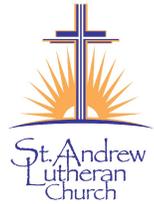


THE ST. ANDREW MESSENGER

St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 908 Murfreesboro Road, Franklin, TN 37064



In Christ, We Worship, Love, Grow, Serve, and Send.

Vol. XXXX No. 12

DECEMBER 2019



The Season of Advent

Advent Midweek Worship

December 4, 11, & 18

A CATERED DINNER is served from **5:30-6:40 p.m.** Please RSVP to the church on Monday before each Wednesday dinner. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 children, or \$20 for a family.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER
by **Marty Haugen at 7:00 p.m.**

Our Wednesday midweek worship during Advent will feature a liturgy that is beloved by many people at St. Andrew and by others in our community, Marty Haugen's Holden Evening Prayer. We will gather for a catered meal (RSVP needed!) in the fellowship hall. Dinner is served from 5:30-6:40 p.m.

The worship service will begin in the nave at 7:00 p.m. Each service will be 25 minutes long, including a short homily by Pr. Lippard or Pr. Museus. Our Advent offering is designated for In Spiritus (formerly Lutheran Services in Tennessee).

FROM THE PASTOR

Love Comes

I doubt that the lyrics of "Continental Drift" - a song written by the Rolling Stones on the Steel Wheels album - are actually about Advent, but they remind me of Advent:

Love comes at the speed of light
Love comes in a strange disguise
Love comes

"Love comes at the speed of light." All of a sudden, the days are short and darkness descends early. The speed of the sun's light seemed to be dialed back a notch when Daylight Saving Time ended in early November. We had frost the first four days of last month, and we awoke to snow on the ground on November 12. It felt like we were in Advent well before the season even began.

"Love comes in a strange disguise." We know how love comes: as a baby born in a stable who sleeps in a manger. Jesus, God's word made human, is on the way to us. Yes, love comes.

Open the door and let the light pour over
Open the door don't you keep me out

"Fling wide the door, unbar the gate; the King of glory comes in state" we sing in an Advent hymn. In a new church year, Advent opens the door to our awareness

**ST. ANDREW STAFF
Senior Pastor**

The Rev. Dr. Michael A. Lippard
pastor@saintandrewchurch.com

Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Eric C. Pearson
emeripast@saintandrewchurch.com

Associate Pastor

The Rev. Katherine Museus Dabay
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**Director for Youth & Children's
Ministries**

Sandy Vollmer
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Director of Music

Dr. Brian Russell
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Organist

Dr. Darryl Miller
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Jolene Richardson
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The Rev. Susan Springer
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Children's Choir Director

Katherine Mansouri
mansouri@bellsouth.net

Nursery Attendants

Amber Barker
Heather Woodlee

Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion

9:50 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

Nursery available throughout the morning

Congregational Council:

President	Doug Hale
Vice President	Kelly Feasel
Secretary	Sue Cox
Treasurer	Shirley Swan
Financial Secretary	Heather Adams
Finance	Dwight Bonifacius
Faith Formation	Jen Fisher
Membership Development	Adam McGee
Administration	Jolene Richardson
Outreach Ministries	Zach Harris
Stewardship	Bernie Olszewski
Worship and Music	Jody Smith
Fellowship	Meredith Frantz
Nurture	Beth Fikejs
Youth Representatives	Chloe Stiles Carl Forsberg

of our need for light, our need for a savior. Like Mary, we welcome Gabriel with his startling news that God's son is coming into the world. The light of the Annunciation pours over us in December's darkness, and Mary and Joseph open the door to shepherds. John the Baptist opens the door to all the people of Judea with a baptism for the forgiveness of sins. Don't keep anyone out who wants to be open to God's love for the world.

We'll be reflecting on such themes during Advent on Wednesdays with Holden Evening Prayer. The theme for December 4 will be "Do Less." For December 11 it will be "Experience Wonder." And for December 18 it will be "Hold onto Hope." So while the world is moving faster and faster, we will be slowing down. We also will savor time for silence as we wait together for the gift of the Savior. We realize like a light in the darkness, love comes:

It's as pure as silver
It's as pure as gold
It's a rushing river
Let it run all over me

Once again, like Mary, we will deeply ponder these things. For we are confident that they lead to a truth we return to again and again: thanks be to God, love comes to us in Christ Jesus. Let it run all over us!



Pastor Lippard+

**THE SEMI-ANNUAL
CONGREGATION MEETING
December 8**

The semi-annual congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, December 8 in the nave immediately following the late service at approximately 12:15 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to adopt a ministry spending plan, elect new members to the nominating committee, and have a general discussion of plans for renovation/construction with no vote being presented. Please bring the May meeting minutes that were mailed to you and the ministry spending plan, found in member mailboxes at church, to the meeting.

A nursery will be provided for nursery-age children. Pizza and activities will be available for children, nursery through 6th grade. All confirmed members and confirmation students are urged to attend the meeting.

FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

STEPHEN MINISTRY®



How many people in our congregation do you think are in need of some extra TLC?

In November a small group of St. Andrew folks got together to talk about that question. We used a worksheet that asked us to estimate how many in our congregation were going through especially difficult times. How many are grieving the loss of a loved one? How many are in the hospital? How many are undergoing cancer treatments? How many are going through divorce? How many are deciding whether to sell their home and move into a senior living facility? Making our best guesses, we estimated that there could be at least 100 people at St. Andrew at any given time who could really benefit from some extra Christian care, and probably even more than that. That's a lot for two pastors to keep up with.

In 1974 another pastor realized he was in this same situation. He wanted to care for the hurting people in his congregation, but realized he couldn't do it all on his own. He soon figured out what he needed to do: "equip the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ" (Eph. 4:12). So he began to train people in his congregation with the same care-giving skills he had learned in seminary. This was the beginning of a worldwide program known as Stephen Ministry.

Stephen Ministers are lay people who are highly trained to provide one-on-one care for others. They meet with one person at a time, usually for one hour a week, to listen to them, pray with them, and offer them Christ-centered companionship in times of hardship. Stephen Ministers can be described as the "After People": the people who are there after a tragedy, a job loss, a bad diagnosis, etc., to provide comfort and support. Through this ministry, they greatly increase the amount of care and attention for people in need in their congregation.

Our congregation does a great job of caring for one another through ministries like Home Eucharistic Ministry, the prayer chain, meal delivery, prayer shawls, and the card ministry. And of course a lot of care happens naturally through the relationships we

form at church. But - our small group realized - beginning a Stephen Ministry would help us provide a whole new level of care in our congregation. So we are prayerfully entering into a time of exploration: Is this something the people of St. Andrew would support?

You'll probably be hearing more about Stephen Ministry in the weeks to come. In the meantime, you can learn more at www.stephenministries.org or by talking to Ron Beagle or me. We'd love to hear if you're interested in learning more about being a Stephen Minister!

Peace be with you,
Pastor Museus Dabay

IT'S A MIRACLE!: A CHILDREN'S ADVENT PROGRAM December 22 - 9:50 a.m.

On the last Sunday in Advent our children will help us wrap up this season of waiting with a musical program in the nave beginning at 9:50 a.m. They will share stories and songs of God's miracles throughout history and help us prepare our hearts for the greatest miracle of all - the birth of Jesus! All children and youth are encouraged to participate. The congregation is invited to save this date to attend.

Please speak to Katherine Mansouri at mansouri@bellsouth.net and Kris Helou at kghelou@yahoo.com for questions on youth participation or for parent help.



FROM THE PASTOR EMERITUS

I recall as a child how slowly time seemed to pass, especially during those weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas. For a child it seemed that Christmas would never arrive, while for the adults in the room it was coming all too quickly. We in the church are asked to take a deep breath and slow down a bit from the seasonal frenzy that exhausts us and bask in the preparatory weeks of Advent.

Those of us who await the Incarnation know that Advent is the season set aside to make ready for the Bethlehem miracle and it should be time well spent. These are exciting times for St. Andrew as we bask in the glow of a year filled with blessings while we await the holy birth in Bethlehem. We have so much good news to share with one another and with our weekly guests. "Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born."

To that end there will be a large influx of visitors in our midst in the upcoming weeks. They have come to hear the good news of the Bethlehem birth, and it is up to us to shout it out. Some of them will be our out-of-town relatives and friends, while others will be seekers, coming to St. Andrew perhaps for the first time. While we have a full complement of ushers, greeters, and servant support folk at their appropriate stations, the ministry of greeting does not end at the vestibule doors. In fact, it comes to light as the visitor makes his or her way to the pew, looking for just the right space to encounter the Risen Christ in worship. Now here is where you come in - be alert to the presence of our guests and make them feel at home, remembering what it was like when you first came to St. Andrew and knew no one! Make room for the visitor, invite him or her to sit with you in "your" pew, help her find her place in the liturgy, and answer any questions he may have about the service. After worship has concluded, ask the visitor to sign the guest book, fill out a yellow card, join you for a cup of coffee, and accompany you to one of the adult Sunday school classes.

At St. Andrew, all are welcome.

Stir up your power O Lord, and come.

Eric C. Pearson†

Pastor Emeritus

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

"It's hot! It's so humid, my hair gel is dripping! Will it ever stop raining? Will it ever rain again? It's a B-E-A-utiful day" (to quote Jim Carey from the movie "Bruce Almighty"). It's so cold, I guess winter is here! There's an old saying I learned growing up in Ohio: "You don't like the weather? Wait 30 minutes and it will change." I know Tennesseans have a version of that saying as well.

I drive a little less than 30 minutes to work each day. I take the back roads because I despise having to even go near the traffic nightmare that is the 840/65 interchange heading north in the mornings, south in the evenings. I listen almost exclusively to sports talk radio on my ride to and from work. I also have a lot of time to think about our church. What I have written in this article is the tip of the iceberg and what is on my mind as Advent approaches and we prepare to enter 2020. Thanks for letting me share!

What keeps coming back to me is that while we can always count on changes in the weather (in Tennessee I've worn shorts one year on Thanksgiving, and a woolen sweater WITH a shirt underneath the next), what doesn't change, no matter the temperature, precipitation levels, wind speed or even the dreaded daylight saving time where it's light at 5:00 a.m. and dark at 5:00 p.m. (darn it Benjamin Franklin, what were y'all thinking?) is God's love for us.

The examples of our God touching lives at our busy corner of 96 and Mack Hatcher are too numerous to list in one short shout-out from your Council Vice-President. I share one example to our readers.

Your church council (those lavender button-wearing folks) is showered with God's love, and it shows.

Many of you have served on this all-volunteer army we call the Council. Most everyone has served in some capacity on a planning committee or been part of an event. You've seen growth in numbers. You've shepherded growth in our facilities. You've gone through many of the same issues that face today's council. I'm proud to have followed in your footsteps over the last 16 months.

In the last 16 months, council in conjunction with stout committee volunteerism from our members:

- Presented a deficit budget for congregation approval. This is very difficult when it comes to the budgeting process and presentation to our congregation

- Considered a restructure of our council (and we continue to examine this process almost monthly)
- Reacted to and dealt with a mid-term replacement of a key officer of council
- Planned and implemented events, with various ministries and committees
- Guided youth through our Sunday School program(s) and outside church activities
- Grew the adult and youth choirs; a ministry that enhances our worship every Sunday (as well as the Handbell Choir, too)
- Conducted a detailed examination (ongoing), a long-range, partial expansion and renovation plan that will provide more space for our various groups and staff (choir, nursery, offices, fellowship hall, kitchen, restroom facilities, storage for Room in the Inn and WELCA to name just a few)
- Established a safety plan in case of a threatening situation and training in 2020
- Hired a Facilities Manager to assist the Parish Administrator
- Staffed our nursery with two great attendants, allowing parents to worship while knowing that their children are safe and cared for
- Established an usher program with head ushers identified for each service
- Provided council involvement for New Inquirer's Classes led by Emeritus Pastor Pearson
- Handled tough situations in a diligent, thoughtful manner

I've left out so many things your council - in conjunction with your contribution of time, talent and treasures - has planned and achieved. Please accept my humble apologies for that because every effort is important and should be recognized.

Our council works hard for the church and while we are not working for recognition's sake, we are thankful to God for guiding us as we serve. We are all well aware that **WE ARE SERVING...** serving God serving our church and congregation and its mission: *In Christ, We Worship, Love, Grow, Serve and Send.* Without God's guidance and the continued support of the congregation, prayers, and without His love, we'd be in a place I like to call "Nowheresville."

Blessings!
Kelly Feasel
Council Vice-President

FROM THE DIRECTOR FOR YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Another December and busy holiday season is upon us. It seems like it wasn't long ago that we were excitedly ending the school year, and gearing up for summer with all of its sunny warmth and activities. Someone once said to me that the days seem long, yet the years seem short. The more I think about this statement, and the older I get, I have to agree. The days seem very long, especially when you're a parent juggling children and all of the activities and responsibilities that come with managing a family and family life. But as our children grow, we might stop and wonder..."where has the time gone? How have these kids gotten so big so quickly?"

We are all busy with work, school, after school activities, making time for dinner and church. It all adds up, and there are only so many hours in a day. The excitement of the season is in the air and it is tempting to jump in mindlessly. We all get it, so let's take a moment to breathe in and out and enjoy. What if we set a goal for this Advent season to slow down and savor it all? To try to be more intentional in our preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. There are many ways to do this.

Advent devotionals are available in the church narthex while supplies last. You can make a tradition of setting aside time to read a daily prayer or devotional as a family or individual or with a small group. Taking a quiet walk and experiencing nature is another way to slow down. Creating or continuing family and friend traditions is also a great way to enjoy this holiday season with the people who are important in our lives. However you prepare, I hope that you can let your light shine and be filled with joy, hope, peace, and love.

Sandy Vollmer
DYCM



HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

Handwashing - Gods Work, Our Hands!

Having just celebrated Thanksgiving, we are keenly aware of how fortunate we are to live in an area of the world that has modern amenities such as running water, electricity, and sanitation. Events such as power outages, fires, broken water lines and extreme weather conditions can change this scenario in a heartbeat. While we think of immediate needs such as clothing and housing for those who have lost their homes to hurricanes, tornados or fires, we may not think of the long-term effects of totally destroyed communities. The lack of clean water can spread bacteria, viruses and other organisms that can infect thousands of individuals. Most of the time during the winter months the primary germs that we have to worry about are the common cold and flu viruses.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that the most important thing that all of us can do to keep from getting sick and spreading germs to others is to wash our hands frequently. We might think of that statement in the context of the ELCA motto, "**God's Work, Our Hands!**" Our hands can be instruments for spreading or not spreading germs to others as well as to ourselves. Studies on hand washing show that even with access to soap and clean running water, improper hand washing or the lack of it still contributes significantly to disease transmission. Children, pregnant women, the elderly and those with weakened immune systems are especially vulnerable to hand-transmitted illnesses.

The most common way that people catch colds is by touching their nose, eyes or mouth after their hands have been contaminated with the cold virus. Of course the cold germs can spread directly to others through the air or onto surfaces that other people touch. Before you know it, everybody around you is getting sick. The important thing to remember is that, in addition to colds, some serious diseases such as hepatitis A, meningitis, and infectious diarrhea can easily be prevented if people make a habit of washing their hands.

When should you wash your hands?

You should wash your hands often; if statistics are correct, probably more often than you do now. It is estimated that one out of three people do not wash their hands after using the restroom in public places. In addition, it is especially important to wash your hands:

- Before, during, and after preparing food
- Before eating
- Before and after caring for someone who is ill
- Before and after treating a cut or wound
- After using the bathroom

- After changing diapers
- After blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
- After handling animals or animal waste
- After touching garbage

What is the correct way to wash your hands?

- Wet your hands with clean running water (warm or cold) and apply liquid or bar soap. Place the bar soap on a rack and allow it to drain.
- Rub your hands vigorously together to make a lather and scrub all surfaces. Be sure to scrub between your fingers and under your nails.
- Continue rubbing for 15 to 20 seconds or about the length of Happy Birthday sung twice. It is the soap combined with the scrubbing action that helps dislodge and remove germs.
- Rinse your hands well under running water.
- Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

Do not count on hand sanitizers to do the the job that soap and water does. A hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol can quickly reduce the number of germs but does not eliminate all germs. As stated earlier, it is the soap combined with the scrubbing action that makes the biggest impact on removing germs from hands.

December 1 - 7 has been designated as **National Handwashing Awareness Week**. If you are a good steward of handwashing you are doing **God's Work** by purposefully helping to prevent the spread of germs at home, in the community and abroad. Join hands during this national week and celebrate having access to clean water and soap by helping to provide these necessities for those less fortunate. WELCA's soap collection is an ongoing reminder of the need for assisting others with hand cleaning. The **Southeastern Synod (SES) Disaster Ministry and Lutheran Disaster Response** are continually working to help relieve suffering from the effects of disasters both at home and in other countries. **God's Work with Our Hands**, hearts, donations and prayers can go far to help others in the prevention of the spread of all diseases. **Stay well and don't forget to get a flu vaccine this season!**

Cornelia Pearson, RN, MN
Health Ministries Team

Reference: US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/>



**WELCA Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 17 ~ 6:00 p.m.
Please Join Us!**

Women of the church, WELCA, will have a Christmas party on Tuesday, December 17 at the home of Linda Strickland, 1505 Coleman Rd., Franklin, TN.

If you would like to carpool, we will meet at church and leave at 5:30 p.m. The party begins at 6:00 p.m.

The main course (meat) and dessert will be provided. Please bring salads, sides, or light appetizers to share.

If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a gift valued at no more than \$15.

All women are invited to join the fun and fellowship!



ANGEL TREE IS COMING!

This year the WELCA Angel Tree will support 2 groups; Inspiritus and Mercy Community Healthcare. The tree will be up following Thanksgiving. Watch the bulletin for the deadline to turn in items.

Quilting Date in December
Monday, December 9 from 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Join us for a fun time of fellowship and outreach.

Ronald McDonald House

Don't forget beverage tabs for the Ronald McDonald house and third Sunday soap collections.

SOAP Collection - Third Sunday of Each Month!

Please bring full size, new bars of soap each month for Lutheran World Relief. If you prefer, you may give donations for this ministry by writing a check to St. Andrew WELCA with soap in the memo. Thanks for your support!



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SASSY

SASSY (St Andrew Seniors Staying Young) will meet on **December 5 at 11:30 a.m.** Please join us for conversation, hors d'oeuvres and a trivia challenge followed by lunch at noon. After lunch there will be a program of traditional and Christmas music played by a local Bluegrass ensemble. This fellowship is free and open to all members and friends age 55+. Please let us know you will be attending by signing up on a yellow pew card or on the sign up sheet in the narthex on Sundays.

**Caroling for All Ages
Sunday, December 15**

Adults and children, meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. to go caroling. After singing, the youth will go back to St. Andrew for a party that ends at 7:30 p.m.

Adults will meet at the home of Meredith Frantz, 201 Churchill Place, Franklin, for fellowship, food, and wine. Please bring a dish to share.

Adult Fellowship Progressive Dinner

SAVE THE DATE! Plans are underway for an adult fellowship progressive dinner on January 25, 2020. Look for a sign-up sheet soon.

**The Music City Vikings
Sons of Norway Lodge 5-681
Invites you to the 10th Anniversary**

**Celebration of
Julefest!**

Saturday, December 7 - 4-7 PM
**Brentwood Country Club, 5123 Country Club
Dr., Brentwood, TN 37027**

Enjoy a festive Scandinavian feast of meatballs, lefse, desserts, and more. Plus traditional carols around the Jule tree!

Special Musical guest include Brian Christianson, Solveig Leithaug & more!

Tickets are \$20, \$10 for children 10 and under.

Contact Ken Sersland at 615-804-5443 for tickets or more information.

AROUND THE PARISH

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

Stella Jean Rockwood, daughter of David and Samantha Rockwood, was baptized on Sunday, November 10, at the 11:00 a.m. worship service with Pastor Michael Lippard as officiant. Sponsors for Stella are Casey and Jessica Rockwood.

In Memoriam:

Michele (Micki) Joyce Fengler, 70 of Franklin, TN, joined the Church Triumphant on Saturday, November 16 in Franklin, Tennessee.



Micki was born in Oneonta, NY to Curtis and Vera Culver on September 10, 1949. She graduated from Oneonta HS in 1967. On August 30, 1970, Micki married Henry (Hank) Fengler in Worcester, NY. In 1970, she graduated from Crouse Irving Nursing School in Syracuse, NY with a Registered Nursing Degree. For 36 years, Micki worked as a Labor and Delivery nurse for Crouse Irving Hospital and was also a member of the Crouse Irving Association. Throughout her life in NY, Micki enjoyed sewing, skiing, camping, sailing, and gambling at the local casinos. While in TN, she was involved in quilting at St. Andrew Lutheran Church as well as playing cards and participating in various activities at the Franklin Enrichment Center.

Micki is preceded in death by her son, Keith; sisters, Barbara and Phyllis and brother, Curtis. She is survived by her beloved husband, Hank Fengler, two sons: Kevin (Maha) and Brian (Emily) Fengler and her grandchildren: Girona, Ella, Archie and Wesley. She is also survived by her sisters, Edna Atwell, Jeanne Branigan, and brothers, David Culver, Jerry Culver, Darrin Culver and many nieces and nephews. Additional survivors include: Hank's daughters; Christy Baralis (George), Nancy Jenkins, and Kerry Fisher (Keith) and their children: Cassandra, Tyler, Madisen, Kolby, Hayden, Garrett, Tanner, Skye, Chase and Remy.

Memorials may be given in memory of Micki to St. Andrew for the WELCA quilting program, 908 Murfreesboro Road, Franklin, TN 37064.

The Fengler family wishes to extend their sincere thanks to the staff and nurses at Willowbrook Hospice Home Care and the parishioners at St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

Marriage:

Anna Kathryn Quinn, daughter of Tim & Libbie Quinn, married **Corey Coleman** on Saturday, October 19, 2019 at Garrett Farm. Pastor Katherine Museus Dabay officiated. Katherine Mansouri provided violin music during the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Coleman reside in Franklin.



Farewell and Godspeed:

We say Farewell and Godspeed to **Kristiana Holmes and Eian Selk Holmes** as they move to Spokane, WA the end of December. Kristiana wanted to convey their thanks to the office staff, the pastors, the kind ushers who have helped and encouraged Eian, and all at St. Andrew for a warm welcome and a loving space to come and commune over the past one+ years. *"We have been so thankful to have found such a caring ELCA Lutheran community. It has truly felt like home and we will miss so many people."*

Pictured below are some of the **Active Parenting Class** gathered together at the home of Scott & Barbara Adams for "Friendsgiving." A great time enjoying each other's company was had by all!



Around the Parish - Kudos to our Youth!

Corinna marched with the Independence High School JROTC in the City of Franklin Veterans Day parade on November 11.



Wren is saving his pennies for God's Global Barnyard to purchase animals. He is counting his coins at his Grandma and Grandpa's house (a.k.a. Katherine and Bijan Mansouri).

3rd & 4th grade Sunday School kids acting out the Queen Esther story!



Emily participated in UT Knoxville's Viola Celebration this past weekend. She and 3 friends won first place for their age group. They call themselves Music City Viola Ensemble. This is the second year in a row that their group won first place! Emily also made first chair (also viola) for Williamson County Honor's Orchestra. Sister Sarah is thrilled to be surrounded by all that music!

In the picture below from left: Gael, Emily, Louisa, Amelia



We Want to Hear From You!

PARENTS, we want to hear from you! If your youth have received awards, participated in sports or school events, received perfect grades or attendance, received any accolades or honors or anything you want to share or brag on, please send the information to us (pictures are great, too) to office@saintandrewchurch.com and we will feature them in Around the Parish! We want to congratulate them on a job well done!

CORRESPONDENCE:

Dear St. Andrew Congregation,

Thank you for your thoughtful prayers, wonderful meals, and helpful visits during my recent surgery and recovery. The Lord has been good! I'm doing well. He's teaching me the patience of healing. Thank you all, and God bless.

*Love,
Marty Dieterle*

Dear St. Andrew,

Thank you for letting our Music City Viking Lodge, a Sons of Norway organization, meet at St. Andrew. We were pleasantly surprised at the number of interested church members that attended. Many positive comments were conveyed to me and hoped we would schedule another meeting. We would like to do so in the future once we have an interesting topic, hopefully in the spring. Watch for information.

*Thanks again for hosting our group,
Ken Sersland*

SAVE THE DATE: THREAT PATTERN RECOGNITION AND ASSESSMENT TRAINING Saturday, January 11 9:00 a.m. - noon (breakfast at 8:30)

The Safety Committee has developed several initiatives on preventing, reacting to, and minimizing the impact of an active shooter situation at St. Andrew. While this is not a pleasant topic, it is one we are reminded of all too often. If such a tragedy were to fall on St. Andrew, many of us would wonder what could have been done to save more lives. This is your opportunity to help now.

One of the most impactful initiatives the Safety Committee is implementing is the organization of safety teams. These safety team members need training, so St. Andrew has contracted with Michael Mann Security Services (MMSS) to help us get better at recognizing the potential, taking steps to prevent, and protecting ourselves if there were an active shooter.

Local law enforcement consistently encourages safety teams in churches, schools, and other public settings. While church should be a safe place, we have to be mindful of the potential dangers. A key requirement for a safety team is to be trained in threat pattern recognition and assessment. This is Michael's focus for our training.

What is Threat Pattern Recognition and Assessment?

Threat pattern recognition and assessment provides safety teams with the information and skills used to identify, assess, and validate observed behavior that may indicate criminal activity, surveillance, or other preoperational planning related to an active threat. The training is a combination of classroom lecture, workshops and hands-on exercises. The concept is very easy to learn and use in environments that require the free movement of people where access is open to the public (i.e., churches and other faith-based environments, shopping malls, etc.).

Who is Michael Mann? Michael's experience is extensive.

- U.S. Marine Corps Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team
- Metropolitan Nashville Police Department SWAT Team
- U.S. Department of Energy, Y-12 National Security Complex SWAT Team
- Private Security Consulting

The class can hold up to 35 adults who have an interest in learning these skills that could save lives both at church and other public places and are willing to consider serving on a safety team. If more than 35 people are interested, we will seek a second training date and time. Please sign up today by contacting Jolene Richardson or writing on a yellow card and dropping it in the plate, identifying this seminar. Breakfast and coffee will be served starting at 8:30, class at 9:00 a.m.

OUTREACH NEWS

From Trinity/HOPE

Dear Trinity HOPE Supporters,

As you may have heard, things in Haiti are tremendously difficult right now; maybe the worst they've been for several generations. It's sad and it's scary. The political unrest, with ongoing efforts to oust the current president, is causing widespread shutdowns of businesses, street markets, and even some hospitals and schools. The people of Haiti are demanding change, desiring a new government that cares about the people and will operate without corruption. Those changes do not happen overnight and rarely come without some civil unrest. But we trust and know that God is present throughout Haiti and pray He will lead the people to a place where they seek His wisdom and direction above all else.

Especially now, the food Trinity HOPE provides the children at school is such an important blessing. Although some urban schools are still unable to operate daily for the safety of the children, we know returning to school is a top priority for the parents and communities. As these children begin going back to school again, the parents receive a great sense of relief knowing their children will be fed a nutritious meal and realizing the limited food they have at home can now be stretched a little further. The food at school is also a reminder that Jesus loves them, and the body of Christ has not abandoned them. **THANK YOU** for your continued support!

Please pray with us that the people of Haiti feel the presence of God through the truth found in Psalm 9:9, "The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble." We put our trust in Him alone!

Serving Christ Together -
Keith Logan

CHRISTMAS BASKET MINISTRY Partnering with GRACEWORKS

Saturday, December 21, 8:00 a.m. to noon

Volunteers are needed to deliver Christmas baskets in the community on Saturday, December 21. Congregants can help defray the cost of a Christmas basket by making a check to St. Andrew with Christmas baskets in the memo line. A basket to feed a family ranges from \$100 for smaller families to \$150 for large families. Please contact Claire Harris at harris.r.claire@gmail.com or Zach Harris at zgharris@yahoo.com with questions. Sign up to help with this ministry today by locating the sheet on the fellowship hall bulletin board or dropping a yellow card in the offering plate, indicating you can help.

INSPIRITUS THANKS!

Dear St. Andrew supporters,

Michael is a 5th grader and an active participant in the MyCanvas Youth Arts Workshops by Inspiritus. On an average day, Michael likes watching TV and hanging around his home. But during school breaks, Michael and sister join MyCanvas. "I just like art. I like expressing myself through paint and design," says Michael with enthusiasm. Michael has been in the program for four years and experienced a myriad of projects, art materials, and lessons led by MyCanvas art therapists. His favorite project was the together tables the youth designed and painted for the community's outdoor pavilion. "Together" was painted onto the tables in four of the languages spoken in this community of resettled refugees. Michael said it was his favorite project because it allowed him to express his identity. When asked what he would say to others in support of this program, he responded, "Help this program because it is very fun. You get to communicate with different people and if you stay inside you don't get to meet people." MyCanvas workshops create a new community of artists in this south Nashville neighborhood.

Because of you and your contribution of \$825 in September, we continue to reach youth in at-risk communities and rite the story of Inspiritus. It's a story of empowering families in poverty to grow their own food in the 184 raised-bed gardens throughout the region. It's a story written through art by more than 120 MyCanvas youth artists in low-income housing. It is a story intertwined with more than 60 other women and children in the Building Healthy Families program. It's a story of expanding ministry and work in 2020 with expanding needs and goals. Thank you for helping us continue to write a new story with those we serve together.

*Blessings,
Janet D. Arning*

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN YOUTH

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS!

Advent devotionals are available in the narthex on the round table. The first Sunday in Advent is December 1. Be sure to pick up an Advent devotional to use at home for personal or family devotion time as we wait and prepare for the birth of our savior Jesus. There are a variety to choose from, and something for all ages. The devotionals will be available while supplies last.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Help set up the Christmas Luminaries!

We will be setting up fewer luminaries this year around the church building and sidewalk areas using LED candles. **We need volunteers** to come on **Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24** at 10:00 a.m. to set them out. We need help later that day at 4:00 p.m. to place the LED candles in the luminaries and turn them on. This shouldn't take long. We also need help picking up the luminaries on December 26. Contact Sandy Vollmer at 615-794-1624 or sandvollmer@saintandrewchurch.com to let her know you can help with either setting up, turning on, or cleaning up the luminaries. Thank you!

ALL TENNESSEE YOUTH WEEKEND WAS A

GREAT TIME! The All Tennessee youth retreat was held on Saturday, November 9 through Sunday, November 10, 2019 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Tullahoma, TN. St. Andrew had 15 youth and 2 adults attending. They met with friends old and new. The theme this year was "CHOSEN" – John 15:16-17. We were reminded that through our baptism we are chosen and called children of God to serve and love each other and all people. We hope that more youth can join us next year. As always, thank you for your support in ministry.



FAITH FORMATION FOR ALL AGES AT ST. ANDREW

SUNDAY SCHOOL

EVERY SUNDAY

FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & ADULTS
at 9:50 a.m.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Studies of the Sunday Lectionary

This adult class meets at 10:00 a.m. in Pearson Hall to study scripture appointed for the day. Bring your coffee and join Pastor Lippard or Pastor Museums.

Newcomer/Inquirer's Class

The New Member/Inquirers' Class (SALC101) is designed especially for people considering membership in the church. We meet during the 9:50 a.m. Sunday School hour in Pearson Hall - through the double glass doors next to the coffee pot. We'll spend time looking at the Lutheran Church and its expression here at St. Andrew while affording plenty of time to make some new friends and learn about the exciting opportunities for ministry that characterize this congregation. If you have not already done so, talk to Emeritus Pastor Eric Pearson and tell him of your interest.

Companions in Christ (CIC)

The Companions in Christ Sunday School Class meets Sundays at 9:50 a.m. to study various books and current events.

Active Parenting Class

The Active Parenting Class will resume our study of *By Heart: Conversations with Luther's Small Catechism* on **Sunday, December 1 & 15**. The class is held in Room 126/127 in the fellowship hall and will be led by the Butlers. On December 15 we will have a brunch and recap of the study. All are welcome! Please join us!

THE BOOKMEN BOOK CLUB

A *Book Club For Men* meets weekly on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. at St. Andrew Lutheran Church. They continue to study *The Road to Character* by David Brooks. All men are invited whenever you can attend for fellowship and fun. Contact Charlie Bowker at 615-465-6057 or bowksaz@msn.com for information.

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

7:00 p.m. in Pearson Hall

Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent by Amy-Jill Levine

December 2, 9, & 16

In this book Amy-Jill Levine (professor of New Testament, Vanderbilt) traces the Christmas story through the journeys of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi. She'll draw connections between the Gospels and the Old Testament and help us understand these famous stories better with the help of historical knowledge. Please feel free to attend the class even if you have missed previous sessions or do not have the book - we make it easy to jump into the conversation, and we'll be watching a video lesson each evening!

WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study continues to study *The Songs and Stories of Advent*. All women of St. Andrew and friends are welcome to join us *Wednesday mornings from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Childcare can be provided by calling Wanda Jasper at 615-972-4110. *NO Bible Study on December 25 or January 1, 2020.

THE NAVIGATORS ~ Men's Group

All men of St. Andrew and friends: meet for a monthly breakfast and devotions, the first Saturday of each month at St. Andrew at 7:30 a.m. Our group also works with other groups of the church on service projects as needed. All are welcome; come and join us. Please contact Frank Hale for more information at fahale@utk.edu or 615-832-6802.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

ALL YOUTH ARE INVITED TO JOIN US!

- **Dec. 1:** STAKK 5th & 6th grade youth from 5:00 - 7:00 PM - Holiday fun!
- **Dec. 8:** SLY 7th & 8th and High School youth from 5:00 - 7:00 PM - Holiday fun!
- **Dec. 15:** Christmas caroling ALL ages meet at church at 4:00. Youth will come back to the church after caroling for fellowship and snacks. Bring a snack to share. We will end our evening at 7:30 p.m. Be sure to wear an ugly sweater.

Worship with our 2-year-old

By Feliz Javier Malpica, Pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, Janesville, Wisconsin

Used by permission; Living Lutheran October 2019 publication

As any parent of a 2-year-old can tell you, they can be unpredictable, squirmy, loud, messy and make even the thickest-skinned parents embarrassed to sit in worship. So how does one do it?

First, come and come regularly. The first time we do anything with our 2-year-old there's no way to gauge his reaction. It may go perfectly. Sometimes he's fearful, hiding in our arms. Other times he goes straight to tantrums. For toddlers, repetition and rituals create comfort. That's why weekly worship is of paramount importance.

Expecting kids to behave when your attendance is irregular is simply not fair. It takes time for children to learn worship patterns and to feel safe. By making worship a regular ritual, your children will grow in comfort and build a foundation of faith.

In our case, worship has been part of my son's life since he was born. Never has the gift of new life been more evident than worshiping with my 6-day-old on Easter Sunday! Over time he's come to know the congregation I serve as a nurturing place to learn, grow and meet friends.

Next, come prepared and ready to engage your child during the service. Bring a well-stocked diaper bag—books to read, things to color, snacks to eat, quiet toys to play with and everything else—and invite your child to participate in worship as they are able.

Our son sits up in front where it's easier to pay attention. This also allows me as a pastor to hold him as we sing and listen to special music together. Sometimes he comes forward as I preach and lead, but I just roll with it. He loves to pass the peace and bless those around him with water from the font. When he started breaking bread and pretending to offer communion around the dinner table, I knew we were on the right track.

Finally, give your little one—and yourself—grace. Worship won't always go according to plan. Your toddler (or you) may need to step out for a break. They might make a little more noise or move around more than you would like, but those are the sounds of life!

Worship is a place to build and strengthen our relationship with God and one another. Bringing your children there is a gift for them and the congregation. Their presence alone makes church more lively and meaningful.

Practices

•Bring a little bit of church home. "Play" church by

passing the peace, sharing blessings, praying and singing a favorite hymn. This will help make worship more familiar and fun.

•Infuse faith into your bedtime routine. Light a candle, talk about your days, say a short prayer, bless one another and blow the candle out. Then point out the candles and prayers at church.

CONGRATULATIONS! December Birthdays:

- December 1 Julie Anderson
Kyle Brown
Jessica Jennette
- December 2 Abigail Levy
- December 3 Fred Bess
Tim Pearson
- December 4 Judy Hanson
Isla Ziadeh
- December 5 Jennifer Aprea
Nicole Fikejs
- December 7 Luke Byrum
Zach Byrum
- December 8 Al Dieterle
Carol Pond
- December 9 Sue Hartman
Michael Mansouri
- December 10 Kim Jones
- December 11 Hilda Pearson
Mason Schey
Michael Shanklin
- December 12 Gary Wicks
- December 13 Kelly Feasel
Hannah Lippard
- December 14 Charlie Fisher
- December 16 Rylan Lemoine
Zoe Butler
- December 18 Wanda McIntyre
Jeff Moseley
- December 19 Anica Meyerhoff
Susan Pavlos
Cheryl Tallyn
- December 21 Melissa McElroy
- December 22 Dale Gustafson
- December 23 Marilynn Derwenskus
Bill McIntyre
- December 25 Jane Franks
- December 26 Keala Lemoine
John Stewart
James Stiles
- December 28 Evelyn Harris
- December 30 Alajia Gutierrez
Livianna Gutierrez
- December 31 Steve Tallyn

December Anniversaries:

- December 1 Rand & Beth Smith
 - December 8 Lax Vardhanapu & Mary Dayam
 - December 14 David & Carla Temple
 - December 17 Ted & Stephanie Forsberg
 - December 18 Kirk & Carlotta Rutter
 - December 19 Wayne & Marilyn Kruse
Jeff & Helen Moseley
 - December 20 Jonas & Crockett Rodriguez
 - December 21 Ken & Gretchen Reynolds
 - December 22 Darryl & Susie Miller
Ken & Bonnie Sersland
 - December 27 Gary & Sherre Wicks
 - December 28 Rod & Cyndy Dyer
Eric & Connie Pearson
 - December 29 Buck & Rachel Haltiwanger
- **Please let us know if your birthday or anniversary is missing! Email your special date information to office@saintandrewchurch.com.**

Please Remember in Your Prayers

FOR HEALTH & HEALING

Lisa Blanchard	Rand Smith	Fred Bess
Jeanne Parr	Jessica Jennette	Marj Fottrell
Roberta Edwards	Lee Baer	Sue Carr
Kim Jones	Cyndy Dyer	Marty Dieterle
Liz Combiths	Lowell Patterson	

Jake, Kathy, Gwen Jasper & family, relatives of Wanda Jasper
Keith Wright and family, friends of Beth Fikejs
Mike Harbers, friend of St. Andrew
Joyce Davidson, friend of the Bednar family
Jon Putnam, friend of Tim Quinn
Harvey Blount, son of Stephanie Blount & grandson of Larry & Julie Anderson
Jennifer Mueller, daughter of Jane Franks
Richard Cardente, friend of Rand & Beth Smith
Kari Adams, friend of Dwight & Karen Bonifacius
Janet Carty, relative of Susan Pavlos
Tom Yeagley, friend of Susan Pavlos
Linda & Alex Frank family, friends of the Helous
Sharon Ziegler, friend of Beth Smith
Harold Sersland, brother of Ken Sersland
Lisa Shrum, relative of Heidi Michel
Jan Link, friend of Shirley Swan
Kathy Hanson, friend of Shirley Swan
Jamie & Michelle Davis, cousins of Marilyn Kruse
Shirley Bednar, step-mother of Kirk Bednar
The Johnny Burns family, friends of Wanda Jasper
Melinda Cooper, cousin of Cathy Miller
Chris Coy, niece of Carol & Bruce Wegner
Heidi Hoffman, friend of Cliff & Wanda McIntyre
Jeff Williams, son-in-law of Cliff & Wanda McIntyre
Steve Veith, friend of Heidi Michel
Wilma Ford, friend of the congregation
Sandra Parchment, sister of Kathy Ignatz
Jim Riepe, cousin of Jolene Richardson
Claire Gaddis, friend of the Rutter family
Kirk Kleinfeld, friend of Tim Quinn
Rosanna Nykanen, friend of Anne Fottrell
Kim Korn, friend of the Richardsons
Thomas Grimm, friend of Patty Norem
Kristie Pennington, friend of Julie Bednar
Pat Mettee, wife of Pastor Howard Mettee
Dolores Bateman, sister of Libbie Quinn
Liam Daniel Baumann, nephew of Juli-Kay Baumann
David Eyer, friend of Eric & Connie Pearson
Gwen Hampton, sister of Jeanne Parr
Michael Paul Lewis-Cooper, nephew of Cathy Miller
Carolyn Galegor, friend of Ken Cockerham
Janice Williams, friend of the Blanchards
Cody Brown, great-nephew of the Richardsons
Matthew Hodge & family, friends of the Vollmers
Dianne McClendon & family
John Rogers & family, friends of Ken Cockerham
Steve Reckard, brother of Julie Anderson
David Downey, cousin of Lisa Blanchard
Mary Brogan, friend of Connie Pearson

OTHER:

For our St. Andrew Council; for wisdom and leadership
For Bishop Kevin Strickland & family
Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
Lax Vardhanapu, seminarian, Mary & Keren
Area ELCA congregations & those in transition
Mission Partner - Peace Lutheran Church in Springhill
The Trinity/HOPE Feeding Program & the people of Haiti
St. Andrew Building Debt Reduction
Pastor Palmer Clemmer
Pastor Jill Henning
For an end to violence against one another
For elected leaders who lead our country
For healing, hope, peace for our country and other countries
For communities to love one another as brothers and sisters
For communities suffering from domestic violence
For the communities healing from loss
For communities to live in peace
For communities and countries suffering from natural disasters
For those suffering from addiction & substance abuse
For those suffering from domestic violence
For caregivers who care for loved ones
For service men & women who defend our country & their families who have lost loved ones
For those battling depression & mental illness
Those unemployed, under-employed, or seeking jobs
For those leaving prison & seeking life and work outside
For those contemplating surgery
Mistreated, abandoned & homeless animals

IN MEMORIAM:

Micki Fengler, wife of Hank Fengler & member of St. Andrew
Bill Gable, friend of Darryl Miller
Jackson Morin, great nephew of Sue Cox
Brian Troy, grandson of Doris & Dale Torrence
John Gebhardt, brother of Sherre Wicks
Marlene Soulard, friend of Shirley Swan
Matt Jasper, cousin of Wanda Jasper
Ed Daugherty, brother-in-law of Wally Combiths
Brenda Williams, aunt of Jeff Moseley

REMEMBER THOSE DEPLOYED

FOR MILITARY SERVICE:

If you know of someone who is in the military or has been deployed for duty, please let the church office know so that we can list them in prayers.

Amanda Luchinski, friend of Beth Smith
Ian King, step-grandson of Marty & Al Dieterle
Barbi Miller, niece of Mike & Jody Smith
Jay Tully, son of Jim & Becky Tully
Andy Richardson, nephew of Mike & Jolene Richardson
Joey Ladnier, nephew of Morgan Gordy
Jeffrey P. Hill, son of Jeff & Tina Hill
Nick Smith, son-in-law of Jeff & Tina Hill
Tony Wirth, cousin of Dana Nethercutt
Matt Parr, grandson of Jeanne Parr
Cole Jorgenson, son of Barbrea Jorgenson
& grandson of Ron & Sue Hartman

*****Please note that all names will be removed after two months on the prayer list. If you would like for someone to remain on the prayer list indefinitely, please let us know.***

St. Andrew Lutheran Church				
January 1 to October 31, 2019				
Financial Update	OCT Actual	OCT MSP	YTD Actual	YTD MSP
Total Revenue	79,946.58	64,447.92	770,165.06	691,540.14
Total Expenses	70,044.35	79,356.25	756,245.64	806,464.50
Surplus (Deficit)	9,902.23	(14,908.33)	13,919.42	(114,924.36)
Mortgage	Beg Balance	Principal Payments	End Balance	
Mortgage	2,128,320.06	100,528.05	2,027,792.01	
Cash Balances				
Checking	Savings			
114,204.97	\$421,368.34			

MEMORIALS & TRIBUTES:

In Memory of Gerald Liner, friend of Meg Graves, to the Meditation Garden

NOVEMBER PROPERTY UPDATE

November was a busy fix and repair month for the church! Along with usual maintenance, we had some more expensive repairs and replacements. Our outside lift station that holds two pumps to move sewage to the street broke. After paying to have the sewage pumped out of the lift station, technicians discovered a broken, irreparable pump. Two pumps, new plumbing and a new control panel have been installed. The 1994 Carrier HVAC unit feeding Pearson Hall is completely shot with holes in the heat exchanger. The gas is cut off for now for fear of carbon monoxide being pumped into the church. We will get a new HVAC hopefully by the time you read this article. In addition to replacing this unit, we have had repairs on two other HVAC units, one that feeds the cry room and one that feeds the nave. A roofing company came to repair a leak in the nave from flashing and one in the administration entry on the flat roof. Ballistic film has been installed in several areas of the church as part of our safety plan. The parking lot recently was swept and vacuumed to be re-stripped. The costs for all of these repairs and replacements will exceed \$25,000. Our capital replacement fund to help offset these costs is at \$13,000. Just like your home, our church maintenance is an ongoing necessity. Thank you for keeping your general giving current to help us pay for these types of unexpected and expected costs. Please consider making a special donation toward these maintenance replacements/repairs by noting on your offering "HVAC/Pump Replacement." If designated donations exceed the cost of these replacement and repairs, we will apply them to our building debt.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Tuesday, December 24

3:00 p.m. Carol Service of Holy Communion
 5:30 p.m. Carol Service of Holy Communion
 8:00 p.m. Carol Service of Holy Communion

Bishop Emeritus H. Julian Gordy will be our preacher for Christmas Eve services.
 Prelude music begins 30 minutes prior to services



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
 All articles and photographs for the **JANUARY 2020** newsletter must be submitted to the Parish Administrator at office@saintandrewchurch.com
 The **DEADLINE** for submissions is **Tuesday, December 10, 2019.**

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH
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***Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord. All flesh shall
see the salvation of God. Alleluia. (Luke 3:4, 6)***