



SAINT ANDREW
United Methodist Church
AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

- **An Open Letter From The Trustees.** As you know by now, July was quite a month for the onset of some very important and exciting structural and space changes in St. Andrew. We are converting our Fellowship Hall into pickleball courts to capitalize on potential needed income streams. We have now combined our Sunday morning worship services into one service for all and are permanently relocating to the Sanctuary. To be attractive to visiting families - and families already attending - we installed some tables in the Sanctuary. Lastly, we have started the formal process to consider leasing our Memorial Hall and classrooms wing to Family Promise to support their efforts in prevention of family homelessness and housing displaced families. Any one of those changes is big in and of itself and should be celebrated. But launching all of them at the same time, I know our Trustee heads are spinning!! We can only imagine yours! Be assured, that the Trustees and your Church leaders are sensitive to the craziness of all of this happening at once. However, we are all very excited that these changes will bring in needful financial resources, expand our connections to helping families in need and bring us all together as one Church body as we worship side by side. If anyone would like to discuss these changes please reach out to Pastor Anna. Pastor Anna will arrange a conversation with herself and a trustee or administrative board member. We don't want anyone feeling left out or disconcerted by any or all of these changes. This is your Church and we want everyone to feel connected to it.

- **SAUMC Administrative Board Meetings.** Did you know all church members are welcome to attend Administrative Board meetings? As your Lay Leader at St. Andrew I want you to know you are invited. Meetings are typically held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in classrooms 4-6. There is a lot going on right now and God is leading us in new and exciting ways. Input and discussion from many points-of-view always leads to the best outcomes and the best decisions. Non-board members are not allowed to vote, however your voice can assist in shaping direction, exploring new ideas, and charting the best course of action for our beloved church. It's also the best way to stay informed on all that is happening within the different ministries of the church. Would you like to hold an office and become a member of the board? Do you need a ride to meetings? Do you have questions? Reach out to me at: JScottSusich@gmail.com or my cell: 732-236-1474.

- **SAUMC's Annual Church Conference.** Members and friends, you are all welcome to join SAUMC's Annual Church Conference on November 2nd at noon. If interested, look for more information to follow shortly. Ministry leaders, please make sure your reports are submitted on time within the Arena portal and notify the church office as booklets need to be prepared. Most reports are due to GNJ on the Arena portal August 30.

- **Potluck Sunday.** Sunday, August 11 after our 10:00am service in the Sanctuary we will have our monthly potluck in Fellowship Hall. Bring an open heart to worship and a dish to share. There is always plenty of food, so please stay even if you cannot bring a dish.

- **Children's Ministry Task Force.** Saint Andrew is ready to energize our efforts for children's ministry. The Sunday school Coordinator and teachers are doing a great job, so let's build upon their good work! If you are ready to invest your time and effort into reviving the children's ministry, please contact Pastor Anna by calling the church office or emailing Pastor Anna directly, anna@standrewtr.org

- **Ignite!** Some of our Youth Group teens will be attending "Ignite!" a conference full of music, worship, mission, and learning. This impactful weekend will take place October 11-13. If you are able to help support these kids financially so that nobody will have to pay, please place a clearly marked check (best if in an envelope) in the offering plate.

- **Midwinter VBS.** Calling all volunteers! Saint Andrew will be holding a Winter VBS, Saturday, December 28 thru Tuesday, December 31 from 9-12 noon. If you are willing and able to help lead, teach, prepare, or decorate for the big event, please contact Pastor Anna by calling the church office or emailing anna@standrewtr.org.
- **Leadership Institute.** Pastor Anna will be attending the Leadership Institute at Church of the Resurrection (Adam Hamilton's church) in September, and extends the invitation to you. It is a dynamic conference meant not just for clergy, but for all those who are leaders within their congregation. Trey Gillette has attended this several times, and has always returned with passion for the church's ministry accompanied with tools to bring great things to fruition. If attendance to this event is cost prohibitive, yet you would like to attend, please let me know. We will make sure finances won't prohibit you from coming. Below is a link for the event if you would like to explore it further. Please let Pastor know if you would like to attend. <https://leadership.sharechurch.com>
- **Meals That Heal.** On August 21 please join us for our traditional sub supper. On the menu: turkey, italian and ham subs, tossed salad, chips, ice cream and watermelon. All are welcome join us from 5-6:00pm.
- **Trustee News. Blood Drive Friday, August 9** from 1-7:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Appointments recommended walk-ins welcome if drive capacity permits. For an appointment call 800-933-2566.
- **United Methodist Men (UMM).** The next UMM breakfast meeting will be held Saturday, **August 10** at 8:00am in Fellowship Hall.
- **United Women of Faith (UWF/UMW).** Our traditional **Ice Cream Social is on August 13.** The entertainment for the night will be the musical group, Charlottetones. Thank you Joan Sola for organizing this for us. Entertainment to begin at 6:00 followed by ice cream from Mrs. Walkers with toppings and also cookies. Tickets are \$2.00 each and are available for purchase after Sunday service.
- **Vendors Sale. Save the date, October 5 Fellowship Hall.** Many vendors have already signed up, and Katie will again be making food to sell when you get hungry. We will be collecting donations of Christmas, Halloween and other holiday items starting the beginning of September. All items can be dropped off in Memorial Hall. This year we will also be featuring a jewelry table. Donations may be dropped off in the gray box also located in Memorial Hall.
- **Veterans Ministry News.** We would like to remind our church family that you are all welcome to join us and support our Veterans at the Prime Time Travel's Annual Gala Dinner & Show honoring our veterans and first responders, November 3, 6:00pm at Resorts Casino Hotel in Atlantic City. Call 1-888-444-0515 to make reservations. This event will be making a donation to our Veterans Ministry. I attended last year and it was fantastic! See the flier on the tables at church. Sgt. David Nordt, Veterans Ministry Leader
- **WOW! (Women's Book Club)** all women are invited! Please join us for our next meeting on August 17. We will be discussing **The First Ladies** by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Our meeting will be via ZOOM contact Pat Lewis for details at patricialewis722@aol.com. Happy Reading!