

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

September 2022

Back to the Future

Our theme for this fall is "Back to the Future." No, there are no DeLoreans involved or time machines. No lightning bolt required to produce 1.21 gigawatts. All we are trying to accomplish is to get everyone to come back to church so we can move forward together into the future.

Our average Sunday attendance (ASA) in 2019—before the pandemic—was 184. Currently, our ASA is 114 for this year. That means we are missing an average of 70 people every week. Where did they go? The obvious answer is that some have died, moved away, or become unable to attend. This is certainly true and easy to account for. The other obvious answer is that people are still staying away out of concern over the coronavirus and COVID 19. This is much harder to account for but certainly also true. Offering the live stream as we do and the video link that can be viewed later, we are able to reach those who choose to stay home and to include them in the worship life of our parish. This is surely less than satisfying for those who would rather be here worshipping in community with everyone else, however we are grateful to have this option that didn't exist before the pandemic. We plan to continue live streaming because it has been such a positive, and relatively easy, way to extend our reach. We expect that these folks will return when the conditions improve to their comfort level.

Once we account for those who are gone and those who have health concerns about attending in person worship, we get into the unknown. Have people simply gotten out of the habit of getting up on Sunday mornings? Have people found other ways to spend their time? Have they created new habits that they do not wish to change? Inertia can be a powerful force. Or are there people who are unhappy with the parish? Have we disappointed people in some way? Are we missing something important? If there is something keeping you away, something that I or a member of the vestry can address or correct, please let us know.

COVID times have changed us all. I certainly understand anyone who continues to struggle with daily life after all the stress we have collectively been dealing with in the past two and a half years. It has affected me too. I continue to have less energy and ability to concentrate than before the pandemic. It's not preventing me from working, but if I'm honest my productivity has yet to return to its pre-pandemic level. Perhaps COVID-fatigue, in one form or another, is the major reason people have not come back to church.

I can spend all day guessing why our attendance has not returned to what it was, but the bottom line is this: We want you to come back! We miss you. The church feels empty without you, literally and figuratively. We have challenges and opportunities to face in the future. We'd rather do it together as a parish community that includes you and your family. Come back to church and together we can go back to the future.

TREASURER'S REPORT, Julie Kwasnica, Treasurer



July 2022

	July	Year-to-Date	% of Budget	2022 BUDGET
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 34,652	\$ 310,685	69%	\$ 453,000
Total Operating Income	\$ 37,802	\$ 330,111	69%	\$ 481,600
Total Operating Expense	\$ 46,035	\$ 292,544	58%	\$ 506,519
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (8,233)	\$ 37,567		

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

VESTRY UPDATE, Kevin Lowe, Clerk of the Vestry



September 2021

The vestry did not meet in August. The next meeting is scheduled for September 13 at 7pm. At that meeting, the vestry intends to return to meeting in person at the church, rather than on Zoom. Approved vestry minutes are always available on our website ("Clergy, Staff & Vestry" under the "About Us" tab).

CAMPUS MINISTRY

TED Talk

Episcopal at Penn State is up and running! About 14 students from Penn State – undergrads and grads – met on Sunday, August 28, for dinner and discussion about what the group might be and what the group might do. It was fruitful! We are engaged with re-starting the student org – rebranded as 'Episcopal at Penn State' – we elected officers (a President, Treasurer, and Secretary), and we planned our next meeting. We are moving in a good direction. Attached here is our logo – notice the Episcopal Shield overlaid in Penn State 'blue and white.' Here is our website: www.episcopalatpennstate.com. And here is our Vision Statement:



Episcopal at Penn State is a welcoming and inclusive Christian student organization at Penn State University.

We strive to seek and serve Christ in all persons,
loving neighbor as well as self.

We affirm the God-giveness and God-giftedness of all!
We invite skeptics as well as believers to come and imagine
the good work we can do together.

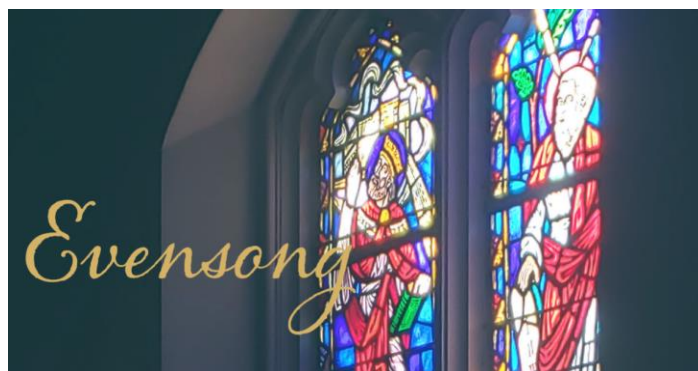
God loves you! No Exceptions.

I am grateful for your support as this ministry emerges on campus. Please continue to reach out to me if you feel called to assist with or participate in this exciting initiative!

With affection -
Ted

EVENSONG IS NIGH!

5 p.m., Sunday October 2
Sunday, November 6
Sunday, February 5
Sunday, March 5
Sunday, April 2
Sunday, May 7
6 p.m. Reception in Room 325



Choral Evensong at St. Andrew's has been a staple for decades. The first Sundays of October, November, February, March, April, and May are our traditional days for the service. It always begins at 5 p.m. in the church, lasts approximately 40 minutes, and is followed by a reception in Room 325.

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, a prayer book known as 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.

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.

Please make plans to join us in the coming months for this beautiful, contemplative service.



Kevin Lowe is currently a student at Bexley Seabury Seminary in Chicago, a non-residential seminary. He will begin completing his field education requirements at St. John's in Bellefonte this month



We recently celebrated **Ted Christopher's** new role as Assistant Rector at St Andrew's during Coffee Hour. It's not official until you have cake.

CHILDREN

Our New School Year Begins September 11

Children's classes meet at 10 a.m. during the 10 a.m. service. Our Godly Play Program is for children ages three through 2nd Grade and meets in Room 338. Our Church School Class is for children in grades three to five and meets in Room 336. We have contacted current families with information about each class. If you are new to our church or have any questions, please contact us: Robin children@standrewsc.org or Kathy youth@standrewsc.org.



Our Nursery

The Nursery is open throughout the school year for ages infant to 3 years old during the 10 am service. If there is a need for the nursery to be open during special services, you may send your request to Robin by email to: children@standrewsc.org

A Blessing for our Teachers/Leaders and Children

Lord God, we thank you for the gift of our children.
Bless our church school and youth programs that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source: Adapted - Book of Common Prayer, 1979 version, Protestant Episcopal Church in the USA.



YOUTH

Rite 13 (grades 6 to 8)

J2A (grades 9 to 11)

YAC, Young Adults in the Church (grade 12)

Leaders are busy preparing for youth to begin gathering again this fall. We can't wait to get everyone back together!

Our new **Rite13** group for grades 6-8 will be led by Alison Jaenicke and Sian Packard! **J2A** for grades 9-11 will continue with their leaders Daniel Foster, Deborah Morton, and Kelley Paulsen. J2A will be gearing up for their pilgrimage to upstate New York June of 2023! Young Adults in the Church (or **YAC**) for seniors will continue to meet monthly this year.

The first youth gathering this year will be 6-7:30 p.m. Sunday, September 11 (Room 325), starting with a dessert bar! Reach out to Kathy Hickner - youth@standrewsc.org - with questions or for more information!

Children and Youth families, leaders, and teachers recently spent a sunny afternoon at the home of Amy Pritchett. It was a great way to celebrate the end of summer while looking forward to the year ahead and a perfect day relax poolside and enjoy time together. Thank you, Amy!



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Forum

Sunday, September 11
9 a.m., Room 338



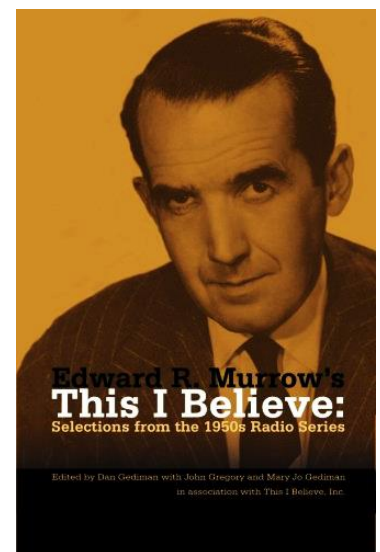
The next Adult Forum session, “Looking at Familiar Faith Stories in New Ways,” will begin on September 11, at 9 a.m. in Room 338. Led by Amy Pritchett, we will start with the meditative practice of listening to a Godly Play interpretation of a key story followed by discussion of our experience and response to the story and its intellectual underpinning. All ages are welcome – we’ll ensure everyone can be comfortably seated and join in. For questions, please contact Amy Pritchett (amypilot@icloud.com).

Compassionate Life

Thursday, September 8
9:30 a.m., Room 325

St. Andrew's daytime women's group is gearing up for another year together, growing in faith and sharing our lives. We will be reading [Edward R. Murrow's This I Believe: Selections from the 1950s Radio Series](#). This is a collection of very short essays that we can read aloud together each meeting and then discuss. If anyone would like to have their book ordered for them and picked up and paid for at church, please email Julie Kwasnica: julie@kwasinca.com.

We will move back to Thursday meeting dates this year, meeting from 9:30-11 a.m. in Room 325. Our first meeting will be Thursday September 8. All women are welcome! Email Laurel Zydney with questions at laurelzemail@gmail.com.



SAVE THE DATES

✠ Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 2
11:20 a.m., Front Lawn (following the 10 a.m. service)



All creatures, great and small, are invited to attend our annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 2. Your pet (leashed or caged as appropriate) is welcome to join you inside the church at our 10 a.m. service of Holy Eucharist.

This is a family and child friendly service including a Children's Sermon.

The Blessing will take place immediately following the service on the front lawn.

- Refreshments will be served.
- Photos of pets and stuffed animals are welcome!
- You may bring your pet to receive a blessing if you do not attend the 10 a.m. service.

✠ Celebration of Life for Natalie Urban

Saturday, October 8
3 p.m., Church
Reception following in Canterbury Hall

Natalie Urban’s family and friends invite you to attend a service celebrating her life. The service will include communion and will be followed by a reception in Canterbury Hall with “light refreshments and happy memories.”

For questions or to R.S.V.P, please contact:

Curt Urban	910-946-1070	curb7378@gmail.com or
Pam Holland	267-259-1280	pamholland100@gmail.com

✠ Out of the Cold at St. Andrew’s

October 31 – November 13

St. Andrew’s will once again host Out of the Cold overnight guests this fall; necessary renovations are not complete at the new OOTC building (see blurb in “Outreach” section below.). We will be asked to provide two hosts each night from 8 to 10 p.m. and dinner and breakfast each day. Please watch for a signup coming soon and consider volunteering.



OUTREACH

2022 STATE COLLEGE CROP HUNGER WALK

Sunday, October 16

UBBC, 411, S. Burrowes Street

Registration at 1:30 p.m./ Walk begins at 2:00 p.m.



Mark your calendars now for the 2022 State College CROP Hunger Walk!

The Walk will be hosted by our neighbors at University Baptist and Brethren this year, but St. Andrew's Purple People Feeders will be walking and raising money.



To join our team of walkers or make a donation to support this important ministry that helps communities throughout the world, as well as our own State College Food Bank, go to <https://bit.ly/2022CROPWalk-PurplePeopleFeeders> or use the purple QR code to the left.

OUT OF THE COLD Fundraising Dinner

Monday, September 26

6 p.m., The Ramada Inn



“A Place to Call Home” fundraising dinner will be held this year on Monday September 26, at 6 p.m. at the Ramada Inn. The money raised will help Out of the Cold raise \$200,000 needed to complete renovations on The Meeting House allowing it to be used permanently as an overnight shelter.

Julie and Jamie Breuninger, St. Andrew's representatives to Out of the Cold, are hosting a table for ten at the dinner and inviting eight members of St. Andrew's to join them! Through sponsorship, the dinner is free to attend, but guests are asked to make a financial contribution at the end of the evening. You will enjoy a delicious meal, delightful hosts, and the satisfaction of supporting an organization that fulfills an important need in our community. If you would like to reserve a seat at the “St. Andrew's” table, please contact Julie Breuninger at julieknits4@gmail.com. If you would like information on hosting a table yourself, please contact Kendra Gettig at ootccentreco@gmail.com or 814-571-8293.

INTERFAITH HUMAN SERVICES AUCTION

Tuesday, September 6, 9 a.m. to

Sunday, September 11, 9 p.m.



Bidding for the 3rd Annual Interfaith Community Care Auction begins online September 6 at 9 a.m. and ends September 11 at 9 p.m. Your purchases support the work of IHS with low-income families and individuals in Centre County.

[Preview items and bid](#)

If you need more incentive to participate in the auction, read Marion's personal account below. What treasures might you find while helping neighbors in financial need?

WHY THE IHS AUCTION?

Marion Schwartz

When I H S held its first online action two years ago, one of the items we donated was a German cuckoo clock. It had sentimental value—a wedding gift from a brother, carefully chosen on their trip to Germany—but over the years our family had grown and changed, and we were ready to send it to a new home. I knew that any cash it brought in to I H S would go to make another family's life easier.

But soon I found out that the clock itself made another family happier. Someone I knew recognized the clock as very like the ones she and her husband fell in love with on their delayed “honeymoon” to Germany. At that point it was too expensive for them to buy and ship it home to the U.S. So, they sadly let it go. Fast forward to 2020. My friend is looking over the IHS auction page and here is the clock in front of her eyes! She bids on it, wins the bidding, and then sneaks off secretly to pick it up when her husband is at an appointment. For their eleventh anniversary she presents him with the clock they were so sad to have missed years before. A clock expert in Stormstown tunes it up, and now it cuckoos cheerfully as the couple work at home.

You never know what you might find at the IHS auction! It might be something that warms your heart, something with a sharable history, something you always wanted. But you know for sure the money you pay for it will provide a sense of hope for a family in financial difficulty.



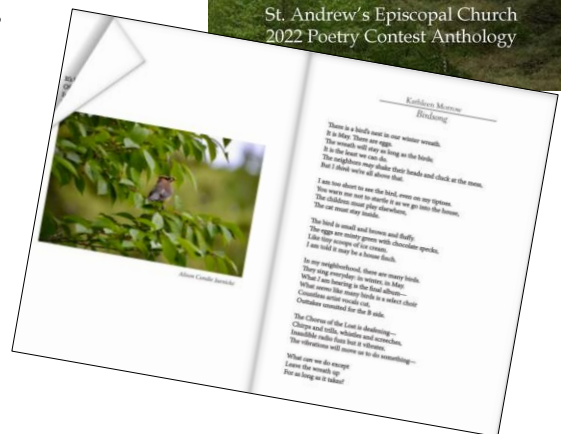
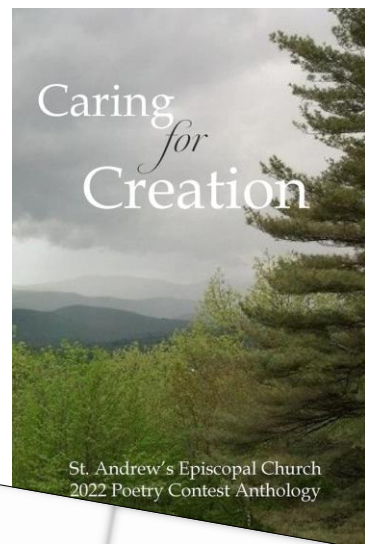
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Caring for Creation Poetry Anthology

Available NOW in the Church Office

Caring for Creation, an anthology of winning and selected poems submitted to our 2022 poetry contest is available for sale in the church office for \$12 a copy and on Amazon.com. Creation Care and Climate Crisis are topics of concern for many at St. Andrew's and throughout the Episcopal Church and were the focus of this year's contest, poetry reading, and panel discussion.

The anthology is a wonderful collection of poems reflecting on our relationship and responsibility to “the earth and all that is in it.” Included are poems by parishioners Kathy Hickner and Matthew Thompson, color photos submitted by poets and by Alison Condie Jaenicke and Bishop Audrey C. Scanlan, whose photo appears on the cover of the book. This would make a lovely addition to any library or a thoughtful gift for anyone who loves nature and cares for “this fragile earth, our island home.”



Scan to go to Amazon page

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.

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

Saturday, September 4, 12:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 1, 12:30 p.m.

Room 119

At the first two meetings of the fall, the St. Andrew's Prayer Quilt Ministry will work on putting together some kits to make baptismal quilts and maybe a prayer quilt or two.

If you have any questions, please call Michele at 814-574-9639.

KNITTING MINISTRY

Sunday, September 11

11:15, Room 324

AND Via Zoom

Join us for fellowship and prayerful/mindful making with our hands for others. The upcoming 2022 dates are October 9, November 13, and December 11.

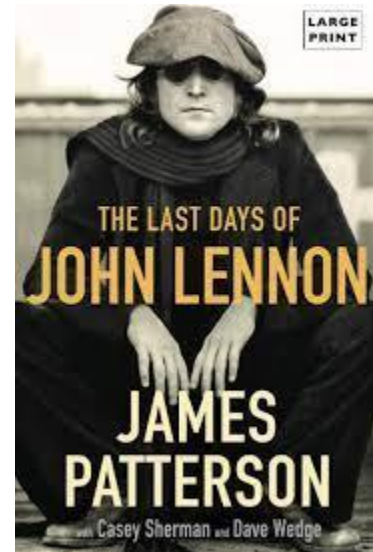
If you would like to attend via Zoom, please email anne.hoag@gmail.com and she will send you a Zoom invitation link.



BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, September 27

7 p.m., Room 119



The September selection for St. Andrew's Book Group is *The Last Days of John Lennon* by James Patterson. Although Patterson is best known for his fictional suspense novels, this is an extensively researched non-fiction account. The narrative begins many years before John Lennon's last days and intersperses chapters about John's past and history with the Beatles with those set in December 1980 from the point of view of Chapman in the weeks leading up to the murder.

Please note that the Book Group will meet in Room 119. Newcomers and guests are always welcome!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! If you have a September 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.

2 Allison Shea
3 Peg Barksdale
3 Simon Murphy
4 Corinne Coplan
6 Erin Petrarca
9 Colleen Kennedy
9 Scott Thomas
9 Larry Hofer
10 David Gaines
12 Chris Gamrat
14 Bob Ascah
15 Anna-Rose Rigas



16 Bob Shepherd
16 Ted Alter
17 Justin Jacobson
17 Anthony Marsala
18 Ron Krasnansky
18 Paige Andrew
18 Thomas Hall
19 Steve Allison
19 Peter Luckie
19 Doug Dailey
20 Lorna DonTigny
21 Frank Barksdale
21 Doug Mace

21 Will Newton
21 Aaron Packard
23 Jason McCloskey
23 Eli Jacobson
26 Anna Christopher
26 Gabriel Perez-Edgar
27 Richard Held
28 Zach Humphreys
29 Ian Bell
29 Andrew Chisholm
30 Gloria Meder



Those for Whom We Pray

Sandy, Dick, Mavis, John, Mena, Diane, Sara, Kevin, Emily, David, Frank, Vicki, Robbie, Sarah, Joan, Don, Jane, Jordan, Ty, Stu, Beth, Stephanie, Tom, Joe, Laura, Mack, Steve, Kelvin, Jacob, Stephen, Ryan, Sam, Madeline, Brad, Rex

Those in the Armed Forces and First Responders

Zach, Christie, Sean, Matt

Our Companion Parish

St. John's, Bellefonte



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