

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

## December 2020

# How Silently, How Silently, the Wondrous Gift is Given

I always loved having church at 11:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. It meant that we were receiving Communion at about midnight. There has always been something magical about that experience, realizing that we don't actually know a date, let alone a time of Jesus' birth, but at midnight it becomes Christmas Day, the day we celebrate his birth. That moment, after Communion, when we kneel and quietly sing "Silent Night" with the soft glow of candlelight filling the church, has always been when Christmas truly begins for me, when "glories stream from heaven afar, (and) heavenly hosts sing alleluia."

How do we reproduce that moment during this stupid pandemic?

The exciting news I have for you is that we will be distributing Communion for you to receive in your home for Christmas, either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. On the fourth Sunday of Advent, I will consecrate enough Communion for everyone. We will distribute the Communion kits to everyone who wants to partake. If you cannot, or for health reason choose not to, come to the church to pick up your Communion kit, we will arrange to deliver it to you. Otherwise, we ask you to come to the church between 2 and 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve to pick up your Communion kit.

In preparation, I ask you to set aside a special place in your home to put the consecrated elements until you are ready to consume them. It doesn't have to be a shrine or have a candle burning, I just want you to be intentional about designating a place to hold the sacrament of our Lord's presence. If you have children, include them in the decision of where you will place your Communion kit. This is always the work of Advent—preparing a place for Jesus in your life. This year it is just more literal. You could incorporate a creche scene, a cross, or other appropriate holiday symbol. The point is to make the space and prepare it for this most special house guest.

There will be more information about how you will receive Communion in your home. For now, I just wanted you to have this to look forward to and for you to begin to prepare during this season of preparation. For many, it has been since early March that you have had Communion. That is a long time to fast. Prepare now for the feast of Christ's presence at Christmas.



Photo credit Will Yurman

#### ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

#### St. Nicholas in the Park

Sunday, December 6, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Sydney Friedman Parklet

This year, we will celebrate St. Nicholas Day on Sunday afternoon at Sidney Friedman Park (across from the Church.) We plan to gather together to sing our favorite Christmas songs and hymns (with masks and social distance), enjoy some hot cider, and, of course, welcome a visit from St. Nicholas!



## **Toys for Tots**

Toy collection was early this year and is now over, but the local Toys for Tots fund is still in urgent need of replenishment! They used their funds to purchase a lot of toys wholesale this year. It's important to donate to the local group, not the national Toys for Tots website.



You can send checks payable to "Marine Toys for Tots" to

Gene Weller c/o Allstate Insurance 1380 N. Atherton St. State College, PA 16803.

Mr. Weller is the Toys for Tots of Centre County coordinator.

Also, although we won't be collecting toys on St. Nicholas day, if you come to our St. Nicholas in the park event on Dec 6th (2-3 p.m.), you can bring a card (any piece of paper will do) that indicates you've donated and drop it into a basket for St. Nicholas! Sometimes the gesture itself matters, especially for younger children.

#### **Cookie Sale**

Sunday, December 20, 3 - 4 p.m. Fraser Street Entrance

(Donation drop offs, December 18, rear parking lot or by special arrangement)



The youth program is going ahead with our cookie sale this year but revised for greater safety! One adult will be doing the packaging (masked and gloved) on Saturday Dec 19th and there will be no group baking or decorating by the youth. We will offer boxes for sale on Sunday Dec 20th. These can be picked up outside of the Fraser Street glass doors from 3-4 p.m. The boxes will be smaller and sell for \$5 each.

To donate homemade cookies, please drop off in a \*disposable\* container at a table in the church parking lot on Friday Dec 18th (or to Kathy by other arrangements). Rain/snow site for drop off will be the Fraser Street Lobby. Please label if cookies contain nuts!

Thank you for your sweet efforts!

#### **Angel Tree 2020**

Friday, December 11 – deadline for cash donations to Youth Service Bureau Friday, December 18 – deadline for gift cards for Out of the Cold and CentreSafe

Our Angel Tree looks a bit different this year, but many local organizations need our help now more than ever!

The Centre County Youth Services Bureau, which funds the Stormbreak Girls Home, the Burrowes Street Youth Haven, and much more, needs financial contributions. You can sign up for one or more \$20 donation slots here, then mail or drop off cash or checks to the church office. Be sure to make out checks to 'St. Andrew's" and put "Youth Services Bureau" in the memo line. Please make your donation NO LATER THAN Friday, December 11, so that we will have time to process and get the money to YSB before Christmas.

Out of the Cold Centre County is collecting gift cards for Webster's, Dunkin' Donuts, and Panera. They will be distributed to guests before Christmas Day.

CentreSafe is having its annual Holiday Sponsorship for its clients who are survivors of domestic or sexual violence. Each client receives a gift card for \$50 to Target or Walmart. Gift cards should be delivered to the church office by Friday, December 18.

Pick your Angel from the tree by signing up here: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a49a9a92ca20-angel">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0a49a9a92ca20-angel</a> and help someone in our community have a merrier Christmas.



# ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS 2020

# Second Sunday in Advent, December 6

9:30 a.m. Advent Wreath Lighting (FB) (R)

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Children's Sermon (FB) (LIVE)

2:00 p.m. St. Nicholas in the Park

Carol singing, hot cider, and a visit from St. Nicholas in Sidney Friedman Park.

# Third Sunday in Advent, December 13

9:30 a.m. Advent Wreath Lighting (FB) (R)

10:00 a.m. A Festival of Lessons and Carols (FB) (R)

The service you know and love at a different time and in a slightly abbreviated version. This recorded offering will include music by members of the Adult and Youth Choirs, Choirmaster Walter Wells, and organist, Gwen Catchen. There will be readers from the State College community as well as the parish for the six lessons (instead of nine for this year.)

# Fourth Sunday in Advent, December 20

9:30 a.m. Advent Wreath Lighting (FB) (R)

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (FB) (LIVE)

3 - 4:00 p.m. Cookie Sale, Fraser Street entrance (see above for details)

## **Christmas Eve, December 24**

2 - 4:00 p.m. Distribution of consecrated Communion to be consumed at home, in the

church (You will be receiving more information about this)

4 - 4:30 p.m. Christmas Carol Sing-along (outside, in front of church) In person AND on

Zoom (The Zoom link will be provided prior to 12/24.)

You can join in the singing in person on the steps of the church OR via Zoom which will allow you to hear and see all the action from your home. Carols will be led by Walter Wells and Gwen Catchen with guest appearances from several talented parishioners!

5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant (FB) (R)

5:30 p.m. Choral Prelude (FB) (R)

6:00 p.m. Solemn Eucharist for the Feast of the Nativity (FB) (R)

\*Note: there will be no service on Christmas Day

(FB) on Facebook (<u>www.facebook.com/standrewsc/</u>)

(R) previously recorded

(LIVE) streaming live



#### WEEKLY MEDIA SCHEDULE for ADVENT

|       | Email  | Facebook                                | Instagram   | <b>Zoom</b> various      |
|-------|--|---|-------------|--------------------------|
| DAILY |  | #AdventWord                             | #AdventWord |                          |
|       |  | Diocesan Advent Calendar                |             |                          |
| MON   |  | *Compline 7 p.m.                        |             | Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m. |
|       |  |   |             | Staff Meeting 10:30 a.m. |
| TUE   |  | *Compline 7 p.m.                        |             | Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m. |
| WED   |  | **Noonday Prayer 12:15 p.m.             |             | Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m. |
|       |  | *Compline 7 p.m.                        |             |                          |
| THU   | Weekly Email   | *Compline 7 p.m.                        |             | Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m. |
| FRI   |  | *Compline 7 p.m.                        |             | Morning Prayer           |
|       |  | Bishop Scanlan's weekly video message   |             | 8:30 a.m.                |
| SAT   |  | *Compline 7 p.m.                        |             | Morning Prayer 8:30 a.m. |
| SUN   | Link to recording of<br>Facebook Live 10<br>a.m. service<br>(approx. 11:30 a.m.) | Holy Eucharist 10 a.m. *Compline 7 p.m. |             | Coffee Hour<br>11 a.m.   |

Email: office@standrewsc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/standrewsc/
Instagram: www.instagram.com/saintandrewsc
Twitter: www.twitter.com/SaintAndrewSC

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkVP-P39s7usXetBZ1ikmxg/playlists?view\_as=subscriber

- \* An Order for Compline can be found on page 127 of the Book of Common Prayer or click **HERE** to view or download a copy.
- \*\*An Order of Service for Noonday can be found on page 103 of the Book of Common Prayer or click **HERE** to view or download a copy.

For Diocesan events on Facebook, go to <a href="https://www.facebook.com/diocpa/">https://www.facebook.com/diocpa/</a>



**Sunday Coffee Hour** 11:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77112110542?pwd=dFZ IOWxZQ05JOENkRTINSkUrNzJ3dz09

Meeting ID: 771 1211 0542

Passcode: 1AgKJa



#### Morning Prayer Monday – Saturday 8:30 a.m. Join Zoom Meeting

# TREASURER'S REPORT, Julie Kwasnica, Treasurer

# PEASURE

#### October 2020

|                             | October     | Year-to-Date | % of Budget | 2020 BUDGET |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Parishioner Contributions * | \$ 24,992   | \$ 400,481   | 87%         | \$ 460,750  |
| Total Operating Income      | \$ 28,043   | \$ 423,326   | 85%         | \$ 496,350  |
| Total Operating Expense     | \$ 40,237   | \$ 403,663   | 80%         | \$ 502,162  |
| Surplus (Deficit)           | \$ (12,194) | \$ 19,664    |             |             |

<sup>\*</sup>Includes pledges, plate offerings, and special holiday offerings.

#### **VESTRY UPDATE,** Kevin Lowe, Clerk of the Vestry



The vestry met on Tuesday, November 11, remotely, using Zoom. The vestry is grateful for the 2021 pledges that have been received up to this point. We invite all parishioners to prayerfully discern their financial gifts to the parish and, if you have not pledged yet, to fill out your pledge card as soon as possible. You can also make your pledge online through the Realm platform. If you have questions or need assistance or a pledge card, please contact the office.

Following on the previous month's presentation on Trinity House (located on Burrowes St behind the church), the vestry discussed goals for the property and its potential role in long-term strategic planning. Vestry was agreed that any potential use of Trinity House should have a strong and substantial ministry component and should at least allow the property to break even financially. There is currently no debt on the property, but it does require around \$4000/year in utility costs and upkeep. An ad hoc committee was named to work on a draft plan for potential short-term use of the property. In addition to discussing Trinity House, the vestry agreed on the budgeted amount for our 2021 Diocesan Fair Share payment and designated the special Thanksgiving Offering to benefit Parishioners Ministry.

The vestry continues to take nominations for people interested in running for a seat on the vestry. Four seats are open each year; each term is for three years. Vestry meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month and are open to all parishioners, especially those who may have some interest in running for a seat. Please contact me (<a href="mailto:kevinlowe33@gmail.com">kevinlowe33@gmail.com</a>) or Senior Warden Kathryn Yahner for the Zoom link prior to the meeting. Approved vestry minutes are available on our website ("Clergy, Staff & Vestry" under the "About Us" tab).

#### **VESTRY AND CONVENTION DELEGATE ELECTIONS**

#### **Nominations**

Nominations for Vestry and Diocesan Convention Delegates are now open. To be eligible to serve on vestry **or** as a convention delegate, you must be baptized, at least 16 years old, and a confirmed or received member of St. Andrew's who supports the parish through regular financial contributions.

Nominations for vestry members **and** convention delegates are due by Friday, December 15, 2017. You may self-nominate or nominate someone else. All nominees will be vetted by the Nominating Committee, chaired by Junior Warden, Scott Strouse. You may submit nominations to Scott at (<a href="mailto:scottallen1750@gmail.com">scottallen1750@gmail.com</a>) or in writing to the church office.

#### Voting

The annual election for new vestry members and convention delegates will be held on the day of the annual meeting, Sunday, January 31, 2021 via an online balloting system. The traditional balloting process we have used in the past is labor- and paper-intensive, and an online ballot will allow us to save considerable time and resources.

By early January, we will be making available the current list of eligible voters. According to our bylaws, all persons in our membership register who are sixteen years of age and older, who have received Holy Communion at least three times in the last year, and who have been faithful in

# SAVE THE DATE

**Parish Annual Meeting** 

Sunday, January 31, 20201 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

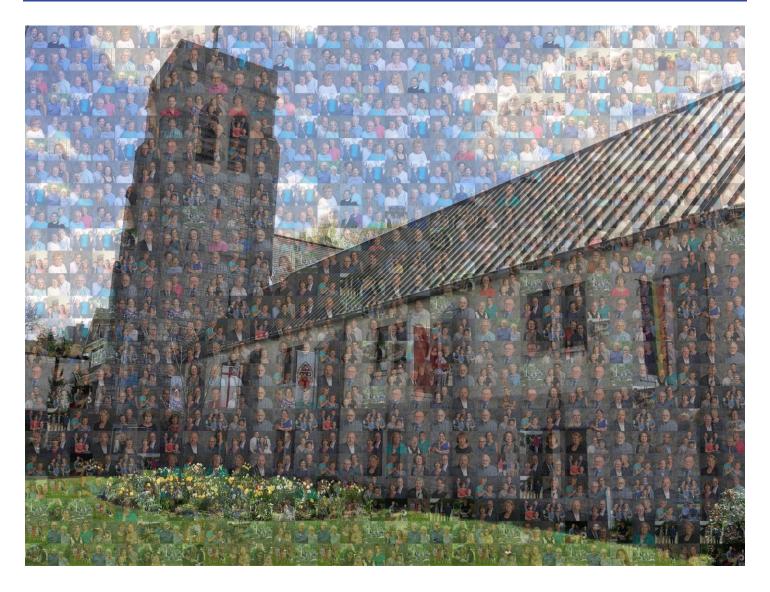
More information to follow

working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, are eligible to vote in the election. Please check the list for accuracy. If you believe you are an eligible voter but are not on the list, please contact the office.

To use the online ballot, we will need a **valid email address** for each voter. (For instance, if you share an email address with a spouse and would like to cast individual votes, you will need to provide a second email address.) If we do not already have an email for you, please provide an email address when you check your eligibility. On the day of the election, you will receive an email from the election system with a secure link to the ballot and a unique PIN number that can only be used once. Clicking the link and inputting your PIN will take you to the ballot where you will be able to easily vote for the candidates you prefer. This ballot will work on any device, including your phone.

We hope that you will embrace this change to our process! If you have any questions about the balloting or election process, please contact me at <a href="mailto:kevinlowe33@gmail.com">kevinlowe33@gmail.com</a>.

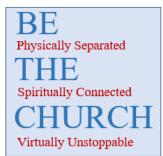
#### **STEWARDSHIP**



The most recent Stewardship totals for our 2021 campaign are 109 pledges for \$308,478. Thank you to everyone who has pledged. If you have not, please consider this a friendly reminder to return your card or pledge online as soon as possible.

If you have pledged, you may have already received a thank you card featuring the above mosaic (if not, you will.) The large picture of our church building is made up of individual photos of you, our members! WE are the church. A poster-sized print is currently on display in the church office and will be hung somewhere in the building.

You can also view an interactive version of the mosaic at <a href="https://mosaically.com/photomosaic/BeTheChurch2020">https://mosaically.com/photomosaic/BeTheChurch2020</a>
At this site, you can click on the photo to zoom in on individual photos, leave comments, and share the photo, among other features. You can even order your own print.



#### **EDUCATION**

#### **ADULT FORUM**

December 2020 Zoom Sundays, 9 - 9:45 a.m. on Zoom

The adult forum will return for **one** session before taking a brief Christmas hiatus.

Join Zoom meeting at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8763410820

Or dial 301-715-8592; Meeting ID 876 341 0820

<u>December 6</u>: Carbon Tithe: Creation Care and Spiritual Discipline Presented by: Cricket Hunter

For our sustainability efforts to be sustainable, they must feed us in some way. They should draw on our gifts, and be rooted, as we are, in our communities and in our places. As St. Andrews celebrates some extraordinary successes, like our composting facility,



and considers next directions for creation care and climate justice concerns, Cricket Hunter will introduce us to the Carbon Tithe, a tool that connects personal action with community action and beyond. The Carbon Tithe is a practice that can start now and can continue to be meaningful and important when we are able to gather in person again. The beauty of the work we undertake as people of faith is that it both calls us forward and supports the work as it continues. Please join us to share in hope and gratitude, efficacy, and spiritual discipline, and you'll leave with something you can <u>do</u>, right now.

#### CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

Kathy Hickner, Dir. Of Children and Youth

#### **Godly Play**

Our Godly Play videos this month have explored how the Ancient Israelites worshipped and remembered God, first in the Tabernacle ("the Tent") and later in Solomon's Temple! We also shared special picture book reading and prayers for All Saints Day as well as Thanksgiving. These videos are beautifully and lovingly made by our Godly Play teachers, with the skillful video production work of Marisa Ferger! Anyone is welcome to watch them at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkVP-P39s7usXetBZ1ikmxg/playlists?view\_as=subscriber">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkVP-P39s7usXetBZ1ikmxg/playlists?view\_as=subscriber</a>. Look for the "Godly Play" playlist.





#### 3rd-6th CLASS

Robin Bastress continues to gather our 3rd-6th class for a "Church School Chat" on Zoom after the 10 a.m. church service on Sundays. Enormous thanks to Robin!

#### **OUTREACH**

# **COMMUNITY CAFÉ**

#### THANKSGIVING DINNER RECAP

The Community Café had a big November with Thanksgiving Thursday. For this special holiday meal, there were socially distanced teams of cooks in the kitchen on an almost continual basis starting 3 days in advance. The menu not only included all the traditional favorites of turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce, but we also added the most delicious corn pudding. It's the new Café favorite! We also had a separate pie room station where patrons could choose what kind of pie they wanted for dessert.

We served close to 400 meals, including 40 meals that went to a lower income housing facility for seniors and 13 meals to families in the State College area who are in particular need during this time.

This endeavor could not have been possible without the assistance of the dedicated cooks, servers, volunteers, and everyone who donated a turkey or pies. The outreach was spectacular, everyone wanted to help, and 40 pies alone came from the Unitarian Universalist church in town.

We certainly missed Canterbury Hall full of people, but the spirit was there, and everyone went home happy.

The next big holiday happening will be on Christmas Eve which occurs on a Thursday, but remember we serve every Thursday from 5 p.m. -7 p.m. Please spread the word in our community as we hear of so many who are having a hard time. We have faith that we can all be together again soon.

Thank you again for your support!



Sharon walks us through her "recipe" for "homemade" cranberry sauce as she packages individual portions for each meal.



Cooked to perfection - a few of the 48 turkeys that were the centerpiece of the Café's meal.



At the end of service, nothing left but crumbs in the pie room (aka the church office.)

#### **UBBC Alternative Christmas Fair**

December 6 – December 20 Wednesday, December 2 https://ubbcwelcome.org/acf



The 38th annual Alternative Christmas Fair will take place "virtually" this

year, December 6 through December 20, due to COVID-19 concerns. On those days holiday "shoppers" can donate to 30 local, national, and international charities. A quick trip to <a href="https://ubbcwelcome.org/acf">https://ubbcwelcome.org/acf</a> will show you how to give online or by check. You can also use the QR code below to access the online shopping center via your mobile device. Last year, 26 charities shared in more than \$43,000 that was given by people in our community. While we miss the opportunity to have representatives of our beneficiaries gather in Fellowship Hall to meet and talk with our "shoppers," (we'll do that again next year) we are excited at being able to offer to



our patrons the ease of online giving. And the extra "space" we gain by not being in a physical place has allowed us to add four new organizations for 2020.

Make the season merrier by supporting the good work of these charities! See you at The Alternative Christmas Fair!



# State College Area Diaper Bank a ministry of State College SDA Church

Many clients of social service organizations report providing diapers as a difficult need for them to meet. In addition, there has been increased awareness in the media about how lack of diapers can affect a low-income

individual or family's ability to work. Many daycare programs require parents provide disposable diapers to participate in their programs. Parents receiving food stamps cannot use those funds for diapers, and food banks can only distribute diapers that they get through donations. Lack of adequate diapers can lead to negative outcomes in children such as, increased diaper rashes and infections. Additionally, parents who struggle to afford diapers report increases in depression.

In response to this need, State College Seventh-day Adventist Church created the SC Area Diaper Bank as an outreach ministry. Run entirely by volunteers, the program serves 70 families and 120 children per month and has been distributing diapers throughout the pandemic when the need has been greater than ever. After distribution, any remaining diapers and wipes are donated to food banks throughout the area.

If you would like to contribute to this ministry, you can send either checks or gift cards for the purchase of diapers to the Coordinator, Janene Adu at:

State College SDA Church

4310 West Whitehall Road

Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865

Make checks out to State College SDA Church with "SC Diaper Bank" in the memo line.

You can also donate online at <a href="https://adventistgiving.org/#/org/ANBINQ/envelope/start">https://adventistgiving.org/#/org/ANBINQ/envelope/start</a>

#### Out of the Cold 2021

January 11 – January 25, 2021

St. Andrews will be hosting Out of the Cold in our facilities from January 11, 2021 through January 25, 2021. Things are a bit different now as goes with the times. There are paid staff members to cover the overnight shifts thereby requiring none of us to stay overnight. We are be responsible for an evening host, supper, and breakfast. Michele Hamilton and Scott Strouse are again coordinating the efforts for St. Andrews and will be distributing an online sign up schedule at the end of December 2020. Your assistance with food and supplies can be set up so that you have no contact with anyone inside of the building for your personal health safety. Please consider assisting with this worthy cause and contact one of us for more details.



Thank you,

Michele Hamilton <u>hamiltonmichele45@gmail.com</u> Scott Strouse <u>scottallen1750@gmail.com</u>

#### **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

#### **FRIDAY FILMS**

Alas, no movie nights at St Andrew's until Covid abates and we can gather again. True, technology allows most of us to watch movies at home, but many of us would agree it's not the same! As we are repeatedly reminded by the pandemic (one of its few blessings - but it's a big one!) we need each other in so many ways, watching movies together among them. But, until that's possible again, your movie committee will offer occasional suggestions of worthwhile (generally uplifting) movies to watch at home.



Thinking post-election, how about "Guarding Tess" (1994) with Shirley McClain as a former First Lady who makes life difficult for Nicolas Cage, a secret service agent. Same stars, there's "Terms of Endearment" with McClain and "Moonstruck" with Cage you might find worth your while, even on repeat viewing. And there will, of course, be holiday movies galore on TV during the month of December.

The committee (Sharon Rovansek, Sandy Schwartz, Paul Hochreiter, Matthew Thompson, and me, Tom Dauler) would welcome your suggestions as well. Another of us will write again in January.

Until then, Happy Holidays from the movie committee!

#### **KNITTING MINISTRY**

Sunday, December 13, 11:15 – 12:15 p.m. Via Zoom



NOTE: Normally Knitting Ministiry does not meet in December, but we decided the normal frantic holiday doesn't apply this year and we all have plenty of time at home to zoom-knit together.

Knitting Ministry will meet on Sunday, December 13 from 11:15 to 12:15 via Zoom. Join us! Settle down with your needles, hooks, looms and yarn in front of your computer camera and log on! We make cozy, useful items for Knitting4Peace (News and patterns at <a href="https://www.knitting4peace.org/">https://www.knitting4peace.org/</a>). If you would like to come please

email <u>anne.hoag@gmail.com</u> and she will send you a Zoom invitation link. Mark your calendars for the second Sunday of each month through May 2021.

#### **BOOK CLUB**

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 Room 324

The book club held their November meeting on December 1 for a discussion of *My Own Words* by Ruth Bader Ginsberg. There will not be a December meeting (in December or any other month.)

The book selected for January (2021) is *Anxious People* by Frederick Backman, the *New York Times* bestselling author of A *Man Called Ove*. The book is described as "a charming, poignant novel about a crime that never took place, a would-be bank robber who disappears into thin air, and eight extremely anxious strangers who find they have more in common than they ever imagined" and "an ingeniously constructed story about the enduring power of friendship, forgiveness, and hope—the things that save us, even in the most anxious times." Something we can all relate to. Group member, Paul Hochreiter says of the selection, "It's supposed to be super funny and silly - something we all need over the holidays." All are welcome.

#### ADDITIONAL ADVENT RESOURCES



#### #AdventWord

An offering from the Virginia Theological Seminary in partnership with Forward Movement. Each day during Advent is assigned a word. You can sign up to receive emails with meditations and prayers offered by VTS inspired by the daily word.

You are also invited to offer your own response in the form of a picture, poem, prayer, meditation, etc. You could post on our Facebook page, on your own social media (using the hashtag #AdventWord), and you can view responses from others around the world. There is even a podcast. We will also post the daily word on our Facebook and Instagram accounts. For more information, ideas, or to sign up for daily emails, go to: <a href="https://adventword.org/en/home/">https://adventword.org/en/home/</a>



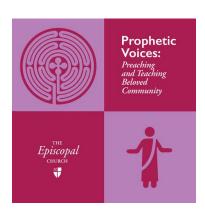
#### **Diocesan Advent Calendar**

If you don't have an Advent calendar already, don't worry - our diocese has made one for you. (Sorry, no chocolate.)

The diocese has designed a virtual 2020 Advent Calendar composed of videos made by clergy and laypeople in our diocese sharing personal stories, reflections or prayers about Advent and Christmas. Every day in Advent, a new video will be available. You might even recognize one of the contributors, possibly on December 18<sup>th</sup>. The diocese

hopes that this project will help us feel connected in this challenging season.

You can find the calendar here: <a href="https://calendar.myadvent.net?id=10fc9c6b13bbcdc2473f770a7bc02446">https://calendar.myadvent.net?id=10fc9c6b13bbcdc2473f770a7bc02446</a> or on our Facebook page daily.



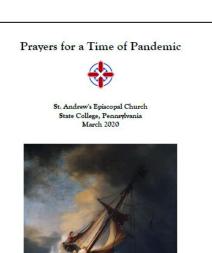
#### **Prophetic Voices**

From the Episcopal Church:

Across our church and our society, we are having profound discussions about race, truth, justice, and healing.

Prophetic Voices: Preaching and Teaching Beloved Community explores where that dialogue intersects with our faith. Join us and our invited guests as we share prophetic voices and explore the readings for each week of Advent and Christmas Day through the lens of social justice.

Subscribe today on your favorite podcasting app or click the green title above for currently available episodes.



#### **Prayers for a Time of Pandemic** (compiled by Kevin Lowe)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jM2Bo1F8KP-ySqMzGoiK3iPq6A7dpbZo/view?usp=sharing

In the Spring, when life during a pandemic was still relatively new, Kevin Lowe compiled this booklet of prayers as a resource for our parish. It has since been shared far beyond St. Andrew's and State College and has been a source of comfort to many.

If you did not download or pick up a copy last spring, you can view or download the booklet using the web address above or by clicking on the green title. If you need a printed copy, please contact the office at 814-237-7659.

#### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** If you have a December 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.

| -150              |                      |                    |  |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--|
| 1 Candace Davison | 8 Jerrilyn-Muth Kern | 21 Lillianna Ellis |  |
| 3 Jeffrey Kern    | 9 Wendell Williams   | 22 Shane Markowski |  |
| 4 Medora Ebersole | 12 Kitty Mussett     | 22 Mimi Reed       |  |
| 4 Edward Brown    | 14 Katie Mussett     | 23 Pete Arnett     |  |
| 4 Lois Murphy     | 14 Sandy Schwartz    | 25 Jesus           |  |
| 5 Marion Vaught   | 17 Kellie Orlich     | 26 Colton Dash     |  |
| 7 Bill Donovan    | 17 Rebekah Dawson-   | 28 James Wunz      |  |
| 7 Denny Houseman  | Rigas                |                    |  |
| 8 Frank Vergamini | 20 Bruce Cramer      |                    |  |
| The same          |                      |                    |  |

# **Those For Whom We Pray**

Teri, Dick, Molly, Don, Joan, Jane, Beckett, Emmet, Denise, Kevin, Diane, Sara, Emily, David, Robbie, Vicki, Frank, Beth, Martin, Barbara, Stu, Anthony, Mavis, Martin, Michael, Anna, Maddy, Traci, Marion, Sandy, Gwen, Lois, Barbara, Vera

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

Zach, Christie

# The Faithful Departed

Louise Eastman

Please call or email the office with your prayer requests. 237-7659 or post them on our Prayer Wall

office@StAndrewSC.org https://bit.ly/StAPrayerWall

#### SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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