

The Fisherman's Network

St. Andrews United Methodist Church

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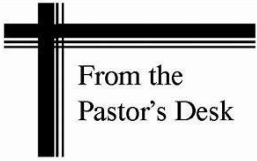
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Our Mission: "To Show, Share and Grow in God's Love, through Jesus Christ."

Our Vision: "Believe in God, Follow Jesus, and Serve Others."

February 2023 Newsletter



From the
Pastor's Desk

Matthew 6:1-21 Spiritual Struggles

Ash Wednesday begins our 40 days wilderness journey.

Thanks be to God for Christian Baptism that brings us into the Christian faith family.

As human beings and disciples of Jesus we still have spiritual struggles. We are children of God, but sometimes we do not act like it.

Our behaviors do not meet the godly standards. Our self-esteem is low, we are not focused on the things of God, our spiritual habits not healthy. We lack the power and strength to be strong believers. We may even think that no one loves us, no one is concerned about our wellbeing.

We overlook our sins and guilt and need not to repent.

Ash Wednesday helps bring us to turning to God, repenting our sins, allowing the blood of Christ to wash us.

With God there is always a second chance to stop our evil ways, turn around and do what is right in the sight of God.

We are the family of God, let us return and be restored.

In honor of Black History month, we remember and celebrate the powerful work of God through the lives of African Americans. The ethnic diversity we see and have, is a great expression of God's excellent beauty. Our differences display the infinite glory of God's image.

Blessings,
Pastor Serufusa



St. Andrews Music Notes

This newsletter article comes to you with great news. Our newly developed Worship and Music Committee has nine members that are excited to bring new ideas to enhance our worship service. Please feel free to join us! The more people we have will result in more ideas. The next meeting is March 8th at 6:00.

Our team discussed many ideas to include in our Sunday services. Sunday, February 19th will include a message from former U.S. presidents about their faith in God and how that faith directed their presidential decisions. Both the Chancel/Praise Choir and the Faithful Ringers will share patriotic music that Sunday.

We began preparing for the Sundays in Lent that will include monologues with the theme of "Knowing Jesus". Special music and narratives will be shared each Sunday in Lent as characters in the Bible tell what Jesus did for them during His life on Earth. These characters will remind us that it is well with my soul because we know Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

We have begun preliminary plans for a "Christmas In July" celebration. More information will follow on this special event.

In closing, I would like to share something I heard today that was said by a TV host, "Try to do something good for someone every day and don't tell anyone about it." It reminded me of a poster that we have in Clear Spring High School that reads, "Your character is determined by what you do when no one is looking."

Important Dates in February

- Feb 02 - Nancy off
- Feb 02 - 7:00 pm Trustees
- Feb 06 - 9-11:30 Egg Making begins
- Feb 12 - "Souper" Sunday for REACH
- Feb 12 - Egg orders accepted
- Feb 14 - Valentine's Day
- Feb 15 - March Newsletter articles are due
- Feb 15 - 11:30 am Emmanuel Senior's Lunch at Western Sizzlin'
- Feb 19 - Transfiguration Sunday
- Feb 22 - 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service at St. Andrews UMC
- Feb 25 - 9:00 am UMM meeting at church
- Feb 26 - 1st Sunday in Lent
- Feb 28 - 7:00 pm Church Council



United
Methodist
Men

Helping Men Grow in Christ, So Others May Know Christ

Please support
our United
Methodist Men by
joining the group

on the fourth Saturday of each month at 9:00 am for fellowship. United Methodist Men's motto is to help men grow in Christ, so others may know Christ.

Because all that we have belongs to God, our goal in using that which belongs to Him is to glorify Him.

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31).



Notes on Finances ...

Applying Bible Principles

When he was president of Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship, Gordon MacDonald said, "One of the greatest teachings missing in the American church today is the reminder to men and women that nothing we have belongs to us."

We own nothing. We have been given material means to use, but not to own. All that we have belongs to God. He is our Source according to Psalm 62:5. We are only managers and stewards of what He has entrusted to us.

Because all that we have belongs to God, and because He gives us the ability to obtain wealth, every spending decision is in reality a spiritual decision. According to 1 Corinthians 10:31, our constant goal must be to glorify God in all of life, including how we use His resources.

Stephen Olford wrote this: "... man's chief end is 'to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.' We are to glorify God by our worshipful praise (Psalm 50:23). We are to glorify Him by our consistent fruit bearing (John 15:8). We are to glorify Him by our spiritual unity (Rom. 15:6). We are to glorify Him by our entire dedication (1 Cor. 6:20). And we are to glorify Him by our good works (Matt. 5:16). In this last category is included the matter of giving. Only in this way can we provide for 'honest things in the sight of the Lord.' The glory of God should motivate us to give and to give our best."

If our goals and ambitions are truly set on spiritual things, if our emphasis in life is to glorify God, we will use the funds He has "loaned" to us on a temporary basis to glorify Him. We will put His money and possessions to good use by giving to His work and by storing up "treasures in heaven" (Matt. 6:19-21).

There are two key questions to be asked concerning money and possessions: First, are you

glorifying God in how you are using the money and possessions He has entrusted to you? And second, are you viewing these things as yours or as His?



Food Collections

In early January we delivered 19 boxes of cereal and 20 other items to St. Mark's Food Bank. Our delivery to Bester Elementary School will be the week of January 15th. Thank you for your continued support of sugar, flour, instant mashed potatoes, boxed macaroni and cheese, and individual snacks for Bester; and St. Mark's food items.

Red Bird Mitten Tree

Our tree was full and overflowing with beautiful hats, scarves, and gloves! We sent about 120 items to Beverly, KY. I wish we could see the faces of the volunteers when they open the two stuffed boxes! Thank you for sharing your talents, prayers, and love for others this winter.

REACH Cold Weather Shelter

It is time for us to help our local homeless shelter. Sunday, February 12th, will be "Souper" Bowl Sunday. A bowl will be in the back of the sanctuary for donations to support those in our community needing a warm place to spend the night. REACH provides services, also, to avoid evictions, find housing, emergency lodging, utility bills, and other individual needs. A box will be on the hall table with a list of needed items. Please take one and donate an item for REACH. Thank you for "reaching out" to our neighbors!!

Church World Service (CWS)

From Rick Santos, President and CEO of CWS: "Thank you for your generous gift to the CWS Blankets program. As families and communities around the world recover from emergencies and struggle in the face of unprecedented challenges, you are standing with them. Now more than ever, we are so grateful for your generous support".

We donated \$1113.00 in the fall of 2022.

“Souper” Bowl Sunday February 12

There will be a bowl at the back of the Sanctuary to benefit the R.E.A.C.H. Cold Weather Shelter. Every

dollar will help the needy. Please be generous. Also...there is a list of items needed by R.E.A.C.H. on the table in the hallway. Please pick one up and deposit the needed items in the box. Donations will be delivered in March. Thank you!

WEATHER WATCH!



If the weather outside is blowing and you wonder if church services will be held, look for an email from the pastor or the church office.

If Washington County schools are closed due to the weather, any meetings scheduled at the church for that day or evening will be cancelled unless you are advised otherwise by the meeting chairperson.



**February 22, 7:00 pm
at St. Andrews United Methodist Church**



2023 Peanut Butter Egg Fundraiser!

It's that time again! We will begin making and selling our delicious peanut butter eggs the week of February 6th and will continue until Easter. The deadline to order Peanut Butter Eggs is April 2nd. The last day to pick them up is Easter Sunday, April 9th.

Egg prices will remain at \$1.00 per egg.

Order forms will be on the table in the Narthex beginning February 12. Completed forms must be received a week before you need the eggs. We require a separate order form for each DATE of DELIVERY. All orders must be paid for when they are picked up.

Join the Team and enjoy the Fellowship!

Please contact Phyllis Ernde, Bonnie Hargett, or Sue Rudisill, to let them know which team you want to work on each week. Your options are 9am

to 11:30 am, Mondays to shape eggs and
Tuesdays to dip, patch and pack eggs.

In order to make our egg sale more profitable, we
will gladly accept donations of powdered 10X
sugar, Jif Smooth Peanut Butter and real butter (no
margarine). Thank you!