

# ST. ANDREW'S MESSAGE

*Our Mission Statement – "Inspiring Change by following Jesus"*

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

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## December

- Dec 3** 7 p.m. Life Commissions
- Dec 6** 9 a.m. Zoom/Indoor service  
10:30 a.m. Zoom/Indoor service
- Dec 7** 7 p.m. Fundraising Committee
- Dec 13** 9 a.m. Zoom/Indoor service  
10:30 a.m. Zoom/Indoor service
- Dec 18** 6:00 p.m. Living Nativity
- Dec 19** 6:00 p.m. Living Nativity
- Dec 20** 9 a.m. Zoom/Indoor service  
10:30 a.m. Zoom/Indoor service
- Dec 17** 7 p.m. Council Meeting
- Dec 24** 4 p.m. Zoom/Indoor service  
9 p.m. Zoom/Indoor service
- Dec 25** **Merry Christmas**
- Dec 27** 9 a.m. Zoom/Indoor service  
10:30 a.m. Zoom/Indoor service
- Dec 31** New Year's Eve



Give Online



## Your Prayers are requested for those:

### Hospitalized or recuperating

Kitty Badalamenti  
James Byrne  
Ingrid Frank

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  
Judy Ellard  
Joanna Falcone  
Judy Gordon  
Bill Hamm  
Barbara Hogan  
Vivian Hyde

Don & Linda Kitner  
Mike Lekhmus  
Roseann Lella  
Karen Livingston Bernardo  
Mary Kay McNamee  
Helen O'Brien  
Lucille Oricchio

Anita Porter  
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  
Daniel King

Paul Kristoffersen  
Sean and Sarah Prinz  
Ann Robertiello

Joanne Sayler  
The Small Family  
Tom Tillstrand

### Mourning the passing of

Ernest Edwards

William Kuhr

### 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

### Bishop

Rev. Paul Egensteiner

### Residents of Jan Peek House

### Our Missionaries

Dr. Stephen J and Jodi Swanson

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

*Thank you.*

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

I recently read a story about a church in Holland that hid two families of Jewish families in a secret room behind the church organ for 2 years to keep them safe from the Nazi's. The priest and the caretaker of the church collaborated to keep these families safe. In the face of war, famine and political upheaval, the church of Jesus Christ has creatively overcome every adversity. The modern pandemic, economic slowdown and racial tension has again pushed churches to respond in faithful creative ways. St. Andrew's has had its share of challenges this year. Covid positive families, others in quarantine, shut downs and rental income drops-just to name a few. As successful churches have always done, we leveraged our resources and got creative. We went online, outside, cut costs and opened up new streams of income. Most importantly, we did all of this together. Social distancing might be keeping up 6 feet from each other physically but in every other measure we have come closer to each other and to our Lord. For all that you have done to support this congregation and continue the work of sharing the gospel- WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANTS!

A special thank you needs to go out to Tim Gagliano and everyone who helped with our Produce Sale. By setting up outside we are demonstrating to the community that we are an active church. Lots of churches appear quiet these days-not the case at St. Andrew's. The Living Nativity will only reinforce this reality. The activities we have chosen for this year are not only fund raisers but "friend raisers." We filled our front lawn (in a socially distant way) with friends of

members for the Pumpkin Bash, the Produce Sale did the same and hopefully the Living Nativity creates a flow of folks through our property that would usually cruise past. These events start to make connections, small, easy points of contact. Later when a family thinks about joining a church, these points of contact come into play. I have already seen this happen.

Another new aspect we have dove into because of Covid is increased online giving. For several years we have been able to receive donations online. Covid ramped up interest in this option and 2020 has seen a significant shift towards this option. THANK YOU to those who have set up regular online giving, by doing so you have regulated our income and stabilized our finances. Since last year our online giving has nearly doubled. Through the [St Andrew's online giving page](#), you can set up a one time or regular giving. It is safe, secure and you are in charge of your donations at any time.

Even in the face of such uncertainty, we find the solid rock of our Lord sustaining through anything that comes our way. May God Bless you, today, tomorrow and forever.

**See you on Sunday, Pastor Dave**

# CHURCH COUNCIL

## November Notes

- We negotiated \$10,000 of expense reductions with our various vendors.
- St. Andrew's has a PayPal Giving Fund account. You can now choose to use your PayPal account to give to the church at this website: <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1357987>
- Plans for the drive-through Living Nativity are well underway. Volunteers are still needed. Contact Pastor Dave if you can help.
- Christmas Eve services will be at 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. in-person and via Zoom.
- Sunday School Superintendent, Sue Epting, reported grades 3 - 7 and pre-K - grade 2 had lessons with their teachers in November via Zoom. They will also meet again in December.

### Pastor

Dave Dockweiler

### Council Members 2020-2021

Linda Bohlk – President  
 Judith Bailey-Hung – VP  
 Lynn Parliman – 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 - OCTOBER

	<u>2020</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Contributions	\$152,200		\$154,500	\$ (2,300)
Other Income	53,000		62,200	(9,200)
Total Income	205,200		216,700	(11,500)
Expenses	202,000	\$223,000	214,300	(12,300)
Surplus	\$ 3,200		\$ 2,400	\$ 800

# Thank You

Saturday, November 21, was a picture-perfect day for our fall cleanup. There was an overwhelming response to our call for volunteers. Many thanks to all who raked, carried tarps laden with leaves into the woods, and blew our front and back yards clean! Besides the many volunteers from our congregation, we were blessed with innumerable helping hands from Troop 164 Scouts and Girl Scout Troop 1480 and their leaders and parents.

**Thank you to all who made a daunting task easier!**





**Also a huge thank you for all those that supported the Produce Sale. We had an excellent turnout in volunteers and shoppers. We are filled with gratitude for our community.**



## **\*\*Volunteers Wanted\*\***



Now that we have the church cleaned up it is time to talk Nativity. The costumes have arrived and the sets are being built. I have written the scrip (which I will record so there are NO SPEAKING LINES) and final items are being bought, borrowed, or found.

**We need volunteers. Adults, kids, entire families. It will all be very easy and very fun.**

The Drive-thru Living Nativity. will be **Friday, December 18 & Saturday, December 19**

Simply follow the link to sign up: [here](#)

For questions regarding acting requirements, please contact Judy Jakubik at [standrewsyorktownyouth@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsyorktownyouth@gmail.com)

If you would like to help in another way, or have LIVE ANIMALS to add to the show please contact Pastor Dave Dockweiler at [pastordavestandrews@gmail.com](mailto:pastordavestandrews@gmail.com)



## **Christmas Eve**

We are planning on hosting two Christmas Eve services this year. Our 4pm service is geared towards young people and will be “very kid friendly.” Our 9pm service will have a more traditional feel. We will still have our capacity reductions in place. Tickets will be available on December 6th. Just as every Sunday, one ticket per family (5 people max). IF DEMAND IS HIGH, and our services “sell out” we will work towards adding a third service, between the current options.



Poinsettia Flowers It's that time of year! We are now taking orders for Christmas poinsettias. They are \$17 a piece this year. Click on the website below to reserve your plant. <https://forms.gle/cJr22eyGXjVYsySs7>

## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Sunday School has reopened in a “virtual” manner in November! We set up monthly remote classes for the children with the Sunday School teachers leading the calls. Seven children in grades 3 through 7 attended the Nov. 7 class led by Tony Susi, Donna Kellett, and Robin Muller. Everyone participated and enjoyed a robust discussion about the impact of the pandemic on their lives followed by the Gospel reading and prayers. On Nov. 14, Tracy Blechner led the class including a Bible story, craft and the Lord’s Prayer, for four children from the Pre-K through 2 grade classes. It was great to see the smiling faces and hear their voices for the first time since March! The next class for the upper grades will take place on Dec. 5 and for the younger children on Dec. 12. Specific info will be sent out to the families via e-mail and we hope to have even more kids join us. Many thanks to the teachers for volunteering their time to keep the children engaged in learning about Jesus and his teachings. We might be increasing these classes to twice a month for each group in January if all continues to go well.

I continue to send weekly e-mails with some puzzles/coloring sheets for the children to work on. We are hoping to showcase some pictures of their work in the monthly Message so the congregation can enjoy.

Since we are unable to do a “live” children’s Christmas pageant this year, we are putting together a video of the children. Each child is assigned a short section of a poem entitled “The Story

of Christmas for Children” and parents will record them. We will then put these recordings together into one video which Pastor Dave will include in the indoor and zoom services in mid-December.

As we continue to cope with the COVID-19 crisis, the Sunday School staff really want to help the children to learn about Jesus and to grow in their faith. If you have any ideas of how we can continue this mission, please reach out to me. We welcome all volunteers and suggestions.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions. You can reach me directly via phone at 914-715-9546 or by e-mail at [ept-ing.susan@gmail.com](mailto:ept-ing.susan@gmail.com).

**Hope to see you all soon! Have a Happy Thanksgiving and stay safe! Please remember that masks and social distancing do work and re-think those holiday plans with family and friends outside your household. We will get through this together.**

**God Bless, Sue Epting**



## Holiday Gift Guys

We will once again be participating in the Holiday Angels Program this Christmas, featuring one family with a single mom and 4 children. This is a GREAT opportunity to Pay It Forward and help out a family in need during these most difficult of holiday seasons.

There are some challenges this year, as you can imagine. The people that run the program are asking for Gift Cards Only this year. After a great deal of thought and some input from some friends, this is how I see this happening.

1. Choose which card/cards you want to purchase to help out this family (your generosity is much appreciated!).
2. Email me or text me (awesomenana@optonline.net or 914-497-5307) with your selected items. I will let you know immediately if that gift card is no longer available so you can proceed. If it is not, I will let you know so you can pick a different gift.
3. Purchase the gift card(s). Please place the card(s) in separate Christmas cards or little gift bags or boxes to make it a little festive and something for the recipient to open.
4. I will be at church on Sunday, December 13 from 10:00 a.m. to noon to collect the cards. If the church is no longer open on that date, I will be in the parking lot.

5. If you prefer, you can drop the card (s) at my house or mail them to me. 415 Northview Ct., Peekskill

6. Please call me if you have any questions or concerns. I have attached the list in two different forms (one is a Pages document and one is a Word document. I have said a prayer that you can open one of these lists!

Click [here](#) to sign up

Thank you so much for your generosity! God Bless You for reaching out during this Christmas season!

**Kathy DeMaio**

## Jan Peek Outreach

A huge thank you to Tony and Laura Susi for helping me prepare and deliver the meal this month to the residents of the Jan Peek Shelter in Peekskill. Please contact me if you can help prepare a future meal. We supply a meal for 25 residents on the third Friday of every month. Any contribution (entree, side dish, salad, or dessert ) will be so appreciated by the residents!

Thank you and God Bless!

**Kathy DeMaio**

## Outreach News

### Thank You! Thank You!

Many thanks to all who so generously participated in our drive for donations for "Thanksgiving Baskets". We were able to supply \$1445 worth of grocery gift cards to Yorktown Head Start for distribution to needy families. Fantastic response! Thank you!

### Holiday Cheer Opportunities

For many years, St. Andrew's has participated in the Hour Children holiday toy drive so Bedford Correctional Facility mothers could provide gifts to their children. This year because of the pandemic, Hour Children Center would like the mothers to be able to give their children \$20 gift cards to Target or Walmart.

Also, for a number of years, we have given \$20 Walmart gift cards to 25 residents at Jan Peek Shelter in Peekskill. This was funded by your response to Council's annual Christmas bake sale. However, Council is unable to hold a bake sale this year and would still like St. Andrew's to provide gift cards.

We are asking that if you would like to contribute to one or both of these outreach opportunities, please give a monetary donation to St. Andrew's in an envelope or through online giving labeled "**Holiday Cheer**" by Wednesday, **December 9**. You may mail your envelope to the church or place it in Sunday's collection box in the sanctuary. Be sure to indicate your name or contribution envelope number if you want it recorded as part of your giving statement. Outreach will purchase the cards and give to the respective organizations to distribute.

Thank you for blessing others by sharing that which God has first given to you!

**Linda Bohlk, Outreach Chairperson**

### Stewardship Reminder:

Just a quick reminder to return your 2021 stewardship pledge card if you have not already done so. Knowing how much has been pledged helps us determine next year's budget. As always, thank you for all you do to support St. Andrew's ministry and mission. We are especially grateful for your financial response these past eight months. You are what makes St. Andrew's great!

### Fundraising Committee

Our recent Produce Sale was a massive success. There are lots of people that will get a thank you card from me. Help me thank the volunteers that helped set up, staff, greet customers and tear down. You all did a wonderful job of sharing God's love with this community. So far, our fundraising efforts have resulted in nearly \$8000 in new income. One way you can help is to share our story on your social media pages. Simply go to here St. Andrew's GoFundMe Page and click on the "share page" button. It is amazing how many of your friends are willing to donate to a cause you care about. GoFundMe makes it easy for that to happen.

New giving platform. To make a simple one time donation you can now use PayPal with a debit or credit card. Check out our new page <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1357987>. PayPal is a safe and easy to use tool.

# Happy Birthday

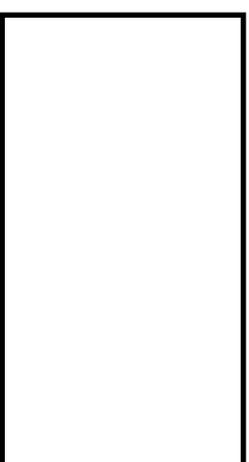
<b>Thomas DiRusso, Jr,</b>	<b>12/1</b>	<b>Joseph Polizzi</b>	<b>12/18</b>
<b>Daniele Racanelli</b>	<b>12/3</b>	<b>Deirdre Letscher</b>	<b>12/19</b>
<b>Janis Zaeh</b>	<b>12/4</b>	<b>Patrick Gallagher</b>	<b>12/19</b>
<b>Madison Delgado</b>	<b>12/4</b>	<b>Nolah Stringham</b>	<b>12/23</b>
<b>Karen Conlon</b>	<b>12/5</b>	<b>Beryl Zapp</b>	<b>12/24</b>
<b>Shane Muller</b>	<b>12/5</b>	<b>Jesus</b>	<b>12/25</b>
<b>Sonja Letizia</b>	<b>12/6</b>	<b>Mike Epting</b>	<b>12/26</b>
<b>Jason Singh</b>	<b>12/6</b>	<b>Singh Michael</b>	<b>12/26</b>
<b>Colton Knapp</b>	<b>12/6</b>	<b>Hayley Cooper</b>	<b>12/26</b>
<b>Vincent Kennedy</b>	<b>12/7</b>	<b>Genie Muller</b>	<b>12/27</b>
<b>Susan Frising</b>	<b>12/8</b>	<b>Emma Bianchimano</b>	<b>12/27</b>
<b>Paul Miller</b>	<b>12/9</b>	<b>Adam Mir</b>	<b>12/27</b>
<b>Travis Stern</b>	<b>12/9</b>	<b>Alex Worsley</b>	<b>12/28</b>
<b>Erin Ehlke</b>	<b>12/11</b>	<b>Dennis Alfieri</b>	<b>12/29</b>
<b>William O'Brien II</b>	<b>12/13</b>	<b>Joanna Falcone</b>	<b>12/30</b>
<b>Carolyn Hamm</b>	<b>12/17</b>	<b>John Cote</b>	<b>12/30</b>
<b>Jeannie Hudec</b>	<b>12/18</b>	<b>Breanna Vo</b>	<b>12/30</b>

# Happy Anniversary

- 4 Gemma & Scott Reinkraut
- 8 Lynette & Chris Van Tongeren
- 11 Joan & Herbert Nissen
- 22 Brenda & Joseph Middleton



**St. Andrew's Lutheran Church**  
**2405 Crompond Road**  
**Yorktown Heights, NY 10598**



**St. Andrew's Message**  
**December 2020**



**St. Andrew's**  
**Lutheran Church**

Inspiring Change by Following Jesus



*We Are Family*

## MESSAGE December 20

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



**63 Years Serving Christ**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00 a.m. and | 10:30 a.m.**

**Zoom and Indoor service**

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**