

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

October 2023

## And Who Is My Neighbor?

In the gospel according to Luke, Jesus is asked by a lawyer, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus asks the lawyer what he reads in God’s law. He responds with the summary of the law: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” This summary is an amalgam of Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18b. Jesus acknowledges his answer as correct. This much of the exchange has parallels in Matthew and Mark too. Then, in Luke’s gospel only, the lawyer seeks to justify himself and he asks,

“And who is my neighbor?”

This is a critical question. I love a good lawyer joke as much as the next guy, but this lawyer is not just splitting hairs or seeking a distinction without a difference, he is asking THE question. How we obey this law depends completely on who we see as our neighbor. Obviously, the one who asked the question, and presumably anyone who was listening to this conversation, had an idea in their own mind about who their neighbor was. The answer Jesus gave was probably not what was expected. How did he answer? He told a story.

In chapter 10 of Luke’s gospel, we find the only occurrence of what is usually referred to as the *Parable of the Good Samaritan*. We are so familiar with the story. Indeed, the phrase *Good Samaritan* is not just a popular colloquialism, it is used as a technical legal term. It’s very familiarity, however, can dampen its powerful impact. The priest and the Levite—individuals held in high regard in the society—both pass by the injured man on the road. The Samaritan—one despised for religious, cultural, and historical reasons—is the one who helps the man who was wounded and left for dead by robbers. So, what was Jesus trying to say?

It seems self-evident that the whole point of this story is to reinterpret who we mean when we say neighbor. Our personal affiliations, of family, tribe, ethnicity, nationality, religion, race, favorite sports team, these are the ways we define who our people are, who our neighbor is. Jesus seems to be tearing down any artificial wall that separates us from another human being. How often do we create that separation, not just with the attributes mentioned above, but with our language, as we refer to people as the homeless, illegals, the disabled, or foreigners, when the adjective becomes a noun? You have probably heard the awkward phrase: a person currently experiencing homelessness. It’s clunky, but it makes the person’s personhood front and center, and gives us an alternative to the impersonal homeless. It is so easy to subtly dehumanize someone with a single term. Suddenly they are not a person, but a condition, a description. I’ve noticed in historical contexts people have stopped talking about slaves, and instead refer to, “people who were enslaved.”

Changing the word we use to talk about the other changes our whole perspective, and suddenly the other becomes familiar. It is much harder to hate someone we have gotten to know as a human being. Actually getting to know someone is hard. It takes time and effort. We can’t do it if all we see is what makes us different. When Jesus forces us to redefine who our neighbor is, we are forced to see our common humanity. Perhaps when we meet on common ground, as neighbors, we can learn to love one another as our Lord commands.

Fr. Jeff +

## Choral Evensong

Sunday, October 1

5 p.m., Church

6 p.m., Reception in Room 325



On Sunday, October 1, the adult choir will sing the service of choral evensong. Music will include a Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Charles Villiers Stanford, Preces and Responses by Robert J. Powell, and anthems by John Blow and Thomas Tallis. Organist Gwen Catchen will play music by Johann Pachelbel and others. The Rev. Jeff Packard, rector of St. Andrew's, will be the officiant.

Prior to the Reformation, prayer in the early evening or late afternoon was known as the Office of Vespers, one of the eight Canonical Hours of the divine office of the Western church. However, in 1549, a prayer book known as the Book of Common Prayer was adopted in the context of the English Reformation. Bishop Thomas Cranmer established the office of Evensong using elements taken from both Vespers and Compline, generally to be conducted in the English language, as was the case with the entire liturgy. Old English speakers translated the Latin word *vesperas* as *æfensang*, which became 'evensong' in modern English.

After a series of slight modifications, the office of Evensong took its modern form in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England, a form that is followed very closely throughout the Anglican and Episcopal Church throughout the world. This is the form used at St. Andrew's,

Evensong, like all forms of liturgical worship, has elements of drama and ritual that nourish the spiritual life of all of us. It is based entirely on elements of Holy Scripture, and it is scripted according to a long history, originating in Judaic and early Christian evening worship. Evensong is traditionally mostly sung by a choir, with the full congregation participating throughout in thoughtful prayer, allowing the music to touch us and to draw us closer to the presence of God.

Please join us for this service. Bring some friends! A reception will follow in Room 325. The next evensong will be at 5 p.m. on Sunday, November 5.

## Celebrating Deacon Joe

Sunday, October 1

During the 10 a.m. service in church

Special Coffee Hour following



Joe DeLauter was baptized at St. Andrew's, has been a life-long member, and for the past eighteen years, has served as our deacon. He will retire from the Diaconate this fall and we will celebrate and offer our thanks for his ministry on Sunday, October 8 during the 10 a.m. service and following at Coffee Hour.

## Is God Calling You to Ministry?



Acolytes play an essential role in the Sunday worship service, but if all is going well, their work may go unnoticed. Acolytes lead the procession and recession, light and extinguish the altar candles, hold the scriptures for the reading of the Gospel, assist the clergy with communion, and more.

Acolyting fosters in children and youth an appreciation for the sacred and a sense of belonging and ownership of the worship experience at St. Andrew's. It helps familiarize them with the liturgy and rituals of the church and teaches them about our traditions. Acolytes usually work in groups of twos or

threes, and they get to meet new people and spend time with friends during the worship service. Adults can also find this ministry rewarding!

**Please consider acolyting for you, your child or youth this school year.** We will announce training sessions for new acolytes soon. Please direct questions to Jason McCloskey (jam080@bucknell.edu). Thank you!



Calling all introverts! \*

If you are looking for a way to support our church that doesn't require money, a lot of time and effort, evangelizing, greeting strangers, or even talking, have we got a group for you! We don't ask you to do any of those things.

The Altar Guild is always looking for more members! If you have a yen to serve God and his Church, but not a lot of time to devote to anything, Altar Guild could be a perfect way to add a ministry to your life. We have four small teams, so each team works only once a month for an hour on a Saturday and the services on Sunday plus an occasional wedding or funeral. We dust, swat stray cobwebs, vacuum, straighten the things in the pews, clean and polish silver, vest the chalice, set up and clean up the altar, wash communion glasses, and launder linens.

Learn to handle beautiful sacred items and where they fit in our worship.

Anyone interested in being added to a team can call or email Teri Smith, 814-238-5964, [ssmith2124@aol.com](mailto:ssmith2124@aol.com).

“As I handle holy things, grant that my whole life may be illuminated and blessed by You.”

\* Extroverts are welcome, too!

## TREASURER’S REPORT, Julie Kwasnica, Treasurer



### August 2023

	August	Year-to-Date	% of Budget	2023 BUDGET
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 27,749	\$ 333,689	73%	\$ 454,500
Total Operating Income	\$ 29,709	\$ 358,711	74%	\$ 485,600
Total Operating Expense	\$ 39,937	\$ 349,911	65%	\$ 535,003
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (10,228)	\$ 8,800		

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

## VESTRY UPDATE, Beth Jones, Clerk of the Vestry



### August 2023

The vestry met on September 12. Kevin Lowe (and Julia) were present for an interview by the vestry as part of his discernment for the diaconate. Kevin gave a short summary of his progress toward ordination over the past four years which included a one-year internship at St. John’s in Bellefonte, a semester of clinical chaplaincy

with residents of the Atrium, attendance at the Preaching Excellence Program, and a full load of online courses. The vestry voted unanimously to approve Kevin for admission to the Sacred Order of Deacons.

Fr. Jeff reported that the Community Café was awarded a grant from the state (EPA), primarily for food reclamation, which will be used for electrical upgrades and equipment. We are currently recruiting new lay Eucharistic Ministers, and the Evangelism and Newcomers Committee will host a Coffee Hour on October 29.

Fr. Ted reported that Episcopal at Penn State participated in a university-wide activities fair. The group has met three times and each time has welcomed new members. Kathy Dittmann reported for Parish Life that 57 people signed up for Food for the Soul dinner groups which started meeting in September. She also shared that the committee is looking for a dedicated space to store their supplies. Rich and Michele Marini reported on the All About Love convention recently held in Baltimore. Amy Pritchett reported that the PSU dining halls have started bringing leftover pre-packaged meals to the Community Café on Thursdays and handing them out.

The date for our Annual Meeting was set by unanimous vote for Sunday, January 28, 2024, following the 10 a.m. service.

Vestry meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month and are open to all parishioners. The next meeting will be held on October 10 in the library, Room 324 at 7:00 p.m. and is open to all parishioners. Approved vestry minutes are always available on our website (“Clergy, Staff & Vestry” under the “About Us” tab).

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### Adult Forum

Sundays in October

9-9:45 a.m. in Canterbury Hall

(Presentations begin promptly at 9 a.m.)



Our Adult forums continue in October with the following presentations. Watch your weekly emails for more details.

Sunday, October 1 - **Who was St. Francis Anyway?**

Well-behaved pets (and well-behaved parishioners) are welcome to a brief overview of the life and impact of St. Francis of Assisi.

Sunday, October - **Science “Versus” Religion.**

A scientist/engineer discusses the different ways that science seeks to explore and describe creation. Often, seeing a conflict between some aspect of science and religion tells us much about our own faith.

Sunday, October 15 - **How Do We Pray?**

Many different “prayer practices” are possible, including Anglican use of the rosary, lectio divina’s immersion in the scripture, and the daily examen. In the end, as CS Lewis described, do we change God’s plans through prayer, or does God change us?

Sunday, October 22 - **Young Adult and Campus Ministries!**

Fr. Ted joins us to talk about his ministry with Episcopal at Penn State and campus ministry throughout the Episcopal Church.

Sunday, October 29 – Report From Our Diocesan Convention

Some the delegates from St. Andrew’s who attended our diocesan convention earlier this month will share their experience. What’s happening in our broader faith community, and what news can they bring home to us?

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

### News from our CHILDREN and YOUTH PROGRAMS



Our Church School year has begun! Each week we tell a story from the Bible, share a feast, and choose a way to respond to the story from our activities.

We welcome all children ages 3 years old up to 6th grade. We meet every Sunday morning during the 10 am Church Service.

If you have any questions or you would like to help, please contact Robin [Children@standrewsc.org](mailto:Children@standrewsc.org)

## UPCOMING

### You are invited!



We are restarting our tradition of welcoming those who are new to St. Andrew's. To catch up (from 2019), we are inviting **everyone**: newcomers and those who have been here for years (decades?), to gather in Canterbury Hall for great food and fun.

If you would like to sign up to bring food or to help, please use this [LINK](#).



# SEASON OF CREATION



**Let Justice  
and Peace Flow**  
Season of Creation 2023

## Season of Creation

Sylvia Neely and Sarah Klinetob Lowe

*“Future generations will never forgive us if we miss the opportunity to protect our common home. We have inherited a garden; we must not leave a desert for our children.” -- Joint statement from Pope Francis, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, and Anglican Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury*

The seasons of the church year are familiar to us, with their themes and colors. We want to introduce you to a new season, the [Season of Creation](#), and local ways to get involved.

### What is the Season of Creation?

Held September 1 to October 4, the [Season of Creation](#) is global ecumenical movement for Christian communities to pray and act to protect creation. This tradition began in 1989 when Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I proclaimed September 1 as a special day of prayer for creation. The idea was embraced by the Roman Catholic Church and by the World Council of Churches, and soon many Christian denominations joined to set aside a Season of Creation to extend from September 1 to October 4, the feast day of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals and the environment.

### How Can You Get Involved?

#### 1. Attend St. Francis Day & the Blessing of the Animals – Sunday, October 1

At St. Andrew’s we have long celebrated St. Francis Day by holding a special service to bless the animals that we keep as pets. Join St. Andrews on Sunday, October 1 for this special service. This and all services this month will include [special liturgy and prayers](#) developed by the Episcopal Church for the Season of Creation.

#### 2. Connect with the Creation Care Committee for the Diocese of Central PA

In Fall 2022, Bishop Audrey Scanlan established a diocesan-wide Creation Care Committee, and we are both active members. Connect with the Committee and its work in the following ways:

- **Read** about 1) the Episcopal Church’s [Ministry for Creation Care](#), 2) [Resolution A087](#) adopted by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in 2022 that set a goal of net carbon neutrality by 2030, and 3) the [Diocese’s Creation Care Committee](#)’s work.
- **Watch** our Committee’s recorded 1-hour educational programs on Creation Care work in the Diocese: 1) [Introduction & Panel Conversation with Bishop Scanlan](#), 2) [Energy Usage & Savings for your Congregation](#) (State College & Lewisburg), and 3) [Grace Place: A Community Garden & Ministry Center](#) (Shippensburg).
- **Join** our Committee mailing list by emailing Committee Chair Katie Ruth ([katieimruth@gmail.com](mailto:katieimruth@gmail.com)) to learn more about 2024 plans, including to organize and convene a Diocese-wide conference to develop a Diocesan Climate Action Plan.

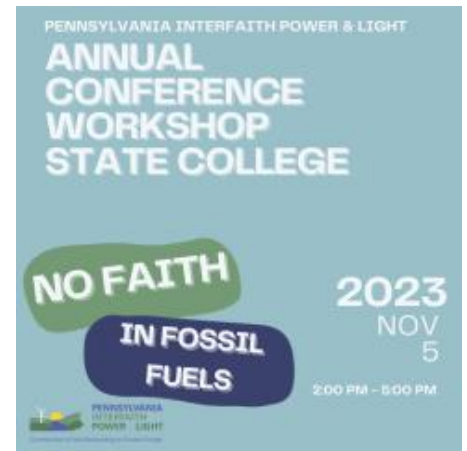
**3. Attend the PA Interfaith Power & Light (PA IPL) Annual Conference – Sunday, November 5**

On Sunday, November 5 from 1pm-5pm, St. Andrew's will host the State College location for [PA Interfaith Power & Light's Annual Conference](#). This year's theme is "No Faith in Fossil Fuels". Tickets are \$8-\$25, and all are welcome! Contact Sarah at [sek175@gmail.com](mailto:sek175@gmail.com) with questions & event sponsorship opportunities.



**PENNSYLVANIA  
INTERFAITH  
POWER & LIGHT**

Communities of Faith Responding to Climate Change



**Annual Fundraising Dinner**

Monday, October 16

5:30 p.m. at the Penn Stater

9-9:45 a.m. in Canterbury Hall



***You're invited! Please join us for "A Place to Call Home,"  
Out of the Cold's annual fundraising dinner***

Out of the Cold: Centre County is hosting their annual fundraising dinner on Monday October 16 at the Penn Stater. We invite you to join us at the St. Andrew's table to hear exciting updates about the shelter and guest stories of impact. The meal is free, but attendees will be asked to help the organization through donations and/or support of the silent auction. All money raised through our fundraising dinner will be used to maintain and expand Out of the Cold's services to our community. You can RSVP by emailing or speaking to Julie Breuninger - [julieknits4@gmail.com](mailto:julieknits4@gmail.com)

The number of individuals experiencing homelessness is rising in our community! Out of the Cold is providing shelter for 28 guests/night and there are 40 people on our waiting list. For the past two years, we've had a waiting list of between 20 and 60 individuals. Some of these folks are able to temporarily stay with friends, but others are street homeless. Although Out of the Cold cannot provide overnight shelter for those on our waiting list, these individuals can utilize the day shelter and resource center for lunch, showers, laundry, case management support, and a safe place to spend time. Your help through prayer, time, talent, and finances is greatly appreciated.

If you can't make the dinner, you can help by donating items from Out of the Cold's Amazon "Wish List." Use the following link to select and purchase your selections and they will be shipped directly to Out of the Cold!

**[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/31CVRXEPB46LQ/ref=hz\\_ls\\_biz\\_ex?](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/31CVRXEPB46LQ/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex?)**

## 2023 STATE COLLEGE CROP HUNGER WALK

Sunday, October 22

Grace Lutheran Church, 205 S. Garner Street

1:30 p.m. registration; 2 p.m. walk begins



October in State College means falling leaves, pumpkins, cooler temps, football, pets coming to church, and ...The CROP Hunger Walk!

This year's easy 5K CROP Walk will start and end at **Grace Lutheran Church, 205 S Garner Street**. Registration begins at 1:30; the walk begins at 2 p.m.

Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible in our lifetime. You can help make it happen. The money we raise will be used to help the 950 million people in the world who don't have enough to eat. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised in the State College CROP Hunger will stay in State College. The rest is used by Church World Service globally to provide food and water, seeds and tools, wells and water systems, technical training, micro-enterprise loans, disaster relief and more.

Register for your local CROP Hunger Walk, raise funds, and take us one step closer to ending hunger once and for all.

Parishioners of all ages, family members, friends, and pets are encouraged to put on some purple and join us! To join the St. Andrew's team or donate, use the link or QR code TODAY! If you prefer to write a check, make it out to "CWS/CROP" and give it to one of the walkers, or put it in the offering plate.

<https://bit.ly/2023CROPHungerWalk>



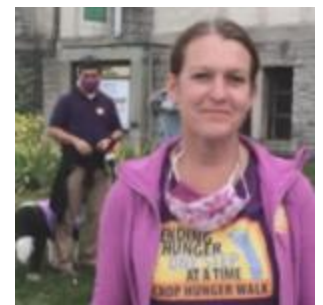
Please contact our new CROP Walk chair, Heather Gregory, if you have questions or need more information



### NOTE:

This year's CROP Walk will be the last one for our long-time chairperson, **Julie Kwasnica**, before she and her husband move to Florida. Julie has devoted a lot of time and energy to this cause on behalf of St. Andrew's and it is important to her personally. Although Julie is not our chairperson this year, she will be walking and raising money. Here is part of a message from her fundraising page:

No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the CROP Hunger Walk is more than just a yearly gathering or event for me. It is my chance to help families who are struggling with hunger and concerned about where they'll find their next meal. The Walk is how I take action to make sure that one more person has enough to eat.



**Let's honor Julie's dedication by sending her off with a record number of donations and walkers!**

The link to Julie's personal page is <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/julie-kwasnica>  
But you can use the team link above, too.



## **Mt. Nittany Middle School Clothing Drive**

Donations accepted: Friday, November 3, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and  
Saturday, November 4, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Shop at No Cost: Saturday, November 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and  
Sunday, November 5, 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.



## **Clothing Drive 2023**

**Collecting Gently Used Clothing, Coats, Shoes, Boots, Backpacks, Accessories,  
Bedding, Household Items, Toys, Books, & Sports Gear for  
ALL Family Members.  
Sizes infant to XXXL!**



**Deliver YOUR gently used items to  
Mount Nittany Middle School  
656 Brandywine Drive  
Friday and Saturday**

**COME SHOP at NO COST  
New Items Everyday!  
Saturday and Sunday**



Click on this [LINK](#) for more information.

If you have any questions, email [children@standrewsc.org](mailto:children@standrewsc.org)  
or call Robin 814-404-3812

**“A Retrospective Journey” – Artwork by Grace Pilato**

Bellefonte Art Museum – PLB Gallery

Sunday, October 1 – Sunday, October 29

Opening Reception, Sunday, October 1, Noon – 4:30 p.m.

If you spend any time at St. Andrew’s, even if you have never eaten at the Community Café, you would probably recognize Grace Pilato. Grace is a long-time volunteer, currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Café, and is instrumental in planning the menus, developing a meal prep timeline, organizing other volunteers, and cooking in order to feed over 150 hungry people every Thursday.



What you may not know is that Grace is a very talented artist. The Bellefonte Art Museum will be displaying her work throughout the month of October, and she would like to invite all of us to come see it. (See her letter below.)

Dear Saint Andrew’s Congregation,

I am very excited to announce that my artwork will be featured in a show entitled “A Retrospective Journey.” It will be held in the PLB gallery at the Bellefonte Art Museum in Bellefonte, PA. located at 133 N. Allegheny Street. Many of you may know me from the pottery and cooking classes I taught for over 50 years, or through my community involvement. This show will acquaint you with some new artistic directions I’ve been enthusiastically developing.



The show will be retrospective, containing some past works in pottery and sculpture as well as my current work in abstract painting using a variety of media, such as acrylics, pastels, inks, charcoal, fabrics, and threads. The new work is intuitive, lively, full of joy and very colorful.



There will be another special event for Museum members only. Continuing in the spirit of a retrospective, I will be conducting a “An Artistic Approach to Pesto” class at the Museum on Tuesday evening, October 17, from 6 to 8 p.m. This will be a hands-on class, during which we will create our own unique dishes to be shared with the class. If you are already a member and wish to join the class, you should RSVP to the Museum; spots are limited. Not a member and wish to join? Email: [bellefontemuseum@gmail.com](mailto:bellefontemuseum@gmail.com) I hope you can join me at the opening reception or visit the show during October (the museum is open on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 12-4:30 p.m.). It would be great to see you and share my work.

Best wishes,

Grace

## 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.*

### KNITTING MINISTRY

Sunday, October 8

11:15 a.m., Room 324



The Knitting Ministry will meet Sunday, October 8 following the 10 a.m. service upstairs in the Library (Room 324.) The mission of Knitting Ministry is fellowship and prayerful/mindful making with our hands for others. All are welcome. Bring your knitting and a snack treat to share. We are knitters, crocheters and weavers -- all parishioners and local friends. We meet on the second Sunday of the month with a July-August hiatus. For more information or a Zoom link, email Anne at [anne.hoag@gmail.com](mailto:anne.hoag@gmail.com)."

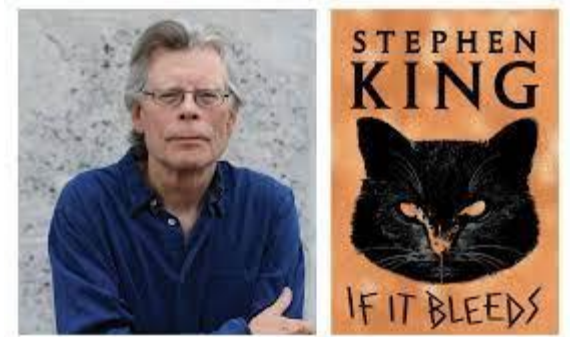
Next meeting: Sunday, November 12

### BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, October 24

7 p.m., Room 324

The Book Group will meet Tuesday, October 24, at 7 p.m. in Room 324 to discuss our October/Halloween-inspired selection, *If It Bleeds*, a collection of four novellas by Stephen King. We will also select a book for November, so bring your suggestions.



Newcomers are always welcome.

# OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** If you have an October 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 Theodore Marini  
2 John Austin  
3 Scott Strouse  
3 Ron Rovansek  
4 Maggie Jaenicke  
5 Chrissy Krasnansky  
6 Gabe Hickner  
7 Pam Couch  
8 Michele Marini  
9 DrueAnne Schreyer  
9 Lauren Cozad

10 Mona Jackson  
14 Zachariah Rigas  
17 Paul Markowski  
17 Emily Grosholz  
19 Sara Conkling  
20 Haylei Libran  
21 Maggie Crispell  
21 Walter Zimmerman  
22 Ava Jacobson  
22 Matthew Thompson  
23 Scott Kroczyński

23 Jean Beierlein  
24 Josh King  
26 Bill Wallace  
27 Sarah McNutt  
27 Mickey Hwozdek  
28 Owen Jacobson  
28 Jacque Howard  
28 Sam Patzkowsky  
31 Bobbie Jo Leitzell  
31 Brent Lunnen



## **Those for Whom We Pray**

Sandy, Erica, Molly, Teri, Janet, Mavis, Dave, Vivian, Joan, Don, Jordan, Ty, Isa, Ivonne, Robert, Poryan, Michael, Joann, Kevin, Francine, Diane, Frank, Sara, Emily, David, Vicki, Leslie, Tom, Chuck, Bill, Merru, Peter, Chris, Bob, Charlie, Dave, Elle, Emily, Roger, Miles, Michaela, Matthew, Chris, Shawn, Pam, Sam, Wynne

## **Those in the Armed Forces and First Responders**

Zach, Christie, Sean, Matt, Eric, Andrew, Amy, Zachariah, Cameron, Doug

## **SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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