

# ST. ANDREW'S TIMES

AUGUST 2025



"Growing in Wisdom"



Dear St. Andrew's UM Church Family,

When our son was younger, this was the time I would tease him as we walked past the aisles of "Back to School Supplies" in Walmart or Target by singing, "It's the most wonderful time of the year." Well, it is that time of year again, isn't it? Walmart, Target, Dollar General, etc. are stocked from floor to ceiling (almost) with school supplies, surrounded by parents and children carefully selecting folders, notebooks, and backpacks for the coming year. There seems to be a palpable energy in the air—a mixture of anticipation, possibility, and (for some of the parents) relief! Thinking of these families fill their carts with tools for learning, I can't help but reflect on our lifelong need for growth and wisdom.

August always feels like a threshold month—a bridge between summer's freedom and fall's structure, a time when learning takes center stage again. Perhaps that's why it's the perfect moment for us to consider what it means to grow in wisdom as followers of Christ.

In our culture, we often conflate knowledge with wisdom. We have unprecedented access to information—with just a few keystrokes, we can learn about quantum physics, medieval history, or how to fix a leaky faucet. Yet despite this wealth of knowledge, we sometimes find ourselves lacking in the deeper wisdom that helps us navigate life's complexities with grace and discernment.

Proverbs 9:10 offers this foundational insight: "The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the LORD; the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." Notice that wisdom begins not with academic credentials or intellectual capacity, but with reverence for God. True wisdom is rooted in relationship—recognizing who God is and who we are in relation to him.

This doesn't diminish the value of education or intellectual pursuit. Rather, it reorients our learning within the context of humble acknowledgment that God is the source of all wisdom. When we approach life's questions—whether practical, ethical, or relational—with this posture of reverence, we've taken the first step on wisdom's path.

James 1:5 offers an encouraging promise for this journey: "But anyone who needs wisdom should ask God, whose very nature is to give to everyone without a second thought." What a refreshing invitation! Unlike exclusive academic institutions with rigorous admission standards, God freely offers wisdom to all who ask. There's no application fee, no entrance exam—just a humble request.

I've experienced this in my own life countless times. When facing decisions about ministry direction, family challenges, or personal growth, I've often reached the limits of my own understanding. It's in those moments—when I stop striving and start seeking—that divine wisdom often breaks through in unexpected ways: through Scripture suddenly illuminated, through the counsel of a trusted friend, or through that gentle inner prompting that Christians throughout history have recognized as the Spirit's guidance.

The apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 that "Every scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing mistakes, for correcting, and for training character, so that the person who belongs to God can be equipped to do everything that is good." Scripture remains our primary source for growing in wisdom—not as a rule book to be mechanically applied, but as a living narrative that shapes our understanding of God, ourselves, and our world.



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So how might we intentionally pursue wisdom in this season? Here are some practical suggestions:

1. **\*\*Establish a sustainable rhythm of Scripture reading.\*\*** Rather than ambitious plans that quickly falter, commit to a consistent practice, even if it's just a few verses daily. Quality engagement matters more than quantity.
2. **\*\*Create space for reflection.\*\*** Wisdom emerges not just from input but from processing. Consider journaling, taking contemplative walks, or simply sitting in silence for a few minutes each day.
3. **\*\*Seek wisdom in community.\*\*** Proverbs is filled with admonitions about the value of godly counsel. Join a small group, meet regularly with a spiritual friend, or participate in a Sunday School class where perspectives can be shared and sharpened.

Growing in wisdom isn't a linear process. Sometimes we take three steps forward and two steps back. The good news is that God is patient with our learning curve. Unlike some educational systems that penalize mistakes, God's classroom is grace-filled. Our failures and wrong turns often become the very experiences through which wisdom is cultivated.

As summer transitions to fall and many in our community return to formal education, let's remember that our spiritual education continues year-round. May we approach each day with that childlike combination of curiosity and humility, eager to learn from our Teacher who is wisdom personified.

Proverbs describes wisdom as more precious than rubies, and indeed, there is no investment that yields greater returns than pursuing the wisdom that comes from above. May we grow together in this precious gift.

Seeking wisdom alongside you,

*Pastor Bum (AKA:PB)*



St. Andrew's is looking for donations of new or gently used winter coats, scarfs, hats and gloves. Every size accepted and appreciated. We are also looking for new blankets. Items to help individuals stay warm over the winter are due by September 30th.

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



# Scripture Reading

- August 1 - Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 9:1-17; Ephesians 4:17-24
- August 2 - Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Hosea 10:1-15; Mark 10:17-22
- August 3 - Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43; Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23; Psalm 49:1-12; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21
- August 4 - Psalm 60; Hosea 11:12-12:14; Colossians 3:18-4:1
- August 5 - Psalm 60; Hosea 13:1-16; Colossians 4:2-6
- August 6 - Psalm 60; Hosea 14:1-9; Luke 12:22-31
- August 7 - Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Isaiah 9:8-17; Romans 9:1-9
- August 8 - Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Isaiah 9:18-10:4; Acts 7:1-8
- August 9 - Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Isaiah 1:2-9, 21-23; Matthew 6:19-24
- August 10 - Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40
- August 11 - Psalm 11; Isaiah 2:1-4; Hebrews 11:1-7
- August 12 - Psalm 11; Isaiah 24:1-13; Hebrews 11:17-28
- August 13 - Psalm 11; Isaiah 24:14-23; Luke 12:41-48
- August 14 - Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Isaiah 2:5-11; Hebrews 10:26-31
- August 15 - Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Isaiah 3:1-17; Hebrews 10:32-39
- August 16 - Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Isaiah 3:18-4:6; Matthew 24:15-27
- August 17 - Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrew 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56
- August 18 - Psalm 74; Isaiah 5:8-23; 1 John 4:1-6
- August 19 - Psalm 74; Isaiah 5:24-30; Acts 7:44-53
- August 20 - Psalm 74; Isaiah 27:1-13; Luke 19:45-48
- August 21 - Psalm 71:1-6; Jeremiah 6:1-19; Hebrews 12:3-17
- August 22 - Psalm 71:1-6; Jeremiah 6:20-30; Acts 17:1-9
- August 23 - Psalm 71:1-6; Jeremiah 1:1-3, 11-19; Luke 6:1-5
- August 24 - Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17
- August 25 - Psalm 10; Jeremiah 7:1-15; Hebrews 3:7-4:11
- August 26 - Psalm 10; Jeremiah 7:16-26; Revelation 3:7-13
- August 27 - Psalm 10; Jeremiah 7:27-34; Luke 6:6-11
- August 28 - Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Jeremiah 11:1-17; 1 Peter 3:8-12
- August 29 - Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Jeremiah 12:1-13; 1 Peter 4:7-11
- August 30 - Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Jeremiah 2:1-3, 14-22; Matthew 20:20-28
- August 31 - Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Sirach 10:12-18; Proverbs 25:6-7; Psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14



# Servants

## August 2025



Acolytes	
3	Laila Tanner
10	Jane Wertz
17	Layla Richie
24	Nelson Wertz
31	Olivia Tanner

Greeters	
3	Terry & Mona Napp
10	Sharon Wert
17	Bob & Cindy Snyder
24	Fred & Debbie Simon
31	Helen Phillips

Nursery	
3	Mary Richie
10	Alivia Ritenour
17	Debbie Simon
24	Debbie Haulman
31	Jill Foresman

Altar Stewards	
Rich & Julie Neilson	

Financial Stewards	
Mercy Gray & Debbie Haulman	

Ushers	
Larry Lloyd, Chief	
Gerald Wertz	Bob Snyder
Dennis Delcamp	Rich Neilson

Love Patrol	
3	Barry Bowers, Jr. Crystal Wertz
10	Adam Taylor Danielle Kraus
17	Lisa McManus Alaina Taylor
24	Mary Richie Arnie Wilver
31	Barry Bower's Jr. Adam Taylor

Children's Church	
3	
10	N/A
17	for
24	August
31	

Tech Department			
	Soundboard	Power Point	Video
3	Bob Snyder	Barry Bowers, Jr.	Sam Haulman
10	Barry Bowers, Jr.	Lauren Richie	Sue Lucas
17	Colton Ritenour	Layla Richie	Lauren Richie
24	Barry Bowers, Jr.	Colton Ritenour	Sam Haulman
31	Bob Snyder	Layla Richie	Sue Lucas

# 2025

# August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 7:00pm Ad Council Meeting	5 7:00pm Christian Ed Meeting	6	7	8	9
10 Joyful Noise 1-3pm Grief Share Potluck - Social Hall in use	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Backpack Blessing *Students/Staff encouraged to bring school bag to church	18 6:30pm Simplified Structure Conversation #2 w/Daniel Wilt	19 6:00pm Panther Packs Meeting 7:00pm Trustee Meeting	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



**We need YOU!!**

The Children's Church team is looking to add a few more volunteers to the schedule.

Is lesson planning a concern? Written lessons can be made available! If teaching isn't your gift, then come volunteer as a set of helping hands!

To help us out with either Children's Church or Love Patrol please see or reach out to Alaina Taylor (570-713-5959).



# August



## Happy Birthday

Faye Zehner - 1  
Christie Anderson - 1  
Melissa McKee - 2  
Brian Lucas - 3  
C. Andrew Thomas - 3  
Addison Kraus - 3  
Keith English - 4  
Joey Hassan - 5  
Lindsay Yerg - 5  
Amanda Smith-Derck - 6  
Linda Cook - 8  
Arnella Wilver - 8  
Cindy Hoffman - 8  
Dale Mimmler - 9  
Deborah Simon - 10  
Andrew Shreck - 11  
Vickie Leech - 12  
Scott Chrismer - 14  
Angela Geiger - 14  
Layla Richie - 14  
Jean Zartman - 15  
Cathy Bennage - 15  
Kinlee Lytle - 15  
Donald Wirth - 16  
Jayrene Molinero - 17

Gary Snyder - 18  
David Bastian - 19  
Nichole Taylor - 20  
Joshua Earnest - 20  
Dane Neilson - 20  
William Mmiller - 21  
Steven Erb - 21  
Alice Murray - 23  
Jennie Keefer - 28  
Elaine Lloyd - 28  
Cheri Farst - 28  
Devin Reedy - 28  
Bertha Frey - 29  
Gary Fullmer - 29  
Stephen Bowers - 31

## HAPPY Anniversary

Richard & Julie Neilson - 10  
Jeffrey & Jessica Ritenour - 12  
Mark & Kelly Shearer - 13  
Adam & Alaina Taylor - 13  
Nathan & Lauren Richie - 22  
Robert & Carol Layton - 24  
Gary & Rebecca Napp - 25  
John & Sandra Fultz - 28



As summer is winding down, our thoughts go to fall and cooler temperatures and our schedules back to familiar routines. Of course, my thoughts go to choir. **WE NEED YOU!!** If you love to sing, come try us out! We normally meet on Thursday evenings (although our first 2 rehearsals will be on Wednesdays because of the Harvest Festival Pops concert at SAUMC). You do not need to know how to read music to sing in a choir - we work on various voice parts so you are comfortable singing together.

Here is our September rehearsal schedule:

- Wed Sept 3 7-8pm
- Wed Sept 10 7-8pm
- Thurs Sept 18 7-8pm
- Thurs Sept 25 7-8pm

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord. Psalm 100:1 Come make a joyful noise with us!

Naomi Reed

## 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	Sylvia Hendricks	Robert Riehl	Marion Steese
Esther Coup	Janet Lee	Bonnie Rute	Sharon Wert
Ruth Easley	Jane Lentz	Lou Ann Sheets	Kathy & Gary Wieand
Linda Emery	Krissy Lytle	Fred Simon	Shirley Wilver
David Everitt (Navy)	Sean Neilson (Navy)	Sylvia Smith	Richard Winter
		Glenn & Ida Snyder	Jean Zartman

Milton N&R - Mary Scholl, Lois Wagner, Ward Walter

Riverwoods - Nancy Stahlnecker, Edna Walter

Watson town N&R - Peg Cravatt, Lucille Zellers

Missionaries we support and their missions:

Red Bird Mission, Dr. Christiana Hena and her ministry with Healthy Women/Healthy Liberia.

Faith Promise Groups we support: Child Evangelism, Expectations Women's Center & Love INC

**Prayer Chain:** Please call Mercy Gray @ 570-701-7948 (home) 570-939-5225 (cell) or  
Church Office (Susan Bastian) 570-742-2000 ext. 300 Monday/Wednesday/Friday 8am-1pm

# WAYS TO GIVE





ONLINE

TEXT

CASH/CHECK



**St. Andrew's**  
united methodist church  
102 Lower Market Street, Milton PA 17847  
(570) 742-2000

SCAN TO  
GIVE ONLINE



TEXT "GIVE" TO  
570-553-5676

# FINANCIAL

## REPORT

2025	May-25	Jun-25	Year-to -date totals
<b>CURRENT</b>			
Budgeted	21,604.88	21,604.88	129,629.28
Receipts	17,338.66	18,376.79	102,101.88
Expenditures	17,001.18	30,622.27	130,334.74
<b>MISSION</b>			
Budgeted	3,769.84	3,769.84	22,618.87
Receipts	1,150.15	1,490.00	11,504.93
Expenditures	1,653.66	1,888.66	11,680.63
<b>FAITH PROMISE (non-budget)</b>			
Receipts	90.00	50.00	215.00
Expenditures	0.00	235.00	120.00
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT</b>			
Budgeted	0.00	0.00	0.00
Receipts	2.09	0.00	11.08
Expenditures (loan to current)	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
<b>TRUSTEE</b>			
Budgeted	3,308.34	3,308.34	19,849.96
Receipts	531.54	83.00	9,320.04
Expenditures	1,352.15	3,921.38	24,544.65
Rally Day Receipts (non-budget)	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>			
Budgeted	495.83	495.83	2,975.02
Receipts	244.74	292.00	813.37
Expenditures	427.17	0.00	1,131.84
<b>Total Budget</b>			
	29,178.89	29,178.89	175,073.13
<b>Total Receipts</b>			
	19,357.18	20,291.79	123,966.30
<b>Total Expenditures</b>			
	20,434.16	36,667.31	172,811.86