**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025**

**St. Andrew’s**

**Messenger**

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 **REPAIR**ingLove.”

**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

**Pastor:** Suzanne Elliott

570-682-3508 (Office)

717-253-1263 (Cell)

e-mail: selliott@susumc.org

**Office Hours and Information:**

Secretary – Karen Koppenhaver

Tuesday and Thursday:

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Phone – 570-682-3508

office@standrewsvalleyview.org

**Newsletter Articles:**

E-mail to the address below:

office@standrewsvalleyview.org

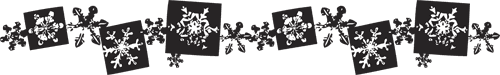
**Prayer Chain Contact:**

Carole Hepler – 570-682-3301

[chelper@comcast.net](mailto:chelper@comcast.net)

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

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*Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*   Proverbs 90:12

Some years ago a character in a novel that I was reading said, "The way you spend your days adds up to how you spend your life." Every year as the end of December rolls around, I wonder, What happened to this past year?! How can it be that a new year is starting already?! I look back and I regret the time that I wasted. Did I really use the last year to honor God?

Hear me clearly when I say that there is a difference between resting and wasting time!

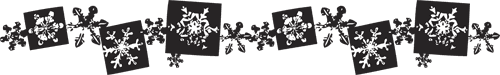
God intended for us to rest in order to restore our bodies, minds, and spirits. Keeping the Sabbath is one of the most forgotten Commandments. I'm certain that's not what I was always doing! Anyone with me??

Every one of us is one year closer to heaven. We get one beautiful chance to make a difference for Jesus in this world. What will you do differently (or try to!) in 2025 to make an impact on our community for the good? How will you let the light of Jesus shine through you for the world to see? Will you try to see each day as a gift to be used wisely?

When the calendar page turns to January 1, there is a new feeling of hope and promise. What good things will be ahead in the new year!? Can we resolve to use our time wisely and gratefully, appreciating every day as a gift from God?

Happy New Year from our family to yours,

~Pastor Suzanne, Rick, & Laurie



**JANUARY**

**MISSION OF THE MONTH**

**HEIFER PROJECT**

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The Heifer Project has been selected as the Mission of the Month for January 2025! Many of us will remember this ministry from our younger days. I remember St Andrew’s sponsoring this ministry through our VBS collection! This ministry is still actively serving all around the world.

Heifer Project works in 19 countries around the world alongside local farmers and their communities as they mobilize and envision their futures, provide training so they can improve the quantity and quality of the goods they produce and connections to market to increase sales and incomes.

Along with this Mission of the Month, the Amped children will be learning about this ministry during the month of January. As the children learn about how animals can change the lives of people all around the world, St Andrew’s will be collecting donations for the Heifer Project. At the end of January, when the total amount collected is known, the children will then select the animals to be purchased and sent through the Heifer Project!

The following animals will be considered for the project: chickens, cows, pigs, goats, sheep, rabbits. A flock of chickens is $20; a cow, $500; a pig, $120; a goat, $120; a sheep, $120; rabbits, $60.

I’m looking forward to teaching the children about this ministry, as well as combining their lessons with the Mission of the Month! This is an opportunity to show our children how we work together to share God’s love all around the world!

If you would like more information about the Heifer Project, please go online to [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org).

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Anyone grade 6 through adult is welcome to join this year's Confirmation Class. Students will explore their faith and prepare to make a commitment to Jesus Christ and join the church. Classes will begin in January. Day and time based on the availability of the group. See Pastor Suzanne to enroll.



Liam Joseph Deiter, son of James & Brittany Deiter was baptized on Sunday, December 15. Blessings to you!



Thank you to each member of the wonderful team of leaders and helpers that made our fall Ignite ministries for children a success. We agreed that it could not have gone any better! I look forward to working together in the spring!     ~Pastor Suzanne

heart_27415

A sincere thank you to all the church leaders who have finished their terms of service at the end of 2024. The gift of your time to the ministries of St. Andrew's was appreciated!



Thank you for your generous donation. We are grateful for a kind & giving community.

*Klingerstown Fire Company*

Thank you for thinking of us. The donation is greatly appreciated.

Sacramento Fire Company

**Youth Community Service Nights**

The following are the totals from the November community youth service projects. These have all been sent to Caitlin’s Smiles:

190 Pipe Cleaner Snail Kits

200 Camping Knot Necklace Kits

159 Fireworks Ring Kits

59 Decorated Bags

38 Braided Friendship Bracelet Kits

55 Cards

Thank you so much for all the work our community Youth have done! Thank you again to the congregation who donated items and time to make this such a success.

**NOVEMBER MISSIONS OF THE MONTH**

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thank Offering - $680

Thanksgiving Day Meal - $813

Angel Tree – Every Envelope was Gifted!

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROUSITY IN ALL THESE OUTREACHES**

**PASTOR SUZANNE WILL BE ON VACATION**

**January 1 & January 2**

**January 9 – January 17**

For pastoral emergencies please contact:

**Rev. Ray Holland 570-452-0050**



Ann Schiliro, Mary Klinger, Richard Savidge, Carol Ney***,*** Marjorie Ludwig, Bruce Miller, Dave Wolfgang,

Dr. Douglas Eyer



**Major Jennifer Renninger**

512 American Legion

Pine Grove, Pa 17963

**Nursing Home – Group Home**

**Assisted Living – Rehab (family)**

**Randy Snyder**

**Vanessa Weaver**

Schuylkill Manor

1000 Schuylkill Manor Road

Pottsville PA 17901

**Tillie Wolfgang**

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**

Tremont Health & Rehab Center

44 Donaldson Road

Tremont, PA 17981

**Jo Ann Shade, Roger Schwalm**



**Chaplain Glenn R. Scheib**

95-957 Wikao Street

Mililani, HI 96789

**Rev. David Wagner**

7517 S. 950 W-92

North Manchester, IN 46962

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**October**

**Mission of the Month Results**

Our October mission of the month, Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan’s Purse resulted in 46 shoeboxes being filled by members of our congregation. In addition to the boxes, $855.00 in monetary donations was collected. As an expression of God’s love, members of the Church of Christ Christian Union in Deep Creek packed 20 shoeboxes and donated $200.00 for postage and shipping costs. Therefore, the total boxes packed was 66 and total monetary donations were $1055.00. $660.00 was used for the postage and shipping fees for the boxes and the remainder of $395.00 was sent to Samaritan’s Purse to be used towards other ministries that they are involved in throughout the world. Thank you to our congregation for your continued support of this ministry. Every box is an opportunity to reach a child with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. A thank you card was sent to Church of Christ Christian Union for their participation as well.

**UWF NEWS**

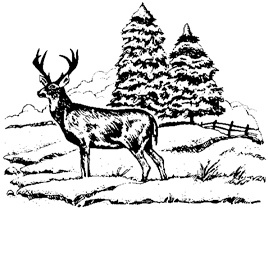
Our United Women in Faith (UWF) held a very successful Thank Offering service and meal on November 10, 2024. Sandy and Bill McHugh, Coordinators for Operation Christmas Child were our guest speakers during the service. They are very passionate supporters of this ministry. We sold 156 meal tickets and collected $680.00 in monetary donations from the congregation. These donations will be sent to the UWF of the Susquehanna Conference. A huge thank you to all those who purchased meal tickets and made monetary donations to this annual celebration of being thankful to God for all his blessings bestowed upon us.

We will also be making a $500.00 donation to Kelsey McHugh who is part of the World Indigenous Missions, (WIM). Through this mission she works with Project Talitha Cumi (PTC), a home for children in Honduras. Kelsey moved to Honduras in August of 2015 and worked for several years as a fourth-grade teacher at a bilingual school. She knew that God was calling her to move to full-time missions and she wanted to join a mission’s organization. She decided to join WIM in 2017. In 2020 she started working full-time at PTC. She has several roles at PTC, but her biggest role is being mom to five children who live with her. She always wanted to be a mom but never thought it would look the way it does today. Her desire is to provide these children with a safe and loving environment where they feel like a family.

The UWF members also assembled and delivered Christmas goodie bags to nineteen (19) of our beloved Nursing Home, Assisted Living, Group Home and at home shut-ins during the month of December.

Our UWF elected two new officers effective January 1, 2025. President: Sandy Renninger, and Secretary: Mary Ellen Krammes. Cathy Miller was re-elected as Vice President and Karen Koppenhaver re-elected as Treasurer.

As United Women in Faith we continue to be a powerful, fearless force driven by God’s love and united in sisterhood with a focus on women, children and youth.



FEBRUARY

MISSION OF THE MONTH



The Mission Committee is so thankful for the needs our church met last February for the Homestead Unit at a local Nursing Center. We find the same needs today. Would you help us show God’s own beloved people that they are remembered, important and loved?

We plan to get a list of worn out, faded, or tattered items that need replaced or activity items that may be appreciated by the Residents while spending time in the Activity Department. The Staff and Residents were overwhelmed by your generosity. What a lovely way to express God’s love.

We plan to, again, have Valentines listing the items and size, available for pick up at the church February 2. Please have unwrapped items returned by March 2. Thank you for considering helping us with this mission.



Thank you so very much for your part in making Christmas a true blessing for the 35 families (22 children) we served this holiday season. Each child received 2 new outfits, a coat, if requested, and a new toy or hobby they requested. Without you, we could not do this. Remember, your donations blessed so many families in your neighborhood!

Pine Creek Christian Outreach Ministry

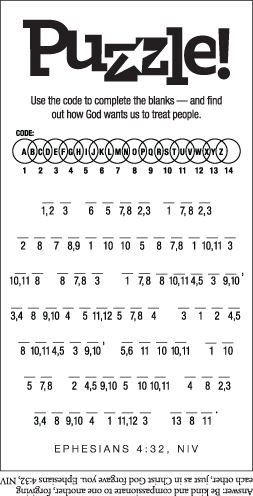


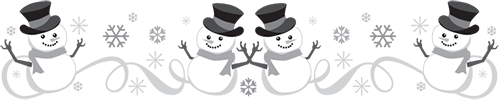
It’s the middle of winter and what can you do? Come enjoy a potluck lunch and an afternoon of fun and laughter.

We will begin our fun with a potluck lunch starting at 12:30pm. Afterwards, let the games begin! We will be downstairs in the old Social Room area. Come prepared to use all your senses and maybe even some muscles! You don’t like playing competitive games, come and just enjoy the fun of those competing. There’s guaranteed to be fun, laughter, and fellowship whether you join the games or spectate!

Bring a favorite dish, side, dessert, etc., and join us. Hotdogs and drinks will be provided.

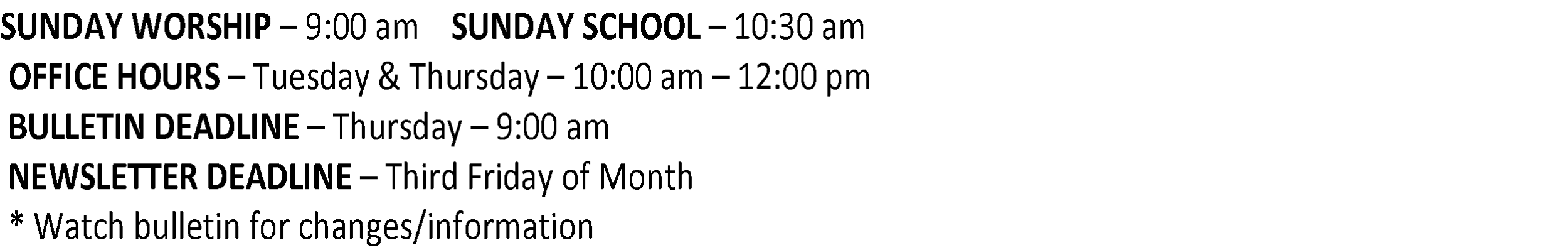
Hope to see you there!

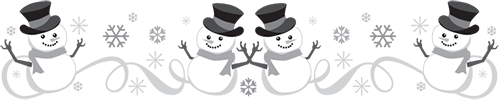


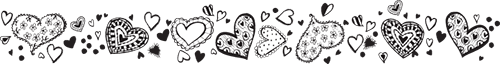


| **JANUARY 2025** | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
| **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**  **2 Corinthians 5:17** | | | **1**  **HAPPY**  **NEW YEAR**  **Pastor Vacation** | **2**  **Pastor Vacation** | **3** | **4**  **10:00am**  **Bruce Miller Memorial Service** |
| **5** | **6**  **7:00pm – Chancel Choir** | **7** | **8** | **9**  **10:00am – Sr. Citizens**  **Pastor Vacation** | **10**  **Pastor Vacation** | **11**  **Pastor Vacation** |
| **12**  **Pastor Vacation** | **13**  **7:00pm – Chancel Choir**  **Pastor Vacation** | **14**  **6:00pm – Legion Meeting**  **6:30pm – Trustees**  **7:30pm – Ad. Board**  **Pastor Vacation** | **15**  **Pastor Vacation** | **16**  **Pastor Vacation** | **17**  **Pastor Vacation** | **18** |
| **19**  **Fellowship Hall Rental** | **20** | **21**  **1:00pm - UWIF** | **22** | **23**  **10:00am – Sr. Citizens** | **24** | **25** |
| **26**  **Fellowship Hall Rental** | **27**  **6:15pm – Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm – Chancel Choir** | **28** | **29** | **30** | **31** |  |

**NOTES:**

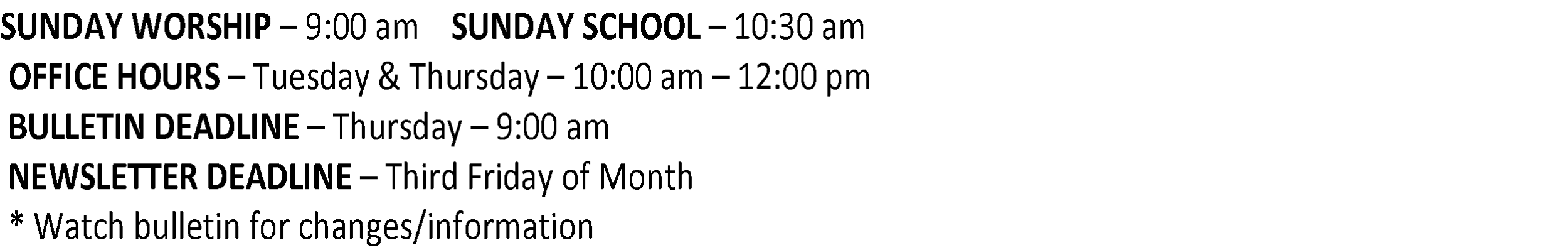


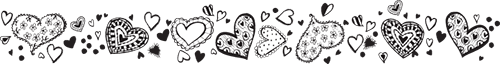




| **FEBRUARY 2025** | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sun** | **Mon** | **Tue** | **Wed** | **Thu** | **Fri** | **Sat** |
| **For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**  **John 3:16 NKJV** | | | |  |  | **1** |
| **2**  **12:30pm – 4:00pm Potluck & Games** | **3**  **6:15pm – Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm – Chancel Choir** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **7** | **8** |
| **9** | **10**  **6:15pm – Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm – Chancel Choir** | **11**  **6:00pm – Legion Meeting**  **6:30pm – Trustees**  **7:30pm – Ad. Board** | **12** | **13**  **10:00am – Sr. Citizens** | **14**  **Valentines Day** | **15** |
| **16** | **17** | **18**  **1:00pm – UWIF** | **19** | **20** | **21** | **22**  **Fellowship Hall Rental** |
| **23** | **24**  **6:15pm – Men’s Chorus**  **7:00pm – Chancel Choir** | **25** | **26** | **27**  **10:00am – Sr. Citizens** | **28** |  |

**NOTES:**





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.”



**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025**