

# *St. Andrew Presbyterian Church*

www.standrewpresbyterian.org

301-223-8887



***November 2024***

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

Dear Friends,

Our mission statement begins with this intention: We intend to provide opportunities for people to know and care for one another. One of our main purposes is to foster fellowship with each other. Fellowship is demonstrated by God Himself in the Godhead. The Father, Son, and Spirit live in harmony with each other. Each has their own purpose and responsibilities and yet they do not conflict with each other in the living out of the responsibilities.

If you have noticed, we at St. Andrew value fellowship at a very deep level. We provide a variety of fellowship opportunities from Coffee Hours to Bible Study to meals such as the Thanksgiving meal to fun events such as the Harvest Party.

Fellowship is a necessary item in our world today. So many times and places we are at odds with each other. This divide can be over the political climate or sports related or cultural issues. There are many places in which one can disagree. When this occurs, fellowship can be fractured.

The end result of feeling fractured is a rise in depression and suicide. It can result in feelings of isolation and loneliness. This separation of one from another is not healthy emotionally or spiritually for anyone.

This is where fellowship comes in. Over a meal or over coffee, we show that acceptance is a reality. We don't always have to agree in order to share in another person's life. Fellowship assists in allowing a person to experience love and normalcy. It is what Jesus did with Zacchaeus and Simon the Pharisee as well as the tax gatherers and sinners. He fellowshiped with them demonstrating that reaching another person is one of the hallmarks of being a Christian.

As we live together in fellowship, 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*

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## **Prayer Requests**

### **Recuperating at Home**

Roger Abraham  
Carol Ann Alphin  
Linda Attavian  
Dennie Llwellyn  
Leroy Long  
Diane McCracken  
Cynthia Oates  
Aubrey Peters  
Margie Reed  
Betty Rice

### **Nursing Home**

#### **Glade Valley**

Donna Guessford

#### **Hilltop**

Pat Dean  
Nonie Johnson

### **Seaton Assisted Living**

Art Brown

### **Military**

Michael Biza  
Christian Harding  
Bradley Harris  
Zach Lake  
Bryan LaTorre  
Matthew Mosley  
Jay Pike  
Justin Ramsburg  
Matt Stemper  
Gage Thompson

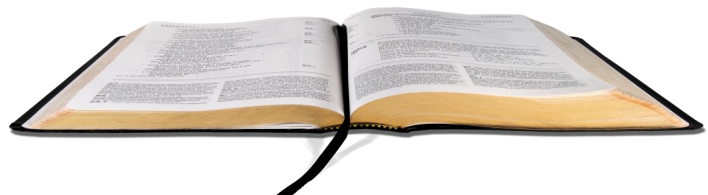
### **Missionaries**

Rev. Jed & Jenny Koball  
Pakistani Church

## **Scriptures**

**Here are the Scriptures for November.** Ponder on it. Meditate on it. Allow it to speak to you.

1. *Matthew 21-22*
2. *Matthew 23-24*
3. *Matthew 25-26*
4. *Matthew 27-28*
5. *Mark 1-3*
6. *Mark 4-5*
7. *Mark 6-7*
8. *Mark 8-9*
9. *Mark 10-11*
10. *Mark 12-13*
11. *Mark 14*
12. *Mark 15-16*
13. *Luke 1*
14. *Luke 2-3*
15. *Luke 4-5*
16. *Luke 6-7*
17. *Luke 8-9*
18. *Luke 10-11*
19. *Luke 12-13*
20. *Luke 14-16*
21. *Luke 17-18*
22. *Luke 19-20*
23. *Luke 21-22*
24. *Luke 23-24*
25. *Ephesians 1-3*
26. *Ephesians 4-6*
27. *Colossians & Philemon*
28. *Philippians 1-4*
29. *Acts 1-3*
30. *Acts 4-6*





## **Membership Support**

November may be the “restful” month sandwiched between the busyness of October and December. But, don’t be tricked! There are many activities mentioned in this newsletter.

November is when out-of-town families visit St. Andrew. Greet them with a smile and word of welcome as you pass the attendance pad. Invite them to upcoming events. Returning visitors are thankful for the warm welcome they receive.

November offers several traditions unique to St. Andrew. Our church wide Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Several families attend the Christmas Experience dinner and show on Friday evening after Thanksgiving. Please sign up if you plan to attend either event.

November provides preparation time for Christmas. Begin with the Christmas Bazaar and follow that with opportunities to provide gifts for school children, Holly Place seniors, and children worldwide.

November reminds us that the year will soon end. If you’ve considered membership at St. Andrew, now is the time to act. Simply check the attendance pad column “Wish to join this church” or let Pastor Mark know. We’ll celebrate our 2024 new members in January!

## **Thank Offering**

This years Thank Offering will go to Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry. The Thank Offering will be collected **Sunday, November 24**. Use the envelope included in bulletin or mark a pew envelope Thank Offering. The offering is sent to help process the donated meat.

Thank you for supporting this outreach mission.

## **Stewardship**

We hope you enjoyed our game show announcements. The answers to “What You Need to Know About Pledges But Were Afraid to Ask” are in the stewardship packet along with a pledge card and Time and Talent form. Need a packet? Call the office. Additional cards and forms are in the entry way.

One take-away from the show was “Pledges are the backbone of our ministry.” Here’s how a backbone symbolizes our church:

A backbone is defined as “the chief support system of an organization.” Pledges are the chief source of funding for our ministry.

A backbone is “a series of vertebrae extending from the pelvis to the skull.” Our congregation symbolizes the bones of the spine reaching from the pew to the Head of the Church, Jesus Christ!

A backbone can be described as the ability to show strength of character. Our ministry reflects the strength of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

While game show ratings indicate success, the success of our game show is indicated by the number of pledges that are returned. We are happy to report that at the time this article was printed, there were 36 pledges returned. Thanks to everyone who has pledged! If you haven’t, it is not too late. Every pledge matters!

## **Treasurer’s Report**

	<b><u>General Fund</u></b>
September Income	\$ 37,083.00
September Expenses	\$ 29,944.88
Operating Income	\$ 7,138.12



## **Friday with Friends**

Please join us on **November 15th** for a Potluck Luncheon at **noon**. Presenter will be Austin Colby with "Hagerstown Aviation Museum" He will have a power point presentation on the museum which began in 1995 and includes up to present day.

The museum has airplanes (which can be taken for rides by customers). The museum also has a collection of parts.

Mr. Colby is a pilot and owns a few of his own planes.

## **Operation Christmas Child GO Boxes**

By the time you read this, our Shoebox collection will almost be over. The deadline is November 3. Then we'll be packing up the boxes to take to Tri-State Christian Fellowship for transport to Baltimore. At the Baltimore Processing Center, there is a final precheck before the boxes go on to their destination.

In 2023, our boxes went to the Dominican Republic and in 2024 they went to Tanzania. At this point, we don't know where they will wind up. But, I can tell you that as part of a global outreach, the US sent 10 million of the 11.3 million collected last year. That's 10 million opportunities to reach children for Jesus in 100 countries in 107 languages.

So many thanks to each of you for participating in an important outreach program. To quote from 12-year-old Lim, a Shoebox recipient,

"It's the first present that I have ever received. I'm so excited; tears started to come down with joy in my heart. I began

## **Library**

November is filled with holidays. These books help you celebrate them!

**Stories for the Spirit-filled Believer**, edited by Christine Bolley, is a collection of 70 stories from people who experienced God working in their lives.

**To Rescue the Constitution**, by Bret Baier, tells the story of the Framers of our country and the formation of a nation based on ideals we value today.

**They Came for Freedom**, by Jay Milbrandt, reminds us why families gather together every November to give thanks for all we have and for those who have come before us.

**There But By the Grace of God**, Go I is a touching pictorial essay of homeless situations in America by George Anikis.

If Thanksgiving is upon us, can Christmas be far behind? Rick Warren's **The Purpose of Christmas** brings to mind the gift we are most thankful for: the birth of Jesus Christ.

We are thankful for those who donate books for our library.

## **Book Club News**

If you like to read and enjoy good discussion, please join us for our monthly Book Club. **We meet at 7:00 in the Friendship Hall.**

**Monday, November 4th** we will be discussing the book, **No Addict Left Behind**, by Joey Pagano.

**Tuesday, December 3rd** we will be discussing the book, **The Armada** by Garrett Mattingly.



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## **Sunday School Snippets:**

Here is what is happening in Sunday School:

**Toddler Class:** Is studying the importance of the Bible and its stories of Jesus. Congratulations to **Luka Bearese** who is doing a great job of adjusting to the Sunday School routine.

**Pre-K Class:** This class has been studying all about Jesus:

\*\* Jesus knows who we are. \*\* Jesus listens when we ask for Him to help.. \*\* Jesus is a friend to everyone. \*\* Jesus wants us to follow Him.

The class is learning what it means to have a personal relationship with Jesus. The children are continuing to memorize their Bible verses. This month they will be memorizing Mark 10:27 *“All things are possible with God.”*

Congratulation to **Bryan Twum-Barimah** and to **Lachlan Bearese** who memorized: *“He cares for you.”* I Peter 5:7. Congratulations to Bryan who had perfect attendance in September and to Lachlan who only missed 1 Sunday in September.

**K/1st Grade:** The students are learning that Jesus is the Son of God. They are learning of the great power that Jesus has. The class studied the many miracles that Jesus performed: \*\* He calmed the storm \*\* He healed a sick man, \*\* He healed a blind man. The class is memorizing the Bible verse: *“Anyone who sees Me sees the Father.”* John 14:9. Congratulation to **Emilia Bearese**, **Michael McDonald**, and **Aiden Paul** for the great participation and attentiveness in class.

**2nd & 3rd Grade:** *“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the end of the Earth.”* Isaiah 40:28. Our class has been studying our wonderfully loving God most

high, awe, inspiring Biblical account of His perfect plan in creation. We moreover have begun... learning how sin entered the amazing world God created, how disobedience has consequences, yet how gracious and merciful God is, in correcting us and teaching us to do the right thing. *“Bless is the one whom God corrects”* Job 5:17. It is my honor to congratulate **Elsie Majeski**, **Addi Majeski**, **Thomas Twum-Barimah, Jr** and **Nikolai Bearese** in being about to step-by-step (all 7 days) relay God’s marvelous story of creation in all its beauty and splendor.

As we embark in our studying of The Biblical Account of “Noah’s Ark” (Genesis 6:9-7:24) we will be rehearsing a puppet show rendition, stay tuned.

**4th and 5th Grade:** We have been exploring Creation in Genesis 1 and 2. We have discussed how God created with great power, order, wisdom, and love. God’s Holy Spirit was hovering over the waters, and Christ was there, as nothing was created without Christ. From nothing, God spoke everything into existence. On day one, He said, *“Let there be light”* and there was light. The light came from Him because the sun, moon, and stars were not created until day four.

On the third day God created land and vegetation (food). On the fifth day God made the waters swarm with fish and sea creatures and filled the sky with birds of every kind.

God created every kind of plant, tree, fish, sea creature, bird, and all land animals who produced offspring after their own kind. God also created male and female, able to produce offspring after their kind. He made man in His image. Unlike the rest of His creation, God formed Adam and breathed the breath of life into Adam’s nostrils, and he became a living person.

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God gave Adam a helper and Adam named her woman. God blessed them and gave them dominion over His creation and God said, *"It was very good."*

On the seventh day, God rested from all His work.

We will be studying the following themes: "We all need God's correction" (Jeremiah 10:24), "We can choose the right attitude when corrected" (Rev. 3:19), Sin grieves God, but following God pleases Him. (Psalm 145:17), "God Promises to save" (Ephesians 2:8), "God directs our ways." (Psalm 32:8).

**Middle School:** We started this year's Sunday School class from the beginning, literally. We started with creation. How science actually supports and proves that GOD created the universe whether the scientific community likes it or not. We looked at all of the accidents that had to happen for a universe to be created without a creator. Next we looked at humans and how we were created in the image of GOD and what that means. We looked at how that fact sets us apart from all the rest of GOD's creations. We did a fun thought experiment where we tried to think about if we were the creator of humans, what would we do differently? My suggestion was to give us tails. How much fun would it be to have a tail! The kids had some other really great ideas. Lastly we looked at the earth and how GOD gave us humans dominion over it and charged us to subdue it. We explored what this really means, and how people have misinterpreted what this means through the years. What the difference is between using and managing the creation GOD has given us and exploiting GOD's gifts.

**Teen Class:** The class has been looking at everyday problems they face and how to apply the Bible to them.

Thank you to **Jeremy Hemphill** and to

**Grace McDonald** who are always here regularly and who help lead and guide the discussions wonderfully.

## **Operation Christmas Child**

On Sunday, October 6th, all Sunday School students participated in our annual Kick-Off for Operation Christmas Child. We gathered together downstairs and watched a video explaining this amazing program. As we watched the program we enjoyed Christmas cookies to get us in the Christmas spirit. We prayed together for God to bless our ministry as we send our shoeboxes to those in need. Thank you to all who participated in this wonderful project.

## **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.

*"**A**ll have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* Romans 3:23

*"**B**ehold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."* John 1:29

*"**C**ome to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."* Matthew 11:28

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.

## **Williamsport Foodbank Items Needed**

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



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

Melody has been our Nursery Worker and Toddler Sunday School Teacher for the past 24 years. Wow! That is dedication.

The best part of teaching Sunday School for Miss Mel is watching the children understand the lesson and watching the children grow in their relationship with God and Jesus. Her hopes and dreams for her children are that they continue to grow in their relationship with God and always further their learning about God and Jesus. Mel's favorite Bible verse is "*Be still and know that I am God.*" Psalm 46:10. Her favorite Bible story is the one of Job.

In Mel's spare time she enjoys photography, watching football, and finding crafts for little fingers to do. Mel loves seafood and Chinese food. Her favorite vacation spot is the mountains, particularly the Green Ridge Mountains.

Thank you, Miss Mel, for your commitment, dedication, and faithfulness to our little ones. You have impacted the lives of so many over the years you have been teaching and working with these little children.

We are so blessed by the love and joy that you bring to these children on a weekly basis. What a wonderful way to start their journey of faith by starting with you in the Toddler Sunday School Class and in the Nursery Program.

## **Each month**

In the newsletter we will be featuring an article written about the importance of attending Sunday School. These articles come from the Pennsylvania State Sunday School Association in which we are a member. This month we are going to feature: **Sunday School Helps Lay a Spiritual Foundation In The Lives of Our Children and Youth:**

One of the primary purposes of Sunday School is to teach our children and youth the lessons of the Bible, to see them place these lessons in their hearts and in their minds. Then, as they face problems, concerns and temptations later in life, hopefully they will remember these lessons, and draw upon their knowledge of what they know God would want them to do.

## **Sunday Night Classes**

Our classes will be meeting in the month of **November from 6-8 p.m.** Please let Annette or Tammy know if you are not able to make it. If you need to see a video that you may have missed let Annette or Tammy know so that they can get to class early to show the video that was missed. Please Note: Due to the Choral Concert at St. James on **Sunday, November 24**, class may meet early or be cancelled for that day. Please watch future bulletins or see Annette or Tammy. Thank you!

## **Church office**

Will be closed on **Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29.**





### **All are invited!**

Mark and Annette Sandell would like to invite you to their **Open House on Sunday, December 1 after both services**. All are welcome to attend.

### **The Living Nativity set up**

Will be **Saturday, November 23, beginning at 8:00 am**. All are welcome to come and assist in this worthwhile endeavor.

### **Officer Training**

For newly elected officers will be on **Saturday, November 2, 9:00-noon**. This is for all officers who were just elected by the congregation. If this date is a problem, please contact Pastor Mark.

### **The Presbyterian Men**

The Presbyterian men will not meet again until **January**. Watch the January newsletter for further details.

### **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, listen to WCRH 90.5 radio, or call the church. Worship will still occur on Facebook live.

**Congratulations** to those who completed the October Word Search **for Pastor Appreciation**. Please turn your November word search into the office by **the 15th**. November Word Searches are on the table in the entryway.

*Mary Beth Alphin  
Melanie Beckley  
Scott Beckley  
Kenny Carter  
Shirley Fox  
Beverly Heath  
Debbie Kinzer  
Jen Metz  
Mark Mummert*

*Linda Reid  
Margie Reed  
Gerry Salter  
Rayetta Schindel  
Sherri Schindel  
Alan Weaver  
Pam Weaver  
Tom Young*

### **Pastor Mark's Bible Study**

Pastor Mark's Bible Study for the fall will be on the subject of prayer. During this Study, we will look at the Biblical call to prayer, the importance of prayer, as well as the different techniques and methods of praying.

All our welcome! The Study will finish on November 7.

### **Blessing Bags**

If you have been counting your blessings over the summer, please return your blessing bag now. You can give your bag to **Fran Quinn or Lynn Lowman**. You can also place your blessing bag into the offering plate or return it to the church office.







**November  
2024**



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>z</i>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  9-12 <i>Officer Training</i>
<b>3</b> 8:30 am <i>Worship</i> 9:45 am <i>Sunday School</i> 11:00 am <i>Worship</i> 6:00 pm <i>Youth Group</i> 6:00 pm <i>Tony Evans Class</i>	<b>4</b>  <i>7 pm Book Club</i>	<b>5</b>  <i>Election Day</i>	<b>6</b>  <i>Handbell 6:30 pm</i> <i>Choir 7:30 pm</i>	<b>7</b>  <i>7 pm Bible Study</i>	<b>8</b>  6:00-8:00 pm <i>Christmas Bazaar</i> <i>___ Lock ___</i>	<b>9</b>  <i>Sunday School</i> <i>Conference</i> 8:00 am-2:00 pm <i>Christmas Bazaar</i> <i>___ In ___</i>
<b>10</b> 8:30 am <i>Worship</i> 9:45 am <i>Sunday School</i> 11:00 am <i>Worship</i> 6:00 pm <i>Youth Group</i> 6:00 pm <i>Tony Evans Class</i>	<b>11</b>  <i>7 pm Committees</i>	<b>12</b>  <i>Coordinating Team</i>  <i>Presbyterian Women Bible Study</i>	<b>13</b>  <i>Handbell 6:30 pm</i> <i>Choir 7:30 pm</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8:30 am <i>Worship</i> 9:45 am <i>Sunday School</i> 11:00 am <i>Worship</i> 6:00 pm <i>Youth Group</i> 6:00 pm <i>Tony Evans Class</i>	<b>18</b>  6 pm <i>Building &amp; Grounds</i>  <i>7 pm Admin./ Deacons</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  <i>Handbell 6:30 pm</i> <i>Choir 7:30 pm</i>	<b>21</b>  <i>10-noon Helping Hands</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  8:00 am <i>Living Nativity Set-up</i>
<b>24</b> 8:30 am <i>Worship</i> 9:45 am <i>Sunday School</i> 11:00 am <i>Worship</i> <i>Noon Thanksgiving Dinner</i> 7:00 pm <i>Choral Fest</i>	<b>25</b>  5:30 <i>Supper Club</i>  <i>7 pm Session</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  <i>___ Office</i>	<b>29</b>  6:00 pm <i>Antietam Entertainment</i>  <i>___ Closed</i>	<b>30</b>



## **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.

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.](http://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, November 25, 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.

## **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.

## **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.**



Today, give a  
stranger one of  
your smiles. It  
might be the  
only sunshine  
he sees all day.

H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

[VERYBESTQUOTES.COM](http://VERYBESTQUOTES.COM)



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