



The Beacon

January 2017



PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

Have you had a chat with the Lord today? No appointment needed, the opportunity is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Keep praying, prayer changes things.

PRAYER EMPHASIS FOR JANUARY

Enlarge Your Faith in the New Year 2017

" But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory now and forever! Amen."

2 Peter 3:18 NIV

Being Resolved

Surveys indicate that less than half of Americans (45%) now say they make New Year's resolutions. Does that mean the other 55% have their lives all figured out and are copacetic? Hardly! The simple reason why more don't make resolutions is, they haven't found them to work; studies indicate only tiny fraction, perhaps only 8%, actually achieve their goals. Those who track such things say that 75% keep their resolutions *for a week*; by six months, those still keeping their resolutions are less than half, 46%.

I don't know what you would like to do or achieve. Most resolutions relate to weight, diet, and health, followed by money, debt and career goals. How about getting to the crux of things, to our relationship with God and others? George Barna has observed, "While people concentrate on themselves when making priorities for the New Year, it is telling that so few Americans say they want to improve relationships with others. There were virtually no mentions of volunteering or serving others; only a handful of comments about marriage or parenting; almost no responses focusing on being a better friend; and only a small fraction of people mentioned improving their connection with God" (<http://www.barna.org/culture-articles/465-americans-resolutions-for-2011>).

The tendency of most to put God at the end of the list is fairly typical of our selfish and sinful orientation. A good case can be made, however, that putting God first on the list, not last, will make it much more likely that we will achieve the other goals as a result. For those who wish to improve their health, there is a lot of data that shows regular worship, prayer, and Scripture study reduce stress and mortality rates, adding years to the believer's life and well-being.

Those who wish to enhance their financial well-being will often find a focus on God reduces many of the temptations to keep up with the latest fads and fancies promoted by our culture; their realization that all they have is a stewardship from God makes them more scrupulous in how they spend not just their money, but also their time and talents, because they see it all as belonging to God. This was the impetus of the Protestant work ethic.

Those who wish to achieve some self-improvement goal or relationship goal will do best to start with God, for no one knows what we need to improve better than our Creator and no one is better able to change the heart and our relationships than God! God is all about changing our hearts and reconciling us to himself, others, and even ourselves! Furthermore, studies show that those who seek the help of others are more likely to achieve their goals. The church is a family that encourages each of its members to love and do good works, all to the glory of God!

The first and greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. Put him first, where he deserves to be, and all else will follow, including your resolutions, hopes, and years. To God be the glory!



Peter Perry

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Stated Session Meeting
November 13, 2016**

MEETING OPENED WITH PRAYER BY MODERATOR REV. OTTO AT 4:05 PM

ELDERS PRESENT: Flora Atangcho, Florence Fonjweng, Julie Guns, Emmanuel Ndifor and Jane Wright.

Elders not in attendance: Cindy Arnold, Mary Anne Colbert, Darrell DiStefano (Winnie Wagner presented Treasurer's Report) and Brenda Saulsbury.

Adoption of docket was approved.

Minutes from October 8, 2016 were reviewed and approved.

Pastor's Report was reviewed and approved. It will be in the next issue of the Beacon.

Treasurer's Report was approved pending audit. Total revenue for Oct. 2016 was \$14,489.76. Total expenses for Oct. 2016 were \$13,270.01. Net revenue over expenses for Oct. 2016 was \$1,219.75. For YTD total revenue was \$128,833.94 for Oct. 2016. Total expenses for the YTD were \$132,478.03 as of the end of October. For the YTD net revenue over expenses was – -\$3,644.09.

Winnie Wagner also presented the 1st draft of the 2017 Challenge Budget.

Clerk's Report: Attendance for the 5 Sunday services in October 2016 totaled 316 people. The 2015 Session Minutes Packet (including other pertinent information) was submitted to the NCPresbytery earlier this year for their review. They were bound and recently returned. The comments from the Presbytery were shared with Session.

Motions made, seconded and approved:

- The Newark Empowerment Program will receive the money from the offering collected during the Dec. 3rd Presbytery Meeting.
- Baptism of Mia Jane Hunt during the Sunday service on Nov. 27, 2016. She is the daughter of Scott and Kate Hunt, born on April 7, 2016.
- There will only be one candlelight Christmas Eve Service on Sat. Dec 24th. It will be at 7 pm. There will be one Christmas Day Service with communion at 10:00 am on Dec.25th.
- Vacation request from Rev. Otto for week of May 28, 2017.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting with prayer by Rev. Otto at 5:17 pm.

Next regular Session Meeting will be held on Sunday, Dec. 11th at 4 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen B. Hunt, Clerk of Session

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Congregational Meeting
Sunday, November 20, 2016**

Meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Otto at 11:08 am.

Proper notice was given for this meeting.

Quorum was present.

Cliff Wood thanked all the elders and deacons whose term will expire at the end of this year.

Cliff Wood presented the nominees for Session member as follows

- **Mary Anne Colbert** to serve a 3 year term
- **Dave DiMartine** to serve a 3 year term
- **Myron Hardesty** to serve a 3 year term
- **Cliff Wood** to serve a 2 year term due to Neil Fairchild's resignation

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion made, seconded and approved to close the nominations for Session.

Motion made, seconded and approved to cast a unanimous vote for these Session members
and **motion carried.**

Cliff Wood presented the nominees for deacons as follows:

- **Jean Pasapane** for a 3 year term
- **Mackenzie Conners** for a 2 year term
- **Brenda Saulsbury** for a 3 year term
- **Sue Staudt** for a 3 year term
- **Debbie Stowell** for a 2 year term

There were no nominations from the floor.

Motion made, seconded and approved to close the nominations for deacons.

Motion made, seconded and approved to cast one unanimous vote in favor of these deacons
and **motion carried.**

Rev. Dr. Otto then previewed the Mission Study and subsequent process for selecting the next installed new pastor.

Motion made, seconded and approved to close this Congregational Meeting at 11:18 am. Rev. Otto closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen B. Hunt, Clerk of Session

FROM THE DEACONS

January 2017

We Care Fund

The deacons maintain an emergency fund for anyone, church member or not, with an urgent financial need. Sometimes the request is for a small amount, and sometimes a large amount is needed. You guessed it: the fund needs replenishing.

If you can help, please make checks out to St. Andrew's Church and put *We Care Fund* in the memo. Checks can be placed in the offering plate. Trust that your gift will be a blessing to someone.

"Just Socks" Drive

As of Dec. 14, we've collected 171 pairs of men's, 47 pairs of women's and 21 pairs of children's socks. Please keep bringing in new socks until the drive ends on Jan. 30, when we will make our final clothing distribution at Hope Dining Room. Thank you!

Coats for Hope

We delivered the socks and winter clothing to Hope Dining Room on Dec. 14, and folks chose what they needed to help them stay warm in this frigid weather. All the women's and children's socks and most of the men's socks were taken.

Christmas Food Baskets

Eleven families received food baskets for Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing support for this ministry.

Holiday Helper Tree

Thank you for your generous gift giving at this time of year. We were able to provide gifts for 2 families and gift cards to 9 other families to a local store.

Red Kettle Campaign

Thank you to all those who rang bells for the Salvation Army's annual Christmas drive.

The next deacons meeting will be Jan. 8, 2017



Morning Circle

Our next meeting will be Thursday January 4th at 10 AM.

Naomi Circle

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 17, at 7 p.m. at Jean Pasapane's house weather permitting (no snow).

Ruth Circle

Our next meeting will be on Monday January 16th at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall.

NOTE OF THANKS: I wanted to thank everyone for making our 28th Annual Cookie Walk such a big success. The final profit from the cookie walk is \$4,239.24. We had plenty of cookies, but ran out of soup this year. Great teamwork St. Andrews. I appreciated all your help and guidance. Sincerely, Linda DiMartine



Youth Group

WOW its December already. Where did 2016 go?

I must say I'm impressed with the youth group again this year. We baked cookies for the cookie walk again this year and I think we baked more than we've baked ever before. Thank you to the adults that came out to help as well. It was a fun night.

The youth joined the Choir to go caroling. What a night. The smiles we brought were priceless.

Last but not least the youth are putting the finishing touches on this year's Lock In. Youth New Year's Eve Lock In Dec. 31st 7pm till 8am New Year's Day. Any questions please contact Cliff Wood via Cwoods@icloud.com or 856-524-6999.

I would like to personally thank Bill, Mike, Tracy, and Jane because without them the youth program wouldn't be as successful as it is. In addition I'd like to thank all the youth for allowing me to watch their spiritual growth as well as helping me grow spiritually.

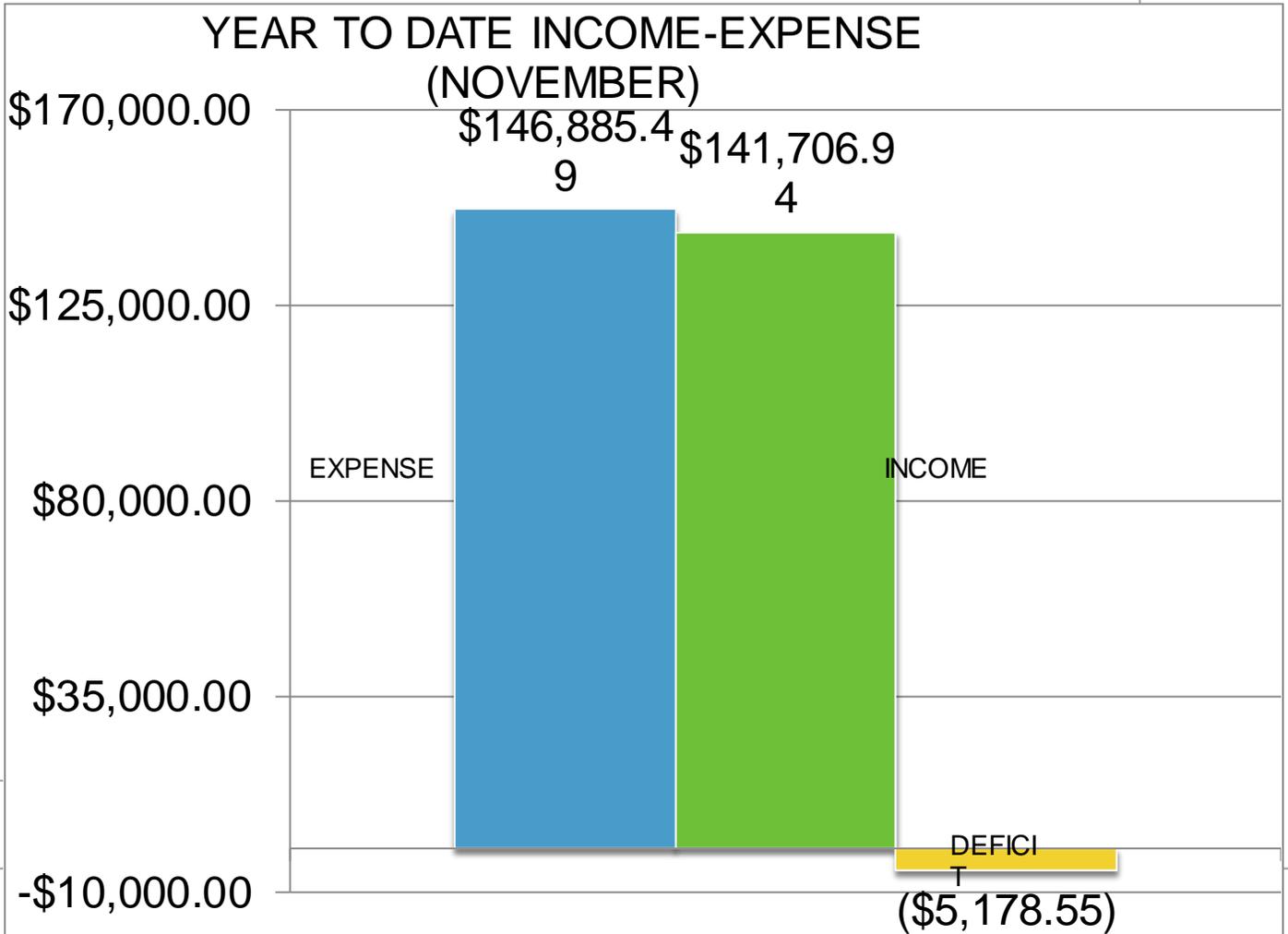
2017 Here we come.....

Blessings,
Cliff Wood, Youth Director

DOLLARS AND SENSE - THE BOTTOM LINE

In November, St. Andrew's received \$12,873.00. That amount is \$1,140.33 less than the income budgeted for the month. Budgeted monthly income in 2016 is \$14,013.33. We spent \$14,407.46 in November, which is \$411.36 more than the budgeted expenses of \$13,996.10. The deficit for the month was \$1,534.46. Year to date, through November, St. Andrew's has received \$141,706.94 and spent \$146,885.49 resulting in a deficit of \$5,178.55.

NOVEMBER	\$12,873.00	\$14,013.32	-\$1,140.32	\$141,706.94	\$154,146.52	-\$12,439.58
	EXPENSE	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD EXPENSE	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET
PASTOR	\$7,305.05	\$7,266.64	\$38.41	\$72,142.79	\$79,933.04	-\$7,790.25
STAFF	\$3,953.85	\$3,966.90	-\$13.05	\$44,387.11	\$43,635.90	\$751.21
PROGRAM	\$103.61	\$220.82	-\$117.21	\$1,931.42	\$2,429.02	-\$497.60
BLDG GRDS	\$3,044.95	\$2,219.99	\$824.96	\$25,528.42	\$24,419.89	\$1,108.53
PER CAPITA	\$0.00	\$321.75	-\$321.75	\$2,895.75	\$3,217.50	-\$321.75
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$14,407.46	\$13,996.10	\$411.36	\$146,885.49	\$153,635.35	-\$6,749.86
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(\$1,534.46)	\$17.22		(\$5,178.55)	\$511.17	



Installation of Officers

The ordination and installation of newly elected or reelected elders and deacons will occur in worship on Sunday, Jan. 8, 2017. We look forward to this time of commitment of these men and women to the work of leading our church.

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday January 22th immediately following worship with an inclement weather date of January 29th. The Ruth Circle will again be selling barbeque sandwiches on a Kaiser roll, pickle, chips and a drink for \$6.00. Pints of BBQ sauce will be sold for \$5.00. Extra sandwiches are \$4.00. Of course if you would like to bring your own brown bag lunch please feel free to do so.



<p>1 Blended Service 10:00 AM Communion/Youth Sunday Food Collection Sunday Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM</p> 	2	3	<p>4 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10:00 AM KCOS 7:30PM</p>	<p>5 Morning Circle 10 AM Praise Band Rehearsal 6 PM Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p>	<p>6 KCOS Youth 6PM</p>	7
<p>8 Blended Service 10:00 AM Installation & Ordination of Officers Deacon's Meeting 11:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Youth field trip to Camp Donegal NO ACTIVITIES THIS EVENING Session Meeting 4:00 PM</p>	9	10	<p>11 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10:00 AM KCOS 7:30PM</p>	<p>12 Praise Band Rehearsal 6 PM Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p>	<p>13 KCOS Youth 6PM</p>	14
<p>15 Blended Service 10:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Sunday Night Activities 5-7 PM</p>	<p>16 Beacon Deadline Ruth Circle 6PM</p> 	<p>17 Naomi Circle 7PM</p>	<p>18 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10:00 AM KCOS 7:30PM</p>	<p>19 Praise Band Rehearsal 6 PM Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p>	<p>20 KCOS Youth 6PM</p>	21
<p>22 Blended Service 10:00 AM Congregational Meeting/BBQ Lunch 11:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Sunday Night Activities 5-7 PM</p>	23	24	<p>25 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10:00 AM KCOS 7:30PM</p>	<p>26 Praise Band Rehearsal 6 PM Choir Rehearsal 7 PM</p>	<p>27 KCOS Youth 6PM</p>	28
<p>29 Blended Service 10:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Sunday Night Activities 5-7 PM</p>	<p>30 Hope Dining Room 11AM</p>	31	<p><i>January 2017</i></p>  <p><i>Happy Anniversary 8 - Doug & Eileen Hunt</i></p>			



8	Eileen Hunt	12	Katie Hardy
9	Heather Favazza	15	Marianne Hardesty
10	Harry Davidson	17	Bill Furry
	Vivian NTang	29	Nancy Otto
	Miriam Fonjweng	30	Dave DiMartine
11	Belner Bolima		

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2017

1 Sunday	<i>Happy New Year</i> Blended Service with Communion Youth Sunday/Food Collection Sunday Coffee/juice hour Church of Service Worship	10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.
4 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study Church of Service	10:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.
5 Thursday	Morning Circle Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	10:00 a.m. 6:30/7:00 p.m.
6 Friday	Church of Service Youth	7:00 p.m.
8 Sunday	Blended Service Installation & Ordination of Officers Deacon Meeting Church of Service Worship Session Meeting Youth Field Trip to Camp Donegal for Farewell Reception for Amy Wade (no activities tonight)	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 12:30 p.m.
11 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study Church of Service	10:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.
12 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
13 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
15 Sunday	Blended Service Coffee/juice hour Church of Service Worship Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group And Adult Bible Study	10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
16 Monday	Beacon Deadline Ruth Circle	 7:00 p.m.
17 Tuesday	Naomi Circle	7:00 p.m.
18 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study Church of Service	10:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.
19 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
20 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
22 Sunday	Blended Service Congregational Meeting/BBQ Lunch Church of Service Worship Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group And Adult Bible Study	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
25 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study Church of Service	10:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m.
26 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
27 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
29 Saturday	Blended Service Coffee/juice hour Church of Service Worship Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group And Adult Bible Study	10:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m.
30 Monday	Hope Dining Room	11:00 a.m.



Upcoming Marriage Encounter Weekends!

Held at the beautiful
Vandiver Inn
Havre de Grace, Maryland



For more information and
Registration

Contact:

Greg & Shirley Hills

solchvary@hotmail.com

or

302-453-9538

All faith expressions are welcome!

Weekends run Friday 7pm to Sunday 5pm

February 24-26, 2017

A Marriage Encounter weekend will make your marriage better, improve communication with your spouse and deepen your intimacy. All faiths welcome! Open to both Lay couples and Clergy couples.

March 2-4, 2017

Thursday – Saturday
“weekend” designed for
Clergy Couples and
Church Workers. The
session is
interdenominational and
costs are reduced by an
Endowment grant.

Both weekends are hosted by the Presbyterian Expression of M.E



NEW CASTLE PRESBYTERY

*"Fifty-One connected congregations and ministers on a mission to share
God's love for the world"*

December 5, 2016

Elder Eileen Hunt
Clerk of Session
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
200 Marrows Road
Newark, DE 19711

Dear Eileen:

The New Castle Presbytery appreciates so much the wonderful hospitality enjoyed by all our commissioners attending the December 3rd Presbytery meeting at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. The facilities were extraordinarily accommodating and the lunch, refreshments and hospitality was tremendous.

Please express to your staff, deacons, choir and members of session our deep appreciation for the many ways that St. Andrews Presbyterian Church has served the cause of Christ through our mutual work in mission and service to others.

God bless your ministry always.

In Christ's Peace,

James L. Moseley
Executive Presbyter

/dls

Cc: Rev. Randy Otto
Moderator Winnie Wagner

1102 W. Church Road, Newark, DE 19711
302.366.0595 (Office) • 302.366.0714 (Fax) • www.ncpresbytery.org

The Rev. James L. Moseley
Executive Presbyter

Elder Bob Schminkey
Stated Clerk



MENTORS NEEDED

FOR TEEN MENTORING PROGRAM



Help a teen discover his/her potential, expand interests, build confidence & explore career goals

Contact: Donna Johnson at Child Inc.

302-832-5451

djohnson@childinc.com

child^{INC.}

***The Leadership Development through Community Mentoring Program* is supported by funding through the Delaware Criminal Justice Council**



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT THROUGH COMMUNITY MENTORING PROGRAM

“Mentoring is a proven intervention that works to help youth deal with today’s challenges”

MENTOR REQUIREMENTS:

- **Ages 20 and up**
- **Able to engage with mentee for a minimum of 4 hours a month**
- **Provide consistent and positive guidance**
- **Be a thoughtful, caring and responsible role model**
- **Ability to pass background check**
- **Participation in orientation and training**
- **Commitment to one year participation**

MENTEE REQUIREMENTS:

- **Selected youth between the ages of 14 and 17**
- **Youth residing along the route 40 corridor –Bear/Newark**
- **Residing in single parent household**
- **Interested in participating in a mentor-mentee relationship**
- **Able to engage with mentor for a minimum of 4 hours a month**
- **Commitment to one year participation**
- **Program youth cannot be involved with the juvenile justice system**

PROGRAM STAFF OFFER:

- **Orientation and training**
- **Ongoing support provided to mentors/mentees**
- **Planned activities for groups or individual matches**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Donna Johnson, Child Inc. – 302-832-5451 or djohnson@childinc.com
