

ROOTED

An inclusive Community Rooted in God's Incredible Love

ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE, PA

615 E. Walnut Street, Perkasia, PA • (215)-257-2880 • standrewsucc.org • Follow us



October 2025



OCTOBER UPCOMING EVENTS



WORLD WIDE COMMUNION OCTOBER 5, 2025 DURING WORSHIP

Join us for world wide communion Sunday to share in the meal of Christ. World Wide Communion Sunday is celebrated around the world. All are welcome at Christ's table at St. Andrew's UCC.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS OCTOBER 5, 2025 AT 1:30PM

Gather at the pavilion at St. Andrew's UCC for a blessing of the animals. All animals (and humans) are welcome to join!



RUMMAGE SALE OCTOBER 18, 2025 8AM-NOON

Join us for a Rummage sale on June 7th from 8am-1pm at St. Andrew's United Church of Christ. More information to come shortly. Are you cleaning out and looking to donate items for the rummage sale? You can start bringing your items.

Please be sure to consult our list of items we are unable to accept before bringing your items. If you have questions please contact us! Thank you!



TRUNK OR TREAT OCTOBER 25, 2025 4-6PM

Join us for some family fun at a trunk or treat at St. Andrew's UCC, Perkasia. Wear your favorite costume and enjoy the fun! Bring a canned good/non-perishable for Pennridge F.I.S.H. If you are interested in bringing your trunk please contact Karen Gossard.

We can't wait to see you for some spook-tacular fun!





PASTORS MESSAGE

FAITH THAT WELCOMES ALL

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" Luke 17: 5

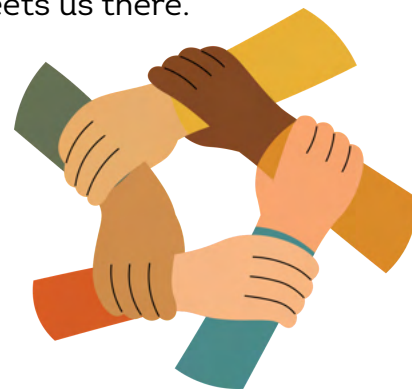
The disciples cry out to Jesus, "Increase our faith!" They long for something bigger, stronger, more impressive. But Jesus reminds them that faith is not about size, it's about trust. Even faith as small as a mustard seed can do great things because it connects us to God's power, not our own.



World Communion Sunday, celebrated each October, opens Christ's table to everyone in the body of Christ. On this day, people from every culture, language, and tradition gather around Christ's table as the body of Christ. Some will share bread baked from wheat, others from rice, corn cassava, or yams. The cup will hold grape juice, wine, or other local fruits. The table looks different in each place, but the invitation is the same: all are welcome.

The disciples wanted greater faith. Jesus showed them that the faith they already had was enough. The same is true for us. We do not need perfect belief or flawless discipleship to come to the Lord's table. We come as we are, with mustard seed faith, and Christ meets us there.

World Communion Sunday reminds us that this table is not ours to guard. It is Christ's table. It's open not only to people who look like us, or live where we live or believe like we believe—it is open to all who are hungry. At this table, the barriers that divide us such as race, nationality, language, denomination, conservative or progressive beliefs fall away. What remains is Christ's love, wide enough to embrace the whole world.



May we have faith that everyone who gathers at Christ's table is meant to be there and by welcoming them, we are doing nothing more than what Jesus commands by loving our neighbor.

Pastor Barb



SEPTEMBER MEETING CONSISTORY REPORT

As we enter the fall season and Advent season, consistory noted St. Andrews will be quite active with over ten events scheduled over the next four months. There will be two “Dine and Donate” events, one on Tuesday November 18th at JT Bankers in Sellersville and a second one at The Perk on Monday February 9th. Review the Newsletter for the details on other upcoming events.



We reviewed the current financial reports and we have continued concerns regarding the shortfall between our income and expenses. We have been looking for additional sources of income and have renewed the contract with a piano teacher that will provide a specific rental amount each month and we have had other inquiries for the use of our building that would result in some additional income and exposure for St. Andrews in the community.

Consistory Members 2025:

Elders- Lee Metzger (President), Karen Peterson, Ron Grace, and Doris Lindmeier
Deacons- Tara Howell, Erin Rush, Robert Creager, Lance Ide, Herb Volk (Vice-President),
and Cindy Grace.

A REFLECTION ON BACK BAY MISSIONS

This was my first experience with Back Bay Mission, although I have volunteered at other mission projects through other churches.

Back Bay Mission provides the weekday lunch meal for the participants that come to the Micah Center. I was honored to participate in preparing several of these lunches and delivering them to the participants. I've made up a little "ditty" below to describe what we had to do to prepare these meals.

Oh, and I was also honored that they let me use a knife!



We were told that 65 people needed to be fed daily
A different menu every day, but no recipes to use, per say
A table full of ingredients that covered the whole week
(we had to pick what we thought was needed for each day)
Not easy to handle, especially for the weak!
We stepped right up that first day and started to cook
And nobody gave us a second look
(we really looked like we knew what we were doing!)
We had to improvise with the ingredients we had
To make 65 portions of hamburger helper with 3 lbs of ground beef was really sad
But we proved our mettle and made it taste good
The people we served were appreciative for some good, hot food!
And so it continued that week, a mystery to figure out each day
And somehow we managed to make something good (or so they say)
All we knew was that those people didn't go hungry
Nope, not on our watch, we couldn't let that happen!
(sorry.....no rhyme for hungry!)

Barbara Fritz

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Once again St. Andrew's will be participating in Operation Christmas Child. Shoeboxes for children are filled with age appropriate gifts and sent all over the world for those in need. Operation Christmas Child not only delivers the joy for what many kids is their first gift ever but also gives them a tangible expression of God's love.

Shoeboxes will be available October 19th in fellowship hall with instructions. Shoeboxes are due back no later than November 16th.

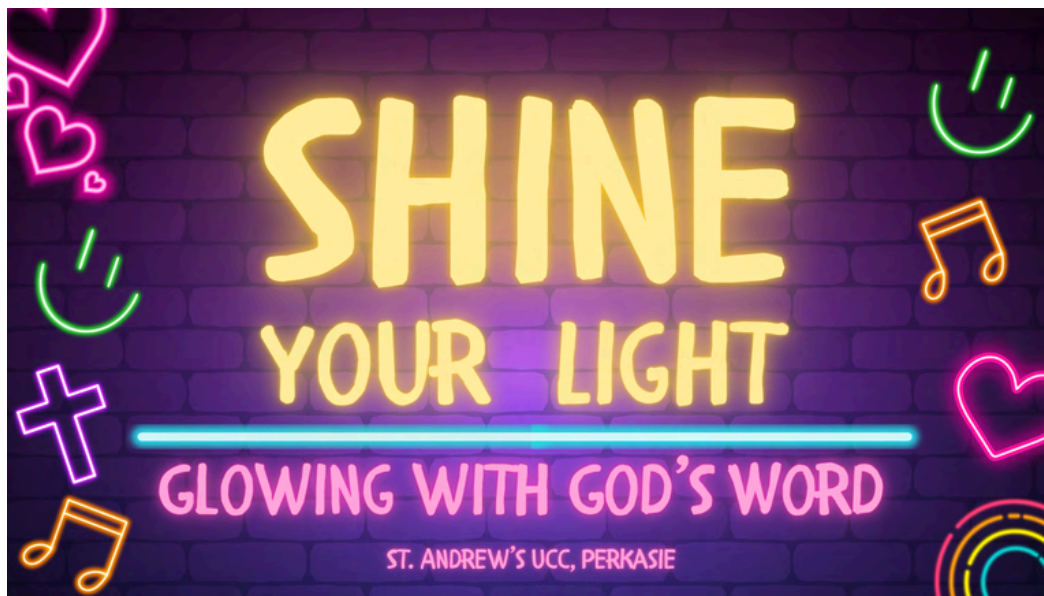
Any questions- contact Deb Kantner.



FAITH FORMATION



All children 3 years old through 5th Grade are invited to our weekly faith formation hour from 9-10am. Each week children will be engaged in a lively lesson from the new testament scriptures through play, games, music, science, art, and more. We are excited to be sharing monthly themes this year and starting a weekly online message on our social media pages each Wednesday! We can't wait to explore the gospel with our young disciples!



Join us in October for Shine your Light: Glowing with God's Word for our faith formation hour for our young disciples. Lessons for this month are:

October 5- Jesus is the Light of the World
John 8:12

October 19- Your Word is Light
Psalm 119:105

October 12- God is our Light and Salvation
Psalm 27:1

October 26- Let Your Light Shine
Matthew 5:16



We start with a gathering time between 8:45 and 9:00. Adult Circle starts promptly at 9. If you are running late, we ask that you enter quietly and join the circle. Utilizing Circle Process we come together to share and listen to each other related to the book we are studying. We are currently studying the book *Fierce* by Alice Connor. Contact Karen Peterson at 267-664-0341 or kapcharlkp@gmail.com

MISSION MOMENTS

ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE

RUMMAGE SALE

OCTOBER 18, 2025

8AM - 1PM

SALE IS HELD INDOORS

St. Andrew's UCC • 615 E. Walnut Street, Perkasia

Looking to clean out? Donate your items to our Rummage Sale! Place your donated items in the fellowship Hall. If you have further questions please contact Angela Stofflet.



CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

We're participating in the 2025 CROP Hunger Walk on October 12th to support CWS and help families who are struggling with hunger. We're asking you to join us - with your steps and your donations - to provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them, and greater food security in communities around the world.

If you want to donate to our walkers please visit standrewsucc.org.

Neighbors in Need



NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. Many of our churches collect the offering as part of World Communion Sunday, we at St. Andrew's will be joining our siblings in Christ by collecting this offering on October 5th during our worship. Thank you for your support and generosity!

MINCEMEAT AND PIE MAKING

Culinary team invites anyone who would like to help make the MINCE MEAT to join us on Thursday, November 6. Bring your apple peelers, and favorite peeling knife to peel apples in preparation. Start time is 8 AM. This is a FUN and FELLOWSHIP event!!! Let Ken Barndt know if you are able to help *(215 257 7063 or blumenridge@comcast.net)

Many 'peelers' make light work**** Bless you for considering.

NOTE TO ST. ANDREW'S BAKERS: pie baking, apple dumpling making, mince meat pie making, etc., and other preparations for November 22nd HOLIDAY PIES AND SOUP DAY will be on Thursday, Nov., 20 and Friday, Nov., 21 begin at 8 AM.



BLESSING THE ANIMALS

OCTOBER 5, 2025 AT 1:30PM

GATHER AT ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE'S PAVILION
615 E. WALNUT STREET, PERKASIE, PA



St. Andrew's United Church of Christ

Trunk or Treat

Sat. October 25 4-6pm

Food - Games - Trick or Treat

615 E. Walnut Street, Perkasie PA



TRUNK OR TREAT IS BACK!

Trunk or Treat is back for another year! Mark your calendars for October 25th. If you would like to participate by having a trunk full of treats or helping in any way please see Karen Gossard! We can't wait for another year of Halloween fun for the entire community!

Cost to Play.

Pre-Registration is strongly suggested as we have a limited number of seats available.

St. Andrew's UCC 615 E. Walnut Street Perkasie, PA
standrewsucc.org

6PM | SAT. NOV. 15, 2025

Philadelphia Bronze

PRESENTS A CHRISTMAS HANDBELL CONCERT

All I want for Christmas!

DECEMBER 14, 2025 | 4:30PM

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
615 E. WALNUT STREET, PERKASIE, PA 18944



TICKETS ARE \$15

BUY TICKETS ONLINE USING THE QR CODE

OR AT WWW.STANDREWSUCC.ORG

OR

CALL US AT (215)-257-2880

ALTAR GUILD NEEDS YOU!



Altar Guild is always looking for new members. If you are interested in joining this amazing team, please contact Karen Gossard.

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

Choir Needs You



New members are needed for the choir.
Please see Robert if interested.

Bell Choir is Starting Again!



Bell Choir is starting again! They meet Thursday evenings at 6:30am. If you are interested contact Shirley Metzger.

ONA TEAM UPDATE

Open and Affirming (ONA) Covenant – Why do we need one?

We declare ourselves to be open to and affirming of all people when we recognize our unity in diversity. So how do we let others know that? In the UCC church, we do so by affirming an Open and Affirming (ONA) Covenant.

Open and Affirming Covenant: Described in Three Parts

A covenant is defined as an act of faith, a solemn promise to God in response to God's Holy Word. An Open and Affirming Covenant is a promise that a congregation takes seriously St. Paul's admonition to "accept one another, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." (Romans 15:7, NIV). It is a solemn step for a UCC congregation in its life of faith, one that can lead a congregation to grow and flourish. It is more than a statement, policy, or declaration. An ONA Covenant affirms an explicit WELCOME and AFFIRMATION of INCLUSION to all people listed in the Covenant, into the full life, ministry, and sacraments of the church. All sacraments and rites of an ONA congregation are available to those persons or groups spelled out in the Covenant including baptism, confirmation, communion, and marriage as well as employment.

Our DRAFT Open and Affirming Covenant at St. Andrew's has three parts: 1) Diversities we strive to embrace, 2) Acknowledgement and repentance for the exclusion we have participated in as members of the Christian Church, and 3) Promise of safety and inclusion to all those that have been marginalized.

In the first part of the DRAFT Open and Affirming Covenant, we define the goal and who is affected, the desire to be inclusive to marginalized people:

"St. Andrew's United Church of Christ is an inclusive community rooted in God's incredible love. As an Open and Affirming Church, we strive to embrace and seek to preserve the beautiful diversity of God's creation. We are a Christian community of faith who welcomes all people, embracing the diversities of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, race, ethnic background, immigration status, refugee status, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, addiction/recovery challenges, family structure, relationship status, political affiliation, soul injury, faith backgrounds, doubters, questioners, and welcoming anyone who has been excluded in the past. All are invited to participate fully in the life of the church—in worship, celebrating the sacraments, in fellowship, ministering as lay and ordained persons, in leadership positions and in mission.

In the second part of the DRAFT Open and Affirming Covenant, we define the problem: exclusion. We acknowledge and repent of the exclusion we have participated in as members of the Christian Church. This could involve actions we've taken, things we've witnessed but did not address, or exclusion we were unaware of.

"We recognize that the Christian Church has historically excluded those who have not fit its preconceived ideas of who is acceptable to God. We acknowledge our silence has contributed to pain and exclusion. We repent and seek to live out God's love, justice and compassion as Jesus taught. 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and Prophets hang on these two commandments. Matthew 22:37-40"

The third part of the DRAFT Open and Affirming Covenant is the promise to do better now that we know better.

We covenant to be a place of inclusion and affirmation that is safe for all people and to meet you where you are on life's journey to share God's love with you. We offer ourselves and our resources to ensure inclusion and justice for all people and offer a place for healing, understanding, hope and love to be manifested. Honoring the diversity of God's children, we make this commitment with the help and grace of God.

I hope that one day we will have an affirmed Open and Affirming Covenant at St. Andrew's so we can enjoy all the diverse gifts that God has as part of Creation. An affirmed ONA Covenant explicitly promises that these groups are not just welcomed but celebrated. It communicates our open and affirming commitment to those visiting our church website, visiting services on-line or services in person that they will be considered a wonderfully and fearfully made Child of God. It will be displayed prominently on our church website and will allow St. Andrew's to be included on an ONA church list on the UCC website where people go to find churches. What is the impact of being an Open and Affirming UCC congregation? To have an Open and Affirming Covenant? More next month on this

Adapted from Covenants - UCC Open and Affirming Coalition

ONA Team Meeting Dates:

Nov. 18, Jan. 13 - All are welcome to join!

If you have any questions about our work or have any ideas about what type of educational opportunities you would be interested in attending, please reach out to any member of our core team. Our members include Jessica Reese, Lee Metzger, Lance and Robin Ide, Karen Peterson, Tara Howell, Robert Creager, Debbie Kantner, Erin Rush, Doris Lindmeier, Angela Stofflet, and Evie Starkey.



GOD'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE



GIVE WITH A JOYFUL HEART



Scan the qr code with
your phone camera to
give online!

Want to give via Check?

Mail your check or bring it with you the next time you
come to St. Andrew's.

St. Andrew's UCC
P.O. Box 69
Perkasie, PA 18944

Save THE Date



Nov. 15	Bingo Night at St. Andrew's
Nov. 18	JT Bankers Dine and Donate
Nov. 22	Pie and Mincemeat Sale
Dec. 7	Advent Workshop
Dec. 7	A Concert with Robert
Dec. 14	Philadelphia Bronze Concert
Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Service
Feb. 9	Perk Dine and Donate
March 7	Charlie Zahm Concert

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We need one usher for
October 19th and December
14th.

We need a liturgist for
November 9th.



SERVING SCHEDULES

USHERS

October

Head Ushers:

Lance Ide & Ron Grace

5- Erin Rush & Karen Peterson

12- Linda Brickajlik & Ron Grace

19- Open Ministry & Ethel Dietrich

26- Doris Lindmeier & Deb Kantner

Nov. 2- Lee Metzger & Ruth Yothers



LITURGIST

October

5- Jess Reese Wamsley

12- Denise Mayhew

19- Lee Metzger

26- Shirley Metzger

Nov. 2- Brian Rush

October Communion Servers

Lance Ide & Herb Volk

October Alter Guild

Robin Ide & Doris Lindmeier



ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE

October 2025

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			 8:30am Coffee & Conversations 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	1 Pastor's Sermon Prep 6:30pm Bell Choir 	2 Pastor's Day off	3
4 8:45 Adult Circle 9:00 Faith Formation 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion for World Wide Communion  1:30pm Blessing of the Animals	5 	6 10:15am Bible Study	7 8:30am Coffee & Conversations 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm Elders Meeting	9 	10
Pastor Barb on Vacation						
11 8:45 Adult Circle 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Worship Pennridge Crop Walk 	12 7 pm Mission Resource Meeting	13 10:15am Bible Study 6:30pm Girl Scouts Rummage Sale Set Up	14 8:30am Coffee & Conversations 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15  11am RamPacks Packing at Blooming Glen Mennonite 6:30pm Bell Choir	16 	17  Rummage Sale 8am-1pm
Pastor Barb on Vacation						
18 8:45 Adult Circle 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Worship 2:30-4:30 Andrew's Group Piano Lesson	19 	20 10:15am Bible Study 6:30pm ONA Meeting 	21 8:30am Coffee & Conversations 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22 Pastor's Sermon Prep 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm Consistory Meeting	23 Pastor's Day off  October Newsletter Deadline	24  Trunk or Treat 4-6pm
25 8:45 Adult Circle 9am Faith Formation 10:30 am Worship	26 	27 10:15am Bible Study 6:30pm Girl Scouts	28 8:30am Coffee & Conversations 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal 	29 Pastor's Sermon Prep 6:30pm Bell Choir	30 Pastor's Day off HAPPY HALLOWEEN 	31

Join us Virtually for Sunday worship at 10:15am .
 You can find us at: www.youtube.com/@Standrewsucc

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