

St. Andrew's Net

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

201 So. Main Street | Muncy, PA 17756 | 570-546-3591

www.standrewlutheranmuncy.org

Rev. Christopher Raiford

Worship Service 9:15 a.m. | Sunday School 10:30 a.m. | Coffee Time before and after Service

Communion, First Sunday of the month and special Sundays throughout the year.

January 2020

Happy New Year! You know what that means: time for resolutions! Do any of you actually still make New Year's resolutions? I used to think it was so important for me to make a New Year's resolution and stick to it. And I would... for about three weeks (if I am being generous!). But typically, I find that my resolutions would be very short lived. By late January, it was life as usual. Nothing had really changed. Just another empty resolution. Now as I go into a New Year, I find myself thinking that such resolutions are pointless!

I wonder if we don't act this same way in our Christian walk. Does your faith often feel like a bunch of false starts and failed resolutions? Jesus has called us to love our enemies and so we set out to be more loving to that person in the office who just makes our lives miserable only to find ourselves angrier. Or, we see how Jesus is often by himself in prayer and we know that St. Paul tells us to pray without ceasing so we decide to wake up a little earlier for prayer time every day, only to find that we are completely in love with warm blankets and snooze buttons. Or, we know we need to share our faith with our non-Christian friends and loved ones and so we set out to present the gospel to them, only to find ourselves backing down when the opportunity arises. Our well-intentioned spiritual aspirations end up being more failed resolutions.

Upon realizing our failure, we are tempted to either make excuses in an effort to justify ourselves or we sulk in the frustration over our inability to follow through. What if, instead, we turned to Jesus? We won't, typically, run to Jesus in these moments because something makes us think that He too will be disappointed in our false starts. But, I actually think this is to misunderstand the very God we serve! You see, we do not serve a God who resolves to do His best to love us if we are doing our best to be good Christians. We have a God who promises to love us on account of everything Jesus has done for us already! He is not a God of resolutions, but of promises. Fulfilled promises. He has promised to love you, not because you are so dedicated and successful in all your spiritual endeavors, but simply because you have been adopted into His family. God is fully pleased with you, not because of anything you have done, but because of what Jesus has done for you! Jesus didn't make some empty resolution about making this world a better place, He resolved to go to the cross so that He would remove your failures and sins. He rose again from the dead, not just to show you how to be successful in your resolutions, but to make all things new! You and I included!

In Christ you are a new creation! As far as God is concerned (and He is concerned pretty far... all the way into eternity), you are not a failure, but a beloved child. The good news is that you will always struggle to be a better Christian, just as you will struggle to be better at anything in your life. How is that good news? It is good news because you will live out that struggle while you are firmly held in the nail-pierced hand of your Lord, Jesus Christ. Perhaps that is what we need to hear as we move into the new year. We don't need to make any shakier resolutions. Instead, we need to hear that whatever successes or failures we encounter in the next year, we will encounter them as God's beloved children!

Happy New Year and God's richest blessings to you.

Pastor Chris

JANUARY OUTREACH

St. Andrew Families in need will be our January outreach. The Church Council will distribute funds to families of St. Andrew who are in need.
Thank you for your generous donations!



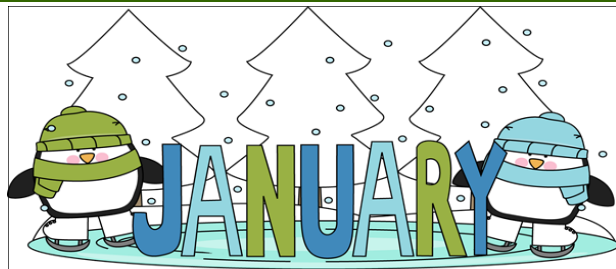
SOUP, DESSERT & MOVIE NIGHT: Sunday, January 12, 2020. Soup & Dessert prepared by the Parish Life committee will be served at 5:00 P.M. The movie "Breakthrough" will be shown at 6:00 p.m. Snow date, Sunday, January 19. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex so we can get an approximate number of how many to prepare for.

The Parish Life committee will meet on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day...January 20, 2020

IMMERSE BIBLE STUDY-CHRONICLES will meet Monday evenings, 7:00 P.M. at Rudy and Linda Moyer's home Monday, **January 13th**. You can pick up your book in the library next Thursday.

Care and Evangelism Committee will meet on Thursday, Jan. 9, 2020 at 6pm in the Church Office.



BIRTHDAYS

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| Rachel Detweiler | January 1 |
| Catharine Miller | January 4 |
| Gary Dunlap | January 13 |
| Kathryn Poust | January 14 |
| Julie Souter | January 15 |
| Sue Sarginger | January 23 |
| Virgil Marrel | January 25 |
| Emilie Detweiler | January 25 |

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: Pastor Raiford will be teaching a Bible Study on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 and Tuesday evenings at 7:00, beginning this Tuesday, January 7th. It is entitled "The Kingdom of God". Please be sure to make one of these classes..



A friendly Christmas greeting and a special note to say,
How much your kindness adds to a happy holiday!

Thank you, St. Andrew congregation, for supporting Touch-A-Heart.
We received 196 Senior Citizen gifts and 185 Children gifts altogether.

Candy Winters
Chairman, Touch-A-Heart

JANUARY | FEBRUARY 2020 USHER SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| January 5 | Dick & Jo Langer | 570-546-6418 |
| January 12 | Phil & Kay Myers | 570-419-2576 |
| January 19 | Hiliary & Steve Haddon | 570-546-5359 |
| January 26 | Leonard & Sheila Morehart | 570-546-3969 |
| February 2 | Troy & Ellen Detweiler | 570-546-9080 |
| February 9 | Pete & Darlene Waldron | 570-546-2445 |
| February 16 | Rick & Sue Sarginger | 570-546-5404 |
| February 23 | John & Cam Myers | 570-584-5411 |

JANUARY & FEBRUARY NURSERY SCHEDULE

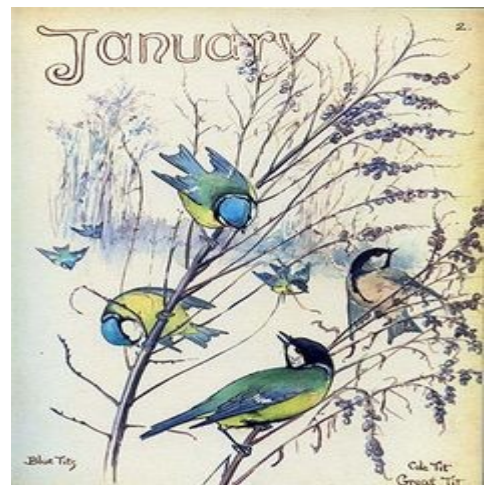
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| Jan. 5 | Kay Myers & Anna Styer |
| Jan. 12 | Sue Sarginger & Nora Styer |
| Jan. 19 | Ellen & Rachel Detweiler |
| Jan. 26 | Faith & Hiliary Haddon |
| Feb. 2 | Nora & Anna Styer |
| Feb. 9 | Chelsie & Leslie Houser |
| Feb. 16 | Luanne Libbey |
| Feb. 23 | Sue Sarginger & Nora Styer |

ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY

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| January | Julie Roller |
| February | Becky Hibschman |
| March | Kay & Phil Myers |

VIDEO AND SOUND SCHEDULE

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|---------|-------------------------------|
| Jan. 5 | John Dougherty Jerry Watson |
| Jan. 12 | Erik Houser Jerry Watson |
| Jan. 19 | Mike Hogan Jerry Watson |
| Jan. 26 | Sara Styer Jerry Watson |



JANUARY LECTOR SCHEDULE

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|---------|----------------|
| Jan. 5 | Michele Styer |
| Jan. 12 | Hiliary Haddon |
| Jan. 19 | Steve Haddon |
| Jan. 26 | Kay Myers |

JANUARY ALCOLYTE SCHEDULE

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|---------|--------------|
| Jan. 5 | Faith Haddon |
| Jan. 12 | Emma Hogan |
| Jan. 19 | Nora Styer |
| Jan. 26 | Anna Styer |

Thank you for volunteering!
If you are unable to serve on your Sunday, please switch with someone, and notify Kay of the change at 546-3591 or kay@standrewlutheranmuncy.org

Altar Guild 2020

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|----------|------------------------|
| January | Dean & Joy Barto |
| February | Darlene Waldron |
| March | Janet & John Dougherty |