

The Fisherman's Network

St. Andrews United Methodist Church

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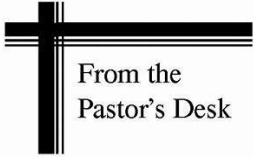
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Our Mission: "To Show, Share and Grow in God's Love, through Jesus Christ."

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

November 2023 Newsletter

Pastor Serufusa



From the
Pastor's Desk

Mastering Christian Gratitude

"³⁷ A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the

Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. ³⁸ As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them..."

Luke 7:37-50

Family gatherings can be messy and awkward sometimes. Dinners can be messy- slipping and tripping, table breaking up due to so much weight or hot stuff placed on a glass top. Uninvited people can show up.

Simeon the Pharisee invited Jesus to his home. Someone else is at the party – a woman. This woman brought an alabaster precious perfume oil. Usually, oil is to anoint the head. She positioned herself where she could hear and learn from the master the words of life.

In her place she discovered that the feet of Jesus were dirty. Simeon did not offer Jesus the Great Rabbi water to wash his feet. What an insult. This is Jesus whose feet spread and brought good news of salvation. She wept at the feet of Jesus because Simeon did not show Jesus kindness, compassion, or care. But she was full of compassion and gratitude. She let down her hair, spread Jesus feet with her perfume and anointed the feet of Jesus.

Her gratitude was that Jesus had forgiven her many sins. Jesus commended the grateful woman for showing Jesus great love and hospitality. Jesus highly praises the woman's faith, for she learned to be grateful, not sparring her expensive perfume oil. Be Grateful for all you have.

Blessings,



St. Andrews Music Notes

"You're the one who makes mountains move. Stars will not shine unless you tell them to." Those lyrics from a Mercy Me song which came out a few weeks ago are some of my favorite lyrics. Isn't it awesome that we worship a God who is in control and all powerful. We really shouldn't worry about anything and allow Him to take charge in our lives.

St. Andrews has many activities scheduled that will remind us our God is in charge. If you haven't noticed the world map displayed on the wall across from the church office, take a minute and check it out. A cross is being placed on each country after we highlight that country each Sunday as we "Pray Around The World".

November 5th will be a special service as our friends from Second Chances will deliver God's word through their ministry of music. Their presence in our house of worship is always a blessing.

November 12th we will honor our veterans because it is important to always remember the sacrifices they make to ensure that we live in a free country. Our freedom to worship is always a cherished gift that many of us take for granted.

Advent season will begin on **December 3rd** with an Advent Brunch after church. You will not need to bring anything but yourself. We hope you will attend and fellowship with our church family.

"Bethlehem Speaks" is a Christmas Program that depicts various characters of the Bible and their encounter with the baby Jesus. This will be shared with you on **December 10th**.

December 17th, the choir is excited to share the cantata, "Come See, Go Tell" at the 10:00 am service.

Christmas Eve Services will be on Sunday, **December 24th**.

As you can see, we are alive and active at St. Andrews. Come see and go out and tell!

Lisa Shives, Music Director

JUDY CENTER: EARLY LEARNING HUB

On October 23rd The Judy Center began their partnership with St. Andrews for the second year. They meet with families and children on Mondays in Classroom #6 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am.

As part of the Washington County School System, they are "preparing children for success in school and in life." The Judy Center "staff works closely with families and caregivers providing early intervention, comprehensive services, and by supporting community programs that serve families with young children."

We are blessed to share our resources with them and welcome these young families!



Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday, November 22nd 7:00 pm at Emmanuel UMC

Pastor Lee Brumback will bring the message. Light refreshments will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

Poinsettia Orders

Watch for the poinsettia order form in the November bulletins and on the table in the narthex at church.

The price for 6 inch red, pink, or white poinsettias is \$9.00 this year. A 7 inch pot with 2 red poinsettias is \$14.00. The deadline to order flowers is November 26th.



11/02 - 10:00 am Bible

Study

- 11/02 - 7:00 pm Trustees
 - 11/04 - Turn Clocks Back Tonight!
 - 11/05 - Daylight Savings Time ends
 - 11/05 - All Saints' Sunday
 - 11/05 - **"Second Chances" performs**
 - 11/07 - 6:30 pm Finance
 - 11/08 - 6:00 pm Worship Committee meets
 - 11/09 - 10:00 am Bible Study
 - 11/11 - Veterans Day
 - 11/12 - Remember Our Veterans
 - 11/14 - 6:00 pm SPRC
 - 11/15 - Newsletter articles due for December
 - 11/15 - 11:30 am Emmanuel Seniors' Lunch
 - 11/16 - 10:00 am Bible Study
 - 11/22 - 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service at Emmanuel UMC. Pastor Lee preaches
 - 11/23 - Thanksgiving Day (Church Office closed)
 - 11/26 - Christ the King Sunday
 - 11/26 - UM Student Day
 - 11/28 - 7:00 pm Church Council
 - 11/30 - 10:00 am Bible Study
 - 12/03 - First Sunday of Advent – Advent Brunch after the worship service
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November is Food Month!

November is our yearly food collection for St. Mark's Food Bank. We donate boxed and canned items and then decorate the altar with the bounty. We have so much to be thankful for and can share it with our community!

Food Donations

In September we donated 55 boxes of cereal to St. Mark's Food Bank. Thank you for caring and sharing!

Bester Elementary School

The kindergarten students and staff appreciate the 18 boxes of individual snacks we dropped off at their school on October 4th! They eat lunch at 10:30 and by mid-afternoon they need that "brain food" to focus on their work. Please keep all our students and staff in Washington County in your prayers for safe and successful days of learning.

Salvation Army Stockings are coming!

In November we will pick up the stockings to fill for local children. They will be on the hall table. Please sign your name, age of child, and the boy or girl you chose. The date they need to be returned will be announced later this month. What a lovely sight to see when the table will be piled high with filled stockings! Thank you for sharing happiness and love with local children.

COMING IN DECEMBER!

Red Bird Mitten Tree

The tree will soon be up and ready for mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for the Red Bird Mission in Kentucky which serves families in Appalachia. Many of the families are struggling to put food on the table, provide housing, and provide education for their children. Red Bird Mission has been there to help and our gifts of winter items will provide warmth and love. Thank you for being a part of this ministry.

Notes on Finances...

Applying Bible Principles

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil" (1 Tim. 6:10).

How would people describe you? Are you one who "loves" money? Is your life marked by a continual inordinate concern about and striving for money? If so, then perhaps you are one who truly "loves" money.

Money is neutral. It is neither good nor bad. What matters is our attitude towards it. If we view it as a means to an end, a means of exchange, and something God can use in our lives to bring glory to Himself, then we probably do not love money. On the other hand, if we are always wanting more and more money, if we will do just about anything to obtain it, and if we think about money more than anything or anyone else, we likely are guilty of loving money. In that situation, it has become a "god" to us, and we bow at its altar in continuing service in order to obtain more of it.

If you are determined to get rich, no matter what, before you continue that lifestyle, read Paul's admonition to Timothy in 1 Timothy 6:9-10. Consider Solomon's counsel in Proverbs 11:28 and Ecclesiastes 5:10-11. And think about the words of the Lord Jesus in Matthew 6:24, who said, "No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

Or as Jesus would say, "Let anyone with ears listen."

