

The Fisherman's Network

St. Andrews United Methodist Church

1020 Maryland Avenue; Hagerstown, MD 21740

www.standrewsumchagerstown.com

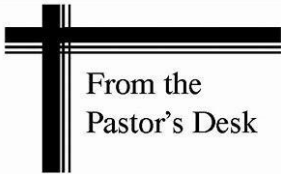
Phone: 301-739-7431

E-mail: standrewsumchagerstown@gmail.com

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

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

January 2022 Newsletter



From the
Pastor's Desk

As we turn the calendar to a new year we ask God to help us apply wisdom to our hearts.

We resolve to walk with God in the New Year. God has promised not to leave us. We pray that the Holy Spirit will lead us on the way; that he will abide in our hearts.

We pray for good health, pray for our families and pray for our friends that God give them peace and joy.

We let go of last year's grudges, our anger and pain. We resolve to maintain a loving Spirit and to serve all who are in need, regardless of race, creed and color.

Because we know that we are one people, we resolve to embrace all people God will send our way.

We pray that God will fill 2022 with love, peace, prosperity and blessings.

Lord give us healing to heal the brokenhearted, strengths to help the weak, and vision in 2022. Help us to be bridge builders to seek justice for all people.

We enter the New Year reverently. Gracious God give us love, peace, hope and joy in 2022. We need your presence and your guidance to be with us in 2022.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Blessings,
Pastor Serufusa



*St. Andrews
Music Notes*

Blessings to you in the New Year.

Isn't it interesting how a GPS works? I'm sure you have heard your GPS tell you to recalculate or make a U turn. It will tell you the fastest route to take, or the suggested route. Isn't it wonderful that God gives us so many chances to go a different pathway or recalculate what we have been doing and make changes? Can you imagine if we took the wrong path in life and God would say, "Ok, sorry - wrong turn - you're done." Thank heaven we have a forgiving, understanding, and loving Lord. He gives us the freedom to make decisions and then does not condemn us if we start going down the wrong path. God is always willing to forgive us and allow us to do a U turn and/or recalculate our direction.

As we begin 2022, let us always remember that we worship a God who gives us many chances to get it right. By the grace of God, we can change our pathway and go down the road that leads us to a closer relationship with God. In our church life, there are so many opportunities to help us along the way. Involvement in the many benevolent opportunities, bell choir, church choir, various committees, Sunday School, Bible Study, etc., will

help you in your faith journey and keep you on the best route for your final destination.

Thank God for second, third, and fourth..... chances to stay on the correct route.

Let us listen to God and allow him to be our GPS this year.

Lisa Shives,
Music Director



- Jan 01 - New Year's Day
- Jan 02 - Epiphany Sunday
- Jan 06 - 7:00 pm Trustees
- Jan 09 - Baptism of the Lord Sunday
- Jan 11 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee
- Jan 16 - Human Relations Sunday
- Jan 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan 18 - 6:00 pm SPRC
- Jan 22 - 9:00 am UMM Breakfast meeting
- Jan 25 - 7:00 pm Ad Council



Since we do not have a Worship Committee chairperson, this article from January 2021 has been recycled and reworded only slightly since it still applies in January 2022.

New is the year and new is the hope that the end of this terrible pandemic will soon be over. Thank you to each and every one of you who have supported St. Andrews during 2021. There are many "out front" people, those "behind the scenes", all of the financial support, and God's continuous guidance and blessings which allowed the church to continue in spite of lower in-person attendance.

This prayer was shared last year and still applies this year:

*Dear God,
Thank you for yet to be seen blessings that will lift our spirits, bring a smile, delight our hearts, and fill us with joy.
Thank you, too, for "blessings" that will challenge our patience, require more strength than we think possible, catch us unaware and unprepared, test our faith and shake our foundation.
For in all of these, you will be there-stirring up our faith, renewing our hope, supplying our needs, blessing your children.
Thank you Father.
In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Please consider serving your church as Worship Committee chairperson. What a great opportunity for spiritual growth! Happy New Year!

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 listen to WJEJ,

1240 AM on your radio dial for a report of canceled worship services.

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.



Red Bird Mitten Tree

Once again our tree was overflowing with beautiful winter items. They will be packed and sent to the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky to warm lots of

heads and hands! Due to a large box of over 100 mittens, we were able to share some with our local community too. They went to Bester children, Salvation Army families, Afghan Refugee collection, and Head Start preschoolers. Thank you so much!

Winter Clothing for Afghan Refugees

Several coats and other winter items were donated to a local church and were delivered to Harrisburg, PA. Thank you for responding to such an urgent request!

Food Mission Projects

From November 15 to December 15 we were able to help feed our community. St. Mark's Food Bank received 28 boxes of cereal. The Hope Center (Rescue Mission) received 60 items. Bester kindergartners were provided with 90 boxes of snacks, and their pantry received 23 items.

Bruce L. "Sonny" Shank, Executive Director of The Hope Center, sent us a lovely letter thanking us for the over 120 lbs. of food we delivered "which will help us continue to serve hot, nutritious meals and provide free groceries to men, women, and children."

Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH)

In 1997 FHFH was established in Washington County, MD so that hunters and farmers could donate venison to feed the hungry. Today, 29 states are providing "over 1.2 million meals each year." The cost to process a deer is about \$60. Our collection helps fund that cost. Envelopes will be on the table. You may also use your offering envelope or give online. Please write checks to St. Andrews and designate to FHFH. Every dollar is a gift for the hungry. Thank you!

Money is a means to the greater end of glorifying God as we demonstrate practical Christianity in our lives.

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



Thank you for supporting our church through unprecedented financial times. Please continue to support St. Andrew's financially by mailing your contributions or by contributing online.

Thoughts on Generosity...

We've all heard the expression, "Money talks." That's true. Money does talk. Oh, not in words or phrases that constitute a language, but money talks. Because it is valuable to us, how we use it communicates volumes to those about us. People tend to spend their money on things that are important to them. With the exception perhaps of taxes, all of us vote with the contents of our purses, wallets and checkbooks concerning what means the most to us.

In fact, we could even go so far as to say that a person who does not spend money on something which is supposedly very important in his or her life really does not place much value on that item or activity. Suppose for a moment that you think "little league" baseball for kids is very important. You attend the games. You enroll your own children in the program. But when someone calls you to ask you to be a sponsor of a team, or when someone "passes the hat" at a game to pay for equipment, you refuse to participate.

Would you not agree that an impartial observer of such behavior would conclude correctly that little

League baseball really does not mean much to you? Your lack of financial support would outweigh the other positive aspects of your attendance, enthusiasm and participation.

The same thing is true in the spiritual realm. It is one thing to talk about Christianity. It is yet another to demonstrate our faith by how we use the money God has entrusted to us. And that is especially true in our support of the ministry of St. Andrew's. As someone said recently in one church just before the offering was received, "Lord, in spite of all we say and do, this is what we think of you."

Or as the Lord Jesus put it, ". . . let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:16).