

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

**February 2023**

## **In Praise of Humble February**

“Thirty days has September...” so the rhyme goes detailing the wealth of days that almost all the months enjoy. Tucked in at the end of this familiar mnemonic verse is lowly February, the least of all the months. Even in leap year it only gets to twenty-nine, thus never achieving the diurnal dimensions of its eleven siblings. As far as special days go, it only boasts St. Valentine’s Day and occasionally the beginning of Lent, while other months (who shall remain nameless) bask in the glory of Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and the like. The twenty-eight short, cold, gray days of February may not amount to much, but don’t overlook it or take it for granted. Even though it goes by in a quick four weeks, I say we should celebrate this depleted page of our calendars, enjoy it, make the most out of it!

I’m being a little silly about February, but it does bring up a powerful theme we see in Scripture, God’s preference for the smallest, the youngest, the least significant. We see that pattern from the very beginning when Abel, the younger brother’s sacrifice is acceptable to God while Cain’s sacrifice is substandard. Jacob, whose name means “supplanter,” is the second of twin boys born to the patriarch Isaac. Even though the first born is to be favored and to inherit, Jacob manages to con his older brother Esau out of his birthright and even gets the older brother’s blessing from their father by trickery. Jacob earns the name Israel by wrestling with God all night, is reunited with his estranged brother, and goes on to enjoy his prosperity while fathering twelve sons, each the father of a tribe.

We see the pattern in the life of King David as well. Recall that the prophet Samuel went to Bethlehem because God told him to anoint one of Jesse’s sons as king. Upon seeing Jesse’s oldest, Eliab, Samuel exclaims, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” (1 Sam. 16:6) But he is told that God does not look on people the way humans do. Despite being the oldest and tall and handsome, God does not choose Eliab, to be king of Israel. Jesse has seven of his son’s pass before Samuel and none of them is chosen by God. It is David, the youngest, who wasn’t even invited to the feast but was watching the sheep in the field, who is called by God to be king.

Jesus continues this emphasis on the youngest and the least. In his parable of the Prodigal Son, it is the younger son who demands an advance on his inheritance and squanders it away only to return in disgrace asking his father for a job. In the end of the story, the younger son is celebrated because he was lost and is found, while the older son’s anger and resentment towards his father and his good-for-nothing brother keeps him in the outer darkness outside the party gnashing his teeth. And think about how many times Jesus talks about the poor, the lowly, the least of these as being favored by God. We recently read the Beatitudes on Sunday in church, a perfect example of how, in God’s kingdom, those who are weak and powerless will be exalted. Even Jesus’ mother Mary is called out of insignificance to become the mother of the Son of God.

St. Paul does not drop this ball. He writes in 1 Corinthians, “God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.” (1 Cor. 1:27-29) Paul is talking about the cross and how our crucified Lord was exalted in the resurrection so that we too will be exalted in Christ. Paul’s emphasis on the cross reminds us that it is God’s power, not our own, that accomplishes God’s will. God’s power is known to us in weakness unlike the power of the world that distracts us from following and depending on God. The weak, the small, the insignificant, even the shameful, these are the tools with which God builds God’s kingdom.

So, don’t overlook the small month of February. Embrace it and expect great things.



**December 2022**

	<b>December</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 39,891	\$ 466,843	103%	\$ 453,000
Total Operating Income	\$ 42,739	\$ 499,110	104%	\$ 481,600
Total Operating Expense	\$ 48,304	\$ 501,362	99%	\$ 506,519
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (5,565)	\$ (2,252)		

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

**2023 Annual Meeting**

The following parishioners were elected by acclamation to serve on vestry at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29. Their terms will run from January 2023 to December 2026. Congratulations! Additionally, **Sarah Klinetob Lowe** (picture unavailable) was elected to fill two years of an unexpired term vacated by Sharon Rovansek.

**KATHY  
DITTMANN**



**DANIEL FOSTER**



**RICH MARINI**



**SANFORD  
SCHWARTZ**



The following slate of Diocesan Convention delegates was elected : Anthony Grillo, Carolee Grillo, Rich Marini, Michele Marini, Jason McCloskey, Allison Shea and alternates Paul Hochreiter and Kelley Paulsen.

**If you missed the Annual Meeting, you can**

- download or view a copy of the agenda and reports [HERE](#).  
(If you would like a printed copy, you can pick one up in the church office during the week or in the narthex on Sunday.)
- watch a recording of the meeting [HERE](#) and
- download or read a copy of the Rector's Address [HERE](#).

## EVENSONG

Sunday, February 5

5 p.m., church

6 p.m. Reception, Room 325



On Sunday, February 5, the choir of St. Andrew's will present the service of choral evensong. Music will include the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Sarah McDonald, Preces and Responses by Thomas Tallis, and anthems by Henry Purcell and Cecilia MacDowell. Organist Gwen Catchen will play music by Pachelbel and others. The Rev. Ted Christopher will be the officiant.

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 join us for this service. Bring some friends! A reception will follow in Room 325. The next evensong will be at 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 5.

## ACOLYTE TRAININGS IN FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 5

Sunday February 19

Acolyte training takes place immediately following the 10 am service.



- **February 5** - Part one: This is a review for current acolytes or an introduction for new acolytes.
- **February 19** - Part two: This training will complete training for all acolytes.

**Members of St. Andrew's, 3rd grade through adults, are invited to serve as acolytes.**

The service of our acolytes is an important part of every service. Father Jeff will train those interested in becoming acolytes. Ideally, acolytes serve once a month.

**For more information, please contact the office at St. Andrew's:**  
[office@standrewsc.org](mailto:office@standrewsc.org)

## FROM OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAM:

Happy February 2023!

Robin Bastress

[children@standrewsc.org](mailto:children@standrewsc.org)

814-404-3812



### For new families

We have three programs for children during the 10 a.m. service.

- Our **Nursery** program is for infants through children age 3.
- Our **Godly Play Program** is for children age 3 through 2nd grade.
- Our **Church School Class** is for children in grades 3 – 5.

In addition to our learning about God's creations and stories from the bible, we work on projects to serve our church and our community.

### Volunteers in the classroom

We need volunteers to help teach in all of our Children's Programs that occur during the 10 a.m. service. Every class is taught by two volunteers. Volunteers receive training in Safeguarding God's Children. We will have a new Safeguarding God's Children class Sunday, February 19, following the 10 a.m. service.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the three programs, please contact Robin

[children@standrewsc.org](mailto:children@standrewsc.org) Thank you.



### Safeguarding God's Children

Sunday, February 19

Room 325, following the 10 a.m. service

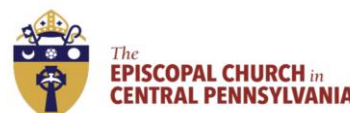
Facilitators: Rich Marini: [rpm12@psu.edu](mailto:rpm12@psu.edu)

Kitty Musset: [kam13@psu.edu](mailto:kam13@psu.edu)

**All volunteers and staff who work with our children need to participate in our Safeguarding God's Children training.** Contact Rich and Kitty if you are a volunteer who has not completed Safeguarding God's Children. They will add you to the list for their class in February. Thank you.

**From Bishop Scanlan,** "The Episcopal Church has developed "Safeguarding" programs to equip us to care for those among us who are more vulnerable. Children and the Aged are especially vulnerable and we are charged to care for them in ways that protect them from neglect, exploitation, abuse, and harm."

<https://diocesepa.org/safeguardingallchildrenandgodspeople/>



## YOUTH

Kathy Hickner

[youth@standrewsc.org](mailto:youth@standrewsc.org)



Leaders were excited to welcome our youth back to gatherings in the new semester! Here is Rite13 leader **Alison Jaenicke**, about to take her turn in a before-dinner Jenga game from youth night on January 15th (the tower fell!).

## WINTER CONTRA DANCE

Saturday, February 4  
7 p.m., Canterbury Hall

Tickets \$10 at the door for ages 12 and up

Come shake off your winter funk at our second St. Andrew's contra dance! Light refreshments are provided and you're welcome to BYOB. Proceeds go to our J2A youth pilgrimage fund, so please spread the word. Local caller, Bruce Young welcomes beginners; no prior experience required.



## SUPER BOWL CHILI SALE

Sunday, February 12  
Following all Sunday services – while supplies last!



On Sunday, February 12, the J2A youth will host their annual Super Bowl Chili Fundraiser! A variety of chilis and cornbread will be sold. **Take home a quart of chili for only \$8!** All proceeds benefit our J2A youth, as they prepare for their pilgrimage to upstate New York in June. Thank you for your support!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FRIDAY FILMS

Friday, February 17  
7 p.m., Room 325

Snacks at 6:30 p.m.

*Okja* (2017)

Rated PG-13

2 hours



**Friday Films'** February offering is *Okja*, a film by director Bong Joon-ho about a young girl who raises and bonds with a genetically modified "super pig" (the titular Okja.) who is then taken from her by representatives of the meat industry. After the film, Ted Jaenicke will lead a discussion focusing on food and agricultural issues raised by the film including:

- genetic engineering/genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in food, i.e., how prevalent this technology is, how the technology is currently being used, and what are its future uses;
- animal welfare, i.e., what animal welfare standards currently exist and what are some areas of current concern; and
- the tension that exists in agriculture between sustainability vs. productivity and "feeding the world".

### CAFÉ TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday, February 3

Doors open 7 p.m., Contest begins 7:30

Canterbury Hall

**Start practicing now with the  
[Random Trivia Generator!](#)**



It's time for the 2023 edition of the Community Café's trivia contest fundraiser! Come with a team (of any size) or we can put you one. Teams will compete for bragging rights and an impressive trophy. You can purchase your ticket at the church office; \$20 per person includes the contest, pub food, and soft drinks. All proceeds benefit the Community Café.

### SCOUT SUNDAY

Sunday, February 5

During the 10 a.m. service

Church

The first Sunday in February is traditionally Scout Sunday, when we honor those who participate in Boy or Girl Scouts. This year we will recognize Scout Sunday on February 5 at the 10:00 service. **Theo Newton, a Tiger Scout, will be awarded the God and Me Award**, an optional award for Cub Scouts who complete a workbook on religious training according to their faith tradition. Theo completed the work with his family and reviewed it with Father Jeff.



Please plan to attend and support Theo in his Scouting trail.



# SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

*Hosted by Parish Life*



## All-You-Can-Eat

Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs, and Applesauce

Live music by

**The Fraser Street  
Saxtet!**

(approx. 6 p.m.)

Served Continuously

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Tues., February 21, 2023

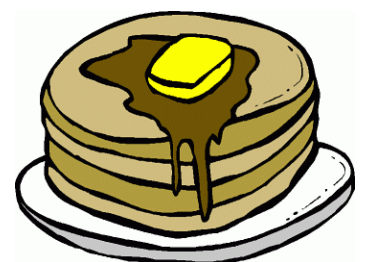
Canterbury Hall

**TICKETS** on sale after church Feb 5, 2023:

\$5 (Adults), \$4 (ages 3 - 12)

After February 19:

\$6 (Adults), \$5 (ages 3 - 12)



## LOOKING AHEAD TO LENT

### ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Wednesday, February 22

**Holy Eucharist** offered at

7:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 7 p.m.

**Ashes-to-Go** offered in front of St. Andrew's

2 – 3 p.m.



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays in Lent

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

In person, in the Nave

On Facebook (recorded)

On YouTube (recorded)

<https://youtu.be/6plHoQ95Q6U>

5:15 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Anytime

(ctrl + click on link or photo)



### TAIZÉ PRAYER

Wednesdays in Lent

March 1, \*, 15, 22, 29

5:30 in the church

Taizé is a candle-lit, meditative service of music, silence, brief readings, and prayer lasting approximately 40 minutes. It is coordinated by the Daughters of the King and the music is led by Steve and Lisa Hopkins. Taizé is usually offered at St. Andrew's during Advent and Lent.



\* We will skip March 8 due to Spring Break.

## OUTREACH

### A MESSAGE FROM PARISHIONERS' MINISTRY (PM)

As faithful stewards of one of St. Andrew's longest running outreach Ministries, the Parishioners' Ministry stewards will be providing the congregation with periodic newsletter updates about this Ministry's ongoing community impact. With any questions about this Ministry, please contact Wendi Keeler, Chief Steward, at [keeler.wendi@gmail.com](mailto:keeler.wendi@gmail.com).

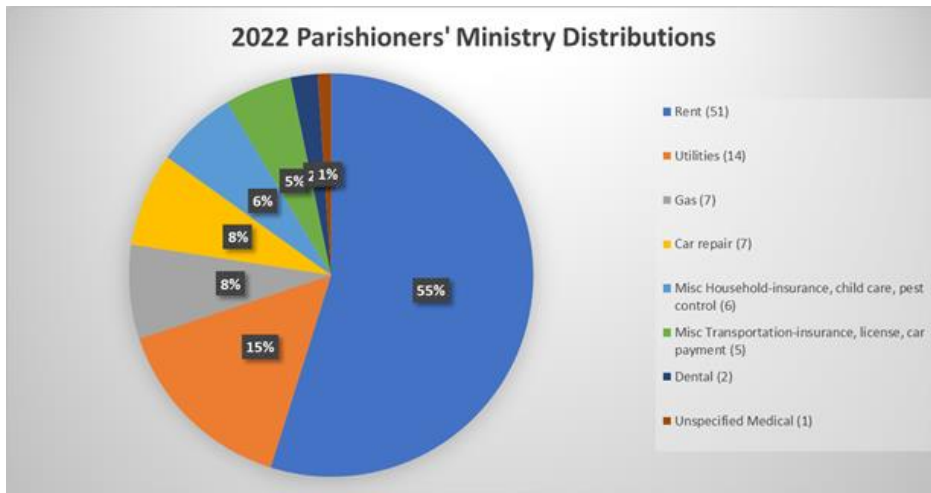
#### February 2023 PM Update: 2022 Impact Overview

What impact does the Parishioners' Ministry make? Annually, over the past few years, the PM helps ~110 households with ~\$11,000 in unexpected expenses. Many that we serve are one-time clients. With a majority of PM funds going to unexpected housing expenses (primarily rent and utilities), **this Ministry helps make it possible for individuals and families to remain in their homes during times of financial turmoil.**

How did the PM help in 2022?

In 2022, the PM assisted 93 households with \$9,458 in unexpected expenses, with 76% of the funds helping with household expenses. The graph below shows the full distribution of funds for 2022.





How is the PM funded?

Since the 2020 austerity budget, Parishioners’ Ministry has primarily been **independently funded by contributing parishioners**, rather than as a line item on the general budget. Fr. Jeff has also graciously supported the Parishioners’ Ministry during these austerity budgets through the Kathy Palmer Fund. Please see the snapshot financial summary of the PM from 2019-2022 below.

We are so grateful to the congregation for the ongoing financial support of this Ministry.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY		2022	2021	2020	2019
BEGINNING BALANCE		\$2,146	\$3,891	\$390	\$860
INCOME					
	<i>St. Andrew's Operating Fund</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,800
	<i>Other Contributions</i>	\$9,960	\$8,845	\$15,182	\$3,180
TOTAL		\$12,106	\$12,736	\$15,572	\$11,840
DISBURSEMENTS		\$9,458	\$10,590	\$11,681	\$11,450
ENDING BALANCE		\$2,648	\$2,146	\$3,891	\$390

## GROUPS, MINISTRIES, & COMMITTEES

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

### KNITTING MINISTRY

Sunday, February 12, 11:15 a.m.  
Room 324 and via Zoom

Join the Knitting Ministry on Sunday, February 12, as we meet knit cozy, useful items for Knitting4Peace (News and patterns at <https://www.knitting4peace.org/>).

Please email [anne.hoag@gmail.com](mailto:anne.hoag@gmail.com) for a link if you would like to join the group by Zoom or if you have any questions.



Items made by the Knitting Ministry.

### PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

Saturday, February 18, 12:30 p.m.  
Room 119

The Knitting Ministry will meet on Saturday, February 18, to work on our quilts and enjoy lunch, and fellowship. For more information, please contact Michele Marini.

[micheleamarini@comcast.net](mailto:micheleamarini@comcast.net)

### COMPASSIONATE LIFE

Tuesday, February 2  
Tuesday, February 16  
9:30 a.m., Room 325

Compassionate Life is the women's group at St. Andrew's. They meet twice a month for conversation, prayer, support and book discussion with a mix of social events, outreach projects, and guest speakers throughout the year.

In February the group will continue to read and discuss essays from Edward R. Murrow's *This I Believe: Selections for the 1950s Radio Series*. All women of the parish (and friends) are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Laurel Zydney [laurelzemail@gmail.com](mailto:laurelzemail@gmail.com) or Julie Kwasnica [julie@kwasnica.com](mailto:julie@kwasnica.com).

### DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Sunday, February 12 and  
Sunday, February 26  
11:30 a.m., Room 119

The Daughters of the King will meet twice in February, following the 10 a.m. service in Room 119

### BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 7, 7 p.m.  
Room 324 (Library)

The Book Group will meet Tuesday, February 7, in Room 324 at 7 p.m. to discuss, *Remarkably Bright Creatures: A Novel*, the debut work by Shelby Van Pelt. This book is also Centre County Reads' selection for 2023. All are welcome to join our Book Club conversation on February 7. For more information on Centre County Reads, go to [centrecountyreads.org](http://centrecountyreads.org)

Newcomers and guess are always welcome!



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 John Pomeroy	11 Ford McNutt	23 Lucy Cramer
2 Lou Barth	14 Gretchen Leathers	23 Lucy Rogers
3 Marcia Pomeroy	14 Paula Wickland	24 Marisa Ferger
4 Marie Doll	16 Peter Jackson	24 Eugene Shaw-Colyer
5 Danny Mussett	16 Diane Irwin	24 Amy Pritchett
5 Tom Saiers	19 Robert Brant	26 Nolan Markowski
5 Dennis Shea	21 Risha Shea	26 Andrea McCloskey
7 Patrick McNutt	21 Sarah Vergamini	27 Connie Puckett
7 Janie Brown	21 Barney Dillon	28 Karen Dabney
10 Carol Robie	21 Abbey Humphreys	
10 Jeffrey Packard	21 John Jones	
11 Rich Marini	22 Gillian Dash	

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** If you have a January 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**

Sandy, Mavis, John, Mena, Molly, Erica, Jane, Joan, Don, Stu, Beth, Joe, Laura, Jordan, Ty, Isa, Rob, Curtis, Kevin, Diane, Frank, Robbie, Sara, Emily, Vicki, David, Curtis, Roger, Kathy, Bev, Sue, Anthony, Jacque

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

Zach, Christie, Sean, Matt, Eric, Andrew, Amy

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

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