September 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



Since we have been studying parables this summer, I thought I would try my hand at writing a story with a lesson about the Kingdom of God. No assumption whatsoever that I will do as well as Jesus! I have had zucchini on my mind because I like it so much and I have been gifted several this season which I will enjoy all winter. I have also been given several zucchini baked goods and one dear soul did in fact gift wrap a zucchini for me and include a lovely note and family recipe, thus the little nod to that gift in my story below. You all are a blessing to me!

The Parable of the Generous Gardener

The Kingdom of God is like a backyard gardener who planted 50 zucchini plants in her garden. When the harvest time came she had more zucchini than she could possibly handle. She loaded up her pick up truck full and began to visit all of her neighbors, giving to each as many as they wanted. The gardener met neighbors that she had never talked to before. At one home where she knew the husband was sick, the gardener not only left zucchini but a special family recipe and encouraging note. At the end of the day her truck was empty but her heart was full. Three days later she was out with another truckload meeting more neighbors. This went on for several weeks, others were inspired to share from their gardens as well. In time, her whole town was happy and well fed.

Moral of the story - only the cherry tomato plant rivals the zucchini plant in its generous backyard harvest. This beautiful gift of God's Creation reminds us that from one tiny seed can come overwhelming abundance. Sharing out of our abundance can be a blessing to others. And God's generous grace is boundless!

We can try - but we can never outgive God!

It's almost time to switch from zucchini to apples. Fall is nearly here! Praise God for a generous and abundant new season.

Blessings,

~Pastor Suzanne

**What’s Happening**

**September Mission of the Month**

**UMCOR-HAWAII WILDFIRE RESPONSE**

Wind-driven wildfires on Maui have prompted evacuations and caused significant loss of life

and widespread damage. UMCOR is coordinating with the California-Pacific Annual Conference to process an initial grant for emergency supplies such as shelf-stable food, water, hygiene items and tools to help survivors recover belongings. As first responders continue to provide initial aid in the area, please join UMCOR in prayer for those affected.

These wildfires have been the worst natural disasters in Hawaii’s history, and the nation’s

deadliest wildfires since 1918. There have been 100+ deaths and dozens of people injured, some critically. A precise death toll may not be known for weeks. Homes, businesses, jobs, cities, have been destroyed. Rebuilding will take years.

We will support UMCOR with a monetary contribution. You may indicate on your Giving

Envelopes your gift or place in the Mission of the Month offering container at the offering

plates.



St. Andrews,

Thank you once again for a great blood drive. 37 units were collected on a 32 unit goal. Your generosity in sponsoring 2 blood drives a year is greatly appreciated.

God Bless!

Carol Herb

Tri-Valley Blood Drive Coordinator



**Fifth Quarter**

St. Andrew's will once again host the youth of our community after every home football game until 11:00pm. Grades 5-12 enjoy table games, fellowship, and free pizza and snacks. Volunteers are needed (background checks required to be on file in our office). Donations of individual bags of chips, soda, and water as well as financial contributions welcomed. See Steve Reitz for more information or to volunteer. See Cathy Miller to submit your background check information.

Fifth Quarter Dates - additional date added if the team has a home field playoff game.

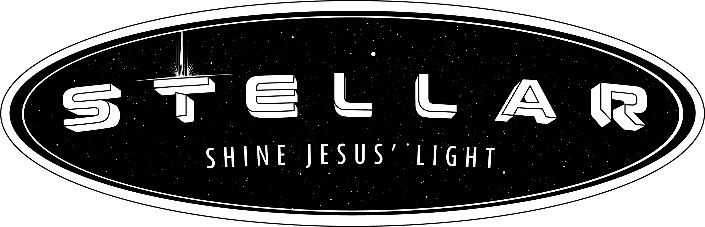
August 25

September 15

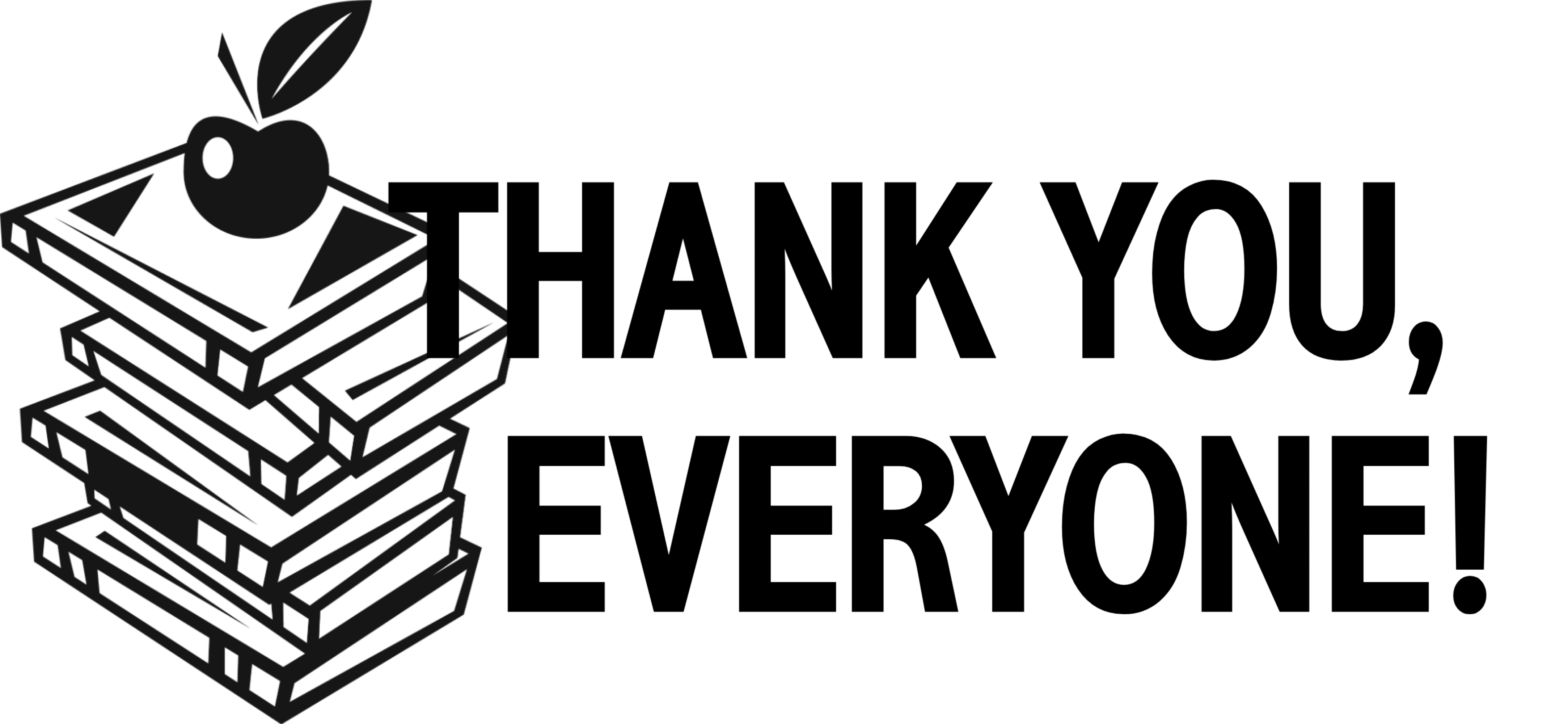
September 29

October 6

October 20



Thank you to all who helped to make the 2023 Stellar VBS a success. There was great help from the decorating to the leadership needed for each night. Special thanks to Karen Wiest, our VBS Director and the whole Wiest family for going above and beyond to make this vital ministry a success.



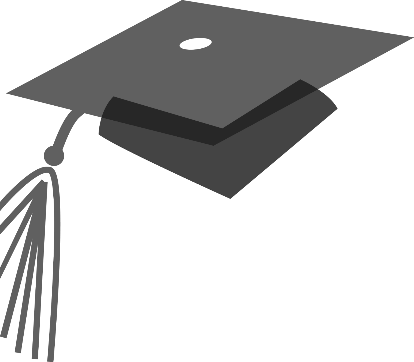
Dear St. Andrew’s U.M. Church,

On behalf of the TVSD, I would like to express our thanks for the items received from the closing of your preschool. Those items will greatly benefit the students of our community and will be put to good use.

Thank you again. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Derek Stehr



Dear St. Andrew’s Family,

Thank you so much for the generous Walmart gift card for graduation. I am very appreciative to belong to a generous and loving Church family.

Sincerely,

Justis Troutman

Dear St. Andrew’s UMC,

Thank you so much for the card and gift card for graduating. It was greatly appreciated!

Love,

Gianna

Dear Friends at St. Andrews UMC,

On behalf of the staff and board of directors of Servants to All, we would like to thank you for allowing us to present our ministry at St. Andrew’s. We thank you for your generous donations to My Father’s House, a program serving the poor and homeless of Schuylkill County. We can never thank you enough for your financial and prayerful support, and we could truly never do this work without you. YOU feed the poor. YOU clothe the naked. YOU house the homeless! Thank YOU!

Your generous donation is greatly appreciated and will make such an important difference in so many lives. Contributions like yours directly help to provide warm meals, a bed to sleep in, clean clothes, housing assistance, and lots of love to someone who needed it most.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers as we continue to remember you daily in ours.

With sincere gratitude,

Jeanette Triano Sinn

Executive Director

Dear St. Andrew’s,

Thank you for letting me speak in your Church! Thank you for the support and prayers! It was a great summer and I learned so much!

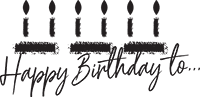
Thank you,

Anne Centelegne

CEF Missionary



Congratulations to Alyssa Felty and Alex Raho who were married by Pastor Suzanne on August 12 at Whispering Oaks in Sunbury.



Ferne Furman will celebrate her 99th birthday on September 3rd.

Ferne Furman

503 W. Main Street

PO Box 164

Valley View, PA 17983

Dorothy Snell will celebrate her 97th birthday on September 15th.

Dorothy Snell

Providence Place

24 Hikes Hollow Rd.

Pine Grove, PA 17963

**Church Conference Date**

This year our annual Church Conference will be Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00pm. Rev. Karen Atanasoff, Assisting Elder will preside. All church members are welcome to attend with voice and vote.

\*Church Conference is a required yearly business meeting where we elect leaders for the next year as well as approve salaries for staff.



**St. Andrew's Apple Festival**

Saturday, September 30 at the Valley View Park - 11:00am until sold out

Enjoy lunch at the Eating House. Menu will include all kinds of apple desserts, apple dumplings, homemade soups, pulled pork sandwiches, hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. There will also be homemade apple butter, apple sauce, and cider.

**Apple Dumplings**

You can pre-order your apple dumplings on September 3,10, & 17 by signing up in the Social Hall. Pre-orders can be picked up at the church September 26 from 6:00-7:30pm.

Want to help make apple dumplings? We will be peeling, rolling, and baking on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 26 and 27 beginning at 8:00am. See Lori Klinger for further details.

**Apple Pies Needed**

A variety of apple desserts will be needed to make the bake sale portion of our Apple Festival a success. Each year we have more demand for homemade apple pies than supply. If you are able, will you consider baking a pie or two? Apples and pie plates supplied by the church! A sign up sheet will be available in the Social Hall. See Anna Miller or Pastor Suzanne with questions.

**Office Hours and Information**

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

Secretary – Nolan Wiest

Note the office email address to use:

[office@standrewsvalleyview.org](mailto:office@standrewsvalleyview.org)

**Newsletter Articles**

E-mail to the address below:

[office@standrewsvalleyview.org](mailto:office@standrewsvalleyview.org)

**Prayer Chain Contact**

Carole Hepler (570) 682-3301

[chelper@comcast.net](mailto: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

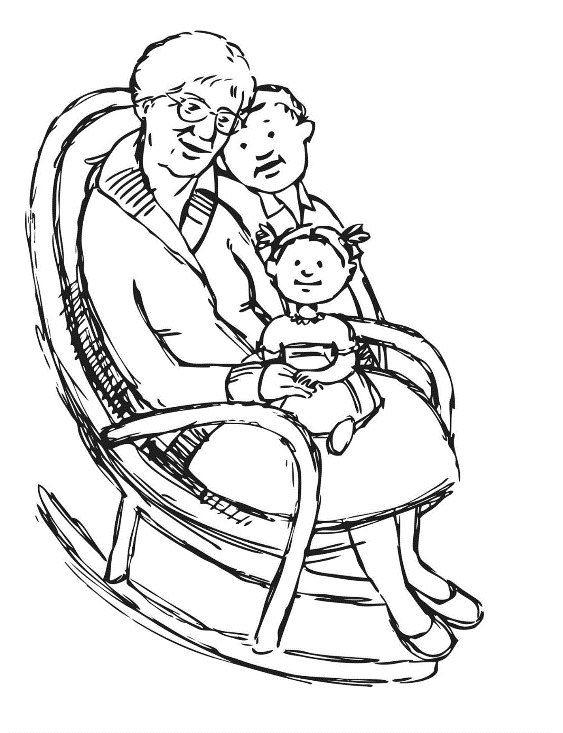
**Lee Morgan, Tillie Wolfgang**

Tremont Health & Rehab Center

44 Donaldson Road

Tremont PA 17981

**Roger Schwalm, Jo Ann Shade**





2022

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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** | **31** | **1** | **2** |
| **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 –**  **Clergy Group Meeting** |  |  |
| **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** | **9** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am – Sunday School** | **Labor Day** | **9:00am –**  **Office Hours** |  | **9:00am –**  **Bulletin Deadline**  **9:00-11:00am-**  **Office Hours** |  |  |
| **10** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** | **15** | **16** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am – Sunday School** | **6:15pm –**  **Men’s Chorus** | **9:00am –**  **Office Hours**  **6:30pm –**  **Trustees Meeting**  **7:30pm –**  **Ad. Board Meeting** |  | **9:00am –**  **Bulletin Deadline**  **9:00-11:00am-**  **Office Hours**  **10:00am –**  **Sr. Citizens** | **S.A.M Newsletter Deadline**  **8:00pm –**  **5th Quarter** |  |
| **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** | **22** | **23** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am – Sunday School** | **7:00pm – Chancel Choir**  **8:00pm – Men’s Chorus** | **9:00am –**  **Office Hours**  **1:00pm –**  **UMW** |  | **9:00am –**  **Bulletin Deadline**  **9:00-11:00am-**  **Office Hours**  **6:00pm - Fellowship Hall**  **UWIF Meeting w/ St. Johns** |  |  |
| **24** | **25** | **26** | **27** | **28** | **29** | **30** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am-**  **Sunday School** | **7:00pm –**  **Chancel Choir**  **8:00pm –**  **Men’s Chorus** | **Fellowship Hall -Apple Festival Prep**  **9:00am –**  **Office Hours**  **6:00-7:30pm –**  **Apple Dumpling Pick Up** | **Fellowship Hall -Apple Festival Prep** | **Fellowship Hall -Apple Festival Prep**  **9:00am –**  **Bulletin Deadline**  **9:00-11:00am-**  **Office Hours**  **10:00am –**  **Sr. Citizens** | **Fellowship Hall -Apple Festival Prep**  **8:00pm-**  **5th Quarter** | **11:00am –**  **Apple Festival**  **@ Valley View Park** |

**September Mission of the Month**

**UMCOR-HAWAII WILDFIRE RESPONSE**

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.”



**September 2023**