

The Fisherman's Network

St. Andrews United Methodist Church

1020 Maryland Avenue; Hagerstown, MD 21740

www.standrewsumchagerstown.com

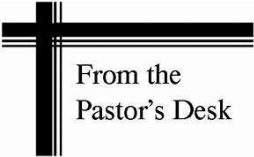
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Our Mission: "To Show, Share and Grow in God's Love, through Jesus Christ."

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

July/August 2023 Newsletter



From the
Pastor's Desk

A Church in your House

Is there a church in your house? Have you set up a church in your home? Is that

church in your home welcoming?

Covid-19 closed public gatherings at church for two years. Some people have decided to worship from home for a while, others have decided they will permanently worship from their home via online live streaming worship services.

The idea of worshipping at home is not new. Throughout the centuries house churches were established in homes. Remember: The Household of Cornelius Acts 10:44-48, Household of Lydia Acts 16:15, Household of Philippian Jailer Acts 16:30-34, Household of Crispus Acts 18:8.

Faith in Jesus Christ is not just for an individual in the family, but it should include the entire family.

Many people isolate their homes from the life and work of faith, thinking all worship and prayers are done at the big place of worship, the church. Our homes are for renewal, rest, and office. Our homes can and should be places where family and others meet God and experience God's blessings.

At our homes God meets us, heals us, and blesses us like God visited Abraham in Genesis 18.

At our homes, we can do Bible study and grow in Christ's teaching. At our homes Christian fellowship can be enjoyed with family and friends.

This summer, let our homes ring with praise to God for God's mercies are new every morning.

Our homes ought to be places where family and neighbors find Christ as their savior. Let our homes be saving stations in the neighborhood.

Let our homes be the spring of peace, joy, mercy, and forgiveness.

Let our homes tell the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Have a great Summer!

Blessings,

Pastor Christopher Serufusa



St. Andrews Music Notes

In the Adult Sunday School class, we are studying the book by James Moore called, "God Was Here and I Was Out To Lunch". James Moore said, "Each and every one of us has been given an instrument to play in Christ's church, and each one is essential and important. Some of us are drums - doers; some of us are flutes - pray-ers; and some of us are trumpets - we share the good news of God's love and power with words and deeds." I really liked this analogy and wanted to share it with you. Two main questions that James Moore poses are, "What is your instrument?" and "Are you playing it?" My thoughts are that your instrument can change from year to year, but the bottom line is we should be aware of what it is and if we are using it to God's glory.

We hope to see all of you at our "Christmas In July" service on July 9th. Christmas is too special to celebrate just once a year. We have lots of activities planned after the service including a luncheon. You don't need to bring a covered dish or drink, etc. that day because this will all be provided for you. Anyone enjoy Bingo? We plan to play Christmas Bingo that day, along with lots of activities for the young who attend.

I hope you enjoy summer and consider joining the Faithful Ringers or Chancel/Praise choir in the

fall. We honestly have a great time in both those groups.

Don't forget to "play your instrument for God."

Lisa Shives
Music Director



...during your summer
vacation!



- July 04- Independence Day
- July 09- Christmas in July special service
- July 11 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee
- July 18- 6:00 pm SPRC
- July 19- 11:30 am Emmanuel Senior's Lunch at Western Sizzlin'
- July 24- Pastor leaves for vacation
- Aug 11 - Pastor returns from vacation
- Aug 16- 11:30 am Emmanuel Senior's Lunch at Western Sizzlin' - Kathy Powderly speaks
- Aug 22- 7:00 pm Church Council
- Aug 26- United Methodist Men meet
- Aug 27- 10:00 am Worship in the Park at Doub's Woods Park, South Potomac Street entrance.** Chicken and beverages provided. Bring a covered dish or dessert to share.



St. Mark's Food Bank

After delivering 56 boxes of cereal this last month, we were shocked

to find the increase of families using the food bank due to a decrease in their Snap benefits. In March they served 205 families. In May they served 293 families. They appreciate our continued support for many years! Please donate a box of cereal including a child's brand and a can of peas, green beans, or carrots. Thank you so much!

Bester Elementary School

There will be children in the school over the summer, and we would like to help provide snacks for them. They are very thankful for our donations during the school year. One of the kindergarten teachers personally thanked us for the snacks for her class when we delivered 8 boxes of 12 packs on June 8th! Thank you for helping out this summer by donating "brain food" for young minds!

Society of St. Andrew

Donations totaling \$340.00 were received during the Potato Drop in April. A check was sent to the Society of St. Andrew to help with the transport of produce. "Thank you for your \$340.00 gift of health and hope. St. Andrews UMC is putting healthy, nourishing food on the tables of individuals and families who are struggling and food insecure." (13,600 servings of food) Chesley R. Vohden Director of Church Relations

Be watching for produce on the hall table. TAKE, DONATE, and ENJOY! Our donation will be sent to their Delmarva Office. "Your gifts stay here & bring good food to people in Maryland." Jean Siers, Delmarva Regional Director

The Hope Center

Sherri delivered 14 items to the Rescue Mission this month. They provide a soup kitchen and a pantry weekly for some of our neighbors. If we get extra canned items, we share them with this local food ministry. Thank you for caring!

10th Annual Community Book Drive

During the months of July and August, we will be collecting gently used and new books for children aged 0 to 11. They will be given to children and adults in our community to improve literacy. There will be a list of suggested books, but there are many others that you may already have or purchase. At the end of August, I will deliver them to a Public Collection Site. If you have any questions see Joyce McClanathan. Thank you for participating in this FUN COLLECTION!! HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!



Notes on Finances ...

Thank you to all our members and friends for supporting St. Andrew's. Remember this summer that our bills do not take vacations. Our current budget is bare bones. We have nothing to cut. If you are behind in your giving and can make up those tithes, please make them up as soon as possible.

July and August are when we begin the budget process for the next year. It is always a tough time because we would like to know an exact amount of budget money we will have available in 2024. We must outline and adjust without knowing. Please pray about St. Andrews' goals for 2024 and the financial support needed to attain them.

There are 3 ways to give.

1. Join us on Sunday and give in person.
2. Mail a check to St. Andrews UMC, 1020 Maryland Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740.
3. Contribute online on the church website, www.standrewsumchagerstown.com

Click on "Donate" or digitally use the Vanco app by scanning the QR code here, using your phone's camera. Directions from Vanco are available. Pick up a copy on the table in the Narthex at church, or write the church office to request a copy.



July

We are personally accountable to God for how we use the money He has entrusted to us.

"For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil"
(2 Cor. 5:10).

August

God uses money as a tool to help us grow.

"Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions" (Luke 12:15).

Applying Bible Principles

If you read annual reports from publicly held companies or banks, you will frequently see the word "fiduciary." Fiduciary is used as an adjective to describe something which is held in trust. It is also used as a noun to describe the one who is a trustee who must account for that which is held in trust.

For example, a bank president has a fiduciary responsibility to stockholders in the bank and to depositors who place their money in the bank. A company treasurer has a fiduciary responsibility to the owners of the company. A payroll clerk has a fiduciary responsibility to pay people what they have earned.

You may never have considered yourself a fiduciary, and you may never have acted officially in a fiduciary capacity, but in reality, you are a fiduciary. All of us are. That applies both to Christians and to those who are not part of God's family through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We who are Christians will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ. There, we will not be judged for salvation, since the penalty and judgment for sin was settled once and for all on the cross of Calvary when the Lord Jesus paid the price for our sin. Instead, when we stand before Christ, we will give an account of how we have used what God has entrusted to us.

Just as a bank president must account to stockholders and depositors on how their funds are used, we must account to Christ for how we have used what God has entrusted to us. Since everything we have rightfully belongs to Him, we will need to report on how we have managed His assets!

As you consider how you have used what God has entrusted to your care and keeping during the past few months, what kind of job have you done? And more importantly, as a "fiduciary" of what God has placed in your hands, will you stand before Him with joy, eager to report on your giving and management of His assets?





Mark Your Calendars!
Worship & Picnic in the Park
August 27th

On August 27th our 10:00 am Sunday worship service will be held at the covered pavilion in Doub's Woods Park, South Potomac Street entrance. The service will be followed by a picnic with chicken and beverages provided! Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share.

A sign-up sheet to let us know how many are attending, what you will bring, or how you can help, will be on the table in the Narthex. You can also email or call the church office to let us know what you will bring.

Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

Six Little Stories

(1)

Once the villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.

That's FAITH.

(2)

When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them.

That's TRUST.

(3)

Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarm to wake up.

That's HOPE.

(4)

We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.

That's CONFIDENCE.

(5)

We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children.

That's LOVE.

(6)

On an old man's shirt was written a sentence: "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience."

That's ATTITUDE.

Have a happy life and live it like the six stories.

When I was a child, I thought nap time was punishment. Now it's like a mini vacation!