

St. Andrew's Message

June 2021

Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Phone: 914-962-9564

***Our Mission Statement –
“Inspiring Change by following Jesus”***

Email:

standrewsnewyork@gmail.com

Website:

www.standrewsyorktown.com



June

- June 6** 8:30 a.m. Zoom Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Semi- Annual Meeting
- June 13** 8:30 a.m. Zoom Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
7:30 Guatemala info zoom mt.
- June 17** 7 p.m. Council Meeting
- June 20** 8:30 a.m. Zoom Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Father's Day
- June 27** 8:30 a.m. Zoom Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- June 28** 7 p.m. Confirmation



Give Online

In our Prayers :

Hospitalized or recuperating

James Byrne
Carol Holodak
Barbara Hogan

Joseph Knapp Sr.
Anne Latino
Patricia McGregor

John McGuirk
Karen McIntyre
Robin Muller

Nicole Safron
Steve Scalzi
Stephen Small

Wrestling with long-term health issues

Carl Anderson Jr.
Nancy Calandra
Chuck Cassidy
Andrea Cummings
Alessandro Cuniberti
Debbie Dubois
Doug Dubois
Katie Epting- Harris

Anna Errico
Joanna Falcone
Judy Gordon
Bill Hamm
Vivian Hyde
Mike Lekhmus
Roseann Lella
Karen Living Bernaardo

Mary Kay McNamee
Rita Nehmzow
Helen O'Brien
Ed O'Connell
Lucille Oricchio
Liz Prinz
Anita Porter
Edith Raspuzzi

Cindy Berg Sauter
Samantha Shores
John Smith
Tony Susi
Peggiann Thorp
Bella Tufano
Brad Wheeler
Lisa Wheeler

Facing life's challenges

Alyssa Billingsley
Devon Crispell
Dominic Enriquez
Eric Enriquez

Cathleen Famular
Mark Graff, Jr. & Family
Daniel King
Laura Heiss

Paul Kristoffersen
Beth Marsden
Sean and Sarah Prinz
Tom Riordan

Ann Robertiello
Joanne Saylor
The Small Family
Cathy Souza

Mourning the passing of

Ernest Edwards
Stephen Morabito
William Kuh

Bruce Bellom
Susan Blasch
William Borkowsky

Richard Zapp
Kitty Badalamenti
Paul Rogalin

Beth Marsden
Susan Anne Leisher
Robert Lennon

Serving in the Armed Forces

Randy Bacon
Daniel Bendetti
Brandon Cintron

Paul Fosse Jr.
Gregory Gonzalez
Tajae Hickson

Kenneth Holman
Michael Lawless
Randal Middleton

Michael J. Tillstrand
Alex Wood
Jayson Zuluaga

Restricted to home/nursing facilities

Ed Gavard

Norlene McAuliffe

Mary Shepard

Gus Hellman

Our Bishop

Rev. Paul Egensteiner

Our Missionaries

Dr. Stephen J. and Jodi Swanson

Residents of Jan Peek

Please call or email the office
to place someone on or re-
move someone from the

Prayer List.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Hey Pastor Dave, what do you mean when you say God does the "heavy lifting?" One of the core beliefs of Lutherans, which goes all the way back to Martin Luther himself is an understanding that no matter what we do, we CAN'T earn God's love or forgiveness. These are GIFTS given by God to us. So, we do things like baptize babies and welcome strangers to participate in communion. How can a baby possibly understand what is being asked of it? Do we know if a stranger has a proper understanding of communion?

The baby can't understand baptism and I have no idea what people think is happening through communion. All of this is fine because the forgiveness and cleansing we find in baptism along with the presence of God received via communion are GIFTS. God comes to us without prerequisites.

God does the heavy lifting of forgiveness, knowing what we need to ask before the words are on our mouths. Even better, we are forgiven before we ask. The act of speaking the words of confession and hearing the words of forgiveness are not for God's benefit but for ours. When we participate in communion, there is no quiz, there is nothing to recite or even understand, only the desire to receive God's presence. You open your hands, I put the bread in it and declare "this is the body of Christ given FOR YOU."

Whether it is Baptism, Communion or Affirming our Baptism (aka Confirmation) the work is done by God not us. God comes to us, we

simply open ourselves up to God's presence. There is always a place for learning our beliefs, digging into our church history, wrestling with how our faith fits into (or doesn't) our world. That's what I mean when I talk about God doing the HEAVY LIFTING.

There are some more ramifications related to this understanding of God. It means our pride has to be put in check. If God is doing the majority of the work, that means I can't. I can not, by my own work take one step towards the holy. That is a humbling admission. I am a take charge kind of guy, I like to do things myself. This can get out of control when I start thinking that I can get through life on my own, that I don't need help from others and ultimately that I can get myself into God's blessings. Of course I need help, in fact we are called to community, we are designed to NEED each other. We are also designed to NEED God. We keep coming back to confess, to receive communion and to hear again the work of God-because it is a on going relationship we are building with our Lord and with each other.

If you have any faith questions, I'd love to hear them and discuss. Questions are evidence of an active faith. God loves you, and so do I.

Pastor Dave

CHURCH COUNCIL

May 2021

- ◆ Regretfully, Judy Jakubik has decided to resign as St. Andrew's Youth Coordinator. Council thanks Judy for her many years coordinating exciting trips, events and other activities for our young people. We wish Judy the best always.
- ◆ We recently received word that our PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loan has been totally forgiven!
- ◆ Karen Conlon and Amy Finney were approved to be our delegates at the Synod Assembly in August.
- ◆ Many thanks to departing Council members: Judith Hung, Dora Morabito, Dale Sharp, and David Hamm. They have faithfully served St. Andrew's with their insight, expertise, and volunteerism!
- ◆ A slate of new Council members and Nominating Committee members will be presented for approval at the June 6, 2021 Congregational Meeting. The meeting will be held immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service in the sanctuary and via Zoom.

Pastor
Dave Dockweiler

Council Members 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

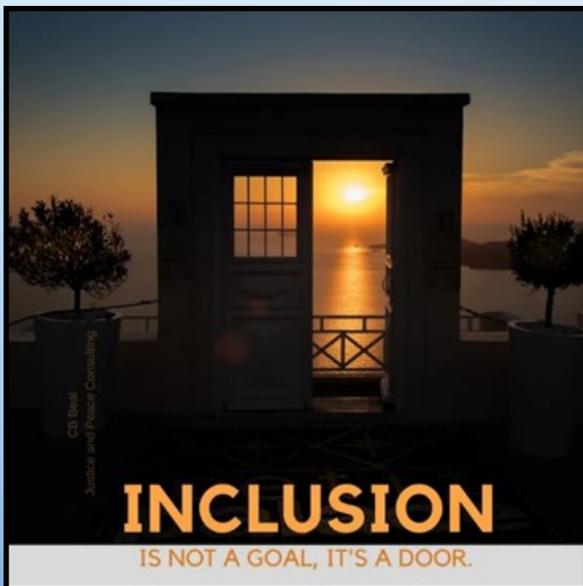
Venita Anderson
Chuck Farrell
Tim Gagliano
Jeanette Mayer
Andrea Rai
Tony Susi

YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL SUMMARY - APRIL

	<u>2021</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Contributions	\$ 53,100		\$ 67,100	\$ (14,000)
Other Income	17,700		27,200	(9,500)
Total Income	70,800		94,300	(23,500)
Expenses	81,800	\$86,000	91,000	(9,200)
(Deficit)/Surplus	\$ (11,000)		\$ 3,300	\$ (14,300)

Articles

“So close we can taste it” is a great article about opening churches and getting back to “normal.” Churches have had to pivot so many times through the pandemic and many are now asking for things to go back to normal. With the CDC changing mask mandates and the reality that young kids are ineligible for vaccination churches have been forced to struggle with how we move forward. This article by CB Beal found here: [So Close We Can Taste It.](#)



Music

I've been listening to a lot of Zach Williams lately. His music has been featured in a couple of worship services during April. I have put together a playlist of all the music we've used in church for the last month which can be found here: [April Church Music Playlist.](#)

Here are a few words about Zach from his website:

Zach Williams' powerful and poignant journey spans how a boy with a story-book childhood filled with wonderfully nurturing parents, a strong and supportive grounding in the church, and a warm



and loving local community was seduced away by the illusion of rock stardom, and the drug and alcohol excesses that can so often accompany that lifestyle.

These days, the Jonesboro, Arkansas-raised and currently Nashville, Tennessee-based artist is a renewed man. He's a husband, a father, and has also become one of CCM's leading artists and songwriters by carving a niche with his singular blend of southern rock, country, and faith-filled songwriting, which quickly awarded him his first GRAMMY Award® with his debut album, 2017's Chain Breaker. With two additional GRAMMY nods among numerous other accolades, he now returns to share his boldly vulnerable and hope-filled sophomore album, aptly titled Rescue Story.

Feeding your Soul

Books

I shared last month that I wanted to read "I'm Still Here; Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness" by Austin Channing Brown. I am halfway through it. I have found it a very interesting and comfortable read. The memoir of a black woman named "Austin" which her parents choose in hopes of advancing her future career, she writes candidly about how walking into an interview everyone would **take a double take or more.**



Her work has helped me develop a deeper understanding of my white privilege, which only means my life isn't negatively impacted by my race. I'll

share an example from this month. I was picking up plants for our Easter Sunday worship at Blossom Nursery and got pulled over by YPD on my way home. The plants were too big to close the back hatch of our Buick. As the lights flashed in my rearview I began mentally running through what I would say, I was 99% sure that I was going get away without even a ticket. I had my spiel ready, I could name drop some officers, even the Chief, I'm a pastor, it's for Easter, etc.. it worked.

By learning about the experiences of People of Color, I am realizing and becoming sensitive to the stresses that others face, because of their skin color. Austin Channing Brown has opened my eyes wider to **the realities of people of color and I recommend you check it out for yourself.** [Amazon link to "I'm Still Here"](#)

Activity

Who doesn't love this weather? GO OUTSIDE, enjoy God's amazing creation. In addition to gym workouts and walks at the track-Kenny Mullen has provided a great workout opportunity for anyone interested in moving mulch! I've been getting exercise, fresh air, and helping my church by assisting with our landscaping beautification work. There is still mulch available if you need a nice upper body workout.

Congratulations to our Graduates

Connor James Anderson
Brewster High School/
Boces Urban Forestry Program

Gemma Small
SUNY Potsdam in French, History, and Education. I will student teaching in the fall!

Thomas Hamm
Hendrick Hudson High School and will be going to RIT.

The Bubble Bus at our May 8 Made for Mom Event



Indoor games and crafts and the Made for Mom Event



Thank you and Blessing to Judy Jakubik

We are saddened to announce that our Youth Coordinator Judy Jakubik is moving on from this position. Thank you, Judy, for growing in faith alongside our young people since 2010! With at least 10 Christmas shopping trips to the city, 8 dances, more “lock ins” than you can count, countless games of Sardines and 4 S’moresgivings you have done an amazing job. Judy chaperoned the ELCA National Youth Gatherings in New Orleans and Houston. She received Grants to attend 2 ELCA Youth Leadership trips. She co-lead our youth to a Workcamp trip to Maryland. She trekked to Koinonia multiple times a year. She also raised over \$15,000 for our youth. Judy-thank you! You have been a blessing not only to this congregation but young people near and far. We give God praise for all that you have done and ask God’s blessings upon your next steps.



OUTREACH NEWS

- ◆ Thank you to Judith Hung, Cyndi Clark, and Linda Ferone for planning the successful “Made for Mom” event on May 8. The Bubble Bus was a hit as were the other activities and raffle baskets. The raffle brought in donations of \$300 and St. Andrew’s donated another \$100 which will be sent to “My Sisters’ Place,” a shelter for women.
- ◆ Yorktown Community Help, CHHOP (Jan Peek), and St. Mary’s Food Pantry have sent letters of thanks for the \$200 donations given to each in April. They are very appreciative of our generosity, especially at this time.
- ◆ Dr. Stephen Swanson and Jodi Swanson recently sent us a detailed newsletter about their continued missionary work in Tanzania and how their family is doing. Go to links on our [website: www.standrewsyorktown.com](http://www.standrewsyorktown.com) to read their latest update.
- ◆ The Garden of Hope is now located on Town property on Curry and Tulip Streets. On May 22, Pastor attended an event to help prepare the garden for planting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Another year of Sunday School is coming to a close and it was a strange year! I am so thankful to the teachers for helping to keep the children engaged when we couldn't meet "live." In November 2020, we began "Saturday School" sessions with the older children meeting via zoom twice a month and the younger children meeting monthly. We averaged 5 to 7 children attending and the teachers were able to hold their interest with lively stories, prayers, and activities. Everyone seemed happy to be able to connect with their peers and teachers. The final class for grades 3 through 7 was held on 5/22 and those in grades Pre-K through 2nd will finish up on June 5th. Thank you to the teachers and to Pastor Dave for helping with teaching our children. And thanks to the parents/grandparents for taking a half hour out of your Saturday morning to set up your child on Zoom.

We welcomed two new children to Sunday School this year! We are very happy to have Liam and Riley Vega as part of St. Andrew's Sunday School!

Because of COVID, we missed First Holy Communion for the 4th graders for two years now. We are working on scheduling it for both last year's and this year's children in the fall.

Again because of the pandemic, we were not able to award the attendance pins for last year and this year. We will be rectifying that situation and all of the Sunday School children (including those who completed 7th grade in 2020 and 2021) will receive their pins when we resume in the fall.

Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 12th so mark your calendars. Hopefully, we can resume Sunday School "in person" by then but we will keep you updated throughout the summer.

I continue to send weekly e-mails with some puzzles/coloring sheets for the children to work on. For the summer months, I'll send out a monthly e-mail with some activities to keep the kids busy.

We are in need of more teachers and helpers for our Sunday School for next year. Many thanks to Tony Susi who has taught the 7th grade class for many years. Upon his retirement, he and Laura will be moving out of the area and although we wish them much happiness in their new phase of life, we are going to greatly miss Tony's exuberant teaching style! Please think about volunteering to join the staff for September. It doesn't require that much work and it is so much fun to work with the children and watch as they learn about Jesus and his teachings. I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have about the role. The more help we have, the easier it is for everyone.

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.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the Sunday School program. Have a wonderful summer creating new memories with family and friends! See you in September!

**God Bless and stay safe,
Sue Epting**

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 Jonathan Stock | 16 Lynn Parliman |
| 2 Robert Granfors | 16 Linda Greco |
| 2 Alyssa Ehlike | 16 Anthony Forcina |
| 3 Kenneth Holman | 17 Robert M. Headley |
| 3 Stephen Haglund | 17 Richard Finger |
| 4 Joseph Rohle | 17 Ron Lyman |
| 6 Ryan Martin | 17 Lynette Van Tongeren |
| 7 Paul Panik | 17 Andrew Rohle |
| 7 Judith Ellard | 17 Summer Stahl |
| 7 Rudy Bergstrom | 18 Sandra Herbst |
| 8 Jennifer Billingsley Richardson | 19 Robin Farrell |
| 9 Gemma Small | 19 Spencer Gustavson |
| 9 Gabriella DosSantos | 21 Dale Sharp |
| 10 Ellen Ottstadt | 22 Marc Petrero |
| 10 Janice Anderson | 22 Luke Chipoco |
| 10 Alexis Hayes | 23 Joseph Middleton |
| 11 Katherine DeMaio | 24 William Prebeck |
| 11 Brenda Middleton | 24 Jaimee Spinelli Hill |
| 12 Margy Tillstrand | 26 Virginia Shepard |
| 12 Marissa Justo | 26 Stoddard Hill |
| 13 Robert Racanelli | 29 Cheryl Badalamenti |
| 14 Brandt Quinker | 30 Joyce Bergstrom |
| 15 Kristin Linahan | |

Happy Anniversary

- 1 Linda & Edoardo Cuniberti
- 2 Diane & Michael Peragine
- 8 Tracy & Karl Blechner
- 8 Simone & Ron Lyman
- 8 Crystal & Jody Spiak
- 10 Linda & Harry Fredericks
- 10 Lynne & Richard Semenza
- 10 Robin & Chuck Farrell
- 11 Sue & Randolph Wagner
- 14 Jenna & Perry Shepard Sr.
- 27 Jenna & Patrick Lancellotti





MESSAGE June 2021

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

We Are Family

65 Years Serving Christ

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:00 a.m. and 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