



# The Fisherman's Network

## St. Andrews United Methodist Church

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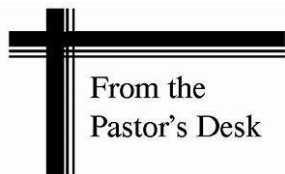
**Our Mission:** "To Show, Share and Grow in God's Love, through Jesus Christ."

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

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## March 2022 Newsletter

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From the  
Pastor's Desk

It's the Lent season. Lent is 40 days starting on Ash

Wednesday to Easter Sunday. Lent brings us to Spring time. Lent is a season when we prepare our hearts for a time of reflection and repentance.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. During the Ash Wednesday service Ashes are placed on the forehead with these words from the Pastor, "**Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.**"

Ashes are a sign of our need for repentance.

At Lent we express our remorse for our shortcomings and flaws.

During the Lenten season we have time for self-examination and repentance. We need to repent because we all have brokenness and sins in our lives.

Lent is a time for prayers, fasting, and charity. Lent provides us a time to look at ourselves honestly and then humble ourselves before God.

May this Lent season bring us new spiritual growth leading us to the resurrection joy.

Blessings,  
Pastor Christopher Serufusa



### St. Andrews Music Notes

As I watched the opening ceremony of the winter Olympics, it appeared there was a recurring theme - "Together for a shared future." I thought that would be great for us to adopt in our religious journey. After all, Jesus spoke to everyone - it didn't matter their occupation, their background, their age, etc. He included everyone.

During the Sunday services in Lent, we will meet some of the people who Jesus came in contact with during his time. Their lives were touched by Jesus and they were never the same.

The Chancel/Praise choir will share Lenten anthems that will go along with the stories of these people touched by Jesus. I think this will be very meaningful as we listen to the events and teachings of Jesus through word and music.

Lisa Shives  
Music Director

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### Remember to Watch the Children's Moment!

St. Andrews is providing a wonderful opportunity to engage children who may not be able to attend in-person worship services. Children's Moment is recorded by a different church member or friend each week and posted to St. Andrews' website before noon Sunday. Take children online to [www.standrewsumchagerstown.com](http://www.standrewsumchagerstown.com),

click on Pastor & Ministry and then Children's Moment to view the video.

## Important Dates *in March*

- Mar 2 - 7:00 pm Ash  
Wednesday Service at St.  
Andrews UMC with Emmanuel UMC
- Mar 3 - 7:00 pm Trustees
- Mar 4 - World Day of Prayer
- Mar 6 - 1st Sunday in Lent
- Mar 6 - Deadline to order Easter Flowers
- Mar 8 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee meets
- Mar 9 - 10 am or 7pm Lenten Bible Study
- Mar 12 - Turn clocks forward when retiring
- Mar 13 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent
- Mar 15 - Newsletter articles due for April
- Mar 16 - 10 am or 7pm Lenten Bible Study
- Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 20 - First Day of Spring
- Mar 20 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent
- Mar 21 - St. Andrews' 108<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Mar 22 - 7:00 pm Church Council meets
- Mar 23 - 10 am or 7pm Lenten Bible Study
- Mar 26 - 9:00 am UMM breakfast
- Mar 27 - UMCOR Sunday
- Mar 27 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent
- Mar 30 - 10 am or 7pm Lenten Bible Study



On March 2 we will observe the service of Ash Wednesday in a combined service with Emmanuel UMC at St. Andrews UMC at 7:00 PM.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent for a period of 40 days (not including Sundays) and ends on Holy Saturday. It represents Jesus' time in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. For us, it can be a time of repentance and an opportunity to grow in our faith. Some suggestions for this time are:

**Worship** - Attend Sunday worship and special services (either in person or online).

**Serve** - We are part of the human family, find a new way to volunteer/serve.

**Give** - Find ways to bless others with what the Lord has entrusted to you.

**Abstain/Fast** - Give up something. Don't limit yourself to food, try giving up complaining, gossiping, being pessimistic, etc. Realize how hard it is and how different it may make you feel.

**Pray Your Day** - Offer sentence prayers throughout your day. Pray for those you come in contact with, situations that might arise, for just another day to seek the Lord's will.

**Clean Something** - Being aware of the ways God "cleans us."

**Forgive and Seek Forgiveness** - Seek forgiveness, release a grudge. Remember, Jesus taught us to pray, "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us".

This year, as we begin this Lenten journey, may we use this time of self-examination, repentance, prayer, reading and meditating on God's word to bring us closer to the greatest commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and

with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "Love your neighbor as yourself".

This year, The World Day of Prayer is on March 4th Please consider participating in this special day as we join others around the world in dedicated prayer.



### **St. Mark's Food Bank**

Since January 15<sup>th</sup> we have donated much needed food to local families and children. We delivered 20 boxes of cereal and 7 other items to St. Mark's. Bester's Pantry received 22 items and 30 boxes of snacks for kindergarten students. Thank you!

### **REACH**

It has been a very cold winter for the homeless in our community. The cold weather shelter provides warm beds, meals, and support for those who need it the most. Your gifts on "Souper" Bowl Sunday and all the items in the hallway box will help the shelter continue their ministry. Everything will be delivered in early March. The April newsletter will report all of the gifts. Thank you so much!

### **UMCOR Sunday – March 27 - A Special Sunday**

Whenever emergencies occur UMCOR is "Ready to Help." On March 27 we will be donating to the "cost of business" (administrative costs) so that when a crisis occurs, 100% of the money donated can be sent directly to that cause. Thank you for helping to provide UMCOR with funds so they can keep being there when disasters occur!

### **Thank You Letters**

*From Rick Santos (President and CEO) of Church World Service for our gift of \$295.00:*

"Dear Friends, Your support and your foresight mean that we can quickly and effectively get supplies into the hands of the people who need them after a crisis...May God bless you for your support."

*From Head Start of Washington Co., Inc.:*

"Thank you very much for your generous donation of hats and gloves for our Head Start children. It is important to us to ensure that each child is given these clothing items and the opportunity to be

warm throughout the winter." Sincerely, Vicki Robinson, Executive Director

*From Global Ministries for our covenant support of \$463.00 for Desiree L. Segura-April:*

"Thank you! Your financial support is enabling global Ministries missionaries to fulfill the mission of our church...Grace and Peace." Roland Fernades, General Secretary

Have a nice Week! Thank you for all your help!  
Joyce McClanathan



### **St. Andrews United Methodist Men**

From Old Testament times to today, men have gathered to discuss their faith journeys and to find meaning, hope, and healing. Small group ministry was an essential element of the Wesleyan movement. The mission of the United Methodist Men is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

All men of the church are members of St Andrews United Methodist Men even if you cannot make our meetings on the fourth Saturday of the month.

We are always looking for new ways to reach out to the church and community to show God's love. Our current projects include:

- "End Hunger – Potato Project" (April 23<sup>rd</sup>),
- Mother's Day flowers,
- Father's Day flowers,
- gifts for our graduates,
- Christmas goodie bags for the children.

Our only funding source comes from the donations received when people park on our parking lot to attend the South High football games and the Washington County Showcase of Bands. Paul Bailey and Gerald Holmes monitored the parking lot for years. Monitoring the parking lot helps keep the trash to a minimum and protects our property. People who use our lot are very generous and friendly. This requires about two hours at each school event and this past year even the ladies of the church helped. Signup sheets for parking lot coverage come out the beginning of August.

If you can help in anyway or have new ideas, please contact John Davidson.

## WEATHER WATCH!



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

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.



## Notes on Finances ...

### Thoughts on Generosity...

#### Applying Bible Principles

Money is a neutral commodity, a means of exchange. It is neither inherently good nor evil. But a wrong view of money can become a problem to us.

In First Timothy 6:9-10, Scripture warns about the dangers of a determination to get rich: "But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil; and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains."

When we have a consuming desire to get rich, when we are obsessed with money so that it becomes the focus of our time and attention, then we have made it the number one priority in our lives. In that spot, it replaces everything, including God. We begin to find our security in money, not in God and in God alone.

However, when our view of God is right and our view of money is right, we will realize that money cannot buy security; money cannot purchase happiness; money cannot guarantee peace or joy or contentment. God alone can provide these essentials as we "... strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness."

In his book, *The Gift of Giving*, Wayne Watts said this: "God always lovingly instructs us in the path that is in our best interest and which will bring us the greatest happiness in life. Therefore, for our good, He instructs us to put Him first in all things, and this includes how we use our money."

How do you view money? Is it at the center of your life, thereby perhaps replacing God's rightful role? And equally important, are you using the money God has given to you to advance His kingdom and His righteousness?

Money is a neutral commodity, a means of exchange. It is neither inherently good nor evil.

*"But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well"*  
(Matt. 6:33)

### Order Your Easter Flowers Soon!



**March 6 is the deadline** to order Easter Flowers to be delivered to the church before Easter Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. **Below are**

#### your flower choices:

- 6" Hyacinths – pink (3 plants) @\$8.50 each
- 6" Hyacinths – purple (3 plants) @\$8.50 each
- 6" Hyacinth – white (3 plants) @\$8.50 each
- 6" Mums – yellow or purple @\$8.50 each
- 6" Tulips –yellow, purple, pink, red (6 per pot)  
**Circle the color(s) you want to order**  
@\$8.50 each
- 6" Lily (one bloom) @\$9.50 each

Please complete an order form, available in the bulletin insert, and mail it to the church or give it to Imogene Shank with your check made out to "St. Andrews UMC" for the full amount of your order. You can also mail the order form and check to the church office prior to March 6.



**Set your clocks forward on March 12 when  
you retire for the night.**