

# *St. Andrew Presbyterian Church*

www.standrewpresbyterian.org 301-223-8887



***November 2025***



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## **Rooted in Love, Grounded in Grace, Growing for God**

Dear Friends,

We will celebrate the Remembrance of the Saints on November 2 at both services. We will highlight the importance of our Reformed roots as well as remember the saints in our congregation who have gone on to be with the Lord in this past year.

We Presbyterians have a faith that is called Reformed. It is Reformed in the sense that we always follow the mandate of Scripture as our guide and rule. During the Reformation, the rallying cry was *Sola Scriptura* or Scripture Alone.

As such, we are wary of human doctrines and ideas that stray from the core of the Scriptures. If a new idea is not in congruence with the Word of God, then we do not accept it as part of who we are as the people of God. This thought is found in our reliance upon the thought that we exist to give glory to God through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We proclaim this each and every Sunday as we worship and fellowship together. We do things that reach the world. We feed the poor. We speak for those who have no voice. But we do all of these to fulfill our responsibility to the Lord of our hearts.

When we do these things that we just mentioned for our glory and our pride, then we have lost our way. When our sole focus is to grow in numbers and not disciples, we have lost our way. Remember that we exist to give Christ the glory and if we grow, it is to give God the glory for enhancing our growth.

This is the reason that we talk so much about Jesus Christ here—He is the reason for our existence as we are His body demonstrating His love in this world. When we feed the poor or speak for the voiceless or touch those in unhealthy relationships or love our little ones, we are doing so that Christ is given the credit and due for His Spirit being with us. This means reaching out to those who may be different than us and may look different than us as we are not creating a homogeneous worship space but a place where Christ is lifted up through our actions!

When we share our faith in love with those we know and those we don't, as we share in love, we demonstrate to others that we as a people are rooted in love, grounded in grace, and thus growing for God.

In Christ's love,

*Pastor Mark*

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## **Remembrance of Saints**

**Sunday, November 2nd** during both services. We will highlight those who have gone to heaven in this past year as well as celebrate Reformation Sunday

## **Book Club**

If you like to read and enjoy great conversation and fellowship come and join us for our monthly Book Club at 7:00 p.m. in the Friendship Hall.

**November 4**, “Al Capone Does My Shirts”, by Gennifer Choldenko.

**December 2** – “Saving Shalimar”, by James Rada.

## **Officer Training Meeting**

There will be an Officer Training for those newly elected officers on **Saturday, November 15, 9:00-noon.**

## **Calling Post Emails**

If you have not been receiving weekly emails from St. Andrew’s Calling Post or would like to start receiving them, please contact Stacy MacMillan (301) 524-7282

or  
stacymacpitt@gmail.com.

## **Choral Fest and Prayer Time**

The Churches of the Ministerium will hold its annual Choral Fest and Prayer time on **Sunday, November 16, 7:00 p.m.** at St. James Brethren Church. Each church will have a choral song along with prayer concerning a certain aspect of our life. There will be a light reception following the Choral Fest. The offering will go to help those in need for our community and to the Williamsport Ministerium.

## **Library**

As we look ahead with joy to the coming months of fellowship, thanksgiving, and the joyful celebration of the birth of our Savior enjoy learning more about our Savior and a true Thanksgiving story.

**The Jesus Chronicles** – Luke’s Story (book 3) by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins. This biblically inspired book tells the story of Luke whose belief was built on the power of faith alone. Luke never met Jesus and was skeptical of His miracles, until events in his own life irreversibly change him.

**The Second Thanksgiving** by Douglas Lloyd McIntoch. Has Almighty God intervened in American history? Many great Americans have thought so, including President Abraham Lincoln as he signs the proclamation creating Thanksgiving as a permanent national holiday. “You must know and remember this,” Lincoln puts the matter bluntly. “Our nation began with a miracle.”

**The Princess** by Lori Wick - IN PENDARAN, Shelby Parker was born to a simple life - yet her mother and those around her cannot help but notice the graces she possesses. A contemporary story of honor and commitment freely given and richly rewarded.

## **The Presbyterian Men**

The Presbyterian Men **will not** meet in November or December in the morning. **The evening Bible Study will continue at 7:00 pm on November 18th.**

## **Your Input is Welcome!**

We welcome your input for our newsletters. Please place all submissions in the church office, by the **15th of each month.**



## **Sunday School**

If you haven't joined a Sunday School Class yet, come and join us. Here is a brief overview of our Sunday School Program. All students from Grade 5 and below meet in the sanctuary at 9:45 for a brief opening. (all other classes go directly to their Sunday School class at 9:45). During this time, we recite the Pledge to the Christian Flag and to the Bible, have a devotion, and a time of prayer. We also take up an offering. We use our Offering to support 2 sponsored children from the organization, Compassion International. We also send money to Samaritan's Purse, a relief organization that provides food, water, medical supplies, etc. to the neediest areas of the world. Part of the money is used for church and local needs. At 10:00 the students are dismissed to their classes.

### **We have 3 Adult Classes for you to choose from:**

**\*\* Seekers Class:** This is an in-depth study of the Bible. They are studying the book of I Thessalonians. The class meets in the Legacy Hall and is taught by Pastor Mark and Hank Hemphill.

**\*\* Study in Paul:** This class is studying the Life of Paul. They are using curriculum from Beth Moore. This is a DVD and book study of the life of Paul. All books are provided by the class. They meet in the Friendship Hall, the class is taught by Jason McDonald.

**\*\* Voyager Class:** This is an interactive class that chooses a book to read and to discuss together. This fall the class will be reading and discussing the book Living With Confidence In A Chaotic World. The book is by David Jeremiah and talks about having hope in uncertain times. All books are provided for the class. The class meets in the conference room.

Each month we like to highlight the importance of attending Sunday School. This information is taken from the pamphlet **27 Reason Why You Should Attend Sunday School**. Rodney Pry, the Director of the PA State Sunday School Association, shares this information in the pamphlet that he wrote.

### **Sunday School Calls Individuals to Give Thanks and Praise to God.**


*"No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."* I Thessalonians 5:18

Eleanor Doan relates the following story in one of her books: "Matthew Henry, the famous Bible scholar, was once accosted by thieves and robbed of his purse. That same day he wrote these words in his diary: "Let me be thankful first because I was never robbed before; second, although they took my purse, they did not take my life; third, because, although they took my all, it was not much; and fourth, because it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed."

When a Sunday School Teacher once asked her class what they were thankful for; one little boy replied, "My glasses." He explained "They keep the other boys from hitting me and the girls from kissing me."

Thankfulness comes in many different forms for different people. For Matthew Henry, his thankfulness seemed to be unmerited, but for the little boy, it was for the personal benefits that his glasses provided.

What are you thankful for today? I'm sure you are thankful for the many blessings that God has granted to you and your family. But, are you also thankful for the unpleasant and bad things that happen to you?





In Romans 8:28, Paul reminds us that “*..everything works together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.*” Being thankful for all things involves learning to recognize the “good” result that God promised will come from the situation.

Learning to recognize and be thankful for all of God’s blessings, both the good and the bad, only comes from a deep personal relationship with God and an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the Bible. And, where can you get that knowledge and understanding of the Bible? In Sunday School!

In all things let us give thanks to God for all the blessings that He has bestowed down upon us.

On September 28th we had a Teachers’ Meeting after church. At that meeting Julie Malecki, chair of the Christian Education Committee, shared a lesson with helpful tips and practical methods for teaching your Sunday School Class. Thank you, Julie for giving the teacher’s such useful ways to be an effective and meaningful teacher. The booklet, **5 Habits of Highly Effective Bible Teachers** was given to each teacher at the meeting. We have the best Sunday School teachers here at St. Andrew. If you have not joined a Sunday School class yet, we would love to have you join our Sunday School family.

### **Sunday School Reaches Out!**

We always stress that there are 3 components to Sunday School. The first and most important is teaching the Bible and having God’s Word and the Love of Jesus impact our everyday life. Second of all Sunday School is fun! Walk around on any given Sunday and peek into one of the

Sunday School Classes and see how much fun they are having. The third component of Sunday School is serving and giving back. We are so blessed and we need to share that blessing with others less fortunate than us. On Sunday, October 5, Sunday School kicked off the Operation Christmas Child, a program sponsored by Samaritan’s Purse. We watched a video explaining this program and saw the smiling faces of children receiving their shoebox as their Christmas gift. We enjoyed Christmas cookies as we watched the video and discussed how we can make a tangible difference in the lives of God’s Children around the world. We ended in prayer thanking God for all our blessings and thanking Him that we have an opportunity to share His greatest blessings to others. Thank you Sunday School for making Christmas so joyful for those who have so little!

### **Sunday School Snippets**

Here is what is going on at Sunday School:

**Toddler Class:** The children are learning about how God created the World. Congratulations to ***Alma Twum-Barimah*** for being at Sunday School 3 out of the 4 Sundays in September. Congratulations to ***Stella McDonald*** for being at Sunday School every Sunday in September. We are so proud of you both for your great attendance.

**Pre-K Class:** Our class is learning all about families. God gives us families to love and who love us! The class is practicing the Lord’s Prayer. So proud of the class in learning the Lord’s Prayer. Congratulations to ***Novah Vinson*** and to ***Brentley Vinson*** for their perfect attendance!

**K/1st Grade:** Our class has been doing different stories in the Bible. However, there is the central theme of family and friends. We circle together to pray for the opening.





**K/1st Grade Cont:** I am encouraging each child to add a small prayer for someone. **Emilee Bearese, Laken Bearese & Michael McDonald** are very close to memorizing their verse. All the children are enthusiastic about studying the Word of God.

**2nd & 3rd Grade:** Our class has been learning about how God chose Moses to lead His people out of slavery in Egypt. (Exodus 3-10) Moses, being unsure of his speaking skills, didn't think the Israelites would believe him. God told Moses that He would give him amazing signs to perform and that they would then believe him. *"My grace is sufficient for you for my power is made perfect in weakness."* (II Corinthians 12:9) God's plan to free the Israelites involved 10 plaques upon Egypt. Though these plaques were being cast upon the country, Pharaoh initially would not let God's people go. However, Moses and his brother Aaron kept trusting God and trying never to giving up. *"Let us not become weary in doing good."* (Galatians 6:9)

Congratulations to the following students for their splendid achievements:

**Addi Majeski** created a beautiful picture of Jesus riding the donkey into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. She faithfully brings her Bible to class and ask remarkable questions to be sure she's remembering the Bible accurately.

**Nikolai Bearese** enthusiastically looks up the "Bible Verse of the Day" and sketched a before and after picture of a "bad character" who then becomes a "good character" when he meets Jesus... How awesome!

**Thomas Twum-Barimah, Jr.** also drew a fantastic picture of a favored cartoon character "Sonic, the Hedgehog" holding hands with Jesus. Moreover, he asks wonderful questions and shared with us the story of Aaron's rod turning into a snake, which then devoured all the snakes created from the magicians rods in Pharaoh's court.

**2nd & 3rd Grade Cont.:** Excellent job class, I'm extremely proud of all of your hard work and creativity,

**4th -5th Grade:** We have been studying the life of Moses from childhood through crossing the Red Sea and entering into the desert. Each week we focused on one of the following themes:

1. **God wants us to do things His way** (Exodus 1:7 – 2:15)
2. **He wants us to do what we think we can't do** (3:1 – 4:20)
3. **God is in control so don't give up** (5:1 – 10:29)
4. **God fulfills His promises** (Exodus 11:1 – 12:42)
5. **God can help us in hopeless times** (13:17 – 15:22)
6. **Grumbling gets us nowhere** (Exodus 15:23 - 17:7, Numbers 20:1-13)

**Middle School:** It is a new school year and a new class! So...back to basics. What is a Christian? Why are we Christians? What is the Bible? Why do we believe in a 2000+ year old book? We dove into the answers to all of these questions. We looked at what we have with Jesus that other people are missing out on forgiveness, peace, purpose, etc. We talked about how non-believer's go through life blind and how we have the advantage of going through life with our eyes open. We illustrated this by doing an exercise walking around the church blindfolded, then blindfolded with someone guiding us and then with our eyes wide open. Much better with your eyes open. We looked at the Bible and why it is still relevant even now. Simply, the Bible is GOD's word, GOD doesn't change so His word is always true. Lots of other fun stuff! Stay tuned for more goings on in October!

**Teen Class:** The Senior High has an awesome group of young people! Currently, they are studying the importance of



### Teen Class Cont.

boundaries in our lives. Part of boundary training involves how to develop your faith. Some of the ways that we discussed as to how to live out your faith is: Read Scripture, Prayer, Helping others, Fellowship with other Christians, Repent of your sins, Fasting and Worship.

### Youth Group

The Youth Group will have a special flair on November 2nd. We will bring up all the items for the Christmas Bazaar and then the youth will go on a road trip. The details are a well kept secret so you will need to come and find out what we will be doing and where we will be going! The youth will be back at church in time for their folks to pick them up at 8:00 p.m.

Come meet a favorite Biblical Character, on **Sunday, November 16**, immediately following the second service the Youth Group will host a meet and greet with a variety of Biblical characters. You will get a chance to talk with them concerning their experiences and their faith. Lunch will be provided for a donation to the Youth Group. There will be some interactive stations as well. Come and enjoy your time with the Bible and support our youth in the process. Sign up in the parlor.

Friends! We would love for you to invite your friends to Youth Group. What a better gift to give to a friend than the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. If you bring a friend, both you and the friend will receive a candy bar. You can invite that friend two separate times for the friend to be a friend for our contest. If the Youth Group invites 25 friends by the end of May, we will have a very special trip!

Youth Group will meet on **November 2, 9, 16 and 23**. We will not meet on the 30th as it is a holiday weekend.

### Looking Ahead:

December is right around the corner! Mark your calendars for these important dates:

**\*\* December 7th**—Sandell Open House between both services.

**\*\* December 8th**—Adult Christmas Party

**\*\* December 14th**—Birthday Party for Jesus right after church. Everyone is invited to this fun event. Lunch will be served as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. We will also be enjoying a cookie exchange at this event. There will be a sign up sheet out soon. Please sign up if you plan on attending.

**\*\* December 20th & 21st**, 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Living Nativity.

More information will be in December's Newsletter about all these events and highlight even more events coming up in December. December can be a very busy month, so mark your calendars now for these fun events.

### Harvest Hoedown and Scarecrow Making Booth

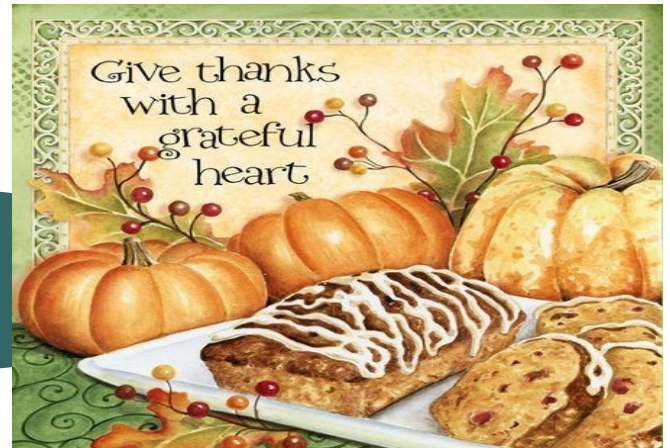
**A huge Thank You** to everyone who helped make the Hoedown and Scarecrow Booth a success! The Mission Committee could not do all of the work needed if it wasn't for all of the Volunteers who showed up to help the day of the Hoedown. The scarecrow area raised over \$2,000 and the whole event over \$8,000.







# November 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Youth Group Remember Saints 6:00 pm Evening Class	<b>3</b> 7:00 Session	<b>4</b> 7:00 pm Book Club	<b>5</b> 6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Choir	<b>6</b> 7:00 pm Bible Study Shepherd's Table	<b>7</b> 6-8:00 pm Christmas Bazaar	<b>8</b> 8am-2pm Christmas Bazaar
<b>9</b> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Evening Class	<b>10</b> 6:30 pm Christian Ed 7:00 pm Committees	<b>11</b> 5:30 pm Coordinating Team 10 am & 7pm Presbyterian Women Bible Study	<b>12</b> 6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Choir	<b>13</b> 7:00 pm Bible Study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 5:00 pm Elvis Concert Fundraiser 9-12 Officer Training
<b>16</b> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Noon Lunch with Bible Characters 6:00 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Choral Fest	<b>17</b> 6:00 pm Bldg/ Grounds 7:00 pm Admin./Deacons	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Choir	<b>20</b> 10-noon Helping Hands 7:00 Bible Study	<b>21</b> Noon Friday with Friends	<b>22</b> 8:00 am Live Nativity Set-up
<b>23</b> 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Noon Thanksgiving Meal 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Evening Class	<b>24</b> 5:30 Supper Club 7:00 Session	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Choir	<b>27</b> Member Meal	<b>28</b> 6:00 pm Antietam Entertainment	<b>29</b> 4:30 pm Adoption Party

**30**

8:30 am Worship  
9:45 am Sunday School  
11:00 am Worship



## **Thank you!**

**To all who came out to our Homewood BINGO Party on Saturday, October 18th.** I am so appreciative of everyone coming up and giving of their time on a beautiful Saturday afternoon to bring so much joy to the residents in the memory care unit. They love playing BINGO with us and enjoy the prizes and the refreshments that we provide for them. Thank you to all who donated the prizes for the party. Everyone gets a prize because we are all winners with Jesus. With appreciation Annette.

## **Thank you All**

Who made the Harvest Party such a huge success:

**\*\* Trinity Malecki, Vivianne Mohamad and the Youth Group** for the fantastic job for transforming the whole downstairs to a spooky area. What a fa"boo"lous job you all did.

**\*\* To all who handed out candy** throughout the church. We weren't about to have our Trunk or Treat outside due to the weather, but we brought the fun inside. Thank you so much for all you did in making this such a fun event for all the kids.

**\*\* To all who helped with all the activities in the Legacy Hall.** Wow! It was busy in there. You all were so instrumental in making sure the kids have fun as well as having everything run so smoothly. You all truly made it so special for all the kids attending our Harvest Party!

**\*\* Matt Goodwin** for driving the wagon for our wagon rides. Everyone of all ages loved going on the wagon ride and throwing "snowballs" at ghouls.

**\*\* The Pastoral Care Committee** for lending us all the table coverings from the Pastor Appreciation Breakfast for us to use for our Harvest Party. That was such a big help to have those ready to go for our party.

**\*\* Lynn Lowman** for bringing her adorable blow up Halloween decorations for us to enjoy as well as donating delicious cupcakes for our refreshments.

**\*\* All who came and enjoyed our fun Harvest Party.** Also, thank you for inviting friends. It was so much fun watching everyone of all ages enjoying the fun fall event.

**\*\* Most of all thank you for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,** who gave us this beautiful season to celebrate together as a church family.

## **Inclement Weather Policy**

If Washington County Schools are closed due to bad weather, all church activities for that day are cancelled. If the schools are delayed, daytime activities will be cancelled, but evening activities may still be on. If delayed, please call the church answering machine for details. If bad weather falls on a Sunday, we will call you on the Calling Post, or call the church. Worship will still occur on Facebook live.

## **In case of an emergency**

There are two exits from the sanctuary. One is the door at the back of the sanctuary and the other is the door on the left at the front of the sanctuary.







2026 Marie Price  
College Scholarship Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

College or Technical School \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly state your career goal:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

This scholarship of \$100.00 is for all those who will be a full time student at a college or university in the Fall of 2026.

Return application to: The Missions Committee mailbox,  
located in the office, or put on Secretary's desk.  
This scholarship is renewable. Please submit a new  
application each year.



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church  
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