

ST. ANDREW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*Rev. Erik C. Hall, Pastor Jan Phillips, Director of Worship
Lee Boccuzzi, Admin. Coordinator Bill Woerner, Church Custodian*

February 16, 2020

***"Faith is taking the first step even when you
don't see the whole staircase."***

Martin Luther King, Jr.

***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

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.

THE WAY FORWARD INFORMATIONAL MEETING DATE: We will have a meeting on **Sunday February 23 at 12:15pm** in Memorial Hall for those that could not make their assigned meeting date, or if you did not receive a call with a date. If this doesn't work for you and you would still like to attend a meeting please call the church office or see Pastor Erik or Dave VanDeventer. Thank you.

BLUE CLAWS OUTING! **July 24th at 7:00pm** seats only \$10 Come join us for a fun family night! Signup sheets on the counter outside Fellowship Hall or contact Mary VanDeventer through the church office. All money due by June 7.

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 through the church office. **The deadline for applications is May 1, 2020.**

LINE DANCING St. Andrew MYF will be hosting a night of fellowship, fun and dancing. Friday March 13th at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$10 and on sale now!!!! To reserve your tickets see any of the youth in church or contact Sam or Jacqueline through the church office.

SCAN (Social Community Activities Network) Lunch & Learn Wednesday February 19, 10:30-1:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Matters of the Heart, Keeping your Heart Healthy and Heart Healthy Eating. This event is **free** and open to the public. Registration required please RSVP to SCAN at 732-542-1326 by February 12.

Women of St. Andrew

CIRCLE OF JOY AND GRACE MEETING Our Circle of Joy and Grace meeting is **today Sunday February 16 at 12:30 pm in Memorial Hall at St. Andrew.** Bring your lunch and join our group as we discuss Circle and UMW business and share a time of fellowship. We will be discussing our 2020 Circle Projects and gathering donations for Easter Baskets for Interfaith Hospitality Network Families. Our Circle meetings are open to all women who would like to join us! For additional information please contact Lucy DeBarge through the church office.

WOMEN'S RETREAT AT ST. ANDREW Saturday, March 28, 8:15-3:00pm *Rest for Your Soul*. The retreat will be a time to refresh and listen for God's voice in a world that is busy and consumes so much of our attention and time. The speaker is Darlene Eason who inspired us at our retreat *The Potter's Hand* several years ago. Our retreats are a time for reflection, worship, fellowship, laughter and growth in our relationship with God. Please register after Sunday services in the lobby of Fellowship Hall. Cost: \$25.00 adults and \$15.00 teens. Registration ends March 20. Your early registration helps us plan for materials and meals. For more information please visit the registration table, contact our registrar Betty Stein through the church office or speak to Arlene Green or Pat Lewis.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS The United Methodist Women extend warm wishes for a very Happy Birthday and a year filled with God's blessings, Shirley DeMatteo (2/18), Kristin Parker (2/21).

WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION On **Saturday, February 22, at 10:00am** in Memorial Hall there will be a brunch and white elephant auction for all women, teens and friends of St. Andrew. The proceeds will be donated to POAC which provides resources for families affected by autism. Please bring 1 or 2 new or used gift-wrapped items to be auctioned off. The items can be of any value, something you want to pass on or perhaps a Christmas gift that you cannot use. They can be serious or funny. Use your imagination! Come and begin your day with good food and great fellowship!

UMW READING PROGRAM: Lists of titles of books read for the 2019 program with category and year that it was purchased as part of the program should be turned in by February 15. Thank you to all the readers who participated in this year's reading program. All women of St. Andrew are invited to take part in the UMW program in 2020. Books for the 2020 UMW Reading Program are those from 2016 to 2020. The program is meant to deepen faith and to widen understanding of the impact of Christians on our world today and in the past, particularly those things which effect women, children and youth. The books to be read can be found in a special UMW section of the Church Library. One book from each of the 5 categories must be read. Be sure to keep a list of the books and the date of the year they were included. Questions? Please contact to Arlene Green through the church office. (This program is separate from St. Andrew Book Club.)

Missions

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:

- Child Care Center - focus on Early Childhood Development Programs.
- After School - focus on success for the next day at school, with Homework Completion and Tutoring

- Teen Evening with a Full Meal – focus on Faith Development and a Path to College (In 2019 all of the teens attending the Teen Evening Program went to college.)
- Urban Farming – The teens participating in the Teen Evening Program are 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.
- Noon Lunch and Food Pantry – programs which support families.

Want to know more about The Neighborhood Center or how to get involved? Contact Missions Coordinator Lucy DeBarge through the church office.

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, provide needed resources, and enlarge their capacity to love abundantly, proclaiming Christ’s love through their service.

DONATION DRIVE TO SUPPORT THE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER The Neighborhood Center in Camden, NJ is holding their 2nd Annual “Community Baby Shower” on Saturday February 22. This event is held with the hope to shower expectant mothers in the local Camden community with items they will need for their babies. A flyer with details is included in today’s bulletin announcements. **Today February 16 is the final Sunday to make donations for this project.** For additional information, please reach out to Missions Coordinator, Lucy DeBarge, through the church office. Thank you so much for your generosity!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PROJECT: 2020 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!

SAVE THE DATE: MAY 15-16, 2020 “CARDBOARD BOX CITY” TO BENEFIT INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK OF OCEAN COUNTY

Cardboard Box City is a community wide event on the grounds of St. Andrew UMC to raise funds for Interfaith Hospitality Network and to raise awareness about the problem of homeless children and their families here in Ocean County. Check out Cardboard Box City event information on the St. Andrew UMC website:

<https://www.standrewtr.org/missions/cardboard-box-city-fundraiser/>

We’ll be including more information about volunteer and sponsorship opportunities in future bulletin announcements.

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.

We also include hygiene items and household cleaning items with the food sets for our Food Pantry clients. This is a great help and a blessing to those who receive them. As you are able, please drop off to our pantry: Full-Size Hygiene Items (such as bars of soap, shampoo, conditioner, hand lotion, etc.) and Household Cleaning Items (such as Pine Sol, bathroom cleaners, etc.). For this type of distribution, we prefer the regular size, not the small hotel size or trial size items. Products from the Dollar Tree are perfectly acceptable! THANK YOU for your kindness and generosity!

Adult Studies

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL STUDY

"The Sanctuary for Lent 2020" by Sam McGlothlin. Author's note: "Each day's reflection ends with an invitation to practice your faith. If you miss a day, it is okay. If a practice doesn't work for you, make up your own. My hope is that we will ask deep questions of ourselves and experience God through tactile, participatory action. Prayers for the journey my friends."

Wednesdays March 4 - April 1, 7:30pm held in Sanctuary.

CHRISTIAN COFFEES

Our Christian Coffees Bible Study group meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Shared Ministry Office on the upper level near the Sanctuary. At this time, we are continuing our verse by verse study of the Letter to the Hebrews. For additional information, please contact Lucy DeBarge through the church office.

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.

BIBLE STUDIES AT LOCAL ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES Beginning the first week in February, we are holding Bible Study classes at 2 Assisted Living Facilities in Toms River. On Wednesday mornings beginning on February 5, from 10:30 am to 11:30 am, we will be at Spring Oak (2145 Whitesville Rd.); on Friday mornings beginning on February 7, from 10:30 am to 11:30 am, we will be at The Chelsea (1657 Silverton Rd.). Our classes are based on the Bible Study by Phillis Bennett, *Our Wise Counselor: Trusting God's Guidance*. We plan to hold classes through the beginning of April. If you would like to help by assisting at these classes (welcoming the residents to the class; helping them into their chairs; distributing handouts, etc.), please contact Lucy DeBarge through the church office.

Weekly Servers

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP USHERS (SANCTUARY)

Feb. 23 Team #5
 March 1 Team #6
 March 8 Team #1
 March 15 Team #2

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADERS (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Feb. 23 Dave Richardson
 March 1 Pat Lewis
 March 8 Scott Susich
 March 15 Jan Phillips

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LEADERS (SANCTUARY)

Feb. 23 John Phander
 March 1 Linda Phander
 March 8 Vita Hansen
 March 15 David Geller

9:30am SOUND ROOM SCHEDULE (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Feb. 23 Bill Koch, Jan Phillips
 March 1 Bill Koch, David Schwartz
 March 8 Bill Koch, Jan Phillips
 March 15 Bill Koch, Jan Phillips

11:00am SOUND ROOM SCHEDULE (SANCTUARY)

Feb. 23 Bob DeBarge, Keila Earp
 March 1 Russ and Russell Thistle
 March 8 Valerie Earp, D. VanDeventer
 March 15 Bob DeBarge, Dick Green

<u>Weekly Calendar</u>		
Sun., Feb. 16	9:30AM 10:30AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 12:30-2:00PM 7:00-8:00PM	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 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) Coffee Hour Circle of Joy & Grace (Memorial Hall) The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life (Memorial Hall)
Mon., Feb. 17 <i>President's Day</i>	9:00-1:00PM 5:45PM 6:45PM 7:30PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Closed) Son-Shine Bell Rehearsal Gospel Choir Rehearsal Cantata Practice
Tues., Feb. 18	9:00-1:00PM 10:00-12:00PM 1:30PM 2:00PM 5:00PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Fellowship Hall) Women's Bible Study (rm. 4) Gospel Choir Rehearsal Cantata Practice Thrive Chorus; elementary-school age music ministry (Choir Room)

	5:30PM	Thrive; elementary-school aged youth group (Fellowship Hall)
Wed., Feb. 19	9:00-1:00PM 10:00-12PM 10:00-4:00PM 10:30-1:00PM 11:00-12PM 5:30-7:30PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Memorial Hall) Knit Wits (rm. 6) Shared Ministry Office Reserved SCAN "Matters of the Heart" (Fellowship Hall) The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life (rm. 4, 5) MYF & YES Club (Fellowship Hall, rm. 4-5)
Thurs., Feb. 20	9:00-1:00PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Fellowship Hall)
Fri., Feb. 21	9:00-1:00PM	Senior Nutrition Site (Fellowship Hall)
Sat., Feb. 22	10:00-12PM 7:00PM	White Elephant Auction (Memorial Hall) AA (Memorial Hall & Kitchen)
Sun., Feb. 23	9:30AM 10:30AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 12:15PM 7:00-8:00PM	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 Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) Coffee Hour The Way Forward Informational Meeting (Memorial Hall) The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life (Memorial Hall)