

ST. ANDREW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1528 Church Road, Toms River, NJ 08755

Website: standrewtr.org E-mail: standrew.umctr@gmail.com

Phone: (732) 349-5367 Fax: (732) 505-9405

Rev. Erik C. Hall, Pastor

Lee Boccuzzi, Administrative Coordinator Jan Phillips, Minister of Music

Bill Woerner, Church Custodian

December 16, 2018

"Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life."

Corrie Ten Boom

Welcome first time guests - **THANK YOU** for visiting St. Andrew United Methodist Church website. We hope that as you read through the bulletin and activities you will sense our love of Christ and each other.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to pray for comfort, healing, strength and peace for members and friends of our congregation

Church Family Activities

WORSHIP THIS HOLY SEASON

December 23rd, 4th Sunday of Advent: 8:30am Chapel Worship Service (Sanctuary); 9:30am Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall); 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

December 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATIONS:

Celebrating the promise of new hope and new life that begin with the newborn baby Jesus! God's love is the light that shines in the darkness... bringing peace and joy to all!

6:00pm Christmas Eve Contemporary/Casual Candlelight

Celebration Join us for this festive candlelight night of Christmas as the praise band and our Thrive Chorus (children's group) lead us in carols and Christmas tunes!

8:00pm Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Celebration

Join us for this traditional Christmas Eve celebration as we ring in this Holy Night with candlelight, hymns and carols, bells, and choir

11:00pm Midnight Christmas Eve Candlelight Celebration

Join us in the stillness of midnight as we celebrate the light and love of God coming into the world! Celebrate with candlelight, hymns and carols, readings, and special acts of worship led by many members and friends of St. Andrew.

December 30th, Wesleyan Covenant Service: 9:30am Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall); 11:00am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

CHURCH-WIDE CHRISTMAS CAROLING Please join us on Sunday, December 23, at 3PM for Christmas caroling at the Spring Oaks Assisted Living (2145 Whitesville Rd.

Toms River, NJ 08755). Afterwards we will be breaking into two groups to sing to a few of our St. Andrew shut-ins. As Buddy the Elf would say, "the best way to spread Christmas cheer, is singing loud for all to hear!"

CHURCH WIDE BREAKFAST

Everyone is invited to the Church Wide Breakfast sponsored by St. Andrew UM Men on **Saturday January 12, 2019**. Breakfast is FREE; however we ask that you sign up at the table in Fellowship Hall Lobby to let us know that you plan to attend. Breakfast begins at 9:00am and will include a guest speaker and special music following breakfast. Menu: The menu includes juice, coffee and tea; scrambled eggs; scrambled eggs with cheese; pancakes; French toast; two types of potatoes; sausage; and fresh fruit. Guest Speaker: Jack Santanni, Retired Marine Gunnery Sergeant with Toys for Tots who will be speaking about the Toys for Tots program. Special Music: Shore Voices, a female a capella barbershop style chorus, will be sharing their gift of music with us. For additional information about this Church Wide Breakfast, feel free to speak with any of the St. Andrew UM Men officers. *A Love*

Offering will be taken during the Church Wide Breakfast on January 12 which will be split between Toys for Tots and Shore Voices.

CHURCH GROUNDS Volunteers needed to help keep St. Andrew looking trim and welcoming, see Dennis Poane.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pick up in the Fellowship Hall lobby. If you don't have envelopes and would like an assigned number please contact the church office.

USHER NEEDED. If you are interested in being an usher at the Traditional Worship Service held at 11:00am please see Shirley Stone.

Women of St. Andrew

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS The United Methodist Women extend warm wishes for a very Happy Birthday and a year filled with God's blessings Rita Anderson (12/16), Ruth Leonard (12/18), Lynn Napier (12/18).

WOW: St. Andrew Women's Book Club meets every third Saturday at 10:30am at the church. Please feel free to join us. Upcoming book titles:

1/19/2019- The Bus to Corinth by Ladine B. Householder

2/16/2019- The Winter Soldier by Daniel Mason

3/16/2019 The Underground Girls of Kabul by Jenny Nordberg

4/20/2019 The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

5/18/2019 Radium Girls by Kate Moore

6/15/2019 Britt Marie Was Here by Fredrik Backman

For the rest of the 2019 list of books please look to the flyers on the tables or contact Amy Hall (908) 278-7076 or Pat Lewis (732) 674-5538 if you have any questions.

WOMEN'S RETREAT AT SANDY COVE Join the SAUMC Women February 1-3, 2019 for our 2019 midwinter adventure. Our souls long for time to focus on God's Word and listen to the still small voice of the Spirit. A Women Digging Deeper Weekend is designed to provide time to fervently study scripture under the guidance of a Bible teacher. Jan Silvius is the guest speaker. Join us, as we learn how to live as a balanced woman in an out of balance world. See Ann Canter or go to our website standrewtr.org for details.

Missions

DECEMBER MISSION PRAYER This month we remember in prayer those Ocean County non-profit agencies which give assistance and support to people in our local community who are in need. We especially remember Community Services, Inc./Meals on Wheels; Caregiver Volunteers of Central Jersey; Interfaith Hospitality Network; Peoples Pantry; and House of Hope. Pray for God's blessings upon the people who are served through these various non-profits, that needs would be met, resources become available, and lives transformed and enriched. Lift up in pray those who are on staff and those who volunteer in various capacities at these non-profits, that they will be strengthened and renewed in their service to those in need.

We would also ask for prayers this December for our St. Andrew Food Pantry and our Christmas Outreach Projects here at St. Andrew, for blessings upon the families who receive resources and for the volunteers who help in any way with those projects. Thank you and God bless you for your prayers!

DIAPER DRIVE "THANK YOU!" Thank you to everyone who has supported our Diaper Drive for the Maker's Place Hope Center in Trenton! Every diaper is important to the moms who struggle with providing enough diapers for their babies. We are so grateful for your generosity! Today, Sunday December 16, is the final day for donating towards this project, as the diapers will be transported this week to Trenton. Thank you again for your generosity! *And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. Luke 2:6-7*

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS Thank you for your ongoing support of our St. Andrew Food Pantry! Below is the list of nonperishable food items needed to keep our pantry well stocked. Donations of food may be dropped off at the Food Pantry located next to Memorial Hall Kitchen or they may be placed in the receptacle in Fellowship Hall Lobby. Financial donations may be given at any time; special offering envelopes are located at the Missions Table in Fellowship Hall Lobby.
Juice; Cans of Soup; Chili; Beef Stew; Canned Vegetables; Canned Fruit; Parmalat Milk (shelf-stable boxed milk); Cereal; Oatmeal; Pancake Mix (complete); Syrup; Ravioli; Peanut Butter; Jelly or Jam; Pork and Beans; Tuna in cans; Pasta; Spaghetti Sauce; Rice (2 lb. bags); Potatoes (mashed or other boxed mixes); Saltine Crackers. Also helpful are coffee, tea bags, cookies, shelf-stable puddings, etc. THANK YOU!

Youth Ministries

Please see lobby tables and our website standrewtr.org for detailed information.

Adult Bible Studies

THE WIRED WORD, a weekly study seeking to find the biblical principles at work in newsworthy events. Because of the one-time nature of each study, ***The Wired Word*** study is perfect for those who can only attend occasionally. We meet each Sunday at 9:30AM classroom 9.

CHRISTIAN COFFEES Our current study is the Gospel of John. Our small group is using the John MacArthur study guide *John: Jesus – The Word, the Messiah, the Son of God*. This study will occupy our small group through March 2019. For additional information about this study, please reach out to Lucy DeBarge at lucydebarge@yahoo.com or by phone at 732-833-9975. Christian Coffees is the name of our small group. We meet each Sunday morning at 9:30am in the Shared Ministry Office (upstairs next to the Narthex). We encourage you to grab a cup of coffee or tea from Fellowship Hall and join us for an hour of study and discussion.

Program Note: Beginning November 25 through December 23, we will take a short break from our study of the Gospel of John in order to engage with a study for the Advent and Christmas season. *"Awaiting the Already: An Advent Journey Through the Gospels"* by Magrey R. de Vega, is a thematic Bible Study which will take us on a tour through the Gospel narratives, showing us what parts of the Christmas story come from which Gospel, and helps us to recognize that each Gospel writer invites us to encounter a fresh experience of the birth of Christ. For additional information, please reach out to Lucy DeBarge through the contact information listed above.

ADULT CLASS Anyone interested in facilitating an adult class please see Dennis Poane.

Weekly Servers

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP USHERS (SANCTUARY)

Dec. 23 Team #4

Christmas Eve 8PM Linda & John Phander, Laura & Gary Shannon

Dec. 30 Team #5; Jan. 6 Team #6

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADERS (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Dec. 23 Jeff Canter

Dec. 30 Dave Richardson

Jan. 6 Ann Canter

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LEADERS (SANCTUARY)

Dec. 23 Linda Phander

Christmas Eve 8PM Bob DeBarge

Dec. 30 John Phander

9:30am SOUNDROOM SCHEDULE (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Dec. 23 Bill Koch

Christmas Eve 6PM: Andrew Phillips, Dave VanDeventer

Dec. 30 Bill Koch, Joe Herflicker

11:00am SOUNDROOM SCHEDULE (SANCTUARY)

Dec. 23 Bob DeBarge

Christmas Eve 8PM: Andrew Phillips

Christmas Eve 11PM: Dick Green

Dec. 30 Russ & Russ Thistle

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sun., Dec. 16	8:30-9:00AM 9:30AM	Chapel Worship (Sanctuary) Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall); SOAR Christian Education Pre K - 5th grade; Adult Bible Study: Christian Coffees, Shared Ministry Office; The Wired Word, rm. 9 10:30AM 10:40AM Choir Warm Up
----------------------	-------------------------------------	---

	11:00AM 12:00PM	Choral Cantata "The First Noel: Celebrating the Birthday of a King" (Sanctuary); Due to Choral Cantata there will be no RISE! program today. Coffee Hour
Mon., Dec. 17	10:30-12PM 5:30PM 6:15PM 6:45PM 7:00PM	FP Distribution Appt. only (Memorial Hall & Kitchen) Bell Choir Rehearsal Shared Ministry Office Reserved Gospel Choir Rehearsal Troop (Fellowship Hall)
Tues., Dec. 18	10:00AM 1:00PM 5:00PM 5:30-6:30PM	Women's Bible Study (Memorial Hall) Gospel Choir Rehearsal Thrive Chorus; elementary-school age music ministry (Choir Room) Thrive; elementary-school aged youth group (Fellowship Hall)
Wed., Dec. 19	10-11:00AM 5:30-7:30PM	FP Distribution Appt. only (Memorial Hall & Kitchen) MYF & YES Club (Fellowship Hall, Memorial Hall)
Thurs., Dec. 20	6:30PM	Pack Meeting (Fellowship Hall, rm. 4-6)
Fri., Dec. 21		
Sat., Dec. 22	7:00PM	AA (Memorial Hall & Kitchen)
Sun., Dec. 23	8:30-9:00AM 9:30AM 10:30AM 10:35AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 12:15PM 3:00PM	Chapel Worship (Sanctuary) Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall) In celebration of Family Sunday children are invited to remain in worship; Adult Bible Study: Christian Coffees, Shared Ministry Office; The Wired Word, rm. 9 Coffee Hour Bell Choir Warm Up Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) In celebration of Family Sunday children are invited to remain in worship. Coffee Hour Bell Choir Practice Christmas Caroling at Spring Oak