

# ST. ANDREWS HERALD

The Monthly Newsletter of  
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

## FEBRUARY 2023



Worship with us in person at 10am on Sundays, or watch live @  
[www.standrewslebanon.org/watchlive](http://www.standrewslebanon.org/watchlive)

### **February Worship**

#### **February 5<sup>th</sup> Worship & Communion**

*“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.”*

Matthew 5:13-20 & Isaiah 58:1-12

*‘Salt & Light’ with Pastor Robin*

\*Special Music with our Youth Singers & Ringers

#### **February 12<sup>th</sup> Worship**

*“Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days.”*

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 & 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

*‘Nourishing Your Soul’ with Pastor Robin*

\*Special Offering for Blanket Sunday

#### **February 19<sup>th</sup> Worship on Transfiguration Sunday**

*“Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun.”*

Matthew 17:1-9 & Exodus 24:12-18

*‘Stepping into God’s light’ with Pastor Robin*

\*Special Music with Ashley Butters on violin

#### **Ash Wednesday February 22<sup>nd</sup> 6PM in Snyder Hall**

#### **Soup Supper and Worship with Communion & Imposition of Ashes**

*“For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”*

John 6:25-37 & Exodus 16:1-7, 13-15

*‘Living on More than Bread’ with Pastor Robin*

#### **February 26<sup>th</sup> Worship on the First Sunday of Lent**

*“Then the devil took (Jesus) to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘if you are the Son of God, throw yourself down’...*

*Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”*

Matthew 4:1-11 & Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

*‘Trust OR Temptation’ with Rob Cochran*

## A Note from Pastor Robin

Dear Beloved People of God,

Here we are, in what I think of as the bleak mid-winter. February is my most difficult weather month. And while I didn't research any history regarding Valentine's Day, it seems helpful, in the midst of these grey (sometimes grumpy & grouchy) mid-winter days, to take some time to remember to love. Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth (and to us):

*"Love is patient, love is kind... Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.... And now faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love." (1 Corinthians 13 selected verses)*

Patience, kindness, endurance. Honestly, many days I don't get out of the house before I have failed at these three. And yet, it is those closest to us, who can give us the most practice at love—the kind of love God has and gives to us. Critical moments can also remind you of what is truly important. A family member in the middle of a serious health crisis is doing this for me. And so (whether you love or don't love this time of year) let us hold onto a few things in this mid-winter month:

1. You are loved by God. Always, without end, no matter what...God loves you.  
(If you still are unsure of this, check out Romans 8:38-39)
2. We are invited, asked, told to live in God's love and to reflect this love to others. And so, with the cultural excuse of Valentine's Day, how can we find creative, fun, meaningful ways to reflect God's love with those we spend the most time with? Is there someone God is putting on your heart in this season, that you could find a way to show and share God's love?
3. This love becomes vitally important as we face our human frailty near the end of the month, on Ash Wednesday. *We are dust and to dust we shall return.* This is something we can claim, especially as we lean back on God's love that is never ending. It is our comfort, in life and in death. In every day, even our worst days, even the days we need more help than we would dare ask for...we need to remember that God loves us, always.

In this month, may we turn to God's love and give God's love. As you look through the news in the following pages you will see: reminders that Lent that is coming, updates from committees, some new plans and ideas, a word of thanks for our Trustees, a few structure shifts, and even a scavenger hunt. In these days, in the days ahead, in our life together may we let love lead us. Love binds all these things together, and binds us together in Christ.

May the love of God enfold you and carry you through.

In the Love of Christ,

*Pastor Robin*

## Structure Shifts

*What does this mean for you?*

**The Property committee** will take over care for the building, grounds and equipment that the Trustees cared for so well. *If you see a need with the property, please call or email the church office to let the committee know!*

**Our Committee meeting schedule:** As we work to re-balance our energy as a church with both discipleship and committee work we are moving to having only 2 nights a month when our committees will meet (Our two Boards, Session and Deacons, will continue on their own meeting nights). This month, we are trying out the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday as our committee nights. We will begin together in the sanctuary to gather around God's word and pray and then spread out to various spaces for the work of Christ's church. If you have a question or conflict with the committee night, please talk to the appropriate committee chair. *It is good to serve the Lord together and to make room to grow in the Lord.*

**Shifting Ministries:** Congregational Life has taken a new name: *The Fellowship Committee*. They will focus on our fellowship as a family of faith. Our Board of Deacons are now embracing *all congregational care*, including connecting our visitors and shepherding new members. Be on the lookout for ways to connect to meaningful ministries that God places on your heart.

If you have questions, please ask Pastor Robin or one of our Elders!

*May God go before us and beside us,  
and help us be more aligned as we strive to serve Christ, in all things.*



The church office is open from 9AM—5PM, Monday through Friday.  
If you should have an emergency when the office isn't open,  
please leave a voicemail for Pastor Robin on the church line  
or email her at [pastor@standrewslebanon.org](mailto:pastor@standrewslebanon.org).

### WINTER WEATHER POLICY

In the case of inclement weather on Sunday morning  
we will do our best to have worship online.

If the worship leaders are unable to be in the building there will be a service online.  
Look on the website or call the office for a recorded message.



# FOR OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH

## This Month

The New Year has arrived, and it started off running! The Giant Youth Event from the Lebanon Valley Youth Network was a great evening of worship, fellowship and building community. While the youth rally was a great way to start off the year, there is plenty to come!



February 26th 4-6pm we will be celebrating and enjoying a day of fun in a Murder Mystery game. Students in Epyc and Trailblazers will have the chance to participate together to solve a mystery right out of the 1980's.

Final note, we will not have youth group Sunday February 12th due to the Super Bowl!

## Kids Ring and Sing

3:30-4pm In Choir Room

February 5, 19, 26

Ring and Sing is a music program for all kids! Maggie introduces kids of all ages to the joy of music together!

## Epyc 4-6pm

Epyc is youth group for 6-12th grades in the youth center. We enjoy a time of fellowship, study, and food!

Feb 5th- Epyc

Feb 12th- No Epyc

Feb 19th- Epyc

Feb 26th- Murder Mystery

March 5th- Epyc

## Trailblazers

4-6pm

Trailblazers is youth group for 1st-5th grades in the living room. We enjoy a time of fellowship, study, and food!

Feb 5th- Trailblazers

Feb 12th- No Trailblazers

Feb 19th- Trailblazers

Feb 26th- Murder Mystery

March 5th- Trailblazers

## Rob Cochran

Director of Children and Youth Ministry

youth@standrewslebanon.org

717-272-9933

## For Our Children & Youth

### Lent Scavenger Hunt!

#### *The Back Story...*

During the Story Time with St. Nicholas event, it was incredible to see the number of people who gathered around the table with the puzzle. Students and adults! In fact, as Story time finished there were still a handful of people working on the puzzle in the Gathering Area, with only a handful of pieces left. Of course, who was I to stand in the way of the determination to finish, and it was a great sight to see the joy the moment brought.

Embracing the joy of puzzles, mystery and searching, this Lent will be a scavenger hunt. As we begin journeying in the word towards Easter week, we will also be journeying in our community to find clues and solve puzzles. This journey is an invitation to ourselves and the community to step out and explore this county together.

#### *How do I get the Clues?*

Clues for the Scavenger hunt will be released at church every Sunday, starting with the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent (February 26<sup>th</sup>) and going through Palm Sunday. Clues will also be released on our Facebook page on Monday mornings.

#### *Is there a prize?*

Completing the Scavenger hunt and handing in all the solved clues, on Easter Sunday, will get you a chance to enter a drawing for several prizes. Kids will have the chance to get a special egg and treat for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

#### *This is your invitation!*

Some of the clues will be puzzles to solve while others will require a little traveling and finding. But all will be a fun family friendly adventure for all! Join in this grad adventure of faith and invite along, anyone you need along the way.

## *Easter Egg Hunt*

April 9, 2023 Easter Sunday!

after service (11am)

## *Lent Scavenger Hunt*

Bring all completed clues from Lent Scavenger hunt  
to Easter Egg Hunt for Bonus Egg and entry into  
giveaway drawing

Scavenger Hunts clues given every Sunday

Starting Sunday February 26th



**Fellowship Committee** (formerly Congreg. Life)



**Ash Wednesday Meager Meal  
& Service**



**Wednesday, February 22, 2023,  
6:00 p.m.**

**Ash Wednesday** Soup Supper and Service on **February 22nd, 6PM** in Snyder Hall. If you'd like to bring soup, sign up on the list in the Gathering Area. Let us intentionally enter the season of



**The New Era Group**

Open to anyone interested.... A social group with daytime gatherings for lunch/movies/presentations and other activities. Our first activity was lunch on Jan 26<sup>th</sup> at The Quentin Haus.

We are planning our next gathering ... monthly? every other month?

We'll discuss at the first gathering to see what folks would like to do. Looking for someone (or a pair of someones) to come up with ideas.



- |    |                 |    |                     |
|----|-----------------|----|---------------------|
| 5  | Daniel Peelen   | 21 | Sarah Hamme         |
| 10 | Barbara Hains   | 24 | Louise Rahalewich   |
| 11 | Jill Kreiser    | 26 | Rick Borger         |
|    | John Butler     | 27 | Kaitlyn Mulligan    |
| 15 | Nansi Alexander | 28 | Carol Smith-Kilgore |
| 20 | Dick Houtz      |    | Ken Gries           |

# Discipleship Opportunities

## FOLLOW-SHIP

@ ST. ANDREWS

*(Fellowship and Discipleship)*



Follow-ship groups have started, but there's room for you!  
Don't miss out! These groups are fun and feed your soul.

- Sun @ 4:00pm at Church
- Mon@ 7:00pm with the Listers (location moves)
- Tue @ 1:00pm in Myerstown
- Thu @ 1:30pm at Cornwall Manor
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thu @ 2:00pm at Church

If none of these times or locations are good for you contact the church office to let us know you are interested in a group, and new ones can be started—including starting or participating in a Zoom group. We want everyone to be included.

*“Challenging, interesting, fun and enlightening!”*

*“I feel so nurtured & heard in my small group—Everyone has a chance to talk & listen. We don't have to ‘teach’ - we are gathered together to just enjoy each other.”*

**THANK YOU**  
**From The Sewing Ladies!**  
**The Christmas Shop was a great success,**  
**and we appreciate the generous donations.**

**The money raised goes toward  
the Mission Projects we work for  
throughout the year.**



## Mission

### LITTLE FREE PANTRY:

The pantry is being used every day. Several members put items in on a regular basis. Thanks to everyone. If you prefer, you can place items in the bin across from the Christian Ed office.

#### *Some reminders:*

Remember only non-perishables should be put in.

If you are putting in canned goods, all types are welcome. If you are able, those with flip-top lids are good because some folks may not have can openers. You can put in items that are in plastic jars, just no glass jars please!

Easily-prepared dishes such as mac & cheese or mashed potatoes are always needed. If you can find mixes that use water as an ingredient rather than milk and/or butter, those are even better.

Tea bags, instant coffee, powdered creamer, and packs of sugar.

Cereal is good, but boxed milk makes it a treasure.

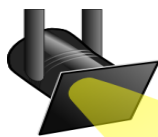
Tuna in foil packs and crackers can make a good lunch.

Don't forget things like feminine hygiene items, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and tissues.

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You shop. Amazon gives.

St Andrews is a registered charity with Amazon Smile. If you purchase products on Amazon Smile you will have the same shopping features as on Amazon.com. Amazon will donate .5% of your purchases to St Andrews. When you first visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) you are prompted to select a charitable organization. Use the full name of St Andrews Presbyterian Church Lebanon, Pa. There is no cost to the church.



### MISSION SPOTLIGHT FOR FEBRUARY

Packaged Pasta  
and  
24oz. Tomato or Pasta Sauce



## Session Notes

The Session met in the chapel on Jan 3, 2023. The meeting opened with candle lighting, prayer, and a reading from Isaiah and a discussion on Epiphany and asking “What are you looking for?”. Answers included: opportunities for service, blessings, a focus on today and hope.

The proposed Bylaw changes that will be presented to the congregation were reviewed and approved. This includes the Session meeting as the Board of Trustees as necessary, and the newly named Property committee will get quotes and do the work of the Trustees. The numbers of Deacons and Nominating committee members will decrease.

Committee Meeting Nights: reducing the number of meeting nights to two (excluding Deacons and Session) was discussed. This will allow expansion of study and fellowship opportunities. The third Tues at 7pm and second Monday at 5:30pm were chosen as committee nights starting in February. The motion was approved by all as proposed by Lew Sauerwein and seconded by Bill Mulligan. Committee chairs will let the office know their choice and if zoom links are needed. Robin will be responsible for the first devotional time.

Transformation Team -Kayla reported that she is still seeking all volunteer job descriptions. She spoke about how structure of committees is being solidified, staff time is being used efficiently and communication is being enhanced. Many are not externally evident but behind the scenes. Bill discussed how we need to highlight the changes to the congregation to let them fully appreciate the impact and progress.

### Committee reports:

Trustees still working on the radiant heat in the basement.

Deacons will work with attendance records as well as ministering to their flocks.

Christian Ed: “Follow-ship” meetings are going well. Any who want to join should let the office, Rebecca or Gayle know. Rob Cochran’s report highlighted the need for continued prayer and dinner makers.

Mission had a busy December and thanked everyone for the good response to the Angel tree, coat collection, alternative gift fair and Christmas Joy offering.

Admin & Personnel a motion was made by Bill Mulligan seconded by Carla Dowd and approved that Daphne’s granddaughter, Iris be added to the payroll on an occasional basis when help is needed. The current budget will cover this.

Stewardship and Finance did not meet. We will finish the year about 240,000. over budget.

Nominating did offer an invitation to Doug Lister to accept the last opening on session along with the office of President of the Board of Trustees. He accepted the invitation.

Fellowship (prev. Cong. Life) presented its report. Carla made a motion that the committee should change to the Fellowship committee. This was seconded by Kayla and approved. Carla also made a motion that a ‘tasteful donation opportunity’ be in the coffee hour area. The money will be used to offset coffee hour expenses. Dennis Shalters seconded and approved. The New Era group is scheduled for lunch at Quentin Haus Jan 26<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Two Session members were finishing their terms; Robin Gries (6 years) and Dennis Shalters (3 years). They were thanked for their service and presented with a thank-you plant.

Penny Samuelson closed the meeting with prayer.

## Deacon Doings

**We're here for you!**

Need a prayer partner?

Need to re-connect after being away due to Covid?

Not able to get to church?

Homebased or in Continuing Care and want to have Communion?

New to St. Andrews and want to connect?

Visiting our church and have questions?

**We're here for you!**

**Moderator: Lorraine Lowrie; Vice Moderator: John Butler**  
**Secretary: Mary Lynne Mulligan; Home Communion: Jean Ditzler**



## Music Notes

Ashley Butters will be coming to play her violin for the special music in worship on **February 19th**. You may remember Ashley and her Violin Studio students held a Christmas recital here, and we'll be hosting a Spring recital later this year!

Ashley Butters is a first violinist with the Hershey Symphony Orchestra. She has performed at New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center with HSO, as well as the Giant Center in Hershey for Michael W Smith, Amy Grant and Jordan Smith.

Ashley maintains a growing private string studio here in Lebanon, with students of all ages from five years to adults. She also enjoys soloist work for weddings, private events as well as special music for church services.

## Mourning Has Broken— A Grief Support Group of Saint Andrews Church

Meetings held the 2nd Thursday of each month. Join us!

God Is Love.



"Let all that  
you do be  
done in love."

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14

### **St. Andrews Relay for Life Team is back!**

Date: May 19–20, 2023.

Time: 6:00PM – Noon;

Location: Cedar Crest High School

We will begin our fundraiser after Easter.

We will have our informational meeting in early spring  
along with sign up times to walk.

We would like to start building a team now, so  
if you are interested in joining our team for some fun  
and great exercise while supporting a great cause

please contact Lorraine Lowrie at  
[lowrie.lorraine1@gmail.com](mailto:lowrie.lorraine1@gmail.com); Text/Call 717-222-0295

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### **St. Andrews Mission Statement**

Inspired by the love of Christ, we are building a community that invites our neighbors into a relationship with God and each other.

### **Our Values**

#### **Christ First**

We will do all things as a reflection of Christ.

#### **Inviting**

We will extend Christ's welcome to all.

#### **Joyful**

We will vibrantly serve Christ with courage, enthusiasm, and a fun-loving attitude.

#### **Open-Minded**

We will embrace people and consider ideas with empathy and without judgment.

