

# 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



## December 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**  
**Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

**EECM Shelter Dinner**  
**Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**  
 6:30 p.m.

### Worship Updates

St. Andrew's weekly worship services continue at the church on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. 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!

### Lector and Cantor Schedule

Sunday	Lector	Cantor
December 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Gaugler	Jeff Denlinger
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Kelly Spaninger	Kristen Asplin
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	Lester Prince	Richard Krug
December 26 <sup>th</sup>	Joyce Compton	Ian Brown

### Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 p.m.

Via Zoom — Please see inside for more details.

### SWPA Service Celebrating Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

This ecumenical service of Holy Communion will be held at Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church at 4:00 p.m., in person and live-streamed. Bishop Abraham Allende will preside and the Rev. Lamont Wells will preach. The service will encourage members of the synod to engage in the practice of nonviolence to continue efforts to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. Opportunities for service and anti-racist action will be commended for the King Holiday.

### From Our Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

Happy Thanksgiving!

Because of you, we're making it through. Your Mission Support contributions provide care for every congregation, clergyperson, and ministry in our synod. Through challenging times, your gift has enabled new ways of connecting and building resilience together. For this, we give thanks to God for you.

## From the Pastor

“The Global Supply Chain Nightmare Is about to Get Worse.” - cnn.com, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021

“How to Keep the Supply Chain from Ruining Your Christmas.”  
New York Times, nytimes.com, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

“Biden Meets with Retailers and Grocers to Discuss Supply Chain as Holiday Season Begins.”  
cnn.com, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

<sup>1</sup>*In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.*  
Luke 3: 1-2, + Second Sunday of Advent

<sup>2</sup>*Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.*  
<sup>3</sup>*With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation.*  
Isaiah 12: 2-3, + Third Sunday of Advent

<sup>46b</sup>*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,*  
<sup>47</sup>*my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,*  
<sup>48</sup>*for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.*  
Song of Mary, Luke 1: 46b-48, + Fourth Sunday of Advent

<sup>1</sup>*In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged, and who was expecting a child. Luke 2: 1-5*

We have likely all seen headlines or heard news reports about current troubles with the global supply chain and concerns about its effects on our economy. We hear of people’s inability to find certain products and the steeper prices paid for others. We have probably felt some of this ourselves, whether at the grocery store or the gas station. At this time of year when so much of our society is focused on buying, spending, and gift-giving, such news leads to dire proclamations like the one above about “ruined Christmas.” Media and others look to public figures like the president, either for solutions or to place blame, as if one person could have an outsized effect on such interconnected global dynamics during a pandemic. Like people throughout history, we put our trust and hope, especially for comfort and security, in all the wrong places.

Our Scripture readings for this Advent and Christmas invite us to see things differently. John the Baptist came along during the time of all the powerful political leaders Luke mentions to proclaim that God’s people should turn from their current ways and look to the one who was coming, the humble teacher from God who would re-order the world. Isaiah, speaking in a time of instability amid a nation divided, declares that God is the one and only source of salvation in whom they can place their trust. Mary, upon hearing the news that she will bear the child Jesus, celebrates God’s greatness and sings as if God’s promises are already fulfilled, not only for her but for all God’s people. As she and Joseph prepare for the birth of the child, they are beholden to the decisions of their government, its economic system and taxation, which demands that they travel far from home to be registered. Christmas does not always happen the way we planned.

In this broken world, we so often place expectations on our leaders, our political structures, our economic systems, looking to them to save us from our troubles or bring us the good life. Yet as Isaiah and Mary remind us, all we need, all that God has promised, has already been fulfilled. We find our joy in the presence of God who has done great things for us and will continue to do so. Mary and Joseph, God’s people throughout the ages, and this world God loves have all faced difficult circumstances around Christmas before, as some are right now, troubles far more dire than not getting a consumer product on time. The Christ child still arrives. God continues to come among us. Christmas is still celebrated, and the angels still sing: “*Do not be afraid—for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. To you is born a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace among those God favors.*”

In Christ, Pastor Ross

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## Worship Livestream and Zoom Gathering

The primary weekly worship service of St. Andrew continues in the sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. The service is live-streamed to Facebook, YouTube, and Zoom. The Zoom gathering allows those who are not able or ready to attend in person to be together online and share conversation before and after the Sunday service.

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

Facebook — [www.facebook.com/standrewlutheranchurchpgh/](http://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](http://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](http://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>

## Cleaning the Church

We are asking your assistance in making St. Andrew the warm, welcoming place that it can be for our members, weekly guests from the community, and visitors to Sunday worship. Areas of greatest need are vacuuming, dusting, and removing cobwebs, especially in the sanctuary and entryways. Similar upkeep and cleaning of the restrooms and non-carpeted floors would also be helpful. There is no need to do everything; we can divide these tasks among several people and they can be done according to your own schedule. Please speak with Pastor Ross if you are willing to contribute. Thank you for your consideration.

## Camp Agapé Updates

**Be the Light Campaign**—During the summer of 2021, Camp Agapé experienced two power outages which lasted over 17 hours. They lost food and had to send campers home due to no running water. The camp is in the process of installing two generators, one for the pump house and one for the Retreat and Learning Center to ensure that they camp has water and electricity until power can be restored. The cost will be \$35,000. Camp Agapé asks that you prayerfully consider donating toward this cost so they can provide a safe and healthy environment during power losses.

**Family Christmas Festival—Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-4:00 p.m.**—The day will include a Family Photo Booth, Arts and Crafts Projects, Christmas Goodies, Music and Fellowship.

For more information about Camp Agapé please contact the Office at 724-356-2308 or by Email at [campinfo@campagape.org](mailto:campinfo@campagape.org). Visit the website: [www.campagape.org](http://www.campagape.org). Mailing: PO Box 115 Hickory, PA 15340. Physical Address: 72 Agape Road, Hickory, PA.

# Annual Congregational Meeting

## Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 p.m.

The annual meeting of the St. Andrew congregation is held in November or December each year, and this year's meeting will be on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom. At this meeting, along with providing updates on larger congregational matters, the congregation elects members to serve on our leadership council and approves a budget for ministry in the year ahead. This year we also plan to ratify the changes to the congregational constitution that were approved at the spring meeting. With these changes, the positions to be elected are (candidate listed):

Treasurer	Kelly Spanninger
Financial Secretary	David Rollinson
At Large	Vanessa Brown
	Cynthia Holden
	Conrad Kalcich
	Jan Kurth (Jan has been serving as recording Secretary)
	Colten Rohleder

Under the new constitution, the election of Treasurer and Financial Secretary by the congregation will continue on an annual basis. Other officer and liaison roles will be apportioned among the elected council members, and those roles will be communicated with the congregation after the January council retreat.

We are grateful for these individual and their willingness to serve, and **we give thanks for the leadership of Sue Sabol, Lester Prince, Jason Galyardt, and Joy Givens** in their time on council.

Please note that no absentee or proxy votes can be accepted, so please make every effort to attend. Our communal life is blessed when all members of the Body of Christ are together!

Login information for Zoom:

Topic: Saint Andrew Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting  
Time: Dec 5, 2021 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Three ways to join Zoom Meeting:

One-step method with direct link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83911152630?pwd=dTIHa0JuKzArVGsyMnNFZzFTd1BDUT09>

Step-by-step method

Go online to zoom.us

Click "Join a Meeting"

Type in the Meeting ID: 839 1115 2630

Enter the Passcode: Church

Dial in on your audio-only phone and enter the Meeting ID and Numerical Passcode

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Passcode: 598110

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kTmfQqbD0>

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## 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering A Message from St. Andrew's Youth

The youth gathering is something I want to participate in because it gives me a chance to be around people my age with similar experiences to me. I also want to meet new people from all different communities and ethnicities. This will also be a great opportunity to grow my faith and for us as a youth group to grow together.

**Johanna Asplin**

St. Andrew's youth have begun preparing for the next Gathering in Minneapolis next year, and fundraising is a necessary part of these efforts. To give a sense of the scope of the Gathering, here are some associated costs:



\$ 15 - First aid kit	\$ 22 - Trip T-shirt
\$ 25 - Checked bag	\$ 45 - Meals for a day
\$200 - Lodging for a night	\$ 360 - Transportation
\$315 - Meals for a trip	\$ 350 - Registration
\$750 - Lodging for a trip	\$2678 - One Trip

We invite you to consider supporting St. Andrew's youth in attending this life-changing faith formation event. No gift is too small! Any amount is so helpful and appreciated! You can either put ELCAYG on the memo line of your check or you can write it on the outside of an envelope and place it in the offering plate at worship. You can also give online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/YJ2Y/home> with the rest of your gifts to God. Thank you very much for helping our church grow in the boundless love of God. Please remember we would also appreciate your prayers.

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### Return to In Person Faith Formation Activities Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

It is with great joy and hope that I am announcing the return of in person Little Church; Big Faith on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, when we will celebrate the Baptism of our Lord. Little Church; Big Faith will happen in the Social Hall during the Word portion of Sunday Worship. We ask that for children under 3 years of age, a parent accompany them to Little Church; Big Faith. We will also have a sign-up sheet for a second adult to be with Director of Faith Formation Chris Atwood each week. If you have any questions, please reach out to Chris.

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### Adult Education 2022

Read the Bible in a year! I am exhilarated to invite you to read the Bible this coming year with me, Director of Faith Formation Chris Atwood, and Pastor Ross. By reading just four chapters a day, you can finish the Bible in a year. In addition to reading, we will have a once a week "book club"-style meeting to check in with each other for a time of sharing and asking questions. This meeting will be in person or on Zoom on Tuesday nights from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. It is okay if you cannot make the meetings every week, we still welcome your participation! Please reach out to Chris Atwood for more information. I hope you will join us!

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### Christmas Dinner in a Bag

St. Andrew will be assembling and giving out "Christmas Dinner in a Bag" at produce distribution on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Each bag contains 2 bags of instant mashed potatoes, 1 box of stuffing mix, 2 cans of green beans, 1 packet of instant gravy mix, and 1 box of putting mix. Community Market in Bloomfield has graciously donated the bags.

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# Advent Focus on God's Gifts Commitment Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

Each year, St. Andrew takes time to focus on God's gifts and to consider how we are being called to respond in gratitude. Over the three December Sundays of Advent, we will reflect on God's gifts through the lens of our weekly Scripture readings.

+ Second Sunday of Advent                      December 5<sup>th</sup>                      God's Work among Us

*The one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.*  
Philippians 1: 6 (Second Reading)

+ Third Sunday of Advent                      December 12<sup>th</sup>                      God Brings Joy among Us

*Shout aloud and sing for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One, Isaiah 12: 6 (Psalm)*  
*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Philippians 4: 4 (Second Reading)*

+ Fourth Sunday of Advent                      December 19<sup>th</sup>                      We respond to God's Holiness among Us

*You, the Almighty have done great things for me and holy is your name.*  
Luke 1: 49 (Psalm)

Since not everyone is able to be in worship at this time, we will mail an invitation letter and a commitment card to each individual or household. We invite you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to give financially to the ministries of St. Andrew in 2022. December 19<sup>th</sup> will be Commitment Sunday, when those who are at worship will have an opportunity to dedicate their commitments to God at the time of the offering. If you are unable to come to worship that day, we would appreciate it if you would return your commitment card to the church by mail or by dropping it off in the office. Thank you for the many ways you contribute to the life and ministry of St. Andrew!

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## Being Good Stewards of our Church Grounds

Those of you who have been able to attend worship in person may have noticed some changes in the appearance of our church grounds. In addition to weeding our flower beds, volunteers have been working on removing the invasive plants that have been gradually taking over the grounds. The worst offenders are porcelain berry vines and Amur honeysuckle shrubs, which are now recognized as undesirable invasive plants. Birds eat their berries, which are the avian equivalent of junk food, and then deposit the seeds far and wide in their droppings. New plants readily sprout and quickly displace the native plants, doing serious harm to the ecosystem. We are finishing the removal of the invasive plants and plan to begin replacing them with appropriate noninvasive plants next spring. Anyone who would like to help with these projects may contact Pastor Ross or Lester Prince.

## Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service — Hope for the Holidays

Join Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) in spreading hope to children and families in immigration detention this holiday season. Download the Hope for the Holidays 2021 toolkit to get involved in the following:

- Act - Write and decorate holiday cards in English and Spanish
- Donate - Help bring holiday joy by donating at [LIRS.org/GiveHope](https://www.lirs.org/givehope)
- Advocate - Support the safety and reunification of more families.
- Pray - Lift up your voices for those who seek safety and protection.
- Teach - Learn about a family's journey getting settled in the United States.

Visit [LIRS.ORG/HOPE](https://www.lirs.org/hope) to learn more.

# 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](mailto:st.a.prayer.team@gmail.com).

**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, including **Brandon Simpson**; 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. We pray especially for the people of **Afghanistan**.

**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 those who are unemployed and 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, Donna, Sylvia Eberle, Rod Hermann, Kevin Kareis, and Bishop Michael Lozano of the NWPA Synod**.

**For those whose needs are ongoing: Rachel Faulkner, Beth Hermann, Larry Lash, Pastor Paul Koch, Ruth Krug, Marissa, Pastor Kim Rapczak, Rhonda, and Tom Swanson.**

**For all who are in need or who have requested our prayers: John Aitken; Terry Crowe; Rod and Beth Hermann; Regis and Sarah Holden and family; Bonnie Adelson and Bruce Klotz; Maichele; Tim and Kathy Metzler; Molly and Malachai, Azi Pourmir; Pastor Martin and Solveig Rafanan; Karen Shaffer.**

**For those who are grieving: Colleen Cooke; Nancy Dunn; the Fennessy family; Kevin Kareis and family; Simone Maccanti and family.**

**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 troubled relationships; for those who have personally experienced the fragility of life; and for those who mourn, including

**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 **Mary Brown, Karen Calvacca, Diane, Franco Maccanti, and Tim**; in thanksgiving for comfort and hope that come from the promise of the resurrection to eternal life.

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## December Celebrations

### Birthdays

- 3 Benjamin Koch
- 2 Wendy Hermann
- 6 John Tymitz
- 7 Monica van Beek
- 8 Eleanor Kennedy
- 9 Wayne Sommerfeld
- 11 David Chapman, Eilidh Chapman  
Cassie Lepsch  
Stephen Sue
- 11 Timothy Klitsch
- 17 Lee Szymkiewicz
- 18 Sheena Van Dyke
- 20 Noelle Armor
- 21 Micah Byrum
- 26 Leslie Montgomery
- 30 Jason Kennedy

### Anniversaries

- 4 Pastor Erin Jones, Ordination
- 20 Richard Krug, Baptism
- 27 Pastor Paul and Sharon Koch, Wedding
- 30 Renee and Mike Sallach, Wedding

## In Sympathy

We offer sympathies and prayers for the family and friends of

### Mary Brown

Colleen Cooke's friend

### Karen Calvacca

Sister-in-law of Colleen Cooke's friend,  
Nancy Dunn

### Diane

Kevin Kareis' cousin

### Franco Maccanti

Simone Maccanti's father

### Tim

Nephew of Jodie Minor's friend.

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

## Thank You!

... to **Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer** (organ), **Richard Krug** (cantor), and **Sue Gaugler** (lector) for their leadership in worship on Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>.

... to everyone who helped set up and/or distribute produce on November 2<sup>nd</sup>: **Chris Atwood, Pastor Deb Byrum, Sue and Scott Gaugler, Jimmi Kocher-Hillmer, Dixie and John Tymitz, and Hal Wilcox.**

... to **Ian Brown** (cantor) and **Sue Gaugler** (lector) for their leadership in worship on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.

... to **Sue and Scott Gaugler, Doug Lash, Renee Makaroun, Johanna Matsui, Solveig Rafanan, and the van Beek Family** for preparing and serving food for the East End Cooperative Ministry Shelter Dinner on November 18<sup>st</sup>.

... to **Richard Krug** (cantor), and **Joyce Compton** (lector) for their leadership in worship on Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

... to **Jimmi** (organ) and **Timothy Kocher-Hillmer** (cantor), and **Lester Prince** (lector) for their leadership in worship on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>.

... to **Jodie Minor, Beverley Chapman, Christy Ruhe, Bennett Ruhe, and Sue Sabol** for their work in Communion preparation, altar care, and worship setup in November.

... to **Kristen Asplin, Linnea Asplin, Conrad Kalcich, and Leanne and Jonathan Paetz** for serving as Zoom hosts for worship in November.

... to **Kristen Asplin, Linnea Asplin, Jason Galyardt, Angie McComb, Joseph Paetz, Dave Rollinson, and Chris Atwood** for serving as audiovisual ministers during worship in November.

... to **Community Market** in Bloomfield for donating bags for our feeding ministry.

... to **Scott and Sue Gaugler, Conrad, Taumi, and Arly Kalcich, Angie McComb, and Amos Mangano Rollinson** for cleaning the church in November.

Thank you to **Kelly Spaninger** for her work in preparing the budget for 2022.

Thank you to **Michael Smolleck**, who has offered to make pine door swags to decorate the exterior of the church for the Christmas season.

**From Diane Elliot McHirella** during worship on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>: **Lily, Jimmi, and Timothy**, thank you for the lovely music and for also leading worship with Pastor Ross!



# Community Ministry Updates

*There are many opportunities to serve our community!*

## **Fresh Produce Distribution at St. Andrew — Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**

We are now receiving bulk shipments of produce. We will set up in the Social Hall and let people select their own items. **Help is especially needed around 11:30 a.m. to help with unloading the truck and setup.** From 5:15 to 7:00 p.m., we would appreciate additional help with answering questions and helping our guests when they need assistance. Please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-produce17>.

## **East End Cooperative Ministry Shelter Dinner Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m.**

If you like to cook, this is the ministry for you! If you do not have time to cook, there are always options to purchase and drop off part of the meal. If you like to engage with new people, all are welcome to help plate and serve the food and visit with the residents.

Did you know that, if you like, you can turn in your receipts and be reimbursed for your purchases on behalf of Shelter Dinner? There are funds set aside in the church budget for this purpose.

Please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080544AAAC22A1F58-shelter32>.

## **Overground Railroad Update — Donations On Hold**

Thank you to everyone who has donated items to Grannies Respond for asylum seekers on the Overground Railroad. Due to the reinstatement of the “Remain in Mexico” policy, the number of people traveling from Texas through Pittsburgh is currently very low. We will stop collecting children’s shoes and clothing until we hear of increased need.

## **Little Free Pantry Ministry Opportunities**

The Little Free Pantry offers many opportunities to minister to our neighbors. Consider helping in one of the following ways:

- Restock the food pantry or library on Sundays or on one day during the week. We have open days in December.
- Stop by the pantry storage corner and grab a shopping list of things that would be helpful. Take the list with you (or scan it into your phone) and pick up an item or two while you are shopping. Many items on the list can be purchased for \$1.00 or less!
- Wrap plastic utensils in napkins and leave them on the pantry storage shelves in the Social Hall.

### **Wish List for December:**

- Toiletries—Feminine products, toilet paper, foot powder, toothpaste (travel sizes work well)
- Shelf stable milk
- Single serve canned food with flip top lids
- Cracker packs and granola bars
- Hand warmers, socks hats, mittens/gloves

If you have questions about the pantries, please see Joyce Compton. She can be reached at [jcompton28@gmail.com](mailto:jcompton28@gmail.com) or 412-657-0584. Want to know more about the movement? Visit the national website at: <https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>

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## **St. Andrew Shopping Night at Ten Thousand Villages Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4:00-7:00 p.m.**

Ten Thousand Villages, 5820 Forbes Ave, Squirrel Hill, will host a shopping night to benefit St. Andrew on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. St Andrew will receive 10% of proceeds from all sales up to \$700 that night and 15% of all sales above \$700. The Community Ministry Team has chosen to use the donation for Bethany Christian Services, which has entered a new partnership with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service to resettle individuals and families who have fled Afghanistan in the Pittsburgh area. Ten Thousand Villages is a Fair Trade organization that supports individual artisans all over the world, helping them to become self-sufficient by selling their wares. Shopping at St. Andrew Night helps you find lovely gifts for people on your holiday list, benefits St. Andrew's ministries, AND supports these vendors.

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### **Christmas Outreach for Family House**

St. Andrew's Community Ministry team has selected Family House as the recipient of our giving for Christmas this year. Family House is our neighbor down the street on Centre Ave. They provide three "homes away from home" for patients and/or their families who are in Pittsburgh for medical treatment. Family House reduces emotional and financial stress on these families by offering affordable housing in a home-like atmosphere. We at St Andrew can help by purchasing items from their Amazon shopping list here: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2M6WMQ76WKJ0D/ref=hz\\_ls\\_biz\\_ex](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2M6WMQ76WKJ0D/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex) which will ship items directly where needed at Family House.

You may also choose to purchase items from this shopping list and bring them to the bin in the church Social Hall.

- Canned chicken or tuna
- Easy mac
- Canned ravioli/pasta
- Canned soups
- Cooking oils/sprays
- Oatmeal cups
- Toothbrushes

We will collect items at church until December 31<sup>st</sup>. You may shop at Amazon and send items to Family House as often as you like.

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### **Poinsettia Orders to Decorate for Christmas**

St. Andrew is offering the opportunity to purchase or donate poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve and in the Christmas season.

Available are 6.5 inch pots in Red, White, or Pink for \$10.00 each. You can feel free to take the flowers home after Christmas Eve or have them dropped off to homebound members of the congregation. If you would like to order, please indicate how many of each you would like and select the payment option using the following link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepYHEYweHEqeGaJ6OhFZFDPR3dmuF4rkPJ\\_D-v0gdnqjW3iw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepYHEYweHEqeGaJ6OhFZFDPR3dmuF4rkPJ_D-v0gdnqjW3iw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

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**Sundays - 10:00 a.m. Worship Service**

# December 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNES DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 4:00-7:00 p.m. Ten Thousand Villages Shopping Night	3 12:00 p.m.—SLAA 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA	4 9:30 a.m.—Council 10:00 a.m.—Little Church; Big Faith Posted
5 + Advent 2 10:00 a.m.—Worship 12:00 noon — Congregational Meeting via Zoom	6 7:00 p.m.— NA	7 5:30-7:00 p.m.— Produce Distribution 6:30-7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class	8	9 12:00 p.m.— SLAA 8:00 p.m.— Simplicity AA	10 12:00 p.m.—SLAA 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA	11 10:00 a.m.—Little Church; Big Faith Posted 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Work Day 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.— Hearts and Hands
12 + Advent 3 10:00 a.m.—Worship	13 7:00 p.m.— NA 7:00 p.m.— Community Ministry Mtg	14 6:30-7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class	15	16 12:00 p.m.— SLAA 6:30 p.m.—Shel- ter Dinner 8:00 p.m.— Simplicity AA	17 12:00 p.m.—SLAA 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	18 10:00 a.m.—Little Church; Big Faith Posted
19 + Advent 4 10:00 a.m.—Worship 4:00-6:00 p.m.—3456 5:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Night	20 7:00 p.m.— NA	21 6:30 p.m.— Confirmation Class 7:30-8:30 p.m. Faith Formation Mtg.	22	23 12:00 p.m.— SLAA 8:00 p.m.— Simplicity AA	24 + Christmas Eve 12:00 p.m.—SLAA 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA 7:00 p.m.—Worship	25 + Christmas Day 10:00 a.m.—Little Church; Big Faith Posted
26 + Christmas 1 10:00 a.m.—Worship 5:00-7:00 p.m.—Youth Night	27 7:00 p.m.— NA	28	29	30 12:00 p.m.— SLAA 8:00 p.m.— Simplicity AA	31 12:00 p.m.—SLAA 6:00 p.m.—Women's AA	