

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

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



**July 2026**

## **The Church and the Arts: An Invitation to Bearing Witness**

The fifth St. Andrew's Poetry Contest is on! We are accepting original poems until August 15 on the theme of “Bearing Witness.” The mission of the St. Andrew's Poetry Contest is to: 1) encourage both Christians and non-Christians to engage artistically with timely topics rooted in the Christian faith, using themes or prompts that resonate beyond the Church and have relevance within our broader social context; 2) cultivate conversation and community by collecting, disseminating, and celebrating poems from various voices and viewpoints, through a public reading and a published collection; and 3) renew the Church's ancient role as patron of the arts and raise the public profile of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Historically, the church has engaged with the arts for many reasons: to promote the basic Christian message, to promote a specific theological or political view, to inspire awe and wonder, even to display wealth and power. Our humble poetry contest seeks to promote conversation. We ask people to use their God-given gifts of artistry to engage with a subject that not only speaks to the Gospel of Jesus Christ but to our times as well. We hope that the outcome is both beautiful and thought provoking. As we ask poets to engage with the theme each year, we do not seek to control what they produce or try to ensure they express a specific point of view. We rather try to create an opportunity for their individual expression. We create room for a variety of points of view by trying to set a theme that can be interpreted in many ways. The theme and the conversation are our main concerns.

For centuries, from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance, the church was a huge sponsor of the arts. Through commissions and promotion of certain artists and works of art, the church dominated in the arts. That level of influence is gone. Perhaps it never should have been. These days the church exercises little influence over art or culture, particularly popular culture. We don't seek to regain dominance in this field, nor do we harbor any illusions about the level of influence we can achieve. We simply wish to be part of the conversation. The church has something to say about the events of the world, the deepest desires of the human heart, and the quest for justice and peace. These are the concerns of art as well as religion because they are the concerns of people.

At St. Andrew's we are blessed to have a truly beautiful worship space. The neo-gothic architecture recalls a bygone time. The design evokes a sense of reverence and welcome. The focus of the space, like the liturgy itself, is a movement from earth toward heaven, from the world toward God, from the profane toward the holy. Our stained-glass windows add to this atmosphere of beauty and otherworldliness with their depictions of biblical scenes. The beauty of this space is not meant to be a distraction, nor should it be the object of our worship. Its intent is to lift us up as we worship, to keep our focus on God and the saving acts of our Lord Jesus. Within that sacred setting, on October 24 we will have the reading event of our fifth poetry contest. Winners will be invited to read as well as those who receive honorable mention from our judge or are selected for publication in the contest anthology. I hope you will join us as we hear how our poets have expressed themselves on our theme of Bearing Witness.

Fr. Jeff +



**May 2026**

	May	Year-to-Date	% of Budget	2026 BUDGET
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 50,039	\$ 218,146	50%	\$ 433,000
Total Operating Income	\$ 53,209	\$ 252,593	51%	\$ 493,600
Total Operating Expense	\$ 55,337	\$ 262,872	44%	\$ 602,531
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (2,128)	\$ (10,279)		

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

**Office Closures**

The church office will be closed on the following days:  
 Friday, July 3 (Independence Day holiday)  
 Friday, July 10 – Monday, July 20 (staff vacation)  
 Phone and email messages will be monitored during this time.



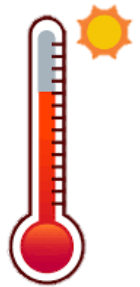
If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Father Jeff at [rector@standrewsc.org](mailto:rector@standrewsc.org)

**WORSHIP**

**Hot Weather Procedures for Worship**

State College has experienced higher than usual temperatures recently and this will likely happen again over the summer, making temperatures in the church uncomfortable and possibly unsafe.

We will monitor the temperature forecasts each week and make the switch to Canterbury Hall for worship as necessary. This decision will be made by midday on Thursday. Please watch your email and our Facebook page for notifications.



Signs will be posted at both entrances to the church and in the building to direct worshipers. If you see a visitor, newcomer, or someone who looks confused, please help them find their way to Canterbury Hall.

Please dress for comfort and bring bottled water with you into the church during this hot weather.

**SCHEDULE CHANGE for Arts Festival**

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, July 12

**9 a.m. – ONE SERVICE ONLY**

On the Sunday of the Arts Festival, July 12, we will have only one worship service at 9 a.m. There will not be a Fellowship Hour.

## Summer Reminders from the **CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**



The nursery will be open and available, during the summer. The nursery TV is for parents to have access to the livestream of our 10 a.m. service. We hope that the TV will help parents feel welcome and **still a part of our community** while they are with their children in the nursery.

### Date Savers!

- August 23 will be the Blessing of the Backpacks and Devices - with Ice Cream on the Lawn! 🍦
- Kick off to the New Church School Year is September 13!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Farewell to Reed

Coffee Hour Celebration

Sunday, July 19 following the 10 a.m. service

**Reed Dressler** became our director of family ministry on the first of the year. We knew his time with us would be limited as his wife is a Ph.D. student at Penn State. As it turns out, it was unfortunately only six months, mostly because Reed is pursuing training to be a hospital chaplain.

In the short time he has been with us Reed has worked to reestablish a committee to oversee the children and youth program at St. Andrew's under the new name of Family Ministry Committee. We want to acknowledge the good work he has done to provide structure for this program and say a fond farewell to Reed. We will have a cake in Reed's honor at the coffee hour on Sunday, July 19, his last day.

Thank you, Reed, for the good work you have done among us, and we wish you all the best in your new adventures.



**Our 2026 Poetry Contest** is underway! The contest is open to all and there is no entry fee. Winning poems and selected other submissions will be published in a contest anthology and poets will be invited to participate in a poetry reading here at St. Andrew's on Saturday, October 24. Please consider entering and sharing your thoughts on our theme "Bearing Witness." And help us spread the word!

In addition to poems, we are also seeking photos or digitized artwork on the same theme. No prizes will be awarded for these submissions, but they may be included in the anthology.

More information and submission details can be found at [artsat.standrewsc.org](http://artsat.standrewsc.org) along with previous prize-winning entries.

# St. Andrew's Poetry Contest 2026

## BEARING WITNESS

Submissions accepted

June 15 - August 15, 2026

Winning entries selected by  
**Judith Sornberger**

First Prize	<b>\$250</b>
Second Prize	<b>\$100</b>

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Audrey C. Scanlan  
Bishop's Choice **\$50**



**Submission details at [artsat.standrewsc.org](https://artsat.standrewsc.org)**

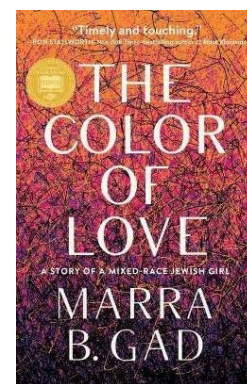
## The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl

### Discussion Group

Thursdays, July 9 - 30

1 p.m. in Room 325

Daughters of the King at St. Andrew's will be reading and discussing *The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl*, a memoir by Marra B. Gad, this July. And all are welcome to join them.



Adopted by a white Jewish family, Marra B. Gad grew up navigating life as a Black Jewish woman in a world that often rejected both parts of her identity. Years after an estrangement caused by racism within her own family, she becomes the only person able to help reconnect her Great-Aunt Nette, now living with Alzheimer's, to her remaining relatives. In choosing compassion over resentment, Marra discovers the possibility of healing, forgiveness, and an unexpected bond.

It may be difficult to locate a physical copy of the book. If you need one, Michele Marini has several copies; please let her know. As of July, copies were available online at Barnes & Noble in both print and eBook formats.

For additional information, please contact Michele Marini at 814-574-9639 or email Michele at [michelemarini@comcast.net](mailto:michelemarini@comcast.net).



### People's Choice Festival

The People's Choice Festival is back in Boalsburg this year and as usual covers the same days as the Central PA Festival of the Arts, July 9-12. Shuttle service will be available between both festivals to make it more convenient to attend both. We're glad to see this festival return to the grounds of the Military Museum where it began. More information can be found at <https://peopleschoicefestival.com/>.

## Friday Films

Friday, July 17

7 p.m., Canterbury Hall  
(snacks begin at 6:30 p.m.)

### ***K-Pop Demon Hunters*** (2025)

Rated: PG

1h 35m

This animated musical follows a K-pop girl group, Huntrix, who lead double lives as demon hunters. They face off against a rival boy band, the Saja Boys, whose members are secretly demons. The film won Best Animated Feature and Best Original Song ("Golden") at both the 83rd Golden Globe Awards and the 98th Academy Awards, and won multiple awards at the 53rd Annie Awards.



Admission is free, all are welcome.



## St. Andrew's Night at the Spikes

Friday, August 7

Game Time: 6:35 pm

Cost: \$11 per ticket

### Additional notes:

- We will be in section 305, the **Bullpen Box** (the same section where we have been before) close to food vendors and bathrooms.
- Our seats are easily accessible for all.
- **Fireworks** following the game!
- **Please sign up by July 30.**
- Email [Children@standrewsc.org](mailto:Children@standrewsc.org) with questions.

### Sign up at

<https://bit.ly/NightattheSpikes2026>

### Pay

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

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



Save the Date



# Picnic & Prayer in the Park

**Sunday, August 9**  
**5 - 8 p.m.**

Holy Eucharist followed by  
a Potluck Picnic Dinner

**Tudek Park, Pavilion #1**

Plates, cups, utensils, napkins, and beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to share if you are able.

**Suggested contributions by last name:**  
**A-L, main dish; M-R, side dish; S-Z, dessert**

## Hydration Station

Thursday, July 9 – Saturday, July 11  
10 a.m. – 8 p.m., Front Lawn

The Community Café will offer **FREE** ice water, to hot and thirsty festivalgoers on the front lawn. The drinks are free, but donations are gladly accepted. Last year, this was a very successful fundraiser for the Café. **MANY** volunteers are needed. Please sign up to help and support the mission of the Community Café at

<https://bit.ly/CommunityCafeHydrationStation2026>

Any questions, please contact Scott Luzier at [scottluzier@aol.com](mailto:scottluzier@aol.com).



## St. Andrew's Green Crew

Friday, July 10  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

St. Andrew's is putting together a Green Crew during this year's Art Fest. Our team will be organizing the festival's trash and recycling on Friday, July 10, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

For those with teenagers, this is the perfect opportunity to get service hours. Everyone who helps receives a coveted Green Crew t-shirt!

To volunteer, contact Marisa Ferger at [mferger@psu.edu](mailto:mferger@psu.edu)



## Stained-Glass Window Tours



Friday, July 10 – Saturday, July 11  
10 a.m. - Noon

Guide Cathy Dauler will lead tours of our stained-glass windows that focus on the history, meaning, and artistry of these beautiful works of art. Even if you see the windows every Sunday, you are sure to leave with more information and an increased appreciation. The tours are free of charge.

## Poetry Open Mic

Saturday, July 11  
2 p.m. in Room 325

NEW this year, St. Andrew's will offer an opportunity for people to participate in a celebration of the literary art of poetry. We will host an Open Mic Poetry Reading on Saturday (7/11) at 2 p.m. in Room 325. Bring an original poem or two to share or just come to enjoy the poetry and the air-conditioning.

*Calling all poets* 

**Poetry Open Mic**  
Saturday, July 11  
2 p.m.  
Celebrate the literary art of **POETRY** at St. Andrew's during Arts Festival.  
Bring poems to share or come to enjoy the poetry.\*  
208 W. Foster Avenue  
standrewsc.org

\*and the air-conditioning!



## Festival Parking

Wednesday, July 8 -Saturday, July 11

The business of the church does not stop during the Arts Festival and requires much of our limited parking, especially on Wednesday and Thursday. If you need to use our parking during the Festival (or any other time except Sundays,) please place a Sunday bulletin on your dashboard to identify your car as belonging to a parishioner. Pick up a copy at a Sunday service or in the church office. Parking is also available in the Trinity House parking lot (excepted where indicated as “Tenant Parking”) and courtesy of our neighbors in the KCF parking lot (at the intersection of F Alley and Nittany Avenue) weeknights after 6 p.m. and all day Saturdays and Sundays.

## Performances at the Arts Festival

No visit to the Arts Festival is complete without experiencing some of the great live performances. For a complete list of performers, visit the Festival website at <https://arts-festival.com/>, but be sure to look for these talented members and friends of St. Andrew's when making your plans.

### Wednesday, July 8

[Happy Valley Improv \(Family Friendly\)](#)  
(Founder Andrea McCloskey)

4:00 p.m.- 5:00 pm

**Blue Brick Theatre** 209 W. Calder Way



State College’s premier long-form improv troupe, bringing the spontaneous art of improvisation to Centre County through live performances, classes, workshops, and community outreach. Founded in early 2017 by four improvisers in a church basement (St. Andrew’s!)

### Thursday, July 9

[Jeff Gible, Zeb Crews, and Zach Humphreys](#)  
(Zach Humphreys)

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 pm

**Festival Shell Stage** 100 W. College Avenue

Fusion, progressive rock, and jazz.



### [The Rick Hirsch 5](#)

(Rick Hirsch, Kevin Lowe)

5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.

**Allen Street Stage** 123 S Allen Street

Classic jazz and Rick Hirsch originals

[Happy Valley Improv \(Youth - Family Friendly Show\)](#)

(Andrea McCloskey)

7:00 p.m.

**Blue Brick Theatre** 209 W. Calder Way



## Friday, July 10

### Happy Valley Jazz Octet

(Rick Hirsch, Kevin Lowe)

4:00 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.

**Festival Shell Stage** 100 W. College Avenue

Jazz from the swing, hard bop, and cool jazz eras

### Happy Valley Improv (PG-13 Early Show)

(Founder Andrea McCloskey)

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**State Theatre** 130 West College Avenue

### Happy Valley Improv (Late Show - Recommended 18+)

(Founder Andrea McCloskey)

9:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.

**Blue Brick Theatre** 209 W. Calder Way

## Saturday, July 11

### State College Municipal Band

(Judy Moore, Randy Baker, Michael Marini, Jason Nolan, and alumni Melody and Andrew Chisholm)

11:00 a.m.

**Sidney Friedman Park**

### Happy Valley Improv (PG-13 Early Show)

(Founder Andrea McCloskey)

7:00 p.m.- 8:00 pm

**Blue Brick Theatre** 209 W. Calder Way

### Happy Valley Improv (Late Show - Recommended 18+)

(Founder Andrea McCloskey)

9:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

**Blue Brick Theatre** 209 W. Calder Way

## Sunday, July 12

### Jason McIntyre & Friends

(James Harton, Kevin Lowe)

2:30 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.

**Allen Street Stage** 123 S Allen Street

A singer-songwriter whose music is inspired by the great bands of the 60s and 70s, the Texas troubadour tradition, and classic blues artists.





## OUTREACH

### Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, July 27

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!

## 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.*

### BOOK GROUP

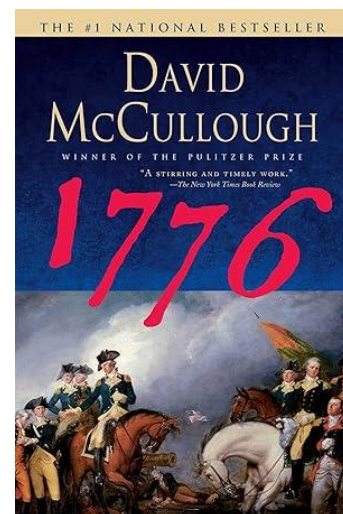
Monday, July 27

7 p.m. in Room 131

In celebration of America's 250th anniversary (the Semiquincentennial,) the Book Group is reading *1776* by David McCullough.

Based on extensive research, the book tells the "story of the year of our nation's birth, 1776, interweaving, on both sides of the Atlantic, the actions and decisions that led Great Britain to undertake a war against her rebellious colonial subjects and that placed America's survival in the hands of George Washington." (Simon and Schuster)

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

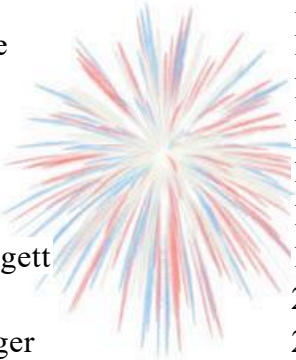


# JULY BIRTHDAYS



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** If you have a July 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 Kathy Hickner	10 Patricia Jackson	22 Jim Marchesani
1 Roxi Thoren	10 Julianne Ohashi	23 Chas Brua
2 Linda Wallace	15 Kelley Paulsen	24 Cajee Bechtel
3 Linda Mace	16 Anna Jones	24 Lisa Hopkins
3 Michele Diaz	17 Steven Smith	25 Denise Person
4 Sheryl Stout	17 Mary Andrew	26 Penny Blasko
4 Davis Pagett	17 Earl Layman	27 Dave DonTigny
4 Mackenzie Pagett	19 Meira Minard	27 Russell Vaught
6 Robin Bagby	20 Dee Pawling	27 Craig Faller
6 Julie Breuninger	21 Jeanette Sabre	30 Bennett Marini
7 Sarah Skvarla	21 Linda Selzer	



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** If you have a July 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, Sandy, Teri, Janet, Mavis, Mena, Milly, Bob, Ann, Pam, Walt, Joan, Kelley, Eugene, Isa, Zohra, Ivonne, Jordan, Ty, Sheralee, Kevin, Anne, Lisa, Sharree, Rob, Wayne, Lori, Robert, Michael, Maria, Linda, Arlene, Elisabeth, Larry, Ben, Dan, Tom, Ian, Earl, Linda, Rebekah, Pat, Mike, Rob

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

Zach, Christie, Matt, Eric, Andrew, Zachariah, Cameron, Doug, Jack, Rob, Noah, Dillon

## **Our Companion Parish**

St. John's, Bellefonte

## **Our Sister City in Ukraine**

Nizhyn

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

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