

ST. ANDREW'S



NET



May 2024 Newsletter

St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Ben Lander

201 S. Main Street

Muncy, PA 17756

570-546-3591

office@standrewlutheranmuncy.org

Sunday Mornings

Worship @ 9:15 a.m.

Coffee Time Before and After Services

Sunday School @ 10:30 a.m.

For all Ages

Communion: First Sunday of the Month

&

Special Sundays throughout the year



From the Pastor's Desk

“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” - Luke 18:14

I don't typically listen to the radio when I'm in the car, or if I do it's the local Christian station (WGRC). However, this week our van needed some repairs so we got a rental car while it was in the shop. As I was driving this rental van, a song I hadn't heard before came on the radio (which was not tuned to the Christian station). The song was called, *Need a Favor* by Jelly Roll. I was about to turn the station, when the lyrics of the song caught me off guard. It said:

*I only talk to God when I need a favor
And I only pray when I ain't got a prayer
So, who the h*** am I, who the h*** am I
to expect a Savior, oh
If I only talk to God when I need a favor?
But God, I need a favor*



Without condoning the language used, I thought the message was interesting. My first thought was “this secular song is more honest than some modern worship songs.” That is not intended as a formal critique or rebuke of modern worship music, just an observation. It reminds me of the parable Jesus told in Luke chapter 18 about the Pharisee and the Publican. Both men stood on the street corner praying to God, but the Pharisee's prayer was loaded with self-righteousness while the tax collector's prayer was simple, honest and contrite. He simply prayed, “God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” And who did God listen to? The tax collector. Jesus said, “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God.”

Our prayers don't need to be flowery or long-winded, they just need to be honest. A professor of mine once recalled how on his commute to work in the mornings he would ask God for a good parking spot. On the surface, this may seem like an inconsequential prayer, and maybe it is, but in his words, “if it's important enough for you to care about, it's important enough to talk to God about.” God desires our presence, not our pretense. He wants to hear from us regularly, even in the mundane - especially in the mundane, because it is those moments where authentic relationships are built.

Not only does God desire to hear from us, but He desires to speak to us as well. However, if our hearts and ears are only open when we “need a favor,” then we will miss out on so much that God has to share with us. My challenge to you (and myself) is to practice godly mindfulness - to increase our awareness of God's constant presence, from the mundane moments to the extraordinary ones. Take time to pray, but also take time to listen. See how His goodness and mercy run through your life like a flowing stream of living water, because “the Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him” (Lamentations 3:25).

Persisting in prayer with you and for you,
Pastor Ben

May Outreach - Expectations Women Center

This center empowers women with fact and evidence based education so they can make informed decisions about relationships, pregnancy, abortion, adoption and parenting.

All of their services are free of charge.

Lewisburg: 570-523-8240

Williamsport: 570-321-8240



Ronald McDonald House Outreach

We are in need of your service!! On May 23rd, 2024, we will be providing the residents of the Ronald McDonald House in Danville with a delicious dinner. We are in need of food donations and delivery. Please contact Andrea Welch to sign-up!

Thank you!



May Care Cards

Our care cards this month will go to Stan Lacatsas. 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 and we will mail them out for you!

Parsonage Open House

May 19, 2024

Pastor Ben and Katie would like to invite you to an open house at the Parsonage to share a time of food, fellowship and see the new renovations completed last fall! Please join us on Sunday, May 19th any time between 10:30a.m.-1:00p.m. We are so excited to share these changes with you!

Old Immanuel Annual Service

June 2nd at 2:30 p.m.

The public is invited to attend the Annual Old Immanuel Memorial Service, as well as, a tour of the historic church. Light refreshments will be served on the church lawn after the service. Pastor Ben Lander will be preaching and Mrs. Joy Barto will accompany the service on the church's antique pump organ.

Please note that the church does not have running water or electricity. For more information, or to follow Old Immanuel more closely, "Like" us on Facebook!



Monthly Bible Studies

Join us for our monthly men's and women's basic once-a-month bible studies and breakfast!!

Women's Bible Study: May 04, 2024
from 8-9am

Men's Bible Study: May 11, 2024
from 8-9am



Small Group Bible Study

Our Small Group Bible Study meets on the first, third and fifth Thursdays of each month. In May we are beginning a new study of God's redemption of His people in the Book of Exodus. We would love to have you join us!



RADA Cutlery



The Women of St. Andrew are still selling RADA Cutlery: Stainless Steel, Variety of Knives, Carving & Granny Forks, Choppers, Vegetable Peelers, Spatulas & Tomato Slicers (tomato season is just around the corner). Contact a member of the Women of St. Andrew or Shirley Watson if interested. Thank you!



National Day of Prayer - May 02, 2024



We will have an open Sanctuary from 8:00am-12:00pm for those who would like to have a time of private prayer. Our regular prayer group will also be meeting at their normal time, 1:00pm in the Chapel for a time of prayer and would love to have you join them!

Mother's Day Men's Choir



Attention all guys, young and not so young!
Come out and sings for our ladies on May 12th!
A rehearsal will be held at 9am before service.

Let's fill the choir loft!



St. Andrew Lutheran
Church invites you to:

VBS 2024

REGISTER
HERE



SCAN ME



or online at
www.standrewlutheranmuncy.org

Save The Dates Upcoming Parish Life Events

Monday, May 27th:
Memorial Day Hot Dog Giveaway
Friday, July 5th:
Outdoor Activities & Movie Night
Sunday, August 4th:
“Joe & Walt” Breakfast
Sunday, August 11th:
Church Picnic @ Kiess Park
Sunday, September 8th:
Soup & Sandwich Lunch

2024 Graduates

Please let our office know if you have a 2024 high school or college graduate! We are having a graduate recognition during one of our June services and would love to have them here with us! Please provide us with their name and contact information. Thank You!

Spring Grounds Clean-Up

Calling all workers! Spring Clean-Up and mulching will take place on Saturday, May 04, 2024 at 9 a.m. Please bring tools (shovels, wheelbarrows, rakes) to help!

Thank you!





May Volunteers

Greeters

MAY 05 - LARRY & SHARON BARNARD

MAY 12 - LUANNE LIBBEY

MAY 19 - NEED GREETER

MAY 26 - LUANNE LIBBEY

Acolytes

MAY 05 - SAM HADDON

MAY 12 - ADDISON DETWEILER

MAY 19 - LILA STYER

MAY 26 - LEVI LANDER

Lectors

MAY 05 - SHEILA MOREHART

MAY 12 - ELLEN, EMILIE & RACHEL DETWEILER

MAY 19 - ERIK HOUSER

MAY 26 - LARRY BARNARD

Altar Flower Delivery

Joy Barto

Communion Assistant

May 05 - Walt Gross

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

Office: 570-546-3591

office@standrewlutheranmuncy.org

Sunday School Teachers

MAY 05 - TERRI STERMOLE

MAY 12 - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

MAY 19 - KAY MYERS

MAY 26 - LUANNE LIBBEY



