

# February 2022 — St. Andrew's Net

## St. Andrew Lutheran Church

201 So. Main Street | Muncy, PA 17756 | 570-546-3591

## www.standrewlutheranmuncy.org

## Rev. Ben Lander

## Worship Service 9:15 a.m. | Sunday School 10:30 a.m. | Coffee Time before and after Service

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." (Hebrews 12:1-3)

This month the 2022 Winter Olympics will be held in Beijing. The Olympic games need no introduction. Harkening all the way back to before the days of Jesus (around 776 B.C.), the Olympics have been the ultimate proving ground for athletes to showcase the fruit of their rigorous training. Physical training gets athletes into peak physical condition so that they have the strength and speed to perform their absolute best.

However, it is not simply enough for an athlete to train for an event, they also need to focus during the event. If a runner were to set their mind on "autopilot" in the middle of the biathlon mixed relay, for example, there is a risk that they could become distracted and miss the handoff, costing their team crucial seconds or even milliseconds.

Several times throughout the New Testament, the Christian life is likened unto a race – one that we must train for and one in which we must not lose our focus. First, the training. Paul says in 1 Timothy 4:8 that "physical training is

of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." In other words, he is saying that just like the athlete in our illustration, the way we train for the race of life is to train in godliness. Sooner or later, our physical bodies deteriorate and we lose the strength we once had. But godliness produces a crown of glory that we will never lose. Moreover, godliness has immediate practical application. The more we grow in godliness, the more wisdom we gain, the wiser choices we make, and the wiser counsel we can give. The way we train in godliness is through repeated practice of Christian disciplines: reading and studying the Scripture, prayer, fasting, hospitality, service and fellowship to name a few.

But like the athlete in our illustration, not only do we need to train, we need to focus. According to Hebrews 12:2, our focus should be none other than Jesus Himself, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. The world is so full of distractions waiting at the ready to take our focus off of Christ, and when we allow ourselves to be distracted, these feet of clay are prone to stumble and fall. Like Peter in the boat, he didn't sink when he stepped out in faith, he only began to sink when he took his eyes off of Jesus. As we look to where we are going this year (individually and collectively) let us keep Christ dead in our sights – no, raised in our sights – because when we pursue Him, we find ourselves exactly where we are supposed to be.

Your fellow marathon runner,

Pastor Ben

## **OUR 2022 FEBRUARY OUTREACH IS The Son Light House**

March's outreach is the Son Light House. Established in 1982, Son Light House is a non-profit, ecumenical, community-supported resource that distributes food, clothing, and limited furniture to eligible individuals and families.



## **MOVIE NIGHT**

Please set aside **Sunday, February 6th at 6:30 p.m.** and join your family at St. Andrew for the movie "*Joshua*". Light refreshments will follow the movie.



St. Andrew welcomed 7 new members on January 16th. Joe and Sharon Cardinale, Tracy Dreibelbis, Letha Rupert, Emma Voneida, Raymond (absent) and Penny Wettlaufer, We are happy you have decided to join our Parish and Welcome you all! Please see Pastor Ben or any member with any questions or if we can be of assistance in any way.





## SHROVE TUESDAY SAUERKRAUT/MEATLOAF DINNER

Mark your calendars for 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 1, 2022; then bring your appetites, relax, enjoy the conversation and join your St. Andrew family for another delicious dinner hosted by our Parish Life Committee. Please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex so we know how many to prepare and set up for. \*PLEASE NOTE: If you need a ride please contact Ginny Gruver at 570-546-6894, or Shirley Watson at 570-546-5360.



May your Ash Wednesday be a time of reflection and promise.

Worship Service-Imposition of Ashes

March 2, 2022

7:00 P.M.



Palm Sunday April 10, 2022 9:15 A.M.

Maundy Thursday April 15, 2022 7:00 P.M.

Good Friday April 16, 2022 7:00 P.M.

(Tenebrae Service, ending in darkness)

Easter Sunday April 17, 2022 9;15 A.M.

Midweek Lenten Bible Studies will be shared with Muncy Baptist Church.

This Year's Study is "People of the Bible"

Class Schedule: 7:00 P.M.

March 9—Muncy Baptist

March 16th—St. Andrew

March 22—Muncy Baptist

March 30—St. Andrew

April 6—Muncy Baptist

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Karen & Jim Krum February 18, 1995

Jack & Cindy McArdle February 27, 1999



Julie Roller Feb. 4 Kelly Merrifield Feb. 9 Feb. 10 Joy Barto Feb. 13 Nancy Heivly Lukas Merrifield Feb. 13 Michele Styer Feb. 15 Feb. 27 Gina Styer Daulton Myers Feb. 28 Matthew Myers Feb. 28 On January 23rd Pastor Ben baptized Robert Christopher Clayton and Isabella Elisabeth Gillen. They are the children of Emma Voneida and Robert Gillen, Sr. Welcome Isabella and Robert!





We were blessed with a second Baptism service on January 30, 2022.

Miles Matteson Moore, son of Courtney Johnson and Terry Moore was baptized by Reverend Ben Lander. Courtney's grandparents were sponsors.

Welcome to St. Andrew Miles!





#### **FEBRUARY 2019 USHER SCHEDULE**

February 6 Jerry Watson

February 13 Kay & Phil Myers

February 20 Joe & Sharon Cardinale

February 27 Ginny Gruver

#### VIDEO AND SOUND SCHEDULE

February 6 John Dougherty | Jerry Watson

February 13 Erik Houser | Jerry Watson

February 17 | Jerry Watson

#### 2019 ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY

February Becky Hibschman

March Kay & Phil Myers

#### FEBRUARY LECTOR SCHEDULE

February6 John Libbey

February 13 Barron Zimmers

February 20 Amy Brinser

February 27 Steve Haddon

#### FEBRUARY ALCOLYTE SCHEDULE

February 6 Nora Styer

February 13 Addison Detweiler

February20 Nora Styer

February 27 Sam Haddon



The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER SCHEDULE**

Feb. 6 Joy Barto

Feb. 13 Kay Myers

Feb. 20 Jean Bogart

Feb. 27 Darlene Waldron

Mar. 6 Terri Stermole

Mar. 13 Luanne Libbev

Mar. 20 Katie Lander

Mar. 27 Darlene Waldron

April 3 Joy Barto

April 10 Jean Barto

April 17 Kay Myers

April 24 Terri Stermole

May 1 Luanne Libbey

May 8 Katie Lander