

From the Pastor's Pen,

Greetings in the name of the Risen One. We have had an Easter as none other before, as we have been separated from getting to see one another through what usually is our busiest season of the year around the church. But that does not mean that God is not working and that everything is at a standstill. For me, the learning curve on producing a videocast has been an interesting one and I thank all who have helped out along the way. I have been thankful that the months of the shelter at home have not been filled with as much sickness within our congregation as we normally have. Most of us have been able to go out for necessities and to do what was essential things. Others of the congregation have been sequestered and kept from seeing loved ones except through a glass door or window. For those of you who have had to be in isolation without exception, I have felt for you and prayed for you. It is my desire that by the time this newsletter is received, things will be much better and life can return to a more normal state. However, in the context of that statement, we also know that the new normal may not be the exact same as the old normal, when we lived with little thought about viruses and such as that. Hopefully the outcome will be that we will be healthier and will take better care of ourselves in the future.

I hope that you have found either Facebook or YouTube, or both during this time. I regret that there are several of our church family who do not get to see and hear the beautiful music which has been part of our worship services. If you are having trouble with getting to see and hear the worship service, we pray that one day soon, someone will help you get connected and you can catch up on the past month of worship services.

I thank Ashley Masinelli for her doing the newsletter this year. It is a lot of work and we do appreciate her attentiveness to it. I just hate that we have been so unsure about planning that it is hard to make a schedule for the next few months.

As I close this writing, I would remind us all that in the midst of this strange and uneasy time, we must remember that God is indeed with us. Listen to God's calm voice that whispers into our ears, "My son (or daughter), we have this as we walk together. You give me your willingness to let me walk with you and I will have your back to guide and comfort you."

May God bless you this week is my prayer.

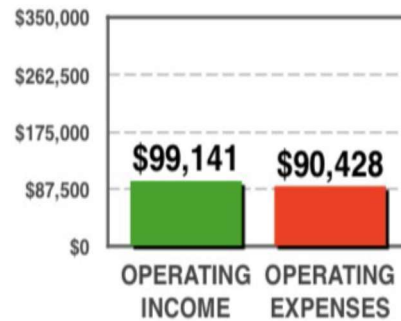
Brother Billy

Financial News:

Did you know that you can make monetary gifts to St. Andrews from the St. Andrew's Website? Go to standrews.me and in the first section under the header look for the picture shown below. We are blessed to be able to give back to God a portion of what the Lord has given us. For your convenience, you may give to the general budget or to designated purposes. Credit Cards or ACH gifts are welcome.



2020 Operating Budget as of March 31



Hallelujah. St. Andrew's has emerged from Lent (40 days= a spiritual quarantine) as did Jesus — strong in our faith and dedicated to our missions and ministries. Despite devilish temptations to self centeredness all around us, we have maintained our commitment to walk with the Lord. Humbly we pray for the resources to complete our faith journey for 2020.

Happy Mother's Day

A Mother gives her children stepping stones to the stars,
Her love is unconditional her heart has no bars.
A Mother teaches her children to be confident and bold,
Her special love to her children is more valuable than
silver or gold.
A Mother picks up her children and wipes away life's
tears,
She chases away monsters in the night and silences their
fears.
A Mother celebrates her children's accomplishments in
life,
She hurts and cries with them when life brings them
strife.
A Mother shares her love freely with her tender loving
way,
She grows more beautiful to her children with each
passing day.
A Mother is one of God's greatest gifts to you and me,
Her love will remain locked in our heart and soul for all
eternity.

Kaleidoscope and Youth News

Every week, Carley and Carlee email a recorded lesson to keep the children in a routine. They also alternate the children's sermon on Sunday mornings during the live service. Kaleidoscope recently started doing Zoom calls so everyone can see their church friends and talk to one another. In place of the Easter egg hunt and Resurrection egg night, they brought those to the children. They filled the eggs with 12 resurrection items to tell the Easter story and hid them in the children's yards.

Youth group has also been meeting virtually every Sunday and Wednesday nights on Zoom. They have been having their regular Bible study and team building activities. They also had a virtual Easter egg hunt.

Dear Prayer Partners ~

I would like to thank all the wonderful prayer warriors who participated in 40 Days of Prayer for Lent this year. Our committee would like to request that you send us any feedback or suggestions that you may have now. This year has been extraordinary and we strive to improve the experience. If you have comments or joys to share, please send me an email and that will help us immensely in future planning. My email is sallyj.malone@gmail.com. May peace be with you all in the coming days.

Sincerely,
Sally Malone
Nurture Committee

