

ST. ANDREWS HERALD

APRIL / MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER



~ *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 will be in person, Sundays at 10am and online at:

www.standrewslebanon.org/watchlive

YouTube posted by early afternoon.

<u>HOLY WEEK</u>			
Apr 2	Maundy Thursday Living Last Supper	May 3	John 21:1-14 John 21:15-19 <i>Reconciliation & Restoration</i>
Apr 3	Good Friday Luke 23:32-56 Tenebrae Service of Darkness	May 10	Youth Sunday
Apr 5	Easter Sunday! Luke 24:1-12 Quiet Hope	May 17	Ephesians 1:15-23 Acts 1:1-11 Ascension <i>What is the Hope</i>
<u>EASTERTIDE</u>			
Apr 12	Luke 24:13-35 <i>Walking Together</i>	May 24	Ezekiel 37:1-14 Pentecost Acts 2:1-11 <i>Breathing Life</i>
Apr 19	Isaiah 63 New Things Preacher: Rev. Rebecca Lister		
Apr 26	Luke 24:36-53 <i>An End and a Beginning</i>	May 31	Joel 2:28-32a Acts 2:14-39 <i>The Message</i>



New Member Class April 19th

Worshipping together is a great joy!

I am thankful for each one the Spirit gathers into worship and to walk together in faith.

For any who have been worshipping with us and are starting to feel that this may be the church, the place God is calling you to, please join us on Sunday, April 19th after worship for a light lunch and a conversation about St. Andrews and where God is leading us. We will take a tour, answer questions and share how we came to be at St. Andrews.

RSVP to the church office by Sunday, April 12th so we can plan for the lunch. Please do mention any dietary needs.

If you are interested, but unavailable that day, please talk to Pastor Robin.

May God continue to lead us, and may the Spirit unite us in Christ.



A Message from Pastor Robin



Dear Beloved People of God,

We have made it! The Easter season is just before us. And this is just what I want to lean into this year – the Easter SEASON! This season that invites us to joy, to new life, to hope that does not end, to worship and celebrate is 50 DAYS!

Winter felt long this year, so I need every one of these 50 days to thaw my heart and soul, to let the love and life and wonder of Christ to slowly seep through my skin that is at times too thick, into my bones that are longing for newness, for color, for hope, *for something new*.

God is doing something new. We have seen this is gathering together for Rebecca's ordination, how one step at a time, God has led her to this new ministry that will surely be a new life. We have seen this is each new person the Spirit brings as we worship together. Maybe we will see new life, new hope, a new sense of God with us, if we linger in Easter, for a season of 50 whole days.

Through Lent you have been invited to practice the prayer of examen, through the reflection journal. (These journals are still available - we would love to give you one!) I have so enjoyed this practice. But, I must admit, with the long lingering cold I fought, I missed several days. Yet even this helped me to notice how the end of my day shifted when *I did* pause and reflect. When I paused and wrote this reflection as a prayer space, my day that often felt just frustrating, became more. It became a moment I could look back with more balance at the whole day, and as I consider these reflections I am starting to see what brings me more life. For me, it is the moments of connection in a day. The moment a conversation sparked an idea, or the moment where another's presence gave me more energy and offered just a bit of joy, that I really needed. These Lenten reflections, for me, will become more regular reflections, especially in the whole season of Easter as I look for the glimmers of new life, right in the middle of my regular days.

Beloved People of God, linger with me in these spring days.

Linger in the miracle of Easter that invites us to ponder and to imagine life in a new way.

Savor all 50 days of this season.

In the Hope of Christ, *Pastor Robin*

It was a joy to celebrate the **Ordination of The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Crow Lister**, March 15, 2026!

I am so grateful for this congregation that prepares well and celebrates even better! The reception was abundant with the food that you brought. The details of the service were carefully thought through and it was a beautiful expression of our love and hope in Christ.

Together we have been a part of equipping and ordaining her for ministry at Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church in Harrisonburg, VA.

Rebecca and Doug will be moving to Virginia in May. They are an integral part of our church family. And now the Spirit is asking us to send them out with all our love and prayers. April 19th Rebecca will be preaching in worship and sharing some of her call story. That day, we will send them out as a part of our worship. We will miss them more than we can say.

But our love for them is greater. In faith we will send them out, to go with God and to be a blessing in this world, just as they have both been a blessing to us.

The beautiful stole Sue made that was given on behalf of St. Andrews has stitched into it these words: "I am the vine and you are the branches." (John 15:5) We are learning what it is for a new branch to grow out of Christ, and onto the vine - reach out into this world.



Rob Cochran's Candidacy for Ordination

I have to admit these days I do not get to many Presbytery Meetings. But, I knew I would make the meeting on February 7th. Our own, Rob Cochran, was moving that day to Candidacy in the **Presbyterian Church's Ordination process for Pastors. I had been invited to offer a charge to Rob,** after the Presbytery approved his Candidacy. Back in September of 2022, I was also honored to offer the charge to Rebecca when she became a Candidate in the process.

St. Andrews was well represented by myself, our Clerk Elder Rick Borger, Elder Bill Mulligan, **Elder Ken Gries (who is also Rob's session liaison in this process).** At the meeting Rob was introduced, offered his sense of call as God is moving him more and more in ministry. I personally have been honored to see him grow in ministry as he has been a part of the New Worshiping Communities Task Force for our Presbytery and now co-leads the Lebanon County Coalition to End Homelessness. After his statement, Rob was asked questions about his faith, his sense of call, and his own walk as a disciple. All questions were answered clearly and thoughtfully. The Presbytery voted unanimously to move him to Candidacy.

Rob has been a part of our ministry at St. Andrews for almost 12 years. We are a part of this journey. As Rob is also on staff, as he considers his call, perhaps we should prayerfully consider where we see the Spirit leading him and us, as a church, as this process moves forward. The Presbyterian church is unique in that any call to a pastor is a 3-way (almost trinitarian) call. This **includes 1. The potential pastor, 2. The congregation, and 3. The Presbytery.** And so, Rob's move to candidacy marks this moment, for you, as a congregation, to prayerfully be a part of discerning what possibilities might be ahead for Rob and for St Andrews.

In the Hope of Christ, *Pastor Robin*

Presbytery of Carlisle Meeting: February 7, 2026 **Rob's Charge to Candidacy**

As Jesus calls the disciples – **he calls them to do, what they do...**
in a different way. To be fishers of men.

One of your ministry gifts is how: you meet people where they are. On the street,
at the Free Noon Meal, as Santa, as a fellow cast member and walking into the church.

Recently, I have seen you offer people a challenge:
asking them to see what happens *if they commit more to their journey of faith.*

In this I offer your charge. Make every moment count. Every interaction, every conversation,
every bible study, every youth group, every sermon – *make it meaningful!*

Offer invitations to draw nearer to God,
Invitations full of heart and hope Believing that your faith journey,
That their faith journey is for more, right now,
more than any of us could ask or imagine.

Continued...

Rob's Charge to Candidacy...cont'd

Your journey has never taken a straight line, I doubt that will change now.

And yet, when you take a risk,

you grow in faith by leaps and bounds – and the Spirit shows up right beside you –
in meeting that 40th kid in the neighborhood -

in asking the congregation to do a Bible in a Year and then convincing me to do a podcast
and in chairing the county coalition to end homelessness.

In all of these things you have and are Moving God's people.

At the end of the Gospel of John

Jesus tells the disciples to throw the nets to the other side. And the nets were filled.

And then Jesus asks Peter: *Do you love me?*

Then feed my sheep.

Pray.

Dream.

Love Christ.

Feed Christ's Sheep,

especially the ones who don't think they are in the flock.

Keep going.

Keep trying.

Take risks. Throw the net again –

Step over walls, across gaps into new territory,

And keep bringing us along.

Look for the Spirit.

And make every moment count.



Welcome our neighbors...and
keep the hoop clear!

The Table
Community Meal
Story Circle & Evening Prayer

A photograph of a group of people sitting on chairs outdoors, gathered around a table, enjoying a meal and conversation. The scene is set in a grassy area with trees and a brick building in the background. The sky is bright and colorful, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

Wednesdays 5:30pm
July 15-August 19
(bring your own chair)

From the Director of Children & Youth Ministry

As we move into a new season together, I can't help but have Olaf's song from Frozen, 'In Summer', running through my mind. Winter is holding tight as I write this article, yet signs of new life and a new season spring up everywhere. It's always a gift to gather, grow, and share life with one another—and the coming months give us plenty of reasons to do just that.

I am excited to celebrate the joy of Easter together! On Sunday, April 5th, we will have the Easter Egg Hunt. This is always such a fun and meaningful time for our children and families, and we would love for everyone to stay, participate, and invite friends from the community. It's a simple but beautiful way to continue in showing that we are Your Neighborhood Church.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for Youth Sunday on May 10th. This is a special service where our young people take an active role in leading and sharing. It's always encouraging to see their faith in action and to be reminded of the next generation rising with passion and purpose. You won't want to miss it.

Then this summer, we have a wonderful opportunity to serve beyond our walls. From July 7th–11th, we will join with several sister churches of the Presbytery for a regional mission effort called Weave Week. This week is all about coming together serving our community, building relationships, and being the hands and feet of Christ in practical ways. On the last day, the students will have the opportunity to celebrate their work together at Hersheypark. Cost is \$25. Please let me know by April 12th if you can attend.

Finally, Spark Park Days are quickly approaching. The joy and adventure of the season can quickly and easily be found right here in Spark Park. Starting July 15th and running every Wednesday 10:30am to August 19th we will live into the adventure of the season. Children and Families are invited to come and enjoy a morning of fellowship, fun, and snacks.

I look forward to the season of Discipleship, adventure, and fellowship that is ahead. Our students continue to grow and explore their faith. They are able to do so, because of the example and faith that we live into as a community. I am grateful for your witness and support to the students!

-Rob Cochran, Director of Children & Youth Ministry



INTERACTIVE WORSHIP for Pre K - 5th Graders

In response to our congregational goal of having everyone, adults, youth, and children, be more actively involved in discipleship activities, we've started Interactive Worship for children in pre-K through 5th grade. The students leave the sanctuary after 'Coming to Christ as a Child' and return for the last song and Benediction. When Communion is being served, we come back for Communion. We follow the same pattern of worship as the adults: Gathering around the Word, Proclaiming the Word and Responding to the Word, but in a fun and age-appropriate manner. We sing, pray and read the Bible. We are memorizing scripture, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed and standard Worship responses.



This is not a substitute for Sunday School, but something totally different. Our children need Sunday School to learn the Bible as we all do.

If you have any questions, talk to Gayle Reilly or Ken Gries.

Christian Education

In 2024 the leadership at St. Andrews created some goals to help lead us forward. One of those goals was: ***“We will create balance for all adults, youth, children, and young adults to be more actively involved in discipleship activities than in committee meetings.”***

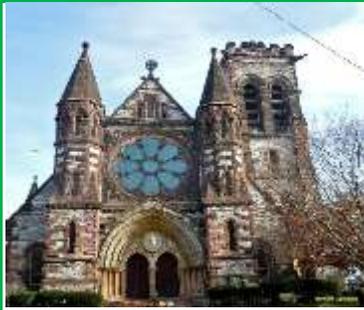
Sounds great. But what does “*be more actively involved in discipleship activities*” mean in the real world? What are discipleship activities? Discipleship activities are those activities that help Christians grow in faith, follow Jesus more closely, and help others to do the same. We, as Christians, are to ***know*** what we believe, ***grow*** closer to God, and ***serve*** others by helping them become better Christians as well. These activities include, but not limited to, bible study, prayer, accountability, mentoring relationships, service, and worship opportunities. These activities provide meaningful experiences that nurture our faith and strengthen our bonds as a church community. By prioritizing these activities, we create spaces for learning, fellowship, and personal transformation for every age group.

As we continue to grow together as a church family, we recognize the importance of fostering a healthy balance between discipleship activities and committee meetings. While committees play a vital role in organizing and supporting church operations, we invite everyone to reflect on how their involvement can be more balanced. Consider joining a small group such as: Follow-Ship groups, Wednesday Evening Bible Study (WEBS), Men's Group, New Era, EPYC / Trailblazers (for youth), or volunteering for a ministry, such as the choir, the praise team, weekly liturgist, sound system team, or prayer warrior on the prayer chain. You can also take part in service such as helping serve free noon meal or join the Sew-n-Sews.

Together, we can build a vibrant church culture where spiritual development takes center stage, and everyone finds their place to ***grow*** and ***serve***. Let's work together to ensure our church remains a place where discipleship thrives and every person, regardless of age, feels equipped and inspired to follow Christ's example. If you would like more information on where you can get involved, please contact the Christian Ed Committee.

-Respectfully Submitted: *Ken Gries*
Christian Education Committee

The FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE



SIGN UP! New Era Group Event:

April 16th, 10:30AM

**St. Lukes Episcopal Church Tour
6th & Chestnut St., Lebanon,
followed by lunch!**



Learn about the architecture and history of this magnificent church and hear the organ played. See all the interesting nooks and hear the stories as told by our guide, Terry Heisey (St. Lukes Music Director and Historian). This event is easily accessed with a ramp from Chestnut St. and an elevator within the building. There will also be places to sit and rest. The tour will be about 45 minutes and includes time for questions.

This event is free, but a small donation would be appropriate. Carla will collect any donations before we enter the church in order to hand one envelope to our guide. Following our tour, we'll drive the short distance for self-pay lunch together.

Next Event...Got any ideas? Talk to Carla Dowd, Karen Fedder or Fred Jones!!

Many Thanks to all who helped with both the Concert and Ordination Receptions - set up, serve, clean-up, provide goodies...It all went so well for both!!

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 Fred Jones if you have any questions. Thank you!



Coffee Hour

Mission

Mission Spotlights:

April: Oatmeal and boxed cereal with less than 6 grams of sugar per serving

May: Canned Tuna 5 oz cans, Olive Oil in 8-10 oz plastic bottles

June: Cooking Oil in 8-10 oz plastic bottle, Canned fruit 9 oz. (peaches, pears, mandarin orange) in fruit juices.

Free Noon Meals

April 11: Deacons
(Held AT LCCM!)

May 9: Youth Groups/
Rob

June 13: Property/Bob

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering continues through Lent and ends on Easter Sunday. Giving envelopes are in the pews and the Narthex. They can be dropped in the Offering Plates or at the Church Office.

If you have a Fish Bank, be sure to bring it on Palm Sunday, March 29 to be collected during the service.

Volunteers are needed April 18 at the Lebanon Quittie Park to help plant trees, paint and collect trash. Sign up sheet will be in the Gathering Area.



- 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
- Jessica Goetze
- 26 Rob Cochran
- Pat Yates
- 27 Wanda Bechtold
- 29 Beth Hamme

- 2 Panka Peelen
- 3 Kathy Wissinger
- 4 Madeleine Overholt
- Lindsay Burkholder
- Astrid Santiago
- Ember Lowrie
- 6 Ted Etter
- Pat Bender
- 9 Sheri Timm
- 12 Kayla Lowrie
- 17 Lee Moyer
- 20 Jean Gigler
- Julie Ogurcak
- 25 Lexi Allen
- 26 Avery Dowd
- 27 Valerie Chevalier
- Matthew Peelen
- 28 Marianne Kopp
- Artemus Tuisl

- 1 Bob Latshaw
- 2 Barb Kopeski
- Alexander Silva
- 3 Isaac Santiago
- 5 Craig Samuelson
- 8 Gini & Barry Badger
- 10 Karen Dielmann
- Ian Tshudy
- 13 Megan Fedder
- Melynda Cochran
- 14 Luke Tshudy
- David Sensenig
- 18 Betsy Sensenig
- 19 Seth Huisman
- 21 Margaret Kilgore
- 22 Adam Burgis
- Robert Register
- 23 Robin Morgan
- 26 Pauline Charles

St. Andrews Salutations

Thank you for the words of faith and encouragement expressed to us by this congregation at the death of Jean's sister, Mary Lou. We thank God for this church and for the ministries that are an outpouring of God's love.
-Jean & Art Munson

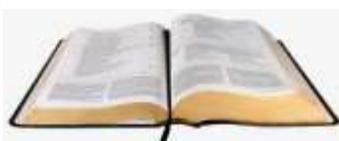
Roses for New Grandchildren

If you have just had a new Grandbaby in the family and would like to place a rose in church and a note in the bulletin you can request this through the church office, and you can buy your rose from Royer's – they deliver to us!

Sunday, March 8th was Vasantha's last day to worship with us. She is moving to New York State to be closer to her family. Vasantha has offered a beautiful presence filled with wisdom and grace. She will be missed. May we keep her in our hearts and prayers. Her new address is available through the church office.



Liturgists Needed



Would you be interested in participating in the Worship service? We are looking for liturgists to read scripture, and would love to have you participate! If you are interested, please sign up in the Gathering Area or contact the church office.

There is an updated **church directory** in the Gathering Area and in the Workroom. If you want your own copy of the church directory let the church office know.

Watch out for SPAM Emails & Texts!

If you ever receive a questionable request via any form of digital communication, please consider these steps: Verify the Email, Phone Number, or account through which the communication is coming. Call the office, or if you have the individuals phone number call them directly. **Do Not** call the number that called or texted and is possibly impersonating the individual. If you do not have the individual's number, call the office.

NEVER give personal information or send money in any form without verifying in person who made the request. If you need help considering your digital security and would like to have a conversation about it, please reach out. Because, in our world of constants, there is an ever changing and rotating work to scam people out of their resources. Through the years several of these Scams have been attempted in impersonating church staff and asking for Gift Cards or Personal Information. While we at the church do occasionally ask or need such donation or information, we will never communicate those needs only through email. Further we would caution all to **not** send digital gift cards nor send personal information to us through email without communicating in person first.

The New Boiler is Coming!

Our **new water boiler furnace will be installed** during the week of **April 6-10**. This means the church building will be without heat and water the week after Easter. Thus, to allow smooth transition of the Boiler, the **church building will be closed April 6-10**. You may still call and email the church, calls and emails will be forwarded to the church staff. Please do reschedule any small groups, Bible Studies, and or Committee meetings for that week. **The Free Noon Meal on April 11th will be at LCCM (just in case!)**

The plan is for all to be back up and running by Sunday, April 12th. (All prayers welcome!)

This also feels like a good moment to say thank you to all who chose the original boiler for this building, that served us so well for over 60 years! The work of those who went before us is still blessing us in ways that are seen and unseen.

Property Committee

- An updated Fire Suppression System has been installed in the Snyder Hall Kitchen. It is simple to use and training is being planned.
- You may have noticed that the heat pump condensers outside the Christian Education wing have been removed. We will install a concrete pad in that spot and reinstall the equipment. This is being done to stop water infiltration into Snyder Hall.
- New and Updated lighted exit signs have been installed at several locations in the church.

The Property Committee works hard to keep our beautiful Church in top shape!
If you see something that needs attention, let us know.
Badger, Chevalier, Keiths, Kohr, Reilly, Yordy, Dowd

-A much-needed pole light has been installed outside the Narthex. The light activates only at night. Thanks Doug!



Music Notes

Chancel Choir, Handbells and Praise Team Wednesday Rehearsal Schedule:

Praise Team at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary, Handbell Choir at 6:45pm in the Music Room
Chancel Choir at 7:30 pm 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.

The Concert Series Committee invites you to our last concert of the 2025-2026 season
Featuring **The Summit Hill Bluegrass Band on Friday, May 8, 2026 at 7:30 PM.**

The Summit Hill Bluegrass Band has been an organized band for more than 30 years performing in Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Band members include Max Allison on bass, Ron McVey on fiddle, Keith Kupp on banjo, and Denny Kopp on guitar. They all reside in central PA – Ron from Strasburg, Keith from Adamstown, Denny from Hanover and Max from southern York County. All four members contribute to the vocal sound of a bluegrass band. Bluegrass music allows for instrumental and vocal improvisation with individual musicians often taking the lead. Their music tells stories and themes relatable to everyday life.

Plan to come and enjoy an evening of toe-tapping music including gospel, bluegrass and country, with a little comedy sprinkled throughout, 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 May 8th 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.

SUMMIT HILL BLUEGRASS BAND

Friday May 8th 7:30PM



600 S. 12th St.
Lebanon, PA 17042
- 717-272-9933



An evening of improvisational
Bluegrass music with touches of
storytelling & comedy

Family Friendly
Concert & Reception
Free Will Offering
Appreciated



Church Officers:

Session

2026

Rick Borger (Clerk / Christian Ed)

Karen Fedder (Fellowship)

Ken Gries (Christian Ed)

Bill Mulligan (Worship)

2027

Gini Badger (Stewardship & Finance)

Bob Dowd (Pres. Of Corp / Property)

Fred Jones (Fellowship)

Tim Peelen (Christian Ed)

2028

Stuart Juppenlatz (Mission)

Paul Kilgore (Admin. & Pers.)

Rob Lowrie (Nominating)

David Overholt (Mission)

Nominating Committee

Sue Mechura

Carla Dowd

Cliffy Shiner

Deacons

2026

Deborah Casadei

IvaJean Conley

Astrid Santiago

Gwen Yordy

2027

Judy Borger

Jean Ditzler

Rita Solie

Sheri Timm

2028

Rosemary Birt

Lorna Everhart

Lorraine Lowrie

Diane Pomeroy

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



Church Office Hours
 9AM—4PM, Mon–Thurs, 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.

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

Please note: Minutes from Session meetings are available upon request through the church office.

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
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office@standrewslebanon.org
www.StAndrewsLebanon.org

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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.

