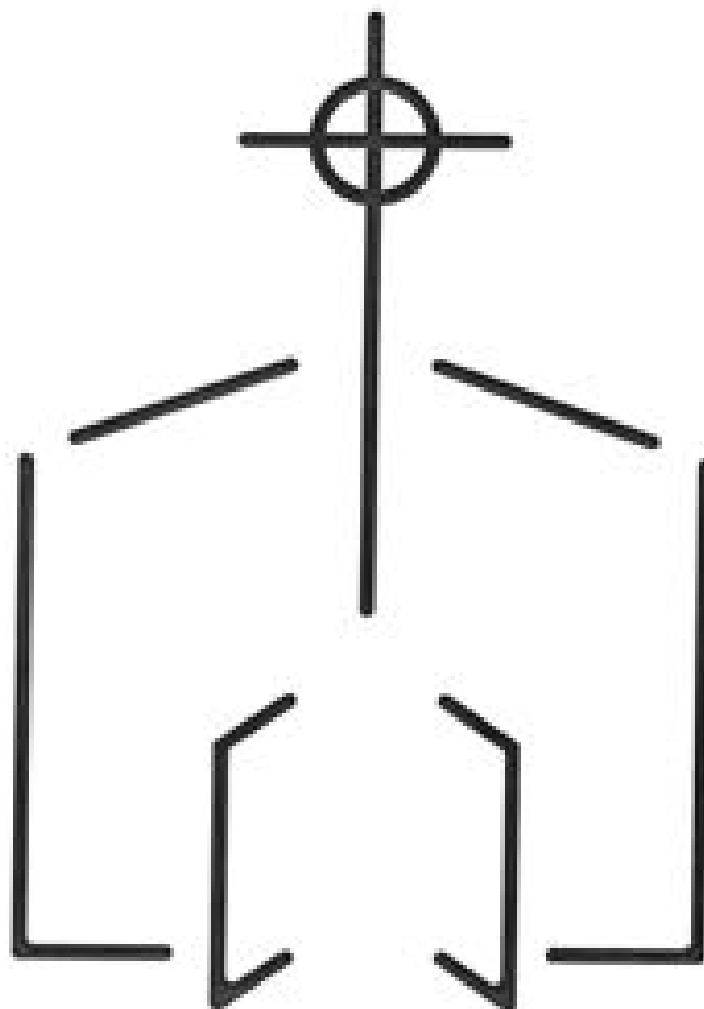


2021 Annual Reports

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



January, 2022

Rev. Robin Morgan, Pastor

Mission Statement

*St. Andrews Presbyterian Church is a gathering of God's people
following the call of Jesus Christ and moved by the Holy Spirit
to praise God and grow in faith,
Welcoming and serving the greater community in God's love
for the salvation of all people.*

Key Statements from Scripture

The Greatest Commandments

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with
all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it:
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*

Matthew 22:37-39

The Great Commission

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.
And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*

Matthew 28:19-20

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of
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
January, 2022
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PASTOR'S REPORT

January 2022

Dear Beloved People of God,

2021 was like a roller coaster ride. One I didn't choose to go on, and maybe it gave me a headache...but I do not regret the ride. It certainly didn't go as I expected. I expected us to be well into a post pandemic world. I expected to spend the summer cuddling my baby at home. I expected to pick up where we left off in 2019. But none of those things happened. Yet, God has been faithful. God has remained a solid foundation in these uncertain times. God held my baby when I could not and has given us a beautiful boy with the most joyful spirit. And God has shed light on an unexpected path for St. Andrews going into 2022.

As the fall began, and as I came back from family leave, I found myself running around putting out fires and shoring things up. We started talking about this in Session. We lifted up the good things: celebrating the Summer Wednesday Evening services, and boldly choosing to build a playground to bless our neighbors. Yet, we also named the struggles of Sunday School teachers, youth, and different desires for worship. We also started to name that this is a significant moment for us as a church. (As it is for many churches and businesses in this rapidly changing world.) We could keep going along, muddling through all these things; or we could begin to intentionally move into a new chapter. But to do that well, we needed help. We began looking for a consultant who would keep God in the center, help us discern who we are and where God is calling us to go, and who would help us make difficult decisions and implement them.

A few weeks ago, at the January meeting Session unanimously approved contracting with Ministry Architects to help us move into our next chapter. A team of consultants will walk with us beginning this Spring. We will begin with a deep listening season, then move into planning and implementation. They will walk with us for two years, to help us to move - into the next chapter for St. Andrews.

So, what does this mean as we start the year? It means we need to PRAY and LISTEN. This process will begin with a team coming to do a deep listening visit. This is a time to listen to each of you (in-person and online) and most of all to God. I am asking you to *start praying now*. Pray for God to give you the right words to speak, and for God to put on your heart what is next for Christ's church, here at St. Andrews. Now, I know there are frustrations out there, and they need to be named and shared. I know there is deep love for St. Andrews and things we want to hold onto; these also need to be named and shared. We need to listen to God and to one another. We need to know where we are. We need to hear from everyone who is willing to speak.

I know some of you are probably reading this and thinking: *'We have done this before, and nothing changed. Why will this be different?'* We have prayed and listened before, but this time we are going to move. This year we will pray, listen, and move in the Spirit. Please be a part of this. Please start praying. Please be ready to come and speak and also to listen. And be ready to say 'YES' when begin to move towards God's call for us, here and now.

This is the time for us to intentionally move, in the power of the Spirit, into our next chapter at St. Andrews. The goal is not to change everything, or to leave behind those who have served St. Andrews so well. The goal is to move together, as we seek to be the church, right here in Lebanon county. How will God move us to grow in faith? The world has changed and is changing; how will God move us to shed the light of Christ, in such a time as this?

People of God, you have continued to faithfully serve through hard times. Together let us PRAY, LISTEN, and MOVE going into a new chapter, where we grow in faith, following Jesus who came down so that all would know God's love.

In the hope of Christ,
The Love of God,
and the powerful wind of the Spirit,

Pastor Robin

BOARD OF DEACONS

"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them – not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock."

1 Peter 5:2-3

Committee/Board Members: *Pastor Robin Morgan-Ex Officio; Ken Gries-Moderator; Judy Borger-Vice Moderator; Mary Lynne Mulligan - Secretary; Ellen Arnold; John Butler; Melynda Cochran; Jean Ditzler; Ben Donley; Bob Kapp; Donna Kuntz; Lorraine Lowrie; Diane Pomeroy; Kathy Wissinger; Garen Yordy*

Reflecting on 2021:

The ongoing COVID situation led to changes to the way we do some aspects of our ministry and continued to hamper some others. We thank those deacons who ended their terms of service in 2021: Judy Borger (Vice Moderator) and Melynda Cochran. Thank you for your dedicated service to the members and friends of St. Andrews! Well done good and faithful servants.

The joys and blessings:

The Deacons were able to restart funeral luncheons that had been put on hold in 2020. We also expanded our card writing ministry to include all members and friends of St. Andrews. The new greeting card display has been well received and appreciated by all who have received cards. If you have been writing cards to our "homebased" members, thank you. If you have yet to experience this aspect of the Deacon ministry, please stop by the Gathering Area and write a note to brighten someone's day.

The challenges we faced and are facing, even now:

The ongoing COVID situation continues to hamper the Deacon's ability to conduct personal visitations. Especially in personal care homes and hospitals. The continued use of live streaming the worship services, while a blessing, has posed some challenges as well. We have members that are in-person worshipers and those who are solely online worshipers. This does pose challenges to ensure that all are being served equally.

Looking ahead at 2022:

The Deacons are hoping to restart the home communion ministry early in 2022. If you would be interested in receiving home communion, or helping serve, please let the moderator or the church office know.

Praying for our Deacon Ministry:

We ask that all of you continue your faithful prayers for the members and friends of our congregation. Also, for the wisdom to meet whatever challenges we may face in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted: Ken Gries-Moderator.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2021 Board Members:

Thomas Shott, President, Jody DeWald, Secretary, Barry Kohr, James Reilly, Annette Chevalier, Gray Strock, Craig Lowrie, Lee Samuelson, John Reitz, John Goetze, Steve Schulte, Dave Sensenig.

Overall, 2021 was fairly quiet year for the trustees. The only unexpected expense was due to several repairs to the HVAC system which cost almost \$15,000.

Repairs have been started to the hall and Christian Ed rooms where water had caused damage. This will be completed in 2022.

We received quotes for replacing our 70-year-old emergency generator which is located in the building. The new generator will be installed outside the building to meet codes. It will be installed in late spring or early summer 2022 depending on generator availability. We have budgeted \$10,000 for this project.

We have not heard from Schindler Elevator Co regarding an update to our elevator. It has been working fine without any incidents.

The parking lot lights have been replaced with LED bulbs which brightens the area.

CLERK'S REPORT

Church Membership as of December 31, 2020 _____

_____261

Additions

Received by Letter of Transfer _____ 2

Received by Profession of or Reaffirmation of Faith _____ 2

Restored from Inactive Roll _____ 1

Total Additions _____ 5

_____ 5

Losses

Dismissed by Letter of Transfer _____ 1

Deceased _____ 13

Moved to Inactive Roll _____ 12

Resigned _____ 0

Total Losses _____ 26

_____ 26

Active Church Membership as of December 31, 2019 _____

_____240

Baptisms

Infant _____ 0

0

Adult _____ 0

0

Total Baptisms _____ 0

0

| <u>2021 Necrology</u> | <u>Date of Death</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Louise Koons | January 29, 2021 |
| Marilyn Marshall | February 6, 2021 |
| Theodore Kalb | March 6, 2021 |
| Larry Everhart | March 22, 2021 |
| William Young | April 25, 2021 |
| Edwin Tenney | May 8, 2021 |
| Clarence Umberhauer | June 28, 2021 |
| Lola Bomberger | August 19, 2021 |
| James A. Tibbitts | August 19, 2021 |
| Elizabeth Kalb | September 3, 2021 |
| Olive Huisman | September 5, 2021 |
| William Orr, Jr. | October 22, 2021 |
| Louise Kreiser | December 19, 2021 |

CURRENT CHURCH OFFICERS

Treasurer: Marc Hamme, Session Clerk: William Mulligan

Session

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Karen Dielmann | Carla Dowd | Frederick Jones |
| Robin Gries | Karen Fedder | Stuart Juppenlatz |
| Penny Samuelson | Rebecca Lister | Kayla Lowrie |
| Dennis Shalters | William Mulligan | Lewis Sauerwein |

Deacons

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Ellen Arnold | Donna Kuntz | Rosemary Birt |
| Benjamin Donley | Lorraine Lowrie | John Butler |
| Ken Gries | Ann Ormond | Jean Ditzler |
| MaryLynne Mulligan | Kathy Wissinger | Robert Kopp |
| Diane Pomeroy | Gwen Yordy | Sue Mechura |

Trustees

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Annette Chevalier | Barry Kohr | Doag Lister |
| Jody DeWald | Craig Lowrie | Tom Shott, President |
| Steve Schulte | James Reilly | Gary Stroock |
| David Sensenig | Lee Samuelson | |

Visioning Committee

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Rosamond Presby | David Overholt | Nadine Jones |
| Kate Tshudy | Timothy Peelen | Betsy Sensenig |

Additional members from Session, Deacons, and Trustees

Congregational Members Church Nominating Committee 2020

Nominating Chair Penny Samuelson

Fredrick Borger, Beckie Dreibelbis, Robert Lowrie, Nicki Overholt, Jere Shiner

Two members from Session, One from Deacons, One from Trustees

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mission Statement: The Mission of St. Andrews Christian Education Committee is to provide Biblically based curriculum and educational opportunities for all ages, which will provide for continued spiritual growth with a deepening relationship with our Savior Jesus Christ.

Committee Members: Beckie Dreibelbis (Chair), Rick Berger, Rob Cochran, Karen Fedder, Ken Gries, Mary Lynne Mulligan, and Tim Peelen

Reflecting on 2021:

The joys and blessings: The faithful teachers and volunteers for children and adult classes continued to bless the participants whether in person or on zoom. In person classes resumed on February 14 and continued through May. As Covid 19 remained present, we tried a new outreach in lieu of traditional style VBS. During July 2021, a full day experience called "Explore" was held on Wednesdays for four year olds to 6th grade students. High attendance of 20 was a good start and enough to encourage us to repeat the format in 2022. Two other joys were the resumption of Trunk or Treat and the addition of an Advent afternoon inviting the surrounding neighborhood called "A Living Christmas." Besides the Christian Ed committee members, many volunteers from the congregation helped pull off an afternoon of a nativity skit, Christmas crafts, and refreshments. "St. Nicholas" aka Mr. Bill Neely welcomed guests to "the house of the Lord" on the front steps. Several non-member families attended.

The challenges we faced and are facing, even now: Our attendance has been flagging for several years in children and youth classes, in keeping with declining membership and participation in church overall even prior to the pandemic. While there are a faithful few leading and attending the classes we offer, it is concerning that there are only about a dozen children/youth participants in our church family. With so few families and younger members or attendees, what can we do to reach out better to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, drawing them into God's eternal family?

Looking ahead at 2022:

The plans for the new year: Expand on new programs from 2021 and adding some similar ones to become more visible in the community as a church that worships and serves the Lord Jesus Christ and responds to His call to proclaim Him.

The new ideas and hopes for 2022: Add a Lenten program like the Advent "Living Christmas."

Ministry opportunities in this year ahead: Seek opportunities to share ministry with other Christian churches in the community.

Praying for our Christian Education Ministry: We pray, Lord, that we will be faithful to our calling to Know Christ and to Make Him Known.

Director of Children and Youth Ministry

Robert W. Cochran

*Psalms 34:3 "O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together."*

Reflecting on 2021:

The joys and blessings:

Children and Youth ministry is always a blessing in the honesty of students and their ability to explore and ask questions. In that I am blessed every year to journey with the students as they explore and grow in their faith. The greatest of these moments is reflected in the weekly youth meeting and the discipleship of the students in these weekly moments. While fun and games is an important part to the evening, so is the enabled curiosity and exploration of the devotional time!

In addition to that we had two outreach events that were new to us in this year that were incredible successes and foundations for 2022. The First was the St. Andrews Explores from the summer. Over the course of four weeks, we saw 23 kids come through the program and interact with the church. Some of these kids and families having no previous contact with the church!

The second new and successful event was A Living Christmas! Several new steps were taken and experimented with in both how the event was carried out and advertised. These steps have given valuable feedback and provided insight into future events in this vein of outreach.

The challenges we faced and are facing, even now:

Uncertainty seems to be the word of the year in many regards. With the varying levels of social distancing, safe practices, and shutdowns. These things have brought uncertainty and pattern changes into all our lives. While looking to find new normal brought changes and challenge to every spot of ministry throughout the year. This brought an undercurrent to every conversation and provided a tension on best practices to seek to fulfill the needs of the community and youth. While this will continue to remain a challenge in new ways, I believe we are slowly getting better at navigating the moment.

Looking ahead at 2022:

The plans for the new year:

Many! I believe that 2021 we started some practices and frameworks that we will be able to use and adapt into 2022. The first is looking toward the summer and what will be this year's St. Andrews Explores. Soon I will begin working with CE on forming these plans.

In 2020 the youth was to move to a mission approach and do a regional mission weekend to Philadelphia. Of course, like so many other things the mission focus for

the youth was thrown off in 2020. I have not abandoned the desire to move in this direction and will be working to move in that direction for the youth in 2022. From our discipleship time (Youth Group) to the outreach we will be working and moving towards understanding what God's missions, great and small.

The new ideas and hopes for 2022:

I look forward to the possibilities of several spring and summer outreaches that will be enabled by the coming playground. Visioning Committee's work to create and build the playground will offer new and exciting means to connect with the greater community, and I look forward to taking advantage of creating program and activities to maximize that opportunity.

Ministry opportunities in this year ahead:

Volunteers make ministry possible! From those who help with hospitality to those who actively work with the students! With the coming year there will be plenty of opportunities to help volunteer with CE and the Children and Youth ministry of the church as we focus on missions and outreach. Of Course, the volunteers who have been helping are as always incredible heroes for the students!

Praying for Children and Youth Ministry

Pray for the Children and Students. As we look and wrestle with the world as it is and as it was, our students are looking ahead to what the world will be when they are adults. At times this weighs heavy on their hearts, and brings to light some of the deepest questions of faith. So, please keep them in your prayers as they wrestle with this world, their faith, and the demands of being a youth in this day and age.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Congregational Life Committee: The mission of the SABC Congregational Life Committee is to create opportunities to bring members and non-members of our church and community together in ways beyond the traditional Sunday Services.

Committee Members:

Karen Fedder and Carla Dowd Co-Chairs

Rev. Robin Morgan, Ann Ormond, Tim Peelen, Barb Shreve, Carol Smith-Kilgore,

Scott Stambaugh, Kathy Wissinger,

Rob Cochran-Digital Ministry Consultant

Reflecting on 2021:

During 2021, we settled into a different routine. Our coffee hours have returned and are still evolving. Our events have also returned and have been carefully planned and orchestrated with an eye to being respectful of people's health concerns. We remain a busy and engaged committee.

Through the year, with the use of Zoom meetings, we had a lively book discussion, a trivia night, and a bingo night. It's amazing to see that regardless of the changed platforms, our members and guests still want to be together and become part of each others' lives.

Scott Stambaugh is steadfast and precise with keeping our attendance records. We're so thankful for his involvement. We've had a few visitors and are focused on ways to reach out to them.

Some other highlights: All Church Picnic, "Summer On The Porch" coffee hours, Klondike ice-cream night for outside church services, a Christmas luncheon with planned left overs, and more. Our church community wants to be together and share their lives and their meals!

Looking ahead at 2022:

In 2022, we plan to move forward with creativity and energy. It's still a complicated era but the committee has been pushing through within our new guidelines. Please bring your thoughts and ideas to us at any time. If you'd like to help with these events, talk to Carla Dowd or Karen Fedder.

We'll continue to bring folks together in new and different ways. As we go on into this next year, let's feed our people, physically and spiritually with generous hearts.

Praying for our Ministry:

Through Jesus Christ, pray that our members and visitors feel included and welcomed at every opportunity.

MISSION

Committee Members: Robin Gries* (Chair), Maggie Beatty, Kathy Crager*, Bob Dowd, Connie Dowhower, Lorraine Lowrie, Betsy Sersenig, and Dennis Shalters. (* LCCM Delegate)

Reflecting on 2021:

The joys and blessings: In 2021 we were able to return to some of our familiar ways of doing Mission at St Andrews. Mission week brought folks together at the church and in the community. The Alternative Gift Fair returned to in person shopping. The Angel Tree was a great success providing gifts for over 30 children and youth in the Lebanon community. We collected coats for Lebanon children and coats, socks, and underwear for LCCM to distribute to those in need. We continued to collect monthly contributions for the LCCM Pantry. Thanks to the congregation we were able to donate nearly 1000 pounds food and other items to LCCM. Our Little Free Pantry (LFP) continued to be heavily used by the community and was supported by members of our congregation, community members, and another local church. We participated in the 4 PCUSA Special Offerings (One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peace and Global Witness, Christmas Joy).

The challenges we faced and are facing, even now:

It is challenging to find ways to share the mission with a partially on-line congregation. It requires creativity, energy, and commitment. We hope to be more engaging this year as we seek to reach beyond the walls of our building.

Looking ahead at 2022:

We recognized the loss for SAPC when our congregation's PW organization folded. In an effort to pick up some of the PW mission interests, the committee has added the Birthday offering and the Thank Offering to the 4 PCUSA Special Offerings already taken each year. We are also looking to increase interest in local missions, some of which were supported by PW in the past, by highlighting one a month throughout the year. The local charity will be highlighted during a Sunday Service as well as in other forms of media. This effort is hoped to increase our knowledge of what the organizations do and how we can get involved.

We are planning for quarterly opportunities for volunteering with Habitat for Humanity in the Lebanon community. We look to assemble volunteer teams to participate in the Fresh Start program as the LCCM shelter moves out of the motel model into the former Evangelical Congregational Church on Chestnut Street. We are increasing the resources for the LFP to help keep it stocked as the community continues to need this ministry.

Praying for our Mission Ministry:

Pray for: The ministry of LCCM especially for the Fresh Start program that there would be enough volunteers to keep it operational, The local agencies that we will hear from and contribute to this year, The LFP and those who need its offerings, Habitat for Humanity Volunteers and the new homeowners, Doei Halmanson, PCUSA Mission Co-Worker in Honduras, Additional members of the Mission Committee to be able to expand programming, and open hearts to new ideas to further the Mission work of SAPC.

FREE NOON MEAL SCHEDULE FOR 2022

REMINDER: Please call in the number of meals served, and the number of volunteer hours given within the week of service-every time you serve if serving off the LCCM site. It is important for the sake of LCCM funding these numbers be tracked as accurately as possible. You can call in the information to Heather (717-272-4400 ext. 217) or email them to heather@lccm.us If the meal is being served at the LCCM kitchen, LCCM will take care of tracking. Thank you for your faithful service!!

| DATE: | GROUP | LEADER | PHONE |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| January 8 | TBD | Ann Ormond | 717-867-5659 |
| February 12 | WEBS | Ken Gries | 717-679-0677 |
| March 12 | Praise Team | Bob Dowd | 717-274-8333 |
| April 9 | Deacons | Ken Gries | 717-679-0677 |
| May 14 | Trustees | Barry Kohr | 717-639-6879 |
| June 11 | EPYC/Tr blz | Rob Cochran | 717-847-7618 |
| July 9 | Session | Robin Gries | 717-679-0675 |
| August 13 | Mission | Robin Gries | 717-679-0675 |
| Sept. 10 | Friends of LCCM | Maggie Beatty | 717-304-2379 |
| Oct. 8 | Choirs | Carole Haines | 717-838-6037 |
| Nov. 12 | Visioning | Rebecca Lister | 717-679-3988 |
| Dec. 10 | Adult Sun. Sch. | Rick Berger | 717-769-2813 |

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Committee/Board Members: Karen Dielmann; Penny Samuelson; Pastor Robin; MaryLynne Mulligan; Lew Sauernwein; Diane Pomeroy; Carol Haines; Perry Latsana; Annette Chesler; Cliff Steiner

Reflecting on 2021:

The joys and blessings:

- *We returned to in-person worship in a one service, blended musical style format.*
- *We adjusted communion presentation to stay within Covid reduction guidelines through the use of sealed individual elements*
- *We had a Good Friday walk- in experience allowing for meditative insights*
- *We also initiated a new service format in the summer called "Wednesday Outdoor Worship". This simple service was held every Wednesday evening (weather permitting) on the lawn of the church. Elders led the services and provided the message. It was well received by members of the congregation and the community.*
- *Maggie Beatty stepped in as Interim Praise Team Leader when Kent Pierce resigned in late winter.*
- *Lew Sauernwein stepped in to run our projectors and stream our services when Neal Logsdahl resigned in the fall. A big thank you to both of them!*
- *New projectors and streaming equipment was purchased for worship.*
- *We helped coordinate remembrances for All Saint's Day*
- *We held two in-person services on Christmas Eve.*
- *Jonathan Shuey has been hired as our new Contemporary Music Leader and Digital Communications Specialist. In addition to leading the contemporary music in our services, he will also manage the church's website and our social media. He will begin his new roles at the end of January.*
- *Lew Sauernwein has been hired our Media Coordinator. He has already begun this role (and indeed had been filling in as a volunteer for a few months until he was formally hired).*

The challenges we faced and are facing, even now:

- *Attendance at 10 am worship continues to be less than we hoped.*

Looking ahead to 2022:

The plans for the new year:

- *A task force including members of the Worship and Visioning Committees will begin meeting to explore alternative forms of worship.*
- *Look ahead to summer outdoor worship opportunities.*
- *The worship committee, along with the church as a whole is looking forward to working with Ministry Architects as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission*

The new ideas and hopes for 2022:

- *That we will identify and facilitate worship options that are meaningful and inspiring for our congregation and community*
- *That we continue to engage our congregation in worship*
- *That we will effectively use our online presence to its greatest effectiveness.*

Ministry opportunities in this year ahead:

- *Looking for liturgists for the Sunday services*
- *More sharing of biblical insights by our session members if we return to summer outdoor worship as well as in other forms of worship that we may be exploring this year.*

Praying for our Worship Ministry:

We pray that in 2022, our Worship will glorify you Lord in all that we do. Amen.

FLOWER CALENDAR

February 2022 - January 2023

Nadine Jones, Chairman (272-2346)

February - Ellen Arnold, Chair

6 Lynn Phillips
13 Marian Batz
20 Donna Kuntz
27 Karen Shalters

March - Jody DeWald, Chair

6 Borgers
13 Jody DeWald
20 Carla Dowd
27 OPEN

April - Marianne Kopp, Chair

3 Bob and Perry Latshaw
10 Barry Kohr
17 Easter Flowers
24 Bob and Marianne Kopp

May - Pat Yates, Chair

1 Ted and Shirley Etter
8 Gary and Sue Strock
15 David and Nicki Overholt
22 Julie Ogurcak
29 Pat Yates

June - Sharon Schulte, Chairperson

5 Karen Shalters
12 Beckie Dreibelbis
19 Carol Smith-Kilgore
26 Karen Register

July - Joy Eubanks, Chairperson

3 Lee and Barbara Moyer
10 Stuart Juppenlatz
17 Joy Eubanks
24 Tom Shott
31 Lew Sauerwein

August - Molly Barahona, Chair

7 OPEN
14 Glenn and Mev Royer
21 Beckie Dreibelbis
28 Marilyn Griffin

September - Kathy Wissinger, Chair

4 Rob Cochran
11 Don and Maggie Beatty
18 Terry Williams
25 Emily Grun

October - Nicki Overholt, Chair

2 Ken and Robin Gries
9 Tom and Wanda Bechtold
16 Helen Leaman
23 David and Betsy Sensenig
30 Rick and Judy Borger

November - Betty Ann Seiser/Lorraine Lowrie, Chairs

6 Rob and Lorraine Lowrie
13 Leo and Betty Ann Seiser
20 Maggie Beatty for Nan Hoff
27 Diane Pomeroy

December - Phillips/Jones Co-chairs

4 Lynn Phillips
11 Nadine Jones
18 Christmas Poinsettias
25 Christmas Poinsettia

January - Julie Ogurcak, Chair

1 David and Nicki Overholt
8 Molly Barahona
15 Bob and Julie Ogurcak
22 Louise Rahalewich
29 Tom Shott

NOMINATING

Committee Members:

William Mulligan (Chair), Penny Samuelson (Elder), Melynda Cochran (Deacon), Jody DeWald (Trustee), Carol Kilgore, Sue Mechura, Lynn Phillips, Glenn Royer, and Karen Shalters.

Looking Back on 2021:

The Nominating Committee began its work in May 2021. The on-going Covid-19 pandemic continued to present various challenges with meetings, soliciting nominations, and inviting candidates to serve - yet, God was faithful to us during the process. In addition to the regular slate of open positions the committee was tasked to fill an open Deacon position in the class of 2023 and an open Visioning Committee position in the class of 2022.

With careful discernment, prayerful consideration, and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we were able to present the following nominees for election at the congregational meeting on October 24, 2021:

For Ruling Elder for a three-year term on the Session in the class of 2024:

Stuart Juppenlatz, Lew Sauerwein, Kayla Lowrie, Fred Jones

For Deacon for a three-year term in the class of 2024:

John Butler, Jean Ditzler, Robert Kopp, Rosemary Birt, Sue Mechura

For Deacon for a two-year term in the class of 2023:

Ann Ormond

For Trustee for a three-year term in the class of 2024:

Thomas Schott, Gary Stroock, Doug Lister

For President of the Board of Trustees for a one-year term:

Thomas Shott

For the Visioning Committee for a three-year term in the class of 2024:

Betsy Sensenig, Nadine Jones

For the Visioning Committee for a one-year term in the class of 2022:

Maggie Beatty

For the 2022 Nominating Committee:

Rob Lowrie, Beckie Dreibelbis, Rick Berger, Jere Shiner, Nicki Overholt

The Nominating Committee filled 17 of 18 vacancies (one Trustee position remains available). The 2022 Nominating Committee is tasked to fill the remaining open position.

Our committee worked very well together and were very dedicated and diligent in carrying out this important function of the church.

Looking Ahead to 2022:

We are very blessed by the strong leadership of our members who have accepted the call to serve. Our Congregation has been very supportive of the selected nominees and we are confident the committee in 2022 will select a solid slate of nominees to lead St. Andrews into the future.

William Mulligan, Chair

VISIONING

Committee/Board Members: Chair, Rebecca Lister; John Butler, Kayla Lowrie, Mulligan, Ann Ormond, Tim Peelen, Jim Reilly, David Overholt, Roz Presby; Pastor Robin Morgan

Reflecting on 2021:

Most of our meetings were face-to-face, either in the Labyrinth, the chapel, or the gathering area. To make the meeting as visual as possible, agendas are projected on the Apple TV. Additionally, we have had a few meetings where committee members have zoomed in. The wifi seems to work more smoothly in the gathering area for this. Rebecca feels strongly that members attend whatever way they can (virtually or face-to-face).

Things we tried:

Our initial focus this year was to finish up the Prayer Labyrinth. We installed a colorful mailbox (painted by member Shelby Lister) that contains Labyrinth Prayer cards on which people can write reflections. We also installed a bench and a swing and added some attractive potted plants during the warm months. The space seems very inviting for both contemplation and socializing.

Much of the rest of the year was spent planning for SPARK – St. Andrews Spiritual Park. We created a Powerpoint presentation to explain our rationale and to show pictures provided to us by the company who makes the equipment (General Recreation Incorporated). The Session voted for its approval in June of 2021. SPARK will contain colorful, eye-catching equipment that is accessible to all age levels and experiences, from grandchildren to grandparents! It will have a poured rubber surface that will allow for easy wheel-chair access and a picnic table and benches for relaxing and conversation. Additionally, some signs with Bible verses will be placed in the space, perhaps to “spark” questions and discussion. The congregation voted on the following verses to be included:

Psalm 100: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! (49 votes)

1 John 4:19: We love because God first loved us. (43 votes)

Mark 9:37: Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me. (30 votes)

Initially, SPARK was going to be installed during the end of the summer. Due to supply chain issues, it will be installed this coming spring. We have paid for half of the equipment and the fencing as of now; we will pay the rest of it and the installation once it is built. We believe SPARK will provide new and exciting opportunities for fellowship, both within the church and within the community. We know God will use this space for God’s glory and for building up the Body of Christ in Lebanon.

We will continue to help other committees and groups during this time (in decorating the outside of the church, for example) and will continue to do so as needed.

A moment we loved:

- Walking in the space outside and measuring it for SPARK, imagining the voices of children playing.
- Playing the "Church Animals" discernment game led by Rox Presby.
- Sharing a meal together at our last meeting of 2021.

Looking ahead at 2021:

Hopes for the year:

- To continue planning for SPARK's installation (getting the signs made and installed, planning for events to take place there, etc.).
- To work with the Worship Committee as needed to consider how Worship will proceed at SAPC in the coming year.
- To work with Pastor Robin, the Session, and the congregation as we are led by Ministry Architects during the 24-month process of discernment beginning in 2022.

New ideas being considered:

- Nothing except the above, and to continue hearing from other members of committees and the congregation about pursuing other ideas.

One goal to guide the ministry:

- To be responsive and to listen for what our community needs.

Praying:

God of all seasons,

In the midst of the cold and darkness of winter, we are longing for the light of your Son.

Bear us up on the hands of angels as we continue to walk in this COVID-19 Valley.

Redeem us from our selfish ways,

release us from our burdens,

and remind us of your promises to us.

Thank you for working for good through all things,

even when we cannot see it with our limited eyes.

We bow before you in the name of Jesus, who is the light of the world.

AMEN.

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL

The Administration and Personnel Committee of St. Andrews was established as a joint committee consisting of representatives from the Session, Trustees and Deacons, as well as a congregational member-at-large. The Committee reviews, evaluates and serves in support and management of the staff of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church of Lebanon, PA. The goal of this committee is to provide the best support for the church body in Christ's name.

Committee Members: Rick Borger, Chair; Kathy Crager, Stuart Juppenlatz, Donna Kuntz, Sue Mechura, Bill Mulligan, Clerk of Session Glenn Royer, Pastor Robin Morgan.

Reflecting on 2021:

The joys and blessings:

Bruce Humphrey, Diane Pomeroy and Troy Morgan blessed us by assuming pastoral leadership roles during Pastor Robin's extended maternity leave.

Maggie Beatty faithfully led the Praise Team for much of the year.

Doug Lister, Lew Sauerwein and Rob Cochran managed the Media desk during worship services and beyond for much of the year.

The joy of finding qualified replacements for our Praise Team Leader and Media Coordinator as Kent Pierce and Neal Logdahl undertook new pursuits: Lew Sauerwein as Media Coordinator and Johnathan Shuey as our new Praise Team leader and Digital Communication Specialist.

The challenges we faced and are facing, even now:

Working with Daphne Hoke to redefine her Custodial responsibilities and working hours as Covid upset all regular schedules.

The departure of one of our Nursery attendants because of Covid issues

Redefining the duties and responsibilities of the Media Coordinator and creating the new position of Digital Communications Specialist to better meet our needs.

Adjusting to Pastor Robin's extended maternity leave as she and husband Troy faced newborn Dashiell's unexpected health issues.

Adjusting of Cliffy Shiner's work week as Office Manager from 5 days to 4.

Clarification and refinement of our policies for staff and employees in regard to quarantine and infectious disease management.

Looking ahead at 2022:

The plans for the new year:

To continue to support Pastor Robin and all staff and employees of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church as they minister to the needs of the congregation in the year 2022.

To seek a new Director of Bell Choirs, as Rebecca Lister has stepped down from that position.

The new ideas and hopes for 2022:

To refine and update our capabilities to provide on-line communication and worship services, especially for members who have refrained from attending in-person worship and events during the pandemic.

Ministry opportunities in this year ahead:

To demonstrate at all times our appreciation of and support for the staff and employees of St. Andrews who have faithfully led us through the uncertainties of the past two years.

Praying for our Administration and Personnel Ministry:

Heavenly Father, grant us wisdom, grant us courage to serve your people in this time and place to the best of our abilities in service to your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

SAFE SANCTUARIES POLICY
ST ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LEBANON, PA.

The Session, in an effort to continue the goal of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church to foster a friendly, stimulating and thoughtful place for children to know God and experience the love of Jesus Christ by our example and God's blessing, adopts the Safe Sanctuaries Policy and pauses to reflect upon what Jesus was saying about how we are to treat one another, especially children.

"An argument arose among them as to which one of them was the greatest. But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side, and said to them, "Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me; for the least among all of you is the greatest." - Luke 9:46-48

The goal of the Session and therefore the goal of St. Andrews Church in adopting this policy is to provide a safe environment for the children who visit St. Andrews and worship at St. Andrews while at the same time strive to encourage staff and volunteers to continue to work with our children.

The Session, in adopting this policy, recognizes that a child, despite the good intentions of the institution within which the child dwells and is learning, can and has been by history the victim of those who would violate the individual's person and thus violate our church family.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF ST. ANDREW'S POLICY

To provide a safe environment for all children and youth attending St. Andrews church school, attending other activities at the church and attending activities sponsored by the church but away from the church property.

To continue to place in service teachers and volunteers who are spiritually and emotionally mature and respect the child as an individual.

To create standards which will not impede the efforts of St. Andrews to provide Christian ministry, volunteerism and at the same time, maximize safety of our children and to uphold the current legal requirements.

INTENT OF THE POLICY

The goal of St. Andrews in formulating for our children a safe sanctuaries policy, is to do all we reasonably can do to protect any child or youth from being physically, mentally or sexually abused while participating in St. Andrews sponsored events.

A BASIC PROCEDURE TO PROVIDING SAFE MINISTRY FOR OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

A. TWO ADULT RULE

Any activity sponsored by St. Andrews church, whether it is a program, event, or a ministry involving children, shall require two unrelated adults being present.

B. FIRST AID AND TRAINING (CPR)

St. Andrews will put into place and/or make available to all staff who work with children first aid and CPR training.

C. ANNUAL ORIENTATION (STAFF/VOLUNTEERS)

Staff, who work with children and youth, and volunteers, who regularly work with children and youth, shall receive an orientation for the purpose of being acquainted with:

1. St. Andrews policies for providing safe sanctuaries for children;
2. Appropriate steps to report an incident where a child has been abused and details of state laws regarding child abuse.

D. FIVE YEAR RULE

All paid staff of the church shall be a minimum of five years older than the children or youth they are supervising. This rule shall also apply to volunteers who assist in youth ministry or aid in youth activities except where the volunteer is assisting an adult who complies with this rule. This rule acknowledges that St. Andrews uses volunteers from its senior high students during Church school for the lower grades.

E. OPEN DOOR POLICY

Staff and volunteers shall at all times maintain the doors to their classrooms or counseling sessions with youth open and if doors are closed, then the room in which the activity is taking place should have glass panels through which someone outside the room can view the entire area.

F. SOCIAL MEDIA AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Social media and digital communication are a reality in our culture. There are ministry opportunities within the use of social media and digital communication, but there is a need for safety guidelines and practices for all staff and volunteers of the church to ensure the safety of children and youth. Below are guidelines to enable appropriate communication with students through current and future forms of social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Messenger, Etc.) and digital communication (Phone calls, Texting, Messaging and video chat services, Email, Etc.).

All forms of electronic and digital communication shall be transparent. No form of electronic or digital communication shall be considered confidential. Upon request any form of communication will be made available for review by parents, guardians, staff, and appropriate parties as determined.

Due to this requirement for transparency, no form of self-deleting/ destructing messaging should ever be used in communication with children, youth, or families.

Following/friending a child or youth will be initiated only by the child/youth. (If a child/youth follows or sends a friend request, the parent/guardian will be informed).

While communication has adapted and moved to digital forms, it is best to pursue emotionally charged or sensitive conversations in a direct face to face interaction for clarity of communication of emotion and intent. (See section A., D., E., I., and J. for expected practices).

All electronic and digital communications are subject to the Safe Sanctuary policy as well as all mandated reporting requirements. (See section A., D., E., I., and J. for expected practices).

Caution is to be used in the time that communication happens with students.

While it is understood that there are emergencies, communication should fall within a home phone guideline of 9am-9pm.

All adults, especially staff and volunteers will take care to ensure their communication with all children and youth is appropriate. All adults will intentionally refrain from inappropriate electronic communication including but not limited to:

Harsh, coercive, threatening, intimidation, shaming, derogatory, demeaning or humiliating comments

Sexually oriented conversations and images.

Any self-deleting/ destructing form of communication

G. ADVANCE NOTICE TO PARENTS

During an event for ministry with children and youth, advance notice to parents and full information regarding the events, the adult and/or young adult participants shall be given. All curriculum and materials for children and youth will be available for review, upon request.

H. PARENT AND FAMILY EDUCATION

(and a session for children)

St. Andrews shall provide on occasion an information session during which members of the congregation, families and children can be educated on the facts about child abuse and the components of the church's plan. Suggested speakers and activities could include law enforcement officers, members of the local Children and Youth Agency, medical personnel, attorneys, video vignettes, the church policy and a time for worship and prayer.

I. RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE

All staff and volunteers shall be acquainted with the reporting requirements of PA State Law and shall be familiar with this policy.

The Designated Spokesperson is the Elder from session, who is chair of the Administration and Personnel Committee. If an alternate spokesperson is needed, the Clerk of Session shall act as the designated spokesperson. All questions or contacts with respect to child abuse shall be directed to her or him.

The designated spokesperson should be prepared to state the church policy for prevention of child abuse, the concern of the church for the safety of the victim and all children, and the procedures the church has followed to reduce the risk of abuse to children.

The designated spokesperson shall, upon report or notification of abuse, contact the insurance company for the church, the attorney and prepare a brief statement, that will as far as it is possible respect the confidentiality of all involved. The Brief Statement will be a part of the Safe Sanctuaries report at the Annual Meeting of the congregation. The spokesperson and all staff will cooperate fully with any investigation by law enforcement authorities.

Notification to Parents. When an incident of child abuse from outside of the immediate family is suspected or reported, the designated spokesperson for St. Andrews shall with all due diligence notify the parents of the child.

Sympathetic Concern of the Victim. St. Andrews is committed to the faithful response to the victim which shall include taking any allegation very seriously and respecting the victim's privacy as well as providing sympathetic concern for the victim and his or her family.

Removal of the Accused from Position Without Hostility. Faithful response to the accused abuser shall include acknowledgement by the accused that the abusive behavior must stop, repent and turn in a new direction. The accused faithful response will include the removal from his or her position as a worker or volunteer with child and youth until the allegations are fully investigated and resolved. The session shall have the authority to provide for permanent removal upon a showing of abuse.

Criminal History and Information Check. St. Andrews currently has in effect a requirement that all staff and all volunteers, who regularly supervise and/or are responsible for children or youth, submit forms for:

1. Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance
2. Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check
3. Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Background Check (volunteers may provide a signed affidavit if they have resided in PA for 10 years or more)
4. Complete the required training.
5. Have all of above updated every 36 months

J. HOW TO REPORT:

All staff and volunteers shall immediately make a report of any suspected abuse directly to the PA Department of Child Welfare.

A report must be submitted in one of the following two ways:

>Orally to the PA Department of Child Welfare Information Solution @ 1-800-932-0313 which must then be followed up within 48 hours with a written report

OR

>Mandated Reporters Must Submit a Written Report Online, submit a report online within 48 hours to www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis where St. Andrews Presbyterian Church is registered as an organization

After a report has been submitted, one must immediately report any suspected abuse to the designated spokesperson of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, providing the spokesperson with a copy of the written report submitted to the state.

****IT IS NOT YOUR JOB TO DECIDE WHAT IS ABUSE, ONLY TO REPORT ANY SUSPECTED ABUSE.** Penalty for failure to report child abuse can range from a misdemeanor of second degree to a felony of the second degree.

K. CONGREGATION.

The Session shall acquaint the members of the congregation with the policy in summary form; and, provide copies to anyone upon request.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Committee Members: Rob Lowrie (chair), Glenn Royer, Mary Reitz, Dennis Shalters, Tom Shott, Don Decibelbis, Stuart Juppenlatz, Ken Tice, Marc Hamme and Craig Lowrie

Reflecting on 2021:

The joys and blessings: St Andrews has a solid financial base and experienced robust financial returns. Once again, the annual gifting exceeded our normal operating expenses. The generosity of departed members continues to reinforce the impact that the church had on their lives. Combined with the strong giving by our current members, gifts from estates allowed St Andrews to be a beacon of light. We donated \$50,000 to the OCHS and established an enhanced giving regime for the program into the future, invested \$140,000 in not only our youth but the community's children as well in the form of an all inclusive spiritual play area, and fund unplanned building improvements and maintenance needs. We were also able to create a new social media position. All of these initiatives were accomplished while still increasing our assets.

The challenges we face and are facing, even now: We continue to face unbudgeted/ unanticipated expenses. As an example, the axiom, "all good things come to an end" is appropriate. Our original generator from the 1950's must be replaced in 2022. We are confident that our strong financial condition will allow us to weather this and any unforeseen challenges without any effect on our planned operations.

Looking ahead at 2022:

The plans for the new year: We will continue to encourage a shift to online and direct payment options for our giving programs as this greatly reduces manpower requirements while strengthening the security of personal information. Currently we run multiple financial software programs for church operations. We plan to consolidate all operations to the Realm software program as this will increase efficiency and further reduce manpower requirements.

The new ideas and hopes for 2022: As St Andrews embarks on a Strategic Planning Initiative, the Finance Committee will review our processes to align with any change in operations and will fully fund all initiatives. St Andrews is the epitome of caring and focus on completing God's mission. To facilitate our ministry, our goal is complete financial transparency as it allows the congregation to solely focus on being God's hands and feet.

Praying for our Stewardship and Finance Ministry:

May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the Holy Spirit. The measure of who we are is what we do with what we have. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow. Let us not focus on where we are but rather where we are going. Just as our predecessors laid St Andrew's foundation, we are the present keepers of the spirit. The best is in front of us so that we can grow stronger, grow deeper, and reach further than we have ever imagined. May St Andrews always be a visionary.