

ST. ANDREW'S NET

January 2026 Newsletter

St. Andrew Evangelical Lutheran Church
Pastor Ben Lander

201 South Main Street, Muncy, PA 17756

570-546-3591

office@standrewlutheranchurch.org

www.standrewlutheranmuncy.org

Sunday Mornings

- Worship @ 9:15am
 - with Children's Program
- Sunday School @ 10:30am
 - Adult & Youth

Coffee Fellowship Before & After
Service

Communion

We celebrate Communion on the
First Sunday of every month and
special Sundays throughout the
year!



From the Pastor's Desk



“Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:13-14)

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, we do so with mixed emotions. There is anticipation for what may come, gratitude for what has been, and often a quiet awareness of what remains unresolved. Scripture reminds us that this liminal space between what lies behind and what lies ahead, between reflection and hopefulness, is precisely where God meets His people. The prophet Jeremiah writes, “Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:22–23).

A new year is not merely a change on the calendar; it is a tangible reminder that God’s mercy is not exhausted by yesterday. Whatever burdens, failures, or disappointments we carry from the past year, they do not have the final word. God’s faithfulness does. At the same time, the New Year invites sober reflection. Moses prayed, “Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom” (Psalm 90:12). Time is a gift entrusted to us, not simply a resource to be taken for granted. As we look ahead, the question is not only what we will accomplish, but who we will become. Will we grow in love, in humility, in obedience, and in trust?

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. My hope for each of us this year is that in the little interruptions of everyday life the Holy Spirit would prompt 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 2026,
Pastor Ben

January Outreach - Shepherds of the Streets

Shepherd of the Streets is a ministry of the United Churches of Lycoming County that provides spiritual and material help to those on the streets; confronting fear, hunger, homelessness, unemployability or other difficulties. Through this ministry the churches of Lycoming County are able to assist people who need hope and peace in the midst of poverty and need, advocate with local agencies, law enforcement and correctional agencies. This ministry provides for: clinical and pastoral counseling, bedding and hygiene items, medical transportation assistance, medical/dental/vision assistance and referrals.



Care Cards

Our January care cards will be going to Penny Wettlaufer. 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 to be mailed. Thank you!

Volunteers Needed

As we usher in the new year, we are once again in need of volunteers to fill our ministry. Please see the sign up sheets in the Narthex for some of the service opportunities. We are looking forward to serving with you!



Parish Life Committee Meeting

Parish Life Committee will meet on Thursday, January 8th at 6:15pm in the Parish Hall.

2025 Christmas Cantata

Row One: Andrew Welch, Lou Ann Shoup,
Pastor Janet Dougherty, Joy Barto
Row Two: Julie Souter, Sheila Morehart,
Shirley Watson
Row Three: Levi Lander, Pastor Ben Lander,
Rudy Moyer, John Libbey, Walt Gross

Our talented Chancel Choir directed by Joy Barto, presented a beautiful Christmas Cantata entitled, "Let the Whole World Sing" by Joel Raney on December 14, 2025



2025 Toys for Tots

In December a few members of our congregation assisted in the collection of donated gifts in the Hughesville-Muncy area to be given away this Christmas.

In total those members picked up approximately:

2800 Toys

150 Books

10 Bicycles

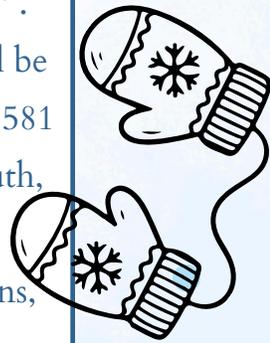
with 3 locations remaining.

We are so grateful to be a part of sharing Christ's love and giving spirit, especially during the holidays!



From: The Son Light House

On behalf of the Recipients, Volunteers, and Board of Directors at the Son Light House, thank you for the donations of "Hats and Gloves" we received, Monday, December 8th. We are all truly thankful for your generous and thoughtful support. This donation will be distributed in December & January at the Son Light House. The month of November, 581 households received food and clothing. There was a total of 1,546 individuals: 521 youth, 608 adults, 417 seniors. There were 21 new households registered in November. Son Light House depends on the support of the local community, various organizations, churches, schools, Boy & 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.



From: Touch-A-Heart

Another year {39} for Touch-A-Heart has been a very challenging one. With 22 more children than 2024 {212} and 157 Senior Citizens, your faithfulness has been overwhelming. With the support of the entire church community the children were sponsored. We are able to provide for the seniors through the generous monetary donations given. There is no way we could give out 157 senior tags and have them all provided for. With the monetary donations we are able to purchase the items for the extra 80 gift bags. May your new year and the Christmas season ahead be a blessing to all. On behalf of Touch-A-Heart, Candy Winters





Women's Monthly Bible Study

On January 3rd at 8am, we will begin the new year study – Jennifer Rothschild’s Heaven. If you’ve had questions about your future in eternity, please consider joining us for some answers and discussion as we study the scriptures together. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. For questions please contact Kathy Heilman (570-546-21126 or kiheilman@comcast.net)

Men's Monthly Bible Study

Join us on January 10th at 8am as we continue our journey through the book of Titus! For questions please contact Pastor Ben at 570-546-3591 or pastor@standrewlutheranmuncy.org



Small Group Bible Study

Our Small Group Bible Study will meet on January 15th & 29th at 2:30 pm in the Parish Hall classroom. We would love to have you join us!



Psalm 37:4

“Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.”
God isn't like a genie in a bottle who will do whatever we ask. Prayer is about talking with God, getting to know Him, learning to love the things he loves. He's preparing us to be fit citizens for the kingdom to come, and His goal isn't to give us everything we want in this world. He gives us whatever He knows is best. We can't see the end result. We just have to trust God to see the beginning from the end. Author Unknown.

Birthdays

- January 01 - Rachel Detweiler
- January 15 - Julie Souter
- January 23 - Sue Sarginger
- January 25 - Emilie Detweiler



Kids Korner – “Ugly Quilt” Sleeping Bags

Information provided by “My Brother’s Keeper”

STEP ONE

Make a 7-foot square from scraps of material such as old curtains or sheets. Use pre-washed fabrics: cottons, poly-cottons, nylon, rayon, light wools. Avoid knits, velours, fiberglass, heavy upholstery fabrics, or fabrics weak from age. (Mend rips.)

STEP TWO

Make another one!

STEP THREE

Sew the two squares together along one edge. (These first three steps can be done alone at home by volunteers.)

STEP FOUR

Lay out the bag. Make a construction space, 8 feet by 8 feet, if possible, by pushing several tables together. Choose one of the two cloth squares to serve as the outside of the bag. Spread out the other inside piece, flat on the table, with the good finished side down. Let the square that will become the outside dangle over the edge.

STEP FIVE

Stuff the bag. Make a sandwich by layering soft old clothes, sweaters, T-shirts, torn blankets, or mattress pads on top of the backside of the inside. Use more padding in colder climates.

STEP SIX

Put the “top” on your sandwich. Pull the outside square over the padding and straighten all the layers.

STEP SEVEN

Tie the layers together like a comforter. Use heavy string, perle cotton, or yarn, and large, sharp needles. If the stuffing is small pieces of rummage, tie about every 6 inches; if large pieces (blankets or mattress pads), tie every foot or so (just enough to keep the insides from shifting around).

STEP EIGHT

Add two shoulder straps for carrying the bag during the day. For each strap, use two old neckties or two strips of cloth about 4 feet long. (A total of four pieces.) Before sewing the bag closed, pin the straps to the bottom edge: one pair about 8 inches from the side and the other about 14 inches. Sew securely in place when closing bag.

STEP NINE

Sew the bag shut. Fold the bag in half lengthwise. Sew down the side and across the bottom, about 2 or 3 inches from the edge.

STEP TEN

Turn the bag right-side out, fold it in half lengthwise, roll it up, and tie it. Tuck in a zip-lock bag of small soaps and shampoos, or a pair of warm socks or gloves, or a scarf.



SHinE Time Teachers

January 04 - Darlene Waldron & Sue Sarginger

January 11 - Ellen Detweiler & Hiliary Haddon

January 18 - Rachel Detweiler & Tracy Drebelbis

January 25 - Stacie Kilgore & Katie Lander



Lectors

January 04 - Sheila Morehart

January 11 - Hiliary Haddon

January 18 - Amy Brinser

January 25 - Larry Barnard

Altar Guild

Julie Roller

Altar Flower Delivery

Julie Roller

Greeters

January 04 - Need Greeter

January 11 - Larry & Sharon Barnard

January 18 - Joe & Sharon Cardinale

January 25 - Need Greeter

Acolytes

January 04 - Gina Styer

January 11 - Levi Lander

January 18 - Teagan Brinser

January 25 - Levi Lander



Happy New Year
January 01, 2026

If you can't serve on your Sunday, please try to find a replacement. If you are unable please let the office know and we will take care of it.

Thank you!

Office: 570-546-3591

office@standrewlutheranmuncy.org

Reminder for Sponsorship

If you sign up as a sponsor for the newsletter, bulletin or Altar flowers please turn in the amount below to the office as close to that Sunday as possible. Thank you!

- Bulletin - \$10
- Altar Flowers - \$35
- Newspaper Ad - \$31