

ST. ANDREW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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February 24, 2019

“Jesus extended an invitation to follow to every single kind of person imaginable — rich people, poor people, people who were spiritual, people who weren’t spiritual. He didn’t place a bunch of conditions on His offer.

He just invited them to follow.”

Andy Stanley

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

THE WAY FORWARD

The United Methodist Church will be holding a special session of its General Conference (February 23-26) in order to decide how the denomination will approach LGBT inclusiveness in the church, especially with regards to ordination and marriage. There are three proposals: 1) The Traditionalist Plan would affirm and strengthen the current language of United Methodist Church Law (The Book of Discipline) that the LGBT lifestyle is incompatible with Christian teaching; 2) The Connectional Conference Plan: would create three 'connectional conferences' (mini-UMC denominations) each of the three would have a different position on LGBT inclusiveness (describable loosely as: conservative, centrist, and progressive). Local churches would choose to align with one of the three 'connectional conferences'; 3) The One Church Plan would maintain the current denominational structure but give each and every local church flexibility to decide for themselves how they will approach LGBT inclusiveness. The Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church has endorsed the One Church Plan but it is the General Conference that will decide by vote at the end of February. **For members and friends of St. Andrew UMC who are concerned or interested in the decision, Pastor Erik will be hosting an open discussion, Q&A, and prayer gathering on Thursday February 28th at 7pm in the Sanctuary.**

ST. ANDREW UMC TO HOST SENIOR NUTRITION SITE Would you like a hot nutritious meal and good company? Are you 60 years of age or older? If so, Meals on Wheels of Ocean County invites you to attend the Toms River Nutrition Site at St. Andrew UMC **beginning Monday, March 4**. The Nutrition Site, located in Fellowship Hall, will be open **Monday through Friday, from 9:00AM to 1:00PM**. Want to know more? Stop by the information table by Fellowship Hall before or after both services.

MEALS ON WHEELS WALKATHON! March For Meals **Saturday March 9th 11:00am-6:00pm** in the Ocean County Mall. Flyers can be found on the tables outside Fellowship Hall or in the Narthex Lobby, you can also go to csimow.org or the Meals on Wheels Facebook page to register. We need walkers to make this a success! Even if you can't walk the mall come join us and do what you can. Please consider pledging to someone who is walking if you are unable to participate. This will be fun with giveaways and prize drawings every hour. T-shirts are available to everyone that walks! Please register online or see Mary or Dave VanDeventer. Thanks for your support of this important ministry of St. Andrew! All checks made payable to Meals on Wheels.

UMM MONTHLY MEETING

Saturday, **March 9, 2019** 9:00 Breakfast All men are welcome. There will be a reorganization and planning meeting following breakfast.

SAINT ANDREW SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS ON SALE NOW!

The United Methodist Men are taking orders for Saint Andrew embroidered shirts and sweatshirts. We have two styles of shirts; Cotton and Golf (The sweatshirt is a hoodie) Color; maroon. All sizes available. Cost: \$28.00 all shirts, \$35.00 hoodie. See UMM and samples in Fellowship Hall between services.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED **Westhill High School Percussion Band** is returning to St. Andrew again this year. We will house them from **Saturday evening (March 16th) to Sunday morning (March 17th)**. Volunteers are needed to: Set Up Memorial Hall and Fellowship Hall to accommodate the students on Saturday and re-set both Halls for Sunday morning worship and classes. Be Overnight Hosts to help supervise and assist the Westhill students and leaders, provide refreshments on Saturday night. It would also be great to have volunteers who would cook Sunday morning breakfast sandwiches like our dear Alan did last year. Please contact Dennis Poane (732-255-7363) to volunteer or for more information.

ENDOWMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIPS The Endowment Fund Committee is again pleased to announce the availability of scholarships to members of St. Andrew for any post high school education. Scholarship criteria information and applications are available through the church office. If you have any questions about the scholarship please contact the Endowment Fund Chairperson, Russ Boucher at: cfm.russ@comcast.net. The deadline for applications is May 1, 2019.

SAVE THE DATE The Line Dancing Fundraiser is back! Mark your calendars for this fun event Friday **March 29th** 6:30-10:00PM in Fellowship Hall. All proceeds will go to SAUMC Youth Mission Trip this July.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE COMING!
SAVE THE DATE **Saturday, May 4th**!

CALL TO MISSION I am excited to share with you that I am exploring a call to mission by traveling to Puerto Rico from March 16-23 with New Jersey Metro Cru. We will be working on hurricane Maria relief and evangelism on the University campus. I will be holding a bake sale on March 3rd to help support my trip. Please keep my team in your prayers as we prepare our hearts and minds for this trip. If you would to donate an item for the bake sale please see me after service or contact me at 609-339-5846.
Thank you, Rebecca Clifton

Missions

FEBRUARY MISSION PRAYER Our Mission prayer focus for February is the Neighborhood Center in Camden, NJ. We pray for God's blessing upon the people who are served by the Neighborhood Center, from the youngest child in day care to the senior adults who participate in the Sage Program. Please also lift up in prayer those who work on staff and those who volunteer at the Neighborhood Center, that God would bless their work and efforts and enlarge their capacity to love abundantly, proclaiming Christ's love through their service.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, INC. Begun in 1913 by UM Deaconesses, the Neighborhood Center in Camden is a United Methodist Women National Mission Institution. The mission of The Neighborhood Center is to generously love our neighbor as ourselves with abundant service and hope today and every day. The Neighborhood Center identified the need to break the cycle of poverty for children (which include poor education and poor family structures). Breaking the Cycle of Poverty, so that a child has success in life. The programs serving children are designed to help children and young adults in a 4-fold life: mind, body, spirit, and community. The Neighborhood Center drives sustainable programs that help a child to aspire; to achieve; and to be successful in school - and, along the way, learn about Christ. The Neighborhood Center demonstrates core Christian values - Love the Lord - through programs

with children and the community. Programs include: Urban Community Farm; Child Care Learning Center; After School and Teens; Sophisticated Sisters; Camp Kumbaya (Summer Enrichment Program); Sages Program; and the Community Kitchen, daily serving a healthy, bagged take-away lunch to all who come. Information about these programs is available from The Neighborhood Center Facebook page and website.

We often think of the Child Care programs and After School programs at the Neighborhood Center. Did you know that the **Teens Program** at The Neighborhood Center is full and very active? With a program director, a male counselor and a female counselor, the teens meet every Tuesday evening for fellowship; opportunities to hear guest speakers who talk on such subjects as career planning and information about applying to college; special events like tours of colleges in the area like Rutgers; and, Open Mic nights once a month when the teens are able to express themselves through singing, poetry, etc. The teens are also offered the opportunity during the summer to work at the Urban Garden on site where they learn about Community Garden food production and mentor the younger children who attend the Summer Enrichment Program known as Camp Kumbaya. Want to know more about The Neighborhood Center or how to get involved? See our Neighborhood Center Liaison Scott Susich or Missions Coordinator Lucy DeBarge.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PROJECT: 2019 MONTHLY GUIDE Each month we include in the announcements a monthly guide for you to begin to personally purchase and tuck away items for OCC Shoeboxes throughout the year. Savvy shoppers know that they can impact more children around the world for eternity by looking for shoebox items throughout the year. **For the month of February, consider purchasing accessories, like sunglasses, watches, bracelets, hair scrunchies, costume jewelry, etc.** For additional information about our Operation Christmas Child project, please reach out to Missions Coordinator, Lucy DeBarge, through the church office. Thank you and God bless you!

SPIRIT LAKE MINISTRY OUTREACH PROJECT This project is a special outreach to Native American children through a program sponsored by the Spirit Lake Ministry Center in North Dakota (an approved United Methodist Volunteer in Mission destination). In 2018 we gathered donations and arranged them as gift-filled boxes for 22 individual children. These gift-filled boxes were mailed to the Spirit Lake Ministry Center in ND and were distributed as part of their Christmas outreach program reaching children who live on reservations in ND, SD, and Minnesota. **During January and February, we are collecting donations for Christmas 2019 (new items only, please!): winter hats, mittens and gloves; bars of mild soap; soft toothbrushes; toothpaste (expiration date in 2020); small toys, crayons, and small coloring books or writing pads. The age groups include: 3-5; 6-8; 9-12; 13 and older.** Items may be placed in the marked bin in Fellowship Hall Lobby. For information about Spirit Lake Ministry Center or this outreach project, please contact Lucy DeBarge at (732) 833-9975. Thank you for your generosity!



LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR

The Spirit Lake Ministry Center is dedicated to supporting the people of the Spirit Lake Nation and is an approved United Methodist Volunteer in Mission destination.

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!

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 Sue Richardson (3/1).

NEW WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP FORMING NOW; LIFE BY DESIGN

Sunday Mornings 8:15 a.m. -9:30 a.m. January 27 to June 30, 2019

Rather than just let life happen to us, we will live our lives by design! This peer driven group of 5-8 women will be committed to the following ideas: accountability, advice, encouragement, feedback, and results. If you would like more information, contact Amy Hall: call/text: 908-278-7076 or email: amyhall213@yahoo.com

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:

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

7/20/2019 Traveling with

Pomegranates by Ann Kidd Taylor and Sue Monk Kidd

8/17/2019 Forever by Pete Hamill

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.

SAVE THE DATE! **Saturday September 21, 2019 at 10:00 AM** is the date of our local UMW General Meeting. We are pleased to announce that our special guest speakers will be **Rev. Lowell and Claudia Wertz with Joy in the Harvest Ministries.** Rev. Lowell and Claudia will be on Furlough at that time, traveling to meet with the churches which have supported their mission in Kigoma, Tanzania. Both Missions at St. Andrew and the St. Andrew United Methodist Women give financial support to Joy in the Harvest each year. It will be our privilege to have Rev. Lowell and Claudia as our guests! More information will be available closer to the date.

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.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: The study *Seven-Mile Miracle* by Steven Furtick begins Tuesday morning, March 5, at 10:00a.m. in room 9 and ends during Holy Week on April 16. ALL WOMEN are invited and encouraged to take part! In this seven-session study Pastor Furtick explores the last words of Christ from the very Holy Land locations at which they were spoken. Standing in these holy places, he unpacks the drama, power and deep meaning of Jesus' final hours before his crucifixion. If you are interested in this opportunity to celebrate the season of Lent, please speak to Arlene Green TODAY or call her (732-477-4240) by Friday morning, March 1.

BIBLE STUDY CLASSES AT ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES We are bringing weekly Bible Studies into the Chelsea Assisted Living on Silverton Rd. and into Spring Oak on Whitesville Rd. The Bible Study classes are being held during the months of February, March, and through the middle of April. Our dates and times are on Friday mornings 10:30am to 11:30am at the Chelsea, and on Wednesday mornings 10:30am to 11:30am at Spring Oak. This series of Bible Studies are based on the book "*Sharing God's Love and Joy*" by Willa Ruth Garlow. For additional information please contact Lucy DeBarge through the church office.

Weekly Servers

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP USHERS (SANCTUARY)

March 3 Team #2
March 10 Team #2
March 17 Team #4

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADERS (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

March 3 Scott Susich
March 10 Jeff Canter
March 17 Ann Canter

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LEADERS (SANCTUARY)

March 3 David Geller
March 10 Barrington Gooden
March 17 Vita Hansen

9:30am SOUNDROOM SCHEDULE (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

March 3 Bill Koch, Joe Herflicker
March 10 Bill Koch, Jan Phillips
March 17 Bill Koch, Jan Phillips

11:00am SOUNDROOM SCHEDULE (SANCTUARY)

March 3 Dick Green, Jarrod Barrera
March 10 Bob DeBarge, D. VanDeventer
March 17 Keila Earp, Joe Herflicker

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sun., Feb. 24	8:15-9:30AM 9:30AM 10:30AM 10:40AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 6:30-7:30PM	Life By Design Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall); Family Sunday Children are invited to remain in worship today; Adult Bible Study: Christian Coffees, Shared Ministry Office; The Wired Word, rm. 9. Coffee Hour Bell Choir Warm Up Traditional Worship (Sanctuary); Family Sunday Children are invited to remain in worship today. Coffee Hour Love Does with Pastor Erik (rm. 4, 5)
Mon., Feb. 25	5:30PM 6:15-6:45PM 6:45PM 6:00-7PM 7-8:30PM 7:45PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal Shared Ministry Office Reserved Gospel Choir Rehearsal Cub Scouts (Fellowship Hall) Troop (Fellowship Hall) Cantata Practice
Tues., Feb. 26	10:00AM 10:30-12PM 1:00PM 1:30PM 5:00PM 5:30PM	Women's Bible Study (rm. 9) Kitchen Committee (Fellowship Hall) Gospel Choir Rehearsal Cantata Practice Thrive Chorus; elementary-school age music ministry (Choir Room) Thrive; elementary-school aged youth group (Fellowship Hall)
Wed., Feb. 27	10-12PM 11-12:00PM 5:30PM 7:30PM	Knit Wits (rm., 4-5) Love Does with Pastor Erik (Shared Ministry Office) MYF & YES Club (Fellowship Hall, Memorial Hall) Love Does with Pastor Erik (Memorial Hall)
Thurs., Feb. 28	7:00PM	The Way Forward; Open Discussion, Q & A and Prayer Gathering (Sanctuary)
Fri., Mar. 1		
Sat., Mar. 2	7:00PM	AA (Memorial Hall & Kitchen)
Sun., Mar. 3	8:15-9:30AM 9:30AM 10:30AM 10:40AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 6:00PM	Life By Design Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall); SOAR Christian Education Pre K - 5th grade; Adult Bible Study: Christian Coffees, Shared Ministry Office; The Wired Word, rm. 9. Coffee Hour Gospel Choir Warm Up Traditional Worship (Sanctuary); RISE! Christian Education Pre K - 5th grade. Coffee Hour Young Adult Ministry Gathering for Prayer, Praise & Pizza (Memorial Hall)