

READING THE BIBLE TOGETHER

In 2017, St. Andrew's is reading the Bible together. Bible Study resumes on Monday, October 2nd at 7pm and Wednesday, October 4th at 9:30am in the lounge. All are welcome to attend. Daily readings are listed here each week.

Bible Reading for the Week of December 3 – December 9

Sunday – 2 Timothy 1:1-2:26 Thursday – Hebrews 1:1-3:19

Monday – 2 Timothy 3:1-4:22 Friday – Hebrews 4:1-6:20

Tuesday – Titus 1:1-3:15 Saturday – Hebrews 7:1-9:28

Wednesday – Philemon 1:1-25

Do you have a question about something you read this week? Email your questions to the church office (saumcch@gmail.com) or Pastor Richard (richrdwork@msn.com) or text your question to Pastor Richard at 304-692-7175.

CHRISMONS PARTY – TODAY!!



After the worship service today, join us in Wesley Hall to decorate Chrismons for the Christmas tree in the sanctuary. This is an event for everyone of all ages!! All supplies will be provided – just bring yourself! A light lunch will be served. We hope you can take part in this fun event.

Pancake Breakfast with Santa - December 9th - 8:30 – 11:00 a.m.



St. Andrew's has sent a team to the Dominican Republic to build houses for families in the mountains of Salamanca and the village of Los Cocos for the last 9 years. The families are so grateful to have a permanent structure in which to raise their families. You can support the mission team by coming for a delicious breakfast and holiday festivities! Santa arrives at 9:00 a.m. Or make a monetary

donation (payable to St. Andrew's, marked Dominican Republic). All funds will go toward building costs. Tell your neighbors and your friends!!

CHRISTOPHER WESTFALL CONCERT



Once again, Christopher Westfall will perform a Christmas concert at St. Andrew's! Experience a joyful family event to celebrate the season on Saturday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door for \$10. Refreshments will be served afterward. Invite your friends and neighbors for a family friendly, fun way to get ready for Christmas.

POINSETTIAS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

You can honor a loved one by purchasing a poinsettia plant for the Christmas Eve altar or by making a donation to the St. Andrew's Scholarship Fund this holiday season. Poinsettias can be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service or delivered to a shut-in. Scholarship donations are provided to St. Andrew's graduating high school seniors. You can use the order form in the bulletin and mail or place in the offering plate. Orders are due by December 17th.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

9am – Study Class for Adults – Graf Room

10:30am Worship – Nursery Care for infants to 2-year olds – room 201

10:45am – 3 & 4-year olds-Room 202; Kindergarten - 1st grade-Room 302, 2nd - 3rd grade-Room 304; 4th - 5th grades-Room 303; 6th - 8th Grades-Room 106; 9th – 12th grades-Room 105

(Please see one of our ushers for location/directions.)

ACTIVITIES FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday		COMMUNION/FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION
	Noon	Children's Choir – Choir Room
	Noon	Chrismons Party – Wesley Hall
Monday	7pm	Bible Study – Graf Room
Tuesday	10am	Anna Circle – Lounge
	7pm	Missions – Lounge
Wednesday	9:30am	Bible Study – Lounge
	10am	Little Hands Little Feet – Room 307
	3pm	Cathedral Kitchen
Thursday	Noon	Keenagers – Wesley Hall
	7pm	Choir Rehearsal – Room 101
Saturday	8:30am	Pancake Breakfast for D.R. Trip – Wesley Hall

ACTIVITIES WEEK OF DECEMBER 10th

Sunday	Noon	Children's Choir – Choir Room
Monday	7pm	Bible Study – Graf Room
	7:30pm	Moorestown Singers Concert - Sanctuary
Tuesday	10am	Needlecrafters – Conference Room
Wednesday	9:30am	Bible Study – Lounge
	10am	Little Hands Little Feet – Room 307
	6:30pm	DCPP Gift Wrapping Party – Wesley Hall
Thursday	5pm	DCPP Christmas Party – Wesley Hall
	6pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Saturday	7pm	Chris Westfall Concert - Sanctuary



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

327 Marlton Pike West, (Route 70), Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

Email: saumcch@gmail.com Website www.saumcni.org

Telephone: 856-429-4469

Rev. Richard Work, Jr., Pastor

Colleen McQuade, Office Administrator

Katharine Baer, Director of Music

Ellen Barton, Bell Choir Director

Ellen Youssefian and Lauren Aloia, Pianists

Megan Falcone, Director, St. Andrew's Nursery School and Kindergarten

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church

December 3, 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:30am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND WELCOME TO VISITORS

(Prepare Prayer Request: You may write a prayer concern or joy on the cards found in each pew. Ushers will collect the prayer cards in the center aisle as the children come forward for the Children's Message.)

INTROIT

HYMN

"God Almighty, We Are Waiting"

Sung to the tune of "Come Thou Long-expected Jesus"

God Almighty, we are waiting
for a savior to appear.

Meet us in our desert journey;
give a sign that you are near:
burning bushes, parted waters,
food aplenty in the wild.
As we look for signs and wonders,
help us see you in a child.

God Incarnate, we are waiting
for the feast day of your birth.
Looking back and looking forward
to the Christ's return to earth.
Help us to proclaim the gospel,
'til the world is reconciled.
Let us set your holy table
for each woman, man, and child.

God, the Spirit, we are waiting
for your presence here and now.
Humbled by our sinful weakness,
at your mercy we will bow.
Search our hearts and make us ready,
speak in language strong and mild,
help each one of us, your people,
to receive you like a child.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia the Christ child comes,

And we await his birth.

Let us throw off our distractions,

And allow the chaos to settle.

Let us watch for the signs,

And listen to the messengers,

Let us stand on tiptoe,

And shout aloud and sing.

Something new is emerging,

Something new is being delivered.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
 And ransom captive Israel,
 That mourns in lonely exile here
 Until the Son of God appear.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to you, O Israel!

ADVENT PRAYER (Prayed together)

Loving God, we thank you for the hope you give us.
 Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming.
 Bless our worship.
 Help us live holy and righteous lives.
 We ask it in the name of the one born in Bethlehem. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

CHILDREN MAY LEAVE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

CALL TO PRAYER

MORNING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SHARING OUR RESOURCES FOR MINISTRY

OFFERTORY "Sussex Carol/Gesu Bambino" arr Mary McDonald
 Chancel Choir

* RESPONSE NO. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ
 whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 NT page 205
 Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "The Art of Gift Wrapping" Rev. Work

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION (see insert)

* **HYMN NO. 219** "What Child Is This"

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Serving our church this morning...

Greeters: Amy and Emily McCausland

Acolyte: Madeleine Griffis

Liturgist: Bob, Wendy and Madison McDermott

Ushers: Jerry Jones, Connie DiRocco, Dan Proulx, Ken Saunders and Rob Thompson

Audio: Tom Bianco III, Mark Corcoran, Dale Osterman



We have a special place for our little ones. Children age 2 and under are invited to explore our nursery! (room 201) (Please see one of our ushers for location/directions.) It is professionally staffed by Jennie Armour, a lovely young woman who has been caring for children for many years. **In addition, there is a rocking chair available in the back of the sanctuary so you can comfort your child and remain in the worship service.**



We are glad you are here. Please help us get to know you by filling out the "Welcome Visitor" brochure found in the pew rack. Place it in the offering plate. If you have any questions, please ask one of our ushers. Welcome to St. Andrew's.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Joe Johnson, 24 Burgee Drive, Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087; Vince Anderer, 130 Whistler Green Court, Marlton, NJ 08053; Barbara Brown, 324 Society Hill, Cherry Hill, NJ 08053; Mary Ann Edgerton, 107 Chelton Parkway, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034; Dorothy Lauer, 19 Snapdragon Lane, Marlton, NJ 08053; Susan Kruse, 1022 Chelton Parkway, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002; Kathryn Phillips, 460 Haddon Ave, Collingswood, NJ 08108.

We also lift up a shut-in member each week.

Buzz Wilkinson, 18 Yale Ave, Somerdale, NJ 08083

We hope you will pray for them, give them a call, send a card or drop in and visit them. If you know anyone who could be on our list, please contact the church office.

DIVISION OF CHILD PROTECTION & PERMANENCY CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Annual Christmas Party for children within Division of Child Protection and Permanency will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2017, starting at 5:00 p.m. We will be sponsoring at least forty children, who might not know the joy of the season if it wasn't for the compassion of St. Andrews United Methodist members

HOW CAN YOU HELP??

- **TOYS:** We are collecting toys for children of all ethnic groups ages 2-12, which can be placed in the barrel in the lobby.
- **FOOD:** Sign up to donate food for the party. The sign-up sheet with a list of food needed is in the lobby.
- **GIFT WRAPPING:** On **Wednesday, December 13th**, we will wrap the toys donated for this event. Bring your talent and scissors to Wesley Hall beginning at 6:30pm.
- **PARTY VOLUNTEERS:** Attend the party to lend a helping hand wherever needed. We need lots of hands to help out during the party, which starts at 5pm!! Whatever time you can spare will be helpful.

Let the love shine!! Thanks to all for your support!

KEENAGERS

Our next meeting is Thursday, December 7th at noon in Wesley Hall. The main course is ham. You can bring a dish to share and enjoy a holiday musical performance. The cost is \$5 with a dish to share or \$10 without a dish. Join us!!

LITTLE HANDS LITTLE FEET NEEDS YOUR HELP

LITTLE HANDS~LITTLE FEET have many bags of children's clothing to be sorted by gender and size for the winter months ahead, and **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We meet in Room 307, 2nd floor on Wednesdays between 10am-12pm. Your help will be appreciated! We THANK YOU in advance for your SUPPORT!!!!

GIFT CARD SALE – UPDATE TO ORDERING ONLINE

The holidays are fast approaching! You can support St. Andrew's by purchasing your GIFT CARDS as holiday gifts or for your own routine purchases: groceries, gasoline or Wawa coffee! Here's how you can order:

- Fill out a paper order form and return with cash or check (payable to St. Andrew's) by 12/10. Pick up your gift cards at church on Sunday, 12/17. Order forms are in the lobby and at saumcnj.org.
- Order online! Go to shopwithscrip.com and enroll using our enrollment code [2F9EDB1L38L3L](http://shopwithscrip.com). Choose from the complete line of cards available. *Send a check to the church office or pay by credit card at saumcnj.org by selecting "online giving" and the gift card option.*

All orders and payment are due by Sunday December 10th. Gift cards will arrive for pickup by December 17th, in plenty of time for the holidays. Take a sneak peek at the hundreds of retailers available at www.shopwithscrip.com. Contact Colleen in the church office with any questions – 856-429-4469. All proceeds support St. Andrew's.

SEARCHING, SHOPPING AND SUPPORTING

Support St. Andrew's each time you search online?? YES! Just go to **Goodsearch.com**, set up an account, choose St. Andrew's United Methodist Church as your cause, and search away! For each "search", St. Andrew's receives one cent! Doesn't sound like much? So far, we have received over \$700 from Goodsearch.



You shop. Amazon gives.

If you shop on Amazon, go to **smile.amazon.com** to set up an Amazon Smile account and designate St Andrews United Methodist Church (no punctuation)

as your charity (there are a lot of St. Andrew's churches, so make sure you choose the one in Cherry Hill) and Amazon will contribute a set percentage of your purchases to the church.

It's easy! Give **Goodsearch** or **Amazon Smile** a try!! Detailed instructions are on the bulletin board in the church lobby.



What are some of the physiological benefits of exercise?

Having more energy and living longer... If you've never tried any of our exercises classes, please be our guest for a **complimentary** class of your choice. We offer Pilates, Yoga, Tai Chi, and Dance/Kick/Punch exercise classes. All classes cost just \$10 – no contracts required. Questions? Contact Barbara Hansen at Barbara.Hansen3428@gmail.com or 609-706-3552.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The prophets foretold it: the desert burst into bloom.
Angelic messengers delivered news:
a priest lost his speech; a young woman found her voice.
In this season of Advent, the scriptures revive old stories
and bring new understandings.
In the face of critics and skeptics,
our faith cries out, resilient,
like a baby from a manger bed.

From that Bethlehem beginning,
Jesus, baptized in the Jordan, spent his life serving others
that all might know the compassionate attention of a loving God.
Today, Jesus serves us yet again,
as we gather at this Table he prepares for us.
Come, people of God, come to the table of hope!
Our hope is in God, who made heaven and earth!
Come, people of God, come to the table of peace.
Christ is our peace, and healing for the nations!
Come, people of God, come to the table of life!
The Spirit will feed us and make us new!

You are our life, O God,
our hope from the beginning of time to the end of the age.
In your presence, water springs from dry ground,
grapes hang heavy on the vine, and grain abounds in valleys of peace.
Your word brings joy to the desolate,
and your steadfast love awakens hope in all people.
Therefore, we who cling to your promise and wait for a Child to lead us,
raise our hearts to you, and with everything that lives,
we proclaim your endless glory.

And now, O God, with grateful joy, we remember Jesus.
We remember that he came to us humbly.
He put aside the glory that was his.
We remember that he announced your favor.
He taught us to welcome your mercy.
We remember that he resisted evil,
loved well, and turned no one away.
He did your will, and trusted your love.

And we remember that on the night before he died,
eating supper with his friends,
he took bread, gave you thanks, and broke it.
He gave it to them and said:
Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body, broken for you.
Whenever you do this, remember me.



And when they were finished eating,
he took a cup filled with the fruit of the vine.
He thanked you for it, and passed it to them, saying:
This is the cup of a new covenant
poured out for you and for all, so that sins might be forgiven.
Whenever you do this, remember me.

Come, Holy Spirit, satisfy our hungry hearts.
Bless this grain from the field, these grapes from the vine—
Generous gifts you have given.
As we share their goodness,
give us love for each other and make us servants of your peace,
until the new age of justice comes, and every creature beholds it.

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us give thanks for all the goodness we have received!

Jesus, you truly are Immanuel “God with us”.
In this season of hope, may the meal we`ve shared together
nourish us to be your body in the world.
Give us the fruits of this holy communion:
oneness of heart, love for neighbors,
forgiveness of enemies,
the will to serve you every day,
and life that never ends.
With the angels in heaven we join in singing your praises,
Glory to God in the highest. Amen.