

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

304 Morewood Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:00 a.m.

Email: St_AndrewELCA@verizon.net
Website: www.standrewpittsburgh.org
St. Andrew Church Office 412-682-3342
Pastor Ross Carmichael 773-428-0310
President Sue Sabol 412-608-9056
Director of Faith Formation Chris Atwood 724-208-9169



August 2021

Love Everyone ~ Exclude No One

St. Andrew Lutheran Congregation welcomes all who are seeking a place of healing and wholeness, a nurturing, faith-forming spiritual home. Our community embraces people of all ages, races, abilities, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, and family constellations. Come and See!

Opportunities for Service

**Produce Distribution
and National Night Out
Tuesday, August 3rd
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**

**EECM Shelter Dinner
Thursday, August 19th
6:30 p.m.**

Worship Updates

St. Andrew's weekly worship services continue at the church on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. We have returned to full spoken congregational prayers and responses, having a lector for the readings, and a cantor to sing the hymns. We ask that attendees continue to wear a mask, maintain six-foot distancing, and refrain from communal singing. We look forward to seeing you in worship soon!

Worship Technology Team

With the return to worship in the sanctuary St. Andrew, will move to livestreaming services on various online platforms. We are still looking for a few more people to help run the livestream, title screens, and sound system in teams of two each Sunday. The system is easy to operate, and training will be provided. Our next training will be Sunday, August 22nd after worship. If you are interested in this new opportunity to help St. Andrew share the Good News of God in Christ Jesus, please contact Director of Faith Formation Chris Atwood at director.faith.formation@standrewpittsburgh.org or by phone at 724-208-9169.

3456 Children's Activities

Third, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders (3456) will meet on **Sunday, August 15th** from 3:00-5:00 p.m. We will be tie-dyeing shirts!

Youth Group

August 1st and 15th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Back to School - Back to Church:
SWPA Youth Ministry Reboot
Sunday, August 29th, 3:00-7:00 p.m.
Camp Lutherlyn (500 Lutherlyn Ln., Butler, PA 16001)**

Join 7th - (12th) grade youth and adult leaders for a Sunday afternoon gathering at camp Lutherlyn to reflect on the past year and a half, plan for the future, and renew our relationships as a synod. Lutherlyn staff will lead activities for youth. The time will close with dinner and worship. Cost is \$5 and RSVP is required—please contact Director of Faith Formation Chris Atwood to 742-208-9169 or director.faith.formation@standrewpittsburgh.org by August 22nd to sign up.

ELCA Youth Gathering July 24th-28th, 2022

Visit: <https://www.elca.org/YouthGathering> for more information.
Deposits are due August 1st.

From the Pastor

*Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life.
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."
John 6: 35*

*[Jesus said,] It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me ... It is the spirit that gives life ... The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life ... Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.
We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.
John 6: 45, 63, 68*

Dear People of St. Andrew,

In the past few months, many of our parishioners and those around us have tentatively begun returning to what we once considered "normal" activities: coming to worship, vacations and trips to see family, children's day camps, gathering indoors, going to restaurants. In recent weeks we have also seen the need for continuing caution with the prominence of the coronavirus delta variant and cases of covid-19 again on the rise throughout the U.S. With children under 12 still not eligible for vaccinations, it makes sense that many are taking it slowly in returning to activities, especially indoors. I would just like to assure the congregation that however you feel and wherever you are in the "re-entry" process, we at St. Andrew understand the possible reasons for those choices and affirm your continued discernment and decision-making about what is best for you. I do not want anyone to feel pressured or rushed to return to in-person activities at the church. Please just know that we continue to think of all of you, miss you, and pray for you, as well as for the day when we can all gather safely in community once again.

In the meantime, with returns to school and in-office work on the horizon, many of us will be developing and settling into new schedules and routines. This is an opportunity to start fresh, to leave behind old patterns and ways that have not been helpful, that have even been draining, but which we still followed through with because it is what we knew. Now, after the trauma and lessons of this past year, is an appropriate time to reassess what is important to us and who we want to be moving forward. As people of faith, we seek God's guidance and blessing in that process, and if we are intentional, these new beginnings can also be a chance to reconnect with our faith, wherever we are along the way, and to develop a new patterns of closer engagement with God.

In John's Gospel, Jesus' self-identification as the bread of life suggests that connection to him, relationship with God through him, is a gift that will nourish and sustain us for this road that lies ahead. As Jesus suggests in the quotation above, as we live into that relationship, we learn more about God's values and intentions for us and for this world and so may grow closer to these ways in our own lives. We receive the Holy Spirit, who accompanies and leads us in paths that are life-giving and fruitful. Together, these gifts reflect the promise of our Baptism into Christ's death and resurrection: we may leave behind all that has been broken, that which has hindered us or is no longer useful or edifying, and begin anew, raised to new life through Jesus Christ.

So I invite you to consider how you will utilize this opportunity for new starts to cultivate or rekindle your relationship with God. Would you like to try setting a time for prayer before you start your day or before you go to bed? Would you like to begin or return to reading the Bible, even if it is just a chapter a day?—and if this thought feels intimidating, your pastor or director of faith formation could offer suggestions on where to start. Would you like to start with simple, one-page reflections on faith that are offered in the *Christ in Our Home* booklets St. Andrew offers, or the short readings and prayers from *Taking Faith Home*? As you go to or begin work each day, or as you tuck your children into bed, or as you help your spouse, could you take a moment to acknowledge and give thanks that these are vocations to which God has called you? These are all opportunities to use your gifts to serve God and your neighbor and to build up God's world and its people in love.

We are all still making our way forward, each of us trying to understand and navigate this new and dramatically changed context in which we live our faith each day. I pray that your will be guided by the Holy Spirit, and through Jesus Christ, the bread of life, be fed and nourished for the journey ahead.

In Christ, Pastor Ross

Worship Livestream and Zoom Gathering

The primary worship service of St. Andrew has returned to the sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. weekly. The service will be live-streamed to Facebook, YouTube, and Zoom. The Zoom gathering will still allow those who are not yet ready to attend worship in person to worship together online and share conversation before and after the Sunday service.

10:00 a.m. – Zoom (login information below)

Facebook — www.facebook.com/standrewlutheranchurchpgh/

YouTube — <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjNotsDrdK70XkmEYiutY8Q>

Services will also be posted later in the day to St. Andrew's website: www.standrewpittsburgh.org

For those accessing the service via Zoom, there are three ways to enter:

1) The one-step method Click the following link, which includes an encrypted version of the password:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81295765981?pwd=b0UvOXE1UnBGQIRNN1MvZ0VpRmVLZz09>

2) The step-by-step method a) go to zoom.us b) click "join a meeting" c) type in the Meeting ID: 812 9576 5981 d) then the passcode: Worship

3) Dial in on your audio-only phone and put in the Meeting ID and numerical passcode.

+16465588656,,81295765981#,,,,*1793746# US (New York)

+13017158592,,81295765981#,,,,*1793746# US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 812 9576 5981, Passcode: 1793746

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81295765981?pwd=b0UvOXE1UnBGQIRNN1MvZ0VpRmVLZz09>

Sunday School this Fall

This fall, starting Sunday, September 12th through Sunday, November 21st, St. Andrew will be having Little Church; Big Faith in person during Sunday worship. Little Church; Big Faith will be for children up to 3rd grade and will take place in the social hall starting after the prayer of the day and going through the prayers of the people. Our hope is that as vaccinations become more available to children and we can return to more normal Faith Formation programming in Advent.

Blessing of Backpacks

On Sunday August 22nd, St. Andrew will offer a blessing of backpacks during worship, and we will be and handing out book bag tags to children and youth. We invite all students, no matter your age, to bring your school bag to worship with you and receive a blessing for the new school year.

Bible Blessing

As part of our Fall Faith Formation kickoff, during Worship on Sunday, September 12th, we will be Blessing Bibles. We will in invite First and Second graders forward during worship with their parents and sponsors to help fulfill the promise made at their Baptism to place the scriptures in their hands as they receive their Bible from the church community. We also invite everyone to bring your own Bible to hold and have blessed.

Family and Politics — Workshop from Christian Associates of SWPA Online, Monday, August 16th, 7:00-9:15 p.m.

Family relationships are casualties of our toxic political environment. Learn more about how to preserve family bonds while staying true to your values. To register and receive login information, please visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/families-politics-workshop-registration-155855274321>

Young Adult Events

St. Andrew seeks to provide opportunities for young adults in the congregation to gather for fun and community-building activities. Here are the upcoming events:

Saturday, August 21st, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. — We will be hiking at Schenley Park. Join us at the café at Phipps to begin the hike!

Saturday, September 11th, 5:00 p.m. — Chris Atwood will be hosting a pot luck cookout at his house. Main dish, beverages, and s'mores will be provided. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 8th, 2021 to 742-208-9169 or director.faith.formation@standrewpittsburgh.org.

Address:
1005 Pemberton St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Coming to St. Andrew's Front Lawn—The Mini Free Pantry!

A new food pantry will soon be installed on St. Andrew's front lawn. We are looking for help in keeping the pantry stocked and orderly. Here are some ways to be involved:

- Come to church a early or stay afterward to see what is in the pantry and what may need to be replenished. You can take one Sunday a month (like previous coffee hour help, but easier!) or you can offer to cover just once or twice a quarter. There is no need to purchase anything. The pantry can be filled from our inventory.
- Team up with another family and be a tag-team to share your week on an every-other-week basis.
- When you go shopping, buy an extra item or two of what you buy for yourself (see notes at the bottom for items that can be used). Bring your items when you come to church and Joyce Compton or Sue Gaugler will get everything into the inventory. This can be an anonymous way of helping if you desire.
- We also still have books for the Little library if you would prefer to help keep it full of books.
- These volunteer activities could be great family project. Talk to your kids about food insecurity and let them help you pick out items to shop for or to help fill the pantry.
- We can keep calling it The Mini Free Pantry, or it can be renamed. If you have a suggestion, let us know.

Below is a list of items to stock the pantry: *Keep in mind the population we might be serving in our neighborhood: people experiencing homeless, college students low on funding, immigrant students and families, anyone facing food insecurity due to job loss or the pandemic.* Items should be shelf safe (nothing fresh, frozen or that may go bad in severe weather). Here are some things we suggest:

- Items in cans with flip top lids (nothing requiring a can opener): Tuna, sardines, or Vienna sausage, ravioli, soup that does not need to be diluted
- Fruit or vegetables in single serve, shelf-safe containers
- Single serve peanut butter, cheese & cracker snacks, granola bars, beef jerky, raisin boxes, little cereal boxes, shelf stable milk (Horizon)
- Bottled water
- Plastic utensils, single serve condiment and seasoning packets
- Some full-size products that have also been taken are cake mix & puddings mixes.
- Also consider things for one or two people who are food insecure but who do have shelter and a way to cook like stuffing mix, noodle, or rice mixes in packets, pasta sauce, cereal.
- Personal care items: Shampoo, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste, feminine products, and toilet paper.

Joyce Compton will be coordinating volunteers and inventory. If you have questions, she invites you to ask at joycecompton28@gmail.com or 412-657-0584. A text is fine as well.

Want to know more about the "little free pantry" movement? Here is a website you can visit. <https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>

Support for Our Companion Synod in Madagascar

A Letter from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

Dear Friends,

In Western Pennsylvania, we understand the power of water, for both good and bad. The Pittsburgh Flood of 1936 and the Johnstown Flood are part of our history. Each summer, there are warnings of storms and flash floods, which can ruin basements, roads, and businesses. But we also know the spring rains which turn our countryside bright green, with growing trees, fields, and farms.

Sisters and brothers in our companion synod in Madagascar also know the power of water as they have been living through a severe drought.

For years, we have been in relationship with the Tulear Synod (also known in the Malagasy language as Toliara). We grieve to hear from their leaders about the ongoing drought and consequent famine, as well as the Covid pandemic, which is causing such hardship for the members of the synod. We also learned from a recent email about a May 28th fire at a synod social ministry organization that destroyed a number of buildings. “We really pray to God to give us strength and wisdom.” You cannot imagine how many requests [for help] we received these last two weeks,” they wrote.

This is why our synod is raising relief funds for our companions in Tulear. Monies will be sent to the synod under the leadership of Pastor Razafimahatratra Angelos Modeste, President (Bishop) to distribute the funds to those who are most in need, as well as to the Regional Lutheran Theological Seminary (STPL) in Bezaha.

Though southwest Madagascar is dry, a cyclone had severely damaged the seminary’s irrigation system, impacting their ability to grow rice: the staple in their diet. The seminary educates pastors and church leaders for several Lutheran synods; the lack of rice-farming has caused a food shortage for the 58 students. Traditionally, the seminarians farm while attending classes to support themselves and their families. Remediating the situation requires restoring 2 hectares of rice land (about 5 acres), and purchasing four oxen, two ox carts, two plows, two harrows, and other farm implements.

Visitors from our synod have travelled to Madagascar—most recently in 2014 and 2017—continuing our long-standing connection with both Tulear Synod leaders and the Seminary in Bezaha. The visitors have always been graciously welcomed and treated as honored guests at church functions. Though our languages and cultures may differ, we are truly one in Jesus Christ.

Our siblings in Madagascar need our help. Bishop Kusserow and our synod council are asking you to join our efforts to support our companion synod. The synod has already sent \$5,000 from synod funds to respond as quickly as possible to the pressing needs of both the Tulear Synod and the Seminary in Bezaha. We are asking your support for this appeal. The synod will match individual and congregational gifts up to another \$5,000. In the process, we hope to strengthen personal relationships between our synod and our sisters and brothers in Madagascar.

Your financial support of this appeal, in any amount, will truly assist the Tulear Synod and the Seminary in Bezaha. Contributions can be made on our website at www.swpasynod.org/madagascar or mailed to the Synod Office at:

Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod
(Attn: Madagascar)
1014 Perry Hwy, Suite 200
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Checks should be made out to “SWPA Synod”

With you in Christ,
Bishop Kurt F. Kusserow

Barbara Nugent, Synod Vice President

Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring—A Program of Literacy Pittsburgh Volunteer Trainings in August

An hour a week can change a child's life. Become an Oasis Tutor—Volunteers tutor students in the Pittsburgh Public, Woodland Hills, Wilksburg, Duquesne City, McKeesport Area, and the Environmental Charter Schools Districts in grades K-4 in reading and writing. Free training will be given to adults age 50 and over. Training will involve face-to-face tutoring as well as mandated reporter training. All materials and clearances are provided by Oasis. Two training sessions will be held on Wednesday, August 18th and Thursday, August 19th and Tuesday, August 24th and Thursday, August 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information on how to become an Oasis tutor and specific training sites and/or other training dates, please call John D. Spehar, Director, Pittsburgh Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring Program, at 412-393-7648 or by email at jdspehar@oasisnet.org. Oasis Tutoring is a program of Literacy Pittsburgh.

The “Overground Railroad” - A Movement to Help Immigrants on the Move — Infant and Toddler Clothing and Shoes Needed

The “Overground Railroad” is an organization with a new branch in Pittsburgh. It is organized by Grannies Respond /Abuelas Responden. Volunteers meet asylum seekers at bus stations across the U.S. as they make their journey from the borders to their final destination. Families arrive with very few (or no) belongings and usually have young children. Grannies/Abuelas would like to have some children's clothing on hand, because young children may have an accident on the long journey, and often have no change of clothes with them.

Grannies Respond/Abuelas Responden is in need of **clothing for infants and toddlers up to age three only!** The group is also seeking gently worn or new children shoes in **Little Kids' sizes, 2-10 only**. Donations can be brought to St. Andrew on an ongoing basis. **Please do not bring any other clothing to church**—we have nowhere to take it for donation.

Spanish-speaking volunteers are needed to assist travelers with bus connections since the bus station has no Spanish-speaking employees. To learn more about the Overground Railroad, check out this video: <https://vimeo.com/42556817> and website: www.granniesrespond.org/volunteer.

“Strive for Justice and Peace in All the Earth” Advocacy Opportunities

In the covenant of Holy Baptism, God's blessings come to us, and we respond in gratitude by committing ourselves to a way of life as followers of Jesus. This commitment is summarized in five baptismal promises, which include the call to “Strive for justice and peace in all the earth.” One means of answering that call is through advocacy for more compassionate and just public policies that support the most vulnerable people in our communities. Below are two links to help you get started (or to help you continue!) that work:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Advocacy Center

You can sign up for ELCA Advocacy Alerts via email at

https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Advocacy?_ga=2.100603678.1476695542.1594990714-1992371135.1579724075

or visit the Advocacy Action Center to see the latest topics being discussed and voted on.

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa)

LAMPa also has an email sign up for Action Alerts at <https://www.lutheranadvocacypa.org/get-involved/actionet/>.

The links will connect you directly with your elected officials and often provide an outline of talking points or sample language to help you prepare your message.

In Our Prayers

St. Andrew continues to provide support for people in need through the ministry of prayer. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, or if you have a prayer request, please email st.a.prayer.team@gmail.com.

Thank you all for your ministry of prayer!

We pray for St. Andrew... for the pastors associated with our congregation: **Pastors Ross, Janet and Keith, Bob, Deb, Dona, Erin, Kim, Larry, Martin, Melissa, Paul, Peter, and Sarah**; for discernment and wisdom as we seek new ways of sharing the Gospel; for safety and protection for the congregation and community.

We pray for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; for the **Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, Bishop Kurt Kusserow**, and our **Assistants to the Bishop, Pastor Peter Asplin and Pastor Melissa Stoller**; for our companion church, the **Tulear Synod of the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar** and its bishops, **Rev. Dr. Denis Rakotozafy and Razafimahatratra Angelos Modeste**.

For the United States and its people, that all may know justice and peace; for the president, **Joseph Biden** and the Vice President, **Kamala Harris**; for all our elected officials and for those who serve in the armed forces; for God's blessing upon all nations, especially those suffering from internal strife, oppression, violence, and terrorism; for those who suffer from the effects of natural disasters.

For healing ... for all who are sick with covid-19 and for those grieving loved ones who have lost their lives to the virus; for all who work in healthcare; for those in the hospital; for the people of India facing a crisis with the recent surge in coronavirus numbers.

For those who are unemployed or furloughed; those struggling to secure work; those without health insurance; and all who have suffered economic instability due to the pandemic.

For those with cancer, including **Bob, Bonnie Adelson, John Aitken, Paul Bonenberger, Rod Hermann**, and **Bishop Michael Lozano of the NWPA Synod**

For those whose needs are ongoing: Beth Hermann, Marissa, Larry Rhonda, Mary Sommerfeld, and Tom Swanson.

For those who have been hospitalized recently or are preparing for or recovering from surgery, including Ruth Carmichael and Pastor Paul Koch.

For all who are in need or who have requested our prayers: Bonnie Adelson and Bruce Klotz, Angie, Brian, Cecilia, Cindy, Deb B., Rachel Faulkner, Karen Grecko, Chrissy Heaton, Rod and Beth Hermann, Pastor Paul Koch, Larry Lash, Pastor Kim Rapczak, Karen Shaffer, Steve, and Mr. Tyson.

For those who are grieving: Chris Atwood, Dave Sabol, and Danielle Yeager.

For those with special needs: for those seeking racial justice and equity; for the LGBTQIA+ community; for support and protection for our transgender siblings as discriminatory laws are proposed and enacted in various states; for those living with HIV/AIDS; for unaccompanied minors, migrants, and refugees, and for parents and children separated from one another; for those who are differently-abled; for those who are in prison; for all who are awaiting additions to their families; for those who are in discernment and those who are making difficult decisions; for those who travel; for those with addictions; for those in difficult or disintegrating relationships; for those who have personally experienced the fragility of life; and for those who mourn,

We pray in thanksgiving ... for God's promises and blessings through the covenant of Baptism; for God's love and grace that come to us through the Word; for the Christian community and the gift of the Holy Spirit; and for the many ways God continues to bless us.

For all the saints ... for those who have recently died, including **Abigail Litz, Paris Melle, and Robert Sabol**; for the promise of the resurrection to eternal life, that it would bring comfort and hope to all who mourn.

August Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1 William Hilbert
Clark van Beek
- 2 Bennett Ruhe
- 5 Pete McElwain
- 7 Lindsay Baxter
- 8 Pastor Martin Rafanan
- 12 Jocelyn LeDonne
- 13 Nevada Scholze
- 15 Maria Mangano
- 20 Gavin Byrum
- 23 Jason Galyardt
Richard Johnston
- 24 Megan Will
- 26 Rebecca Sue
- 27 Jim Olsen
- 28 Jodie Minor
Mike Sallach
- 29 Matthew Reeder
- 30 Harriet Schey

Anniversaries

- 6 Colleen Cooke and Janet Louden
- 9 Joy and David Givens
- 17 Jean Snyder and John Burt
- 19 Charlotte and Bill Scholze
- 24 JoAnn and Carol Chonoska

Ordination Anniversaries

- 9 Pastor Paul Koch
- 30 Pastor Dona Van Eck

3456 and Youth Night Cross-Community Events - Starting Sunday, September 12th

This fall, the youth group will meet the first, third, and fourth Sundays of every month from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. 3456 will meet the first and third Sundays of the month from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. On the Sundays when they meet together, there will be Bible study in each age group and activities together from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Little Pantry & Library Painting - Saturday, August 28th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Thank You!

... to everyone who helped set up and/or distribute produce on July 6th: **Sue and Scott Gaugler, Christy Ruhe, Dixie Tymitz, and Hal Wilcox.**

... to **Sue Gaugler** (piano), **Jimmi and Timothy Kocher-Hillmer** (organ and vocals), and **Karen Shaffer** (lector) for their leadership in worship on Sunday, July 6th.

... to **Lily Cai, Timothy Kocher-Hillmer, and Lester Prince** for their leadership in worship on Sunday, July 11th.

... to **Community Kitchen, Doug Lash, Pat Lutz, Renee Makaroun, Solveig Rafanan, and the van Beek Family** for preparing food for the East End Cooperative Ministry Shelter Dinner on July 15th.

... to **Pastor Larry Kemp, Lily Cai, Joyce Compton, and David Rollinson** for their leadership in worship on Sunday, July 18th.

... to **Lily Cai and Ian Brown and Jodie Minor** for their leadership in worship on Sunday, July 25th.

... to **Kristen Asplin, Linnea Asplin, and Conrad Kalcich** for serving as Zoom hosts for worship in July.

... to **Kristen Asplin, Jason Galyardt, Joseph Paetz, Dave Rollinson, and Chris Atwood** for their work with the technology and sound system for streaming worship in July.

In Sympathy

We offer sympathies and prayers for the family and friends of

Abigail Litz

Friend of Chris Atwood

Paris Melle

Danielle Yeager's mother. A visitation will be held at the Thomas M. Smith Funeral Home (930 Center Ave., Blawnox—Pittsburgh, PA 15238) on Thursday, August 5th, with service beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Robert Sabol

Dave Sabol's brother

*Rest eternal grant them, O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday—September 12th

Every year, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America designates one Sunday as “God’s Work, Our Hands” day, an opportunity for congregations across the church to engage in service to their neighbors and surrounding communities. This year’s date is Sunday, September 12th. After worship that day, we will pack travel kits for the Pittsburgh Overground Railroad in support of Grannies Respond/Abuelas Responden. The organization greets asylum seekers who are stopping at Pittsburgh’s bus station en route to their new homes north and east. The travelers, many with children, often bring only the clothes on their backs for a long journey of 18-24 hours.

Donations needed: (Quantity needed in parentheses)

- Drinks: water bottles (160) and shelf-stable milk (60), NIDO (powdered milk nutrition for children)
- Snacks: crackers (100), applesauce pouches (60), fruit roll ups (25), granola bars (50), string cheese, Gogurt, teething biscuits (30), child-safe snacks (30)
- Personal Items: menstrual pads(100), combs (50), masks (50), hand sanitizer (50)
- Children’s Items: finger puppets (30), paper and crayons (30), books in Spanish (30), coloring books (30), small stuffed toys (30)
- Over-the-Counter medications in individual packs: Pepto Bismol (50), kids’ Pepto (30), bandaids (200), Pedialyte in individual packets to be mixed with water (50), cortisone cream (50), single dose Antigrip packets for cough and cold (instructions in Spanish) (50), acetaminophen and ibuprofen (100). We could also use something for coughs- lozenges (100), kids’ throat suckers (60)
- Any gently-used tote bags or small backpacks would also be appreciated.
- **Baby and children’s shoes *and* clothing up to age 3 only will be an ongoing need.**

All donations may be placed in the bins in the social hall.

Messages St. Andrew Has Received

Recently, St. Andrew returned the small organ in the social hall to Jim Hooks, who had originally donated it to St. Andrew, and the people of Worthington Lutheran Church, whose organ was damaged by a lightning strike.

From the Lutheran church in Worthington

Our congregation appreciates the gift of the pipe organ that you gave us. Jimmy sure does a great job on it. Thank you very much and God bless you.

From the Director of Faith Formation

I love fall! Fall in Western Pennsylvania is a gift of God’s creation. We are always being restored and being made new by God and nothing teaches me that more than the fall in SWPA. For me the start of restoration is the end of something that was giving life to something new, and there is a lot of restoration to our Faith Formation Programing this fall at St. Andrew.

Over the weekend of September 11th and 12th, 2021, St. Andrew will be launching our fall faith formation calendar. For our young adults, we will be having a pot luck cookout at Chris Atwood’s house Saturday, September 11th, at 5:00 p.m. At Sunday worship, we will have a blessing of Bibles and begin our new Sunday morning programing for children from birth to 3rd grade. That evening we will have our new cross-3456 and Youth event. Please look through the rest of the newsletter for more information on the Fall Faith Formation Calendar.

Jesus is calling, calling you to the table he has laid before you. Jesus is calling you the imperfect, you created in the one image; to come and go; to serve and be served. Jesus is calling. Amen, and Amen.

Director of Faith Formation
Chris Atwood

Community Ministry Updates

Fresh Produce Distribution at St. Andrew — Tuesday, August 3rd **Setup: 11:30 a.m. until Delivery Truck is Unloaded** **Distribution: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

St. Andrew continues its Produce to People Distribution following the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank's current precautionary guidelines: outdoors with masks and no-touch sign-ins. If you would like to help, assistance is needed at 11:30 a.m. until the delivery arrives, and, if necessary, to pack boxes. We return at 5:00 p.m. to set up and move food outside. Distribution is scheduled from 5:30-7:00 p.m., and we ask for people to record names, direct cars, and distribute food boxes. Please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-produce13>

Shelter Dinner Update—August 19th (Third Thursdays Monthly)

Good news! We are back *in person* serving the meal at East End Cooperative Ministry in East Liberty (6140 Station St. 15206) starting August 19th. This is a great opportunity for those who would like to help, but don't have time to cook for this ministry. We can always use help prepping and serving at the shelter. The meal is now served at 6:30 p.m. Shelter residents have been vaccinated. Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-shelter28>.

National Night Out—Tuesday, August 3rd **5:00-7:00 p.m.**

National Night Out is back! National Night Out is a city-wide community-building event between neighbors and Pittsburgh safety personnel. Stop by St Andrew's front lawn for free Sno-Cones, games, and tours of various fire, police, and EMT vehicles. Sit and visit with our neighbors and our local police and fire department workers. We also need help making and serving Sno-Cones. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-produce13>
Please note that since produce distribution is happening at the same time, the link is the same for both events.



Sisters Celebrating Diversity - Online Summer Book Club Continues

Sisters Celebrating Diversity is a group that began meeting about two years ago to build relationships and bridges between diverse people from various denominations in Pittsburgh. Sue Gaugler from St. Andrew, along with Pastor Sarah-Lee-Faulkner, have participated in this group. This summer, the group is offering a six-week book club discussing *Oneness Embraced: Reconciliation, the Kingdom, and How We are Stronger Together* by Dr. Tony Evans. The group will be led by co-facilitators Ernestine Sudduth and Sue Smith.

Book: Oneness Embraced, by Dr. Tony Evans
Dates: Tuesdays, August 3rd, 10th, 17th
Time: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Place: Zoom (registrants will receive the link)

Participants are encouraged to order the book in their preferred format in preparation for these gatherings. Please RSVP by emailing sisterscelebratingdiversity@gmail.com and the Zoom link will be sent to you.

Sundays - 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

August 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 + 10 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m.—Worship 5:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Night	2 9	3 5:00-7:00 p.m.—National Night Out 5:30-7:00 p.m.—Produce Distribution	4 11	5 8:00—Simplicity AA	6 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA	7 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.—Council Retreat
8 + 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m.—Worship	10 17	11 18	12 8:00—Simplicity AA	13 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA	14 21	15 + 12 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m.—Worship 3:00-5:00 p.m.—3456 (Children's Activity) 5:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Night
16 23	17 24	18 5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.—Summer Together Community Lawn Party	19 6:30 p.m.—Shelter Din. 8:00—Simplicity AA	20 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA	21 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.—Young Adult Hike at Schenley Park	22 + 13 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m.—Worship with Backpack Blessing <i>After Worship—AV Minister Training</i>
23 7:00 p.m.—Worship Committee	24 6:00 p.m.—Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m.—Christian Ed. Meeting	25 31	26 8:00—Simplicity AA	27 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA	28 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.—Little Pantry and Library Painting Party	29 + 14 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 a.m.—Worship 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.—Back-to-School Youth Trip to Lutherlyn
30 7:00 p.m.—Community Ministry	31 6:00 p.m.—Confirmation Class					