

Greetings and welcome to our last newsletter for 2020. Christmas is almost here, and Advent is already upon us. There will be a lot that we miss this year that we did last year, but Christ is still the reason we celebrate the season. We will miss pot lucks, big gatherings, and other traditions that will hopefully be back soon. Until then, may God give us patience and understanding as we navigate these days.

As we enter into Advent, the dates which we will enjoy, will include the children singing at the 9:00 am service on December 6th. On the 13th, we will have special Christmas music at both services. Dr. Robinson is working to provide a great time with music for our Advent and Christmas seasons.

On Christmas Eve, we will be doing something different with our Christmas Eve communion service. What is being planned is to upload a devotional and music on our Facebook page and YouTube channel prior to 5:00 pm. From 5:00 till 6:30, you are invited to come to the church as families. You will enter in and find a seat where you will have plenty of room. Sitting with your family that you will be with all evening is ok or spreading out is ok. As the altar empties, you are invited to come as a family to receive communion. Afterward, the family can leave as you are ready. By offering this for 90 minutes, we hope to prevent overcrowding and extended time periods in the same space as others.

All of the above are subject to change as the state and city may suggest. May God bless each of you.

—Bro. Billy



Youth News

What a year! Covid has taught us so many things, such as: how to be flexible, plans change, how much we need church, and so many other things! During the spring and summer, we used Zoom to meet as a youth group on Sunday and Wednesday nights. This fall we started meeting together on Sunday nights and had our scripture and Bible lessons. Wednesday nights are our team building nights and community service nights. We are all excited to see what the new year brings for our youth group. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Youth of St. Andrews United Methodist Church!!!



Ceremony of Christmas Lessons and Carols

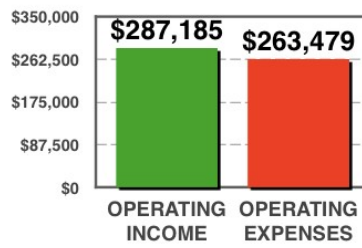
On December 13, 2020, St. Andrews United Methodist Church will celebrate the coming of our Savior with a wonderful program of **Lessons and Carols**, presented by members of the St. Andrews Chancel Choir. Come join us as we *celebrate Christ's birth with this colorful blend of beautiful scripture, enchanting new music and familiar Christmas carols.*

The scriptures will take us on a journey which begins with Old Testament prophecies. We then see them fulfilled, beginning with the angel Gabriel's visitation to Mary, and continuing to the journey to Bethlehem, the birth of Jesus, the annunciation to the shepherds, the magi's interaction with Herod, and many other important events that all culminate in Jesus's ministry and his instructions to us all. Lovely and inspiring music is paired with all of the scriptural readings, bringing them to life in our sanctuary. Fresh, and original classical and folk songs such as *I Wonder as I Wander*, *Lulle Lullay* and *Gesù Bambino* blend magically with beloved carols including *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*, *What Child is This?* and a rousing setting of *Go Tell it on the Mountain!*

This will all take place at both the 9:00 and 11:00 services at St. Andrews United Methodist Church on Sunday, December 13. Note: The number of performers has been reduced to allow for Covid-19 protocols for public performance to be strictly observed, thus assuring the safety of all in attendance. We look forward to seeing you all as we present this offering that honors our Lord at this most wondrous time of the Christian Year.

—Dr. Brad Robinson

2020 Operating Budget
as of Oct. 31



WHAT'S IN A PLEDGE?

A pledge is a commitment, a guarantee, a security. To pledge is to take responsibility for..., to vouch for..., to engage oneself.

By the 1520s already, a pledge was taken to be "a token or sign of favor, agreement," etc. Your pledge was attested by drinking a toast with the other person.

Pledges at St. Andrew's to Date for 2021

22

HOUSEHOLDS
PLEDGING

\$98,500

TOTAL
PLEDGED

\$86

WEEKLY AVERAGE
PER HOUSEHOLD

