

ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER



Worship will be in person, Sundays at 10am and online @

www.standrewslebanon.org/watchlive

YouTube posted by early afternoon.

Feb-Mar-Apr 2025 Worship

Feb 2 **Luke Feb – March/Lent**
Deuteronomy 8:2-5
Luke 4:1-13
How do we live?

Feb 9 Isaiah 61:1-7
Luke 4:14-30
Fulfilled!

Feb 16 Isaiah 43:14-21
Luke 4:31-44
A Taste of Something New

Feb 23 Acts 12:5 -17
Luke 5:1-11
Leaving What We Know

Mar 2 Luke 5:12-26
Luke 5:27-32
*A Leaper, a Cripple, and
a Tax Collector Meet Jesus*

***Letting Faith Lead
Through the Season of Lent***

Mar 5 Ash Wednesday 6PM: Soup,
Worship & Communion in Snyder Hall
Luke 5:33-6:11

Lent: Letting Faith Lead ~ *Fast & Feed*

Mar 9 Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
Luke 6:12-26 *Blessings & Warnings*
Letting Faith Lead ~ *Bless & Lift up!*

Mar 16 Jeremiah 29:1-7
Luke 6:27-49 *Can we love and not Judge?*
Letting Faith Lead ~ *Un-random acts of kindness*

Mar 23 1 Kings 17:17-24
Luke 7:1-17 *Faith & Compassion*
Letting Faith Lead ~ *Pray with faith & compassion*

Mar 30 Malachi 3:16-18
Luke 7:18-35 *Questions of Every Generation*
Letting Faith Lead ~ *Write a letter for another
generation*

Apr 6 Psalm 51
Luke 7:36-8:3 *Welcoming Forgiveness & Love*
Letting Faith Lead ~ Journaling Forgiveness

Holy Week

Apr 13 10AM Palm/Passion Sunday

Apr 17 7PM *Living Last Supper*

Apr 18 7PM *Good Friday Tenebrae Service*

Apr 20 10AM Easter Sunday!
(Easter Egg Hunt after worship)



A Message from Pastor Robin



Dear Beloved People of God,

The year has started too fast (and too cold). Already we are into February and yes, Lent is coming. *But, not yet.* On Epiphany, I received “Content” as my star word. It is reminding me not to rush ahead, but to savor this day and then the next. As we move into February and March, there is much to savor, to delight in, and much to ponder.

First, I am pondering Luke. This Gospel that seeks to give us certainty in the good news of Jesus ministry, also gives us invitation after invitation to live into our faith. Coincidentally, this is also the time I am listening to the Gospel of Luke, for the Bible in a Year. I keep noticing how Jesus is invited by Pharisees and tax collectors, all sorts of people, and Jesus keeps accepting these invitations. In January we heard the people ask John the Baptist what they should do, and to the crowds he said, if you have two coats, give one away. If you have plenty of food, share. This is an invitation to us, to clear our closets, to go through our pantry cupboards and look for what we have to share. As we move into Lent, we will be invited to *Let Faith Lead*, as we go through each of the 6 weeks of Lent. We will be invited to fast and feed, to pray and to give, to consider for a week all the ways we are forgiven and who we will forgive, and to write a letter sharing why we believe, sharing our faith. The Gospel of Luke, will help us know Jesus, yet also to live into the invitations he offers.

Lent will begin in March this year. And so we have the month of February for a Bible Trivia night! The idea of trivia night became the seed for Bible in a Year. And now Trivia Night, in early February will be a time to gather for dinner and fun, even if you are not doing the Bible in a Year. This gathering could also be an opportunity to share a bit of the journey, as the first quarter of Bible in a Year is completed. As February ends, we will get to celebrate Mardi Gras with our next concert: *Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band!* And as the music fades, and we move into March, we will gather to share soup, worship around tables, celebrate communion and receive the imposition of ashes.

As I seek to find balance, again, and to live into my star word, *content*, I hope to notice and savor the rhythm of life, the rhythm of the seasons, and the rhythm of our life together. It is a joy to journey together.

May we Seek God every day,
Know God's Word,
And be Attentive to the Spirit.

May we be Bold in Faith,
Kind in word and action,
Love people with abandon,
And set our comfort and peace, in Christ alone.

In the hope and grace of Jesus Christ,
Pastor Robin

Letting Faith Lead
Through the Season of Lent

6 ways & 6 weeks: To let our Faith Lead

Week 1: Fast & Feed

Fast through a meal. Be sure to stay hydrated, and if your health allows, choose to fast, not eating a meal. Then buy a meal for someone else, or donate the cost of a meal to LCCM or a food bank.

Week 2: Bless & Lift up

Drop off a blessing for a neighbor (cookies, flowers...)
And creatively find a way to do a chore for someone, lifting a burden.
Or say YES, when someone asks for help!

Week 3: Un-random Acts of Kindness

Name in your heart and pray for an enemy, someone you disagree with, or someone who has harmed you. For 3 days pray for them. Then bless them with a gift (even if it is best given anonymously).

Week 4: Faith & Compassion

For 7 days, boldly pray for *what you would not expect to be answered*.
Also pray with compassion for 3 places in the world.

Week 5: A letter from one Generation to another

Write a letter to another generation, in your family. Choose whoever the Spirit puts on your heart; a child, grandchild, parent, or grandparent.
In the letter share your story of faith. Don't ask them to believe, *just share why you believe in Jesus*. Write it and wait for the Spirit to tell you to send it. If the time to send it is unknown, place it with your living will.

Week 6: A Journal of Forgiveness

Fold a thick piece of paper in half. On one half write: *I need forgiveness from...*
On the other half write: *I will forgive.....*
For one week, write down what you need forgiveness from. Also write who and what you will forgive (or need to forgive). Pre-made journals will be available at St. Andrews.
On Palm Sunday, we will burn them, offering them to God.

From the Director of Children & Youth Ministry

As I am sitting and writing we have just experienced the coldest day of the winter so far. Cold days are perfect for gatherings and games and February is filled with plenty of time to gather and enjoy the fun.

Sunday, February 2nd 4-6pm in Snyder Hall will be our first **Bible Trivia** of our Bible in a Year Journey. Come for an evening of fellowship, fun and team jeopardy style trivia. Teams will be set up that evening. Even if you have not participated in Bible in a Year you can still come and have an evening of fun and fellowship and play in the trivia. Please bring a side or dessert to share.

Sunday, February 23rd 4-6pm will be our yearly Murder Mystery at youth group. This year's theme is Mystery at the Gatsby Gala. Students will have a chance to sign up for characters at youth group in February.

Saturday, March 22nd 10am-1pm will be Let's Play Day. This is a ministry of connection and community as together we gather to explore the community connections and the joy of play. Come for a morning of fun!

Looking Ahead: There is still plenty ahead of us! From a Lock-in for Epyc to our Community Easter Egg Hunt. Of course, while it is really cold today, Summer plans are beginning to form. Warmer days are right around the corner!

YOUTH RING AND SING NEWS



Join us to praise God by ringing bells, singing songs, playing ukuleles and recorders.

Rehearsals are Sundays from 3:30 – 4 pm

All youth are invited to join us.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Maggie Beatty through the church office!



All the best songs are co-written by God, y'know! – Bono

Christian Education

*“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. Proverbs 22:6 (ESV).*

As 2025 begins, there are several things in the works. Bible in a year has reached the one-quarter point. We have over 45 people participating in this activity on the Dwell App, we have logged over 500 hours of scripture reading. Curious as to what Pastor Robin and Rob think about the week’s readings? Tune into the Bible in a year podcast. Information is available on the church website.

Sunday School Schedule - Youth Classes Pre-K thru High School: 9:00am

Adult Classes: 9:00am: Leader Jim Reilly: Topic: Hebrews (Continuing through March)

11:00am: Leader Rick Borger: Topic: Psalms

Small group ministry is beginning to take root at St. Andrews. Among Follow-Ship groups, WEBS Group, and the Men’s Group, we have over 60 people participating in small groups! There is a place for you! If you are interested in participating in or creating a small group, please contact Gayle Reilly or Ken Gries for more information.

The table beneath the TV in the Gathering Area is becoming the Devotion Center. You will find the “These Days” publication located there. There will be Lenten devotionals placed there prior to Ash Wednesday (March 5th) and there will be other devotionals available throughout the year as well. Take time to stop by and see what’s new.

As always, we welcome any new volunteers for Sunday school, the nursery, youth activities, the Christian Education committee, or as small group leaders. Make 2025 the year you come and see what Christian Education is about at St Andrews.

Submitted:

Ken Gries – Christian Education Co-Chairperson



Do you ever feel lonely at church or leave immediately after worship because you feel awkward?
Do you hunger for brothers & sisters in Christ?
Do you want church to be more FUN?

Follow-Ship is a great opportunity for you. Small groups meet twice monthly to get to know each other and Jesus better. We start with “Getting to know you questions” like Where were you born? or Where do you consider home?. Then we read a passage from the scriptures and answer simple questions. It’s also a great place to ask questions!! We have over 50 people in Follow-Ship Groups. You can ask any of them to find out how much they love their group.

We want to offer Follow-Ship Groups to more of our congregation and friends. Now we are looking for people interested in new groups. Sign up in the Gathering Area or talk to Gayle Reilly or anyone else who is in a group.

Let’s get new groups started and see what the LORD will do!!



The Fellowship Committee



Soup Supper, Communion & Ashes
March 5th, 6:00 PM
Sign up in the Gathering Area!



Coffee Hour

Are you interested in hosting a coffee hour after worship?
The Fellowship Committee welcomes your assistance!
Please sign up beside the Coffee Counter window. Ask Karen Fedder
or Tim Peelen if you have any questions. Thank you!



New Era Events

Sat. March 22nd - Saturday afternoon matinee at the
Lebanon Community Theater to see "Lemonade".
More details to come!



Got an idea for an activity? Talk to Carla Dowd!!

Sprucing up the Church Building

Thank you, Glenn & Mev Royer,
for replacing the plants
throughout the church,
and for the time and effort donated!
Looks wonderful!!





Music Notes

Applause...Memorable Music at St. Andrews

The Concert Series Committee invites you to our second concert of the season featuring **Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band** on **Friday, February 28, 2025 at 7:30 PM.**

Ben Mauger's Vintage Jazz Band specializes in Roaring 20's Music / New Orleans Jazz / Swing Jazz. The band has performed for over 30 years in retirement communities, city summer concert series, major traditional jazz festivals and for the Central Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz. Some of the most outstanding jazz musicians in Central Pennsylvania perform with the band. The Vintage Jazz Band will feature Ben Mauger, trumpet/vocals, Bob Peruzzi, trombone/vocals, Dave Wilson, saxophones/clarinet, Bob Kreitz, piano, Tom Hilliker, bass, and Doug Kulp, drums.

Plan to come out for an evening of outstanding musical entertainment that will transport you on a musical journey to New Orleans and Mardi Gras with the sounds of New Orleans Jazz followed by a reception with refreshments and a time for fellowship!



Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors from the community.

Postcards are available to hand out as invitations!

See you on February 28th at 7:30 PM!

Calling All Our Faithful Bakers!! Goodies and treats are needed for our reception. Drop them off in the kitchen at the gathering Area. Questions – see Carole Haines or Ann Ormond. Your contributions are so greatly appreciated.

A purple invitation card with a decorative border of grapevines and clusters of purple grapes. The text is centered and reads:

You are invited to:
THE LIVING LAST SUPPER
7PM April 17, 2025
Maundy Thursday

An evening of reflection around the table.
Disciples offer monologues and the Chancel
Choir offers meditative music in:
"The Living Last Supper" by R. Schram.

*Communion will be offered to all who feel
led to come to Christ's table.*

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
600 S. 12th St. Lebanon, PA 17042 ~ 717-272-9933
Christ First • Invitational • Joyful • Open-minded

A photograph at the bottom of the card showing a group of people in a church setting, likely during a service or meal. They are seated at a long table covered with a white cloth, and some are wearing vestments.

Where is God calling you to Know, Walk or Serve?

Check out our Ministry Opportunities Wall in the Gathering Area

There's room for all to read, ponder, pick out a group, class, activity, etc. to be a part of.

Look for these - and maybe more!

- The New Era Group Activities
- Follow-Ship Groups
- Liturgists (our Sunday morning readers)
- Nursery Volunteers
- Youth Volunteers
- Youth Group Dinner Makers or Sponsors
- Bible Trivia
- Sunday School Helpers



February Birthdays:

- 3 Benta Samuelson
- 5 Daniel Peelen
- 7 Jack Shuey
- 9 Ysatis (Izzy) Jimenez
- 10 Barbara Hains
- 11 Jill Kreiser
John Butler
- 15 Nansi Alexander
- 17 Louise Batdorff
- 21 Sarah Hamme
- 24 Louise Rahalewich
- 26 Rick Borger
- 28 Carol Smith-Kilgore
Ken Gries



March Birthdays

- 2 Bill Kalbaugh
- 2 Carole Haines
- 3 Mardon Fedder
- 4 Ken Peterson
- 5 Gwen Yordy
- 7 Bruce Kurtz
Ann Ormond
- 9 Beckie Dreibelbis
- 10 Perry Latshaw
John Reitz
- 14 David Overholt
- 17 Connie Dowhower
Donna Kuntz
- 18 Katie Martel
- 20 Christine Nelson
- 22 Robin Gries
- 23 Rosemary Birt
- 27 Lee Samuelson



April Birthdays

- 2 Henry Overholt
- 3 Veronica Juppenlatz
- 5 Elizabeth Burkholder
- 7 Bill Mulligan
- 8 Fred Jones
Jack Kopeski
- 9 Benjamin Sensenig
Alexia Sky Silva
- 19 Brennan Mulligan
- 20 Judy Borger
- 23 Joy Eubanks
Lois Lee
- 26 Rob Cochran
Pat Yates
- 27 Wanda Bechtold
- 29 Beth Hamme

THANK YOU!!

From the Sew 'n' Sews (*sewing group*)



**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:**

**Tanya Weaver's Mission Africa,
Hershey Medical Center,
Mission Central in Mechanicsburg**

Deacon Doings

We're here for you!

New to St. Andrews and want to connect?
Visiting our church and have questions?

Not able to get to church? Need to re-connect after being away?
Homebased or in Continuing Care and want to have Communion?

We're here for you!

Contact your Deacon

If you're not sure who your Deacon is (we have new Deacons coming on board
this month) contact the church office!





Mission

Monthly Mission Spotlight:

February: Flour, 1-2 pound boxes or bags of sugar

March: Liquid hand soap and dish soap (plastic bottles only)

April: Adult and children toothpaste, 5 oz or larger

In December the congregation donated 80 pounds of Shampoo and deodorant to LCCM!

Free Noon Meals

February 8: WEBS (Ken Gries)

March 8: (Astrid Santiago)

April 12: Deacons

On Super Bowl Sunday, **February 9**, we will participate in the **Souper Bowl of Caring** by collecting non-perishable food items (canned goods, pasta, rice, etc.) and after worship deliver them to the Lebanon County Christian Ministries. Monetary Donations are also welcome.

Special thanks to the congregation for their generosity! We were able to donate \$5366. to the many charitable groups at the 2024 Alternative Gift Fair and \$3150. will be sent from our congregation to Black Mountain Presbyterian Church in North Carolina for their disaster relief.

The Lebanon Rescue Mission has asked to help with packing Hygiene Bags. These are small bags filled with personal hygiene items to be given to their clients. We will need small containers of bath powder, shampoo and hair conditioner, shaving cream body lotion, claps tick and Kleenex. **The Giving Train will be in the Gathering Area in February** for these donations. After church on **Sunday, February 23**, we'll pack the bags & deliver to the Rescue Mission.

And finally, the “**One Great Hour of Sharing**” special offering will be collected starting on Ash Wednesday (March 9) until Easter Sunday.

Submitted by David Overholt

Session Highlights

The January meeting of the Session was held on January 7, 2025 in the chapel. The meeting was opened with prayer. Devotions were held including a discussion of epiphany words.

The outgoing members were recognized for their contributions- Stuart Juppenlatz, Lew Sauerwein and Kayla Lowrie. Assignments for the upcoming year were announced. Approval for a service and communion for Ash Wednesday was given. Upcoming Presbytery meeting was discussed,

Pastor and committee reports were received highlighting December activities and sharing upcoming activities planned.

The Treasurer, Marc Hamme, presented and discussed items on the Analysis of Revenue and Expenditures for December 2024 and the review of year January-December 2024.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Submitted by Penny Samuelson

Minutes from Session meetings available through the church office.

Church Officers:

<u>Session</u>		<u>Deacons</u>
2025		2025
Paul Kilgore (Admin. & Pers.)		Kathy Crager
David Overholt (Mission)		Lorna Everhart
Penny Samuelson (Worship)		Katie Martel
Doug Lister, (Pres. Trustees/Property)		Mary Lynne Mulligan
2026		2026
Rick Borger (Clerk / Christian Ed)		IvaJean Conley
Karen Fedder (Fellowship)		Jean Ditzler
Ken Gries (Christian Ed)	<u>Nominating Committee</u>	Karen Regester
Jack Kopeski (Worship)	Maggie Beatty	Astrid Santiago
2027	Diane Pomeroy	Gwen Yordy
Fred Jones (Nominating)	Glenn Royer	2027
Gini Badger (Stewardship & Finance)		Judy Borger
Bob Dowd (Mission)		Rita Solie
Tim Peelen (Fellowship)		Sheri Timm

Church Staff:

Ministers	Members of St. Andrews
Pastor / Head of Staff.	Rev. Robin Morgan
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. Richard L. Cassel
Director of Youth and Children’s Ministries.	Robert Cochran
Coordinator of Music Ministries	Carole Haines
Organist.	Lisa Meyer
Contemporary Music Leader/Digital Media Spec.	Johnathan Shuey
Media Coordinator.	Lew Sauerwein
Treasurer	Marc Hamme
Office Manager	Mary Lynne Mulligan



Automatic Online Giving may need to be renewed starting in January. Check with your credit card company or bank.

Church Office Hours
 9AM—4PM, Monday–Thursday, and
 9AM—Noon, Friday.
 If you should have an emergency when
 the office isn’t open,
 please leave a voicemail for Pastor Robin or
 email her at 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 posted below the streaming
 box on our website, and on Facebook & YouTube.
 Look on the website .

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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.

