

ST. ANDREW'S MESSAGE

Our Mission Statement – "Inspiring Change by following Jesus"

St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Phone: 914-962-9564

Email: saint.andrew@verizon.net Website: www.standrewsyorktown.com



September

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Sept 6 | 9 a.m. Zoom service 10:30 a.m. Outdoor service |
| Sept 7 | Labor Day |
| Sept 13 | 9 a.m. Zoom service 10:30 a.m. Outdoor service |
| Sept 17 | 7 p.m. Council Meeting |
| Sept 20 | 9 a.m. Zoom service 10:30 a.m. Outdoor service Confirmation Sunday |
| Sept 27 | 9 a.m. Zoom service 10:30 a.m. Outdoor service |



Join Sunday Zoom Service

Worship Online at St Andrews
Sunday 09:00 AM Eastern

Meeting ID: 867 0725 6377
Password: 824722



Service on Sunday

10:00 a.m.



Your Prayers are requested for those:



In Need

Daniel King

Warren Ludvigsen

Hospitalized or recuperating

Kitty Badalamenti
James Byrne
Ingrid Frank

Bill Hamm
Joseph Knapp, Sr
Anne Latino

Linda Louie
Patricia McGregor

Robin Muller
Nicole Safron

Wrestling with long-term health issues

Massimo Berardelli
Bill & Joan Borkowsky
Nancy Calandra
Chuck Cassidy
Andrea Cummings
Alessandro Cuniberti

Debbie Dubois
Doug Dubois
Joanna Falcone
Judy Gordon
Vivian Hyde
Mike Lekhmus

Roseann Lella
Karen Livingston Bernardo
Mary Kay McNamee
Helen O'Brien
Lucille Oricchio
Liz Prinz

Edith Raspuzzi
Samantha Shores
Tony Susi
Brad Wheeler
Lisa Wheeler

Facing life's challenges

Adama Bamba
Alyssa Billingsley
Devon Crispell

Dominic Enriguez
Eric Enriguez
Mark Graff, Jr. & Family
Paul Kristoffersen

Sean and Sarah Prinz
Ann Robertiello

Joanne Saylor
The Small Family
Tom Tillstrand

Mourning the passing of

Edward V. Rohle
Lazzaro Peter Pellegr
Donna Scimia
Henry Kulick
Gregorio Guerra

Deniece Clancy
Phil C. Novak
Jean Farrell
Gjina Bujaj
Jordan Gordon

Mark Graff
Doug Knowles
Bruno Rohle
Gladys Rohle
Mark Jarmon

Mary Sue Kasten
Maria Quas
Julie Feile
Kim Dary

Restricted to home/nursing facilities

Ed Gavard

Norlene McAuliffe

Mary Shepard

Serving in the Armed Forces

Randy Bacon
Daniel Bendetti
Brandon Cintron
Paul Fosse Jr.

Gregory Gonzalez
Kenneth Holman
Michael Lawless

Anthony Lawrence
Randal Middleton
Will O'Brien

Michael J. Tillstrand
Alex Wood
Jayson Zuluaga

Our Missionaries

Dr. Stephen J. and Jodi Swanson

Bishop

Rev. Paul Egensteiner

Residents of Jan Peek House

Please call or email the office to place someone on or remove someone from the Prayer List.

Thank you.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

To the Family of Faith at St. Andrew's,

The apostle Paul writes to the members of the young church in Rome, "Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to stranger. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them" (Romans 12:9-14). The church in Rome is off to a rocky start and it is no surprise. Paul would have a hard time finding a more difficult place to plant a church. Rome was the seat of the Roman Empire; it is the home of the Pantheon where all the gods reside. Even more, proclaiming Jesus as Lord, was a politically loaded statement because the Emperor was lord, not Jesus.

The church in Rome was in a tough time and Paul instructs them on personal activities in his letter. Once again, due to the pandemic, the church is in a tough time. This is a time to "look small" and do what we can instead of being overwhelmed by all that we can't. The church has weathered storms large and small in the past because individuals were moved to continue sharing their faith. We have had to pivot many times in the last 6 months. We launched services online, we launched worship outdoors, we did a communion drive up, we have studied and prayed together on Zoom. I will continue to use the resources I have access to in the most creative and helpful ways I can, but the church needs YOU. I cannot do this ministry alone. Let us "look small" these days taking our cues from Paul. Let's show each other and the world what genuine love looks like, let's stand together in condemning evil (such as systematic racism) when we see it (either in person or online). In fact, maybe these words from Paul need to be written down

in our own hand, put it on your bathroom mirror and read it every morning. This is a daily checklist for life.

We are going to be okay; we have work to do. We are invited to help usher in the kingdom of God, we are welcomed to help in ways big and small. During this time of pandemic and shut down, remember that God is all around you, working on you and working through you. You can come to our online book study, invite people to worship (online and outside, inside coming soon), you can help others when they are hurting and be a listening ear to those who just need to talk. The building is currently closed, but the church is very much open. In the past 6 months we have had many visitors and will be doing a new member class in the next few months. Many churches are receiving no new visitors because they are doing nothing new. We are doing all sorts of things we have never done before (like movie nights) and it is working. Neighbors are coming to worship, friends of friends are meeting here to enjoy a socially distant movie and learning about our community. Through loads of little interactions, the church continues to grow. Thank you for all the little things that you do to live out your calling as a disciple of Jesus.



See you on Sunday
(one way or the other)

Pastor Dave

CHURCH COUNCIL

July/Aug Highlights

- Sue Epting, Chairperson, of our "Resuming Indoor In-person Services" Task Force reported on detailed protocols necessary for everyone's safety. Masks, hand sanitizer, and social distancing measures will be required as well as reserving a seat/section in advance as there will be limits on the number of people attending. The team is also taking into account ventilation, and entering/exiting procedures. This "living" document continues to be refined. More details will follow in September's Message. Members of the task force besides Sue include: Arianne Damrow, Donna Kellett, David Hamm, Tony Susi, and Linda Bohlk.
- Sue also gave an overview of the responses to Survey Monkey. From the responses, October appears to be the favored month to restart indoor services.
- In July, Council approved a proposal to be submitted to the owner of Our Montessori School (OMS) for St. Andrew's to acquire the Yorktown portion of the school. Ultimately, the owner chose another proposal and the prospective new owner has indicated that OMS is planning to open classes at St. Andrew's in September meeting NYS health guidelines for schools.

Pastor

Dave Dockweiler

Council Members 2020-2021

Linda Bohlk – President
 Judith Bailey-Hung – VP
 Lynn Parlman – Secretary
 David Hamm – Treasurer

Tim Clark
 Matthew Damrow
 Sue Epting
 Dominic Justo
 Kristine Kallesten
 Dora Morabito
 Rita Nehmzow
 Steve Scalzi
 Dale Sharp

Financial Secretary – Margaret Hauck

Nominating Committee 2021

Venita Anderson
 Chuck Farrell
 Tim Gagliano
 Jeanette Mayer
 Andrea Rai
 Tony Susi

YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JULY

| | <u>2020</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>Difference</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Contributions ¹ | \$ 103,400 | | \$ 112,000 | \$ (8,600) |
| Other Income | 47,200 | | 44,300 | 2,900 |
| Total Income | 150,600 | | 156,300 | (5,700) |
| Expenses | 148,500 | \$163,000 | 156,100 | (7,600) |
| Surplus | \$ 2,100 | | \$ 200 | \$ 1,900 |

1 - contributions compared to last year are \$10,700 lower since March 15

We are called to look ahead to see where God is leading us and to walk this path with intentionality. Your church council and our Reopening Task Force has done an amazing job of navigating the immense hurdles that Covid-19 has placed upon our congregation. The building has been closed to worshippers for nearly half a year. We are now finalizing plans to reopen our worship space. Thank you to everyone who participated in our reopening survey. You can see the results for yourself. Many are comfortable returning to in person worship though the timing of that is less clear. We will heed the advice of professionals and monitor local Covid conditions.

I want to thank our Reopening Task Force: Sue Epting, Donna Kellet, Tony Susi, Arianne Damrow, Linda Bohlk and David Hamm. These folks brought an abundance of medical understanding and passion for our congregational safety. We are planning to reopen the sanctuary on October 11 for in person worship. Although much work has already been accomplished this is no simple task and details are still being figured out. You will receive step by step instructions on how to participate in worship mid-September. Reservations will be required as we have to monitor capacity, social distancing will be enforced through dedicated seating areas. Masks will be required. Communion will take place in your seating area using the pre-packaged communion cups we are using for our outdoor service. Reservations will be done using "Eventbrite" a free online ticketing system. There will be no cost to attend. This will all be explained in detail.

In person worship will not be the same as when Covid shut us down. Group singing, involves deep, unified breathing and is therefore a dangerous activity, so musically our worship will be exploring other options such as soloists (significantly distanced) and instrumental pieces. We may need to add additional worship times due to a substantially limited ca-

capacity. All of these details and many more, are being worked out.

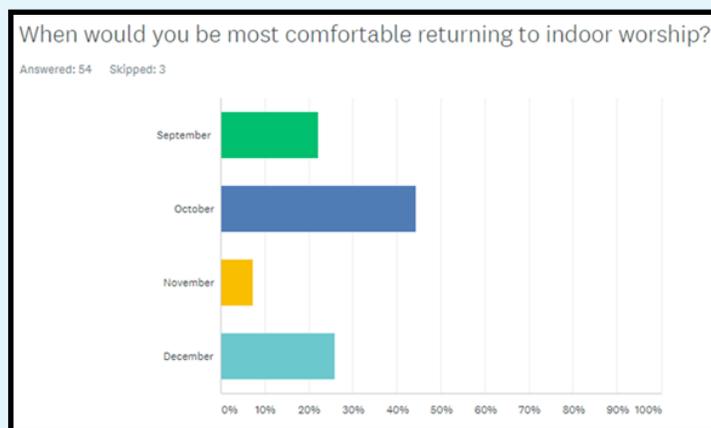
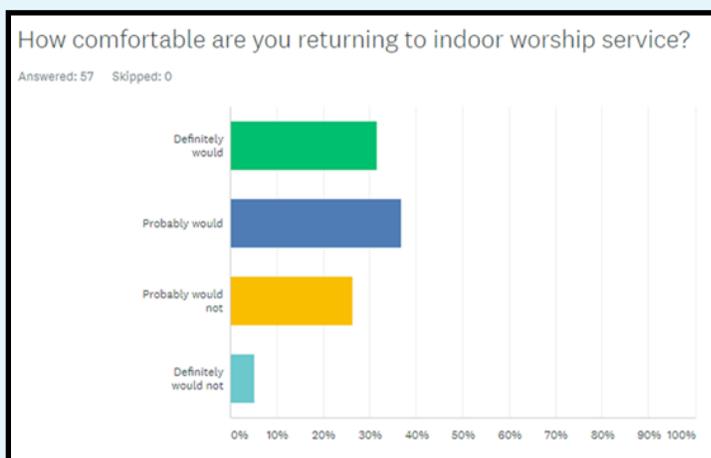
Keeping you safe is my greatest priority. I thank God for our council, reopening team and you. Working together we have shown the community that God can be worshipped from inside or outside the building, online or off.

See you on Sunday,
one way or another!

Pastor Dave

**Our online Zoom service will
continue indefinitely!**

Join Sunday Zoom Service



New office procedure

Starting September, St. Andrew's will be following these guidelines as Our Montessori students return to the building. The St. Andrew's site of OMS is officially classified as a school and is required to follow all the New York State guidelines during the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Any St. Andrew's visitors will use the front or side door (by the music room). The back door will be reserved for OMS only. The chapel house will be used for OMS only.
- The office doors will remain closed during the week and unavailable on Sunday mornings.
- Any one entering the building must complete a form passing a temperature check and answer a few basic questions. The forms will be located outside the office door. These forms need to be filled out and kept on file in accordance to school requirements.
- Please try to make appointments if possible so proper cleaning and disinfecting can be done prior to arrival.
- Face mask will be required inside the building.

Please reach out if you have any questions regarding these procedure. More information about the indoor worship service will be available soon.

Jan Peek Homeless Shelter

Thank you to so many of you that have volunteered to help with this "feel good" important outreach. I will contact you in plenty of time for us to decide what and when you will donate. I really appreciate your willingness to help!

A HUGE thank you to Sonja and Angelo Letizia for contributing the entree to August's meal. The residents were thrilled with the sausage and peppers to say the least. Please keep me in mind if you haven't already contacted me. God Bless!

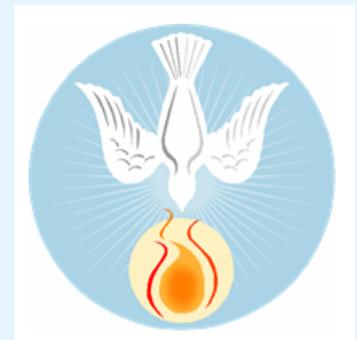
Kathy DeMaio

email: awesomenana@optonline.net

phone: 914-497-5307

Confirmation Students

Congratulations to Kristin Linahan, Amanda Blechner, Dominick Morabito, and Ava Justo. A note form one student follows this page with more to come next month. Confirmation Sunday is Sept. 20 at the outdoor service. Please come and help us celebrate their achievement.



Confirmation Students

Kristin Linahan



My experience in confirmation has overall been astounding. My faith has evolved tremendously and has given me a new understanding of everything to do with St. Andrews. It has been amazing to meet new people and to have gotten to know old ones better. The bon fires, lock-ins, and all those arts and crafts brought me closer to everyone and made memories that will last for years to come. I always looked forward to leaving to get to the 6:30 Confirmation class every Wednesday since I knew it was going to be a great time. There was never a dull moment, showing up on the first day so confused about what was next to acting out Bible stories, laughing, and learning about our faith. You can never be serious when playing a bush or an animal, definitely the best and most important roles. In the beginning, I was confused about where my faith stood. Now, after being a part of the Confirmation process, I believe my faith has grown exponentially. Being a St Andrews member means to be accepting of everyone and to share gratitude, forgiveness that you have towards others. Which I will take and use in my everyday life and try to encourage others to do

the same as well. The promise, "To strive for justice and peace in all the Earth" inspires me. It also seems to be less difficult to achieve compared to the other promises. This promise should also encourage others to find the good in people and to do good to others to find justice. This promise can also be one of the more difficult promises to keep. Since not everything is as easy as it seems, conflicts are common in this world we have been a part of. The people are the ones that should stand up, to use the stories of the Bible as well as each other's faith to show how it is possible to strive for peace and justice. In the end, it is all about putting in our best efforts to support the Christian community. To be a part of this group, we should always accept the people who are outside that community as well. The future is bright in St. Andrews and I look forward to being closer to the St. Andrews community. For example, by contributing to being an acolyte, sharing my incredible reading skills, helping in every way at upcoming such as street fairs, mission trips and so much more. This journey has been astounding and it is just the beginning. I am very eager to see what is next!!

A message from Gabi Linahan:

We have seen Kristin's faith grow and develop a great deal over the last several years. She has taken on a more active role at church as she transitioned from Sunday School to her confirmation group. Participating in service as an acolyte has provided a new perspective on worship and her relationship to the congregation. Kristin has always had a kind nature. As she continues to expand her participation in church activities, we expect those experiences will help develop a strong spiritual foundation Kristin can use to maintain that compassionate demeanor as she matures and life's challenges become more nuanced.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Well, this is going to be a bit of a strange year for Sunday School at St. Andrew's. With COVID-19 still present, we have made the decision to postpone "live" Sunday School for the present time. The most important thing is for the children and teachers to be safe and at this time, we are unable to guarantee that. We don't know what the COVID situation will be during the fall and winter nor do we know when we will have a safe and effective vaccine or a viable treatment for those who become ill with the virus. We will re-evaluate the situation later in the fall and pray that perhaps we can restart our weekly Sunday School classes in early 2021.

After Sunday School shut down in March, we missed some key events such as First Communion and Awards Sunday. No worries as we will be sure to hold all of these important events as soon as it's safe to do so. In the fall, we dedicate and distribute the Catechisms and Bibles to our 1st and 3rd graders respectively so we will also reschedule that day when we are able to reopen.

We will be unable to hold the Christmas pageant this year but we are working on finding a way to showcase the children virtually. More information will follow after we have had a chance to further develop our plan.

I will also continue to send out weekly activities for the children to do at home. I am planning to follow the curriculum that we would have used for the fall semester and send out the Bible story for that week so that you can share it with your children. Then I will match up the activity to that story as best as I can.

Since Sunday School will not be in session, Pastor Dave will be incorporating more children-focused activities into the weekly church service. As we continue outdoor services during the nice weather and when we finally open up for indoor services, please bring your children to church so that they can participate in what Pastor Dave has to share with them.

Two of our loyal 7th graders completed their Sunday School years in June so will be moving on to confirmation classes. We wish Paige Haglund and Courtney Banks the best as they continue to grow in their faith with Pastor Dave leading them. When we are able to resume "live" Sunday School, we will be awarding both Paige and Courtney their award pins and offering our congratulations on a job well done!

Please let me know if you have a child who is 3 years old and has not yet attended St. Andrew's Sunday School so that I can add them to the roster for the Pre-K class. If this child is your first to enroll in our Sunday School, please send me your e-mail address so I can add you to the distribution list in order for you to receive the Sunday School e-mail updates. Likewise, if anyone is new or has not previously enrolled your child/children in our program, please e-mail me so we can add you and welcome you to our group.

Please reach out to me with any questions, suggestions, etc at any time. You can reach me via phone at 914-715-9546 or by e-mail at epting.susan@gmail.com.

Remember to stay safe and wear a mask and we hope to see you all soon!



**God Bless,
Sue Epting**

Meet the Council

Sue Epting

Greetings St. Andrew's!

I've been a member of St. Andrew's since 1990 after Mike and I moved to Yorktown with our 3 children in Sept. of the previous year. Eager to get our kids involved in Sunday School, we brought them to St. Andrew's since it was the closest Lutheran church to our house (about 2 miles). I grew up in Schuylkill County, PA which is a rural area about 2 hours northwest of Philadelphia. Mike and I met at Albright College in Reading, PA and got married while we both attended grad school at the Univ. of Pennsylvania (Penn) in Philadelphia. Prior to our move to NY, we lived in PA, OH, and MD.



I am an Oncology Advanced Practice RN and have dedicated my entire career to the care of cancer patients. People often ask me how I can work in such a “depressing” area of nursing but to me, these patients energize me and give me a positive perspective on life. It's my faith in God that has enabled me to provide care for oncology patients and their families for over 40 years. I have recently “retired” from 17 years as a nurse educator at Genentech, a biotech company, where I educated

nurses about several oncology drugs. Not yet ready to stay home, I will be looking for a part-time role in the fall!

Our kids (Jen, Kate, and Steve) grew up at St. Andrew's and after attending Sunday School through 7th grade and being confirmed by Pastor Robert Johnson, all three taught Sunday School for 3 years until they headed off to college. Jen and Kate live in Berkeley, CA with their families and Steve and his family live in Alexandria, VA. We have been blessed with 5 wonderful grandchildren so far (4 boys and 1 girl) and are so thankful for all the blessings God has given us.

As an infant, I was baptized in the Lutheran Church but we then transferred our membership to the United Church of Christ as a result of a move when I was 6 years old. I attended Sunday School, was confirmed, and was actively involved in that church until college. After we had our first daughter, we returned to the Lutheran church and have been Lutherans ever since!

I have been actively involved at St. Andrew's since joining, first by becoming a Sunday School teacher which I did for 10 years. After taking a few years off, I went back to play the piano for worship in the Chapel House and when a teacher was needed for 5th grade, I volunteered. That led to becoming the Superintendent of the Sunday School, a role I have had for the last 5 years. I love working with our wonderful Sunday School staff and the children and parents and it brings me much joy! In addition, I volunteer as a Lector, Communion Assistant, Usher, and as a member of the Altar Guild.

After serving on the nominating committee for 3 years, I am honored to have been elected as a new member of the church council.



Happy Anniversary

- 7 Joanna & Mark Falcone
- 12 Deirdre & Scott Letscher
- 12 Katie & Andrew Werbrock
- 13 Cheryl & Karl Badalamenti
- 13 Natalie & Paul Panik
- 14 Lillian & Thomas DiRusso
- 19 Laura & Karl Grutzmacher
- 21 Lisa & Bill Gallagher
- 23 Linda & Gerard Henning
- 23 Renee & William O'Brien
- 25 Robin & Kenneth Muller



Happy Birthday

| | | | |
|----|----------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Emily Hopkins | 15 | Carly Pease |
| 2 | Craig Gustavson | 16 | Ava Polizzi |
| 2 | Anthony Bonavita Jr. | 17 | Christina Peragine |
| 3 | Christina Gustavson | 17 | Luke Hung |
| 3 | Christopher Bohlk | 17 | David Dockweiler |
| 4 | Luca Polizzi | 18 | Mary Ehke |
| 5 | Stephanie Ruzicka | 18 | Paul Kuhhorn |
| 7 | Emily Small | 18 | Madison Thomas |
| 7 | Mikayla Gustavson | 21 | Margaret Jakubik |
| 8 | Jenna Shelley | 23 | Anthony Letizia |
| 9 | Michael Martin | 26 | Carolyne Tufano |
| 9 | Alexandra Susi | 26 | Erika McGovern |
| 11 | Isabella Vo | 26 | Jenna Lancellotti |
| 12 | Donald Zaeh | 27 | Pat Manfredonia |
| 12 | Gemma Reinkraut | 7 | Chase Mayer |
| 14 | Gerard Henning | 30 | Donna Kellett |



MESSAGE September 2020

Messages are posted on our website <http://standrewsyorktown.com/> under the Newsletter tab.

We Are Family

63 Years Serving Christ

SUNDAY WORSHIP on zoom 9:00 a.m. .

Outdoor on front lawn 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Dave Dockweiler, Pastor

Margy Tillstrand, Music Director

Linda Bohlk, President

Judith Bailey-Hung, Vice President

Sarah Dockweiler, Office Secretary



St. Andrew's
Lutheran Church

Inspiring Change by Following Jesus