



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

"Follow me and I will make you  
fish for people." – Mark 1:17

**June 2025**

## So, the Rector's Away...

Hopefully by now you have heard that I am taking a sabbatical this summer. If not, well, I am taking a sabbatical this summer. Now, I know what you're thinking: great, we can take the summer off from church too. But that would be a mistake. All the usual stuff is still going on this summer. All three services will happen every Sunday. The Community Café meals will go on every Thursday. It is not true that Episcopalians are the only group that God trusts to take the summer off. I'm counting on all of you to show up this summer.

While I'm gone, Father Ted Christopher will be leading most, but not all, of the services. We will have other supply clergy too, including familiar faces like Father Kevin Barron and Mother Eileen Weglarz. Ted will also be providing pastoral support for the equivalent of one day per week. He will be available for emergencies. You will be in good hands.

If you have a question or a problem, just call the office, as you normally would. Allison Shea will be holding down the fort. She can direct your call or inquiry to the person you need to talk to, or she will be able to help you herself.

In the Episcopal Church, when the rector is not available, the Senior Warden becomes the one responsible for running the parish, with the Junior Warden as the second in charge. We are blessed to have two very capable wardens in Sandy Schwartz and Andrea McCloskey. They will be making sure that everything runs smoothly. But truly St. Andrew's runs itself. Our amazing staff will be doing their jobs, and they will continue to meet once a week to communicate and coordinate their efforts. We have an awesome team, and I trust them 100%.

It would be wrong, I believe, to think of the summer as a time when St. Andrew's will be on hold, or treading water, or marking time. Based on my experience of a previous sabbatical, I am confident that good things will happen while the rector is away. God will continue to be worshiped here and will continue to work in, with, and through the congregation. I look forward to the second week in September when I will return and will share my stories of what God has been doing in my life all summer with you. And I will be excited to hear your stories about how God has been at work in your lives, as individuals and as a congregation.

### **A Sabbatical Prayer**

*As we are apart for these months, may the God of love be with us both. May God's love remind us of our call to love as we have been loved. May this time apart be for both of us time of rest, refreshment, and renewal. May it be a time of listening to God and dreaming new dreams. And may the blessing of God be upon us and between us until we are together again. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.*

Fr. Jeff

## TREASURER'S REPORT, Julie Kwasnica, Treasurer



April 2025

	April	Year-to-Date	% of Budget	2025 BUDGET
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 35,777	\$ 187,723	42%	\$ 443,000
Total Operating Income	\$ 45,464	\$ 209,914	42%	\$ 496,600
Total Operating Expense	\$ 49,274	\$ 192,081	33%	\$ 580,022
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (3,810)	\$ 17,833		

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

## From the FINANCIAL SECRETARY, Michele Marini, Financial Secretary

Summer 2025

Dear Parishioners of Saint Andrews,

This is just a reminder that though our rector, Father Jeff, is off on sabbatical for the next couple of months, the work of St. Andrew's continues. Please keep those pledge payments current so that our good works may continue.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

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



May 2025

The vestry met on May 13 in room 324. The position description for the Family Ministry Director has been completed and there has been at least one applicant.

There is a concerted effort by the vestry to rewrite St. Andrew's By-Laws, in order to ensure that they are relevant to the times.

The Pride Parade is happening on Saturday, June 7. St. Andrew's is a sponsor. Participants will meet around 9:00 a.m. in front of the church to walk.

The next vestry meeting will be held on June 10 in room 324 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.



## BIG NEWS

We had a confirmation service at St. Andrew's on Friday, May 9 at 4:30 p.m.

A few of the leaders from Episcopal at Penn State, along with me and Kelley Paulsen, led a Confirmation Class this year, with young people from St. Andrew's as well as St. John's Bellefonte AND St. John's Huntingdon. It was wonderful how our church supported these young people as they took this important step in their faith journeys!

In addition to the student group, Fr. Jeff led a group of adults in the congregation who were interested in confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation. Folks from this group were a part of the May 9 confirmation service, too. It was so special to have these folks be a part of this service. In total, eight folks were confirmed, two folks were received, and two folks reaffirmed their baptismal vows. It was a joyous day.

Episcopal at Penn State will be on summer break, but we are looking forward to the fall and launching our Choral Scholars program. Stay tuned for our monthly service schedule of Sung Compline on campus!





## WORSHIP

### Recognizing our Senior Acolyte

Congratulations, Sean McGarry!

Thank you for your faithful service as an acolyte for St. Andrew's for the past **seven** years! All the Best in your new adventures at the University of Pittsburgh! We will miss you!

We will miss you!



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

### NEWS FROM OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



#### **This Summer**

Thank you to all of our families, especially our children, for a wonderful Church School Year. Our last day of church school for the summer was June 1.

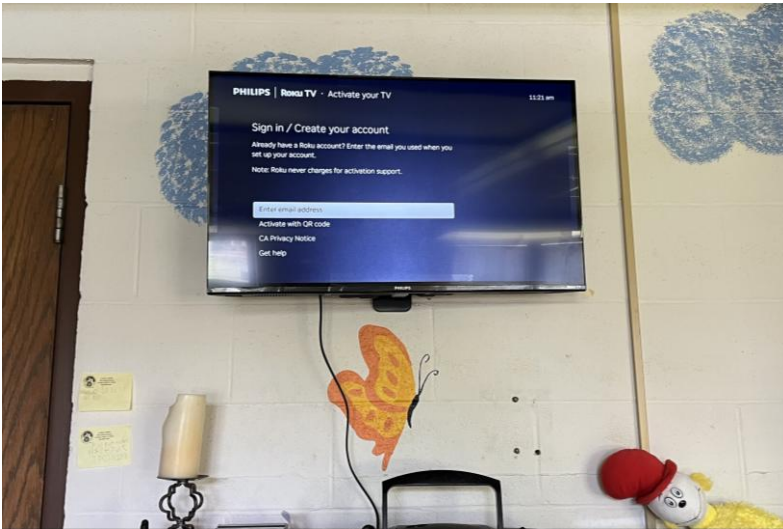
During the summer, our wiggle bags with books and stuffies will be available on Sunday mornings in the narthex. The nursery will be open for family use, but unstaffed.

The exciting news is that if you are in the nursery with your child during the 10 a.m. service you will now be able to watch and listen to the livestream on our NEW TV! While we do not have a nursery attendant this can "offer parents that need the nursery a way to still be part of the worship service."

Wishing you a Safe and Healthy Summer!

~ **Sarah**





With the new Nursery tv, parents and volunteers will have access to the livestream of our 10 a.m. service.

We hope that adding a tv makes parents feel welcome and still a part of our community while they are with their children in the nursery.

## Volunteers Needed

"The Children's Ministry needs teachers/helpers! If you like children and want to be a part of our ministry, please let us know! There are a few clearances you need but it's an easy process and we can help you through it. We won't be having class over the summer so there is time to join the team!

Contact Sarah Skvarla at [sasingle@gmail.com](mailto:sasingle@gmail.com) for more information."



## Save these dates for fall!

- Blessing of the Backpacks and Devices! With Ice Cream on the Lawn! August 24.
- Kick off to the New Church School Year, September 7.

## With Appreciation for our teachers,

Lord, bless the teachers who give their heart to teaching. Thank you for the special gift that You have given them, a spirit of grace and compassion. May they have strength and endurance to perform their many tasks, and may they know and feel the deep gratitude of those whom they teach. Amen.

## Thank you to:

Robin Bastress  
Lauren Cozad  
Marisa Ferger  
Katie Gaines  
Elizabeth Hughes  
Liz King

Andrea McCloskey  
Penelope McCloskey  
Darlene Nordoff  
Meira Minard  
Kitty Mussett

**& Sarah Skavarla, Interim Director Children's Ministry**



## YOUTH PROGRAMS

Congratulations to our 2025 graduates!

### Alexander de Carle



Alexander de Carle is graduating from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. He is receiving a Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS) with an area of study in Computer Game Development. He participated in their honors co-op program.

### Nat Hickner



Nat grew up in State College and at St. Andrew's. He and his family moved to Michigan in 2023. Nat is graduating from East Lansing High School where he played tennis, sang in choir, and performed in musicals. He will begin his college career this fall at The University of Michigan, studying Materials Science and Engineering. Nat also plans to keep singing in The University of Michigan Choirs!

### Kate Lukens



Kate graduated cum laude in Biobehavioral Health from Penn State University and is also a certified personal trainer. She has begun her career as a personal trainer at MBI Fitness in State College.

### Kaleigh McGarry



Kaleigh McGarry is graduating from the University of Washington with majors in Political Science and Spanish. She plans to move back to the east coast to pursue a career in public policy and government.



## Sean McGarry



Sean McGarry is graduating from the Delta Program at State College Area High School. In August, he will attend the University of Pittsburgh to study Environmental Science. He plans to continue playing music and enjoying outdoor adventures.



## UPCOMING

### State College Pride Parade



#### Here's the plan:



**Date:** Saturday, June 7



**Where:** St. Andrew's front lawn (on Fraser Street)



**When:** 9:00am—we'll gather a little before the parade starts



**What to wear:** St. Andrew's Pride t-shirt (see below) if you have one, or anything colorful and fun!

St. Andrew's is proud to sponsor and participate in the State College Pride Parade on Saturday, June 7. We're getting ready to walk in the parade, too, and we'd love for you to join us!

This is a great chance for us, as a church, to show up with love, support, and celebration for our LGBTQ+ neighbors, friends, and family. Whether you're part of the community or an ally, let's show our community that faith and Pride absolutely go together.

You don't need to bring anything but your kind heart and your walking shoes. Signs, flags, good vibes, and friends are all welcome!

If you're in, just let us know by signing up here: <https://bit.ly/SCPride2025>

For complete information about all PRIDE 2025 events, go to <https://www.centrelgbtplus.org/pride>

## Pride T-Shirts

You can show your support at the parade and year-round in a St. Andrew's Pride t-shirt featuring the official Episcopal Pride Shield and a message from 1 Corinthians – "love never fails." We have ordered a limited number in assorted sizes. The cost is \$20 per shirt payable by cash or check when you pick yours up. They will be here in time for the parade.

You can order yours at this link.

<https://bit.ly/SCPride2025>

when you register to walk or if you only want a t-shirt.

**God's love is for everyone—no exceptions.**



## St. Andrew's "Welcome Statement"

We are a community of faith seeking to share the love of God we know through Jesus Christ; therefore, we welcome all people and invite persons of every race, ethnic background, gender identity, sexual orientation, capability, or circumstance to participate fully in every aspect and at every level of our parish life.

## Enjoy Fireworks Night at St. A's Night at the Spikes!

**When:** Saturday, August 23

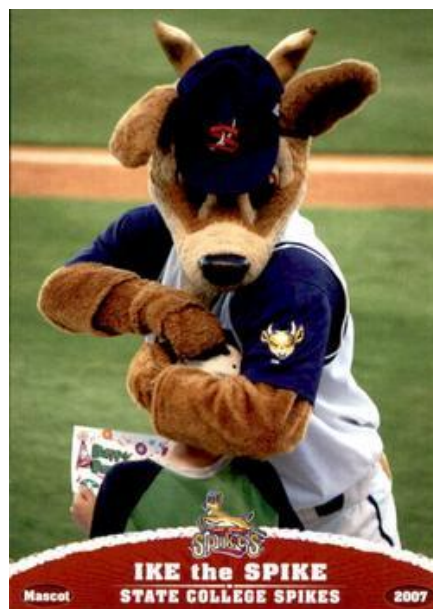
**Where:** Medlar Field at Lubrano Park



**St. A's Team Photo before the game - 5:30 pm!**

**Game Time:** 6:35 p.m.

**Cost:** \$11 per ticket



## [Sign up here!](#)

Pay online at:

<https://onrealm.org/StAndrewsC/give/SpikesBB>

or by cash or check with "Spikes" in the memo line.

## Additional notes:

- Ike the Spike will visit us during the game.
- Our seats are close to Bathrooms, Food, Concessions, Ice Cream & Beverages!
- Please sign up by August 1st.
- Our seats are easily accessible for all.

Email [office@standrewsc.org](mailto:office@standrewsc.org) with questions.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Over the past two years we have had over 60 people participate in Food for the Soul where parishioners gather in homes and restaurants once a month to eat, drink, play games, have conversation, fun and fellowship!

If you are not currently in a group and would like to join St. Andrews' Food for the Soul, please contact Kathy Dittmann at [kadittmann2@gmail.com](mailto:kadittmann2@gmail.com) or 814-880-5820.

Please include the following information:

- ☐ Name(s)
- ☐ Email address
- ☐ Interest: Lunch out at area restaurants, Dinner out at area restaurants, No preference

You and your fellow group members will receive an email indicating who is in your group. It will be up to the group to decide on a date, time, and place for their gatherings.

**DEADLINE:** We need to hear from you by June 28.

**Come Join us for Faith through Fun! Get to know each other in Fellowship!**



**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Welcome to Planet Green Recycle**

Recycle your ink cartridges \* **HERE** at St. Andrew's!

Look for the box in the Narthex. All YOU need to do is drop your used cartridges in the box and we will do the rest. Planet Green will send us **\$1 per cartridge** to put back in our budget for our printing use.

Did you know that according to The Energy Collective Group, more than 375 million empty cartridges are thrown out every year? That is over a million cartridges a day that end up in landfills.

Planet Green was established in 1999. The company is committed to protecting the environment by recycling millions of ink cartridges a year for reuse as an eco-friendly, printer cartridge option for the value conscious consumer.

If you want to buy cartridges from them, they send us 10% of your purchase, if you use our code: St. Andrew's Fundraising **Program ID code: 33766**.

\*Only inkjet cartridges are accepted for recycling.

<https://www.planetgreenrecycle.com/>

## 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.*

### YARN MINISTRY

Sunday, June 8, 11:15 a.m.  
Room 324 and Zoom

Future 2025 Meetings: September 14, October 12,  
November 9, December 14.

In general, the Yarn Ministry meets following the 10 a.m. service (or about 11:15), the 2nd Sunday of each month (September through June. We go into hiatus during July and August. When appropriate, we'll have a choice of attending via Zoom or in person in the St. Andrews parish library. Anne's monthly emails will indicate whether we're meeting in person as well as on Zoom. The Zoom info will continue to be: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/2897917610>.

If you like, bring a snack or treat to share.

For more information contact Anne Hoag,  
[anne.hoag@gmail.com](mailto:anne.hoag@gmail.com)



### MEN'S GROUP

Tuesday, June 17, 6:35 p.m.  
Medlar Field at Lubrano Park

The State College Men's Group will meet on Tuesday, June 17, at Medlar Field at Lubrano Park to see the State College Spikes play the Mahoning Valley Scrappers.

If you'd like tickets, please email Dennis Shea at [dennisgshea@yahoo.com](mailto:dennisgshea@yahoo.com) by Friday, June 13.



### BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, June 17  
7 p.m. in Room 324



The Book Club has selected *The Lost Bookshop* by Evie Woods to kick off their summer reading. *The Lost Bookshop* follows the interconnected stories of Opaline, Martha, and Henry. Their lives become intertwined as they uncover the mysteries of a magical bookshop that appears and disappears, ultimately connecting their past and present lives.

The Book Group is open to all and newcomers and guests are always welcome.

### PARISH LIFE

The Parish Life Committee supports various events in the church calendar year. Some of those events are fun and celebratory; others are more serious and reflective. Committee members donate and prepare food; and decorate, set up, serve, and clean up for the events. Basically, each member serves in a type of stone soup ministry, where every contribution, large and small, contributes to the whole. Come join us, won't you? You'll be glad you did! Contact Darlene Nordoff (814) 883-1231 or [dnordoff737@gmail.com](mailto:dnordoff737@gmail.com) ASAP to become a member of the Parish Life committee.

- Contact Scott Strouse directly at [scottallen1750@gmail.com](mailto:scottallen1750@gmail.com) if you'd like to be part of the Coffee Hour team.
- Contact Robin Bastress at [children@standrewsc.org](mailto:children@standrewsc.org) if you can help with funeral receptions. Thank you.

## COMPASSIONATE LIFE

Women of St. Andrew's are invited to join Compassionate Life the first and third Thursday each month, except the summer months, for conversation and coffee, prayer, compassion in action, and community. We meet in Room 325 at 9:30 a.m.

We often use a book as our springboard for reflection and discussion. This past year we reviewed Anne Lamott's book *Help Thanks Wow*. Some of us met together or individually at the Bellefonte Art Museum to view "A Letter from Korea," an exhibition of contemporary Korean Art. Our next book will be *How We Learn to be Brave (Decisive Moments in Life and Faith)* by Mariann Edgar Budde, the Episcopal Bishop of Washington. When we tried to buy it earlier in the year for study and reflection, it was sold out! So, get your copy ASAP to begin discussing it at our second September meeting. Whatever we read or do, we find God and each other there.



For our last meeting in May, we enjoyed a lovely potluck brunch! We laugh, we pray, we connect, we support, we drink coffee and eat -- we are blessed. We also have an active card ministry to acknowledge celebrations and offer condolences and support.



If you have any questions about Compassionate Life, please contact Laurel Zydney at [laurelzemail@gmail.com](mailto:laurelzemail@gmail.com) or Darlene Nordoff at [dnordoff737@gmail.com](mailto:dnordoff737@gmail.com). Hope to see as many of you as are able in September!





**Parish Breakfast**  
**Sabbatical Send-off for Fr. Jeff**  
**Sunday, June 1, 2025**













## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 Ann Gibboney	9 Robin Bastress	21 Penelope McCloskey
2 Dannielle Kroczyński	10 Lori McGarry	21 Stephen Mainzer
2 Kate Freeman	13 Chris Marini	21 Violet Skvarla
2 Ted Jaenicke	15 Julia Lowe	22 Rob Freeborn
3 Ralph Hemecker	15 Kathy Johnston	24 Carolyn Donaldson
5 Cathy Dauler	16 Mary Amato	24 Ari Farris
5 Nathaniel Felsmann	17 James Green	25 Cindy Law
7 Julie Kwasnica	18 Betsy Llewellyn	27 Kaleigh McGarry
7 Thomas Dauler	18 Geoff Rule	27 Jack Rovanseck
7 Mary Evans	19 Ann Shepherd	
7 Mark Patzkowsky	20 Anthony Grillo	

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** If you have a June birthday and don't 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.

### **Those for Whom We Pray**

Erica, Molly, Walter, Marion, Teri, Janet, Mavis, Mena, Mickey, Joan, Jordan, Ty, Isa, Ivonne, Eileen, Eugene, Kevin, Vicki, Diane, Sara, Emily, David, Frank, Robbie, Earl, Andy, Terry, Ed, Mary Lou, Elisabeth, Alexandra, Isaac, Wilhelmina, Fran, Patricia, Jane, Thomas, Harriet, Sheralee, Juliette, Kelley, Karl, Jeff, Carolyn, Grace, Luis

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

Zach, Christie, Sean, Matt, Eric, Andrew, Zachariah, Cameron, Doug, Jack, Rob

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

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