

CROSS ROADS

ST. ANDREW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JANUARY 2012

“Called by Christ to bring others into the nets of God’s love.”

"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us".

2nd Corinthians 5: 17-19

Every New Year people around the world commit themselves to some sort of change. From promising to exercise more, spend less, or focus more on our families, we proclaim that our lives are going to be different and better this year. While these commitments often become the butt of jokes there is a reality where being a Christian is about changing. Our relationship with God is not supposed to simply leave us as we are, but transform us closer to His image. Paul uses many analogies in order to help explain this reality. He compares our spiritual life to training for a race, encouraging us to train to win. He tells us to work out our salvation with fear and trembling. In the paragraph above, he simply states that if we are in Christ we are a new creation - the old is gone, the new has arrived.

In reality, the vast majority of people fail to uphold the commitments they make for the New Year. Paul’s solution is simple - the focus is not on our ability, but on God’s ability to transform us. If we focus on our own strength and our own ability, it is easy to fail. Paul expects us to focus on God’s presence in our life. He expects God to bring about a new Creation. Who better to transform us than the Creator of everything. He stresses that it is God reconciling himself to the world, not us reconciling ourselves to him. We need to be reminded that our transformation is God’s work. All we can do is allow God to work in our lives by committing ourselves to worship, service, giving and learning. We empty ourselves, God fulfills!

Even more amazing, in my opinion, is that God has entrusted this message to us! Not only has God reconciled himself to us, He trusts that we will share that message with others. How will the world know that God loves them so much that He is offering to make them a new creation if no one tells them? It is our responsibility to bring that message to our world. God has created within all of us the ability to be transformed by His love and grace. Let us be transformed by God this year and every year. Let us bring that message of transformation to everyone we know!

The Rev. Robb E. Faller

St. Andrew United Methodist Church

611 Swamp Creek Road, P.O. Box 434
New Berlinville, PA 19545
610-367-7043
www.SaintAndrewUMC.org

Sunday Worship Schedule

Celebration Service: 9:00 AM

We offer Crib Nursery, PreK Nursery, and Adult Sunday School Classes (*September through May*): Henry Ziegler in Fellowship Hall, Owen Allen in Library

Traditional Service: 10:30 AM

We offer Crib Nursery, Pre-K Nursery, Sunday School classes for grades K-3rd, 4th-6th, Junior and Senior High, College Age Sunday School (June through August) and Adult Sunday School Class with Jim Good in Library

Church Staff

Pastor.....Rev. Robb Faller (c 484.686.1778)
Pastor Emeritus.....Rev. Kenneth Kline
Director of Youth Ministry.....Adam Deering
Adult Choir Directors.....Rob Cavett & Connie Sithens
Junior Choir Director & Pianist....Peg Hoover & Candy Allen
Administrative AssistantMary L. Cantlin

Treasurer's Report

	<u>Improvement Envelopes</u>	<u>Current Envelopes</u>	<u>Church Plate</u>	<u>Church School</u>
November 6	423.00	4,359.00	83.50	
November 13	317.00	4,267.40	63.00	
November 20	272.00	4,026.20	56.00	
November 27	292.00	2,916.20	110.00	
Total Received Y-T-D				
as of 11/30/11	12,370.00	185,024.65	4,036.01	468.21
Total Received Y-T-D				
as of 11/30/10	13,890.50	186,502.75	4,832.52	748.97

Year to date expenses paid at 11/30/11 were \$198,508.08. As a reminder, if you would like any portion of your offering to be used for improvements to the church building, please indicate that amount on the front of your offering envelope.

Worship Helpers

GREETERS

Date	Celebration Service at 9:00 am	Traditional Service at 10:30 am
January 1	ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM	Nancy Renninger Ginny Korszniak Harry & Linda Mohr
January 8	Gary & Mary Ann Hart Jim & Bonne Riefenstahl Susan Welsh	Arlene Robertson Donna Baith & Evelyn Kring Dave & Sue McElwee
January 15	The Purnell Family Jim & Shari Good Mary Ann Stauffer	Bette Cooper Bob & Edith Moyer Don & Mary Ann Reigel
January 22	The Egbert Family Scott & Mary Cantlin Tim & Linda Clancy	Marion Bartman Tracy & Jane Donmoyer Al & Ruth Fuchs
January 29	Anita Church Linda Drabinsky Bill & Delores Evens	Debbie Patt P.J. Long Pat Cavanaugh

TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Date	Head Usher	Liturgist
January 1	Jim McClure	Owen Allen
January 8	Nathan Babb	Debbie Patt
January 15	Debbie Patt	Ray Scardino
January 22	Robert Moyer	Cathy Webb
January 29	Bill Evens	Pat Miller

NURSERY CARE

Date	Celebration Service	Traditional Service
January 1	ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM	Lori Egbert & Becca Riefenstahl
January 8	Linda Clancy	Diane Yusko
January 15	Christi Conrad	Bonne Riefenstahl
January 22	Jim and Shari Good	Beth Rosenberger
January 29	Ashley Egbert & Liz Fox	Jane Donmoyer

SOUND BOARD & VIDEO

Date	Celebration Service	
	Sound Board	Video
January 1	ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM	ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM
January 8	Mario Leone	Tracy Donmoyer
January 15	Rob Rosenberger	Tracy Donmoyer
January 22	Jen Ewing	Youth
January 29	John Stauffer	Mary Ann Stauffer

Traditional Service	
Sound Board	Video
<i>Open</i>	<i>Open</i>
Marion Leone	Jen Ewing
Sonne Shorley	<i>Open</i>
Jim McClure	Linda McClure
Jim McClure	Linda McClure

ALTAR FLOWERS

Date	Name
January 1	<i>Open</i>
January 8	<i>Open</i>
January 15	<i>Open</i>
January 22	<i>Open</i>
January 29	<i>Open</i>

Let's Celebrate!



<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
January 1	Dave McElwee	January 17	Henry Rush
January 2	Owen Allen	January 18	Anita Church
January 4	Mark Drabinsky		Wilbur Cooper
January 6	Dennis Kline		Betty Schott
January 7	Wesley Fox	January 19	Mark Stahl
January 8	Delores Evens	January 20	John Baker
	Jimmy Purnell		Susan Bartow
January 9	Matthew Crawford		Bob Drabinsky
	Marlee Konnick		Ray Scardino
	Jim Kreitz	January 21	Rose Marie Bireley
	Joshua Larrimore	January 22	Adam Kellerman
January 10	Thomas Dugan	January 23	Donna Dugan
January 11	Dee Faller	January 24	Dylan Andrews
January 12	Mycah Davies		Lauren Riefenstahl
	Brittany Kuder		Luke Riefenstahl
	Abigail Mefferd	January 25	Tasha Miller
January 15	Ken Church	January 26	Lisa Scardino
	Rachel Kindig	January 28	Kyle Brennan
	Jessica Kindig	January 29	Victoria Egbert
January 16	Natasha Dakota		
	Mary Ann Hart		



<u>Date</u>	<u>Couple</u>
January 4	Tim & Janice Kulp
January 19	Gary & Nancy Stahl

*Please remember the following members who are unable to attend services
in your prayers...*

Pam Hudelson
107 E. Fifth Street
Apartment #208
Red Hill, PA 18076

Ginny McKinstry
P.O. Box 113
New Berlinville, PA 19545

Robert Preudhomme
124 Harry Howard Blvd.
Hudson, NY 12534

June Hoffman
Box 498
Aspen Village
Frederick, PA 19435

Marietta Stahl
2917 E. High Street
Pottstown, PA 19464

Eleanor Bissinger
600 W. Valley Forge Road
Manor Care, Room 324A
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Ken Kline
Oaktree Apartment #220
P.O. Box 548
Frederick, Pa 19435

ST. ANDREW TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

We have gone through an office transformation at St. Andrew. The goal was to make the office more efficient for years to come. We have a new web address! It is now saintandrewumc.org. The old web address will still work for a while, but the new one is what you should begin using to access the website and to provide others looking for information about our church.

We also have new individual email addresses for the staff. Please use the addresses below:

Office: Office@saintandrewumc.org
Pastor Robb: Pastorrobbs@saintandrewumc.org
Adam: Adam@saintandrewumc.org

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH GROUP

Please continue to support the youth and help clean up the environment by recycling your used ink cartridges and old cell phones at St. Andrew UMC. Look for the boxes in the Welcome Center. All money raised will go to benefit Youth Missions. Thank you for supporting our youth!

*** NEEDED: VOLUNTEERS ***

St. Andrew has many areas where you can volunteer your time and be of service to our church. Please read over the list below and see where you can serve!

Sound Board and Video on Sunday Mornings	Contact Adam Deering
Nursery School Teacher at the 10:30 AM Service	Contact Amanda Deering
Sunday School Teachers	Contact Amanda Deering
Nursery Caregivers at each service	Contact Beth Rosenberger

*** WANTED: CLEANING STEWARDS ***

"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood." Acts 20:28

As we look ahead to 2012, it is time to ask for new volunteers to clean our church. We have been blessed with many faithful stewards in the past and it is time to offer them a much needed break. It is our goal to have enough volunteers (roughly 36) so that each volunteer would serve on a quarterly or six month basis instead of committing to a one year term. By taking care of our own property and not paying someone, the church is saving a minimum of \$10,000 per year. The money saved will be used for various ministries throughout our church. What a much more effective way to use our offering!

The church is broken down into areas. We are seeking volunteers for:

- . Welcome Center and Upstairs Hallways
- . Library
- . Upstairs Preschool and Infant Nursery
- . Upstairs Bathrooms
- . Sanctuary and Back Stairwell
- . Fellowship Hall and Hallway
- . Downstairs Bathrooms
- . Downstairs Sunday School Rooms
- . Substitutes

Please be in prayer about this and listen carefully to see if the Lord is leading you to serve in this important ministry. If you are willing to serve as a cleaning steward in 2012, please call the church office at 610-367-0743 or email office@saintandrewumc.org.

BRIDGE THE GAP RETURNS!

Dates for Bridge the Gap

January 18th - May 2nd

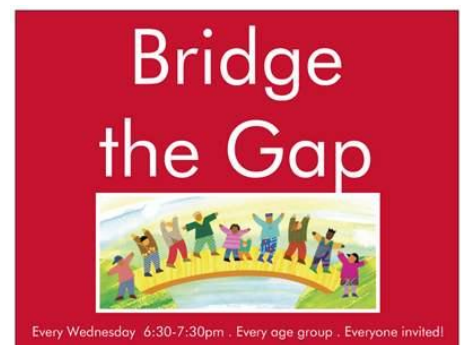
Our goal for Bridge the Gap is to offer something for every age group. Here are the exciting options available this winter through spring:

Classes for Children K-6 will be available featuring exciting games and activities along with an interactive lesson.

A Confirmation class for any student grades 7-12 who wishes to confirm their baptism or to be baptized. If you have a youth who wishes to attend the Confirmation classes, please contact the office (by phone or email - office@saintandrewumc.org) **before January 15** so we will know how many students for which to prepare.

The adults will feature a study led by The Reverend Henry Ziegler.

Bridge the Gap will run each Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 PM.



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS



TONGUES OF FIRE Chili Cook-Off and Super Bowl Party Sunday Feb 5, 2012

Join us February 5th in Fellowship Hall for our first-ever *Chili Cook-Off and Super Bowl Party*. A panel of distinguished judges will be testing the entries, and the prestige of winning will follow you throughout the year! Sign up by January 22nd in the Welcome Center or by emailing Linda Clancy at lclancy@windstream.net.

To make this event a success, we need at least 5 entrants (with a maximum of 10). After the cook-off, feel free to stay and watch the Super Bowl with your St. Andrew friends!

Chili Cook-off Rules:

1. Contest will be limited to the first 10 individuals (or teams) that sign up.
2. Entrants will bring a standard size crock-pot or slow cooker with chili (enough to feed roughly 15 adults).
3. Chili should be brought to church heated and ready-to-eat.
4. Entrants should provide any special toppings that they wish to include other than those listed below.
5. Judges will determine the winners in the following categories (if applicable), and prize ribbons will be awarded for:
 - a. Best Chili Con Carne (with meat)
 - b. Best Vegetarian Chili
 - c. Best White Chili
 - d. Best Green Chili
 - e. Best Spicy Chili
 - f. Best Team Name

Judging will begin promptly at 5:00 PM. Chili open to all at 5:15 PM.

Everyone is invited to participate. For those not providing chili, sign-up sheets will be available to provide sides or a dessert. Examples of items needed:

salad	salad dressings	cheese	sour cream
rolls	tortilla chips	desserts	

Judges are also needed and will be considered on a first-come basis.

ST. ANDREW SHUTTLE

Do you or anyone you know need a ride to worship service for either just one day or an on-going basis? If so, call the church office at 610-367-7043 and we will arrange it for you. We have drivers ready to provide transportation!

YARN SPINNERS

Our next meeting will take place in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 PM on January 18th. If it snows, there will be no meeting.

Surprise! Our baby hats are now in Nepal with the Zimmermans!! Come to the meeting and find out how they got there.

SCRIPTURE SCRAPBOOKERS

Scripture Scrapbookers will hold their "n"ext meeting on January 18th at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. It will be brought to you by the letter "N." Please bring a project to work on, your own beverage, and a snack beginning with "N." Devotions will be led by Debbie Patt. "N"ow is the time to "N"avigate your scissors!

ST. ANDREW MEN

The St. Andrew Men will hold their monthly breakfast on Sunday, January 8th at the Woodside Villa beginning at 7:30 AM. All men of the church are invited to attend.

ST. ANDREW WOMEN

by Cathy Webb

The January meeting of the St. Andrew Women will be held January 11th at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall.

An update on Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child, our shoe boxes will be shipping to the Dominican Republic of the Congo and Ghana, Africa. I was in Boone, NC this year as we completed the final packing of the shoe boxes for the following African countries: Dominican Republic of the Congo, Ghana, and Chad. As of the time I was in Boone (the first week in December), the United States had packed out 2.5 million shoe boxes. The walls were filled with shoe boxes to be inspected. The "filler" gifts were greatly appreciated as they were needed to fill some boxes that were only half full. They were expecting to pack 5.2 million boxes from the United States this year.

Last year there were 8.2 million shoe boxes packed worldwide.

Thanks to all who contributed and helped with gathering the shoe boxes and filler items.

MISSION MOMENTS

Salvation Army Angel Tree

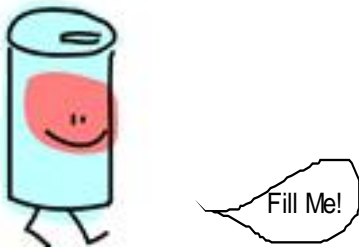
Thank you to all who helped provide Christmas gifts for 15 children during this holiday season.

Mission Calendar Dates

Our January Mission meeting will take place on Thursday, January 12th at 7:30 PM. We will be finalizing plans for our Spud Luncheon on January 15th. On January 13th we will be serving lunch at the Salvation Army from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Join us in providing this service to our community.

A thank you to all who participated in a successful food drive for Boyertown Multi-Service and Salvation Army in November.

Save your change in support of our mission trip to Puerto Rico



Just pick up a soda can in the welcome center and enjoy a nice drink (or use one of your own). Then fill up the can with loose change. Every little bit makes a difference. Return your filled soda can to John Stauffer or Cathy Webb any time from now until February. All money collected will support our mission trip to Puerto Rico.

Dimes, pennies, nickels, quarters! That's right, save them all! They can make a great difference in Puerto Rico! Maybe you can't go on the trip, but you can serve others by helping to make this trip possible.

BAKED GOODS WANTED

HELP!!! We need "yummy desserts" for our upcoming Spud Luncheon that is supporting our mission trip to Puerto Rico. Contact Delores Evens, Cathy Webb, or Marilyn Rhoads if you can provide a dessert.

FROM YOUR WORSHIP TEAM

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:11-13

Happy New Year!

Over the months of November and December, we’ve contemplated HOPE, JOY, PEACE, and LOVE. We’ve worshipped with an attitude of anticipation...oh to be like our precious little ones as they look forward to Christmas morning. Whether we create change from “normal” or just live in the midst of it – Christmas is different. The stores look different, the music is different, our homes are different, and television is different – even Church is different. As believers in Christ, we know that this time of year, more than any other, unites people in gentle ways with the sense of “Peace on earth, good will to all men.” As believers in Christ, we know that it doesn’t stop when the lights and wreaths and decorations come down. As believers in Christ, we know that the Christ child was born with a purpose that not only changed us, but changed the world!

Deuteronomy 11 calls us to “...Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down, and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.”

As we step into 2012, may it be a step deeper into His calling, His plan and His desire for the our New Year with Him! Let’s continue this journey together as “we seek Him with all our heart” for His word promises us that we will find Him!

Worshipping + Serving + Learning = Loving

MEALS ON WHEELS

Our local Boyertown Area Multi-Service is experiencing a real need for volunteers willing to deliver Meals on Wheels. Volunteers can serve either one or two days per month and each route usually takes 1 to 1 1/2 hours to complete. Please consider helping your Boyertown area neighbors. For questions or additional information, please contact Multi-Service at 610-367-6957.

MISSION TRIP NEWS

As we prepare for our 2012 Adult Mission Trip to Puerto Rico... those who have already committed to the call want to be sure all are aware of a few details. First of all, know that as we prepare our hands, hearts, and mind - we hope you will prayerfully consider joining us! Whether you join us with your hands (there will be a vast number of tasks to do with a wide range of talent needs, could you be the very talent needed?) or you dedicate prayer time or contribute monetarily to the mission. Wherever you are called, we trust that God will be faithful as He leads us all together. With a fresh reminder from Advent - we live in the Hope, the Peace, the Joy, and the Love of Christ Jesus who tells us to go out into the world - our loving Heavenly Father and loving each other!

*****THANK YOU*****THANK YOU*****THANK YOU*****

I would like to say a BIG thank you to all the secret Santa's that took time from their busy shopping days to buy gifts for the children whose mothers are incarcerated at Berks County prison. We don't get to see the smiles when they open their gifts, but we do get to experience that warm, fuzzy feeling inside knowing we made some unfortunate child happy on Christmas morning.

Thanks again. You are the greatest!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mary Bartholomew

from our Youth Director

The end of one year and the beginning of another provides us with a natural time for making new commitments that we would like to carry out over the next year. One of the key principles of goal setting is evaluation. At the end of December every T.V network and radio station out there has a countdown of the "Top Something." The yearend countdown has infiltrated our culture to the point that a person could go insane from over exposure and do something crazy, like make up his own top ten list and force everyone to read it.

My Top Ten Moments from 2011

10. Finding Out Amanda Was Pregnant
 - Nine months is way longer than it sounds.
9. Seeing my parents with their first grandchild
 - I think my mom would have stayed with us until Mallory graduated from high school if we let her.
8. Suckering Pastor Robb into trying to drink a gallon of milk in an hour
 - This was followed by the much less satisfying... listening to Pastor Robb try to convince himself he could do it if he did things a little differently next time even after he failed miserably.
7. Making a toy chest from scratch for my daughter
 - I think the handyman gene skipped my generation...
6. Watching the Yankees Lose to the Tigers in the ALDS
 - For one year I have bragging rights over all Yankee fans!
5. Witnessing the Lions and Eagles trading places in the NFC
 - I have bragging rights over Eagles fans too!
4. Hearing the Nurse say.... It's a Girl
 - The next phrases out of my mouth were, "Are you sure?" and "I guess we need to buy a shotgun."
3. Getting to the point where I could run three miles without stopping.
 - Considering I couldn't run to the end of the driveway when I started this was quite the achievement.
2. Watching the Lions play on Monday night for the first time
 - Before this year I was beginning to think the NFL would give the Lions to another city... Pastor Robb constantly reassured me that nobody would want them, so I had nothing to worry about.
1. Witnessing the birth of my first Child
 - Something I'll never forget... Ever!

I hope you enjoyed my attempt at comedy. On a serious note, it is important that before we set new goals, and move on to the next year that we take time and evaluate the previous year. Think about what you did particularly well, where you dropped the ball, and how could you have done better. I would encourage you to not look back on just your family life or your professional life, but your spiritual life as well. I can think back to times this past year where I was really cruising along spiritually and times when I was struggling. It is important that I look back on those times and figure out what I did right and what I need to work on. The Christian faith is a journey and in order to make sure we are progressing on that journey we need to sit down and honestly evaluate our spiritual lives, and then set new goals we would like to achieve spiritually over the next year.

Adam



SPUD LUNCHEON

Date: January 15, 2012

Given by the Mission Committee

Time: After 10:30 AM church service

Take out available after 9:00 AM service

Cost: By Donation

Donations will be used for our mission trip to

PUERTO RICO.

JANUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 One Service at 10:00 AM	2 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 AM Craft Group 6:30 PM 4-H Meeting	3 7:00 PM Trustees	4	5 7:00 PM Hot Spot Youth 7:15 PM Choir	6	7 3:00-7:00 PM 4-H Meeting in Fellowship Hall
8 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Woodside 2:00 PM Drama Practice for MLK service	9 9:00 AM Craft Group	10	11 7:00 PM SAW Meeting	12 7:00 PM Hot Spot Youth 7:15 PM Choir 7:30 PM Missions Meeting	13 10:00 AM Serve lunch at Salvation Army	14 Kitchen in Use
15 11:30 AM Spud Luncheon 2:00 PM Drama Practice for MLK service	16 9:00 AM Craft Group 7:00 PM MLK Service at St. Andrew	17	18 6:30 PM Bridge the Gap and Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Scrapbookers and Yarn Spinners 7:00 PM Finance Meeting	19 7:00 PM Hot Spot Youth 7:15 PM Choir	20	21
22	23 9:00 AM Craft Group	24	25 6:30 PM Bridge the Gap and Confirmation Class	26 7:00 PM Hot Spot Youth 7:15 PM Choir	27	28
29 11:30 AM Safe Sanctuary Meeting	30 9:00 AM Craft Group	31	Notes:			