

The monthly newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Connecting us in community and in Christ

November 2020

Who Wants to Live in an Institution?

A priest friend of mine recently performed a wedding with no overt mention of God, no prayers, and no blessing. He was asked by a family friend and actually enjoyed being part of this couple's big day. The bride and groom are not believers. Neither of their families have a tradition of religious affiliation or practice. So, my friend agreed to create a ceremony that respected their wishes. He worked with them to put together a lovely service that was based on the shape of our liturgy but completely devoid of divinity. It included readings from poetry and literature, beautiful and meaningful music, and ceremonial actions that represented the binding together of the couple. And of course, they wrote their own vows.

My friend shared the liturgy with me. I was struck most by those vows. They were intelligent and coherent. They were romantic and practical. They were poetic, even inspiring. Yet there was something missing. Though one could argue that it was implied, there was no mention of being faithful. I'm sure neither of these people intended that omission. I doubt they even noticed it. They were lovely vows, full of the promise to affirm each other's individuality. There was just nothing in them calling for monogamy.

Couples preparing for marriage often ask if they can write their own vows. Our prayer book gives tremendous flexibility in the celebration and blessing of a marriage, but the one non-negotiable thing is the vows. The exercise of writing one's own vows can be a powerful experience of putting into words what your spouse-to-be means to you and how you envision your life together. I'm sure it is very meaningful to those who take on the task. It is a way to make your wedding your own, to put your own mark on the institution of marriage, in a word, to individualize your wedding. Our traditional vows, on the other hand, accomplish the exact opposite. They show no concern for who the individuals are who exchange those vows in front of God and everyone. They, in fact, call each individual to conform his or her life to a manner of living that is pre-defined, given, set. The vows themselves define what the marriage will be.

The Christian Church obviously did not invent marriage. We have, however, imposed a great deal of meaning upon it. We even say that "it signifies to us the mystery of the union between Christ and his Church." (BCP 423) Marriage became a metaphor in the New Testament. Heaven is envisioned as a great marriage feast. The Church waiting for the return of Jesus is as a bride awaiting her bridegroom. The love of a married couple is seen as a living symbol of, "Christ's love to this sinful and broken world, that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy conquer despair." (BCP 429) All of this suggests something way beyond ourselves who live according to these vows.

At the heart of our understanding of marriage is a one flesh union between two people. That doesn't mean that each partner ceases to be an individual, but it does imply some loss of individuality with a greater gain of unity, love, strength, comfort, and common purpose. The couple becomes greater than the sum of their two parts with God's blessing and presence in their lives. Of course, no two couples will live out their vows exactly the same, but they will live within the same framework of commitment with a shared understanding of what is expected of each of them. Our liturgy makes clear the nature and purpose of marriage within the Christian context. In it two people are called to live beyond themselves, for one another with sacrificial love, mutual respect and the willingness to forgive. There isn't much individual expression in the vows, but by submitting to them we become something so much greater than an individual.

WEEKLY MEDIA SCHEDULE

	Email office@standrewsc.org	Facebook www.facebook/standrewsc/	Zoom various	Twitter @SaintAndrewSC
Monday	Link to sign up for Sunday 5 p.m. worship	*Compline 7 p.m.	Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 10:30 a.m.	
Tuesday	Hope During Troubling Times Email	*Compline 7 p.m.	Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.	
Wednesday		Noonday Prayer 12:15 p.m. *Compline 7 p.m.	Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.	
Thursday	Weekly Email	Throwback Thursday from the Archives *Compline 7 p.m.	Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.	
Friday		*Compline 7 p.m. Bishop Scanlan's weekly video message	Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.	
Saturday		*Compline 7 p.m.	Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m.	
Sunday	Link to recording of Facebook Live 10 a.m. service	Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. *Compline 7 p.m.	Coffee Hour 11 a.m.	

* An Order for Compline can be found on page 127 of the Book of Common Prayer or click [HERE](#) to view or download a copy.

An Order of Service for Noonday can be found on page 103 of the Book of Common Prayer or click [HERE](#) to view or download a copy.

For St. Andrew's events on Facebook, find us at www.facebook.com/standrewsc/

For Diocesan events on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/diocpa/>



Sunday Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting



Morning Prayer

Monday – Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77112110542?pwd=dFZlOWxZQ05JOENkRTINSkUrNzJ3dz09>

Meeting ID: 771 1211 0542

Passcode: 1AgKJa

<https://psu.zoom.us/j/447273331>

Sunday Worship



Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 5:00 p.m. In-Church Worship
Register online EACH week by Friday 3:00 p.m.

A new link to online registration will be available every Monday in an email and on our website.

We will continue to keep the doors of the church open during the 5 p.m. service as temperatures drop to provide ventilation and mitigate the impact of any airborne virus. The heat will be on, but the temperature in the church will still be lower than normal. Please dress accordingly.

TREASURER'S REPORT, Julie Kwasnica, Treasurer



September 2020

	September	Year-to-Date	% of Budget	2020 BUDGET
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 28,662	\$ 375,489	81%	\$ 460,750
Total Operating Income	\$ 30,404	\$ 395,284	80%	\$ 496,350
Total Operating Expense	\$ 33,755	\$ 363,426	72%	\$ 502,162
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (3,352)	\$ 31,858		

*Includes pledges, plate offerings, and special holiday offerings.

VESTRY UPDATE, Kevin Lowe, Clerk of the Vestry



The vestry met on Tuesday, October 13, remotely, using Zoom. Despite the ongoing pandemic, our monthly income has remained strong and on track with normal conditions. We are very grateful for the continued stewardship of our parish by all parishioners. As we enter our traditional season of budget-making, you should have received a pledge card in the mail. We invite all parishioners to prayerfully discern their financial gifts to the parish and to fill out and return that card as soon as possible. If you did not receive a pledge card and would like to pledge your support for the parish, please contact the office.

Much of the vestry meeting was devoted to a presentation by Sarah Klinetob Lowe, chair of the property committee, concerning Trinity House and the potential possibilities and challenges for its renovation and repurposing. There has been some discussion over the possibility of using Trinity House as an income-generating rental. Sarah walked the vestry through the potential building use restrictions that impact the property, due to its historic neighborhood zoning status and current use as church property. She invited the vestry to first decide what its overall goals for Trinity House are, in the context of the parish's strategic planning process, and only then to decide whether or how to repurpose or rent Trinity House.

In addition to hearing Sarah's presentation, the vestry set the date for the annual parish meeting (January 31, 2021), voted to accept a set of Procedures in Case of Rector Infection with Coronavirus, and voted to support the intended sale of a State College property owned in part by a trust to which St. Andrew's is a party, a sale which will bring the parish some financial benefit.

As always, vestry meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month and are open to all parishioners, especially those who may have some interest in running for a seat on the vestry. Please contact me (kevinlowe33@gmail.com) or Senior Warden Kathryn Yahner for the Zoom link prior to the meeting. Approved vestry minutes are available on our website ("Clergy, Staff & Vestry" under the "About Us" tab).

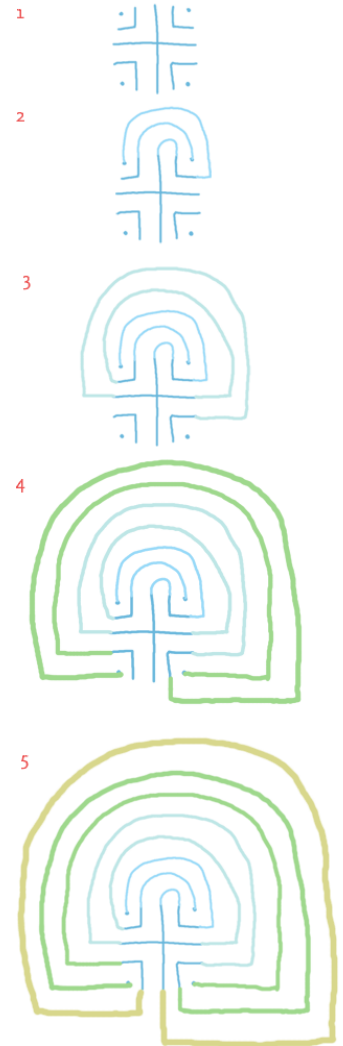
ADULT FORMATION

Labyrinth at St. Andrew's

A group of St. Andrew's parishioners led by Candace Davison and Christina Ford has been exploring the possibility of creating a permanent outdoor labyrinth on St. Andrew's property. Many of you may be familiar with labyrinths. They are an old Christian tool for meditative walking prayer. We determined the first step would be to paint two temporary options into the grass and give people a chance to try them out and give feedback. There will be one design painted in the front lawn on Fraser St., and one painted in the backyard of Trinity house. These temporary labyrinths should be ready for your feet by Monday and you may find them an especially helpful tool in these times to calm nerves and over-busy minds! Remember to wear your mask and keep as distant as possible when walking the labyrinths. We will follow up in coming weeks with a way to give feedback on your experience walking the labyrinths.

Compassionate Life

The women of Compassionate Life have been meeting outside this fall in their lawn chairs, enjoying some much-needed fellowship. We will be reading Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's new book *Love is the Way, Holding On to Hope in Troubling Times*. Our book discussions will be virtual once a month, and once a month we will have a distanced meeting in person. Email Kathy Hickner (youth@standrewsc.org) if you'd like to be added to our email list. Newcomers are always welcome!



ADULT FORUM

November 2020 Zoom
Sundays, 9am-9:45 on Zoom

Join Zoom meeting
at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8763410820>

Or dial 301-715-8592; Meeting ID 876 341 0820

November 1: – **NO FORUM**

November 8: **In Prayer’’: Ways that Music Inspires our Faith, Creativity, Work, and Being**
Steve and Lisa Hopkins

Steve and Lisa Hopkins are musicians, educators, and leaders of the service music at our Sunday afternoon services. They have also been married now for 38 years. Their life together is a journey in faith, and their faith has found meaningful expression through words and music in song. That words and music—and creativity—are also integral to their work inspires them and connects various aspects of their daily lives. In this forum, Steve and Lisa will talk about the essential role that the St. Andrew's Five O’Clock service plays in their lives, and about the ways that worship music connects with their own musical creativity. They will also look at several long-term creative projects to illustrate these connections.



November 15: **Food of the Gods: Theological Reflections on Chocolate**
Karl Zimmerer



Karl Zimmerer is a geographer and environmental scientist—and is also in the rural sociology and ecology programs at Penn State—who studies sustainable land use and food systems through the use of agrobiodiversity and seed and knowledge networks. In this forum, Karl will describe the current paradox of chocolate. The many forms of chocolate that we love and cherish have evolved through worldwide production of the cacao tree. Cacao is increasingly valued and championed even as the roots of its cultural and ecological well-being are imperiled. Karl will share his theological reflections to describe and discuss the promise and peril of chocolate and cacao.

November 22: **Neighbors Helping Neighbors Stay Warm: The Centre County Fuel Bank**
Cricket Hunter and Sarah Klinetob Lowe

Interfaith Human Services (IHS) is a local collaborative nonprofit, supported by 27 local faith communities (including St. Andrew's), that works to meet the social and economic needs of Centre County residents. In this forum, Cricket Hunter of Grace Lutheran Church and Sarah Klinetob Lowe will speak about the Centre County Fuel Bank program administered by IHS. The Fuel Bank helps qualified low-income Centre County residents avoid heating emergencies by providing them with free heating oil, wood, coal, and propane. Cricket and Sarah will discuss their personal experiences teaching energy conservation classes for the Fuel Bank and share how they bring their faith into this energy-based service.



November 29: **NO FORUM**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

Kathy Hickner, Dir. Of Children and Youth

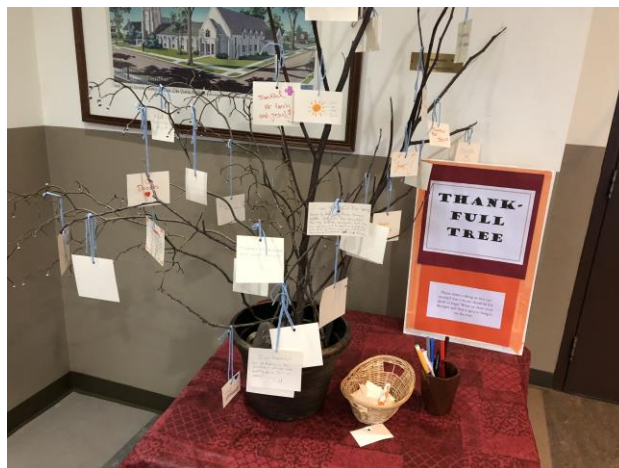
Journey Middle Rite13 Celebration

The youth of the Journey Middle class gathered with their families, leaders, and Fr. Jeff Packard outside on the church steps Sunday October 18th for their celebration of Rite13. Thank you to those who watched the ceremony virtually and prayed with us! And thank you to their amazing leaders Deborah Morton, Kelley Paulsen and Kerry Small!



Thankful Trees

We won't have a Thankful Tree up at church this year, but you can do your own at home! Cut some branches and put them in a weighted vase. Cut some yarn and some pieces of paper and see how many pieces of gratitude you can generate!



Advent I



The first Sunday of Advent is November 29th! We will be set up in the church parking lot from 3-4pm with Advent supplies for you. We will have Advent wreath holders and candles, as well as an excellent set of family devotions and activities from Illustrated Ministry for the whole season. Everyone is welcome to stop by!

State College Virtual CROP Hunger Walk



Congratulations to the Purple People Feeders who walked in the State College Virtual CROP Hunger Walk during the week of October 11-17! We kicked off the week with a group walk on Sunday, October 11. Thirteen parishioners, plus two enthusiastic dogs, joined together to walk our usual 5K route through the Borough. The weather was pleasant, and we enjoyed getting together for exercise, fellowship and a good cause! Six other team members chose to walk on their own or with just their family during the week.

Our team has raised over \$3,100 that will be used to help communities throughout the world, starting in State College. It's not too late to add to this total! If you'd like to show your support for these walkers, you can make an online donation by visiting crophungerwalk.org/statecollegepa/standrews. If you prefer to write a check, make it out to St. Andrew's with "CROP Walk" in the memo line and put it in the offering plate or mail to the church office.



COMMUNITY CAFÉ

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thursday, November 26, Noon until 2 p.m.

Take Out Only

The Community Café will serve Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 26. The traditional meal will be available for take-out from noon - 2 p.m. and will include turkey, stuffing, potatoes, and vegetables.

We are asking for donations of pies of all varieties as we also hope to send a substantial slice of pie home with every guest, or whole pies with families. If you can donate a pie, please let Sharon Rovansek (srovansek@comcast.net) know in advance and tell her what type of pie.. We will be in the kitchen much of that week and because of the social distancing of crews, planning is particularly essential this year. You can drop off your pie that week in Canterbury Hall.

We would also like to thank Darlene Nordoff for transitioning from scheduling teams (which is not currently done because of the virus) to inputting the weekly donations with Feeding America. This data is gathered from volunteers who transfer the donations from local grocery stores to The Community Café, and is then used by Feeding America to help determine need across the country and track how soup kitchens and food pantries are working together to help fill that need. The data entry is also a requirement which allows us to order ingredients from the Central PA food bank, so thanks, Darlene!

Remember, The Café serves a free weekly take-out meal from 5 p.m. -7 p.m. on Thursday evenings (except for Thanksgiving Day). All are welcome; please wear a mask when picking up meals.

CALL FOR TURKEYS: If you would like to donate a frozen turkey to our annual Thanksgiving Dinner, please drop it off in the Canterbury Hall kitchen, or contact Ron Rovansek and we can make arrangements. We will start cooking turkeys Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, so before then would be awesome. Tarzan, the Rovansek family turkey, says, ‘thank you!!’



SAVE TARZAN!

DONATE A TURKEY!

IHS Wishing Well at Meyer Dairy

Monday, November 30

Wednesday, December 2

It's beginning to feel a bit like Christmas, and that means St. Andrew's parishioners are invited to help Interfaith Human Services by ringing the bells for the Wishing Well at Meyer Dairy. The campaign is especially important this year because the pandemic has put other planned fundraisers on hold. Families in need of emergency financial assistance are depending on us now.



St. Andrew's is responsible for Monday, November 30 and Wednesday, December 2. As always, we'll be outside in the healthy fresh air, so grab your mask and your gloves, recruit your teenager or your friend, and sign up for a one-hour shift (or more!). There's room for two people in each time slot -we know it's more fun with company. Recruit a partner or sign up as someone else's partner and make a new friend! Here's the website:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E44ADA629A6F58-ring1>

If you have questions, contact Marion Schwartz at kmarsch09@gmail.com.

UBBC Alternative Christmas Fair

December 6 – December 20

Wednesday, December 2

<https://ubbcwelcome.org/acf>



The 38th annual Alternative Christmas Fair will take place “virtually” this year, December 6 through December 20, due to COVID-19 concerns.

On those days holiday “shoppers” can donate to 30 local, national, and international charities. A quick trip to <https://ubbcwelcome.org/acf> will show you how to give online or by check. You can also use the QR code below to access the online shopping center via your mobile device. Last year, 26 charities shared in more than \$43,000 that was given by people in our community. While we miss the opportunity to have representatives of our beneficiaries gather in Fellowship Hall to meet and talk with our “shoppers,” (we’ll do that again next year) we are excited at being able to offer to our patrons the ease of online giving. And the extra “space” we gain by not being in a physical place has allowed us to add four new organizations for 2020.

Make the season merrier by supporting the good work of these charities! See you at The Alternative Christmas Fair!



Sacred Ground Dialogue Group on Race and Faith

Third Wednesday of the month, 8 – 9 p.m.

Begins November 18 (tentative)



We would like to start a dialogue group at St. Andrew's based on the Episcopal Church's Sacred Ground Curriculum. We are currently working on organizing these dialogues, with the idea of meeting once a month for 10 months, beginning in November. The program is designed to foster an on-going dialogue between group members. Because of this, participants are asked join with the intention of coming to all of the sessions. We are tentatively thinking of meeting on third Wednesday of the month from 8-9 p.m., beginning on November 18th.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Christina Ford at tapsy@hotmail.com.

From the National Church's Website <https://episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground...>

“Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. This series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day – all while grounded in our call to faith, hope and love.”

UPCOMING

St. Nicholas in the Park

Sunday, December 6, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Sydney Friedman Parklet

This year, we will celebrate St. Nicholas Day on Sunday afternoon at Sidney Friedman Park (across from the Church.) We plan to gather together to sing our favorite Christmas songs and hymns (with masks and social distance), enjoy some hot cider, and, of course, welcome a visit from St. Nicholas!

Mark your calendars now and look for further details in the December Net and upcoming weekly emails.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, December 11, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Begins November 18 (tentative)



Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: StAndrewsEC to schedule an appointment.

GROUPS, MINISTRIES, & COMMITTEES

This is not a comprehensive listing; regularly scheduled meetings and events are included only if they submitted an item for publication. For complete and updated listings, please check your Sunday bulletin or weekly email

FRIDAY FILMS

Friday, November 6, 7 p.m.
Canterbury Hall

My Neighbor Totoro (1988)
Rated: G



My Neighbor Totoro is set in post-war Japan, in a rural village where a man and his two daughters move into a small house so they can be closer to their ailing mother. It's here that the girls discover the magic of the natural world that is all around them; tiny dust balls in the empty house are actually creatures, and the woods are filled with pointy-eared spirits, the most cuddly of which one of the girls dubs Totoro. There are a number of moments in 'Totoro' where Miyazaki just allows the wind to rustle the grass and the sunlight to drape over the girls, emphasizing the magic of everyday life and the importance of slowing down long enough to recognize it, a gift that we can all appreciate today.

The film is free and all are welcome, however, we are limited to 25 people and masks are required.

KNITTING MINISTRY

Sunday, November 8, 11:15 – 12:15
Via Zoom



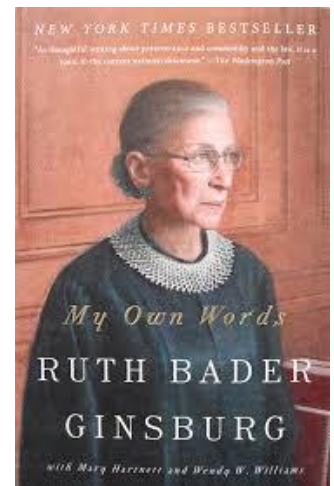
Knitting Ministry will meet on Sunday, November 8, 11:15 - 12:15 via Zoom. Join us! Settle down with your needles and yarn in front of your computer camera and log on! We knit cozy, useful items for Knitting4Peace (News and patterns at <https://www.knitting4peace.org/>). If you would like to come please email anne.hoag@gmail.com and she will send you a Zoom invitation link. Mark your calendars for the second Sunday of each month (except December) through May 2021.

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, December 1, 7 p.m.
Room 324

In October, members of the St. Andrew's Book Club met and had a very entertaining discussion concerning *The Amityville Horror*, whether the story was true or whether it was a hoax.

Due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, we will not meet again until December. We will be discussing *My Own Words*, by Ruth Bader Ginsburg – a collection of speeches, narratives, and articles revealing the fascinating life of one of our generation's most influential voices in both law and public opinion. Please plan on joining us!




NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! If you have a November birthday and do not see your name listed, we probably do not have that information in our records. Please contact the office – we may be missing other information, too.



1 Katie Gaines
1 Debra Noyes
1 Deborah Morton
1 Tonya Bautista
2 Maverick Mainzer
4 Linda Hoover
6 Gwen Catchen
6 Marsha Rinetti
7 Andrew Gaines
8 Anne Hoag
8 Cynthia Myers

8 Michelle Mason
11 Betty Shaner
12 Ru Sabre
13 James Tybout
15 Tom Yuhas
16 Brucie Serene
18 Christina Ford
19 Betty Parry
20 Lauren Krasnansky
20 Christine Mihalenko
20 Carolyn Hatley



20 Makenna Orlich
20 Mary Valentine
21 Jim Serene
21 Diane Cramer
23 Tony Kwasnica
23 Ted Christopher
23 Bob Downs
23 Larry Murphy
26 Paul Humphreys
29 Sian Packard

Those for Whom We Pray

Teri, Dick, Molly, Don, Joan, Jane, Beckett, Emmet, Denise, Kevin, Diane, Sara, Emily, David, Robbie, Vicki, Frank, Beth, Michele, Martin, Barbara, Stu, Anthony, Mavis, Martin, Michael, Anna, Anne

Those in the Armed Forces and First Responders

Zach, Christie

Please call or email the office with your prayer requests.

237-7659

office@StAndrewSC.org

or post them on our Prayer Wall

<https://bit.ly/StAPrayerWall>

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