

St. Andrew's Message

Sept 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



Sept

- Sept 5** 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Sept 12** **Kick Off Sunday**
8:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Sept 13** 7:00 p.m. Outreach meeting
- Sept 14** 7:00 p.m. Life Commission
- Sept 16** 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
- Sept 19** 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
7:30 p.m. Guatemala mt.
- Sept 22** 6:30 p.m. Confirmation
- Sept 26** 8:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- Sept 29** 6:30 p.m. Confirmation



Give Online

In our Prayers :

Hospitalized or recuperating

Ted Bohlk
James Byrne
Linda Greco

Barbara Hogan
Joseph Knapp Sr.
Anne Latino

Patricia McGregor
John McGuirk
Karen McIntyre

Nicole Safron
Stephen Small

Wrestling with long-term health issues

Nancy Calandra
Chuck Cassidy
Jonathan Cope
Andrea Cummings
Alessandro Cuniberti
Debbie Dubois
Doug Dubois
Katie Epting- Harris
Anna Errico

Joanna Falcone
Judy Gordon
Mary Gus
Tom Gurba
Laura Heiss
Vivian Hyde
Mike Lekhmus
Roseann Lella
Karen Living Bernaardo
Christina Morris

Mary Kay McNamee
Robin Muller
Helen O'Brien
Ed O'Connell
Lucille Oricchio
Liz Prinz
Anita Porter
Edith Raspuzzi
Tom Riordan

Cindy Berg Sauter
Samantha Shores
Steve Scalzi
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
Natalie Pennella
Elena Bergstrom

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

It has been a great summer. The pools were open, it sounds like many of you had a chance to get away on some vacation and respite. School supplies are flying off the shelves as the kids and parents get ready. In the church we are all excited to get back into it. We all want to get "back to normal" yet it seems it is still not quiet a safe move yet. Even so, we are looking ahead. Sunday school will restart, we are launching multiple Bible Studies in September, we will celebrate the Confirmation of two great young people and begin the next Confirmation class with 7 more, an Anniversary party and our 2nd Annual Pumpkin Bash. Some of these events may look a little different than in past so that everyone stays safe. We promise to do our very best to provide a safe place for you, your kids and your faith to grow.

This is more than just event planning. This is more than just a group of friends getting together and playing around. Jesus is constantly re-focusing the eyes of the disciples. They don't know what he is up to, they just know they want to be connected. He takes them to surprising towns and connects with people that no good Jewish rabbi would connect with. He does new things. We are continuing to wonder where God is calling us without being limited to "what we have always done." We'll take the strong foundation our 65 year old congregation has given us, the traditions of our 2000 year old church and continue to build towards the future.

See you Sunday, Pastor Dave

Mission Statement

We have a mission statement, it's written all over the place. "Inspiring change by following Jesus." Our church council members worked on this for months and I am so proud of their collaborative effort. We prayed about what God is doing through this place, we debated, and revised. I am so happy with the final product. "Inspiring change by following Jesus" is why this place exists, why this community meets and what we are set on doing.

INSPIRING The angels inspired the shepherds to run to see the new born Jesus, the Spirit inspired the disciples to march with purpose out of the upper room where they were hiding after the death of Jesus and throughout the ages people have been inspired to share their faith with others. Through this inspiration people have been moved with compassion and it is the fuel that moves the church. "Inspiring" also is a means of how we are to function. We don't use fear to scare others into faith (we know that doesn't work) we show them what God has done in our lives and we invite them to wonder about what God can do in theirs. Being inspired to do something new is invitational, just like Jesus.

CHANGE Something is out-of-whack in our world, in our communities and within ourselves. One of the founders of the church, the Apostle Paul, wrote that he doesn't understand what he does, and he does the stuff he hates. Change is hard, it takes time and tons of effort to redirect our efforts at times. We read countless stories in the Bible of Jesus meeting people in the most random places of their lives and offering them something far better. Physical, spiritual and mental healing, reconnecting someone with their community, lifting those that have been ostracized by others-Jesus brings change and we welcome God's changes in our lives.

BY Here is how this inspired change is going to happen. Spoiler alert, it isn't because of what we do.

FOLLOWING Jesus asks his disciples to leave their comfort zones. They walked away from jobs, family, friends, a life that they knew-to follow Jesus into one where they didn't know much, except for the Rabbi. "Following" admits that we don't know exactly where we are headed or how to get there. It is an act of humble worship and great trust to allow Jesus to lead our community and our lives.

Well that's all good and nice, but how do we actually do it? There are three values that we uplift which will make our missional goal a reality.

First, we "worship to deepen our connections." Using the cross itself as an example, we worship to connect with God (the vertical) and we worship alongside each other to connect with one another (the horizontal). If our worship doesn't bring us closer to God or others, than we are doing something wrong.

Secondly, we value "education to challenge our understanding of God." Growth always means some level of discomfort, and we welcome the challenge of seeing God in new ways. We need to push ourselves to see God in places and faces that we would have overlooked without becoming aware.

Lastly, we do what Jesus did. "Service with others to change the world." Jesus often brought people into his miracles to change the world around them. Changing the world is a big job but doing so means that we begin with God changing our world. We invite God into our lives to give us a glimpse of what God is up to, and what we are being invited into and we join together to get to work making God's kingdom show up on earth.

God Bless, Pastor Dave

CHURCH COUNCIL

June 2021

Financial Update

A few weeks ago, I mailed about 200 letters to our membership pointing out our current financial situation and asking everyone to review their giving. We received several donations in response. Thank you, to those who were able to give and moved to do so. As a result, we have largely closed the deficit created by lower donations. The remainder of the gap represents the loss of income from not having a renter which will most likely continue through the summer of 2022. Because we have cut costs and significantly lowered our expenses we are on decent financial ground, although expenses will start to tick back up as we restart ministries

We desperately want to get back to normal and as soon as it is safe enough to do so we will. Youth group activities, Sunday School, Bible Studies, Outreach ministries and more - we all want these things. If you can, give. We use every donated dollar judiciously. Our Council and Commissions are ready to restart old and create new ministries. We need your help to do it. [Online Giving](#)

Pastor

Dave Dockweiler

Council Members 2021

Linda Bohlk – President
 Tim Clark – VP
 Lynn Parlman – Secretary
 David Hamm – Treasurer

Michael Banks
 Matthew Damrow
 Sue Epting
 Chuck Farrell
 Gary Grossman
 Dominic Justo
 Kristine Kallesten
 Rita Nehmzow
 Gemma Reinkraut
 Steve Scalzi

Financial Secretary

Margaret Hauck

Nominating Committee

2021

Lisa Billingsley
 Linda Ferone
 Judith Bailey Hung
 Dale Sharp
 Sonja Letizia
 Kristin Quaid

YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIAL SUMMARY - JULY

	<u>2021</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>2019</u>
Contributions	\$113,100		\$103,400	\$ 9,700	\$112,000
Other Income	25,200		47,200	(22,000)	44,300
Total Income	138,300		150,600	(12,300)	156,300
Expenses	139,400	\$144,000	148,500	(9,100)	156,100
(Deficit)/Surplus	\$ (1,100)		\$ 2,100	\$ (3,200)	\$ 200

Articles

I have been listening to “The Happiness Lab” podcast and checking out some of Dr. Laurie Santos’ articles. She is a professor at Yale and began teaching a class called “The Science of Happiness.” It has been the most popular class at Yale, ever.



Her article, “Want To Be Happier? Evidence-Based Tricks To Get You There” shares some of science of being happy. [NPR Article link](#)

One of my big take-aways from listening to this podcast and reading some of her material is just how bad we are at predicting outcomes. Specifically, when we consider telling someone something nice we underestimate how that will impact their day and we end up talking ourselves out of doing it. The kind reflect gets buried because we think they don’t need to hear it or we will feel weird sharing. Dr. Santos has studied this behavior and has helped me realize just how important it is to get that positive reflection out into the world because the person on the receiving end appreciates it WAY more than I predict, and my feelings of discomfort about the conversation were overestimated.

She also brings up noticing, recording and remembering moments of gratitude. That doing so affects behavior far into the future. I like to say, “you find what you are looking for.” So what are you looking for? If you are looking for a reason to disagree with someone and further distance a relationship, you’ll likely find it. If you are looking for com-

mon ground, ways to connect and work towards a common goal, you’ll likely find it. If you are looking for reasons to be thankful and grateful, you’ll find that too.

Music

Crowder has come out with a new album whose headliner song is “Milk and Honey.” It has been getting a lot of play-



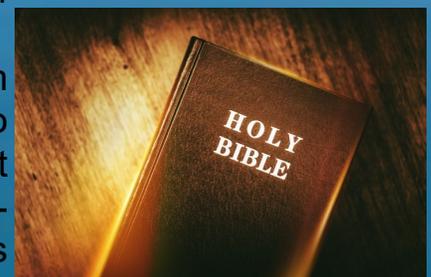
time on my devices. Although most of the lyrics describe the after-life in Heaven the punchline is,

“We don't have to wait to the other side
To see the dead come back to life
We don't have to wait 'til the trumpet sounds
We're calling down Your power now.” (Crowder, Milk and Honey)

Isn’t that great to consider that eternal life starts NOW. Even better I like to think that eternal life started yesterday. We are living it right now, let’s make our time count!

Books

The Biblical book of Ephesians, and related books for the prep of our upcoming Bible Study. We will be launching Bible studies on the books of Ephesians and Galatians. Bible study will start during the week of September 26th. I am hoping to launch at least two sessions of this study which will run for 8 weeks.

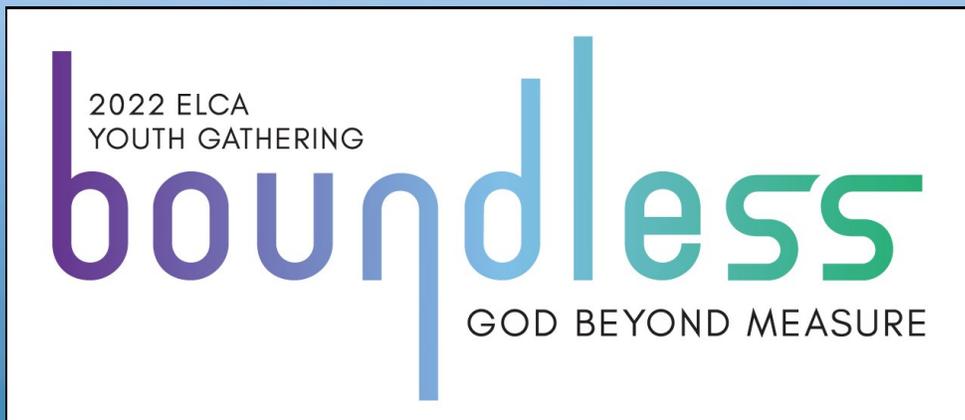


Youth Update

In a little under one year the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) will gather our young people for a massive youth gathering. Usually, the youth gathering has taken place every 3 years and last year was postponed due to Covid. From July 24-28, approximately 30,000 young people will worship, learn, serve, and play together as children of God in Minneapolis Minnesota. You read that correctly 30 THOUSAND. The youth gathering is by far the largest regular gathering of the church. I missed the last gathering in Detroit due to Libby's birth but have attended previous gatherings. Every once and a while it is good to remember that the Lutheran church is big, really big. Often we only consider our church, our youth group, our ministries when we think of the church, but this is only a fraction of reality.

amazed at what can get accomplished or what amount of funds can be raised when a bunch of people offer what they can. The church is doing some amazing work and the youth gathering is always done well.

Pray for this ministry, for the churches across the country having conversations about who should go, how they are going to get there and how the travelers can bring the experience home. Pray for St. Andrew's as we look forward to this great opportunity. Pray for our young people who are excited to go back, for those who have no idea what to expect and those parents considering chaperone roles. Pray for me, as I continue the daunting task of logistics, planning, fund raising and recruitment.



When we worship, take communion, give our offerings, and volunteer our time, we are joining together with over 3 million people in our church. When we visit other ELCA churches or notice them in our travels, realize there are nearly 9,000 congregations. I'm always

It will be a great trip. If you are or know of a young person, registering for 8th-12th grade this fall, that might be interested let me know.

Pastor Dave

Lutheran World Relief School Supply Kits

The ELCA has designated September 12, 2021 as “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday. St. Andrew’s service project for that Sunday will be to collect school supplies for Lutheran World Relief. The list below indicates what items will be included for each school kit. Please donate items from the list below.

Please give new items only. Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages, or any group’s name.

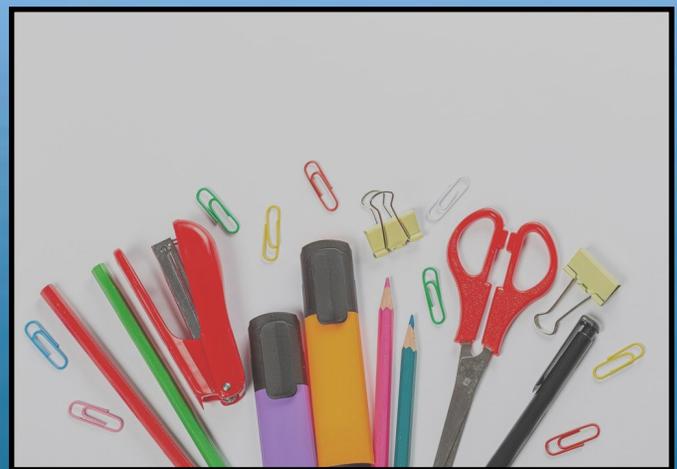
Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

Each kit will eventually contain the following items:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8” x 10 ½ “; no loose leaf paper
- One ruler that is 30-centimeters, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and

inches on the other

- One pencil sharpener with cover
- One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2 ½ “ eraser



Thank you!



We had a great turn out of volunteers to help with our recent Produce Sale. About \$2300 was raised to help our church budget, we shared love with Yorktown and had a great time doing it! Thank you so much!





**KICKOFF SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 12, 2021
8:30 A.M. AND 10:00 A.M.**

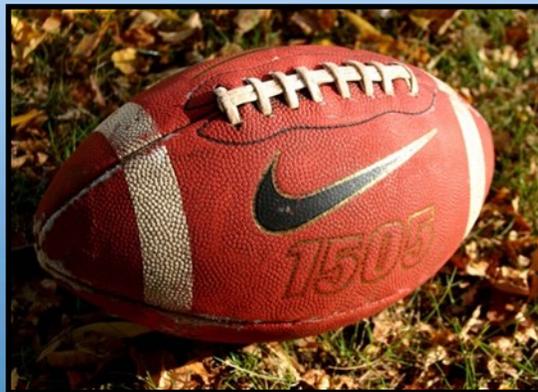
Come worship and renew yourself spiritually!

Welcome our newly baptized little ones!

Welcome our Sunday School students and their dedicated teachers as they kick off a new year of growing their faith!

Show your support as the teachers and Council members are installed for 2021 -2022!

We will be collecting school supplies for Lutheran World Relief. Please bring items on or before September 12. Needed supplies are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Welcome back to Sunday School! We hope you all had a fun and safe summer and that your children are ready to join their teacher and classmates at St. Andrew's for another action-packed year! We haven't had "in person" Sunday School since March 2020 so we are all eager to get back to some type of normalcy. The teachers continue to prepare great lessons which the children enjoy each week. Please continue to bring your children to Sunday School each week so they can continue to learn and grow in their faith.

We will be kicking off the new school year on Sunday, Sept. 12th at the 10 AM service which will be outside on the front lawn. After the opening of worship, all the children will receive awards pins for the past two years and then return to their classrooms to kick off the year.

We will be trying to hold class outside in early fall as long as the weather cooperates. ALL CHILDREN, TEACHERS, AND STAFF WILL NEED TO WEAR MASKS WHEN INDOORS. We will also be practicing social distancing and good handwashing. Sunday School will follow the same rules as the school districts are using. If you have any questions or concerns related to holding classes during this time of COVID, please reach out to me.

The Sunday School enrollment continues to be pretty thin so we are combining the classes as follows:

Pre-K/Kindergarten;

1st/2nd grades;

3rd/4th grades;

5th/6th/7th grades.

We are always looking for more people to join our Sunday School staff so please consider volunteering as a teacher, helper, etc. It's lots of fun and besides sharing our faith with the kids, we also learn from them. We'd love to have you so please give it your prayerful consideration and let me know if you are interested.

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

Enjoy the rest of the summer and please stay safe! Looking forward to seeing you all in September!

God Bless,

Sue Epting, Superintendent

Happy Birthday

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

Happy Anniversary

7 Joanna & Mark Falcone
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
30 Virginia Steinberg & David Leaver



MESSAGE *September 2021*

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

We Are Family

65 Years Serving Christ

SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Dave Dockweiler, Pastor

Margy Tillstrand, Music Director

Linda Bohlk, President

Tim Clark, Vice President

Sue Epting, Sunday School Superintendent

Sarah Dockweiler, Office Secretary



**St. Andrew's
Lutheran Church**

Inspiring Change by Following Jesus