St. Andrew's Net

October 2026 Newsletter

Sunday Mornings

Worship: 9:15 a.m.
with children's church

Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship before & after service!



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

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Pastor Ben Lander

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From The Pastor's Desk

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." - Ephesians 2:8-9

October brings with it a breeze of change. Leaves change color and fall to the ground, the temperature becomes cooler, and for us Lutherans, Reformation Sunday is a reminder of the continual call for reform, which is another way of saying "change." But there is a type of change that brings refreshment, and there is a type of change that brings exhaustion. Sometimes it seems that our calendars are constantly filled with the latter. The world does not stand still, responsibilities pile up, and eventually even good things can bring physical, mental or spiritual burnout.

Yet, in the words of the theologian Frederick W. Robertson, "*God is not affected by our mutability; our changes do not alter Him. When we are restless, He remains serene and calm; when we are low, selfish, mean or dispirited, He is still the unalterable I AM*." The world will continue to pull at our attention. There will always be another task, another concern, another thing that needs to be done. But our souls were not created to live continually hurried and distracted. We were created for communion with our Creator. And in that, we find the refreshment our souls long for. As Jesus says in Matthew 11:28, "*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*"

Christ promises to meet us where we are if we turn to Him. When we are weary, He is present. When we feel overwhelmed, His grace is sufficient. Perhaps we need less striving for "change" on our terms, and more resting in God's presence. We might begin with something as simple as opening our Bible, or a few quiet minutes in prayer, or a walk where we intentionally notice the beauty of God's creation. In those seemingly simple spiritual practices, there are the seeds of reform. Martin Luther's own journey began with a recognition that he could not "change himself" enough to earn God's favor. Rather, salvation is a gift of God's grace, through faith, as Ephesians 2:8-9 beautifully reminds us.

Reformation Sunday is more than a celebration of something that happened centuries ago. It is an invitation to examine our own hearts. Are we still trusting in God's grace? Are there traditions, assumptions, or habits that have become more important to us than the good news of Jesus Christ? To be continually reformed is to remain open to God's transforming work. It means allowing Scripture to challenge us, Christ to reshape us, and the Holy Spirit to lead us into greater faithfulness. And more often than not, that takes time. As John Newton (the composer of the hymn *Amazing Grace*) said, "*God works powerfully, but for the most part gently and gradually*."

We should be patient with ourselves, as God is patient with us. That doesn't excuse us to remain perpetually "stuck" in our walk of faith, but it does give us breathing room to trust the One who began a good work in us to see it through to completion in His timing (Philippians 1:6). This season, I pray that God would continually turn our hearts toward Christ, deepen our love for His Word, strengthen our faith, and remind us that His grace is sufficient. And may the church, in every generation, remain willing to be renewed; not for the sake of change itself, but so that the good news of Jesus Christ may be proclaimed clearly and lived faithfully.

Growing in Grace,
Pastor Ben

October Outreach - WGRC Radio

A non-profit ministry which began broadcasting in 1988. Now operating on 8 frequencies in Central & 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



Our October Care Cards will be going to Judy VanBuskirk. 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 for you! Thank you!

Warm Clothing Collection



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

Life Chain - October 4th

The annual Lycoming Country Life Chain will be held on Sunday, October 4th 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 nation, 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



Church Rummage Sale

Our annual Fall Rummage Sale will take place on October 16th (8am-3pm) & October 17th (8am-11am). All donations are welcome. Please try and place your items on the appropriate tables.

Thank you, The Women of St. Andrew

Annual Fall Hymn Sing

Join us at Old Immanuel Lutheran Church on October 11th at 2:30pm with Mr. Stuart Hague; Certified Lay Pastor in the Presbyterian Church. The theme of this years service will be "God's Grace". Light refreshments to follow on the lawn.

Special Music Available

We are blessed to be able to offer a thumb drive conaining all the videos of each of the Special Music performances over the summer and a PowerPoint that can play htem as a slideshow, thanks to Dick Gruver. If you are interested please sign up on the form in the Narthex and we will get one to you!

Fall Bible Study: October 7th - November 11th

The Muncy Ministerium will be leading another Fall Bible Study. We Will be meeting at Muncy Baptist Church on Wednesdays from October 7th - November 11th. Refreshments begin at 6:45pm and our study time will begin at 7pm. Please join us!

Small Group Bible Study

Our SGBS is continuing to walk through Romans. Meeting in the downstairs classroom. All are welcome to join. Please see Larry & Sharon Barnard with questions .

October Study Dates

October 1

October 15

October 29

Men's Monthly Study

Men of St. Andrew! Join us for breakfast, fellowship and the study "See For Yourselves": equipping ourselves with confidence in our personal study of Scripture!

Women's Monthly Study

Calling all ladies! Join us for food, fellowship and a time of instruction while we talk about Heaven!



Rise & Dine

October 25th @ 8:00 am

Please consider joining us for this time of food and fellowship before our Sunday service. If interested in attending, please sign-up in the narthex or contact the office. We hope to see you there!

Trunk or Treat

Join us Saturday, October 31st from 6-8pm for our annual Trunk Or Treat. We will set up at 5:30pm. Come in costume or not. If interested in decorating a trunk, please sign-up in the Narthex or contact the office. All donations of individually wrapped candy or snacks will be appreciated. Donations (nothing outdated please) may be placed in the library no later than October 27th.



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Shoeboxes and information will be available beginning October 11th. Collection date is November 15th. Information will be included about gift ideas and guidelines. Do not include soap! You may make a donation to cover shipping costs and can do so online or by mailing a check using a pre-addressed envelope (see office for envelope). Do not put the $10 in the shoebox. Thank you!

All Saints Sunday - November 1, 2026



We will be honoring all those who have gone before us this past year during service on Sunday, November 1, 2026. If you have a loved one, family or friend that has passed away from October 31, 2025-October 24, 2026 and want them to be honored, please give their name and picture to the office by October 25th. You can drop it off in person or email it to: office@standrewlutheranmuncy.org

Please let us know if you have any questions.









October Birthdays

October 1 - Sharon Barnard

October 3 - Amy Brinser

October 4 - Ellen Detweiler

October 4 - 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 Anniversaries

October 10, 1970 - Leonard & Sheila Morehart

October 25, 1997 - Troy & Ellen Detweiler

Kids Korner - Handprint Spider Craft



Materials:

* Black Construction Paper
* Googly Eyes
*String
* Scissors
* Glue

Instructions:

1. Trace your child's hand on black paper.
2. Fold the paper in half and cut out the handprint to get two total handprints.
3. Flip one handprint opposite of the other; overlap the palms of the two handprints so the fingers stick out in opposite directions.
4. Cut thumbs off the handprints.
5. Glue handprints together.
6. Glue googly eyes to the spider.
7. Poke a small hole in the spider.
8. Attach the string and tie a knot to secure.

Quiz Zone Answers

1. C (1 Kings 11:3)
2. A (1 Samuel 9)
3. D (1 Kings 11:7)
4. B (Acts 18:3)
5. D (Exodus 32:4)
6. B (Luke 23:8)
7. A (2 Chronicles 36:11-21)
8. B (1 Kings 7:13-14)
9. D (Daniel 5:1-5)
10. C (Numbers 21:9)

God does a complete work, and He will see it through to the end. So don't give up because it's taking longer than you hoped. Be confident that "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the end of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:6)



Quiz Zone

Answers Found On Kids Korner Page

1. How many wives did Soloman have?
   a. 500
   b. 600
   c. 700
   d. 800
2. What future king of Israel was anointed by Samuel?
   a. Saul
   b. Solomon
   c. Uzziah
   d. Josah
3. To please his foreign wives, who built pagan temples?
   a. Saul
   b. Darius
   c. David
   d. Solomon
4. Of what was Paul a maker?
   a. Ships
   b. Tents
   c. Idols
   d. Gallows
5. Who created a golden calf?
   a. Gilead
   b. Demetrius
   c. Moses
   d. Aaron
6. When Jesus was arrested, what king demanded that Jesus prove Himself by performing miracles?
   a. Hiram
   b. Herod
   c. Agag
   d. Ahab
7. Who was the last king of Judah?
   a. Sedekiah
   b. Hezekiah
   c. Tirhakah
   d. Hazael
8. Who was in charge of all the bronze work in the temple?
   a. Haramn
   b. Hiram
   c. Hunram
   d. Haran
9. What king held a banquet in which a hand left a message on the palace wall?
   a. Jabin
   b. Achish
   c. Herod
   d. Belshazzar
10. What leader of his people created a brass snake?
    a. Joshua
    b. Gideon
    c. Moses
    d. Abimelech

Martin Luther's Small Catechism

Part 5: The Lord's Supper

As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household.

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

- It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Where is this written?

- The holy evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: "Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remebrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of this; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this, as often as you drink it, in remebrance of Me."

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

- These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

- Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

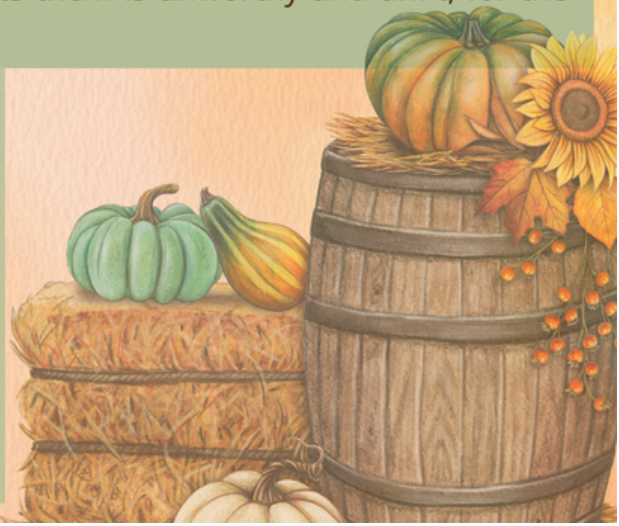
Who receives this Sacrament worthily?

- Fasting and bodily preparation are indeed a good external training. But that person is truly worthy "and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unfit, for the words "For you" require all hearts to believe



Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026



October Volunteers

Greeters

October 04 - Jerry Watson
October 11 - Larry & Sharon Barnard
October 18 - Luanne Libbey
October 25 - Joe & Sharon Cardinale

Lectors

October 04 - Sheila Morehart
October 11 - Erik Houser
October 18 - Michele Styer
October 25 - Larry Barnard

SHinE Time Teachers

October 04 - Karen Krum & Sheila Morehart
October 11 - Terri Stermole & Sue Sarginger
October 18 - Darlene Waldron & Hiliary Haddon
October 25 - Joy Barto & Julie Roller

Altar Guild

Katie Lander

Worship Assistant

Walt Gross

Acolytes

October 04 - Teagan Brinser
October 11 - Gina Styer
October 18 - Aliyah Lander
October 25 - Levi Lander

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 for you!

Thank you!

