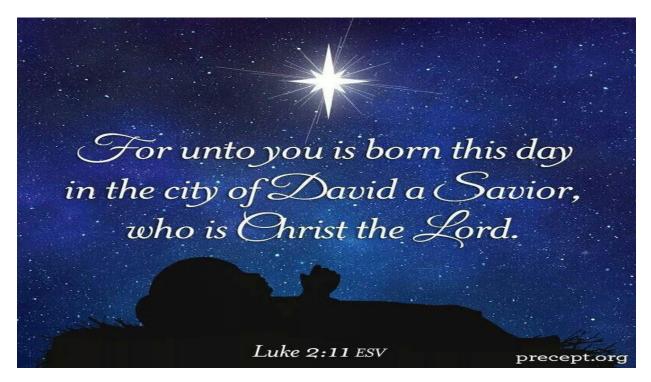


The Beacon December 2017



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 DECEMBER

May The God of Hope fill you With all joy and Peace in believing, So that by the power Of the Holy Spirit you May abound in hope. *Romans 15:13*

Don't Forget that One Gift!

One of our favorite things to do at Christmas is watch that silly movie, *A Christmas Story*, about Ralphie's quest to get a Red Ryder BB Gun for Christmas. The lengths to which little Ralphie goes to get that long-sought BB gun are admirable, since his idea usually gets "shot down" (pun intended!) with the words, "you'll shoot your eye out, kid!" Notwithstanding, on Christmas Day, after little Ralphie and Randy his younger brother rip through all of their presents (and after Ralphie gets to take off the silly rabbit pajama outfit his aunt made for him!), Ralphie is sitting with his dad feeling a bit disappointed. His dad, masterfully played by Darren McGavin, asks him if he got everything he wanted and, after Ralphie mumbles something dejectedly, his dad

points to an unopened gift hidden along the wall behind the desk. "Say, what's that over there?," he asks, and Ralphie goes over with newfound hope to find his long hoped-for gift of a Red Ryder BB Gun (which he promptly goes out and shoots, not losing his eye, but only breaking his glasses!).



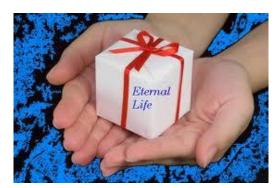
With all of the gifts we all have underneath the Christmas tree and all of the wrapping that gets tossed around in opening them all, it's not hard to see how someone could really overlook a gift.

That actually happened to us many years ago, though it was just a small box with nothing memorable in it. However, I remember sharing with the children at Deerfield Presbyterian Church in New Jersey, where we were at that time, the lesson to be learned: with all of the stuff under the tree, don't forget to open every gift.



Don't miss out on the most important gift of all, the gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ. We can easily get so caught up in getting things for others that we can lose our focus on the real meaning of the season. Christmas is not primarily about all the nice gifts we give to each other, as meaningful and generous as

that usually is. Christmas is about the gift of God for us and our salvation in the person of Jesus, the Son of God come to save us from our sins. Among all the gifts you give and receive, don't miss out on the



greatest gift of all. Don't leave that gift unopened!

"The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Rom. 6:23).

Paster Part

NOTE: Session did not have a quarum at their November 12th meeting. Therefore they were unable to vote or make any decisions.



Advent and Christmas are always a special time at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. We hope you will make a special effort to come and join in the celebration of the incarnation of the Son of God for us and our salvation. We also encourage you to invite a friend to be blessed, as well.

On Sunday, Dec. 3, St. Andrew's will celebrate the first Sunday of Advent with the traditional lighting of the first Advent candle. Rev. Otto will begin a series of Advent messages from the book of Jeremiah. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper. This is also Commitment Sunday for pledges.

The youth and adults will bake cookies in the evening for the Cookie Walk.

On Sunday, Dec. 10, St. Andrew's will celebrate the second Sunday of Advent with the lighting of the Advent candles and the choir will present a cantata entitled "Hope: A Gospel Christmas Celebration."

On Sunday, Dec. 17, St. Andrew's will celebrate the third Sunday of Advent with the lighting of the advent candles and a message from Jeremiah.

Choir, youth and church members will carol at night to the homebound.

On Sunday, Dec. 24, St. Andrew's will celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent in the 10 am worship service.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight services will be at 7 PM and 11 PM (with communion). Please join us for the beauty and splendor of this celebration of the greatest gift of all, the gift of God incarnate, Jesus Christ!



FROM THE DEACONS December 2017

Pantry Needs for December

Please help us stock the pantry with foods on the list below. Place your donations in the basket in the narthex on any Sunday. Remember: we cannot use any outdated foods.

Pasta

•

Rice

Soups

Stuffing

Peanut butter

Spaghetti sauce

Potatoes (instant)

- Cake mixes
- Cereal
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Canned meats
- Cranberry sauce
- Gravy
- Jelly
- Mac and cheese
- Canned meats
- Applesauce

We also need 6 hams or turkeys for Christmas. Please place hams or turkeys in the freezer and sign the "Donations" sheet posted on the freezer.

Thank you for your ongoing support for this ministry.

Holiday Helper Tree

Your donations through the Holiday Helper Tree will provide Christmas gifts for two families in need. Either a dollar amount or a specific gift to buy is written on each of the ornaments that decorate the tree in Fellowship Hall. Pick an ornament from the tree to make a donation.

Deacons will collect money donations in Fellowship Hall on Dec. 3, 10, and 17.

Gift donations need to be brought to church *unwrapped* and placed under the tree by Dec. 10. Please return the ornament you selected with your gift. This will help us get your gift to the right person.

Red Kettle Bell Ringers

Thank you to all who rang bells for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign.

Coats for Hope and Just Socks Drives

The drives will end Sunday December 10, so that we can make our last delivery to Hope Dining Room before Christmas.

Deacons Receive a Grant from the Kenny Family Foundation

The Kenny Family Foundation is a non-profit organization which supports fellow local nonprofit organizations within the Delaware Community. The Kenny Family Foundation has served as a charitable foundation since 2008, supporting hundreds of charitable organizations annually in New Castle County. These organizations feed the hungry, care for children, and help enrich lives through the arts and humanities.

Deacon Sandy Miller completed the paperwork for a grant to the Kenny Family Foundation which was approved. The Shop Rite gift cards received will be used to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets to families in need in the Brookside area from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Thanks to the Kenny Family Foundation for this grant.

Next Deacons Meeting: Dec. 3, 2017



Can you believe it's December already?

The youth would like to thank everyone that came out and enjoyed the Italian Buffett on Saturday November 11th. In addition, the youth would also like to thank the congregation for the donations for the GO Bags. These bags help feed the less fortunate. We were able to make 100 GO Bags after we enjoyed our Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday November 19th.

A huge thank you to Bill & Wendy Furry for again hosting an amazing bon fire at their house on Sunday November 12th. It was a brisk night but the warm fire and hot chocolate kept everyone warm and toasty.

I don't want to forget to mention that the youth enjoyed the first of many to come Praise and Worship nights at St. Andrew's. Special thanks to Flora, Gene and Carol for putting this together.

Please don't forget to tell everyone about the hottest spot for youth on New Year's Eve. That's right! Right Here at St. Andrew's. We will be holding the 8th annual New Year's Eve Lock-in. ages 5-19 are welcome.

Here are a few dates to remember for the month of December.

Sunday December 3rd Youth Cookie Baking (Come out and bake)

Sunday December 17th Last Sunday until January 14th & Christmas Caroling

Sunday December 31st the 8th Annual Youth New Year's Eve Lock-in

The installation of newly elected or reelected elders and deacons will occur in worship on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2017. We look forward to this time of commitment of these men and women to the work of leading our church.



The annual congregational business meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 28 after worship in the fellowship hall. If worship is cancelled for bad weather, it will be held the following Sunday.



Morning Circle

The next meeting will be Thursday December 7th at 10 AM in the home of Betty Winter.

<u>Esther círcle</u>

The Ruth and Naomi Circles have combined to become the Esther Circle. They are using 2017-2018 PW/ Horizons Bible Study, *Cloud of Witnesses; The Community of Christ in Hebrews*. The next meeting is Tuesday December 19th at 7PM at the church. All women are welcome to join.

Presbyterian Women

I attended the Fall Gathering of PW in New Castle Presbytery on Saturday October 28, 2017 held at Dover Presbyterian Church. As always, it was a great time to see old friends and make new ones. The theme for this gathering was "Check your Perspective for Obstacles to a Fuller Life. Following the business meeting and worship, 2 excellent workshops were provided. A brief description of each follows.

"attack Addiction" is a non-profit group created in memory of Tyler Armstrong Keister after his accidental overdose. Their goal is to help young people realize the dangers of alcohol and drugs so that they and their families never have to experience the pain, tragedy and loneliness that accompany addiction. In 2016, 308 people died of heroin overdoses in Delaware! Go to <u>www.attackaddiction.com</u> to get more information about this program and how you can help prevent more overdose deaths. Learn how to talk with children, teens, young adults and <u>the elderly</u> about what medications they are taking and how they can make you addicted.

"Zoe Ministries" provides aftercare that offers physical, emotional, and spiritual healing to victims of Domestic Sex Trafficking. Delaware has one of the highest number of sex trafficking cases in the US, with most of them in southern DE. Spas and massage parlors are among the largest contributors to women and children being trafficked. A person may be held in their own home and forced into slavery without crossing state or federal borders. Zoe Ministries provides training and awareness and is focusing now on securing a home to provide long-term shelter and comprehensive services. Go to <u>www.zoe-delaware.org</u> for more information.

Save the following dates:

April 20-22, 2018 - PW in NCP Annual Retreat. Theme: "The Lord is My Shepherd". Ocean City, MD

August 2 – 5, 2018 – 2018 Churchwide Gathering of PW in Louisville, KY.

Winnie

DOLLARS AND SENSE - THE BOTTOM LINE

In October, St. Andrew's received \$12,166.10. That amount is \$941.90 less than the \$13,108 budgeted for the month. We spent \$14,055.09 in October. That is \$58.93 less than the budgeted expenses. The deficit for the month was \$1,888.99. The deficit for the year is \$20,459.41.

In 2016 St. Andrew's received \$157,364.56 and spent \$160,339.08 resulting in a deficit of \$2,974.52.

ST. ANDREW'S OCTOBER FINANCIAL POSITION - ACTUAL VS BUDGET							
MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD INCOME	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	
OCTOBER	\$12,166.10	\$13,108.00	-\$941.90	\$118,576.11	\$131,080.00	-\$12,503.89	
	EXPENSE	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD EXPENSE	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	
PASTOR	\$8,422.44	\$7,249.99	\$1,172.45	\$72,910.48	\$72,499.90	\$410.58	
STAFF	\$3,883.60	\$3,983.57	-\$99.97	\$39,683.19	\$39,835.70	-\$152.51	
PROGRAM	\$240.09	\$312.48	-\$72.39	\$1,394.69	\$3,124.80	-\$1,730.11	
BLDG GRDS	\$1,508.96	\$2,269.98	-\$761.02	\$22,189.79	\$22,699.80	-\$510.01	
PER CAPITA	\$0.00	\$298.00	-\$298.00	\$2,682.45	\$2,980.00	-\$297.55	
MISSIONS	\$0.00	\$83.33	-\$83.33	\$174.92	\$833.30	-\$658.38	
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$14,055.09	\$14,197.35	-\$58.93	\$139,035.52	\$141,973.50	-\$2,937.98	
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(\$1,888.99)	(\$1,089.35)		(\$20,459.41)	(\$10,893.50)		
\$123,750.00 -				\$118 INCOME	,576.11		
\$72,500.00 -					EXPENS		
\$21,250.00 -			DEFICI				
-\$30,000.00	(\$20,459.41)						

<u> </u>	For unto you	r is born	.a Saviour,		1	2
	For unto you which is	Christ the	Lord."			
	CHRI	ISTMAS BLESSIN	NGS			
		Luke 2:11	y kor			
3 Blended Service 10:00 AM Communion/Youth Sunday Food Collection Sunday Deacon's Meeting 11:00 AM New Member's class Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Sunday Night Activities 5-8 PM BAKING COOKIES Commitment Sunday First Sunday of Advent	4	5	6 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10AM KCOS 7:30PM	7 Morning Circle 10AM Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM	8 29 TH Annual Cookie Walk 11AM – 1:00 PM	9
10 Blended Service 10:00 AM Cantata Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM	11	12	13 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10AM	14 Praise Band	15	16
Session Meeting 4:00PM Sunday Night Activities 6-8 PM Second Sunday of Advent			KCOS 7:30PM	Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM		
17 Blended Service 10:00 AM Reception of New Members Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM	18 BEACON DEADLINE	19 Esther Circle 7PM	20 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10AM KCOS 7:30PM	21 Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM	22	23
Sunday Night Activities Christmas Caroling 6-8 PM Third Sunday of Advent				Winter 1 12		
24Blended Service10:00 AMChurch of Service Worship 12:30 PMFourth Sunday of AdventCandlelight Service7PM	25 Menutry	26	27 Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10AM KCOS 7:30PM	28 Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM	29	30
Candlelight Service with Communion 11PM	***			~		
31 Blended Service 10:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM NEW YEARS EVE YOUTH LOCK-IN		Happy			2-Linda	DiMartine

YOUTH LOCK-IN 7:00 PM – 9:00 AM





Anniversary



2-Linda DiMartine 8-Karen Johnson 8-Jim Sparks 17-Janet Bugher 30-Sarah Avenarius

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2017

3 Sunday	Blended Service w/ Communion Youth Sunday/Food Collection Sunday	10:00 a.m.
	First Sunday of Advent	
	New Members' Class	
	Deacon Meeting	11:00 a.m.
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Sunday Night Activities: BAKING COOKIES	5:00 p.m.
6 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
7 Thursday	Morning Circle	10:00a.m.
	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:00/7:00 p.m.
8 Friday	29 th Annual Cookie Walk	11:00 a.m.
10 Sunday	Blended Service/Cantata	10:00 a.m.
	Second Sunday of Advent	
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Session Meeting	4:00 p.m.
	Sunday Night Dinner, Faith Club, Youth Group	
	And Adult Bible Study	6:00 p.m.
13 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
14 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
17 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Reception of new members	
	Third Sunday of Advent	
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Sunday Night Activities: Christmas Caroling	6:00 p.m.
18 Monday	BEACON DEADLINE	
19 Tuesday	Esther Circle	7:00 p.m.
20 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
21 Thursday	First day of Winter	
·	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
24 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service	7:00 p.m.
	Candlelight Service with Communion	11:00 p.m.
25 Monday	Merry Christmas	
27 Wednesday	Wednesday Morning Bible Study	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
28 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
31 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	New Year's Eve Youth Lock-In	7:00 p.m.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

By Alice Kennelly Roberts

There was a night, There was a star, There was an angel's song; A busy inn Too crowded then For men to tarry long.

And on this night, Beneath this star, Across this wind-swept sky, A sound went out To still the earth ----A Baby's humble cry.

Grant us, O Lord, The power to hear, Above the worldly dín, The "still small voice" Of centuries The voice of God within.

And give us, Lord, The power to see That light of lands afar, The holy light of Bethlehem, In every Christmas star. St. Andrew's Presbyterían Church 29th Annual Cookíe Walk Fríday December 8, 2017 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

Homemade cookies! \$6 and \$12 Vegetable Beef and Chicken Corn Soup \$8/Quart Lunch - soup, sandwich, chips & drink \$10 Preorders/takeout available Contact 302-738-4331

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 200 Marrows Road Newark, DE 19713

EASILY EARN \$640.00

ELAWARE.



Married Couples Study

What does the study involve?

Both you and your spouse must attend 2 separate 5 hour visits. All visits are on Mon-Fri and start at 9am and end at 2pm. You must arrive having fasted since 9pm the prior night for both visits. In between the visits, you will complete a 3-day food record, where you will record the foods and drinks you had each day for 3 days. All couples married at least 3 years are eligible to participate, regardless of race, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

How do I benefit from participating?

You can each earn up to \$320 for participating (\$640 per couple).

How do I apply?

Both you and your spouse need to complete a brief survey at the website below.

http://www.projectclose.com/studies-AMCv1.html Please contact projectclose@gmail.com if needed.





CONTACTS Lisa M. Jaremka, Ph.D. Director, Close Relationships and Health Lab University of Delaware Department of Psychological and Brian Sciences 108 Wolf Hall Newark, De 19716, U.S.A. projectclose@gmail.com

http://www.projectclose.com/studies-AMCv1.html

Married Couples Study

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