October 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

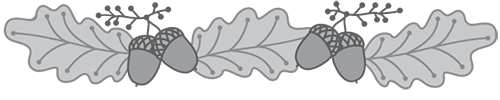
St. Andrew’s Web site: www.standrewsvalleyview.org

Pastor: Suzanne Elliott

570-682-3508 (office)

570-682-3520 (home)

e-mail: selliott@susumc.org

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*"To everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven."*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1 RSV*

     For six years I was a part of a rigorous discussion group called Pastoral Leadership Development or PLD. The program ran from September to May and required one new book to be read each month along with a four hour discussion group. I enjoyed spending time with my colleagues and friends. I enjoyed the mental stimulation of reading one new book a month. I enjoyed the accountability of having to have the book read by a certain deadline (I am guilty of procrastination!). And I enjoyed adding the whopping 4.0 continuing education credits to my yearly required report. This spring the group disbanded. There were changes in leadership and declining attendance. Things were changing and it was time to end. This change was kind of hard. For six years this group had shaped my monthly schedule. It gave me so much joy. The truth of life (and faith) is that things change. It is time for something new.

     It's hard to see beloved rituals end. Church programs die out and new ones grow up. But, it hurts a little when things just aren't the same. Those experiences gave us much joy and satisfaction. The church is going through a tremendous cultural shift with the largest declining attendance in history. Change is happening.

     The Church of the future will not look like the Church of the past. That is nothing new! God has been faithful to us in the past. God is faithful to us today. God will be faithful in an unknown future. While we celebrate the ministries that brought us joy in the past we anticipate new ways to grow and serve. Let's not get too stuck mourning the past. Let's anticipate what might be just ahead!

Serving together with you,

~Pastor Suzanne

**What’s Happening**

**October Mission of the Month**

**Operation Christmas Child**

The October mission of the month is Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan’s Purse. Since 1993, more than 209 million children in more than 170 countries and territories have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox. This project delivers not only the joy of what, for many children, is their first gift ever, but also gives them a tangible expression of God’s love. Every box is an opportunity to reach a child with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Boxes will be available Sunday, October 1st and should be packed and returned to the church by October 31st . A donation of $10 per box is critical to cover shipping and other project costs however, if you choose to pack a box it is not mandatory. Monetary donations for this mission can also be made throughout the month of October. Please note the amount of donation as “Operation Christmas Child” on your Offering envelope or simply drop your donation in the Mission of the Month jar near the offering plates.

**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.

A yellow and black logo

Description automatically generated**Awana**

Awana Kicks Off a New Year

Wednesday, October 4, 6:00-7:45pm

Awana is about to begin an exciting new year! Awana is a Bible based program teaching children and youth about scripture through lessons and memorization. There are songs, games, and the chance to earn points towards the always anticipated Awana Store!

This year we will have club groups for grades K-8. Due to low enrollment, we have decided not to offer a Preschool (Cubbies) group this year.

If you want more information, contact Jim or Karen Wiest at [jbwiest@hotmail.com](mailto:jbwiest@hotmail.com) OR call or email the church office. No need to sign up ahead of time just come on over the first night!

**Potato Palooza**

Sterman Masser Potato Farms is generously providing a field of potatoes for volunteers to glean. There will also be bins of harvested potatoes to bag in the warehouse. Rain or shine, volunteers of all ages can help their neighbors in need. (Registered volunteers will receive an email with all necessary details regarding location and parking, prior to the event.) Sign up for a two-hour shift or serve all four hours. For questions, or if there are any groups interested, we are to call The Society of St. Andrew at 800-333-4597 or by email at [volunteer@endhunger.org](mailto:volunteer@endhunger.org). This event will be hosted on Saturday, October 7th, 2023 – from 8am to 12pm.

**Mission Giving Update**

You all have been so amazingly generous! Thank you for your support of our monthly missions. We are making a difference in our community and out into the world.

June: We collected $332.00 along with a carload of hygiene supplies for Servants to All Homeless ministry in Pottsville. We have received two thank you letters for our donations and the opportunity for the Executive Director to speak to us.

August: We had 32 backpacks provided along with $298.00 which was used to purchase some needed items. Included this year were 7 backpacks provided by St. Paul UCC in Sacramento along with a box of extra items. St. Andrew's Youth Group contributed school supplies and hygiene items as well. What a fabulous cooperative effort to benefit the children and youth of our county!

September: A total of $1464.00 was collected for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) recovery efforts in Hawaii. What a compassionate response!

**2024 Leadership**

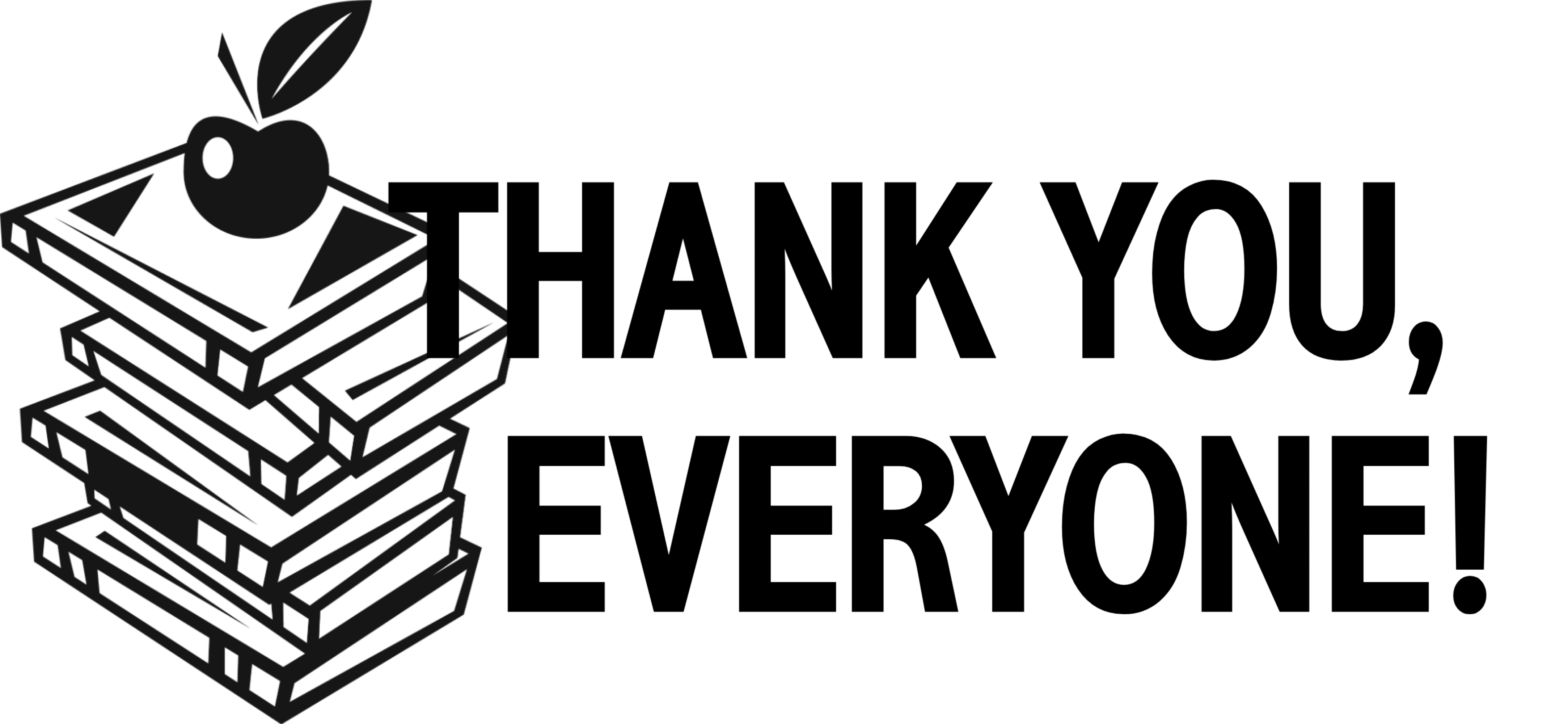
The Nominations Committee will soon meet to ask leaders to serve in 2024. Trustees, Staff Parish, Nominations, and Lay Rep to Annual Conference are a few options. If you have a desire to serve in any capacity, please speak to Pastor Suzanne, Chair.

**Jewel – Fundraising Banquet**

Jewel Women’s Center would like to invite you to enjoy a sit-down dinner catered by the Brick House, hear stories and celebrate what God is doing at Jewel, and learn what you can do to make a difference for life! (Adults only)

To register, please contact the church office to receive a copy of the registration paper or call Jewel at (570) 624-7244.

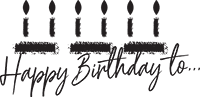
The banquet will be held on October 10 or 12 at 6pm.



I want to thank all the members of the church who have sent me birthday cards on my 99th birthday. Thanks also to 67 persons who sent greetings by way of social media. I miss coming to church and seeing everyone. Wishing all my Christian friends do well and the best in life.

Sincerely in Christian love,

Ferne Furman



Josie Artz will celebrate her 91st birthday on October 17th.

Josephine Artz

Rosewood Rehab. & Nursing Center

Room – 203C

401 University Dr.

Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Tillie Wolfgang will celebrate her 96th birthday on October 20th.

Tillie Wolfgang

Schuylkill Manor

1000 Schuylkill Manor Rd.

Pottsville, PA 17901

**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

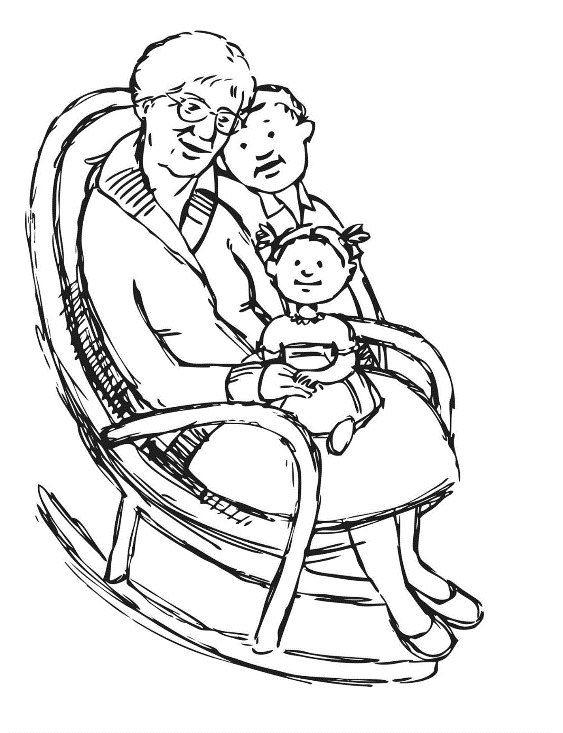
**Lee Morgan, Tillie Wolfgang**

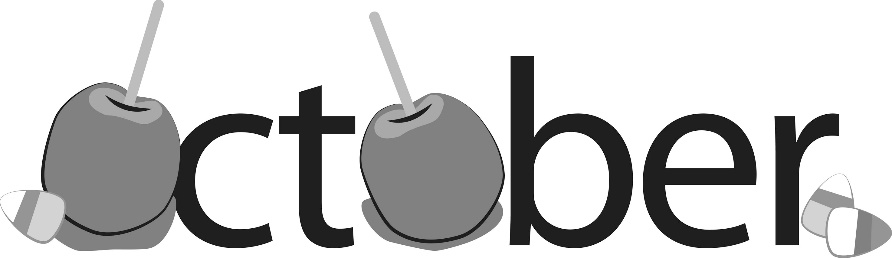
Tremont Health & Rehab Center

44 Donaldson Road

Tremont PA 17981

**Roger Schwalm, Jo Ann Shade**





2022

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| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am – Sunday School** | **6:15pm –**  **Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm –**  **Chancel Choir**  **7:30pm-**  **Cantata Choir** | **9:00am –**  **Office Hours** | **6:00-7:45pm –**  **Awana** | **9:00am –**  **Bulletin Deadline**  **9:00-11:00am-**  **Office Hours**  **6:30am –**  **Staff Parish Meeting** |  | **1:00-5:00pm –**  **Fellowship**  **Hall Rental** |
| **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **14** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am – Sunday School** | **6:15pm –**  **Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm –**  **Chancel Choir**  **7:30pm-**  **Cantata Choir** | **9:00am –**  **Office Hours**  **6:30pm –**  **Trustees Meeting** | **6:00-7:45pm –**  **Awana** | **9:00am –**  **Bulletin Deadline**  **9:00-11:00am-**  **Office Hours**  **10:00am –**  **Sr. Citizens**  **10:00am –**  **Clergy Meeting** |  |  |
| **15** | **16** | **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** | **21** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am – Sunday School** | **6:15pm –**  **Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm –**  **Chancel Choir**  **7:30pm-**  **Cantata Choir** | **9:00am –**  **Office Hours**  **1:00pm-**  **UMW** | **1:00pm –**  **Council on**  **Ministries Mtg.**  **6:00-7:45pm –**  **Awana** | **9:00am –**  **Bulletin Deadline**  **9:00-11:00am-**  **Office Hours** | **S.A.M Newsletter Deadline**  **8:00pm –**  **5th Quarter** |  |
| **22** | **23** | **24** | **25** | **26** | **27** | **28** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am – Sunday School** | **6:15pm –**  **Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm –**  **Chancel Choir**  **7:30pm-**  **Cantata Choir** | **9:00am –**  **Office Hours**  **6:30pm –**  **Ad. Board Meeting** | **6:00-7:45pm –**  **Awana** | **9:00am –**  **Bulletin Deadline**  **9:00-11:00am-**  **Office Hours**  **10:00am –**  **Sr. Citizens** |  |  |
| **29** | **30** | **31** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **9:00am – Worship**  **10:30am-**  **Sunday School** | **6:15pm –**  **Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm –**  **Chancel Choir**  **7:30pm-**  **Cantata Choir** |  |  |  |  |  |

**October Mission of the Month**

**Samaritan’s Purse – Operation Christmas Child**

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.”



**October 2023**