Council will be elected.

Be on the lookout for the recommended budget, as well as additional meeting details, in the Narthex and in your email. *(Let this serve as a gentle reminder to be sure the office has your current email address.)*

The second half of our Annual Meeting, the meeting that celebrates our ministries, will be held Sunday, February 23rd (snow date: March 2nd). Please note that all committee reports will be due to the office no later than January 12th.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PASTOR NEEL.....	2
ADVENT SERVICES.....	2
COUNCIL.....	3
TREASURER'S REPORT.....	3
ST. ANDREW'S WOMEN.....	4
NURSERY SCHOOL.....	5
MEMORIALS.....	5
MUSIC.....	6
BIBLE STUDY.....	6
PARISH NURSES.....	6
BIRTHDAYS.....	7
CHURCH TIME NURSERY.....	7
CHRISTMAS INGATHERING.....	7
CHURCH CALENDAR.....	8

Fall Back!

Daylight Savings Time ends on November 3rd. Remember to set your clocks back by one hour before going to bed on November 2nd.



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Pastor's Pen

My dear friends, I must share the offering numbers for the month of September.

Expenses:	\$19,630.40
Offering:	<u>\$13,400.00</u>
Short-Fall:	\$ 6,230.40

Income from the Building Fund:	\$ 8,500.00
Checking Account Balance:	\$ 2,269.60

The numbers speak for themselves... this is not a sustainable pattern. The Building Fund does not have millions of dollars, a couple of more months with this type of draw from that fund and it will be exhausted.

With that said, please, this is not a time to panic, thinking that St. Andrew's is ready to close up shop. Yes, we do face a financial challenge, but by God's Grace this is a challenge that we can overcome. Always remember that God walks with us and with God all things are possible!

- *Pastor Neel*

Holden Evening Prayer Services - Wednesdays during Advent

The churches in our Easton Cluster will once again join together for worship and a meal each week during Advent, with soup being offered at 6pm and worship beginning at 7pm. The location will change each week.

December 4: Arndt's Church, 1851 Arndt Road, Easton

December 11: St. Paul's III, 2561 Newburg Road, Easton

December 18: St. Andrew's

Offerings will be forwarded to Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter. In addition, we will be collecting canned goods for the Safe Harbor Food Bank, which helps to supplement the homeless who utilize their warming center over the winter months.

Please contact the church office or see any member of SAW to volunteer to make soup, help set up, or to clean up after the meal on December 18. All help is appreciated.



CONGREGATION COUNCIL



2024 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Laurie Roth, President: 610-252-7619
 Ed Schaeffer, Vice President: 610-258-4280, *Mutual Ministry
 Diane Dutko, Exec. Secretary: 610-428-5339, *Nursery School
 Teresa Diehl: 610-248-2421, *Community Care
 Deborah Ealer: 610-330-0209, *Finance
 Sue Himmelreich: 484-226-0165, *Congregation Care
 Diana Laustsen: 610-217-0448, *Community Care

NON-COUNCIL APPOINTED OFFICERS

Jonathan Bleice, Treasurer: 610-462-9488
 Elizabeth Campbell, Secretary: 610-252-2258

**Denotes Liaison to Committee*

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

- Helen Keller



Council Minutes

Minutes from all Council Meetings are available by request in the church office.

Congregation Council meets the 2nd Monday of each month on Zoom.

Members of the congregation are invited to attend, but only Council members are given a vote.

Links to each meeting can be found in the calendar on the church website.

General Fund Financial Position Summary for the month ending September 30, 2024

	<u>September</u>	<u>2024</u>
Offerings	\$13,400.00	\$134,039.84
Expenses	\$19,630.40	\$155,663.29
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$6,230.40)	(\$21,623.45)

***Note: An additional \$8500 was transferred from the Building Fund to cover payroll in September. In 2024, a total of \$11,900 has been transferred from the Building Fund into our general account. The current Building Fund balance is \$13,111.67.**

St. Andrew's Women (SAW)

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 13 @ 10am, Social Room

Presentation and Lunch by LutherCrest

Devotions: Irene Neel **Desserts:** Jill Machado and Nina Kramer

Business: Purchase of fruit, etc. for shut-in baskets. Wrap Gracedale gifts.

St. Andrew's Women's group (SAW) meets the second Wednesday of each month. 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.

**The Boscov's Friends Helping Friends event on Oct. 22nd raised \$180 for the church!*

**The Craft and Vendor Event on October 4 and 5 raised \$3,981.37! (\$182.50 over 2023!)*

Thank you to everyone who helped with these recent fundraisers by volunteering, baking, cooking, buying raffle tickets, and attending. Proceeds go toward future projects in the church and community.

2024 Craft and Vendor Event Prizes & Winners

Prize (Donated by) - Winner

Quilt (Irene Neel) - Victor Machado
Painting (Sylvia Gallop) - Anna Fretz
Crocheted Afghan (Betty Detweiler) - Cindi Callentine
\$100 NuHouse Easton Gift Card (anonymous) - Linda Sutton
Lottery Tree (Cindi Callentine) - Carol Ehler
\$35 Redner's Gift Card (Debbie Ealer) - Donna George
Wine Basket (Kathy Brandt & Tracy Payonk) - Linda Baskwell
Scentsy Basket (Lauren Huff) - Kathleen Schaeffer
\$40 Williams Diner Gift Card (Fay Slater) - Peter Chase
Gift Card for Pedicure (Linda Trigiani) - Marge Weidner
Floral Arrangement (Helen Naudus) - Anna Fretz
Candle (Diane Dutko) - Linda Massey
Wreath (Kathy Hosking) - Joan Souders
\$50 Giant Gift Card (Katie Piorkowski) - Lee Piro
Sea Glass Art and Dog Treat Holder (Diane Dieter) - Ruth Cochios
Heart Fall Wreath (Candice Erik) - Carol Ehler
Candle Basket (Glenda Prideaux) - Fay Slater
Tupperware (Vicky Coles) - Peter Merluzzi
\$20 Candy Basket Gift Card (Jake Murphy) - Jean Pleiss
Baking Basket & \$15 Wegmans Gift Card (Deb Henry) - Janet Rhymer
Cardinal Slate (Frances Lamb) - Marge Drake
Two Bracelets (Bernadette Roddiman) - Linda Sutton



SAW
ST. ANDREW'S WOMEN
SAW

The Strong. The Proud. The Backbone.

St. Andrew's Nursery School



The Nursery School has been studying all things autumn. First we learned about apples. We tasted lots of types of apples and found that there are seeds inside. Some of those seeds have been planted, and we hope to have sprouts some time soon! Next, we moved on to a unit on pumpkins. There is no better way to learn about pumpkins than to go to a farm, so on October 10th we went to Unangst Farm! We walked through a corn maze, went on a hayride, picked pumpkins, fed animals, and even played in a barn filled with feed corn! It was a wonderful morning filled with laughter.

The Nursery School is enrolling now for ages 2 1/2 years through pre-kindergarten.

If you know someone looking for an excellent preschool experience, please consider recommending our school. Our young ones are learning through play, exploration, and creative expression with music, dance and movement, and creative art experiences at the heart of our multidisciplinary curriculum. All ages are being taught the foundational skills needed for success in kindergarten and beyond, as well as the many lessons needed to thrive in a group setting. Call or email Elizabeth for more information about the Nursery School.

**- Effective Immediately -
We are now offering a 5% tuition
discount to church members.**



Top Picture: Child feeding a sheep. Bottom Picture: A child making “snow angels” in the corn.



Memorials

Memorial Gifts have been received in memory of John George, who died on August 26th, from Mary and Jerome Nicoletta, Linda and James Pennoyer, and Kathleen and Ed Schaeffer.



For Your Health.....

Studies have proven that actively participating in the arts has a positive effect on **mental health, physical health, and social functioning** in adults, regardless of ability. The Arts also contribute to strengthening social bonds within a community, such as ours, the St. Andrew's Family. Here are a few groups that you might enjoy:

Handbell Choir - Thursdays from 6:30pm- 7:20pm

The Handbell Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings in the worship space. No previous experience is required to join the group! All it requires is a love of music and an interest in creating a new sound with others. For more information, contact group leader Guy Ehler or music director Mark Jonkman at music@standrewspalmer.org.

Chancel Choir - Thursdays at 7:30pm

Do you enjoy singing? Then join the choir for a rehearsal and see how you feel at the end of the evening. No previous experience is required to join the group. All adults are welcome. For more information, contact our music director, Mark Jonkman, at music@standrewspalmer.org, or catch him after worship on Sunday morning.

Bible Study - Wednesday Evenings at 7pm on Zoom

The Adult Bible Study group has been reading the book "The Noticer" by Andy Andrews. The group will conclude their study of the book on November 6, and take a break until the New Year. For more information, contact Pastor Neel or the church office.

From Your Parish Nurses.....

It is Cold and Flu Season. How do you know if it is a cold, the flu, or COVID-19? Here are some tips to remember:

Cold symptoms are milder and set in gradually. Colds generally start with a scratchy throat, and then may include a runny nose, coughing, sneezing, sore throat, swollen glands, minor aches and pains, headache, low grade fever. Treatment includes staying hydrated, taking Ibuprofen or Acetaminophen, and rest. Symptoms may last for ten days.

Flu symptoms come on quickly and are more severe. Symptoms are a fever over 100 degrees, chest cough, weakness, extreme fatigue, headache, chills, vomiting, diarrhea, and full body aches. The Flu can last three to seven days and, if taken within 48 hours, Tamiflu can help reduce the symptoms.

COVID-19 usually starts with a fever over 100.4. Symptoms may include chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea. Treatment may include taking an anti-viral, but mild cases may be treated with Ibuprofen or Acetaminophen. The CDC says to isolate for at least 5 days, or until fever and symptom free for 24 hours.

Contact your doctor if symptoms overlap with signs of Covid, if you are having trouble breathing or eating, a high fever, severe vomiting or diarrhea, a cough lasting over ten days, having trouble sleeping, or upper respiratory symptoms that last over a week. Remember to get your updated Flu and COVID vaccines, wash hands, and stay home when sick.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 11/01 Lisa Detweiler
- 11/02 Sue Himmelreich, Allison Schaeffer
- 11/04 Shirley Messenlehner
- 11/05 Ruth Cochios, Stella Troxell
- 11/07 Alexis Rute
- 11/08 James Slater, Amy Wood
- 11/09 Marti Sales
- 11/10 Alexander Baskwell, Deborah Ealer
- 11/11 Corry Fucili, Jamie Merida
- 11/12 Caralyn Reese, Joseph White
- 11/13 Ryan Bonser, Cindi Callantine, Evan Guydish, Susan Kerbaugh
- 11/14 Geoff Reese
- 11/15 Margaret Bennett, Carter Sadler
- 11/16 Lucy Lynch
- 11/17 Sharon Bleice, Michael Clark, Marjorie Drake, Rebecca Zansitis
- 11/19 Dillon Hill, Marian Lennen
- 11/20 Heidi Butler
- 11/21 Chandra Bleice, Matthew Droesch, Samantha Schlater, Alexis Schoenenberger, Lyla Troxell
- 11/24 Carol Griffith
- 11/26 Zachary Baskwell, Sue Heater
- 11/28 Pamela Clark
- 11/30 Rebecca Mariconda, Audrey Rinda, Roy Thorpe



Church Time Nursery

Nursery care is available for our little ones on Sunday mornings during worship in the large preschool classroom.

Families do not need to be members for nursery care.

November Nursery Volunteers

- 11/3 Kathy Brandt & Tracy Payonk
- 11/10 Sue Pettit & Kim Merluzzi
- 11/17 Ron Roth & Deb Henry
- 11/24 Claire Sadler & Rachel Hill



Christmas Ingathering

The Bethlehem/Easton Mission District 2024 Christmas Ingathering will be held in early December at New Jerusalem Lutheran Church.

In anticipation, St. Andrew's has been asked to provide **175 tubes of toothpaste** and **50 toothbrushes**.

Donations can be left in the box marked "Christmas Ingathering" which can be found in the Narthex. All donations must be in no later than Sunday, December 1st.

Thank you for your support of this effort which will benefit New Bethany Ministries, Safe Harbor, Hellertown Area Food Bank, Turning Point, Community Services, Bright Hope, Victory House, and ProJeCt of Easton.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Friday, November 1

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, November 3

All Saints' Sunday

9:30am Worship

Monday, November 4

7:00pm Worship and Music - Hope House
7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

Tuesday, November 5

Election Day

Nursery School Closed

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

Wednesday, November 6

7:00pm Bible Study via Zoom

Thursday, November 7

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 8

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, November 10

9:30am Worship

Monday, November 11

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

Tuesday, November 12

7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

Wednesday, November 13

10:00am St. Andrew's Women Meeting

Thursday, November 14

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 15

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, November 17

9:30am Worship

Monday, November 18

7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

Tuesday, November 19

7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

Wednesday, November 20

10:00am St. Andrew's Crafters

Thursday, November 21

6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 22

7:30pm Crossroads AA

Sunday, November 24

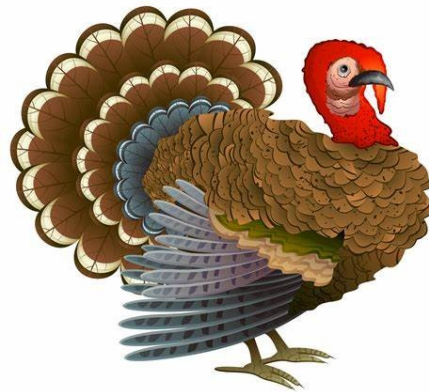
9:30am Worship

Monday, November 25

7:00pm Nursery School Committee
7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

Tuesday, November 26

7:00pm Easton Musical Arts



Thursday, November 28

Thanksgiving Day
Church Office Closed

Friday, November 29

Church Office Closed

Sunday, December 1

9:30am Worship
10:30am Congregational Meeting