



St. Andrew's Net

St. Andrew Evangelical 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
Communion, First Sunday of the month and special Sundays throughout the year.

March marks the beginning of the Lenten journey that we take each year – forty days of prayer, fasting, self-denial and repentance. It is a time-honored tradition that prepares us for the hope and expectation of Easter. However, it is just that – a tradition. Nowhere in Scripture does God command that we observe a specific set of rules for fasting. That being said, the Bible does assume that fasting is a normal part of a Christian's life. Look at what Jesus says in Matthew 6:16-18:

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

Jesus Himself fasted for forty days in the wilderness to prepare for His earthly ministry, (which is where we get the tradition of fasting for Lent) and so it makes sense that we should fast also to prepare ourselves for closer communion with Him. But notice *how* Jesus said we are to fast – not in outward shows of piety, but humbly, even *secretly*. The point is not that we observe Lent because we're “supposed to” or that it makes us “good Christians”, it is a matter of our hearts.

As I look to Lent's fast approach, I've been asking myself, “what am I going to give up this year?” But perhaps that's the wrong question. Perhaps a better question is this: “what do I truly love?” In the poem, *wild geese*, by Mary Oliver, it says:

“You do not have to be good.

*You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.”*

In many ways it would be easier to walk on my knees through the desert, repenting. In many ways it would be easier to try to earn God's forgiveness by “being good.” At least then my prideful flesh could take solace in the fact that I did something to earn it. But it is a much harder thing to take an honest inventory of the heart. After all, as the prophet Jeremiah states, “the heart is deceitful above all things, and it is desperately sick; who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9).

But that is precisely what this season of preparation is about. Not in doing outward signs of prayer, fasting, and repentance – all of which are still vital to the Christian walk – but in examining what exactly it is that this “soft animal of your body” truly loves. Jesus said that “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Can we be honest enough with ourselves before God to admit the areas in which our priorities have been misaligned? What are the obvious sins that we need to repent of first, but then also to ask ourselves, “how do my affections and attitudes line up with Christ's?” Chances are, every one of us could use a realignment somewhere.

That is the first step toward true repentance; changing my mind about the things I have placed above Christ, and submitting my mind, heart and will to His Lordship. I pray that as we take this journey of 40 days together, we will not purpose to “give something up” only to take it back on Easter morning. Rather, let us seek the Lord together and pray that God will shape and mold us more and more into His image.

A fellow sinner, saved by Christ's grace
Pastor Ben





Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 10 | 9:15 A.M.
 Maundy Thursday, April 14 | 7:00 P.M.
 Good Friday Community Service, 1:00 P.M.
 Good Friday (Tenebrae), April 15 | 7 P.M.
 Easter Sunday, 7:30 Prayer Gathering in
 the Prayer Garden, weather permitting
 Easter Breakfast, 8:00 A.M. the Parish Hall
 Easter Sunday, April 17 | 9:15 A.M.

TOGETHER WE CAN:

END POVERTY, END HUNGER, CREATE SUSTAINABLE FUTURES, EMPOWER WOMEN,
 IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT, STRENGTHEN THE SOCIAL FABRIC OF COMMUNITIES...



CHANGE THE WORLD.

2022 LENTEN CROSS

This year's Lenten Cross donations will once again be going to Heifer International.

SHROVE TUESDAY

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 contact Ginny at 570-546-6894, or Shirley at 546-5360.**



ASH WEDNESDAY

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

Worship Service-Imposition of Ashes
 March 2, 2022
 7:00 P.M.

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM: It's time to order your Easter flowers which will adorn the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 17th. The flowers may be taken home after the services or may be planted on the church property. Deadline for ordering is March 27th. Thank you! The price is \$8.00 each.

Name _____

In: Memory | Honor of *(please circle one)*

_____ Lily _____ Hyacinth _____ Tulip _____ Mum _____ Daffodil

March Birthdays

Kenneth Snyder
 Carson Bloom
 Leonard Morehart
 Jennifer Souter
 Janet Myers
 Marlin Wertman
 Cam Myers

March 2
 March 2
 March 3
 March 5
 March 7
 March 12
 March 13

Troy Detweiler
 Shirley Muffley
 Jerry Watson
 Brian Brinser
 Cynthia Alexander
 Bruce Miller

March 13
 March 17
 March 17
 March 24
 March 28
 March 30

EASTER EGG HUNT



Children (or young-at-heart), mark your calendars and plan to join the fun and games on Palm Sunday, April 10th, 3:00 p.m. Donations of candy will be appreciated and may be placed in the church library.



Please don't forget about our monthly food outreach. Donations can be placed on the narthex windowsill. Thank you for your generosity at Thanksgiving and the Souper Bowl but, please be mindful that hunger exists 365 days a year.

Daylight Saving Time Begins on Sunday, March 13, 2022



Our March Outreach is the Salvation Army, a Protestant Christian church and an international charitable organization. The organization reports a worldwide membership of over 1.7 million, consisting of soldiers, officers and adherents collectively known as Salvationists. We Assist Approximately 23 Million Americans Annually. Help Us Meet Need All Over The U.S. Please make a donation and Help Us Pave The Way To A Brighter Future In Your Local Area. 100% Tax-Deductible. 501(c)(3) Non-profit. Services: Fight Hunger, Give Warmth!



MARCH 2022 GREETER SCHEDULE

March 6	Leonard and Sheila Morehart
March 13	Luanne Libbey and Linda Moyer
March 20	Jerry Watson
March 27	Troy and Ellen Detweiler

March 2022 Sunday School Teachers

March 6	Terri Stermole
March 13	Luanne Libbey
March 20	Katie Lander
March 27	Darlene Waldron

VIDEO AND SOUND SCHEDULE

March 6	Jerry Watson
March 13	Jerry Watson
March 20	Jerry Watson
March 27	Jerry Watson

2020 ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY

March	Kay & Phil Myers
April	Sue Sarginger
May	Joy Barto



Sunday, March 13, 2022



March 20, 2022

MARCH LECTOR SCHEDULE

March 2	Pastor Ben Lander (Ash Wed.)
March 6	Erik Houser
March 13	Kay Myers
March 20	Michele Styer
March 27	Hiliary Haddon

MARCH ALCOLYTE SCHEDULE

March 2	Nora Styer (Ash Wednesday)
March 6	Nora Styer
March 13	Sam Haddon
March 20	Addison Detweiler
March 27	Sam Haddon