

ST. ANDREW'S
February 2026 Newsletter

**ST. ANDREW EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

PASTOR BEN LANDER

201 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MUNCY, PA 17756

Sunday Mornings

Worship : 9:15 am

with Children's Program

Sunday School : 10:30 am

for youth & adults



Coffee Fellowship before & after
services



**Communion is the first Sunday of
every month & special Sundays
throughout the year!**



From the Pastor's Desk

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." — 1 Peter 4:8

As I considered the topic for this month's Pastor's page, my mind was pulled in two directions: should I focus on the theme of love, as we celebrate Valentine's Day? Or should I focus on repentance as we observe Lent? But the more I considered it, it struck me that the two are not mutually exclusive. Love, after all, is the reason that Jesus went to the cross for us. As we ponder the depth and magnitude of Christ's love, our appropriate response is that of humility and repentance.

Our journey toward the cross reminds us that God's love does not ignore our brokenness; it moves toward it. Lent gives us space to ask honest questions: Where have I grown distant from God? What habits or fears are shaping my actions more than love? Where am I holding back trust, forgiveness, or obedience? What is competing for my attention and my affection? Lent isn't about shaming us to "do better." It's about God's deep love for us and His desire to restore us. When the Holy Spirit reveals areas of our lives that need correction or healing, it's an invitation to draw closer to Him, not a condemnation.

Lent often includes the practice of prayer and fasting. Some people choose to fast from certain foods, others fast from media, television, etc. The point is not to punish ourselves, but to make holy room. When we let go of distractions, we create space for God to speak to us in a less hindered environment. Fasting also allows us to model an attitude of surrender, following in the footsteps of Christ, who surrendered everything to the will of the Father.

As we turn our eyes toward the cross this Lenten season, may we see more clearly the love of Christ displayed in both His words and His wounds. Jesus' sacrifice was the ultimate statement of love - to lay down His life for us so what we could be made new. In light of this, we are now free to love others not because they deserve it, but because Christ loved us first. We are free to forgive others as we have been forgiven. Let us walk humbly with God this Lenten season knowing that it's not perfection that holds us in His hands, but the love and grace that He poured out on the cross.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Ben





FEBRUARY OUTREACH - SON LIGHT HOUSE

The Son Light House is a non-profit organization, that with your generous donations will be able to distribute food, clothing and limited furniture to eligible individuals and families in our community.

FEBRUARY CARE CARDS - JIM MUFFLY

Our February Care Cards will be going to Jim Muffly. We have cards available in the Narthex or you can bring your own. Please sign them with an encouraging note or thoughtful message and give them to the office to be mailed. Thank you!

SOUP, SANDWICHES & SWEETS

Please join us on Sunday, February 8th at 11am for a luncheon in celebration of Valentines Day. No matter your age or stage in life, Valentines Day can be celebrated because of God's great love. Enjoy an assortment of soups, sandwiches and tasty sweets provided by the Parish Life Committee. If interested in attending please sign up in the Narthex.



THANK YOU!

Dear St. Andrew Congregation,
Thank you, thank you, thank you for all of your prayers, food, cards, cookies, texts, and visits, while recouping in UPMC and at home. God is so good and is healing me, slowly but surely.

Love In Christ,
Kay Myers

BUILDING INPUT

The Property Committee is looking for input from the congregation as to what finishing touches you would like to see in our new building addition! There is a suggestion sheet in the Narthex for ideas. If you have any questions, please see Joe Cardinale or Dick Gruver!



SHROVE TUESDAY

Please join your St. Andrew family on Tuesday, February 17th at 6 p.m. for some relaxation, conversation and another delicious dinner hosted by our Parish Life Committee. Please sign-up in the Narthex. Meals to be delivered to shut-ins at 5 p.m.



ASH WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday, February 18th, we will have our Ash Wednesday Worship (with imposition of ashes) at 7 pm. We also invite you, as your schedule allows, to our Open Sanctuary, between 9 & 10 am, for a time of prayer and imposition of ashes.

BIBLE STUDIES

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Our Small Group Bible Study will meet February 5th & 19th at 2:30 pm in the Parish Hall classroom. We would love to have you join us!

MEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY

The Men's monthly Bible Study will meet on February 14th at 8am and continue working through the book of Titus!

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE STUDY

Our Women's monthly Bible Study will meet on February 7th at 8am to continue our study of Jennifer Rothschild's *Heaven*.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Wednesdays during Lent, (2/25-3/25) at 7 p.m. at Muncy Baptist Church for our shared Lenten Bible Study, *Journey to Jerusalem*, co-hosted with Muncy Baptist Church & Pleasantview Wesleyan Church.





Kids Korner

Easy Heart Suncatcher

Supplies

- Pre-cut foam or felt hearts, two per suncatcher
- Baubles to decorate the hearts (pompoms, buttons, jewels, stickers, glitter glue, etc.) You can mix and match.
- Craft glue
- Scissors
- Contact paper
- Hole punch
- Valentine Day's colored tissue paper (red, pink, purple)
- Ribbon
- Black marker or pencil

1. Take one of the foam or felt hearts. Follow the contour of the heart and trace a smaller heart inside it. Cut out that heart in order to create the frame for the suncatcher. (Save the small heart and set it aside.)
2. Trace the outline of the larger heart on the contact paper and cut out that heart.
3. Cut or rip the colored tissue paper into small pieces and glue them to the contact paper.
4. Let the colored tissue paper dry on the contact paper heart.
5. Decorate the large heart frame by applying glue dots and adding the baubles you want to use. (Space out the larger items and use the smaller items to fill in the gaps.)
6. Let the glue dry.
7. Glue the contact paper heart to the back of the heart frame.
8. Use the small heart -- cut from the larger heart and set aside -- to use as a template to make a second heart frame with the second pre-cut foam or felt heart.
9. Place the second large heart frame on the back of the first heart frame so that it lines up; then glue the two frames together. (Before gluing, please read no.10 below.)
10. If you want to hang the heart suncatcher, use the hole punch to punch a hole large enough to thread ribbon through it. (Note: If the frame does not have a large enough space at the top center for a hole to be punched, glue the ribbon to the back of the first heart frame at the top center, before gluing on the second heart frame.)

Quiz Zone

February Quiz - True or False?

1. _____ The woman at the well had at least five husbands.
2. _____ Jesus asked the woman at the well for bread to eat.
3. _____ In the Gospel of John, the Sea of Galilee is called the Sea of Tiberias.
4. _____ Peter betrayed Jesus with a kiss.
5. _____ Satan is the father of lies.
6. _____ Peter asked his shipmates to cast him into the sea.
7. _____ Jonah was in the belly of a great fish for four days and four nights.
8. _____ In an attempt to run from the presence of the Lord, Jonah tried to flee to Tarshish.
9. _____ Jonah danced while inside a giant fish.
10. _____ Jonah proclaimed that Nineveh would be overturned in sixty days.
11. _____ Nun was Joshua's brother.
12. _____ The Euphrates is described as "the great river" in the book of Joshua.
13. _____ Joshua sent spies into Jericho.
14. _____ Joshua was 120 years old when he died.
15. _____ Joseph's bones were buried at Shechem.
16. _____ Levi was the first tribe to enter the Promised Land.
17. _____ The city of Jericho was famous for its fallen walls.
18. _____ Jephthah ran from his brothers and dwelt in the land of Tob.
19. _____ Abdon had fifty-two sons.
20. _____ Elimelech was Samson's father.

Answers will be in the March Newsletter

ANNIVERSARIES

February 18, 1995 - Jim & Karen Krum

February 27, 1999 - Jack & Cindy McArdle

BIRTHDAYS

February 04 - Julie Roller

February 09 - Kelly Merrifield

February 10 - Joy Barto

February 13 - Nancy Heivly

February 13 - Lukas Merrifield

February 15 - Michele Styer

February 17 - Grace Hogan

February 20 - Leslie Houser

February 25 - Spencer Gardner

February 27 - Gina Styer



FEBRUARY 14, 2026



HELLO
FEBRUARY



SH-IN-E TIME TEACHERS

February 01 - Karen Krum & Kathy Heilman

February 08 - Terri Stermole & Luanne Libbey

February 15 - Darlene Waldron & Sheila Morehart

February 22 - Katie Lander & Julie Roller

GREETERS

February 01 - Becky Hibschan & Jim Lenhart

February 08 - Larry & Sharon Barnard

February 15 - Nancy Heivly

February 18 - Luanne Libbey

February 22 - Tom & Dee Knight

LECTORS

February 01 - Sheila Morehart

February 08 - Michele Styer

February 15 - Erik Houser

February 18 - Steve Haddon

February 22 - Larry Barnard

If you can't serve on your Sunday, please try and get a replacement and let the office know. If you are unable, please contact the office and we will take care of it. Thank you!

570-546-3591

office@standrewluthreanmuncy.org

ALTAR GUILD

Katie Lander

ACOLYTE

February 01 - Gina Styer

February 08 - Sam Haddon

February 15 - Lila Styer

February 18 - Levi Lander

February 22 - Levi Lander

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Dick Gruver

ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY

Becky Hibschan