

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 Jan Phillips, Director of Worship
Lee Boccuzzi, Admin. Coordinator Bill Woerner, Church Custodian*

December 22, 2019

White Christmas

***“Last night, she couldn’t sleep; today,
she won’t eat: she’s in love.”***

~ Judy (about Betty)

“Well, if that’s love, somebody goofed.” (Phil)

***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

CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATIONS

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

December 24th

CHRISTMAS EVE CELEBRATIONS:

4:30pm Be greeted by Santa's Elf and join us in our festive celebration of Christmas as the Omega Praise Team leads us in carols and Christmas tunes as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

7:00pm Join us for this traditional Christmas Eve celebration as we ring in this Holy Night with candlelight, hymns and carols, bells, and choir.

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES will be available for pick up in the Fellowship Hall lobby **today through January**. If you don't have envelopes and would like an assigned number or if you do not see your assigned number please contact the church office.

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

USHER NEEDED!

If you would like to be an usher please see or contact Shirley Stone at 732-286-9508.

NURSERY ATTENDANT NEEDED

Sunday mornings 9:15-10:30am and 10:45-12 noon. Must have experience with children, CPR and first aid certified a plus. Please contact Pastor Erik Hall or Harry Humphreys through the church office

ST. ANDREW UMC AND THE WAY FORWARD

The Pastor and Administrative Board of St. Andrew UMC have assured our congregation that our priority is the health, vitality, and unity of St. Andrew and its ministries, and that we, as a local church, will not be compelled to take a direction that we do not choose for ourselves. No one is going to be asked to change their Biblical/Theological commitments and convictions. It is therefore essential that EVERYONE have the opportunity to voice their hopes and concerns around how to be in ministry with LGBTQ people. We are beginning to schedule small group conversations to be hosted by board members together with the Pastor. There is also an open invitation for people to address the pastor or board members, one-on-one, to share hopes and concerns. Soon you will be contacted by a board member with an opportunity to attend one of these sessions. If a congregation member is uncomfortable sharing their hopes and concerns in these ways they should contact a board member to discuss other arrangements.

PRAISE! Worship Experience January 5th 12:30-1:00PM PRAISE! is a positive and uplifting worship celebration for the whole family. Participatory music, faith-building stories, video, multimedia, and communion are featured each month to engage everyone in a fulfilling spiritual experience.

Followed by "**Winter Fun Day**" 1:00-2:00PM in Fellowship Hall. Join us as we celebrate winter! We will have hot chocolate and cookies as we paint with ice and do other crafts with a winter theme.

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 Precious Shephard (12/24), Midge Mingione (12/25), Fran Bond (12/27), Lois Gerold (12/27), Christina Campos (12/27).

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 those non-profits that St. Andrew is in partnership with: Community Services, Inc./Meals on Wheels; Caregiver Volunteers of Central Jersey; and, Interfaith Hospitality Network. 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 prayer 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 and individuals who receive resources and for the volunteers who help in any way with those projects. Thank you and God bless you for your prayers!

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. Proverbs 3:27-35

Interfaith Hospitality Network is a program that helps working families, who have suddenly become homeless, get back on their feet.

A network of houses of worship take turns feeding and housing children and their family for a week.

WE NEED YOU!

Can you spare 1 night approximately every 12 weeks? Do you like to sleep? We need volunteers to spend a night while we host the families. Please contact or see Vita Hansen through the church office

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!

Adult Studies

CHRISTIAN COFFEES Our Christian Coffees Bible Study group will take a 3-week break this holiday season for the remaining Sundays in December. Our group will begin meeting again on Sunday morning January 5, 2020 at 9:30am in the Shared Ministry Office on the upper level near the Sanctuary. At that time we will be continuing our in depth study of the Letter to the Hebrews. For additional information, please contact Lucy DeBarge through the church office



WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP on Tuesday Mornings at 10:00am in Room 4.

Start 2020 in God's Word.....The next study will be *The New Testament You Never Knew: Exploring the context, purpose and meaning of the story of God*, an 8- week study by N.T. Wright & Michael F. Bird. You will discover things you never knew about Jesus' baptism and journey into the wilderness, the meaning behind his parables and miracles, the significance of his death and resurrection, the incredible expansion of the early church into the Greco-Roman world, and how the transforming mission of Jesus can still turn the world upside down today. Through reading the New Testament we continually discover that God indeed keeps his promises, but those promises don't always look like what people expected, especially when it comes to Jesus. The first session will be on Tuesday, January 7. Please contact Pat Lewis Arlene Green through the church office to order your study book by Sunday, December 22.

Weekly Servers

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP USHERS (SANCTUARY)

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 7:00PM

Linda & John Phander, Linda & Gavin Stobie

Dec. 29 Team #3

Jan. 5 Team #4

Jan. 12 Team #5

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADERS (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

4:30PM Jan Phillips

Dec. 29 Dave Richardson

Jan. 5 Jan Phillips

Jan. 12 Scott Susich

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LEADERS (SANCTUARY)

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

7:00PM David Geller

Dec. 29 John Phander

Jan. 5 Barbara Delman

Jan. 12 John Phander

9:30am SOUNDROOM SCHEDULE (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 4:30PM Andrew Phillips, Dick Green

Dec. 29 Bill Koch, David Schwartz

Jan. 5 Bill Koch, David Schwartz

Jan 12 Bill Koch, Jan Phillips

11:00am SOUNDROOM SCHEDULE (SANCTUARY)

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve 7:00PM Andrew Phillips, Bob DeBarge

Dec. 29 Dave VanDeventer, Joe Herflicker

Jan. 5 Dick Green, Keila Earp

Jan. 12 Russ, Russell K Thistle

Weekly Calendar Sun., Dec. 22 4th Sunday of Advent	9:30AM 10:30AM 11:00AM 12:00PM	Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall); SOAR Christian Education Pre K - 5th grade; Adult Bible Study: NO Christian Coffees , Shared Ministry Office; The Wired Word, rm. 9 Coffee Hour Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) RISE! Christian Education Pre K - 5th grade Coffee Hour
Mon., Dec. 23	9:00-1:00PM 6:45PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Fellowship Hall) Gospel Choir Practice
Tues., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve	9:00-1:00PM 9:30-12:00PM 4:30PM 7:00PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Fellowship Hall) Just Be (Memorial Hall) Contemporary Christmas Eve Worship Service (Sanctuary) Traditional Christmas Eve Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Wed., Dec. 25 Christmas Day	9:00-1:00PM	Church Office (Closed) Senior Nutrition Site (Closed)
Thurs., Dec. 26	9:00-1:00PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Fellowship Hall)
Fri., Dec. 27	9:00-1:00PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Fellowship Hall)
Sat., Dec. 28	7:00PM	AA (Memorial Hall & Kitchen)
Sun., Dec. 29	9:30AM 10:30AM 11:00AM 12:00PM	Contemporary Worship (Fellowship Hall); Children are invited to remain in worship today; Adult Bible Study: NO Christian Coffees ; The Wired Word, rm. 9 Coffee Hour Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) Children are invited to remain in worship today Coffee Hour