



SAINT ANDREW
United Methodist Church
NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

- **The Annual Church Conference** is Saturday, November 2 at 12:00pm. We will meet in person in classrooms 4-6. Administrative Board members are strongly urged to be present, and all congregation members are welcome to attend.
- **Christmas Invite.** Calling All Singers! Christmas Choir is looking for you. If you sing in the choir at school, sang in college choir, sang in a past SAUMC Cantata, or sing in the shower, come join the Christmas Choir. We will be singing at the December 15 worship service at 10:00am. The service will feature our Children's Christmas Pageant, a service of music, spoken word and worship. There will be ONE rehearsal on Wednesday December 11 7:00pm. Questions? Please ask any choir member, Jim Gilbert or Pastor Anna.
- **Church Women United of Toms River.** Celebrate World Community Day with Church Women United on Friday, November 8 at United Church of Christ located at 1681 Ridgeway Rd (rt. 571) Toms River. Join us at 10:00am for the meeting on Friday, November 8!
- On **Election Day, November 5**, the Sanctuary will be open from 3:00pm - 9:00pm for prayer and reflection.
- **Meals That Heal.** Please join us for our Thanksgiving Feast on November 20. Our menu will include all the traditional Thanksgiving food, including pumpkin pie! There is food for all and all are welcome. Join us from 5-6:00pm.
- **Pickleball is here!!** With our courts now seeing action, we need to adjust our thinking on how we schedule use of Fellowship Hall. Previously events were scheduled based on the length of the event itself i.e. luncheon from 11-1. Now we need to incorporate the time needed to set up tables and chairs, break-down, clean-up, and return the hall to playable status. This means our luncheon should really be scheduled from 9:30-2:30. Also with Family Promise soon to be leasing space from us, more adjusting will be in our future. Keep in mind we now have tables and chairs in the sanctuary making it a great place for a meeting or bible study. The choir room is also used only one day per week so your small group might be very comfortable there. The Shared Ministry Office will soon be our Sunday morning nursery but during the week it is available as well. Lastly there are always 4-6 tables and chairs set-up in Fellowship Hall available for use. There is space for everyone in our new normal!

Speaking of Pickleball...Mid-September saw the official opening of The Serve Center indoor pickleball. In just a couple weeks and one rainy weekend the courts generated nearly \$1,400 of income. We owe a great deed of gratitude to our marketing partners Michael and Stefania Santomenna from TRPB. They are doing wonderful work promoting The Serve Center and generating great interest from the community. We are truly blessed to be working with these two strong Christians.

And another Pickleball thought...if you have a need to see if the Pickleball courts will be in use at any particular time or day, do this: 1) Go to the church website at standrewtr.org; 2) Scroll down and click on The Serve Center logo; 3) When The Serve Center site loads click "Courts" in the upper left of the screen. You'll be taken to a 4-day calendar that shows Pickleball reservations and blocked times for church activities.

➤ **Thanksgiving Baskets.** The air is cooling and the leaves are changing, it must be time to start thinking and planning our 2024 Thanksgiving Basket project! Yes, we will be handing out Thanksgiving dinners and pantry items to families in need again this year. We thank all of you who have so faithfully supported this project in the past and look forward to working with you all again to assist the families who so thankfully appreciate the help we extend. This year's details are as follows:

- Turkeys, turkeys, turkeys - we can use as much help as possible in accumulating the 50 or so turkeys we will need. Please let us (Sue or Dave Richardson) know if you can donate a turkey.
- Food items - because we have accumulated an abundance of Thanksgiving style food items that we normally ask for, it would be more helpful to give financially in lieu of food items. Our shoppers will get what we need. If you feel strongly about donating food items, please reach out to Sue or Dave for suggestions.
- Volunteer opportunities - we plan to pack food sets on Friday, November 22nd at 3pm and distribute the baskets on Sunday, November 24th starting at 12 noon. Also, if anyone wants to help with shopping that would be appreciated. Please see Sue or Dave if you would like to help with any of these tasks.

Contact Information:

Dave and Sue Richardson

Sue - 732-779-2011

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➤ **Trustee News. Blood Drive Friday, November 29** 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, **November 9** at 8:00am in Fellowship Hall.

➤ **United Women of Faith (UWF/UMW).** Calling ALL women! **Save the Date Saturday, December 7** for our annual **Christmas Tea** at 1:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Tickets on sale now after worship \$25.

➤ **Veterans Ministry News.** Veterans Day Sunday Service is on **November 10** at 10:00am. Please bring your veterans, their photos and medals to celebrate with us.

➤ **WOW! (Women's Book Club)** all women are invited! Please join us for our next meeting on November 16. We will discuss **Iona Iverson's Rules of Commuting** by Clare Poole. Our meeting will be via ZOOM. Contact Pat Lewis for details at patricialewis722@aol.com. Happy Reading!