



SAINT ANDREW
United Methodist Church
SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

- **SAUMC's Annual Church Conference.** Members and friends, you are all welcome to join SAUMC's Annual Church Conference on **November 2** at noon. If interested, look for more information to follow shortly.
- **Sunday September 8 Family Feast.** Outdoor Worship followed by a picnic. During worship, we will have a blessing for students pre-k through college, as well as our Sunday school teachers. Bring a dessert or side dish. There will also be special fun activities for kids during the picnic. Invite children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends!
- **Library News.** We need a few volunteers for the library. Only 1 or 2 hours, perhaps after the Tuesday Bible Study. No evening time. New book selection in the fiction section by USA Today's bestselling author Naomi Rawlings; **Written on the Mist.** Set against the sprawling backdrop of Alaska, this sweeping book brings to life the rich history of taming a land that was never meant to be tamed and one family's fight for justice amid the adversity of changing times. See the rack near Fellowship Hall. Any questions call Joan Sola 732-240-2516.
- **Meals That Heal.** On **September 18**, please join us for our Mexican Fiesta featuring Beef and Chicken Enchiladas, Corn Casserole, Spanish Rice, Refried Beans, etc. All are welcome join us from 5-6:00pm.
- **Musical Opportunities.** We always welcome new members. Our musical groups are a way to worship and fellowship with other brothers and sisters in Christ. Grade 6 to Adults are encouraged to join.
Bell Choir – Thursday @ 3:00 PM – Starting September 5
Adult Choir – Thursday @ 4:00 PM – Starting September 12
Praise Band – Thursday @ 7:00 PM - *singers* and musicians welcome to join.
Contact Jim Gilbert at jim@standrewtr.org
- **Trustee News.** As you may remember, the Trustees posted an "open letter" to the Church in the August newsletter, making everyone aware of big changes happening and potentially happening in our building. For those that have been to the Church, you have seen the addition of tables into the Sanctuary. We know this is a big change to ask of some of our members that have worshiped in this space for a long time, but the tables have been a popular addition for several of our members. Also, hopefully you have taken note of the efforts to convert the Fellowship Hall into a shared Hall and Pickleball facility. It is expected that no later than September 1, the pickleball courts - to be marketed as "The Serve Center - where you serve so we can serve" - will be available to the pickleball community to rent space to play. This is a very exciting effort as it is expected to bring in significant and needed revenue. We also hope that the traffic of players coming onto and into our campus, may result in a Sunday visitor or two as well. Lastly, we mentioned that the Church 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. This effort was unanimously approved at the August 6th Charge Conference. We are still working out final Agreement details with Family Promise, but it is expected that work to renovate certain areas of the Memorial Hall wing will start soon and Family Promise will move into the Church in the early Fall. We are all very excited of these changes. They 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 any or all of 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.
Trustee News #2. Following the recently held United Women of Faith's Ice Cream Social, we found that

the Fellowship Hall kitchen's drain network is blocked up. Initial efforts to relieve the blockage have found that a Code required grease trap under the floor of the kitchen is in disrepair and it is the cause of the problem. This unit need to be replaced. The Trustees are working on the best solution for this problem. In the interim, the large sink and dishwasher are out of service. The smaller sink is unaffected, so light water use is available. This could be an expensive fix. More information will be shared as soon as it is acquired.

Trustee News #3. Blood Drive Friday, September 6 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, **September 14** at 8:00am in Fellowship Hall.
- **United Women of Faith (UWF/UMW)** Calling ALL women! Please join us for our Fall general meeting **October 19** at 10am in Fellowship Hall. Joanne Gwin, from Soul Kitchen, will be our guest speaker. Enjoy a delicious continental breakfast, warm fellowship and learn about our partnership with JBJ's Soul Kitchen.
- **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 the nursery. This year we will also be featuring a jewelry table. Donations may be dropped off in the gray box also located in the nursery.
- **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. This event will be making a donation to our Veterans Ministry. We request that you notify Sgt. David Nordt at 732-703-0064, if you can attend. Time is running out so please reply as soon as possible.
We are working on our Veterans Day Sunday Service for November 10 and at 10:00am. Also, still seeking new members to join, you don't have to be a veteran, just love to help. Sgt. David Nordt, Veterans Ministry Leader. God Bless our Veterans & Troops around the World.
- **Winter VBS.** Calling all volunteers! Saint Andrew will be holding a Winter VBS, Saturday, **January 18-20** 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.
- **Women's Bible Study Tuesday Morning at 10:00am in rm. 4-5.** A 7-week study, **Elijah: Faith and Fire** by Priscilla Shirer begins on Tuesday, **September 10**. (No meeting on September 17 – Daniel Bus Trip) Cost for book and materials: \$25.00. Please contact Arlene Green (732-477-4240) no later than September 4 if you are interested and want to order a book (and haven't already done so) or if you have any questions. Books will be given out and paid for at the first meeting. All women and friends of St. Andrew are encouraged to participate. It is a time of learning, growing, fellowship and prayer. To attend no one needs to be a Bible scholar, but you just have a heart for God as you grow in your journey to know the Lord better.
- **WOW! (Women's Book Club)** all women are invited! Please join us for our next meeting on **September 21**. We will be discussing **The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store** by James McBride. Our meeting will be via zoom. Contact Pat Lewis for details at patricialewis722@aol.com. Happy reading!