

The Fisherman's Network

St. Andrews United Methodist Church

1020 Maryland Avenue; Hagerstown, MD 21740

www.standrewsumchagerstown.com

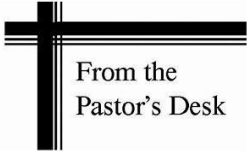
Phone: 301-739-7431

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."

May 2022 Newsletter



From the
Pastor's Desk

May 29, 2022 is Ascension Sunday, the day the resurrected Jesus went up to heaven.

In Acts 1:1-11, Luke tells us how Jesus took care of the final matters before his departure. There were a lot of details given to the disciples. Just like when we give last minute instructions, (we give to our children) before we travel.

Jesus gave the priority – to taking his Gospel message all over the world. The kingdom of God must expand. The lost sinners must be brought in the kingdom.

Jesus reminds them, that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will give them power to serve God and the community and the power to live holy living.

Jesus reminds the disciples that the Gospel message is to sinners reconciled to God.

Jesus also tells the disciples that he will return in the future. So Christian believers have hope that Jesus will return as he promised. Jesus keeps his promises.

This Spring, follow the priorities that Jesus has set forth.

Blessings,
Pastor Chris



St. Andrews Music Notes

Did you ever think about reading the words to a song for part of your daily devotions? I was practicing "The Power of Your Love" and thought the words were so meaningful. Here are just a few of those words:

"Lord, I come to You. Let my heart be changed, renewed, flowing from the grace that I've found in You.

And Lord I've come to know, the weaknesses I see in me will be stripped away by the power of Your love.

Hold me close, let Your love surround me. Bring me near, draw me to Your side. And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle and I will soar with You. Your spirit leads me on in the power of Your love."

Music is such a great way to honor God, and develop a personal relationship with our Lord and Savior.

Summer is fast approaching and the Faithful Ringers and Chancel/Praise Choir will take a break from rehearsing for a few weeks. The members involved in these two groups are so dedicated with rehearsing each week. We appreciate the talents they share for the glory of God. I will be looking for individuals or small groups to provide special music during the summer months. Please see me if you are willing.

Thank you and may God richly bless you!

Lisa Shives,
Music Director

Important Dates in May

May 1 - Native American

Ministries Sunday

May 5 - 7:00 pm Trustees

May 8 - Mother's Day

May 10 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee meets

May 17 - 6:00 pm SPRC

May 21 - Armed Forces Day

May 22 - Heritage Sunday

May 24 - 7:00 pm Church Council

May 26 - Ascension Day

May 28 - 9:00 am UMM Breakfast at church

May 29 - Ascension Sunday

May 29 - Wear red, white and blue to honor service members who gave their lives.

May 30 - Memorial Day – church office closed



There are special observances on the church's calendar in May.

The first Sunday in May is Native American Ministries Sunday when we partner with other UMC congregations in a special offering to support United Methodist ministries of Native Americans to equip and empower Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus.

The second Sunday in May is dedicated to all women as we honor and celebrate Mother's Day on May 8th. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed the holiday into law. Did you know more phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year? Some of the most popular gifts given are greeting cards, plants, flowers, and candy.

The fourth Sunday, May 29th, is celebrated as Ascension Sunday following Ascension Day which is on a Thursday, 40 days after Easter, May 26th this year.

For many, Ascension Day will go relatively unnoticed. Forty days after Easter is just another Thursday with many of us in our ordinary weekday routines. The event it celebrates, however, is an important episode in the life of Jesus that the church has regarded highly through the years.

Luke tells the story of Jesus' ascension both at the end of his gospel (Luke 24:50-53) and the beginning of his writing about the early church (Acts 1:9-11).

John Wesley included Ascension Day in the *Sunday Service*, because it "marked not just something about Jesus or the church, but about the scope of salvation for the whole universe," the worship resources continue. Jesus "ascended to heaven to assume the fullness of his reign."

May 29th is also the Sunday before Memorial Day. Let's wear red, white and blue to church on this day to honor service members who gave their lives.



UMCOR Sunday

Thank you for your very generous donation to support the work of UMCOR here and around the world! A check for \$900.00 was sent to allow UMCOR to respond to

emergency situations including what is happening in Ukraine.

Food Donations

The hall table has been covered with much-needed grocery items the past month. With prices so high in stores, many families are struggling to keep food on their tables.

We delivered 61 pantry items and 36 boxes of snack packs to Bester Elementary School. St. Mark's Food Bank received 15 boxes of cereal and 37 other items.

We also delivered 30 food items to the rescue Mission for meals and their pantry. Thank you for your loving support of others!

We received a lovely letter from Bruce Shank, the Executive Director of the Hope Center. He wrote, "Thank you for your recent donation of food and toiletries which will help us continue to serve hot, nutritious meals and provide free groceries to men, women, and children in our area....May God bless you for caring!"

Heifer Project

Starting on April 24th and through the month of May the mission project will be Heifer International.

Envelopes will be on the hall table. You may also donate online or use your offering envelope. Please make checks payable to "St. Andrews UMC" and designate your gift for "Heifer Project".

Heifer Project gives families training, tools, and experiences to make animals (such as chickens, heifers, goats, etc.) the means to provide nutrition, education, and an income. In return for the animal recipients "Pass on the Gift" of the offspring to another family in their community. Your donation provides the gift of an animal that keeps on giving! Thank you for being a part of this ministry that grows a community!

Report on Finances ...

Our annual audit is in progress. Each treasurer turns in an audit report along with their transaction reports and bank statements. Each account is reviewed. Results of our audit and our 2021 year-end account balances must be reported to the Baltimore-Washington Conference by June 30, 2022

Applying Bible Principles

An oxymoron is the use of two terms which are contradictory in nature. "Jumbo shrimp" is an oxymoron. "Ferocious lamb" is another. "Dumb scholar" is yet another.

One of the saddest and most contradictory is the oxymoron, "Stingy Christian." Because we have been redeemed through our faith in Christ, Christians should be the most generous of all people. We have been abundantly blessed of God, who has given us all things richly to enjoy (Rom. 8:32).

James 1:17 expresses this truth clearly: "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

Think about some of God's good gifts:

God gives the seed (Gen. 1:11).

God gives the rain (Job 5:10).

God gives health (Jer. 30:17).

God gives life (Acts 17:25).

God gives strength (Isa. 40:29).

God gives riches (1 Chron. 29:12).

God gives grace (2 Cor. 12:9).

God gives eternal life (Rom. 6:23).

And God gives us money and the ability to get wealth. Solomon said that money is one of God's gifts to people. The purpose for which He gives us money is stated clearly in Ecclesiastes 5:19 — for our enjoyment.

Some of us make that the primary reason for money. We major in pleasure and the things money can do for us. But there is another major purpose God gives us money, something that also can bring great pleasure: To give it back to Him.

That's why of all the oxymorons in existence, "Stingy Christian" is the most contradictory. We who have been given the most from God should be the most generous people in the world.

As the tombstone in an old cemetery read, "What I spent, I had; what I saved, I lost; what I gave, I have."

St. Andrews Potato Project



St. Andrews United Methodist Men, working with the Society of St. Andrews and the Baltimore Washington Conference, sponsored an End Hunger Potato Drop on April 23rd. Our church is

blessed to have a large parking lot for the tractor trailer and pick up vehicles without interrupting the local traffic flow. God blessed us with wonderful weather to distribute 41,800 pounds (836 bags) of potatoes. Organizations from Annapolis, Baltimore, Washington D.C., Jefferson County W.V., and Waynesboro PA, came to Hagerstown to pick up potatoes. Potatoes were taken to be distributed to food banks and pantries. A drive-thru was created for local needy families of Hagerstown to pick up potatoes.

Besides the distribution of potatoes to end hunger, the event was a great time for Christian fellowship and meeting fellow Christians within the Baltimore Washington Conference.

St. Andrews UMM is grateful for all the help by church members. Along with the UMM were members of our church who helped break down the fifty-pound bags into ten-pound bags. They then went out to the sidewalk and gave these away to passing motorists. Thank you to all who came out to do service! People pitched in to help load each other's vehicles. \$240 was donated and will be forwarded to the Society of St. Andrew to support the continuation of their program to end hunger.

This was a wonderful outreach opportunity for us and a blessing to many in the community. St. Andrews UMM is grateful we could sponsor this event and look forward to sponsoring another potato drop in 2023. The Society of St. Andrew does not charge any fees for their services or potatoes.

Men, please join us for our monthly UMM meetings on the fourth Saturday of each month at 9:00 am (April's meeting was cancelled due to the potato project.) Help us to build our group.



Faithful Ringers Bell Choir

The Faithful Ringers will be ending the spring season with one of our favorite songs. We have not played it for 4 years and although the long-time members have heard it several times, we have a lot of new people that have not heard it. So, we will wrap up this spring with "Arky Arky." The song tells the story of Noah and the trials he went through when God told him to build an ark.

Watch the church bulletin for which week in May we play. If you can attend in person, I think it will be a better experience but if you cannot, be sure to watch on line.

We will resume playing in the fall, probably in September.

Brian Langmyer
Faithful Ringers Director

Quilter's Committee



The Quilter's Committee has been hard at work making lap quilts for local nursing homes.

We could use extra hands to help us. Please see Phyllis Ernde or Cathy Davidson.

We are always in need of cotton fabric (no polyester or synthetic). Also, monetary donations toward the fleece we use would be very helpful. Fabric donations can be placed in the plastic tub under the mailboxes by the church office. Thank you!

Wear red, white and blue to worship May 29th



Remember -
our fallen heroes.
They are the reason
that we are free.

Watch Our Sunday Service On-line

To view the service from Our Website

1. Go to www.standrewsumchagerstown.com
2. Scroll to #6 at the bottom of the page and click on the link to connect to **YouTube**
3. Scroll to #7 at the bottom of the page and click on the link to connect to **Facebook**

Donate from Our Website

We hope you can join us to worship in person, but if you cannot, please continue to support the church. Expenses must still be paid. Thank you! Go to www.standrewsumchagerstown.com and click on the "Donate" box at the top of the page.

To view the service on YouTube

1. Go to <https://www.youtube.com/>
2. Go to the Search bar and search for "St Andrews UMC"
3. Scroll down and locate image of the church (left)
4. Click on the image to be taken to the Church's YouTube Channel
5. You can then select the video of the service you wish to view.
6. We do encourage and ask that you click on the "Subscribe" icon to be notified of future videos.
7. You can also copy and paste the following link to go straight to the YouTube channel.
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRq18lr4idiTwE23ESskdRw>

To view the service on Facebook

1. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/>
2. Go to the Search bar and search for "St. Andrews United Methodist Church - Hagerstown, MD"
3. Scroll down to Posts to view the service.
4. You can also copy and paste the following link to go straight to the Facebook page.
https://www.facebook.com/HagerstownStAndrewsUMC/?epa=SEARCH_BOX