



# St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church *October 2024 Newsletter*

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## Sunday Mornings

Worship: 9:15 am

Sunday School: 10:30 am

*All Ages Welcome*

Coffee fellowship before and  
after service.



Communion on the  
first Sunday of  
every month and  
special Sundays  
throughout the  
year!





# From The Pastor's Desk



"Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." – John 12:24

A couple of weeks ago I decided to spend some alone time with God by walking the Chilisaugi Trail at Montour Preserve. It's about a four-mile loop that goes around Montour Lake. And as I was walking and praying and listening for God's voice, something pulled my attention to one of the signs along the trail. If you've ever walked the Chilisaugi trail, you'll know that there are multiple signs posted along the path with different bits of information on them. I did not stop to read most of them, but for some reason I was drawn to this particular sign. It was a sign that said I was standing in the middle of a patch of woods that was once used for logging, and it talked about the purpose of fallen trees.

You see, when a tree falls in the woods (yes, it still makes a noise even if no one's around to hear it), the dead wood provides an important element to the forest ecosystem. As the tree decays, it provides rich nutrients to various plant-life and fungi. These nutrients also seep into the soil, making it a fertile place for a new tree to grow. Additionally, when a tree falls, it allows sunlight to poke through the forest canopy and reach the forest floor in places that it otherwise would not have reached, encouraging new growth.

In life, we will encounter times of loss or setback. We can try to prevent them as much as possible, but sometimes they are inevitable. Yet, could it be possible that God has ordained even our disappointments for His glory? A loss of one opportunity may well provide the catalyst for us to experience growth in a new direction. As one commentary on John 12:24 states, "as long as the kernel of wheat is scrupulously kept from decomposition and death in the granary, the hidden germ is dormant; let it be sown as "bare grain"." What if we surrendered even our setbacks to God, trusting Him to provide a harvest of faithfulness? In our outcome-driven society, we become impatient with setbacks, but those seasons of waiting are the forge where stronger and deeper faith can take shape. Jesus' death seemed at the time like the ultimate setback to His disciples. Yet, as He says here in John's gospel, it was absolutely necessary in order to produce a harvest of salvation for all the world.

As we look around at another season of changing leaves, colder weather, and bare trees, we are reminded that this too is a part of the cycle of life. Change will come. We can fight it, but it will still come regardless of our protestations. Instead of lamenting and asking God **why** things are different, perhaps some better questions we should ask are, "how might this change help me to become a better follower of Christ?" and, "What opportunity does God have planned for this season?" Like the falling tree, change may come with a lot of cracking and groaning, but look for the light that it's allowing to poke through. Admittedly, not all change *is* for the best, but we will make the best of each day we are given if we surrender it to Christ.

Growing together,  
Pastor Ben

# October Outreach

WGRC Contemporary Christian Radio is a non-profit ministry which began broadcasting in 1988. Now operating on 8 frequencies in Central and Eastern Pennsylvania (known as Pennsylvania's "Heartland") Our mission is to engage in daily worship of Jesus Christ, fostering growth in God's grace for those reached with radio programming that connects with the family and community We invite you to tune in and enjoy!



## October Care Cards - Martha Miller

Our October Care cards will be going to Martha Miller. We have cards available in the Narthex or you can use your own. Please sign an encouraging note or thoughtful message and give them to the office and we will mail them out for you. Thank you!

## Warm Clothing Collection

The Parish Life Committee will be collecting warm clothing during the month of October to be donated to the Son Light House. Please consider donating gently used items. Thank you!



## Life Chain - October 6th

The 33rd Lycoming County Life Chain will take place on Sunday, October 6th from 2:30-3:30pm on the Golden Strip in Williamsport. Life Chain is a peaceful, prayerful public witness of pro-life Americans in remembrance of 60 million lives lost to abortion, praying for our nations, for people in crisis situations and for an end to abortion. For more details, or if you would like to participate, please see Larry & Sharon Barnard.

## Parish Life Meeting

Parish Life Committee will meet on Thursday, October 10th at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall

# Church Rummage Sale

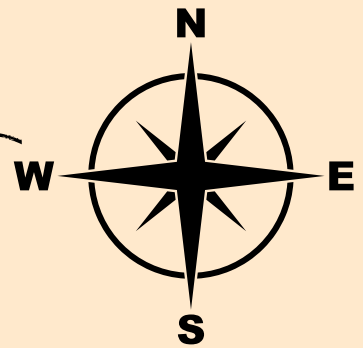
Our annual Fall Rummage Sale will take place on October 18th from 8am-3pm and October 19th from 8am-11am. All donations are welcome. Please try and place your items on the appropriate tables. Thank you, Nancy Heivly and the Women of St. Andrew.



## Fall Bible Study

Pastor Ben will be leading a Fall Bible Study from October 16th until November 6th on Wednesdays at 10am & 6pm in the Chapel. The study is called, "We Still Believe". We would love to have you join us!

*the  
bible  
is our  
compass*



## Men's and Women's Monthly Study

### Calling All Women:

The Ladies' Saturday Morning Bible Study is scheduled for 8:00 a.m., October 5th. This will be the final study of Angie Smith's Seamless. Please join us whether or not you have an opportunity to complete your workbook pages. Our study is a no-stress opportunity for fellowship and growth in personal Bible knowledge. We will start a new study in January, so mark your new calendars for January 4th, 2025.

### Calling All Men:

The Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study is 8:00 a.m., October 12th. We are continuing on our Daniel Bible Study. We will take a break for the November and December months and begin again in January. We would love to have you join us!



## Joe & Walt Breakfast

Join us on November 17th at 8am for a delicious breakfast! Menu is TBD. Sign up sheet will be available beginning October 27, so we know how many to prepare for.

## Chancel Choir Cantata

It's Christmas Cantata Time! The Chancel choir will be presenting our annual Christmas Cantata, "Swaddling Clothes" by Harland/Rowsey, on December 15th. Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, October 16th at 7:30pm. All interested singers are welcome to join us.

## Trunk or Treat -

Thursday, October 31 from 6-8pm.

We will set up at 5:30pm. Come join us in costume or not. Decorate your trunk or not. All donations of candy or individually wrapped snacks will be appreciated. Donations may be placed in the library no later than October 27.

(Nothing outdated please)



## Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes



Shoeboxes and information will be available beginning Sunday, October 20th. Collection Date is November 17th. If you prefer using a plastic box, you may purchase a plain plastic shoebox. Operation Christmas Child plastic boxes are available at Hobby Lobby. You may make a \$10 donation to help cover shipping and processing costs, if you wish. HOWEVER, this must be done online or by check payable and mailed to: Samaritan's Purse, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607-9956 with Operation Christmas Child on the memo line. DO NOT place the \$10 in the shoebox. If you would like to contribute a shoebox but are unable to do the shopping, you may make a monetary donation to someone on the Parish Life Committee by October 27th. Please specify what age group and gender and a committee member will purchase the items for you.



# hello OCTOBER

## October Anniversaries

October 10, 1970 – Leonard & Sheila Morehart

October 25, 1997 – Troy & Ellen Detweiler



HAPPY  
Halloween



## October Birthdays

October 01 – Sharon Barnard

October 03 – Amy Brinser

October 04 – Ellen Detweiler

October 04 – Winona Marrel

October 12 – Jamie Bloom

October 17 – Penny Stermole

October 18 – Naomi Wertman

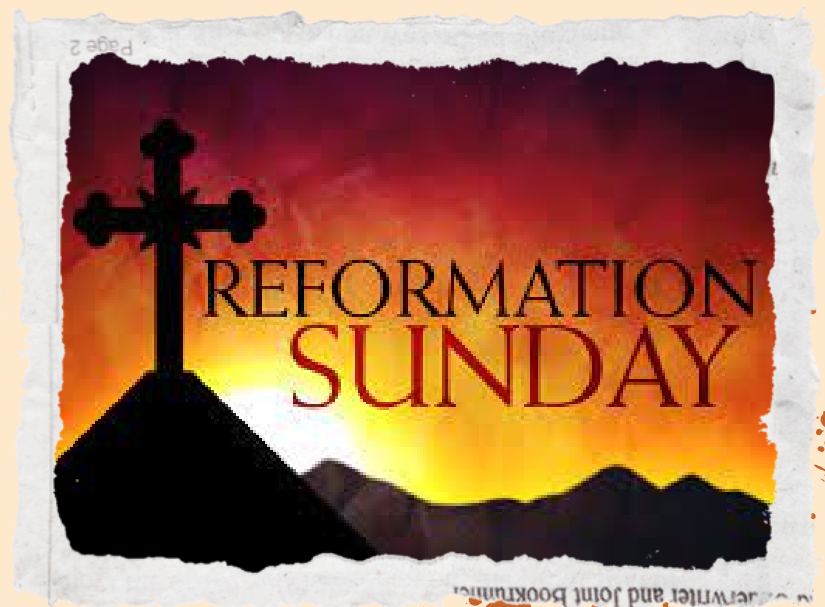
October 26 – James Krum

October 27 – Steve Haddon

October 29 – Jean Bogart



October 31, 2024



# October Volunteers

## Sunday School Teachers

October 06 – Darlene Waldron

October 13 – Kay Myers

October 20 – Terri Stermole

October 27 – Joy Barto

## Greeter

October 06 – Need Greeter

October 13 – Kathy Heilman

October 20 – Larry & Sharon Barnard

October 27 – Troy & Ellen Detweiler

## Acolyte

October 06 – Lila Styer

October 13 – Levi Lander

October 20 – Teagan Brinser

October 27 – Gina Styer

## Lector

October 06 – Sheila Morehart

October 13 – Steve Haddon

October 20 – Michele Styer

October 27 – Larry Barnard

## Communion Assistant

October 13 – Troy Detwiler

## Altar Flower Delivery

Cindy McArdle & Luanne Libbey

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