



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

www.standrewpresbyterian.org 301-223-8887



JANUARY 2018

Rooted in Love, Grounded in Grace, Growing for God

Dear Friends,

The columns for 2017 have been focusing on how to go deeper in your faith, using spiritual disciplines to do so. Each of the suggestions that I have made involve disciplines that we need to grow in our faith.

The disciplines that I have written about so far are: study of the Word of God; worship attendance; scripture study with others (Sunday School and Bible Study), evangelism (inviting others to Church and Sunday School), confession, fasting, meditation, solitude, simplicity, thanksgiving, and prayer.

This month we will look at the discipline of submission. In our day and time, this discipline of all has a deeply negative connotation because it is widely misunderstood. Often submission is thought to be that you give in to another, whether they are more powerful or not.

In actuality, submission is the call from Scripture from Jesus, “If any one would come after me, let that person deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me.” (Mark 8:34). Submission is to follow Jesus with every bit of who we are. We are not to hold anything in reserve. Our language, our time, our talents, our desires are all to be in submission to our Savior.

As such, this is freeing in that we just follow Jesus. There is no pressure as to which voice or trend we should listen to—it is only Jesus’ that we follow. There is no wondering which path to take—there is only Jesus’ way.

This submission needs to be a commitment as we turn all of who we are over to the Savior. It also takes time as there are some patterns of thought and deeply ingrained emotions that will require more work on our part and the part of the Holy Spirit to right those thoughts and emotions to fit the Savior and His example.

The reason for submission is that we gain those wonderful qualities of love, joy, peace, etc. When we submit, we show others that we are God’s own and that we are truly grounded in grace, that we live in love, and are growing for God.

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Mark



Youth Group

The Youth Group will meet on January 7 and 21 for their regular meeting. You are welcome to bring friends. Youth Group is for those in grades six through 12, and meets from 6:00—8:00 p.m. each Sunday evening.

The Youth Group is inviting parents to its regularly scheduled meeting of January 28. Parents, come and enjoy what your teenagers enjoy every week. The times will be the same (6:00—8:00 p.m.), but the fun, fellowship, and Bible Study will involve the parents.

We will have our special holiday event at Whitetail Ski Resort and go tubing. We will leave the church at 3:15 p.m. on Sunday, January 14, in order to go tubing from 4:00—6:00 p.m. The cost for the tubing will be \$30.00. After tubing, we will stop at McDonald's in Clear Spring for dinner. We should be back at the church by 8:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Men

The Presbyterian Men will meet on January 16, at the Hagerstown Family Diner, at 6:30 p.m. There will be a Bible Study, and fellowship with other Presbyterian Men.

Presbyterian Women

The Coordinating Team will meet Tuesday, January 9, 8:30 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

Start the new year in fellowship with other women at one of the Women's Circles. Circle is a Bible Study for women, led by Pastor Mark. Both groups meet at the church. Please join one of the groups on Tuesday, January 9. Morning Circle meets from 10:00—11:15 a.m. Evening Circle meets from 7:00—8:15 p.m. Please let the office know if you will need child care during Evening Circle. Check out the pictures on the bulletin board.

We will be going to lunch at the Redmen Club at 11:30 on the 9th. Please sign up on the sheet in the parlor if you will be coming.

Holly Place

Donations for Holly Place are collected each month. Items can be placed in the labeled tub under the counter in the parlor. Items needed are: paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, laundry detergent, and adult Depends (or other brands) L or XL (no diapers).

Scholarship Opportunity

The Young Presbyterian Scholarship was established in 2002 to encourage and provide an opportunity for outstanding PC(USA) students to apply to Westminster College. The scholarship of \$76,000 for four years (\$19,000 per year) is for qualified high school seniors entering college Fall of 2018.

If interested in applying for this scholarship, please see the information on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Helping Hands

Thank you so much for the wonderful gift you gave me on December 7. I am so appreciative of your kindness and generosity. It is greatly appreciated!

Helping Hands will be starting up on February 1, from 10:00 a.m. until noon. You only need to bring a sandwich. Dessert and drinks will be provided.

Thank you so much for being such a blessing to our church—with love, Annette.

St. Andrew Website

If you are unable to come to church, you can keep up with church events through the St. Andrew website. Recent sermons and choir anthems can be heard. The church calendar, newsletter, and photo gallery can also be viewed. Go to standrewpresbyterian.org.



**Pray for our
Christian
Family**



Recuperating at Home

Carol' Ann Alphin
Liz Altman
Martin Altman
Gene McCauley

In the Nursing Home

Broadmore

Bob Knepper

Greenfield Senior Living

Ralph DeVore

Homewood

Harriet Ankeney
Lucy Karn

Julia Manor

Larry Roth

Military

Michael Biza
Great Nephew of Janet Bulow
Andrew Layton
Son of David & Norma Layton
Grant Long
Son of Dave & Karen Sue Long
Jay Pike
Son of Mary Pike
Matt Stemper
Son of Doug & June Stemper

Missionaries

Rev. Jed & Jenny Koball
Pakistani Church

Mission Trip

The Big Creek Mission Trip will be July 15-21, 2018. A deposit of \$25 is due by January 14 to hold your spot. Please make checks out to St. Andrew Youth. The total cost will be \$200 per person. We will have fundraisers to help with the cost.

One Service

There will only be one morning service on December 31, at 10:00 a.m.

Israel Trip

Pastor Mark and Annette will share their trip to Israel on Thursday, January 11, beginning at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Vacation

Pastor Mark and Annette will be away on vacation from January 15-21. If there is an emergency, please contact your Parish Coordinator or the church office.

Bible Study

Pastor Mark's Bible Study will begin on January 25, at 7:00 p.m. The topic will be spiritual gifts. We will explore the gifts given by God, how your personality fits, and how to use your unique gifts.

Long Range Planning Session

The Session, Deacons, and Staff will have a long range planning session on Saturday, January 27, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. We will discuss what the ministry of St. Andrew will look like in the next ten years, and then work on a plan to make certain that these priorities become a reality. Lunch will be provided.

Hospitalized?

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please contact Pastor Mark directly. The hospital will no longer contact him.

We welcome your input for this newsletter. Please place all submissions in the newsletter box in the church office, by the 15th of the month.



Biblical Word Search

Congratulations to the people listed below for completing last month's word search. Have fun with this month's Biblical word search on Christian Characteristics. You can work on building your Christian character by attending church, Sunday School, Circle Bible Study, Thursday evening Bible Study, etc. Please place your completed paper (with your name on in) in the box in the parlor by January 15. There are large print copies of the word search in the parlor.

Eric Arvidson
Brody Hemphill
Jeremy Hemphill
Joey Hemphill
Nonie Johnson
Debbie Kinzer

Helen Krouse
*Debbie McCauley
*Jen Metz
Margie Reed
Sevgi Royal

*Gerry Salter
Phyllis Schleigh
Gica & Lucas Scumpieru
Maxine Taylor
LaVerne Weller
Frances Wolford

*Denotes those who figured out the hidden phrase, The birthday of Christ, with the left-over letters.



Friday Club

Friday Club will meet on January 19, at noon. Our speaker will be Susan Hurd with the Washington County Commission on Aging. Please bring a covered dish to share, and join us for an enjoyable and informative afternoon.

Book Club

If you love to read and enjoy good discussion and fellowship, come join one or both of our book clubs.

The evening book club will meet on Tuesday, January 2, at 7:00 p.m., in the conference room. We will discuss Cosmic Christmas, by Max Lucado.

The daytime book club will be meeting on Thursday, January 11, 1:30 p.m., at Panera Bread. We will be discussing Brush of Wings, by Karen Kingsbury.

Supper Club

Our monthly Supper Club will meet at Western Sizzlin on Monday, January 29, 5:30 p.m. It is a great evening of delicious food and wonderful fellowship with our church family. There is a sign-up sheet in the parlor if you plan on attending.

Grocery Cards

Prepaid gift cards for Martin's, Shop 'n Save, and Weis Market are available after both services, in the Legacy Room. They come in \$25, \$50, and \$100 denominations.

Food Bank

Food Bank Sunday is the second Sunday of each month. Bring your non-perishable items and place them in the Food Bank box in the hallway, or place your monetary donations in an envelope marked "Food Bank" and place it in the offering plate.

Thank You

Thank you so much to the Presbyterian Women for treating us to such a lovely lunch on Tuesday, December 12. We are so appreciative of your kindness and thoughtfulness.

With love,
Mark and Annette

Thank you to everyone who made the Living Nativity a huge success, and to those who attended each show. We had a total of 116 cars-best attendance so far. A special thank you to:

- Those who helped set up in November, in the rain and on Black Friday.
- The cast members who were in the show.
- The volunteers who helped with the costumes and the Angels.
- The parking crew, who stood out there each night directing cars.
- The kitchen crew, for their preparation of food and keeping us nourished.
- Wayne Lanzendorfer for coordinating the animals and straw.
- Darin Coyle, assistant director, for helping keep things in order.

This could not be possible without each and every one of you! Merry Christmas!

Tammy, Director of Living Nativity



Balance 11/01/17	\$66,238.09
Receipts	26,324.46
Disbursements	27,560.94
Balance 11/30/17	65,001.61



Sunday School Corner

Perfect Attendance in November

Kindergarten/1st Grade

Colton McKinley
Lauren Scumpieru

4th/5th Grade

Allie Babb
Jeremy Hemphill
Will McKinley

2nd/3rd Grade

Brody Hemphill

6th-8th Grade

Claude Paul
Lucas Scumpieru

3 out of 4 Sundays in November

Toddler Class

Josiah Kesler

2nd/3rd Grade

Abby Boppe

Pre-K Class

Lily South

9th-12th Grade

Nate Armstrong
Gabby Johnson
Chris Lunsford
Kaely Long

Sunday School Snippets

The Toddler Class: The Toddler Class is studying the great things God does.

The Pre-K Class: Congratulations to the following students for memorizing the Bible verse, "Christ is the head of the Church." Ephesians 5:23: **Gavin Babb** and **Lily South**. Thank you so much to Gavin and Lily who like to say the blessing each week before the snack is served. The Pre-K class is learning about the birth of Jesus.

Kindergarten/1st Grade Class: Congratulations to the following students: **Natalie Farioli**, **Lauren Scumpieru**, and **Norah Wise** for memorizing their verse, "Christ is the head of the Church." Ephesians 5:23. The students are learning about the Church leaders and their responsibility to care for God's people. They are learning about the importance of prayer.

2nd-3rd Grade: The students are learning about Saul, before he learned about Jesus, and after he chose to believe that Jesus was the Son of God, as well as the changes that came about after Saul's faith grew. The students learned that changes come to all of us when we have faith and trust God.

4th/5th Grade Class: During the month of December, the class followed Saul's/Paul's journey from his vision of Jesus, his conversion to Christianity, and taking the good news of the Gospel to the Gentiles in other cities. The lesson focus for this past month has been: Jesus can make you a new person, Christians are called to do things differently, the message of Jesus is for everyone.

6th-8th Grade Class: The beginning of the month, the class studied about John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus. They have also studied about God's laws. The class ended their study with the birth of Jesus, and the significance that has in our lives.

Teen Class: The Teen Class uses The Blueprint, a Christian magazine for teens, as their curriculum. Come and join this class if you are a teen as they explore how God makes a difference in their lives, and in turn, how they can make a difference in the world.



Christmas Activities—The Sunday School students enjoyed celebrating the birth of Jesus on December 10 with special activities, crafts, and snacks with their class. On December 17, the teachers enjoyed a breakfast, a gift exchange, and a time of fellowship with one another. Miss Annette took all the Sunday School students and had a special Christmas craft workshop with them. We are looking forward to starting up with classes again on January 7!

Missions—The Sunday School offering for the month of December went to support Samaritan's Purse, an organization of Franklin Graham. We specified that our offering would be used to provide heart surgery for a child. "Aminah was born with a heart defect that could not be repaired in Uganda. At age 11, she was so frail that she weighed less than 50 pounds. "A doctor advised my mother to poison me to put me out of my misery." Aminah said. But God had greater plans, and He used Samaritan's Purse to bring Aminah to the United States for the surgery she needed. During the trip, her interpreter led her to faith in Jesus Christ. Now 23, she recently graduated from Uganda Christian University, and teaches at a children's home in 'gratitude to God.'" Samaritan's Purse works with hospitals, surgeons, and host families to donate their services, and they purchase plane tickets, which average \$2,200. Thank you to the students, teachers, parents, and grandparents for contributing to the Sunday School offering. We were able to send a total of \$220.00.

Sunday School Opportunities for the New Year

Let's make Sunday School a top priority for the new year. What better time to start attending Sunday School than the beginning of a new year. We have classes for all ages, from toddlers all the way up to two adult classes.

The younger children (grade 5 and younger) meet in the sanctuary from 9:45—10:00 a.m. During Opening, the children have a devotion, a time of prayer, and take up their Sunday School offering. The offering goes to support our sponsored child from India through the organization, Compassion International. Our offering is used several times to support programs through Samaritan's Purse. There is often a display board in the parlor, showing the projects that our Sunday School offering goes towards. Part of the offering is used for the ministry of the church, and for local missions as they arise. At 10:00 a.m., the students are dismissed to their Sunday School class. If you have a child in third grade or below, please pick them up from their classroom at 10:45 a.m.

The 6th-8th grade and teen classes meet directly in their Sunday School classrooms at 9:45 a.m. The 6th-8th graders meet in the room right before entering Friendship Hall. The teen class meets downstairs in the new area.

We have two great adult classes to choose from. The **Voyager Class** meets in the room across from the conference room. They read faith based books, and discuss how faith is evident in daily life. We are excited to begin 2018 with The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss, by James W. Kemp, who finds parallels between Dr. Seuss' most memorable stories and lessons found in Scripture. Each entry begins with a biblical passage, and features lines from an original Dr. Seuss book. This book brings the meaning of many Bible passages to life. Books are provided. Whether you attend early worship or the later one, join us as we find out how Horton, The Cat, The Grinch, and other friends illustrate Biblical principles. The **Seeker Class** is an in depth Bible Study, led by Pastor Mark and Hank Hemphill. They are currently studying the Gospel of John. This class meets in the conference room.



Please take a moment to read 32 Reasons Why Sunday School Is So Important In Your Life. We would like to honor and recognize all those who brave the winter months to come to Sunday School. If you attend Sunday School 6 out of the 8 Sundays in January and February, you will be treated to breakfast at McDonald's with Pastor Mark.

32 Reasons Why Sunday School Is Important...

1. Its primary purpose is the teach all persons of all ages about God, the Bible, and God's will for our lives.
 2. It fills the spiritual need that all people have.
 3. It helps people develop Christian and moral character.
 4. It helps all people grow closer to Jesus Christ.
 5. It shows us examples and models for a Christian life.
 6. It shows us God's will for each of our lives.
 7. God's Word is being studied and taught.
 8. It helps people find answers to specific problems, needs, and concerns.
 9. It helps people find strength to meet temptation.
 10. It challenges people to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ.
 11. It encourages people to share God's love.
 12. It calls people to service to God and others.
 13. It helps people develop closer personal Christian relationships with others.
 14. People are taught according to their age, education, and interests.
 15. It helps lay a spiritual foundation in the lives of children and youth by helping them learn important Bible lessons for their lives.
 16. It has the goal of developing true disciples for Jesus Christ.
 17. It gets people thinking.
 18. It helps people find a true friend, Jesus Christ.
 19. It helps develop Christian leadership skills.
 20. Each person's life, family, marriage, etc. needs to be based on Jesus Christ and the Bible.
 21. It is the teaching arm of the church, where students can really "dig in" to God's Word as they ask questions, discuss and share personal insights, and experiences.
 22. It is held on the Lord's Day, a Holy Day we should all strive to keep holy.
 23. All persons need to know what the Bible—our "handbook for life" - says for them.
 24. Through it, God's work is being done.
 25. It calls people to put the lessons of the classroom into action in their day-to-day lives.
 26. It encourages people to witness and reach out to others.
 27. It helps people of all ages put biblical teaching into their hearts.
 28. It challenges all persons of all ages to accept Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior.
 29. It brings entire families together in a learning environment that can be carried on through the week in their homes.
 30. It calls people to Christian accountability.
 31. Through it, God's will is being done.
 32. It is enjoyable and fun!
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Membership Support

As the new year begins, God's words to Abraham seem appropriate, "I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing." (Genesis 12:2) We are indeed thankful for the way God has blessed the ministry at St. Andrew. But the scripture also says that God does this so we can be a blessing to others. During 2018, let us strive to be a blessing to those within our church family, the community, and the world.

We are blessed to have had 19 people join us during the past year. These new additions to our church family will be honored at a coffee hour on January 21. Please plan to attend so you can welcome our new members.

Many of our new members visited St. Andrew after being invited by one of you. Sometimes, sharing how our wonderful church offers many programs of all ages are just the words someone needs to hear. First time visitors receive a warm welcome and a gift bag. Thanks for being a blessing by inviting your friends and welcoming visitors

Stewardship

We are blessed to be able to use our time, talents, and finances (through pledges and additional offerings) to support our ministry, which allows us to bless others through our programs and activities. Here are a few other ways of looking at stewardship:

- Gathering with a church encourages believers to love others and do good deeds.
- A church is the main venue for using your spiritual gifts.
- A church is a great venue for pooling resources to support missions and benevolent works.

- After your family, a church is the best group of people to meet your physical needs in an emergency.
- A church provides the setting for corporate worship, where you can be baptized, and where you can take part in the Lord's Supper.

Winter Book Giveaway

We will be having a "Winter Book Giveaway" in January. There will be several tables downstairs with all kinds of books for you to choose from. Come down and select some books you would enjoy reading. We are very blessed to have some generous donors donate these books for our children to enjoy. What better way to spend a cold, wintry day than to curl up with a good book. Happy reading!

Buckeye Making

We will be making our delicious buckeyes this month. Phyllis Schleigh will supervise, but she needs helpers to roll and dip lots of buckeyes! Please sign up on the sheet in the parlor if you can help. We will be making the buckeyes Monday and Tuesday, January 15 and 16, beginning at 9:00 a.m. (snow date-January 22 and 23), and Monday and Tuesday, January 29 and 30, 9:00 a.m. (snow date-February 5 and 6).

Pop Top Tabs

One way to bring blessings to others is by collecting tabs from soda cans, soup cans, and other similar items. Charities, such as Ronald McDonald House, recycle the tabs and use the proceeds to help pay for their house overhead. There is a tab collection jar in the parlor. Please save your tabs in the coming year, and continue to support this worthy project. Thanks!



BIRTHDAYS

1	Faith Athey
1	Evelyn Moody
2	Colton McKinley
3	Marcia Davis
6	Christina Athey
7	Lizzie Likely
10	Rebecca Collinson
10	Kendra Sampson
11	Scott Woolman
12	Jane Rhodes
13	Shannon Garland
13	Amanda Moore
13	Jim Robinson
14	Sybil Bender
15	Alex Finn
16	Calum Lunsford

17	Jeffrey Andrews
17	Jessica Cube
18	Alan Adams
18	Maxine Palmer
18	Jenny Plum
19	Brandon Peterson
19	Karly Reynolds
21	Gavin Babb
22	Taylor Kolson
24	Ron Mentzer
25	Coreen Leonard
26	Fran Quinn
28	Mike Leonard
28	Gerry Salter
29	Leroy Long
31	Larry Keplinger

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 7:00pm Book Club	3 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Adult Choir	4	5	6
7 6:00pm Youth Group	8 7:00pm Committee Meetings	9 8:30am Coordinating Team 10:00am Circle 11:30am Lunch at Redmen 7:00pm Circle	10 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Adult Choir	11 1:30pm Book Club @ Panera Bread 7:00pm Pastor Mark and Annette's Israel update	12	13 9:30am CWU Executive Council
14 3:15pm Youth Group Tubing @ Whitetail	15 MLK's Birthday Office Closed 9:00am Buckeye Making 7:00pm Admin. 7:00pm Deacons	16 9:00am Buckeye Making 6:30pm Presbyterian Men @ Hagerstown Family Diner	17 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Adult Choir	18	19 12:00pm Friday Club	20
21 9:30am New Member Coffee Hour 6:00pm Youth Group	22 9:00am Buckeye Making (snow date) 7:00pm Session	23 9:00am Buckeye Making (snow date)	24 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Adult Choir	25 7:00pm Bible Study	26	27 9:00am—3:00pm Long Range Planning Session
Vacation				Mark and Annette	on Vacation	
28 6:00pm Youth Group with Parents	29 9:00am Buckeye Making 5:30pm Supper Club at Western Sizzlin	30 9:00am Buckeye Making	31 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Adult Choir			Sunday Services 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship



Correspondence Bulletin Board

Please check out the correspondence bulletin board in the hallway. There are addressed cards for our away college students and military personnel. Each card is ready to go, except for a message from you. Let them know they are in our prayers. Pick up a card and encourage someone away from home.

Winter Care Packages

We are collecting items for our college students, and putting care packages together for them. Any donated items need to be in to the office by Sunday, January 28. Place your items on the back counter, and label them "College Care Package". Suggested items: snack crackers, small bags of chips, granola/cereal bars, gum, personal notes, etc. Thank you so much.

Inclement Weather Policy

If Washington County schools are closed or dismissed early due to bad weather, all church activities for that day are cancelled. If the schools are delayed, please check the answering machine. Evening activities will probably be held. If bad weather falls on a Sunday, listen to WCRH 90.5FM on the radio, or call the church. Pastor Mark will put a message on the answering machine if services have been cancelled.



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