

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

November 2025

In Praise of Those Who Stood Against Injustice

November 1 was All Saints Day on the Christian calendar, a day when we celebrate the lives of those who came before us in the faith and whose heroic witness stands as an example of faithfulness in the face of hardship, injustice, and oppression. Their lives continue to inspire us today. Not all Christian traditions confer upon these people supernatural status. However, one can not argue that they were not powerful in their faith, proclaiming by word and deeds the surpassing glory of God over any worldly comfort, security, or safety. Not all Saints were martyrs, those who died for their faith, but I want to highlight three here for consideration and celebration.

Saints Perpetua and Felicity. Perpetua was a Roman citizen in the early third century living in Carthage in northern Africa. Felicity was her slave. The two of them were catechumens, preparing to be baptized as Christians. Both women were quite young. Perpetua was in her early twenties and the mother of a newborn whom she was still nursing. Felicity was pregnant at the time of their imprisonment. This happened under the reign of Emperor Septimius Severus. Under his rule there were several organized persecutions of Christians and Jews. The arrest and execution of Perpetua and Felicity along with three others was apparently part of a celebration for the emperor's birthday. In the face of threats to their wellbeing and their lives, both women and their companions stood firm in their refusal to renounce their Christian faith. Reportedly, Perpetua's father begged her to renounce her faith and live, especially for her baby. She refused. They were placed in an arena to be killed by animals. The animals mauled and seriously injured Perpetua. In the end, Perpetua herself guided a nervous soldier's sword to her throat to end her life.

Agatha of Sicily. Agatha was a young woman, by some accounts only twelve or thirteen, who lived in the mid-third century. Quintianus, the Roman prefect in Sicily, was interested in her romantically. She refused his advances having taken a vow of virginity. He threatened to expose her as a Christian if she did not give in. This was during the persecutions of Emperor Decius. The powerful prefect had Agatha imprisoned for her faith. She did not give in to him. He then had her imprisoned in a brothel. As she continued to hold to her vow of chastity, he tortured her, including disfiguring her horribly and painfully. Agatha did not waver. There is a lack of good information about her death, but it apparently happened in prison. One account says she was beheaded, while others suggest other means.

These three women stood firm in their faith in their crucified and resurrected Lord. They clung to his cross as a sign of hope in the face of violence and death. They saw in his promises a reason to oppose the powerful men who threatened them. There are other, more modern Saints who demonstrated similar courage as they tried to subvert evil, Saints like Dietrich Bonhoeffer who opposed Hitler, and Oscar Romero who preached against violent oppression by the government in El Salvador. I encourage you to do a quick internet search of all these Saints. I have only summarized their stories. May their stories inspire us to keep the faith, to remain strong when facing injustice or oppression. These Saints and many others are part of the great cloud of witnesses who surround us. They urge us on. They show us that there can be a high price for following a Lord who preached peace and love, who faced violent opposition in his own life, who calls us to take up our cross and follow him. Martyrdom is a special calling. Thank God not every Christian faces such difficult decisions. As we celebrate all the Saints who have come before us in the faith, may their stories, their faith, strengthen us to fight injustice in our own day.

Fr. Jeff +

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Evening Song

The Choral Scholars of Episcopal at Penn State
presents

Sung Compline

Featuring works of Dufay, Taverner, Byrd, and Gibbons

Eisenhower Chapel, Pasquerilla Spiritual Center

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

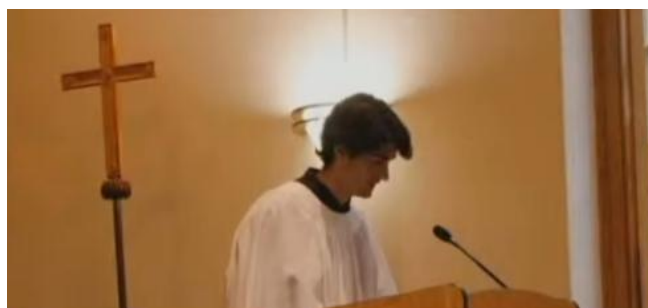
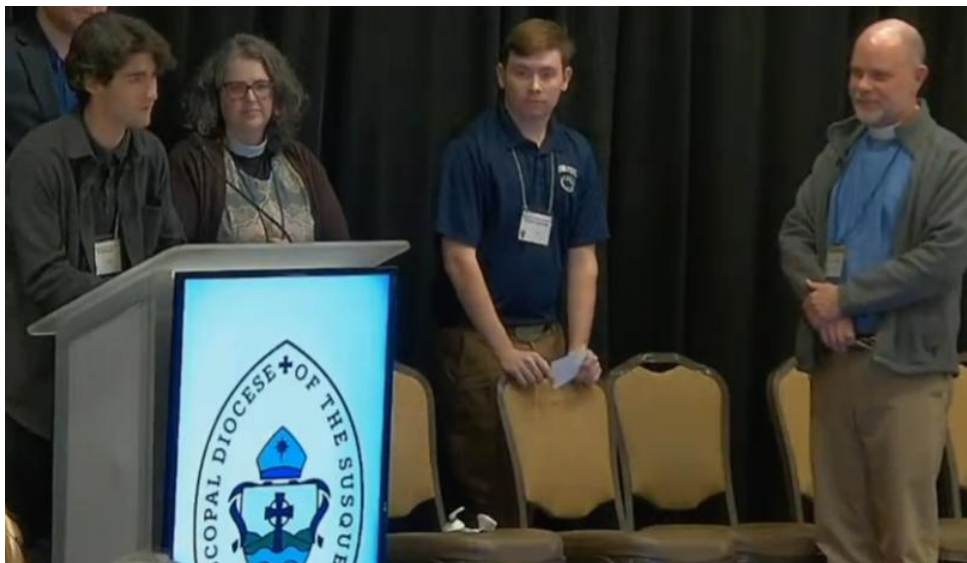


Episcopal
AT PENN STATE

Episcopal at Penn State had a busy month in October. Several members including Will Bond, President, and Calvin Engbrecht, Treasurer, accompanied Fr. Ted to our Diocesan Convention in Scranton where they gave a presentation about what they have been doing and the importance of supporting campus ministry. The eight choral scholars from Episcopal at Penn State also attended and sang at the closing eucharist. You can see the presentation at convention on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/H6Ew8RkiPcE?si=aBCTQV7QU1h9Ff5F>

Every Tuesday evening this fall, Episcopal at Penn State has met in the Meditation Chapel in the Pasquerilla Spiritual Center for a Service of Holy Eucharist followed by fellowship, snacks, and games. On Sundays, four of the eight Choral Scholars sing with the choirs of St. John's, Bellefonte and St. Andrew's. After the morning service, all eight scholars gather at St. Andrew's for rehearsal.

Also during the fall semester, the Choral Scholars offered a service of **Sung Compline in Eisenhower Chapel**. There is still one opportunity to attend this service on Sunday, November 9, at 9 p.m. and show your support for campus ministry.



www.episcopalatpennstate.com

WORSHIP

Evensong

Sunday, November 2
5 p.m. in the Church



On Sunday, November 2, at 5 p.m., the Adult Choir will present a service of choral evensong. Music will include the evening canticles in C by Charles Villers Stanford, Preces and Responses by Richard Shephard, and anthems by William Croft and Christopher Tye. The Rev. Kevin Barron will be the officiant. Organist Gwen Catchen will play music by Johann Pachelbel and Marilyn Biery.

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.

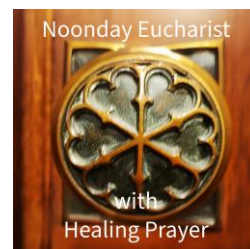
After a series of slight modifications, the office of Evensong took its modern form in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England, a form that is followed very closely throughout the whole of the Anglican and Episcopal Church throughout the world. This is the form used at St. Andrew's,

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 February 1, 2026, at 5 p.m.

Noonday Eucharist with Healing Prayer

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



Beginning Wednesday, November 5, we will offer a noonday eucharist with healing prayer on the first Wednesday of each month at 12:15 p.m. in the church. This was a regular practice pre-COVID and we are happy to be able to offer this opportunity for worship again.



September 2025

	September	Year-to-Date	% of Budget	2025 BUDGET
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 23,077	\$ 328,111	74%	\$ 443,000
Total Operating Income	\$ 24,904	\$ 367,857	74%	\$ 496,600
Total Operating Expense	\$ 39,849	\$ 413,469	71%	\$ 580,022
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (14,944)	\$ (45,611)		

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

2026 Stewardship Campaign

Sunday, November 2
5 p.m. in the Church

Our annual Stewardship mailing asking you to make a financial commitment to support the mission of St. Andrew's is underway. Pledges and plate offerings are our main source of income.

As of 10/29, we have received 15 pledges for a total of \$62,190. If you did not receive a stewardship letter, there are extra packets and pledge cards in the narthex or you can contact the church office.

	MY INVESTMENT IN VALUES 2026 With thanksgiving for all God's blessings, I/we commit → to give a total of \$ _____ → for the mission and ministries of St. Andrew's in 2026.
Print Name: _____ Signature: _____ Check all that apply: _____	
Section Break (Continuous)	
<input type="checkbox"/> → I have made my 2026 pledge online. → 814-237-7659 <input type="checkbox"/> → I have remembered the church in my estate plan. → office@StAndrewSC.org Please return in the envelope provided. → Thank you for your 2026 commitment.	

To **PLEDGE** * online: <https://onrealm.org/StAndrewsC/AddPledge/2026pledge>

To **GIVE** * online: <https://onrealm.org/StAndrewsC/give/now>

Online Pledge Card **INSTRUCTIONS**: <https://bit.ly/2026OnlinePledgeInstructions>

Realm **GIVING BROCHURE**: <https://bit.ly/RealmStewardshipGivingBrochure>

*Please remember that your pledge is your *commitment* to pay. If you pledge online, you will be prompted to set up payments. Whether you pay online or by check, it is a separate step from making your pledge.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Forum



Sundays in November
9-9:45 a.m. in Canterbury Hall
(Presentations begin promptly at 9 a.m.)

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

Sunday, November 2 – **Diocesan Convention with Fr. Jeff and convention delegates**

Sunday, November 9 – **How the Virgin of Guadalupe Came to Boalsburg – presented by Philip Jenkins**

Sunday, November 16 – **Companion presentation to *Juror #2* presented by Friday Films on 11/14.**

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

News from our CHILDREN and YOUTH PROGRAMS

All children/youth are welcome in our classes!

Our two Children/Youth classes meet every Sunday during the
10 am service

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



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.



The Feast of St. Nicholas And Toys for Tots!



St. Nicholas will visit us on December 7th.

Please bring new, unopened gifts to donate to children and teens in need.

St. Nicholas will be here to visit with our children and help us to take out gifts to the altar to be blessed.



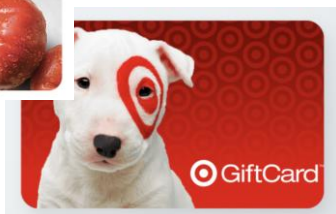
OUTREACH

Tradition of Giving: Gift Card Blessings for Thanksgiving

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 children@standrewsc.org



Interfaith Human Services Bell Ringing

December 7 and 14

Meyer Dairy



The Wishing Well Program from Interfaith Human Services, provides funding for programs that assist Centre County residents throughout the year. Just one hour of your time can help IHS programs, especially the Fuel Bank; which aids Centre County residents in heating their homes every winter. With LIHEAP, a federally funded program that aids with utility bills being pushed back at least a month, our Fuel Bank services are needed more than ever. In addition to the Fuel Bank, IHS has expanded our car repair program so that people can get to work and medical appointments.

Please consider giving a little bit of your time to the Wishing Well campaign. We will be in front of Meyer Dairy on December 7 and December 14.

If you would like to learn more about our programs, the Wishing Well, or other fundraising activities please contact Connie Puckett cjpucket@comcast.net or Michele Hamilton hamiltonmichele45@gmail.com; or visit the IHS website at interfaithhumanservices.org.

Watch the Sunday bulletins and weekly emails for links to sign up as a bell-ringer or contact Michele or Connie.



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

Thank you to those of you who have donated used AND new cartridges.

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. You will also **save on YOUR order of ink cartridges!**

Important! This is St. A's Fundraising Program ID code: **32766**.

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

877-995-9062

info@planetgreenrecycle.com



Inkjet Cartridges

We **Only** accept inkjet cartridges for recycling.

UPCOMING

Friday Films

Friday, November 14
7 p.m. in Canterbury Hall
Snacks begin at 6:30 p.m.

Juror #2

(2024)

Rated PG-13
1 h 54 m



On Friday, November 14, Friday Films will present *Juror #2*, a 2024 film directed by Clint Eastwood and starring Nicholas Hoult, Zoey Deutch, and Megan Mieduch. While serving as a juror in a high-profile murder trial, a family man finds himself struggling with a serious moral dilemma, one he could use to sway the jury verdict and potentially convict or free the wrong killer.

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

Watch for information about a collaboration with Adult Forum on Sunday, November 16.

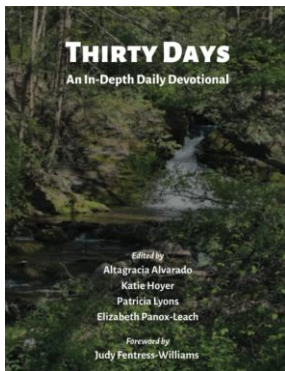
Friday Films are free and all are welcome.

ADVENT PREVIEW

A complete Advent schedule will appear in the December issue of the Net, but since Advent begins on November 30, here's a look at what's ahead.

ADVENT DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Saturdays November 15 & 22 and December 6 and 13
10 a.m. in Room 119



Members of the Order of the Daughters of the King® invite you to join them in following the contemporary devotional workbook, *Thirty Days: An In-Depth Daily Devotional*, for Advent. It is available on Amazon for \$11.84.

The devotional follows a daily format of “Giving Thanks,” “God’s Will Be Done,” “Epic Imagination,” “Hearing Voices,” and “On Earth As It Is in Heaven”. The devotions include biblical readings, and text from the *Book of Common Prayer*, along with quotes from Verna Dozier, Julian of Norwich, passages from J.R.R. Tolkien’s books, C.S. Lewis’s books, *Harry Potter*, *Star Wars*, and *Black Panther*, just to name a few.

We will begin our study on Saturday morning, November 15, 2025, at 10 a.m. in Room 119 in the Trost Wing to discuss how to follow the devotional (lots of flexibility there.) We will come together again on November 22, (skip the week of Thanksgiving), December 6 and December 13 to reflect on the previous week.

Please contact Allison Shea in the church office (814-237-7659) or Michele Marini (814-574-9639) for additional information.

ADVENT TAIZÉ

Wednesdays, December 3, 10, 17
5:45 p.m. in the Church



On three Wednesday evenings during Advent, we will have a Taizé service in the church. Take a break from the busyness of the holiday and join us in 40 minutes of quiet reflection. Taizé is a quiet, meditative service of music, silence, brief readings, and prayer, which calms body, mind, and spirit.

FRIDAY FILMS

Friday, December 12
7 p.m., Canterbury Hall



Friday Films will show the 2023 movie *The Holdovers*, a Christmas comedy/drama starring Paul Giamatti. The movie is rated R and running time is 2h 13m. The evening will include snacks and discussion.

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 14
Service at 5 p.m. and Reception following



Our annual service of Lessons and Carols will be held on Sunday, December 14 at 5 p.m. with a festive reception afterward in Canterbury Hall. More information to come.

TOOT-IN-COMMON CONCERT

Monday, December 15
7 p.m. in the church



The flute choir, Toot-in-Common, including St. Andrew's member Judy Moore, will present their annual holiday concert at St. Andrew's on Monday, December 15.



The Pat Thomas Welcome Center Floor

The first floor honors the pioneering ministry of The Rev. Dr. Patricia Menne Thomas '79, '88. She was the first woman to serve as the Canon to the Ordinary for the Diocese of Washington, Canon Precentor for the Washington National Cathedral, and Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in New Bern, North Carolina. Pat valued connection.

She said: "I think sometimes it's just those quiet conversations you have with people that are the genuine moments of grace."

May the Welcome Center be a place of connection.

Virginia Theological Seminary Honors Alumna Pat Thomas

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Menne Thomas was a member of St. Andrew's until she went to seminary at the Virginia Theological Seminary (also Father Packard's alma mater) in 1976, the year that the Episcopal Church officially started ordaining women.

She went on to have an amazing career beginning with a curacy at St. John's in Huntingdon. She was recently honored by her two-time alma mater—M.Div. and D.Min.—by having a floor of their Welcome Center named after her.

We celebrate with Pat and her family this honor.

Needlework Sampler Presented to St. Andrew's In Honor of Patricia Hillson (b. 1931 – d. 2021)

Myrtle Morrow Fulmer was an avid seamstress, classical pianist, and poet, and served as church accompanist and organist for St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Broomall, PA for more than 20 years. During the later part of her tenure, she created this needlepoint sampler for the church and upon her death it was bequeathed to St. Peter's by her family, including her two daughters **Patricia Hillson** and Eleanore Morrow in memory of her dedication to the church.

When St. Peter's was slated for closure in 2004, a member of the church and friend of Myrtle's, Jean Press, procured the sampler for safe keeping until July 2024 when a chance opportunity provided a way to return the piece to Myrtle's family. With the help of Jean's daughter, the needlepoint found its way back to Myrtle's granddaughters, Krista Morrow Boothby and Carolyn Hillson Sorensen.

This sampler is presented to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in State College, PA in memory of Patricia Hillson (b. 1931 | d. 2021) who was a long-time and active member.

Carolyn and Krista are grateful their grandmother's beautiful work has found a new home and appreciative audience.



Needlepoint Sampler

Sewn by Mrs. Myrtle Morrow Fulmer of Havertown, PA, (b. 1907 | d. 1992)

We plan to hang this sampler in the office. Please stop by to see it. The photos do not do it justice.

IN THE COMMUNITY



Sunday, December 7, 2025 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

411 South Burrowes St., State College

Support more than 30 charities!

Fun, Food, Fellowship and Philanthropy

See you at the Fair!



“WHO REALLY WROTE THE BIBLE: THE STORY OF PROFESSIONAL SCRIBES”

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3
5:30–7:00 P.M.**

**FOSTER AUDITORIUM,
102 PATERNO LIBRARY**

In his recent book, *Who Really Wrote the Bible*, Schniedewind traces the history of ancient scribal communities. In this talk, he brings this story up to the end of the Second Temple period and the Dead Sea Scrolls, where scribes become professionals who write, copy, and produce biblical literature and scrolls for early synagogues.



Can't attend in person? [Register to attend via Zoom!](#)



WILLIAM M. SCHNIEDEWIND

Professor of Biblical Studies and
NWS Languages, NELC Department;
Director | Alan D. Leve Center for
Jewish Studies, UCLA

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**Jewish Studies Program
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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

Thursday, November 6 and November 20
9:30 a.m., Room 325

The Women of Compassionate Life invite all women of the church and their friends to join us in prayer and study, conversation and connection, compassion in action... and coffee! We meet in Room 325 at 9:30 a.m. the first and third Thursday of each month.

YARN MINISTRY

Sunday, November 9
11:15 a.m., Room 324

The Yarn Ministry will meet on Sunday, November 9, following the 10 a.m. service in the Library (Room 324.) and (usually) on Zoom. The mission of the Yarn Ministry is fellowship and prayerful/mindful making with our hands for others. All are welcome. Bring your knitting and a snack to share. We are knitters, crocheters and weavers -- all parishioners and local friends. For more information or a Zoom link, email Anne at anne.hoag@gmail.com.

Next meeting: Sunday, December 14

PRAYER QUILT

Thursday, November 13
1:30 p.m., Room 119

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

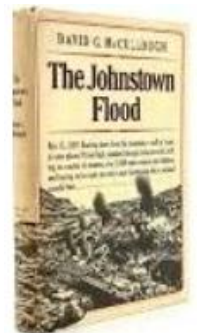
tie the knot. Prayer quilters will gather on the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. in Room 119 in the Trost Wing. Minimal sewing experience is helpful but not required.

If you are interested in this ministry of comfort, please contact Michele Marini at michelemarini@comcast.net or call 814-574-9639.

BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, November 18
7 p.m., Room 324

The Book Club has selected *The Johnstown Flood*, author David McCullough's first book, to read in November. The book recounts a devastating dam break in Pennsylvania, resulting in a massive flood that killed 2,500 people. The group will meet for discussion on Tuesday, November 18, at 7 p.m. in Room 324. There have even been rumors of a Saturday field trip to the flood memorial or museum! Stay tuned.



Visitors and newcomers are always welcome.

NOVEMBER 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 Katie Gaines
1 Deborah Morton
4 Linda Hoover
5 Martha Faller
6 Gwen Catchen
7 Andrew Gaines
8 Anne Hoag

8 Michelle Mason
13 James Tybout
15 Tom Yuhas
16 Brucie Serene
18 Christina Ford
20 Lauren Krasnansky
20 Christine Mihalenko

20 Mary Valentine
21 Jim Serene
21 Diane Cramer
23 Tony Kwasnica
23 Ted Christopher
29 Sian Packard



Those for Whom We Pray

Erica, Molly, Walter, Marion, Sandy, Teri, Janet, Mavis, Mena, Mickey, Milly, Bob, Ann, Pam, Joan, Kelley, 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, Tim, Amy, Celia, Gus, Jane, Naomi, Uncle Will, Elisabeth, Heather, Jane, Stephen

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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