

St. Andrew's Times

April 2023

ST ANDREW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

102 LOWER MARKET STREET; MILTON, PA 17847

(570) 742-2000

The Lord Turns Our Darkness Into Light.

A guiding lighthouse and saving station to our Community, Nation, and World!



MISSION STATEMENT: "To know Jesus Christ and to make Him known as Savior and Lord"

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April

Scripture Reading

The Gift of Forgiveness

Day 1: 1 John 1:9
Day 2: Psalm 86:5
Day 3: Psalm 32:1
Day 4: Ephesians 4:32
Day 5: Psalm 130:3-4
Day 6: Ephesians 1:7
Day 7: Psalm 103:3
Day 8: Isaiah 1:18
Day 9: Colossians 1:13-14
Day 10: Psalm 103:12
Day 11: Isaiah 43:25
Day 12: Micah 7:18-19
Day 13: 2 Cor 2:5-8
Day 14: Acts 7:59-60
Day 15: Romans 12:20

Day 16: Acts 3:19
Day 17: 1 John 2:1-2
Day 18: 1 Peter 3:9
Day 19: Matthew 18:21-22
Day 20: Matthew 6:14-15
Day 21: Mark 11:25-26
Day 22: 1 Cor 6:7
Day 23: Matthew 18:35
Day 24: Colossians 3:25
Day 25: Judges 11:27
Day 26: Proverbs 3:3
Day 27: Matthew 5:7
Day 28: Proverbs 15:18
Day 29: Proverbs 17:9
Day 30: Luke 23:34



Commit 10 minutes each day to read each verse, write it out in your journal, meditate on it, and reflect on what it means to you.

Kingdom Bloggers





But it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

—2 Timothy 1:10

Of all the various days in the Church year, Easter towers over all in terms of importance and significance. While the early Christians knew nothing of things like Advent, Epiphany, Lent, All Saints, or even Christmas (these all came into existence in later centuries), the Day of Resurrection was celebrated from the very beginning. Early on, in fact, Easter was a year-round observance. Because Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday, the early Christians decided to gather together every week on “The Lord’s Day”, primarily to remember and celebrate the Resurrection.

In their personal lives, the early believers took it a step further. Easter was an ongoing, everyday reality for them. They lived with an acute awareness that because Jesus had risen from the dead, life was different. The Resurrection so defined who they were, in fact, that when they saw one another, instead of waving and saying “Hello”, they would greet each by saying, “The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!”

Easter played such a prominent role in the life of the early Christians primarily for two reasons. First, they understood it to be the very cornerstone of their faith, the foundation that everything else rested upon. They knew that if you take away the Resurrection, the entire Christian faith crumbles like a flimsy house of cards. As Paul put it, “If Christ is not raised, then you are still dead in your sins. And we are of all people most foolish.”

Equally important was the fact that they had personally experienced the life-changing power of the Resurrection. For them, Jesus’ rising from the dead wasn’t simply a doctrine to be affirmed in a creed or a statement of faith. It was the reality that literally transformed and changed their lives.

When we read the Gospels, we see that prior to the Resurrection, Jesus’ disciples at best were a rather lukewarm and undependable bunch. They had great difficulty understanding Jesus’ teachings, much less putting them into practice.

But following the Resurrection, it was another story entirely. The experience seeing their risen Lord changed them so thoroughly that they almost seemed like different people. Their fear, doubt, and aversion to risk were replaced by boldness, faith, and a burning passion to go out and tell the world that Jesus was alive, no matter what the risk. Eventually, all but one of them would end their lives as martyrs, choosing to die rather than deny their Risen Lord.

The Apostles weren’t the only ones whose lives were changed by the power of Jesus’ Resurrection. Countless others lived with the same passion and conviction, standing steadfast in their faith even though it often meant being subjected to ridicule, persecution, imprisonment, and even death. Writing in the 4th century, Athanasius attributed this remarkable strength and faithfulness to the power of Jesus’ Resurrection. Because God had raised Jesus’, he explained the believers understood:

Death has been destroyed. The cross has triumphed over it. It no longer has any power...Look at the all those who before they believed in Christ were terrified by death and afraid to die. But since they have turned to Christ, they have so little fear of death that, if necessary, they willingly embrace it in order to testify to Christ’s victorious Resurrection.

The Resurrection radically changed both the understanding and the lives of the early Christians. And because it did, they in turn changed the world. And that’s why for them, as for us, one day towers over all others. The day on which we boldly proclaim:

The Lord is risen.

He is risen indeed!

Administrative Council Update

United Methodist Church Denomination Update

Several people have been asking about what is happening in the United Methodist Church denomination, precisely the denomination's **General Conference**, which occurs every four years and the issue of human sexuality. The last regular **General Conference** was in 2016.

Each annual conference in Africa, Asia, Europe and the United States elects an equal number of clergy and laity to be among the approximate 850 delegates at **General Conference**.

In February 2019, a special session of the **General Conference** took place in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose was to act on a report from the Commission on a Way Forward, authorized to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and to explore options to strengthen church unity.

The Book of Discipline is the denomination's fundamental book outlining the law, doctrine, administration, organizational work and procedures. The Book of Discipline, often referred to as *The Discipline*, can only be amended at **General Conference** or at a special session of **General Conference**.

Up for debate and vote at the 2019 special session was whether to modify two sections (among a few other items) of The Discipline:

- ¶ 304.3: **The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Therefore, self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United Methodist Church. And,**
- ¶ 341.6: **Ceremonies that celebrate homosexual unions shall not be conducted by our ministers and shall not be conducted in our churches.**

At the special session, the legislative assembly passed a confirming vote to not change the church's bans against "self-avowed practicing" gay clergy and same-sex weddings, as outlined in paragraphs 304.3 and 341.6 of *The Discipline*.

Also, approved in the special session was the adoption of paragraph 2553 - *Disaffiliation of a Local Church Over Issues Related to Human Sexuality*. Allowing for a method for churches to separate from the denomination, with their property. Details of paragraph 2553, of The Discipline, can be found online or by checking with the church office for a copy of the paragraph.

The 2020 **General Conference**, already rescheduled twice because of COVID-19, was postponed a third time until 2024 because of the ongoing pandemic, exacerbated by a massive backlog of visa applications for international delegates.

Because of this delay, leaders from both sides of the human sexuality debate are making plans, or have made plans, to move forward through Disaffiliation (leaving the United Methodist denomination). Disaffiliation is a detailed and long process, as outlined in the aforementioned paragraph 2553 of The Discipline.

(Continued on next page...)

Ad. Council Update Continued

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Leaders of a new theologically conservative denomination launched a new denomination called “The Global Methodist Church”. This means that churches which desired to continue in the conservative way, would have to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church, in order to join “The Global Methodist Church” or could become an independent church or become part of a different denomination.

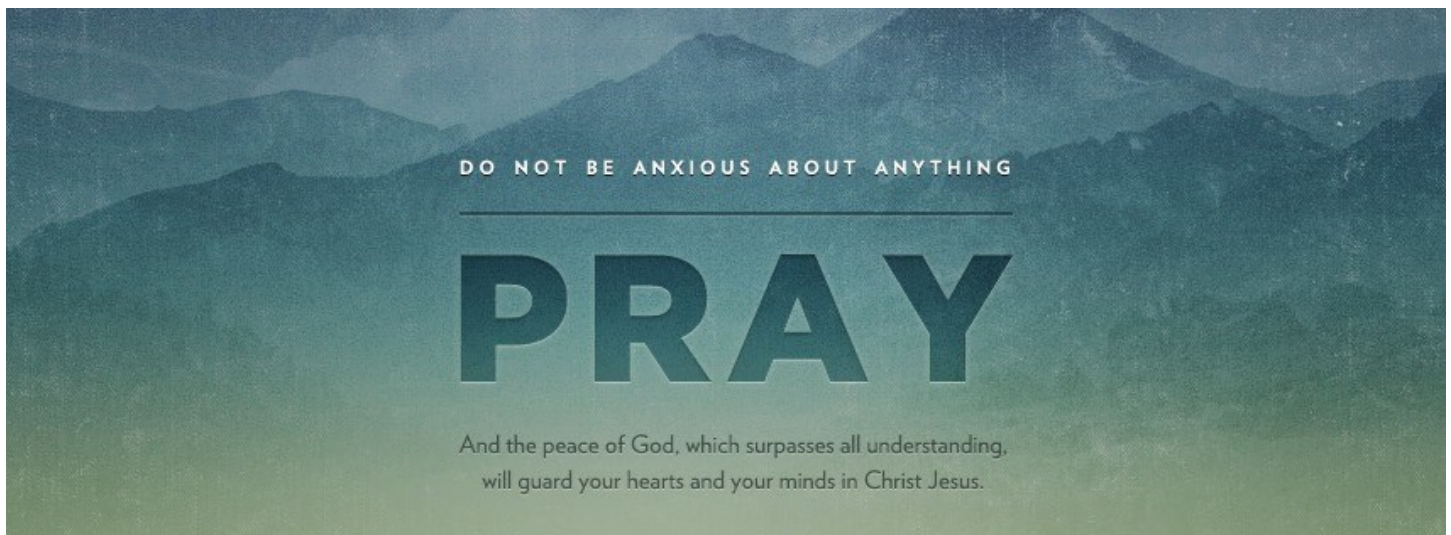
As of December 2022, reported by United Methodist News, 2,012 churches have disaffiliated. Which is about 6.6 percent of the total United Methodist churches, 30,500. This is the number of churches and does not reflect the impact on the United Methodist Church membership.

Others are working toward the unification of the church through resolutions that would change the current Discipline. This would allow the LGBTQ community to hold positions of certified candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United Methodist Church and the performing of homosexual marriages in The United Methodist church.

St. Andrew’s Administrative Council, at this time, has taken the position of waiting until the 2024 General Conference (April 23 to May 3, 2024) to see what occurs with paragraphs 304.3 and 341.6 before taking any action.

No matter what happens over the months to come, prayer, study of God’s Word, and seeking God’s Will must occur by God’s people.

~Administrative Council



Missions' Update

~ By Carriann Shultz

Missions is the way that a church can tithe. We take in tithe but we still need to give back to the Lord and aide in spreading the Gospel; supporting those Christians in other countries and in our own.

CURRENT MISSIONS AND MISSIONARIES

Red Bird Mission – located in Kentucky. The Jacks have both retired but we are currently supporting the mission itself.

James and Bernice Keech – they are home now from serving in Afghanistan. When they visited here they told us they did not say they were Christians while working in that country but that they said they were followers of Jesus. Saying they were Christians could have caused their death.

We are still supporting them. They are now with the General Board of Global Ministries serving as Mission Advocates in the Southeastern Jurisdiction. I hope at some point we can have them back to share with us.

For more information about them...

James Keech - <https://umcmmission.org/missionary-bio/10841z/>

Bernice Keech - <https://umcmmission.org/missionary-bio/10842z/>

Sierra Leone Initiative and Zimmi UMC (partner church) – we have raised our contribution to the SLI pastor funding to \$125 a month from \$100. We need to start raising money for Zimmi UMC to help them to be able to start building the church and school on the land we purchased for them.

Dr. Christiana Hena and Healthy Women, Healthy Liberia.

Dr. Chris has lost her father this year. He was 101. She had moved him into her home.

The clinic will have a new name. Under her leadership it has grown and prospered from its beginning in her backyard. It will now be renamed the **Waterfield Medical Center**. With the opening of HWHL's new maternity/surgical addition, it will be offering much more than primary health care. It is renamed to reflect the additional services.

St. Andrews donated \$2,500 last year to Healthy Women, Healthy Liberia (not Dr. Chris, but her ministry).

HWHL newsletter: <https://www.healthywomenliberia.org/> ~~trashed/~~

Other Ministries We Support	Faith Promise
Community Harvest Meal	Child Evangelical Fellowship of Eastern PA (Good News Club Inc. of Northumberland Cty)
St. Paul AME Church - Milton	Noah's Ark Nursey School
Milton Ministerium	Expectations Women's Center
UM Home for Children - Mechanicsburg	Golden Rule Love Inc.
Milton Salvation Army	

ST. ANDREW'S UMC

102 LOWER MARKET STREET

MILTON, PA 17847

(570) 742-2000

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday — 8:00am-1:00pm

Tuesday, Thursday — Please Call First

Church Office: 570-742-2000 ext. 300

Noah's Ark: 570-742-8951

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Palm Sunday Children's Easter Party (during Church) Egg Hunt - God's Lot (right after Church) 6-8pm Youth Group	3 5-6pm Community Harvest 6:00pm Noah's Ark Meeting 6:15-7:15pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Children's Choir	4 6pm Worship Meeting	5 7:15pm Adult Choir	6 7pm Maundy Thursday Service w/Communion	7	1 11am-4pm Kitchen/Social Hall In Use
9 Easter Sunday	10 5-6pm Community Harvest 6:15-7:15pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Children's Choir	11 7pm Trustee Meeting	12	13 7:15pm Adult Choir	14	15
16 6-8pm Youth Group	17 5-6pm Community Harvest 6:15-7:15pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Children's Choir	18	19 Newsletter Article Deadline	20 7:15pm Adult Choir	21 7pm Youth Lock-In Starts	22 7am Youth Lock-In Ends
23	24 5-6pm Community Harvest 6:15-7:15pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Children's Choir 6:30pm Outreach Meeting	25	26 9am Mail Newsletter	27 7:15pm Adult Choir	28	29 Noon-4pm Kitchen in Use 6:00pm Salvation Army Brass Band Concert
30 Noon-5pm Kitchen in Use 5-7pm Youth Group Mystery Dinner w/ Seekers S.S.	No April Fellowship Meal Next Meal - 5/7/23					Email: saumc@ptd.net Website: saumcmilton.org Facebook: facebook.com/standrewsumcmilton

VOLUNTEERS SERVING — April 2023

Ushers

Gary Fullmer, Chief	
Leslie Porter	Nate Richie
Dave Miller	Dennis Delcamp
Bob Layton	Richard Snyder

Altar Stewards

Lorraine Taylor

GREETERS

2	Krissy & Cody Lytle
9	Debbie Haulman
16	Danielle Kraus
23	Bonnie Lloyd
30	Jill Foresman

LOVE PATROL

2	Sandee Stitely & Barry Bowers
9	Krissy Lytle & Dan Baker
16	Leslie Porter & Michael Porter
23	Lisa McManus & Sam Haulman
30	Mary Richie & Frank Stitely

Financial Stewards

Carol Layton, Lorraine Taylor, Debbie Simon, & Sharon Wert
--

ACOLYTES

2	Kinlee Lytle
9	Layla Richie
16	Helen Wertz
23	Claire Dick
30	Alivia Ritenour

CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

2	Easter Party in Social Hall
9	Easter Sunday - No Children's Church
16	Krissy Lytle & Lauren Richie
23	Crystal Wertz & Danielle Kraus
30	Deb Fox & Alivia Ritenour



CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY AND EGG HUNT

The Children's Easter Party will be held on Sunday, April 2 during the church service in the Social Hall and the Gym. Children will start in the Sanctuary, and they will be directed when to come to the Social Hall.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be directly following the service on God's Lot (weather permitting). If inclement weather, the Egg Hunt will be in the gym.



The Christian Education Committee would like to remind the congregation that St. Andrew's children and youth (who attend Sunday School and/or Church regularly) can receive a 50% contribution (up to \$200) towards their attendance at a Christian-based summer camp from the Sunday School Account. All interested persons should contact Crystal Wertz by April 30th.



The Christian Education Committee will hold a meeting Tuesday, May 2nd at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan on attending this meeting to discuss summer activities.



Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 11th to attend our annual Church picnic. The picnic will be held at God's Lot after the church service (weather permitting). Please bring a covered dish to share and a place setting. An RSVP slip will be in the bulletin starting May 21st.

Panther Packs Ministry

We are getting ready to complete our seventh full year of packing meals for the Milton Elementary children this May.

God continues to provide what we need to pack over 270 meals each week. Whether it is product that is hard to find or help on a five week packing schedule, God has met our needs. How about you, have you tested Him to see that He is Good?

Here are the packing details for next two months packing:

Month	# of Wks.	Prepack	Set Up	Packing	School Pick Ups
April	4	3/21/2023	3/28/2023	3/29/2023	04/4, 13, 20, 27
May	4	4/25/2023	5/2/2023	5/3/2023	05/4, 11, 18, 22

Come and join in on the fun.

Do you have some extra time (about one half hour) on Thursday mornings? We are still looking for individuals, who can be in a monthly rotation, to meet the school representative at the church to load the bins into his van. This is weekly, usually on Thursday (*For example: see "School Pick Up" dates on schedule above*). You must be able to lift approximately 25 pounds. If you can help with this, please see Dave Miller. Thank you to those who have rotated into this process.

Panther Packs, showing the love of Christ through one meal at a time.

~Panther Packs Committee



Thursday, April 6th
Service with Communion at 7pm



Upholding our Members in Prayer

In keeping with HIPPA privacy regulations, we list only the names of
Members and active Attendees who agree to be listed.

Please help us keep the list updated with additions, removals

and any corrections by contacting the church office. Thank You!

Pastor Mark Brumbach	Helen Phillips
Randy Coup	Judy Pursell
Ruth Eisley	Fred Ranck
Linda Emery	Robert Riehl
Larry Emery	Dale & Lou Ann Sheets
David Everitt (Navy)	Fred Simon
Marlene Fama	Sylvia Smith
Peggy Fullmer	Glenn & Ida Snyder
Nancy Geiger	Pastor Michael Stine
Linda Hackenberg	Frank, Sharon & Corey Wert
Sylvia Hendricks	Kathy & Gary Wieand
Denise Larson	Richard Winter
Janet Lee	Emma Zeager & Family
Jane Lentz	Elizabeth Zerbe
Aaron Merwin	
Devynn Napp-Barker	
Sean Neilson (Navy)	

(E. V. Hospital)

**(Milton N&R) Ward Walter, Lois Wagner, Mary Scholl, Gary Rute,
& Jim Dershem**

(Riverwoods) Nancy Stahlnecker, Edna Walter

(Watsonstown N&R) Peg Cravatt, Lucille Zellers, Betty Lou Hillsey

Missionaries we support and their missions.

Red Bird Mission

James and Bernice Keech – Board of Global Missions

Sierra Leone Initiative: Partner Church

– Zimmi United Methodist and Pastor Dominic Kanu

Dr. Christiana Hena and her ministry with

Healthy Women/Healthy Liberia.

St. Andrew's UMC Prayer Chain

Call – Mercy Gray @ 570-701-7948

or Edith Noaker @ 570-742-4756

April Anniversaries

FREY, BENJAMIN & MICHELLE	12
RUSSELL, EDWARD & SUSAN	12
RIVERA, HEATHER (Napp) & WILLIAM	14
HERMAN, SCOTT & KAREN	16
KREBS, SUSAN & JOHN	21
MURRAY, DALE & ALICE	21
TURNBAUGH, BOB & TONYA	21
SNYDER, GARY & MARY JANE	26
BASTIAN, ROCHELLE & MIKE	30
REED, NAOMI & BUZZ	30

April Birthdays

KIMBERLY BINGAMAN	2	BETH SHANNON	16
KALINA YOUNG	3	TERRY MATHIAS	17
LORI BASTIAN	4	TIFFANY SNYDER	17
PAMELA KURTZ	4	RONNI TORO	17
AUBRY MCCONNELL	4	ALECIA MCELWEE	19
BRENT HERMAN	5	STEVE BENNAGE	22
DELANEY KRAUS	5	MICHAEL DUNKLE	22
SCOTT STAHL	5	MICHAEL R. ROYER	22
MICHAEL PORTER	6	AMY MILLER	23
BOBBY STOKES	6	MELISSA ROHM (ANDRICAK)	23
PEG SCHMOUDER	7	LORI WALTER	23
BRANDON KURTZ	8	ELIZABETH ZERBE	23
STACY SHULTZ	8	ALEXIS WALTMAN	24
JONATHAN DICK	9	ANTHONY NEUER	26
SERENITY MITCH	9	ROCHELLE BASTIAN	27
JIM WEAVER	10	MARY HUFF	27
MYLES MUSSER	11	JAMES NEUER	27
EMILY HOFFMAN	12	GARY MITCHELL	28
LISA DERR	13	THANH WANDS	28
BONNIE RUTE	13	AMY BASTIAN	29
ELEANOR SHIVELY	13	OWEN HOFFMAN	29
KATHY WIEAND	13	KATHY KOVAL	29
JEFF DIGGAN	14	SHIRLEY WILVER	29
BILL DRIES	14	DANIEL BAKER	30
JULIA MITCHELL	16	NATALIE FAULKINER	30

Meet The Staff

Rev. Dr. Michael Stine, *Pastor* 570-406-0836
revdocmichael@gmail.com

Leslie Porter, *Youth Director* 570-428-3083
lmcmamus1996@gmail.com

Susan Bastian, *Church Secretary* 570-742-2000 X 300
saumc@ptd.net

Debbie Haulman, *Financial Secretary* 570-742-2000 X 301
sastaff@ptd.net

Mary Richie, *Church Treasurer* 570-742-3325
mkarichie@yahoo.com

Naomi Reed, *Chancel Choir Director* 570-847-0463
ndries124@icloud.com

Julie Blanton, *Chancel Choir Pianist* 570-713-5050
jblanton6401@gmail.com

Lauren Richie, *Children's Choir Director* 570-419-2739
lrichie85@gmail.com

Darren Stitely, *Organist* 570-786-6748
dathren@ptd.net

Jessica Paulhamus, *Noah's Ark Director* 570-742-8951
noahsarksaumc@gmail.com

Financial Picture

OUR FINANCIAL PICTURE			
as of February 28, 2023			
2023	January	February	Year-to-date totals
<u>CURRENT</u>			
Budgeted	23,530.00	23,530.00	47,060.00
Receipts	20,222.76	22,486.06	42,708.82
Expenditures	22,099.15	20,598.91	42,698.06
<u>MISSION</u>			
Budgeted	4,373.94	4,373.94	8,747.88
Receipts	1,858.87	1,848.44	3,707.31
Expenditures	6,200.54	3,215.65	9,416.19
<u>FAITH PROMISE</u> (non-budget)			
Receipts	270.00	75.00	345.00
Expenditures	1,029.00	00.0	1,029.00
<u>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT</u>			
Budgeted	0.00	0.00	0.00
Receipts	254.25	253.73	507.98
Expenditures	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>TRUSTEE</u>			
Budgeted	3,133.33	3,133.33	6,266.66
Receipts	1,104.03	1,733.45	2,837.48
Expenditures	976.78	3,190.54	4,167.32
Rally Day Recpt. (non-budget)	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>			
Budgeted	595.83	595.83	1,191.66
Receipts	230.22	347.25	577.47
Expenditures	337.11	358.21	695.32
Total Budget	31,633.10	31,633.10	63,266.20
Total Receipts	23,940.13	26,743.93	50,684.06
Total Expenditures	30,642.58	27,363.31	58,005.89