

St. Andrew's Net

St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church

201 S. 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
Communion, First Sunday of the month and special Sundays throughout the year.

July 2022

On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was ratified and signed by the members of the first Continental Congress. Two-hundred and forty-six years later, we still celebrate that day as the birthday of our great nation. Of the things our country is known for, *freedom* is probably the word most associated with America. We celebrate many freedoms, and we are so grateful to those throughout the years who have fought and even died defending our God-given liberty.

But what good is freedom if it is not exercised? Essentially, a freedom declined is a freedom forfeit. If enough people were to decline enough of their freedoms, we would be left with a form of self-imposed tyranny, blown by the ever-changing winds of cultural opinion. That may sound sensational, but I don't think we need to strain our imaginations very hard to envision such a world of pseudo-freedoms.

As Christians in America, we have the blessing to enjoy many freedoms that our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ around the globe simply do not. Yet, in our complacency, so often we decline the exercise of these freedoms. If we are not careful, we run the risk of forfeiting that which we take for granted. That being said, here is a list of freedoms which I would strongly encourage us to exercise every chance we get:

- **The freedom to worship.** Being able to gather freely and worship God without fear of imprisonment or persecution is a gift that not every Christian in the world has. Yet sadly, church attendance in America is at an all-time low. The church is a place where we can experience authentic Christian community through the bonds of love and mutual faith. It is a place where we gather not only to worship, but to learn, share, serve, and encourage one another. Where would the world be if the Church suddenly disappeared?

Hopefully we will never have to know the answer to that question, but while we have the freedom to do so, “let us not neglect meeting together, as some have made a habit, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:25)

- **The freedom to vote.** According to surveys, millions of American Christians don’t exercise their freedom to vote. I understand the temptation to abstain from voting, especially if there seems to be no good candidate or if you’ve lost faith in the system. But as Christians, our faith does not belong to a system; our faith belongs to a God who “is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all we ask or think.” (Ephesians 3:20). Elected officials – not just the president, but governors, senators, and representatives – all derive their authority from the consent of the governed. By declining our freedom to vote, we effectively ensure that Biblical values and concerns are misrepresented, underrepresented or not represented at all.
- **The freedom to pray.** We have the freedom in this country to pray openly, yet so often we are afraid or even ashamed to pray in public. Despite what some government and educational institutions may have us think, the freedom to pray is not something that can be mandated or revoked. In Daniel’s day, King Darius tried to do just that. He demanded that everyone in Babylon pray only to him, but Daniel refused and so was tossed into the lion’s den. However, because of Daniel’s faithfulness and courage, God shut the mouths of the lions as a display of His sovereignty over them and even the king. As a result, the king repented. Never underestimate the power of prayer, for “the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” (James 5:16). Prayer should not simply be something we recite before meals or before bed; prayer is a posture of the heart that is constantly inclined toward God.
- **The freedom to share your faith.** In some countries, this freedom is nonexistent. The very mention of Jesus is punishable by imprisonment or even death. We must continually pray for those Christian brothers and sisters living under such tyranny. For those of us fortunate enough not to live in such fear, we would do well to exercise and share our faith as often as possible. Not only does this obey Christ’s command to “make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19), but it plants the seed of the Gospel in others’ hearts that one day may blossom and we will have won a new brother or sister in Christ. Let us keep our minds fixed on Christ, and let us have the courage to speak up for Him as well.

Praying that you have a wonderful summer, full of the joy of knowing the ultimate freedom in Christ!

Freely yours,

Pastor Ben



July Outreach

St. Andrew Families in Need

The Church Council will distribute all funds to families of St. Andrew who are in need. Thank you for your generous donations!

Sunday, July 10th, 2022

*Rain Date: July 17th

7:30pm - Ice Cream & Drinks

8:00pm—Popcorn & Movie

Please bring a lawn chair and park in the Presbyterian church parking lot!



What if...



AUGUST 15-19

6:30-8 P.M.

Please register online or use forms located in the Narthex.

Please volunteer to help or teach, we need you! Sign up sheet in Narthex



To: Members and Friends, St. Andrew Lutheran Church

On behalf of the Recipients, Volunteers and Board of Directors at the Son Light House, "Thank You" for your donation of "Non-Perishable Food" we received on June 6, 2022 for the Son Light House. We are truly thankful for your generous and thoughtful support. This donation will be distributed in June at the Son Light House. The month of May, 2022— 302 Households received Food and Clothing. This would include 194-youth, 280-adults, 235-seniors. A total of 709-Individuals. There were 2-New Households registered in May. Son Light House depends on the support of the local community, various organizations, churches, schools, Boy and Cub Scouts, and monetary donations, not to forget our Volunteers, making it possible to provide this service to the many families in need during the year.

Blessings,

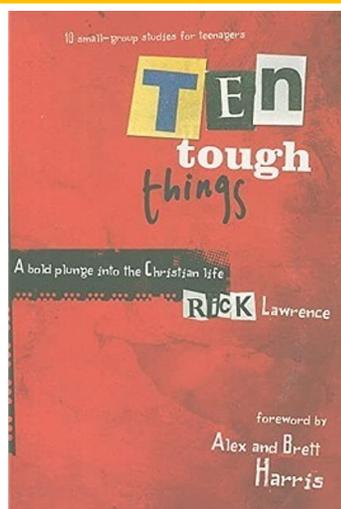
Jen & Delores Frey,

Directors, Son Light House, Muncy

Did You Know?

Online giving is now available. You can give from wherever you are! Click the donate button on our website to give a one-time or reoccurring gift.

Thank you!



Youth Sunday School

Sundays at 10:30am.

Join us in the Youth Room.

Our summer series is

"10 Tough Things"

based on the book by Rick Lawrence.

Snacks Provided.

Parish Life Committee Meeting

Parish Life Committee will be meeting on Thursday, July 14th, at 6:15pm
in the Parish Hall!

Sponsors Needed

Bulletin, News Paper Ad, & Altar
Flowers. Please sponsor one or
more. Your generosity is greatly
appreciated. Sign up sheets are in
the Narthex

Church News



Greeters Needed

If you would like to volunteer please
sign up on the sheet in the Narthex
or contact the church office

570-546-3591

July Birthdays

Sharon Cardinale - July 1

Sara Styer - July 2

Audrey Johnson - July 2

Katie Lander - July 3

Caleb Lander - July 3

Nora Styer - July 8

Owen Stermole - July 16

Barb Wood - July 14

Lila Styer - July 20

Chelsie Houser - July 23

Gary Heivly, Sr. - July 25

GREETER SCHEDULE

July 3	John & Luanne Libbey
July 10	Ginny Gruver
July 17	Nancy Heivly
July 24	Jerry Watson
July 31	Tom & Dee Knight

ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY

Karen Crum | Nora & Anna Styer



Lector Schedule.

July 3	Sheila Morehart
July 10	Amy Brinser
July 17	Michele Styer
July 24	Erik Houser
July 31	Steve Haddon

Acolyte Schedule

July 3	Sam Haddon
July 10	Teagan Brinser
July 17	Nora Styer
July 24	Gina Styer
July 31	Addison Detweiler

If you cannot lector or Acolyte on your specific Sunday please try and get a replacement and let Kay know at the office. If for some reason you cannot get a replacement please call me and I will take care of it. Any questions please call me!

Thank You, Julie Souter CELL 570- 337-3892

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER SCHEDULE

July 3	Joy Barto
July 10	Terri Stermole
July 17	Katie Lander
July 24	Luanne Libbey
July 31	Kay Myers

VIDEO | SOUND SCHEDULE

July 3	John Dougherty Jerry Watson
July 10	John Dougherty Jerry Watson
July 17	John Dougherty Jerry Watson
July 24	John Dougherty Jerry Watson
July 31	John Dougherty Jerry Watson