ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER







You are

Loved

~ Our Values ~ Christ First – Inviting – Joyful – Open-Minded ~ Our 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.

Worship with us at 10am on Sundays, or watch live @ www.standrewslebanon.org/watchlive On YouTube by early afternoon.

Fall Worship

Oct 5 World Communion Sunday with the Peace and Global Witness Offering Luke 13:31-14:6

Preaching: Rob Cochran



Oct 12

Luke 14:7-24 A Great Banquet

Oct 19 Stewardship Sunday, Special music! *Please bring your estimate of giving card, to be a part of combining our resources for the building up of God's kingdom. Luke 14:25-35



Oct 26 St. Andrews Sunday

Salty Discipleship

Celebrating 50-yr members; honoring those who completed Bible in a Year; Bag Pipes; and a baked potato lunch. A day not to miss! Luke 15:1-10 Finding & Being Found



November 2 All Saints' Day

with Communion & Candles Luke 15:11-32

Running into Open Arms

November 9

Luke 16:1-18

A Different View of Management

November 16

Luke 16:19-31
Making Choices with
an Eternal Perspective

November 23

Alternative Gift Fair Luke 17:1-19 Forgiveness, Faith & Gratitude

Advent Sermon Series Begins: 'An Unexpected Advent'

November 30 Advent 1 Luke 17:20-37 The Present & Future Kingdom

A Message from Pastor Robin



"Halloween a day when we get it right.

Strangers come to us, beautiful, ugly, odd, or scary,

And we accept them all without question,

Compliment them, treat them kindly, and give them good things.

Why don't we live like that?" -By Steve Garnaas-Holmes

What if we would live like this, always?

Dear Beloved People of God,

I love that trunk-r-treat, is a part of our outreach towards the neighborhood. As a parent, I know it is a safe place, away from street traffic, with great community, treats and bathrooms! (Never underestimate the simple things). It is a delightful night, and a night where we do, indeed welcome as Christ welcomed. I hope this year, you will come be a part of this fun night to bless our community and our neighbors.

Halloween quickly shifts to All Saint's Day. A time during the year, where we pause to remember those who have gone before us. Those whose journey of faith is complete as they abide with God. On Sunday, November 2nd we will gather around the table to receive communion, lighting candles for those we miss, those we love, and those we need to remember are with us, as we have this fore-taste of the Kingdom of God. This is a beautiful service to bring, to invite anyone on your heart that is grieving.

More and more, I feel the Spirit nudging me, and us, towards inviting. Because it is a part of our faith. In sharing, we make our joy complete, we know joy in a different way, as we find joy reflected in a meaningful moment. Perhaps we even get a glimmer of God's work, that has gone before us, or beside us, or behind us.

Our world, is not a safe, peaceful, loving place. So many around us, need to know Jesus. They need to know God with us, God who loves us and walks right with us. We need to know it, live it, and share it. This month, seek one moment to invite, someone on your heart, to join you for worship, or for the harp concert coming up. And then take another step, to pray for them to meet God, in whatever way the Spirit may provide.

We are called to scatter seeds, as we continue to scatter seeds, may we prayerfully ask the Spirit to show us how to nurture and grow some of these scattered seeds. You don't have to know another's faith — to gently offer a moment of yours.

Fall is a season at St. Andrews, with fullness of life. There are moments to come and seek God, moments to invite those you long to know God, moments to look ahead and offer abundant resources for the work of God in the year ahead, and moments for us to connect to where the Spirit is leading.

Christ, welcomes the Pharisee and the leaper, the woman at the well and the blind beggar. Jesus welcomes us, and asks us to welcome those around us. This too is discipleship.

In the love and hope of Christ, *Pastor Robin*

From the Director of Children & Youth Ministry

The youth are living into the second year of Good Luck Ducks. If you have not seen them, they are tins with little plastic ducks that the students can hand out to share God's Love. An important and sometimes wild piece of the work of ministry is building the pattern that allows us to break social barriers and connect at a personal level. The heart of Good Luck Ducks is to build this break in a disarming manner and connect. Jesus shows us this in the Gospels that he radically disrupted with actions and words of love. Building a community of followers who likewise carried the work to a new generation and, so on down the line.

Of course, if I offer that the Good Luck Ducks are a means of disruption and love, I suppose I must also share stories. I carry a tin of ducks with me everywhere I go. Normally this looks like me handing them out to anyone I meet in the course of the day. But I am gaining a reputation for giving a duck. Recently at a football game for ELCO where the marching band receives a Good Luck Duck before the performance every week, a parent asked not for ducks, but a Tin of Ducks to also participate. This mother is not a part of our church, but sees the actions of disruptive love in the



ducks and wants to join right alongside. Carrying with her a tin of Good Luck Ducks to her work, church, and daily life. She with the youth is living into a simple way to say, I love you, and I am praying for you.

In this year of ministry and discipleship walking along with the students we will continue to live into the story of disruptive love and grace, as Jesus shows us. Looking for ways to share the story of God, our story of salvation, and the grace that is St. Andrews as a community of believers. Thank you all for the support for this work and ministry, from the creativity and openness that is trunk or treat to the safe harbor for students to explore and grow in their faith.

Happenings:

September 27th 1pm Hike at Governor Dick

September 28th Sacraments Workshop (Baptism and Communion)

October 25th 1pm Seyfert's Corn Maize

October 26th Pumpkin Carving

October 31st 6-8pm Trunk or Treat

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Nov 23rd - Epyc and Trailblazers Thanksgiving Celebration and Christmas Lights December 7th Story Time with St. Nick

From the Director of Children & Youth Ministry Cont'd...

Trunk Or Treat

Trunk or Treat is quickly approaching! In the lead up to Trunk or Treat I have been hearing the conversations and ideas building for the trunks this year. I would like to commend everyone who has participated in any way in decorating and handing out candy. I am impressed every year with the joy and creativity that is within this congregation. While also providing a warm welcome to our neighbors.

Sign up in the Gathering Area to reserve your spot and share your theme. This year's

overall theme is:

Children's Stories.

If you are unable to participate in person you can donate candy to help supply the trunks for the evening.



Save the Date:

Story Time with St. Nick is right around the corner - <u>December 7th.</u>
We will have Free Photos with Santa through Kelly Johnson Photography and so much more. Please consider volunteering to make Christmas Cookies.

Bible In A Year

Some fun numbers: The Dwell Bible app we have used tracks the number of minutes listened to scripture. As of September 18, 2025, we have listened to...107,601 minutes, which is 1793.35 hours or 74.7 days of Scripture.

That's not even counting everyone who has read along at their own pace with their bible just following the reading plan! This is AMAZING! To have spent that past year journeying alongside scripture with one another, building and exploring God's word and reinforcing our faith. As this chapter closes, a new one will begin shortly. Christian Education,



Pastor Robin, and Rob have been working on what comes next in our collective discipleship.

Please note: at the end of the 2025 year our subscription to the Dwell Bible app is expiring. There is no plan to renew the subscription currently and to use the financial resource towards the next discipleship path.

- In Christ's Hope, Robert W. Cochran, Director of Children and Youth Ministry



RING AND SING

We are off to a great start in Ring and Sing.
We are learning about Legos and the
"building blocks of music." This includes:



singing, rhythm instruments, chimes/bells, and of course, bucket drumming. Each rehearsal has a goal that centers on music and worship. We will soon be starting to rehearse our skit for the Christmas Luncheon. If you know any young person

(Trailblazer and EPYC age) that would like to join us, contact Maggie Beatty (717-304-2379 or memab3@comcast.net) with any questions or for more information.

NO rehearsals for Ring and Sing: Sunday, October 26, and Sunday, November 9.

Christian Education

The Christian Education season is in full swing! We have Sunday School for all ages from 9 - 9.45 am.

The adult offerings are: Adult Sunday School Series Class: 9:00 AM – Cassel Chapel

Leader: Gayle Reilly - Current Topic: Questions and Conversation. The bible raises a lot of questions about God and faith that have been wrestled with for ages. Come join

us and ask your questions. Come get a perspective from others as we tackle our questions together.

Coffee and Conversation: 11 AM – Cassel Chapel

Leader: Rick Borger - Topic: The Psalms

The book of Psalms is a collection of heartfelt cries, songs of praise, and reflection on God's character that speak as powerfully today as they did years ago. This class will journey through Psalms to discover how they still shape our lives today.

Small Groups

Worshiping together on Sunday mornings is amazing! Being together, hearing God's word, and being part of something bigger than ourselves is uplifting. But sometimes it's hard to get to know people in just an hour on Sunday mornings. Small groups are where church gets personal. You are not just another face in a pew, you are part of a circle of friends who know your name, listen to your story, pray with you and walk alongside you in good times and bad. Small groups are also a great place to grow in your faith. At St. Andrews we have many different types of groups. We have study groups, (Followship, Sunday School, and WEBS), service groups (Sewing, Choir, Praise team, Bells), Fellowship groups, (New Era, Band Together, Grief Support, Walking). For our younger members, there is Ring and Sing, EPYC & Trailblazers.

Small groups help us make "bearing one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2) something we can live out as we encourage one another on our discipleship journey. If you haven't tried small groups yet, give one a try! If you would like to see what group may be right for you, please contact Pastor Robin or myself.

Respectfully Submitted: Ken Gries (Christian Education Co-chair)

Fellowship Committee



Celebrate St. Andrews Sunday - Sunday, October 26th,

We honor our <u>50-year members</u> during worship as we celebrate the past and present of St. Andrews, complete with a bagpiper in worship!



That day we will have our

Annual Congregational Meeting

to elect officers, approve the Pastor's terms of call, and attend to any other business of the church.



Shortly after worship we'll head downstairs to Snyder Hall for the **Baked Potato Luncheon!**Bring a topping and we'll supply the spuds!



It is a day of celebration - we hope you will join us!



New Era Event Thursday, October 9, 2025 William Ecenbarger, author of 'Work, Fight, or Play Ball'

Will speak and offer book signing. Lunch (\$4.) Check Details & Sign Up in the Gathering Area

Nov 2nd
Set clocks
back an hour
this weekend!
(An extra hour
of sleep!!)

St. Andrews is getting on the Ark! Group outing to **Sight and Sound**daytime performance of **Noah** on **November 11th.**

This will be a school holiday so all age groups should be able to attend. The church has purchased 35 tickets. Ten will be given to children age 12 and under at no charge.

The other 25 seats will be sold to adults on a pay what you will basis.

A signup sheet is in the Gathering Area! First come, first served!



Hanging of the Greens! (church decorating)

will take place <u>Sun. Nov 23rd</u> right after worship Join us as we decorate and prepare for this wonderful season



Christmas Carols with Carole and Lisa: Thursday, <u>December 11th.</u>
Lunch will be served too!



Music Notes



Chancel Choir, Handbells and Praise Team Rehearsal Schedule:

Praise Team at 6:00 pm Wednesdays in the sanctuary Handbell Choir at 6:45pm Wednesdays in the Music Room

Chancel Choir at 7:30 pm Wednesdays in the Music Room

New singers & ringers are always welcome to join us in leading worship to sing & ring our praises to God. Our music groups share their love of God and music as they sing and play in fellowship with each other. Come join our music family!

Singing brings your heart, soul, mind and strength together to focus completely on God.

Applause...Memorable Music at St. Andrews

Concert dates are set for the 2025-26!



First concert is **Principally Harps!** on **Friday**, **November 21**, at 7:30 pm Principally Harps! blends the talents and expertise of two of America's finest concert harpists, Mindy Cutcher and Janet Witman. Audiences describe their performances as "artistry in tandem." The program will include musical styles

from classical to Broadway and even some new arrangements for Advent and Christmas!



Calling All Our Faithful Bakers!! Cookies and treats are needed

for our reception after the concert. Drop them off in the kitchen at the Gathering Area. Questions – see Carole Haines or Ann Ormond. Your contributions are so greatly appreciated.

There is an updated <u>church directory</u> in the Gathering Area and in the Workroom. If you want your own updated church directory (names, addresses & phone #s) let the church office know.





October

- Diane Pomeroy 1 Tim Peelen
- 2 **Bob Hearson**
- Nancy Lesher 4 Virginia Phillips
- 6 Paul Kilgore
- Jere Shiner 8
- 9 Ann Andrews
- Barbara Moyer 10 Lorraine Lowrie 15 Sue Mechura
 - Carol Schiller Fiona Tshudy
- 23 Colleen Tuisl
- 26 Andy Timm
- Don Beatty 29 Karen Regester
- Lorna Everhart 30 Michael Hains
- 31 Katelynn Sensenig



November

- Grace Oxenreider 2
- Charlie Wharv
- 4 Deb Miller
- 5 Tom Bechtold 7 Reilly Morgan
- 13 Adrian Muraya
- Jody DeWald 15
- 20 Don Lesher
- 21 Robert Dowd. Sr.

24 **Nell Tice**



December

- Jeannie Tice
- 4 Jeff Muraya Lisa Hamme
- 6 Steve Schulte 10
- 17 Marc Hamme
- 29 Penny Samuelson
- Scott Stambaugh 31

Grief Support Group of St Andrews

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



In our lives, we all experience seasons of loss and grief. Whether it is the passing of a loved one, a difficult diagnosis, or another significant change, these moments can leave us feeling isolated and overwhelmed. St. Andrews is here to walk alongside you, and we invite you to find solace and strength in our Grief Support Group.

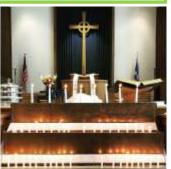
Inspired by the scripture, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" (Matthew 5:4), this ministry offers a safe, welcoming space for healing. The group is for anyone who is grieving, regardless of when their loss occurred. You do not have to walk this path alone.

Our Grief Support Group gathers on the Second Thursday of each month at 2:00 PM. Anyone is most welcome to join us.



All Saints' Sunday - November 2nd

This day we remember and lift up those who have gone before us. If you or someone you know is in a season of grief, you are especially welcome!



Chancel Flowers - Open Date!

Sunday, January 4th, 2026 is currently available for anyone who would like to give the Chancel flowers for the worship service.

Just contact the office to reserve the date, and let us know what you'd like in the bulletin.

You can order/pay for them at Royer's on 12th Street, (they deliver to the church) or, wherever you prefer.



From the Deacons

Welcome Bags & Invitation Center

Please help direct any visitors you meet (or bring with you) to get a <u>Welcome Bag</u> as part of our welcome to St. Andrews! They are on the table at the Invitation Center in the Narthex, just outside the sanctuary.

In addition to the bags there are Invitation flyers & cards for upcoming activities to attend!

Pick some up to share with everyone!



Mission

Monthly Mission Spotlight:

October: Toilet Paper. Paper towels & Facial Tissue

November: Whole Grain Rice, Canned Fruit

(15 OZ cans in fruit juice)

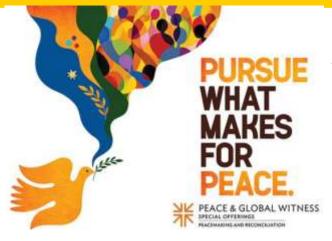
December: Flour and Sugar (1 lb. 0r 2 lb. bags

or boxes), Cooking Oil

Free Noon Meals:
Oct 11 - Chancel & Bell Choirs

Nov 8 - Praise Team

Dec 13 - Adult Sun. School / Rick Borger



The Peace and Global Witness
Special Offering will be collected
until Sunday October 5. Giving Envelopes are in
the pews and in the Narthex.
Please consider giving to this special

Please consider giving to this special offering, 25% of the giving will stay locally.

The Alternative Giving Fair will be early this year, Sunday November 23, before the Worship Service. Many local charities will be there for purchasing early Christmas gifts.

More information to follow in November.

Lend a Hand has a Mission opportunity October 5-11, traveling to New Bern, NC to repair homes damaged by storms as far back as 2018. This is their 150th trip and as part of the anniversary celebration, the cost of the trip will be only \$50 which includes room, board and transportation. To register go to http://www.lendahand.net and fill out the form.

New Door Procedure on Sunday Mornings

On Sundays, the front (12th Street) doors will be open for Worship with greeters and ushers, ready to meet those coming for worship.

From now on the back (C.E. Wing) & side (Poplar Street) doors will remain locked.

This will help us greet all who come, as well as offer more security for the Sunday School area. The back door will still be accessible with the code, as it is during the week.

Also, as we continue to welcome more guests, please consider our abundant street parking. If you are willing and able to park on the

street, it leaves open one more spot in the parking lot for guests, and those who need easier access.

Thank you for your understanding and your support as we seek to welcome all, through the front doors.

Christmas Poinsettias

Please fill in the form and drop it in the basket in the Gathering Area or the basket outside the church office starting Sunday, Nov 2nd..

We invite members to purchase poinsettias (red or white with four to six blooms) in memory of or in honor of loved ones, or simply in their own names.

These poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary for the services on Sunday, December 21, and Christmas Eve, Wed. Dec. 24.

The plants may be removed after either the morning or the evening service on Christmas Eve, or left at the church.

Please order early.

No orders will be taken after the final deadline of **November 23.**

%
In memory of loved ones
In memory of:
In honor of:
Given by:
i
I will take my plants:
Please deliver my plant to home-bound:
İ
My name:
Phone:
No. of plants:
Total amount enclosed:
(If your list is extensive, please use another sheet of paper and print names exactly as you wish them to appear in the bulletin. Thank you!)
\$8.00 per plant Deadline: November 23 Make checks payable to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church and designate "Poinsettias".

Church Officers:

Session

2025

Paul Kilgore (Admin. & Pers.)

David Overholt (Mission)

Penny Samuelson (Worship)

Doug Lister, (Pres. Trustees/Property)

2026

Rick Borger (Clerk / Christian Ed

Karen Fedder (Fellowship)

Ken Gries (Christian Ed)

Bill Mulligan (Worship)

2027

Fred Jones (Nominating)

Gini Badger (Stewardship & Finance)

Bob Dowd (Mission)

Tim Peelen (Fellowship)

Nominating Committee

Maggie Beatty Diane Pomeroy

Glenn Royer

<u>Deacons</u>

2025

Kathy Crager

Lorna Everhart

Katie Martel

Mary Lynne Mulligan

2026

IvaJean Conley

Jean Ditzler

Karen Regester

Astrid Santiago

Gwen Yordy

2027

Judy Borger

Rita Solie Sheri Timm

Church Staff:

Director of Youth and Children's Ministries. Robert Cochran

Organist.....Lisa Meyer

Contemporary Music Leader/Digital Media Spec. Johnathan Shuey

If you have checks sent to church from a Financial Organization please be sure to check your statements to ensure that we have received your gift!

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.

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church 600 South 12th Street, Lebanon, PA 17042 (717) 272-9933 office@standrewslebanon.org www.StAndrewsLebanon.org Nonprofit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Lebanon, PA 17042 Permit No. 252

ADDRESS 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.



