

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

www.standrewpresbyterian.org

301-223-8887



October 2024

Rooted in Love, Grounded in Grace, Growing for God

Dear Friends,

Did you know that St. Andrew has a mission statement? In the past we have published it in our phone directory. Over the course of time, we have not made it public as we now have an online phone directory and we did not include the mission statement in our latest photo directory. So in order for us to understand that we have a direction for our church, I thought it is appropriate that we share the mission statement here in these next series of columns.

Our mission statement is summed up in our logo statement—We are rooted in love, grounded in grace, and growing for God. We established this statement when we were going for our first major church addition and renovation. This was the addition of the offices, Sunday School space, the new entry way, the conference room, and the small classroom off of the hallway.

The slogan is three parts to reflect the Trinity of God. The first encompasses the essential nature of God—God is love (I John 4:16). Love is truly what makes the world continue. As a result of love, we sacrifice for our children and family. As a result of love, we give to charity and the church. As a result of love, we begin to understand the purpose and nature of God. Love allows us to care for those who are not kind to us and to share in life with others even when we have nothing in common. Love is the bedrock of a functioning society and of course the power of the redeemed soul.

Love is demonstrated in grace. Grace is the force of forgiveness in this world. Grace allows us to move on from our mistakes as we have the past corrected with the living power of forgiveness. Grace helps us stay in committed relationships as we reset the broken parts to the path of wholeness as we forgive.

Since we seek to be loving and forgiving, the natural result is to invite others into our fellowship. We as the church need to continue to add to our membership not so that we can brag about the size of our church but so that we can touch human lives for Jesus. There are many in the world who need to experience the life changing love of our Savior. Our efforts to be friendly and to be kind is one means by which others can find this incredible love that we enjoy with Jesus.

We serve together as the Body of Church. As we stay connected, we demonstrate to the world that we are rooted in love, grounded in grace, and thus growing for God.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Mark



Membership Support

Our Stewardship Drive occurs in October, not because stewardship is a scary concept, but because it's a good time to decide how to support St. Andrew's ministry with service (time and talents) and finances in 2025.

Everyone in our church family is urged to participate in our activities throughout the year. The Time and Talent Form in the Stewardship Packet offers a list of needs for volunteers. Please check those you are interested in and return the form on October 27. What a great way to make new friends at one of our events.

If you've thought joining St. Andrew might be a bit unnerving, never fear. Now might be the time! Membership takes three steps: Talk to Pastor Mark; Meet with Session; Profess your faith to the congregation.

You can ease visitor's fears by smiling and saying hello. Passing attendance pads to those sitting in the pew lets us know who was at worship. Visitors who include contact information receive a note.

With your stewardship support, spending time at St. Andrew will only be a spine-tingling experience because of the spirit-filled ministry we provide.

Harvest Hoedown

Saturday October 5, 2024. We need volunteers at the Scarecrow making booth. This is our big fundraiser for the Williamsport Food Pantry. Contact Mark Mummert or just show up that day. There will be a job for you .

The Mission Committee thanks you for your support.

Stewardship

Truth, Fact, Hope: Not an ad for a pain reliever, but a description of what's included in our Stewardship Packet.

Truth! A letter that explains how our church family's finances and services support our effective ministry.

Facts!

A budget sheet that shows how money was used during 2024.

The Time and Talent Form lists opportunities for volunteers to support our ministry.

A Financial Stewardship Commitment card (Pledge Card) offers help when determining how much to pledge.

A new inclusion is the Q & A sheet that offers answers to frequently asked questions about pledging.

Hope! The hope our financial and service support provides through our ministry as we continue to reach those within our church and in our community.

The Truth, Facts, and Hope found in Jesus will be evident because of your support.



Williamsport Food Pantry Update

Vivian, Rebecca, Debbie, Terry, Shirley and Mark worked the Food Pantry Fundraiser at C&O Canal Days, August 24. \$700 profit and a \$1000 donation = \$1,700 for the Food Pantry.

Food Pantry volunteers needed for November 4 and November 7.

Contact Vivian Suffecool if you would like to volunteer.



Friday with Friends

Mary Beth Alphin will be talking about her visit to the former Mayan Ruins of Yaxha and Tikal in Guatemala. She will be sharing her pictures and experiences of these amazing examples of a highly advanced society that dates to the 6th century A.D.

Come join us on **Friday, October 18th.**

Samaritan's Purse GO Boxes

What's a GO box you ask? It's a global opportunity to share the love of Jesus with children around the globe. It's what we've called OCC Shoeboxes in the past – but it is more than a Christmas box filled with special gifts. Each child who receives one also has an invitation to participate in a 12-week program called The Greatest Journey and their own Bible. In the class they learn about Jesus' love for them and about salvation through Christ. They are led by local, specially trained staff who distribute the Shoeboxes after introducing Jesus.

Please prayerfully consider sending one or two boxes to children who will be blessed by the message of love in your gift and in the program. Through your generosity, they may come to salvation through Jesus.

Boxes will be available later in October. The donation to send the boxes and support The Greatest Journey is still \$10.00. If you have any questions, please contact Mo Theriault.

Williamsport Foodbank Items Needed

Cereals (all types), Tuna, Pears, Vegetable Soup, Stuffing Mix, Green Beans

Library

October offers fun adventures (Harvest Hoedown and Trunk & Treat) and scary events (walking through our Harvest party basement.) The books below are also fun, frightening, and worth reading.

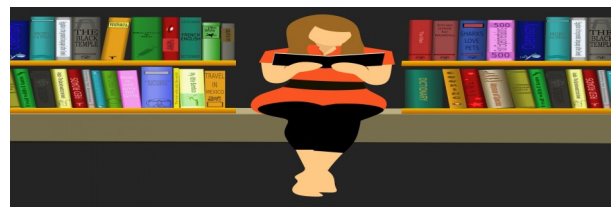
The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. A mesmerizing novel about relationships and romances, sufferings and strength of the people of the Channel islands during the German Occupation in WWII.

Remembering Nueva Vida by Marge Day (Annette's aunt). Marge shares her adventures and challenges as she spread the Gospel to natives in the jungles of Bolivia during her 60 years as a missionary.

33 Men by Jonathan Franklin. The true story of the dramatic rescue of Chilean miners trapped underground for sixty-nine days in 2010.

Woman in White by Wilkie Collins. This classic mystery novel is a masterful blend of suspense and the supernatural.

Treat yourself to one of these books today! They're found on the short book shelf in Friendship Hall.



Book Club

October 1, 7:00 p.m. in the Friendship Hall. We will be discussing the book, **A Walk Through the Dark** by Eva Piper

Plan on joining us for a very informative and interesting discussion!



Sunday School

We had a great kick off for our new 2024-2025 Sunday School year last month at our Rally Day Celebrations. If you have not joined a Sunday School Class yet, come and join us for this new year. We have classes for all ages, including 3 Adult classes. Here is a brief summary of our Sunday School Program.

Sunday School is for everyone! If you haven't joined a Sunday School class, now would be a great time to join. Here is a brief summary of the choices for Sunday School.

All classes start at 9:45. Children in grades 5 and below meet in the sanctuary from 9:45-10:00 a.m. for a brief Opening Program. At this time we say the Pledge to the Christian Flag and to the Bible. We have a devotion, a time of prayer and take up an offering. Our offering goes to support our sponsored child from Compassion International, Programs from Samaritan's Purse, and church and local needs. At 10:00 the children are dismissed to their classroom.

Parents Please Note: If your child is in **Grade 3 or below**, please pick them up in their classroom by **10:45**.

We have 3 Adult Classes:

Seekers Class: led by Pastor Mark and Hank Hemphill. This is an in depth Bible Study. They are currently studying the book of Job. This class meets in the Legacy Hall.

Voyager Class: This class will be reading and discussing *Everyday Deserves a Chance* by Max Lucado. The books are provided for each class member. This class meets in the Conference Room.

Parables for Today: How did Jesus simplify complex theological concepts so that believers could live out their faith? Using parables! Parables were a go to teaching tool that Jesus used to help his followers embrace deep, spiritual truths. Parables were more than just an illustration, they are also a call to action, because once we understand the meaning behind the parables we can then apply the concepts to our own lives. Parables are just as important today, as they were in Jesus time, but often we cast them aside assuming their relevance isn't applicable in 2024. Join our class as we unpack the Parables and explore them in a new light. The parables are alive and well and we will use them to deepen & renew our faith. This class is taught by Pam & Jason McDonald in the Friendship Hall.

Sunday Night Classes Are Back:

Come and join us **Sunday Evening for our Bible Study on Kingdom Authority**, Living Under God's Rule. We will be starting our class on October 6th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. We will be using Tony Evans' workbook and DVD series. Here is a brief excerpt about the study. "The God of the Bible is the Creator and Ruler of all that exists. His authority is absolute, and yet He has given us His authority to exercise dominion over the world He made. In Christ, God has called you to place every aspect of your life under the delegated authority you've received from Him, instead of being ruled by circumstances and emotions. Self help and self improvement are not the answer. In this Bible Study, Dr. Tony Evans will show you how to anchor your life in God's kingdom authority." There is a sample book for you to look over at the sign up stand as well as the DVD. If you have any questions please see Tammy or Annette.



Sunday School Convention:

Each year our church attends the Pennsylvania State Sunday School Convention. This organization supports and promotes the Sunday School Program. The organization hosts a convention once a year. This year it will be held in Chambersburg on **November 9th**. The convention is for anyone who is interested in Christian Education and in growing in their Christian faith. There are 20 workshops to choose from. If you are interested in going or just want to know more about it, pick up a brochure in the entry way. If you plan on going, please sign up on the sign up sheet in the entryway by **October 20th**, and place your registration form in the envelope provided. Please note the church will cover all costs, including lunch. If you have any question, please see Annette.

Do you know your ABC's?

Sunday School is learning the Gospel ABC's. Each student was given 26 Bible verses. Each Bible verse begins with a letter of the alphabet. If they are able to recite all 26 memory verses they will receive a special prize from Sunday School. This can be a family activity. If you did not receive a Scripture Card please see Miss Annette and she will get one for you. There is no time limit for this challenge. Take your time and enjoy learning some wonderful Bible verses.

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**.

Each month we will be featuring a Sunday School Teacher in the monthly newsletter. This month the spotlight is on **Gabby Johnson**.

Gabby has been working in our Sunday School Program for the past 2 years. She has filled in wherever needed. This year Gabby will be working in the Pre-K Sunday School Class with her mom, Miss Jen.. We are so excited to have Gabby and her mom work with our young children in sharing the great love that Jesus has for them.

For Gabby, the best part of teaching is watching the kids grow to know and understand the love and power of Jesus. Her favorite Scripture is Revelation 3:20 "Behold I stand at the door and knock: if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me." Gabby's favorite Bible story is Hosea and Gomer. This story shows that God will always accept us back with open arms.

In Gabby's spare time she enjoys reading and watching True Crime stories. Her favorite food is Chinese. Anywhere by a lake is a favorite vacation spot for Gabby.

We are so blessed to have Gabby be a part of our Sunday School ministry. Thank you for answering the call of teaching Pre-K. Praying God's blessing upon you and your Sunday School Class.

Next month we will have another Featured teacher. Who will it be??





**St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
is having its**

12th Annual Fall Lobster Fest
Saturday, October 12, 2024
5:00 – 7:00pm

Dine in or Take-out

Option 1: \$45 1.5 – 2 lb. Lobster Dinner*

Option 2: \$35 Lobster Roll Dinner*

Option 3: \$25 Beef Brisket Dinner*

Option 4: \$40 LIVE or Cooked whole lobster only

*Dinners include: broccoli salad, twice-baked potatoes, roll & home-made deserts.

For an additional \$5 you can have the staff pick the lobster and it will be served in foil w/butter.

Lobsters must be **ordered before Wednesday, October 9th**

Call 301-223-8887 or 301-992-2222 to place your order.

Mail checks payable to St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

10813 Donelson Dr., Williamsport, MD 21795 or pay at the door.

Proceeds benefit the St. Andrew Youth Mission Trip



Micah Backpack Update

All Lincolnshire students will get free breakfast and free lunch this year. In Washington County schools, there are 925 homeless or transitional housing students. Some are in tents. Micah serves 98 students at Lincolnshire (St Andrew 24 of the 98) From this year's HARC Hike, the Micah program got \$31,000! Total hike profit was \$77,000.

The Mission Committee thanks you for supporting this outreach mission.



Harvest Hoe Down Needs

Harvest Hoe Down will be here before we know it. St. Andrew Presbyterian raises funds for the Williamsport Food Pantry with the Scarecrow Making Booth. We are short on the following items needed to make a scarecrow. We need enough of each item to make at least 400 scarecrows.

The Items are listed by greatest need:

** Long sleeve button/snap up shirts all sizes but especially youth and children sizes

** Jeans all sizes especially youth and children sizes

** Used and new pantyhose (pantyhose can be purchased at the Dollar Tree for \$1.25) Hats, neckties, scarves, belts

Place your donations in the tub found in the hall outside of the office marked scarecrows by Sunday September 29, 2024. **Please sign up to help Saturday October 5, 2024.**

Please note: The youth are no longer collecting clothes for Big Creek.



October 2024



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>7 pm Book Club, "A Walk Through The Dark"</i>	2 <i>Handbell 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm</i>	3 <i>10-noon Helping Hands 7 pm Bible Study</i>	4	5 <i>10-4 Harvest Hoedown</i>
6 <i>8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Tony Evans Class</i>	7 <i>9:30-noon Craft Workshop 7 pm Lay Leader Training</i>	8 <i>6 pm Coordinating Team 10 am & 7 pm Women's Bible Study</i>	9 <i>Handbell 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm</i>	10 <i>10-noon Helping Hands 7 pm Bible Study</i>	11	12 <i>5 -7:00 pm Lobster Fest</i>
13 <i>8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 12:00 Congregational Meeting 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Tony Evans</i>	14 <i>9:30-noon Craft Workshop 7 pm Committees</i>	15 <i>6:00 pm Presbyterian Men Pastor _____</i>	16 <i>Handbell 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Mark _____</i>	17 <i>And _____</i>	18 <i>Noon Friday with Friends Miss _____</i>	19 <i>Birthday Party Annette _____</i>
20 <i>8:30 am Worship 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Tony Evans Class Vacation _____</i>	21 <i>9:30-noon Craft Workshop 6 pm Building & Grounds 7 pm Admin. _____</i>	22 _____	23 <i>Handbell 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm _____</i>	24 <i>7 pm Bible Study</i>	25	26 <i>Craft Workshop</i>
27 <i>Pastor Appreciation 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Coffee Hour 9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 6-7:30 Harvest Party</i>	28 <i>9:30-noon Craft Workshop 5:30 Supper Club 7 pm Session</i>	29	30	31 <i>10:00-noon Helping Hands 7 pm Bible Study</i>		



The Christmas Experience:

The Perfect Family Christmas Tradition
Thousand of lights... Picturesque
Decorations... A homestyle feast...
Award winning Vocalists and Dancers.

Now in its 10th year, Antietam Entertainment's Christmas Experience provides a unique combination of live theater, drama, comedy, holiday activities, and down home cooking.

We are once again sponsoring an evening at Antietam Entertainment for their Christmas show. This is an annual event that our church attends each year the day after Thanksgiving. This year we will be going as a church group on **November 29th, 6:00 p.m.** What a great way to begin the holiday season by enjoying a wonderful evening of fun, food, fellowship, and a great Christmas show with your church family. If you have never been to the Christmas Show at Antietam Entertainment, you definitely want to join us this year! Here is a sneak preview of what the evening is all about:

6:00-7:00 p.m. Predinner activities:

Petting Zoo, Wagon Ride, Bonfire and Marshmallow Roasting, Horse Rides, Christmas Photos Taken, Viewing a Live Nativity, Enjoying Complimentary Hot Drinks.

7:00-7:45 p.m. Dinner:

Oven Roasted Chicken and Honey Glazed ham, Green beans, Mashed potatoes, Broccoli Cheddar Soup, Corn bread.

Kids Meals (Children 11 and under) Chicken nuggets, Pizza bites, Applesauce, Green beans, Mac and Cheese.

Dessert: Chocolate Fudge Brownie and Ice Cream.

If you plan on going, please sign up and **pay by November 3.** Payment envelopes are at the sign up table. Please put your payment in the envelopes provided. Place your envelope in the larger envelope.

Antietam Entertainment is located at 9745 Garis Shop Road, Hagerstown, MD. For more information you can call Antietam Entertainment at 877-AE-SHOWS or visit their website at:

www.antiteamentertainment.com/christmasexperience.

Of course, if you need anymore information or have any questions you can ask Mark or Annette.

Supper Club

Will be meeting at the Western Sizzlin' on **Monday, October 28, 5:30 p.m.** We hope that you can join us for an evening of great food and fellowship with your church family. Please sign up if you plan on attending.

Church Women United

Thanks to those who helped Mary Beth prepare the delicious meal for the Human Rights Celebration. The next CWU event will be held at noon on **Friday, November 1** at Zion Baptist Church. Look for fliers with more information.

