July/August 2023

**St.**

**Andrew’s**

**Messenger**

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St. Andrew’s United Methodist Church “growing in passion for God, showing compassion to all”

**Our Mission:** “To make disciples of Jesus Christ, who are growing in passion for God and showing compassion to all, by sharing God’s **REPAIRing Love.**”

**Our Vision:**

making disciples through

**R**adical hospitality

**E**xtravagant generosity

**P**assionate worship

**A**uthentic witness

**I**ntentional faith development

**R**isk taking mission

St. Andrew’s Web site: www.standrewsvalleyview.org

Pastor: Suzanne Elliott

570-682-3508 (office)

570-682-3520 (home)

e-mail: selliott@susumc.org



**Sunday, August 13**

**10:00am**

**Worship & Picnic at Valley View Park**

Join us for a day of worship, fun, food, and fellowship. Invite a friend!

Worship will be at the stage (weather permitting).

Lunch will be at 11:30am at the Eating House. Meat, drinks, paper products, and utensils will be provided. Please sign up with the number attending and the category of your covered dish (side or dessert).

There will be games for children and adults after lunch.

Need more info? Want to help? Feel free to contact:

*Worship & Children’s Games*: Pastor Suzanne, Karen Wiest

*Picnic & Adult Games*: Patricia & Dave Williams

\*In case of bad weather, all activities will be in the Eating House\*

\*\*There will be no Sunday School, live streaming, or cd recording at the park. Pastor Suzanne will post a devotional video to our Facebook page for our online worshippers.

**What’s Happening**

 **July Mission of the Month**

 **Jewel Women’s Center**

“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I set you apart” Jeremiah 1: 5a. These are the words God spoke to Jeremiah when He called Jeremiah to be His prophet. These words are as true for each of us!! God has created each of us, and created each of us for a purpose!

Unfortunately, in our world today, not every child created by God is allowed to become a part of this world. In 2021 there were 33,206 induced abortions in Pennsylvania. To make this more real, consider that the total population of Pottsville, Orwigsburg, Pine Grove, Schuylkill Haven and Tamaqua are about 30,000. Imagine these towns empty! That’s how many lives are lost to abortion each year in Pennsylvania.

Schuylkill County has a fairly small population compared to larger cities in Pennsylvania. And yet, in 2021, there were 212 reported abortions for women living in Schuylkill County. But there is hope!!!!

Jewel Women’s Center exists to defend and protect vulnerable lives by offering hope to those facing an unplanned pregnancy. Thanks to the generosity of people who are passionate about life, Jewel is able to provide free services such as: pregnancy testing; ultrasound; STD testing; pregnancy options counseling; pregnancy and parenting education; relationship education; and post-abortion support.

The recent question has been, when does life begin? In a culture so confused as to question when life begins, the real question we must

answer is, how can we be a voice of truth and love? How do we love others and speak truth with compassion around this issue? Let me share some ways you can make a difference right here in Schuylkill County.

**>** You can make a difference for life by praying for Jewel Women’s Center.

**>** You can make a difference by joining in the work of Jewel. Contact the office of Jewel Women’s Center at (570) 624-7244, or go to Jewel’s website for all the information to help make a difference for life in Schuylkill County.

**>** You can make a difference by taking a baby bottle home on July 2, 2023. Fill the bottle with coins, bills, or a check and return by the last Sunday of July. You may also use the Mission of the Month container to make a donation to Jewel during the month of July.

During the first year as a medical facility in 2021, 16 young women chose life after coming to Jewel! In 2022, that number more than doubled to 38 women who chose life! Will you help Jewel double that number again in 2023? You can make a difference for life!

**Administrative Board and Trustees**

 Will not be meeting in July and August unless an action is necessary to be discussed.

 The next meeting for these two groups will be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2023

 **August Mission of the Month**

**Backpacks for**

**Schuylkill County Children and Youth**

  Children entering an out of home placement can often have a scary experience.  Some have no belongings or anything to call their own and if they do, they are often dirty and in garbage bags.  Something as little as them having their own blanket, tooth brush, pajamas or personal care items in their own bag could make significant difference.

  If it’s a younger child they may enjoy a small toy, stuffed animal or craft.

  Older children, a boy or a girl, may like a deodorant or a body spray.

  These items will hopefully help a child feel more at home and in their adjustment to their new home.

  Children’s ages could be from infant to 17 years old.

  Please label backpack for appropriate age.

 **Missionaries Visit - July 30**

Join us on Sunday, July 30 as we welcome our missionaries, Mark Zimmerman and family, to St. Andrew's. We have supported their medical ministry in Nepal for many years. They are retiring from the mission field and taking one last opportunity to speak about their work. A special program during Sunday School hour and luncheon will follow worship. Watch the bulletin for further details.



The Red Cross Bloodmobile is scheduled to be at St. Andrew's on Tuesday, August 1 from 1:00-7:00. You can make an appointment to donate blood at [redcross.org](http://redcross.org/) or by calling 1-800-733-2767. Watch the bulletin for further details and updates!

Thank you to all who donated a total of 34 units at our last Blood Drive on May 30. What a great success!

 

St. Andrew's will once again host 5th Quarter after all home football games until 11:00pm. Junior drivers should leave by 10:45pm.  We provide a safe place for the youth of the community to gather. All Tri Valley students in grades 5-12 are welcome. See Steve Reitz to volunteer (background checks required).

August 25

September 15

September 29

October 6

October 20



The camp is for children leaving Grade 1 – Grade 4. It will be held from Monday, July 17th – Wednesday, July 19th from 10:00am – 11:30am at the Valley View Park. Porcupine Pat of the Schuylkill Conservations District will be teaching the children about nature and wildlife. Pre-registration required & fee.

Contact Dave Williams at (570) 573-9467 to register.



Geri Hepler will celebrate her 92nd birthday on July 18th.

Geri Hepler

929 W. Main Street

PO Box 743

Valley View PA 17983

**2023 Annual Conference Report**

It has been quite a few years since I attended Annual Conference, but I would like to say “Thank You” for allowing me to be a Lay Representative this year. I was rather apprehensive about the Wednesday evening special meeting in regard to the churches that had chosen to disaffiliate. I also volunteered as a Lay Teller. I was paired with a wonderful pastor who helped me tremendously. Our “job” was to act as ushers, serve communion, count any votes that were close. The evening began with worship and then continued with the voting for those disaffiliating churches. Several were voted on separately, but all were approved for disaffiliation. There was discussion on how to move forward and also for those congregational members who wished to remain in the UMC denomination. I would like to also thank all who prayed for Pastor Suzanne, Dan and myself. God answered those many prayers. It is sad to see so many leave, but in it all we could feel God’s presence working. We are blessed with two wonderful Bishops, who kept everything moving smoothly. Both Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi and Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball are amazing individuals with a love for God, administrative qualities and a wonderful sense of humor.

Thursday began again with worship and continued on to the business of reports for and voting on the many and varied Resolutions. Clergy and Laity also had to vote on General/Jurisdictional Conference Nominees. After a lunch break, the business session continued. After a dinner break, the evening closed with a time of worship.

Friday began with a time of gathering music and a time of Bible study. The business session continued after the study. We had a lunch break, returned to a time of music and prayer, followed with still more business to attend to. After the dinner break, there was a Clergy Robing and Processional. There was a Celebration of Ministry Worship. Three young men were Commissioned and those Pastors retiring were honored.

Saturday began again with music and Bible study, any final business and then the Closing Worship.

Throughout the week, several churches were recognized and honored with One Church Matters Awards. These churches were “dying”, very low attendances, very little activity. They revived through various ways of outreach and became alive! They had baptisms, confessions of Faith, attendances grew.

There was also a presentation from a few Youth. They did request that when dates are picked for next year, please consider the time of year. In May, students are still in classes, proms, graduations, are taking place are happening. More youth could and would attend if the dates are taken into consideration. The week was informational, worshipful, uplifting singing, a beautiful old building with many God filled people. The theme, New & Improved Through Christ, may mean changes will come, but we also need to allow the Holy Spirit to work with and through all. Clergy and Laity will work closer together, Community relationships will develop through various outreaches, Development of Lighthouse churches to reach out to those disaffiliated, improvements will come. God is with us and working among us. Jesus is still on the throne and it’s still good!

Blessings,

Karen Koppenhaver

**Office Hours and Information**

Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am - 11:00 am.

Secretary – Kathy Miller

Phone – 570-682-8107

E-Mail – kathymiller1046@gmail.com

Note the office email address to use:

office@standrewsvalleyview.org

**Newsletter Articles**

E-mail to the address below:

office@standrewsvalleyview.org

**Prayer Chain Contact**

Carole Hepler (570) 682-3301

chelper@comcast.net

**Upper Room Devotional**

The Upper Room provides a daily devotional for you to read.

It includes a Bible text, memory verse, inspirational reading, thought for the day, and a closing prayer. The prayer focus for that day is listed at the end.

Start each day with time for the Lord.

The books are available at the entrance doors.

**Pastoral Sons**

**Chaplain Glenn R. Scheib**, 95-957 Wikao Street Mililani, HI 96789

**Rev. David Wagner** 7517 S. 950 W-92 North Manchester, Indiana 46962

**Our Military**

**Major Jennifer Renninger**

512 American Legion, Pine Grove, Pa 17963

**Nursing Home – Assisted Living – Group Homes – Rehab, (family)**

Danville: Vanessa Weaver

Polk Personal Care Center

301 North Street,

Millersburg, PA 17061

**Roberta Huntsinger**

Pottsville Nursing & Rehab

420 Pulaski Drive

Pottsville, PA 17901

**Gail Bowman**

Providence Place, Pine Grove

24 Hikes Hollow Road,

Pine Grove, PA 17963

**Ella Artz, Marilyn Herb, Dorothy Snell**

Rosewood Rehab. & Nursing Center

401 University Dr., Room 203C

Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

**Josie Artz**

Schuylkill Manor

1000 Schuylkill Manor Road

Pottsville PA 17901

**Tillie Wolfgang**

Tremont Health & Rehab Center

44 Donaldson Road

Tremont PA 17981

**Jo Ann Shade**

 



2022

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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
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| **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** |
| **9:00am – Worship****10:30am – Sunday School** |  | **9:00am –** **Office Hours** |  | **9:00am –****Bulletin Deadline****9:00-11:00am-****Office Hours** |  | **Fellowship Hall Rental** |
| **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** | **15** |
| **9:00am – Worship****10:30am – Sunday School** | **7:00pm –****Men’s Chorus** | **9:00am –** **Office Hours** |  | **9:00am –****Bulletin Deadline****9:00-11:00am-****Office Hours****10:00am –****Sr. Citizens** |  |  |
| **16** | **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** | **22** |
| **9:00am – Worship****10:30am – Sunday School** | **7:00pm – Chancel Choir****8:00pm – Men’s Chorus** | **9:00am –** **Office Hours****1:00pm - UWIF** |  | **9:00am –****Bulletin Deadline****9:00-11:00am-****Office Hours** | **S.A.M Newsletter Deadline** | **Fellowship Hall Rental** |
| **23** | **24** | **25** | **26** | **27** | **28** | **29** |
| **9:00am – Worship****10:30am – Sunday School** | **7:00pm – Chancel Choir****8:00pm – Men’s Chorus** | **9:00am –** **Office Hours** |  | **9:00am –****Bulletin Deadline****9:00-11:00am-****Office Hours****10:00am –****Sr. Citizens** |  |  |
| **30** | **31** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **9:00am – Worship****Missionary Zimmerman Family Visit** | **7:00pm –****Chancel Choir****8:00pm –****Men’s Chorus** |  |  |  |  |  |

**July Mission of the Month**

**Jewel Women’s Center**

2022



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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|  |  | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
|  |  | **9-11am –** **Office Hours** **1-7pm** **Blood Drive** |  | **9**:00am – Bulletin Deadline9-11am **–****Office Hours** |  |  |
| **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** |
| **9:00am –****Worship****10:30-****Sunday School** | **7:00pm – Chancel Choir****8:00pm –****Men’s Chorus** | **9-11am –** **Office Hours**  |  | **9:00am – Bulletin Deadline****9-11am –****Office Hours****10:00am –****Sr. Citizens** |  |  |
| **13** | **14** | **15** | **16** | **17** | **18** | **19** |
| **10:00am –****Worship at Valley View Park** | **7:00pm – Chancel Choir****8:00pm –****Men’s Chorus** | **9-11am –** **Office Hours** **12:00pm – UWIF Picnic at Valley View Park** |  | **9:00am – Bulletin Deadline****9-11am –****Office Hours** | **S.A.M. Newsletter Deadline** |  |
| **20** | **21** | **22** | **23** | **24** | **25** | **26** |
| **9:00am –****Worship****10:30-****Sunday School** | **7:00pm – Chancel Choir****8:00pm –****Men’s Chorus** | **9-11am –** **Office Hours**  |  | **9:00am – Bulletin Deadline****9-11am –****Office Hours****10:00am –****Sr. Citizens** | **5th Quarter following football game** |  |
| **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** | **31** |  |  |
| **9:00am –****Worship****10:30-****Sunday School** | **7:00pm – Chancel Choir****8:00pm –****Men’s Chorus** | **9-11am –** **Office Hours**  |  | **9:00am – Bulletin Deadline****9-11am –****Office Hours** |  |  |
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**August Missions of the Month**

**Backpacks for Schuylkill County Children and Youth**

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| **Camp Ministry** |  |  |  |  |  |  |

St. Andrew’s U.M. Church

PO Box 221

Valley View, PA 17983

 \*address service requested

ST. ANDREW’S U.M. CHURCH

“S.A.M.”



**July / August 2023**