

ST. ANDREW'S TIMES

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025



"Grace and Gratitude"

Dear Bethany & St. Andrew's UM Church Family,



Recently, I watched a child offer her last cookie to her younger brother without hesitation. In that simple gesture, I saw a beautiful picture of both grace and gratitude – grace in the giving, gratitude in her brother's delighted response. It reminded me how these two spiritual qualities dance together in our daily lives, often in the most ordinary moments.

Grace, at its heart, is receiving what we haven't earned. Every morning when we open our eyes to a new day, we're recipients of grace. The air we breathe, the love of family, the forgiveness we are offered – none of these are entitlements, but gifts freely given. As Paul reminds us, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8).

Gratitude naturally flows from recognizing grace in our lives. When we truly understand that everything good comes as a gift, not as something owed to us, it changes how we move through the world. Like a pair of special glasses, gratitude helps us see God's fingerprints in places we might otherwise miss them:

- In the neighbor who brings in our trash bins
- In the unexpected phone call from an old friend
- In the sun breaking through clouds after days of rain

But here's the beautiful cycle: practicing gratitude makes us more aware of grace, and recognizing grace deepens our gratitude. Each reinforces the other, creating a spiritual rhythm that transforms how we experience daily life.

Sometimes we struggle to find gratitude, especially during difficult seasons. That's okay – even Jesus wept. But perhaps that's when grace matters most – not in making everything perfect, but in sustaining us through imperfect times. Even our ability to keep going is grace at work.

This week, I invite you to notice where grace appears in your ordinary moments. Maybe keep a simple gratitude journal, or share your "grace sightings" with a friend. Let's practice being people who recognize grace and respond with gratitude, creating little ripples of God's love wherever we go.

Remember: we can't earn grace – that's what makes it grace. But we can choose to live gratefully, and in doing so, become channels of grace to others.

With a grateful heart,

Pastor Ben (AKA: PB)

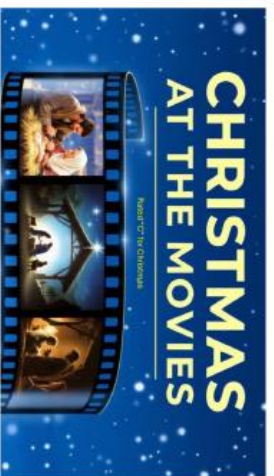
P.S. What unexpected grace have you noticed lately? I'd love to hear your stories after service on Sunday.



<https://www.facebook.com/standrewsumcmilton>



<https://saumcmilton.org/>



For Advent we will be going to the movies!

Each week's theme (Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love) will be enhanced by clips and/or references to popular, secular Christmas movies, two of which will be later shown in their entirety. Come join us for this fun and Spirit-filled adventure!

To help us get started we will be decorating the sanctuary on Sunday, November 23rd right after service, then getting together on November 30th at 3:00 at Bethany UMC to make popcorn balls!

Movie schedule:

December 7, 3:00pm at Bethany - "The Polar Express"
December 14, 3:00pm at St. Andrew's - "Elf"

We are looking for some movie themed items to help with decorating for the season, such as commercial popcorn maker (real or cardboard), movie projectors, posters, etc.

If you have any of these items and would be willing to share them with us for a few weeks, please let P.B. or Jessica Ritenour know.

SMALL GROUPS

Small groups (sometimes called "Life" groups) are important pieces for discipleship and have a strong history in Methodism dating back to the "Holy Club" the Wesleys started at Oxford. Although we do have a few small groups (including Sunday school classes and choirs) Pastor Brian is looking for new ones and so he is starting "Men of the Table," a men's small group that will meet at 8:00 am on the first Saturday of each month at the Parsonage (1035 Sunset Dr., Milton). Please contact PB to express your interest or for more information.

Highlight of December Events:

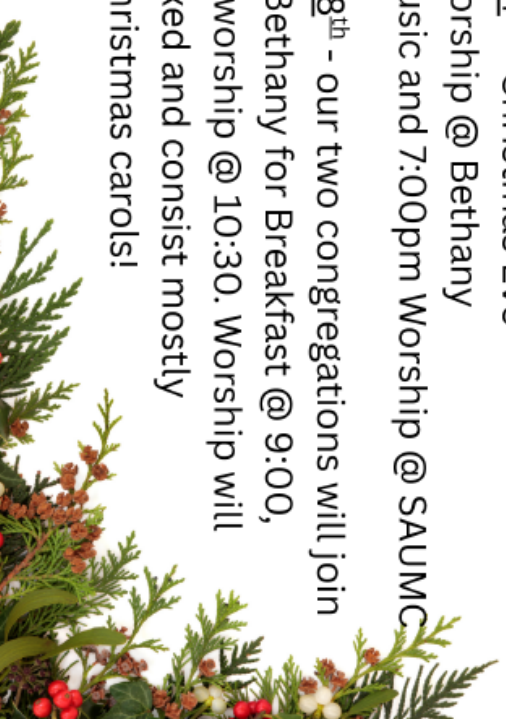
December 5th - Noah's Ark Christmas Concert @ 6pm
You are invited to join the families of Noah's Ark as the children share their annual Christmas Concert.

December 7th - Christmas at the Movies @ Bethany
Movie: Polar Express Time: 3pm

December 14th - Christmas at the Movies @ SAUMC
Movie: Elf Time: 3pm

December 24th - Christmas Eve
3:00pm Worship @ Bethany
6:30pm Music and 7:00pm Worship @ SAUMC

December 28th - our two congregations will join together at Bethany for Breakfast @ 9:00, followed by worship @ 10:30. Worship will be very relaxed and consist mostly of singing Christmas carols!





Scripture Readings

- November 1 - Psalm 119:137-144; Habakkuk 2:5-11; John 8:39-47
- November 2 - Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144; Isaiah 1:10-18; Psalm 32:1-7;
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10
- November 3 - Psalm 142; Habakkuk 2:12-20; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13
- November 4 - Psalm 142; Habakkuk 3:1-16; Jude 1:5-21
- November 5 - Psalm 142; Habakkuk 3:17-19; Luke 19:11-27
- November 6 - Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; Zechariah 1:1-17; Acts 22:22-23:11
- November 7 - Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; Zechariah 6:9-15; Acts 24:10-23
- November 8 - Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; Haggai 1:1-15a; Luke 20:1-8
- November 9 - Haggai 2:1-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; Job 19:23-27a; Psalm 17:1-9;
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38
- November 10 - Psalm 98; Haggai 2:10-19; 2 Peter 1:16-21
- November 11 - Psalm 98; Haggai 2:20-23; 2 John 1:1-13
- November 12 - Psalm 98; Zechariah 8:1-17; John 5:19-29
- November 13 - Isaiah 12; Isaiah 57:14-21; Romans 1:18-25
- November 14 - Isaiah 12; Isaiah 59:1-15a; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12
- November 15 - Isaiah 12; Isaiah 59:15b-21; Luke 17:20-37
- November 16 - Isaiah 65:17-25; Isaiah 12; Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13;
Luke 21:5-19
- November 17 - Psalm 76; Isaiah 60:17-22; Ephesians 4:25-5:2
- November 18 - Psalm 76; Isaiah 66:1-13; 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1
- November 19 - Psalm 76; Isaiah 66:14-24; Matthew 23:37-24:14
- November 20 - Luke 1:68-79; Jeremiah 21:1-14; Hebrews 9:23-28
- November 21 - Luke 1:68-79; Jeremiah 22:1-17; 1 Peter 1:3-9
- November 22 - Luke 1:68-79; Jeremiah 22:18-30; Luke 18:15-17
- November 23 - Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20;
Luke 23:33-43
- November 24 - Psalm 117; Jeremiah 30:1-17; Revelation 21:5-27
- November 25 - Psalm 117; Jeremiah 30:18-24; Revelation 22:8-21
- November 26 - Psalm 117; Jeremiah 31:1-6; Luke 1:1-4

Start of Year A Daily Readings

- November 27 - Psalm 122; Daniel 9:15-19; James 4:1-10
- November 28 - Psalm 122; Genesis 6:1-10; Hebrews 11:1-7
- November 29 - Psalm 122; Genesis 6:11-22; Matthew 24:1-22
- November 30 - Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44



Scripture Readings

- December 1 - Psalm 124; Genesis 8:1-19; Romans 6:1-11
- December 2 - Psalm 124; Genesis 9:1-17; Hebrews 11:32-40
- December 3 - Psalm 124; Isaiah 54:1-10; Matthew 24:23-35
- December 4 - Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 1:12-17, 21-26
- December 5 - Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 30:19-26; Acts 13:16-25
- December 6 - Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 40:1-11; John 1:19-28
- December 7 - Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12
- December 8 - Psalm 21; Isaiah 24:1-16a; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
- December 9 - Psalm 21; Isaiah 41:14-20; Romans 15:14-21
- December 10 - Psalm 21; Genesis 15:1-18; Matthew 12:33-37
- December 11 - Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 1:6-18; 2 Peter 3:1-10
- December 12 - Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 4:13-17; 2 Peter 3:11-18
- December 13 - Psalm 146:5-10; 1 Samuel 2:1-8; Luke 3:1-18
- December 14 - Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11
- December 15 - Psalm 42; Isaiah 29:17-24; Acts 5:12-16
- December 16 - Psalm 42; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Jude 1:17-25
- December 17 - Psalm 42; Zechariah 8:1-17; Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34
- December 18 - Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Galatians 3:23-29
- December 19 - Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:18-22; Galatians 4:1-7
- December 20 - Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 2 Samuel 7:23-29; John 3:31-36
- December 21 - Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25
- December 22 - Luke 1:46b-55; Isaiah 33:17-22; Revelation 22:6-7, 18-20
- December 23 - Luke 1:46b-55; 2 Samuel 7:18, 23-29; Galatians 3:6-14
- December 24 - Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14
- December 25 - Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:8-21; Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 8;
Galatians 4:4-7
- December 26 - Psalm 148; Wisdom 4:7-15; Acts 7:59-8:8
- December 27 - Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:22-31; 1 John 5:1-12
- December 28 - Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23
- December 29 - Psalm 20; Jeremiah 31:15-22; Luke 19:41-44
- December 30 - Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
- December 31 - Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19





Acolytes	
2	Lakyn Stover
9	Laila Tanner
16	Ryken Stover
23	Olivia Tanner
30	Lakyn Stover

Greeters	
2	Debbie Haulman
9	TBA
16	Debbie Haulman
23	Angela Shively
30	Arnie Wilver

Nursery	
2	Debbie Haulman
9	Julie Neilson
16	Angela Shively
23	Jill Foresman
30	Debbie Haulman

Altar Stewards	
Terry & Mona Napp	

Love Patrol	
2	
9	
16	
23	
30	

Children's Church	
2	
9	
16	
23	
30	

Financial Stewards	
Mercy Gray & Debbie Haulman	

2	
9	
16	
23	
30	

2	
9	
16	
23	
30	

Ushers	
Larry Lloyd, Chief	
Rich Neilson	Dennis Delcamp
Steve Bennage	Bob Snyder

2	
9	
16	
23	
30	

2	
9	
16	
23	
30	

Tech Department			
	Soundboard	Power Point	Video
2	Bob	Lauren	Sam
9	Barry	Colton	Sue
16	Bob	Carlene	Sam
23	Barry	Colton	Lauren
30	TBA (Bob?)	Carlene	Sue



Acolytes	
7	Ryker Stover
14	Laila Tanner
21	Lakyn Stover
24	Mary - Laila / Olivia
28	Olivia Tanner

Greeters	
7	TBA
14	Mike & Jill Dunkle
21	TBA
24	TBA
28	Debbie Haulman

Nursery	
7	Debbie Haulman
14	Mary Richie
21	Julie Neilson
28	Debbie Simon

Altar Stewards	
Larry & Bonnie Lloyd	

Love Patrol	
7	
14	
21	
24	
28	

Children's Church	
7	
14	
21	
28	

Financial Stewards	
Mona Napp & Shirley Coup	

7	
14	
21	
24	
28	

7	
14	
21	
28	

Ushers	
David Stich, Chief	
Terry Napp	Debbie Haulman
Deb Simon	Nate Richie
Christmas Eve Bob Snyder & Barry Bowers	

7	
14	
21	
24	
28	

Tech Department			
	Soundboard	Power Point	Video
5 - Noah's Ark	Bob		
7 - Church	Bob	Barry	Sam
14 - Church	Barry	Lauren	Sue
14 - Movie 3pm	Colton		
21 - Church	Bob	Carlene	Sam
24 - Evening	Bob	Barry	Sam
28 - Church	Barry	Lauren	Sue

2025

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 11:30am Charge Conference - Members invited to vote
2 All Saints Day Communion 10:05am Children's Choir Practice *Fellowship Meal: Turkey, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy	3 7:00pm Ad Council 7:00pm Bell Practice	4 6:00pm Noah's Ark Board Meeting	5 6:30pm Adult Choir	6 6:00pm Girl Scouts		8
9 Joyful Noise 10:05am Children's Choir Practice	10 7:00pm Bell Practice	11 7:00pm Trustee Mtg	12 10am - Love INC Board Meeting 6:30pm Adult Choir	13 6:00pm Girl Scouts		15
16 World Hunger Food Collection 10:05am Children's Choir Practice	17 7:00pm Bell Practice	18	19 6:30pm Adult Choir	20	21	22
23 Hanging of the Greens 10:05am Children's Choir Practice	24 7:00pm Bell Practice	25 1:00pm Panther Packs PrePack	26 6:30pm Adult Choir	27 	28 Office Closed	29
30 10:05am Children's Choir Practice 3:00pm Popcorn Ball making @ Bethany						

Noah's Ark and St. Andrew's are partnering to collect food for Panther Packs. As an entire building, we are helping to collect food to stock the pantry.



Panther Packs requests the following single serve size items:

Ramen Noodles, Tuna or Chicken (small can / pack), Chicken Noodle Soup (small can), Mac and Cheese (individual Cup), Fruit Cups, Applesauce Cups, Pudding Cups, Breakfast Bars, Granola Bars, Oatmeal Packs, Creamy Peanut Butter (15-18 oz), Chef Boyardee (can or microwave)

****Please make sure all items are within date.**

We will also accept gift cards and monetary donations for use at local grocery stores. To keep in fun, Noah's Ark is competing with the church to see who can donate the most items.

All items are due by World Hunger Sunday, **November 16th**

November

Happy Birthday

Susan Bastian - 1
Sharon Zellers - 1
Rebeca Derr - 2
Melissa Musser - 4
Colten Pfeegor - 6
Carlene Heddings - 7
Paul Shellenberger - 7
Fred Simon - 7
Cassie Baker - 8
Carol Mitch - 8
Nathan Richie - 8
Lee Yocum - 8
Bonnie Lloyd - 9
Stacie Getgen - 10
Katie Nickelson - 10
Bob Layton - 11
Lee Shreck - 11
David Cook - 12
Alic Straub - 12
Andrew Pfeegor - 13
William Phillips - 13
Lind aEmery - 14
Richard Snyder - 14
Deb Hulsizer - 16
Helen R. Wertz - 16
Sean Neilson - 17
Tia Mitch - 18
Mona Napp - 18
Marion Smith - 18
Angela Shively - 19
Lois Wagner - 20

Sylvia Hendricks - 21
Michael S. Royer - 21
Vi Wilver - 21
Shirley Yocum - 21
Wayne Heddings - 22
Ginny Shreck - 23
Wendy Hall - 24
Joseph Zeager - 24
Ellen Edsall - 25
Neal Housner - 26
Darlene McCormick - 28
Dennis Bastian - 29



Dwayne & Lucille Brown - 7
Russ & Julie Bowers - 13
David & Linda Cook - 13
Dale & Michele Stahlnecker - 15
Donald & Jean Yount - 16
David & Kayla Hitesman - 21
Glenn & Ida Snyder - 23
Michael & Carlene Weaver - 27
Mike & Jill Dunkle - 28
Carl & Donna Reish - 28

December

Happy Birthday

Holly Solomon - 1
Cody Lytle - 3
Lucille Brown - 4
Carol Layton - 4
Shy'heed Fluke - 5
Barb Smith - 5
Nancy Fawcett - 6
Janet Hippensteel - 10
Richard McSwain - 10
Dale Stahlnecker - 11
Jessica Snyder - 12
Connie Hans - 14
Isabel Kocher - 15
Debra Page - 17
Donald Yount - 17
Susan Krebs - 20
Michael Leon - 20
Susan Miller - 22
Adam Taylor - 22
Sheila Evans - 26
Michael Snyder - 26
Sandy Baker - 28
Lara Dick - 28



Jim & Jane Weaver - 12
Larry & Bonnie Lloyd - 25
Jonathan & Lara Dick - 27

2025

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00pm Bell Choir	2 1:00pm Panther Packs Set-Up	3 6:00pm Panther Packs Packing 6:30pm Adult Choir	4 6:00pm Girl Scouts	5 6:00pm Noah's Ark Christmas Concert	6 Social Hall in Use 12-2pm
Communion Fellowship Meal 7 10:05am Children's Choir Practice 3:00pm Christmas at the Movies @ Bethany	8 7:00pm Bell Choir	9 6:00pm SPRC	10 6:30pm Adult Choir	11	12	13
Joyful Noise 14 10:05am Children's Choir Practice 3:00pm Christmas at the Movies @ SAUMC	15 7:00pm Bell Choir	16	17 6:30pm Adult Choir	18 6:00pm Girl Scouts	19	20
21 10:05am Children's Choir Practice	22 7:00pm Bell Choir	23	24 Office Closed Christmas Eve Bethany - 3:00pm SAUMC - 6:30pm Music 7:00pm Worship	25  Pastor Brian Vacation until Jan 3, 2026	26 Office Closed	27 Social Hall in Use 2-8pm
28 Combined Worship @ Bethany 9am Breakfast 10:30am Worship	29 7:00pm Bell Choir	30	31 Office Closed 			

Reminder: Giving Options are available for multiple areas including: Advent and Christmas (text example: \$50 Advent or Christmas to 570-553-5676)

WAYS TO GIVE

 ONLINE
  TEXT
  CASH/CHECK



192 Lower Market Street, Hilton PA. 17042
(717) 553-5676

SCAN TO GIVE ONLINE



TEXT "GIVE" TO
570-553-5676

**Card Shower for three members with recent medical issues.
Please consider mailing them Get Well wishes!**



Jeff Diggan - 145 Marsh Rd - Milton PA 17847

Craig Richie - 529 Myrtle St - Milton PA 17847

Ida Snyder - 368 Reedy Rd - New Columbia PA 17856



Members Recently Lost
Lorraine Taylor - 9/12/25

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

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

Riverwoods - Nancy Stahlnecker, Edna Walter, Ruth Eisley

Watsonstown 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

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



Wood Cross in Lobby

This cross is donated to St. Andrew's Church by Robert Layton & family. It was found when they had a farm at Pottsgrove. Year forgotten but found after a flood that flooded the pasture field and bottom ground of harvest. Robert walked down to the bottom field to check on the wheat harvest and on the way back up he walked through the pasture field and came upon this cross laying there. Somebody else had already cut it.

Due credit is also given to the Lloyd brothers. The stand handmade by Ray Lloyd, stained and finished by Larry Lloyd. The Layton family thinks they did a really nice job, and it is greatly appreciated!

Thank you, Robert & Carol Layton for sharing this cross with your St. Andrew's family.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER

Due: November 23rd, 2025



Red Poinsettia:	x \$10.00
Amount Enclosed:	

Poinsettia Placed -	
In Memory of:	
In Honor of:	
Placed By:	

I do **not** want flowers but wish to make a donation to the following:
(Circle One)

Memorial Fund	Library	Other (Specify):
In Memory of:		
In Honor of:		
Placed By:		
	Amount Enclosed:	

**PLACE COUPON IN OFFERING PLATE or
RETURN TO CHURCH OFFICE**

**Order Deadline: Sunday, November 23, 2025
Available for pick-up after Christmas Eve Service**