

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

October 2023

What I Did for My Summer Vacation

There is much I would like to share with you about my recent sabbatical. I hope to unfold observations and learnings over the next several months. In this article allow me to share my experience of our liturgy and worship.

Once when I was working with a seminarian intern back at Christ Church in Spotsylvania, Virginia, she was leading the Prayers of the People on a Sunday. During the silence when the congregation is invited to add their own prayers, she seemed to get lost. I remember looking over at her after what seemed like the appropriate length of silence. She remained head bowed, and eyes closed. I waited. I looked again. Still no movement from her. Finally, I whispered her name and her head popped up. After the service, she apologized for getting lost in the time of prayer. I explained that when she is leading the liturgy she absolutely can offer her personal prayers, but that she also bears the responsibility of leading the whole congregation through this communal experience of worship, and therefore she has to learn to “pray with one eye open.”

On my second day back from sabbatical, September 9, I started our weekly staff meeting with a prayer. It was only later I realized that it was the first time I had prayed out loud in front of other people since early June. That may seem obvious, but I hadn't stopped to think about it. One gift of being off from my day job for three months was being able to experience our liturgical worship from the other side, both to experience it without any responsibility for leading it, and to simply allow the words to wash over me. I was able to get lost in the prayers as my seminary intern had. I enjoyed listening to sermons instead of writing and delivering them. I appreciated saying “amen” at the end of prayers after only silently reading along with the officiant. I found it freeing to let my mind wander a bit during a worship service or to linger on a word, a thought, a concept, without the anxiety of losing track of order or timing.

I believe I developed a new appreciation, or perhaps a renewed appreciation, for the holiness of our worship. Leading worship and being focused on my own presence, voice, tone, timing, expression, and enunciation, can distract from the profound truths that our liturgy seeks to express. Saying the same words over and over, week by week, as I do in our liturgy can risk them becoming rote and meaningless. We risk mouthing empty words that lose their power to transform us. For me the opportunity to hear the words rather than to say them was a blessing, a chance to receive the grace of their holiness.

Worshiping in the Church of England, as I did for three Sundays and daily at Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford for two weeks, the words were similar but not quite the same. Our current Book of Common Prayer was approved in 1979. It is the fourth iteration of an American prayer book, the first being the 1789 adaption of the 1662 English BCP. Well, in England they still use the book from 1662, in addition to some modern liturgies that have been added. Those words sounded at the same time so familiar and yet foreign. They forced me to think about them, and being in the congregation rather than up front gave me the opportunity for that contemplation and allowed those words to work on my soul. I come back to St. Andrew's refreshed and with a new appreciation of the beauty of our liturgical worship. I hope I convey that as I again take up the responsibility of leading services, and I hope I don't get lost in the prayers.

Fr. Jeff +

Fall Schedule

Every **Tuesday** in the Fall

Service of Holy Eucharist

6:15 p.m., Meditation Chapel, Pasquerilla Spiritual Center

Followed by fellowship, snacks, and games Bring a friend!!

Every **Sunday** in the Fall

Service of Holy Eucharist

10 a.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 208 W. Foster Ave, State College

10 a.m., Service of Holy Eucharist (St. John's Episcopal Church, 120 W. Lamb, Bellefonte, PA 16823)

All are welcome!

Evening Song


The Choral Scholars of Episcopal at Penn State
presents

Sung Compline

Featuring works of Duruflé, Tavener, Byrd, and Gibbons

Eisenhower Chapel, Pasquerilla Spiritual Center

Sunday, September 28 th	9pm
Sunday, October 26 th	9pm
Sunday, November 9 th	9pm



Episcopal
AT PENN STATE



Choral Scholars Coffee Hour

Many thanks to Scott and Susan Strouse for being special Coffee Hour hosts on September 14 and providing flowers from their garden to create a wonderful welcome for our new choral scholars.

Thank you to Walter and members of the choir for supplementing the food offerings.

Welcome to St. Andrew's, Ava Bernardo, Sara Blankenbiller, Tyge Thomas, and Dominic Steiner!

Evensong

Sunday, October 5
5 p.m. in the Church
6 p.m. Reception in Room 325



On Sunday, November at 5 p.m., the Adult Choir will present a service of choral evensong. Music will include the evening canticles, the Selwyn Service, by Stephanie Martin, Preces and Responses by Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, and anthems by Havergal Brian and Simon Lole. The Rev. Ted Christopher will be the officiant. Organist Gwen Catchen will play music by Johann Pachelbel and Walter Wells.

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, 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 whole of 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.

A reception will follow in Room 325. The next evensong will be November 7, at 5 p.m.

Wednesday Healing Service Reboot

Wednesday, November 5 (*first Wednesday of the month*)
12:15 p.m. in the Church

Since the pandemic we have not had an in-person service at midday on Wednesdays. This healing service was a long-time tradition before Covid.



We plan to start having the beloved Healing Eucharist on the first Wednesday of each month, starting on November 5. Join us in the church at 12:15, gathering in the choir pews. There will be the opportunity to receive the laying on of hands with prayers for healing. You can ask for healing prayers for someone else too.

Come join us!



Perhaps you have noticed the cross of the Daughters of the King that I wear. There are 9 of us in the congregation of St. Andrew's who have chosen to wear it. The cross itself is a modified Greek Fleury cross, inscribed in Latin, "Magnanimiter Crucem Sustine," meaning "With heart, mind and spirit uphold and bear the cross." At the base of the cross are the letters "FHS", initials that stand for the Motto of The Order: "For His Sake." All daughters receive this cross at The Service of Admission to The Order as a mark of membership. The cross has a pin on the back but most Daughters choose to put it on a chain. It took me a while to grow into my cross and to realize that it wasn't just a piece of jewelry that I put on every morning. It isn't an accessory that I select to go with an outfit. It is part of me, who I am and if I happen to forget it on a rare occasion, it really causes me some consternation. As a Daughter of the King, I commit to wear the cross and to uphold the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. If you want to know more about Daughters of the King, I would love to talk to you about it!

Faithfully, Kitty Mussett

TREASURER'S REPORT, Julie Kwasnica, Treasurer



August 2025

	August	Year-to-Date	% of Budget	2025 BUDGET
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 38,593	\$ 305,034	69%	\$ 443,000
Total Operating Income	\$ 40,571	\$ 342,953	69%	\$ 496,600
Total Operating Expense	\$ 41,162	\$ 373,620	64%	\$ 580,022
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (592)	\$ (30,667)		

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

VESTRY UPDATE, Beth Jones, Clerk of the Vestry



September 2024

The vestry met on Sept. 9, 2025 and welcomed Fr. Jeff back from his sabbatical.

The senior and junior wardens included a brief overview of the actions taken by the vestry over the summer, 2025. These included the passing of the Bylaws and the approval for monies for property repairs and upgrades.

- The treasurer informed the vestry that St. Andrew's income/expense report has us in deficit territory.
- The liaison to the Children and Youth Formation shared that a new curriculum is being implemented.
- The liaison to the Community Café said that all the grant money from the State for equipment has been spent on new freezers and refrigerators.

- The vestry unanimously approved a motion from the Finance Committee to remove two names (of individuals no longer associated with St. Andrew's) from the credit card and authorized Allison Shea to be added to it.
- Jason McCloskey was approved unanimously (by email vote) by the vestry to serve as a representative to the diocesan convention.

The next vestry meeting is on Oct. 14 in room 324 at 7 p.m. All are invited.

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 5 – **The Search for a New Archbishop**, presented by Philip Jenkins

As the search for a new Archbishop of Canterbury is nearing a close, Philip Jenkins will lead us through the process that is taking place, who the potential candidates may be, what we know about them, and what impact their selection would have on the Anglican and Episcopal churches. Plan to attend Adult Forum on November 9, when we will have a new Archbishop of Canterbury and Philip will provide information on the person chosen and the possible reasons behind and consequences of that choice.

Sunday, October 12 – **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, presented by Centre Safe, Michele Hamilton



Centre Safe is a local non-profit whose mission is to empower survivors of sexual or domestic violence. They offer free and confidential services including shelter, counseling, support groups, legal advocacy, and community education. They also staff a crisis hotline.

Sunday, October 19 – no forum currently scheduled

Sunday, October 26 – no forum currently scheduled

Our One Word Bible Study
presented by the Daughters of the King
Wednesday, October 15
1 p.m. in Room 325

Daughters of the King at St. Andrew's are continuing to host an alternative kind of Bible study this month. Any and all are welcome to join us on Wednesday, October 15, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 325.



We explore the secular to spiritual connections for everyday words using a method proposed by Martha Johnson Bourlakis in her book *Our One Word – Creating Spiritual Joy and Depth* (book no longer in print). We dissect the ways in which common, ordinary words occur in scripture, in hymns and in our personal encounters, and how sometimes the understanding of a word is changed by the context in which that the word is used.

Mena Jones is very excited to examine the word ‘**FAITH**’ this month. No homework is required. You only need a curiosity about the impact words have on us and our spiritual practices. Come prepared to enjoy the conversations and immerse yourselves in prayer.

Light snacks will be provided.

For additional information, please contact Michele Marini at 814-574-9639 or email Michele At micheleamarini@comcast.net.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

News from the CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

All children/youth are welcome!

Our two Children/Youth classes meet every Sunday during the 10 a.m. service.

- Room 338: Story Makers, ages 5 - 8
- Room 330: Story Tellers, ages 9 - 14

The Nursery

The Nursery is open every Sunday for families with children ages, birth to 4 years. With the new Nursery TV, parents and volunteers will have access to the livestream of our 10 a.m. service. We hope that adding the TV makes parents feel welcome and **still a part of our community** while they are with their children in the nursery. Wiggle bags with books and stuffies are available for Sunday mornings all year long.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 5

The Feast of St. Francis is celebrated on October 4, 2025. Children may bring their pets or a stuffie to be blessed. Our classes will learn more about the life of St. Francis and his respect for all of God’s creatures. He is known for his ministry to the poor and those in need. St. Francis is the Patron Saint of animals, birds and ecology.



UPCOMING

Friday Films

Friday, October 17

7 p.m. in Canterbury Hall

Snacks begin at 6:30 p.m.

Minari
2020

1h 55m
PG-13



On Friday, October 17, Friday Films will present *Minari*, the story of a Korean American family that moves to an Arkansas farm in search of its own American dream. Amidst the challenges of this new life in the strange and rugged Ozarks, they discover the undeniable resilience of family and what really makes a home.

We will gather at 6:30 p.m. for pizza and other refreshments. The films will start at 7 p.m.

Friday Films are free and all are welcome.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Rovanseck at srovansek@comcast.



COMING ATTRACTIONS:

Juror #2, 2024

November 14

PG-13
1h 54m

Thriller/Drama, directed by Clint Eastwood

Family man Justin Kemp who, while serving as a juror in a high profile murder trial, finds himself struggling with a serious moral dilemma.

OUTREACH

Mt. Nittany Elementary & Middle School Annual Clothing Drive

656 Brandywine Drive, State College

October 17 - 19

Donations accepted: Friday, October 17

Accepting clothing in all sizes, outdoor gear, shoes and footwear, gloves and hats, household items, and gently used toys

Shop at No Cost: Saturday October 18 and Sunday,
October 18,



Tradition of Giving: Gift Card Blessings for Thanksgiving

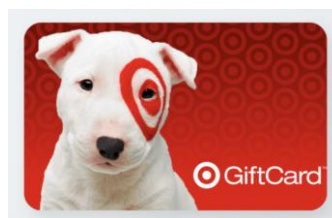
Gift card donations due by Sunday, November 9



This year we are requesting gift cards from **Walmart, Target, Giant, or Weis** for families in need in the State College Area School District. Gift cards make it possible for families to buy the foods and hygiene products that their family needs and enjoys.

We will need gift cards by Sunday, November 9, to allow time for distribution. On Weekdays, donations may be brought to the Church office. **Please write the amount of the card on the card.**

Many Thanks for All of the Support. If you have any questions, please write: Robin at children@standrewsc.org



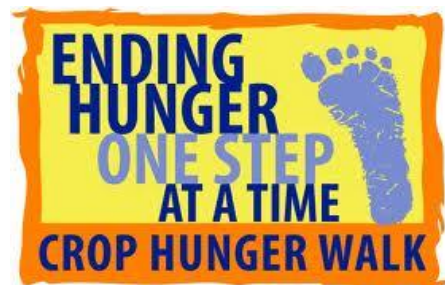
2024 STATE COLLEGE CROP HUNGER WALK

Sunday, October 19

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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

CROP Walk is coming! Join the "Purple People Feeders" as we walk to end hunger in State College and around the world. The 5K walk begins and ends this year right here at St. Andrew's!



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 below 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.

Please contact CROP Walk Chair, Andrea McCloskey at avm11@psu.edu with any questions.

<https://bit.ly/2025CROPWalkStAndrews>





We have a limited number CROP Walk t-shirts in assorted sizes left from last year. To check availability and claim a shirt, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0944ABAE28AAF94-58992191-crop#/>.

Adult sizes are \$15 each and Youth sizes are \$10 each. After you sign up, please make your payment by cash or check. Please specify that the payment is for a CROP Walk t-shirt.

You can pick up your t-shirt in the church office prior to October 19, at the CROP Walk on the day of, or another day and location by request.

Please contact Allison in the church office with any questions.
814-237-7659 or office@standrewsc.org

Aid for Ukraine

Now through Thanksgiving
Collection box in narthex



From now until Thanksgiving, St Andrews will have a box in the narthex to collect needed food and personal items for the people of Ukraine. Salvation Baptist Church has organized this effort and will gather and ship the supplies to Ukraine. What they need most is: non-canned food, such as peanut butter and raisins, crackers and dry cereal and personal care items, such as diapers and wipes, hand lotion, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Bouchard.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, October 31
10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Canterbury Hall

1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
RedCrossBlood.org



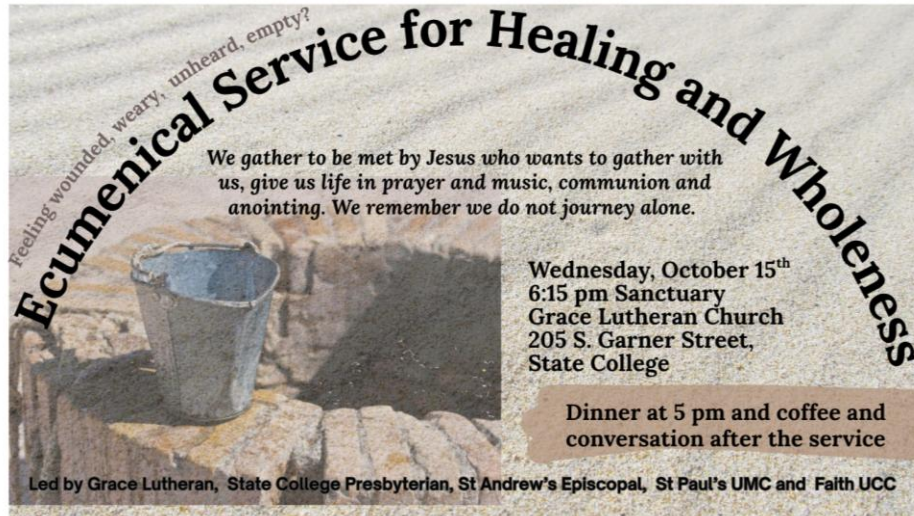
The need for blood is critical. Please sign up today.

Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime.

Only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community.

Thank you for supporting the American Red Cross blood program!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Feeling wounded, weary, unheard, empty?

Ecumenical Service for Healing and Wholeness

We gather to be met by Jesus who wants to gather with us, give us life in prayer and music, communion and anointing. We remember we do not journey alone.

Wednesday, October 15th
6:15 pm Sanctuary
Grace Lutheran Church
205 S. Garner Street,
State College

Dinner at 5 pm and coffee and conversation after the service

Led by Grace Lutheran, State College Presbyterian, St Andrew's Episcopal, St Paul's UMC and Faith UCC

SANCTUARY



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
208 W. Foster Avenue, State College, PA

POETRY READING

Saturday, October 25
2 o'clock p.m.

ANTHOLOGY RELEASE

Thank you to our sponsors!



Host
Alison Condie Jaenicke

readings by
Contest Winners

Contest Judge
and
Anthology Contributors

From a field of 300 entries, our judges the Rt. Rev. Audrey Scanlan and the Rev. Dr. Vincent J. Kopp have selected the winning poems in this year's contest on the theme of Sanctuary. The poetry committee is making the final selections for our contest anthology and we are contacting the poets. We will share these details soon, but for now, mark your calendars to attend the poetry reading on Saturday, October 25. Dr. Kopp will be joining us from North Carolina and, as in the past, we hope to have many of the poets with us to read their work. The reading will be hosted by Alison Jaenicke.

Our arts blog will be updated in the next few days to include more information.

GROUPS, MINISTRIES, & COMMITTEES

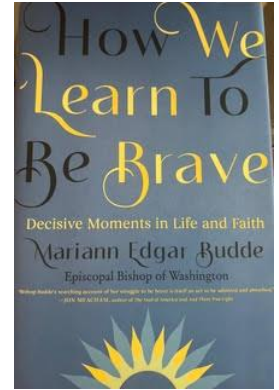
This is not a comprehensive listing; regularly scheduled meetings and events are included only if they submitted an item for publication. For complete and updated listings, please check your Sunday bulletin or weekly email.

COMPASSIONATE LIFE

Fridays, October 2 and October 16

9:30 a.m., Room 325

All women of St. Andrew's are welcome to join Compassionate Life every first and third Thursday of each month, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 325, except when we break for the summer. You can join in any time! Acts of compassion, conversation and coffee, spiritual discovery and prayer focus our attention on God, each other, our church community, and our community at large.



At our first meeting on September 4, we prayed, wrote cards, enjoyed breakfast, and caught up with each other. During our second meeting on September 18, we discussed the introduction and Chapter One “Deciding to Go” of Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde’s book How We Learn to Be Brave — Decisive Moments in Life and Faith. It is not necessary to read the book (we are not a book club), but the contents provide a springboard for discussion, reflection, connection, and insight. As Dr. Michael E. Hall, President of the Chautauqua Institution said,

“Bishop Mariann Budde gives powerful voice to a courage that comes not from headline-grabbing moments, but from the daily commitment to persevere in faithfulness. In breaking open her own journey of doubt and decision, she provides a road map for a leadership rooted in humility, introspection, and selfless determination, all of which our world so desperately needs.”

I hope you can join us on Thursday, October 2, as we continue to pray, explore and share our faith and friendship... and drink coffee! We will use Chapter Two “Deciding to Stay” as our basis for discussion and reflection. Also, we will talk about options for compassion in action.

If you have any questions or need transportation, please contact Darlene Nordoff dnordoff737@gmail.com or Laurel Zydney laurelzemail@gmail.com.

PRAYER QUILT

Thursday, October 9

1:30 p.m., Room 119 (Note: new time)

Prayer quilts are created to bring comfort and a sense of community to shut-ins from our parish. Simple, colorful blocks of fabric create warm lap quilts, and instead of quilting the sandwiched fabric layers, yarn is used to anchor the blocks. When the quilt is completed, parishioners tie knots with the yarn to secure the layers, and they can say a prayer for the intended recipient of the prayer quilt as they tie the knot. Prayer quilters will gather on October 9 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 119 in the Trost Wing. Minimal sewing experience is helpful but not required.

If you are interested in this ministry of comfort, please contact Allison in St. Andrew's church office or Michele Marini at michelemarini@comcast.net or call 814-574-9639.

KNITTING MINISTRY

Sunday, October 12

11:15 a.m., Room 324

Yarn Ministry will meet October 12 following the main service (around 11:15) in the Library (Room 324.) Bring your knitting and crochet, whether it's working on a ministry project or not, and, if you like, a snack to share. A Zoom option is usually available. Email anne.hoag@gmail.com for the zoom link. Future meetings: November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10, and June 14.

Next meeting: Sunday, November 9

BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, October 28

7 p.m., Room 324

The Book Group will meet Tuesday, October 29, at 7 p.m. in Room 324. We will discuss Mimi Barash Coppersmith's autobiography **Eat First, Cry Later**. Visitors and newcomers are always welcome.

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

The Parish Life Committee offers various events throughout the year for St. Andrew's to get together in faith, fun, and fellowship. On Sunday, September 7, we met at Holmes Foster Park after the 10 a.m. worship service for a picnic with all kinds of yummys! A big thank you to Jerry Dittmann and Rich Marini for serving as our barbecue chefs! Thank you to Kathy Dittmann, Dawn Ziegerer, Carolyn Donaldson, and Joan Bouchard for helping with setup, cleanup, and all things helpful. You had to be there to see Carolyn and Dawn direct traffic either to the HF parking lot or the OLV parking lot! Thank you to Fr Ted Christopher for offering the blessing. Thank you to all who contributed to the potluck.

If you are interested in serving on the Parish Life Committee, please contact Darlene Nordoff dnordoff737@gmail.com.

If you would like to help with funeral receptions, please contact Robin Bastress bassandrobin@aol.com.

If you can help with Coffee Hour after the 10 AM worship service, please contact Scott Strouse scottallen1750@gmail.com.

You'll be glad you did! Serving for Parish Life is to be part of a wonderful stone soup kind of ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Nordoff



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	9 DrueAnne Schreyer	21 Walter Zimmerman
3 Scott Strouse	9 Lauren Cozad	22 Matthew Thompson
3 Ron Rovanseck	10 Mona Jackson	23 Scott Kroczyński
4 Maggie Jaenicke	17 Paul Markowski	24 Josh King
5 Chrissy Krasnansky	17 Emily Grosholz	26 Bill Wallace
7 Pam Couch	19 Sara Conkling	27 Mickey Hwozdek
8 Michele Marini	21 Maggie Crispell	31 Bobbie Jo Leitzell



Those for Whom We Pray

Erica, Molly, Walter, Marion, Sandy, Teri, Janet, Mavis, Mena, Mickey, Milly, Bob, Ann, Pam, Joan, Kelley, Fran, Kathy, Eugene, Kevin, Vicki, Diane, Sara, Emily, David, Frank, Robbie, Earl, Andy, Terry, Alexandra, Isaac, Wilhelmina, Fran, Zahra, Ty, Jordan, Laurie, Isa, Ivonne, Vern, Lenore, Archer, Thomas, Barbara, Shelley, Connie, Huie, Debbie, Loel, Heather, Callie, Tom, Dave, Elle, Emily, Roger, Teia, Stephen, Jane, Anne, Margaret, Tim, Amy, Celia, Gus, Matthew, Crystal, Mo, Liz, Meg, Xander, Pat, Gorda, Bobby, Pat, Naomi

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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