



## **St. Andrew's Net**

### **St. Andrew Lutheran Church**

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

**[www.standrewlutheranmuncy.org](http://www.standrewlutheranmuncy.org)**

**Rev. Ben Lander**

**Worship Service 9:15 a.m. | Sunday School 10:30 a.m. | Coffee Time before and after Service  
Communion, First Sunday of the month and special Sundays throughout the year.**

**January 2022**

At the start of every new year, we look forward with anticipation and hope to what this year might bring us. Many of us have an idea in our head about how we hope to better ourselves, or some exciting new venture that we hope to embark upon. Perhaps for some of us, we simply hope that things don't get any worse – the struggles of this life have eroded our ambition to the point that we are simply content to get out of bed each morning.

Whatever our expectations are for this coming year, we can be sure of two things: that life will not always go according to our expectations, and that God is still in control when it doesn't. Colossians 4:5 (NLT) says, "live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity." Often what appears to be an interruption in our life can be an opportunity in disguise that God has appointed.

Take, for example, the story of Ashley Smith. One day in March 2005, she came home to find a murderer who was using her home to hide from authorities. He held her hostage at gunpoint for several hours. Most people in that situation would be stricken by fear and panic, but Ashley did something quite unusual. She used the opportunity the Lord had given to her to witness to the man. She cooked breakfast for the man and read devotions and Scriptures to him. She shared with him about the love of Jesus Christ and the salvation that could be his if he surrendered his life to God. After a nail-biting standoff, the Holy Spirit pierced the heart of this murderer and he eventually handed himself over to the authorities peacefully.

More recently, a 9-year-old boy named Willie Myrick was kidnapped from his front yard in Atlanta. Like Ashley Smith, Willie also used this opportunity to witness to his kidnapper. He sang "Every Praise" for three hours straight until his captor got so annoyed with the boy's singing that he kicked him out of the car and Willie was free to return home.

What was certainly an unexpected interruption in both Ashley and Willie's lives turned out to be divine appointments that God used to bring a murderer and kidnapper to justice, and at least one sinner to repentance. Jesus said in Luke 15:7 that "there is more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

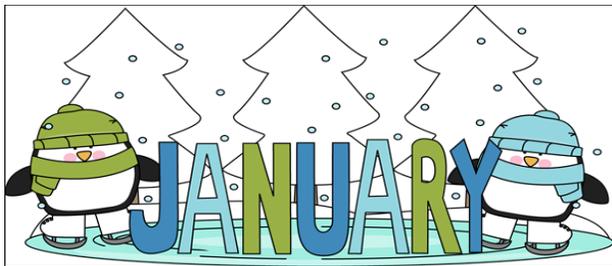
Certainly, my hope for each of you this year is nothing as dramatic as those examples I just gave, but in the little interruptions of our everyday lives I pray that Holy Spirit would prompt each one of us to make the most of every opportunity that is placed before us to be a light for Christ and a witness to the saving power of the Gospel.

God's peace and blessings to you in 2022,  
Pastor Ben



**2021 St. Andrew Choir - Row One: Janet Dougherty, Lou Ann Shoup, Cheryl Miller, Joy Barto (Choir Director) Row Two: Julie Souter, Shirley Watson Row Three: Don Miller, Dominic Tantaló, John Libbey, Rudy Moyer, Barron Zimmers, Erik Houser (Narrator)**

**Our talented Chancel Choir, directed by Joy Barto, presented a Beautiful Christmas Cantata entitled "Peace" by Joel Raney on December 19, 2021.**



## **BIRTHDAYS**

<b>Rachel Detweiler</b>	<b>January 1</b>
<b>Gary Dunlap</b>	<b>January 13</b>
<b>Kathryn Poust</b>	<b>January 14</b>
<b>Julie Souter</b>	<b>January 15</b>
<b>Sue Sarginger</b>	<b>January 23</b>
<b>Virgil Marrel</b>	<b>January 25</b>
<b>Emilie Detweiler</b>	<b>January 25</b>

**TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY:** Pastor Ben will be teaching a Bible Study on Tuesdays. Please see sign-up sheet to sign up for a morning or evening class, and depending on interest he may have both. He will be offering an in-depth study on "Seven Steps to Bible Basics". More information to come. Any questions call Pastor Ben at 570-546-3591.

## **JANUARY OUTREACH**

**St. Andrew Families in need will be our outreach this month. The Church Council will distribute funds to families of St. Andrew who are in need.**

**Thank you for your generous donations!**

## JANUARY 2022 USHER SCHEDULE

January 2	
January 9	Jerry Watson
January 16	Hiliary & Steve Haddon
January 23	Pretta Hose   Becky Hibschman
January 30	Luanne Libbey

## VIDEO AND SOUND SCHEDULE

Jan. 2	John Dougherty   Jerry Watson
Jan. 9	John Dougherty   Jerry Watson
Jan. 16	John Dougherty   Jerry Watson
Jan. 23	John Dougherty   Jerry Watson
Jan. 30	John Dougherty   Jerry Watson

## JANUARY LECTOR SCHEDULE

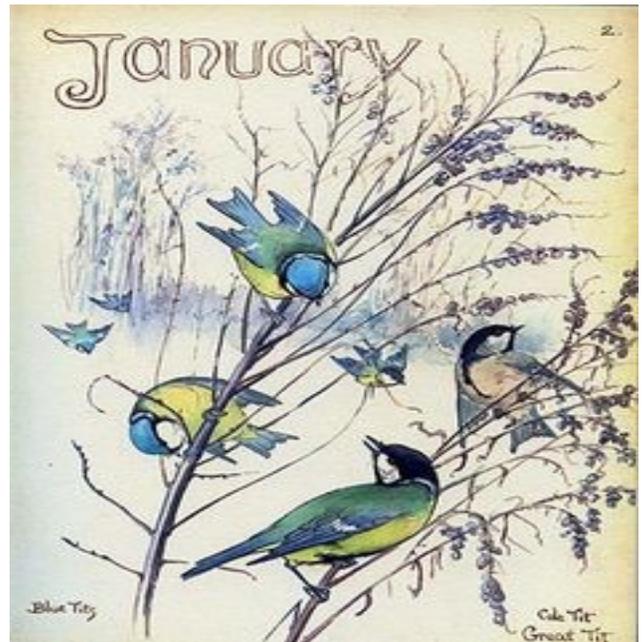
Jan. 2	Sheila Morehart
Jan. 9	Erik Houser
Jan. 16	Hiliary Haddon
Jan. 23	Michele Styer
Jan. 30	Kay Myers

## JANUARY ALCOLYTE SCHEDULE

Jan. 2	Nora Styer
Jan. 9	Addison Detweiler
Jan. 16	Sam Haddon
Jan. 23	Sam Haddon
Jan. 30	Addison Detweiler

## ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY

January	Julie Roller
February	Becky Hibschman
March	Kay & Phil Myers



## WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Please consider serving St. Andrew. Talk to Pastor Ben, or any council member if you feel called to help. Or email: [office@standrewlutheranmuncy.org](mailto:office@standrewlutheranmuncy.org), or call 570-546-3591. Thank you!

## Altar Guild 2022

January	Julie Roller
February	Janet Dougherty
March	Joy Barto
April	Darlene Waldron
May	Julie Roller
June	Janet Dougherty
July	Joy Barto
August	Darlene Waldron
September	Julie Roller
October	Janet Dougherty
November	Joy Barto
December	Darlene Waldron



St. Andrew Lutheran,

Just a note to say thank you for the thoughtful gift card. Breakfast is my favorite meal!

How blessed we are-with food, shelter and the freedom to worship.

Prayerfully counting my blessings.

Dee Knight

Thank you very much for the Cracker Barrel gift card. I'm always ready to go out to eat!

In Christ's Service,

Shirley Watson

St. Andrew Council & Congregation,

Thank you for your generous gift card to the Silver Thorn Restaurant. It is truly appreciated. I continue to feel blessed to serve St. Andrew. Happy New Year!

Yours in Christ,

Kay Myers

To the Church,

Thank you for the flowers and the cards from Janet and Linda. I miss John so much, thank you for your continued prayers. Wolfe Run is ok, but I miss my home. Wishing you peace and joy this holiday season.

Love,

Pretta



**WE ARE LOOKING FOR MEMBERS TO JOIN OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUBCOMMITTEES!**

What a great and fun way to serve God and our Church family! This includes nursery volunteers, Sunday School teachers, helpers, and youth volunteers. If you are passionate about sharing the Gospel with our children and youth, please contact Pastor Ben, Dean Barto or any council member to learn how you can become involved.

**NEW 2022 Volunteer and Sponsorship sign-up sheets are available on the windowsill in the Narthex. Any questions see Dean Barto or Kay Myers.**