

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

www.standrewpresbyterian.org 301-223-8887



April 2024

Rooted in Love, Grounded in Grace, Growing for God

Dear Friends,

As we enter the Easter season, the call of Scripture upon our lives is to be holy for God. Here is a poem written by Ann Weems about this very subject. It is titled: God's Holy People.

“Here we are, you and I, called to be God’s Holy People.
You say that you’re not the holy type, but I’m not talking about holier than thou.
I’m not talking about religious ritual, and the last thing I mean is self-righteousness!
Jesus chastised the self-righteous, the one who spent their days doing religious things,
The ones who spent so much time in religious ritual that they didn’t have time for
tenderheartedness.
I’m not talking about them; I’m talking about us.
I’m talking about paying attention to the things Jesus taught people,
Ordinary people, people like you, people like me...
Look at the disciples: ordinary people called to follow,
Called to be God’s Holy People,
Called to live holy lives. You think that this is impossible?
Is anything impossible to God?
That old woman Sarah thought it impossible to have a child...
The lepers thought it impossible to be healed...
The disciples thought it impossible to feed five thousand with two loaves and
five fish...
Mary and Martha thought it impossible that their brother Lazarus was alive...
The lame thought it impossible to walk...
The blind thought it impossible to see...
Here we are, ordinary people, called to be the Holy People of God.
If you have eyes to see and ears to hear, see and hear God’s holiness in your life.”

May we live as God’s Holy People, and as we do so, we will demonstrate that we are rooted in love, grounded in grace, and thus growing for God.

In Christ’s love,

Pastor Mark



Supper Club

Monday, April 22, 5:30 p.m. at the Western Sizzlin'. Come and join us for a great meal and a wonderful time of fellowship with your church family. Please sign up if you plan on attending.

Book Club

Do you like to read? Do you like good discussion and fellowship? If you answered yes, to these questions, then consider joining us for our monthly Book Club that meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Friendship Hall. These are the books that we will be reading:

* April 2nd: **Made From Scratch**.

Please Note: We will be meeting at the **House of Kobe** on the Dual Highway at **6:00 p.m.** for dinner and to discuss the book. This book is written by the person who founded the House of Kobe. You can only purchase this book at the House of Kobe. If you plan on attending, please sign up on the sign up sheet in the parlor, so that we can have ample seating for our dinner and book club discussion. Thank you!

* May 7th **Rose Conspiracy**: by Craig Parshall. If you like mystery and intrigue, come and join us as we discuss this book.

* June 4th **To Rescue the Constitution** by Brett Baer. It is about the efforts of our Founding Fathers to create the Constitution.

Helping Hands

We will be meeting **April 4th and the 18th, from 10:00 a.m. until noon**. Please bring a sandwich, dessert and drinks will be served. Hope you can make it! We will have lots to do to get ready for V.B.S.

Holly Place

Holly Place was established to target low-income seniors with limited resources who could not afford alternative care systems.

The Presbyterian Women support Holly Place as one of our local missions.

Holly Place Wish List

This is an updated list of items Holly Place needs. The Presbyterian Women collect items each month and deliver them to Holly Place. There will be a featured item each month but you can donate anything on this list at anytime. Place your donations in the tub located in the lobby labeled Holly Place. Thank you for your generosity.

April	Trash Bags (13 & 33gal)
May	Furniture Polish
June	Floor Cleaner
July	Batteries (AAA, AA, 9V)
August	Aluminum Foil



Friday Potluck Luncheon

Friday, April 19, noon. If you think history is boring, you have never enjoyed one of **Mary Ann Jung's fun**, interactive shows and workshops! They are terrific for all ages. This award-winning actress has been recreating history's most fascinating women - and educating for all ages - for thirty-three years with a dynamic style like no other. It's no wonder she has appeared on CNN, Good Morning America and regularly performs for the Smithsonian, National Theatre and countless schools, museums, and festivals. She will present Amelia Earhart for our Friday Potluck with Friends. Please bring a dish to share.



Your Stewardship at Work: Membership Support Committee

As we continue to show how your stewardship contributes to our ministry, this month's focus is on the Membership Support Committee.

Our main responsibilities are to encourage and support church membership and stewardship. This includes promoting our members to volunteer their time and talent as well as to support our ministry financially. We do this through monthly newsletter articles, quarterly announcements, and our annual stewardship drive.

Visitors are greeted as they enter church. We welcome them with a gift bag of St. Andrew information. Visitors who leave an address on the attendance pad receive a handwritten note. We also tidy the pews each Monday morning!

We celebrate new members as we host the Communicant dinner for youth and their families, and the New Member Reception. Along with the Christian Ed. Committee, we help with the annual Back to School Church Picnic.

Every few years we coordinate a church wide photo directory and twice a year we email an updated roster. In addition to this, we maintain the church website.

Through these activities, the Membership committee promotes St. Andrew as an exciting, inspirational place to worship and enhance faith journeys



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.**

Membership Support Committee

Each year we are blessed to add new members of all ages to our congregation. After talking with Pastor Mark and meeting with the Session, the congregation then witnesses the public announcement of their faith.

What are the benefits of church membership? According to Rick Warren in his book, **The Purpose Driven Church**, here are some of the benefits of membership:

1. Identifies a person as a genuine believer (Eph. 2:19, Rom. 12:5)
2. Provides a spiritual family to support and encourage them (Gal. 6:1-2, Heb. 10:24-25)
3. Gives them a place to discover and use their gifts in ministry (1 Cor. 12:4-27)
4. Places them under the spiritual protection of godly leaders (Heb. 13:17; Act. 20:28-29)
5. Gives them the accountability they need to grow in their faith. (Eph. 5:21)

As members of this vital and exciting ministry here at St. Andrew, there are so many ways to get involved. You are invited to participate in Bible Studies, Sunday school classes, choirs, book clubs, committee meetings, Helping Hands, and Sunday worship. Craft workshops are happening. The outside gardens need attention. Now's the time to spring into action.

Facebook Live

Each Wednesday on Facebook live, Pastor Mark will share insights concerning the women of the Bible. These short talks are designed to deepen your faith as well as heighten your awareness concerning how to be an ethical person in this world. The talks will occur around 2:00 pm if you desire to watch live. Otherwise, you can check the Facebook page any time after that.



Sunday School News:

If you have not yet joined a Sunday School Class come and join us! Here is a brief summary of each adult class:

Parenting Class—Overcoming Emotions that Destroy.

As human beings we all struggle with managing our emotions at times. Join us Sunday mornings as we seek to grow deeper in our faith by challenging ourselves to understand, and more effectively respond to our emotions in a way that builds up our families and strengthens personal relationships. This class meets in the Friendship Hall and is taught by Pam and Jason McDonald. Class begins in April.

Seeker Class is taught by Pastor Mark and Hank Hemphill. This is an in depth Bible Study that meets in the Legacy Hall. They are currently studying **Esther**.

Voyager Class reads and discusses a book that the class chooses. They are currently reading the book, **The Promise of the Holy Spirit**, by Max Lucado. All books are provided for the members. This class meets in the Conference Room.

Sunday School Snippets

Pre-K Class: Congratulations to **Emelia and Lachlan Bearese, Jude and Olive Gogan, and Maddie Goodwin** for memorizing their Bible verse; *“Jesus went around doing good”*. The class is learning about all the things that Jesus did: He healed a blind man, He healed the sick, He showed His disciples how to pray, He taught us that we should love one another, and to love our enemies.

Kindergarten/1st Grade Class: Congratulations to **Nikolai Bearese, Addi Majeski, Aiden Paul, and Thomas Twum-Barimah** for memorizing their Bible verse *“Jesus is the Son of God”*. I John 5:5. The class is learning that Jesus is God’s Son and that He loves us very much.

2nd & 3rd Grade: Congratulations to **Elsie Majeski** for memorizing the following Bible verse *“There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother”*. Proverbs 18:24. **Elsie** also memorized 3 of God’s Holy Commandments *“Thou shall not steal”, “Thou shall not murder”, and “Honor your father and mother.”* Exodus 20:1-17. Thank you **Elsie** for performing in a skit for our Valentine’s Party with your sister, **Addi**, and your good friend, **Maggie**. The skit centered around a young detective whose mission was to discover which of his friends performed tasks with a willing heart. *“Here am I Lord, send me.”* Isaiah 6:8. The class is studying and memorizing the Bible verse, *“For all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God”*. Romans 3:23, When we sin, God wants us to come to Him right away and ask for forgiveness with a sincere heart. There will be consequences for my sins, but at least I can be right with God and pray that He helps me not to commit that sin again. In Jesus name, I pray, Amen

4th and 5th Grade: Many of the Israelites turned from God and were following a false god, Baal. God sent Elijah to put a stop to the Israelites’ idol worship. After a three-year drought, God sent Elijah to challenge the wicked King Ahab to a contest between God and Baal. The only living God won the challenge and killed all 450 prophets of Baal. **Theme: Choose to follow the one true God.** (1 Kings 18 and Jeremiah 10:10, “The LORD is the true God; He is the living God, the eternal King.”)

King Ahab’s wicked wife, Queen Jezebel, was the one who had brought the worship of Baal to God’s chosen people. When she learned that all the prophets worshiping Baal had been killed, she ordered that Elijah be found and killed. Elijah had to flee. God sent an Angel to give Elijah food and water and strengthened him for his journey. **Theme: Turn to God when you are feeling down.** (I Kings 19; and Psalm 30:1 – “I will exalt you, LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths.”)

As Elijah prepared to be taken up into heaven, a prophet name Elisha requested that God make him Elijah’s heir with a double portion. Because Elisha was persistent and would not leave Elijah, God granted his wish. Both prophets had a strong ministry in Israel. They trained “companies” of prophets to assist them. **Theme: When you face tough changes,** God is there with His power. (2 Kings 2:1-15; and Psalm 28:7 – “The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and He helps me.”)



Middle School: Class is going great! Lots of activities and discussions. In February we looked at how Jesus always does the unexpected. One of the most unexpected things we can see is the transformations that occur in the Bible and in life. When we believe in Jesus and give our lives to Him, we are transformed. The old worldly you diminishes as you are transformed into a new renewed person in Christ. We illustrated how dramatic transformations can be using some simple science experiments using household ingredients. Most of these involved taking a few ordinary things like baking soda and vinegar and mixing them to see what happens. All of them involved minor, but safe and fun, explosions. Lots of fun was had watching our volcanoes erupt, coke fly out of a bottle 6 feet in the air, Tupperware shooting 10 feet in the air, and elephant toothpaste flowing all over the place. The point being, that God's transformations are so much better and more exciting than these, if you are paying attention and notice them.

Congratulations to the following students who had good Sunday School Attendance and Perfect attendance in the month of February. Thank you to the kids and to the parents/grandparents that bring you to Sunday School each week. We are so glad that you see attending Sunday School as a top priority.

3 out of 4 Sundays **Perfect Attendance**

Pre-K

- Emelia Bearese*
- Lachlan Bearese*
- Jude Gogan*
- Ollie Gogan*
- Michael McDonald*
- Bryan Twum-Barimah*

K/1st

- Addi Majeski* *Aiden Paul*
- Thomas Twum-Barimah*

2nd and 3rd

- Everett England*
- Elsie Majeski*

4th and 5th

- Maggie McDonald*

6th-8th Grade

- Natalie Farioli* *Abby Boppe*
- Brody Hemphill*
- Anne McDonald*

Teen Class

- Logan Farioli* *Jeremy Hemphill*
- Grace McDonald*

Teen Class: The class is digging deeper into the Book of Proverbs and learning to unlock the wisdom found within and then apply it to their everyday lives.

Easter Season

We had fun celebrating this Easter Season in Sunday School. Each week leading up to Easter we would open up some Easter eggs to see what was inside them. We quickly discovered that these items were not ones that they would find in their Easter eggs. Here are the items that we found each week as we opened up our Easter eggs:

- * a donkey, silver coins, a chalice, praying hands, a leather whip, a crown of thorns, 3 nails, a dice, a spear, linen wrapping, a stone, and the last egg was empty.

Can you figure out why these items were in our Easter eggs that we opened up during this Easter Season? If you are stumped, ask any one of the Sunday School students, they can tell you.

Each child received a colorful bag of jelly beans on Easter Sunday. We talked about how each color told part of the Easter story. If you are not sure of the Jelly Bean Prayer, here it is:

The colors of Easter:

Red is for the blood He gave
Green is for the grass He made
Yellow is for His sun so bright
Orange is for the edge of night
Black is for the sins we made
White is for the grace He gave
Purple is for His house of sorrow
Pink is for our new tomorrow's
A bag full of jelly beans, colorful and sweet
is a prayer, is a promise, is everyone's treat.

Happy Easter!

The older Sunday School classes were served matza bread and grape juice on Palm Sunday. This is in anticipation for the beginning of Holy week, remembrance of the Last Supper. As the kids drank their grape juice they were to remember the blood that Jesus shed on the cross on our behalf. As they ate the matza bread they were to remember Jesus body that is given to us.





Mission Committee

WE NEED YOUR ...

As you are cleaning out your winter clothes getting ready for warmer weather please give us your: children's, toddler's, baby jeans, button up shirts, hoodies and one piece PJs, panty hose, new or used, (Dollar Tree has them for \$1.25).

Men's and women's long sleeve button/snap up shirts/blouses and hoodies (no XXX LG)

Men's and women's jeans that have belt loops (no 40 up), hats, belts, and scarves. Please NO sweaters, sweatshirts, short sleeves, shorts or knee highs.

Place your donations in the tub marked Scarecrows in the hallway. Thank you, The Mission Committee

Food Pantry Volunteers

Thank you to **Debbie Kinzer, Mark Mummert, Steve Hatleberg, Emily Grabill, Mo Theriault, Darlene Suffecool, and Tena Lane** for working at the Food Pantry March 25 & 28. Ten people from St. Andrew attended the thank you dinner for the volunteers at the Williamsport Food Pantry.

The Williamsport Ministerium

Will have its annual National Day of Prayer and Choral Fest on **Sunday, April 28, beginning at 7:00 pm**, at St. James Brethren Church. We will pray for the nation as well as hear the musical talents that exist in each of our churches.



The Mission Committee Needs YOU!

If you enjoy running an event this job is for you! With the support of the members of the Mission Committee taking care of preparations leading up to the Hoedown, the following is a summary of the Scarecrow Booth Coordinator's job. If you are considering taking the job talk to Pastor Mark.

Scarecrow Making Coordinator

- * Attend 4 Harvest Hoedown Coordinator Meetings and Coordinate with other organizations
- * Attend September Mission Committee meeting before the Hoedown to check with Mission Committee members about; volunteers, materials, purchases needed and other job completion dates
- * Arrange for a truck and driver to pick up straw the Friday evening before the Hoedown and deliver it to the park. Then Coordinate the Friday evening set-up at Williamsport Park

Day of the Hoedown

- * 7:45 a.m. open the church and greet the volunteers that are loading the tubs, etc
- * Manage loading and delivery to the park
- * Manage unloading and set up at the park
- * Coordinate volunteers and job assignments as they arrive, especially teens
- * Work the event as a floater checking on jobs and keeping the straw moving
- * Take the Cash to the bank
- * Coordinate volunteers for the final clean up, pack up everything to be returned to the church
- * Manage unloading at the church, put everything away downstairs

The Mission Committee needs help with this fundraiser for the Williamsport Food Pantry. We are praying you will be led to fill this need.



We Need You!!

Our Children's Ministry is growing by leaps and bounds! We are so excited to have so many new faces in our Children's Programs. That being said, we need volunteers to help out with the various programs we have for our Children's Ministry. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful group of people working with our children and youth. We would love to have you be a part of our ministry. We need people to volunteer to substitute when there is a need:

_____ Kids of the Kingdom, either at the 8:30 or 11:00 services. A lesson will be provided for you. Specify the time you would prefer.

_____ Sunday School Substitute. Please specify what grades you would prefer working with. The lesson will be provided for you.

_____ Assisting in the nursery with babies. Please specify what service either 8:30 or 11:00 you would like to volunteer in.

_____ Be an assistant to a Sunday School teacher. Please specify what grade you would be interested in working.

_____ V.B.S. Please see the sign up sheet at the sign up table in parlor.

Please see Annette if you have any questions. **There is a sign up sheet in the parlor for you to sign up on.** Thank you so much.

Tony Evans Class

Our last class, **Power of the Holy Spirit's Names** will be on Sunday April 14. Please note: there is **no class** on April 7. We will have dinner for the class on the 14th. We will be wrapping up our study by sharing the highlights from our book, study book, and the DVD series. If you missed any classes, feel free to come at 5:30 to watch any missed video on the 14th.

Christmas Craft Workshops

We meet **every other Monday morning from 9:30-noon**. We will be meeting on the following Mondays: **April 1, April 15, and April 29**. You can find a copy of our schedule on the on the Presbyterian Women's bulletin board.

V.B.S. **Mark Your Calendars!!**

We are gearing up for V.B.S. on **June 10th-14th**. We need volunteers in all areas. Please check out the sign up sheet in the parlor and sign up where you would like to help. V.B.S. snacks are always a highlight for the kids. Each snack is tied directly to the lesson and a devotion is read while the children are eating their snack. Please check at the sign up table for items that are needed for our snacks during the week of V.B.S. Thank you so much for your donation. You can bring in your snack items anytime and label V.B.S. If you prefer to donate with a monetary gift, please put your money/check in an envelope and label V.B.S. Snacks. There are registration forms at the sign up table to register your child (ren).

V.B.S. Preview

Mark your calendar for **April 7**. We will be having a **V.B.S. preview right after the 11:00 service in the Friendship Hall**. At this time, we will reveal this year's theme, hear about all the exciting plans for this year's V.B.S, sample snacks, preview curriculum and crafts. You will also have the opportunity to sign up to volunteer and to register your children. Hope that you can come. We need everyone's help to make this year's V.B.S. the best ever. If you have any questions, see Annette.



April 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30-noon Craft Workshop	2 6:00 p.m. Book Club at House of Kobe	3 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	4 10—noon Helping Hands 7:00 p.m. Bible Study	5	6
7 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12:00 pm VBS Preview 6:00 pm Youth	8 6:30 Christian Ed 7:00 p.m. Committees	9 10 am & 7pm Women's Bible Study 6pm Coordinating Team	10 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	11 7:00 p.m. Bible Study	12 Youth _____	13 Retreat _____
14 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6:00 p.m. Youth 6:00 p.m. Tony Evans	15 9:30-noon Craft Workshop 6:00 pm Building & Grounds 7:00 pm Administrative Committee	16 6:00 p.m. Presbyterian Men	17 6:30 Confirmation Class 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	18 10-noon Helping Hands 7:00 p.m. Bible Study	19 Noon Pot Luck Luncheon	20 8-12 Church Work Day
21 8:30 am Worship Coffee Hour 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6:00 p.m. Youth	22 5:30 Supper Club 7:00 p.m. Session	23	24 6:30 Confirmation Class 6:30 p.m. Handbells 7:30 p.m. Choir	25 7:00 p.m. Bible Study	26	27
28 8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Noon Teacher's Luncheon 6:00 pm Youth 7:00 p.m. Choral Fest at St. James Brethren	29 9:30-noon Craft Workshop	30				

VBS Registration Form
June 10-14

Please check the grade for your child, as well as listing your child's name and other information, and place this form in the offering plate, or in the folder on the sign-up table in the parlor.

Pre-K Class (2-4 years old)

Name _____

Age _____ T-shirt size _____

Allergies _____

Other information _____

Kindergarten (entering or leaving kindergarten)

Name _____

T-shirt size _____

Allergies _____

Other information _____

1st and 2nd Grade (completed either grade)

Name _____

T-shirt size _____

Allergies _____

Other information _____

3rd and 4th Grade (completed either grade)

Name _____

T-shirt size _____

Allergies _____

Other information _____

5th and 6th Grade (completed either grade)

Name _____

T-shirt size _____

Allergies _____

Other information _____

Teen Class (completed 7th-12th grade)

Name _____

T-shirt size _____

Allergies _____

Other information _____

T-shirt size (child's S, M, L, XL or adult's S, M, L, XL)

Name of parents/guardian _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
10813 Donelson Drive
Williamsport, Maryland 21795