

ROOTED

An inclusive Community Rooted in God's Incredible Love

ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE, PA

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August 2025



AUGUST UPCOMING EVENTS



MISSION MOMENT: BACK BAY MISSION AUGUST 3RD - DURING WORSHIP

Join our mission team that went to Back Bay Missions in June to learn more about their experience and time at the mission during worship at 10:15am. We can't wait to share in the spirit with our mission team!



PIES @ PERKASIE FARMERS MARKET AUGUST 23RD 9AM-NOON

Join us at the Perkasie Farmers Market to share some St. Andrew's Pies and funny cake, and have fellowship with our neighbors. We can't wait to see you!

Bakers will be baking on August 21st and 22nd. If you have questions please see Ken or Joyce Barndt.



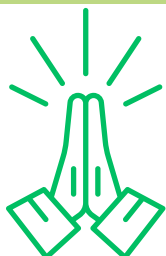
WORSHIP IN PERKASIE PARK AUGUST 24TH, 10:30AM

We are looking forward to our annual service at Perkasie Park on August 24th. Worship will be followed by a pot luck dessert fellowship hour. Please note worship will begin at 10:30am on that day and no worship will be held within the St. Andrew's building. We look forward to a day of fellowship and worship together within our community.



PENNRIDGE MINISTERIUM PRAYER SERVICE AUGUST 24TH, 7PM

The Pennridge Ministerium Prayer Service for the world, the nation and our community is being held at St. Andrew's UCC on Sunday, August 24 at 7 PM. Please join us and invite others.





PASTORS MESSAGE

LUKE 12:49-56

**"DO YOU THINK, I HAVE COME TO BRING PEACE TO THE EARTH? NO, I TELL YOU, BUT RATHER DIVISION!"
(LUKE 12:51)**

For many of us, the church is supposed to be a place of peace, comfort, a place where everyone is welcome and there is unity. So, when Jesus speaks of fire and division, even within families, we may wonder what that means for a community like ours. We may even resist it. But perhaps this passage has something essential to say to a church facing tension and disagreement on how God is moving the church into the future.

Jesus is not celebrating conflict for conflict's sake. He is naming a truth: that the Gospel is disruptive. It challenges our priorities, our assumptions, and sometimes even our relationships. And when the church tries to avoid conflict at all costs, it can end up silencing the truth, suppressing transformation, and losing its way.

Division in the church isn't new. The early followers of Jesus experienced it. The Book of Acts is filled with stories of the disciples debating theology. The Epistles highlight the struggles churches in different communities had over culture, belief and practice. And yet, again and again, Scripture points us to a deeper unity, not one built on uniformity, but on shared identity in Christ.

That's where this passage speaks to us today. In a time when churches are divided over social issues, theological perspectives, political affiliations, and the reasons churches are losing members and why giving is down, we are being called back to the core of who we are and who we follow. Our true identity is not in our opinions or our factions, but in Jesus Christ.

Jesus brings fire not to destroy, but to refine and kindle change. He burns away the things that do not belong, our ego, our self-righteousness, our need to be right, and invites us to be shaped by the Spirit.

And when we allow Christ to be the center of our identity, we can engage even our deepest differences with grace, courage, and humility, doing the hard work of listening, speaking truth, and loving one another even when we disagree. To do so we let the fire of Christ reshape who we are as church giving us clarity about who we are in Christ.

May we be a church brave enough to face the fire and faithful enough to be transformed by it.

Pastor Barb





JULY MEETING CONSISTORY REPORT



Consistory was joined by the Finance Team and a lengthy discussion was held concerning our current financial situation. It was agreed to hold a Special Congregational Meeting on September 28, 2025 to discuss the details with the congregation and explore the options to resolve our current deficit.

Please mark your Calendars for the Congregational meeting on September 28, 2025 following worship.



We also received an update that our new website is expected to be live this week or next.



We are looking forward to our annual service at Perkasio Park on August 24 which will be followed by a pot luck dessert fellowship hour at Perkasio Park.

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.

KEYSTONE CONFERENCE UPDATE

See below a letter sent from the 4 Pennsylvania Conference Ministers following the passage of the Keystone Conference Resolution at the United Church of Christ General Synod in July 2025. Our current conference is the Pennsylvania South East Conference and as of January 2026 we will merge with the other 3 conferences in Pennsylvania to create the Keystone Conference of the United Church of Christ.



PNEC



Dear Keystone Friends,

With full hearts and joy filled spirits, we are thrilled to announce the historic passage of the motion to create the Keystone Conference of the United Church of Christ! **By a vote of 98%** (640 in favor, 8 opposed, 6 abstentions), delegates of the 35th General Synod approved the realignment of our Conference boundaries. This moment marks the culmination of several years of faithful discernment, courageous conversation, and a shared vision for the future of our ministry in Pennsylvania. Together, we have dared to believe that God is still speaking — and calling us into something new.

The creation of the Keystone Conference is more than a structural shift; it is a bold witness to our commitment to covenant, collaboration, and the continuing call of the Holy Spirit. We honor the legacy of those who have gone before us in each of our four Conferences and rejoice in the new pathways and possibilities now open to us. We give thanks for the Keystone Working Group, Conference staffs, and all who labored, prayed, and dreamed this into being. And we move forward with gratitude, humility, and a renewed passion for the Gospel.

We trust that the One who began a good work among us will be faithful to complete it.

In faith and hope,
Bill
Bonnie
Carrie
David

FALL BACK TO CURCH SUNDAY

Join St. Andrew's UCC,
St. Luke's UCC Ottsville,
St. Paul's UCC,
St. Peter's UCC, and
St. Stephen's UCC



At St. Stephen's UCC
110 N 6th St. Perkasié
Sunday, September 7, 2025
at 10:00am

UCC Cooperative Ministries
Fall Back to Church/Rally Day
Joint Worship Service



There will be something for everyone!
Traditional music, contemporary
music, Sunday School songs,
interactive message,

communion, and fellowship. Offering in
envelopes will go to the respective churches.
Loose offering will be donated to RamPacks.
We will share in lunch afterward.



A REFLECTION ON BACK BAY MISSIONS

Our newsletter last month spoke about the work that we accomplished while at Back Bay this year; however, there is always more to a mission trip. Anyone who has gone on a mission knows that it is not just about the work, it is about the relationships and the presence of the Spirit. We often say that we learn and gain more than we give and this trip was no exception. I would like to focus this article on the spiritual aspects of our trip. Thank you to Pastor Barb who led us each evening in devotions even though many nights we just wanted to go to bed. Much of what is written here is directly from her preparations. Despite our tiredness, we would spend over an hour together focused on God's teaching and sharing our personal reflections.

Our first encounter with the Spirit came on Sunday morning when we had the opportunity to meet with One Coast UCC which recently became the first UCC to return to Biloxi following the closing of the UCC church in that area in 1974. The Mission and the UCC were supportive of integration and civil rights protests in the 1960's and many of the members were arrested. Ultimately, the UCC church shut down, but the Mission remained. We met the members of the new church which is lay-led, and many were guests that used the services of the Mission. The Spirit moved freely among the people with singing and open discussion of hopes, dreams and grief.

Our evening devotions explored Matthew 5, 6 and 7 with focused verses. On Sunday, (Matthew 5:3) we learned about "spiritual humility" and our deep need for God. When we recognize our need for God, we can better serve others with compassion rather than pity. This was a great way to start the week. We can serve not from a place of power but from the heart. We asked ourselves the question, where do you recognize your need for God and how does that change how you serve other? This allowed us to move among the guests (this is what the Mission calls those they serve) and build relationships rather than just do the work.

On Monday (Matthew 5:6) we discussed our desire for justice and to heal brokenness. We observed the need for justice in Biloxi and focused on how we were doing justice work at Back Bay. We asked God to help us serve and act justly in every place He sends us. We learned that mission work is justice work. This can happen anywhere. Where can we do justice work in Perkasio?

On Tuesday (Matthew 5:14-16) we were reminded that we are the light of the world and we looked at where God's light shines in all we do. We saw God's light in the Back Bay workers, the Volunteer Coordinators and the unsheltered folks who helped one another. We saw the light shine through our own team members. We looked at how we could let our own light shine and asked ourselves where we hide our light. What does it look like for you to shine your light and what keeps you from being the light?

On Wednesday (Matthew 6:25-34) we were called to let go of worry and remember that Jesus calls us to trust. By this time in a mission, this one can be very important as we wonder if we can get the work done, will everyone in the team be ok, and are we all doing what needs to be done. Will we make it the rest of the week? We looked at how God took care of us despite our worries. Where is the evidence that God is taking care of things for you?

On Thursday (Matthew 7:12) we explored the golden rule. We were invited to see others as God would see them, since we are all in His creation. We didn't just work at Back Bay, we built relationships. We were told that spending time with the guests was just as important as doing the building and cleaning and painting. We were invited to think about what we would want in their circumstances. We talked about how we can really "see" those around us. In what ways can our actions reflect how we want to be treated in our own church and community?

On Friday (Matthew 7:24-27) we focused on the fact that we didn't just build houses on this trip we built spiritual ones too. We discussed the foundations that we built on this trip. Where do we need to practice more of what Jesus taught us? Where can I stand firm and help others in my work for Him. These were the verses and topics that we explored. I invite you to look at the verses and explore the questions for yourself considering our work at St. Andrew's in Perkasio.

Karen Peterson



MISSION MOMENTS

ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE

RUMMAGE SALE

& ST. ANDREW'S PIES FOR SALE

STAY TUNED FOR ITEM COLLECTION INFORMATION AND DATES

8am-1pm • October 18 • 615 E. Walnut Street, Perkasia

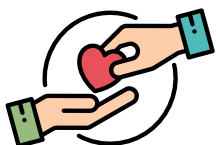


PIES! PIES! PIES!

Our remaining Farmer Market Dates are, on Saturdays, August 23rd and September 6th with the addition of some Apple Crumb and Pumpkin Pies on this date. We are happy we can share this ministry with the community.

SHARE YOUR GIFTS

Special Music: If you would like to provide special music August, please see Robert.



GIVE WITH A JOYFUL HEART

THANK YOU for your continued support of our beautiful church building and supporting the great missions in our community. Below is the link to our online giving platform:



[CLICK HERE TO GIVE ONLINE](#)



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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



BINGO

NOVEMBER 15, 2025

MORE INFO TO FOLLOW

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

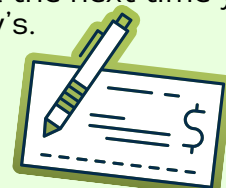


Join us for worship on August 24th at Perkasia Park starting at 10:30am. We will be worshipping as a community of faith at the park and will not have worship within our building on August 24th.

Want to give via Check?

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

Mailing Address:
St. Andrew's UCC
P.O. Box 69
Perkasia, PA 18944



DRIVE-THRU PET FOOD DRIVE

**SEPTEMBER
27TH, 2025
8:30AM - 10:30AM**



Please help support the efforts of St. Andrew's UCC in Perkasio to support Pennridge FISH by collecting pet (dog, cat, gerbil, etc.) food. St. Andrew's volunteers will be on-site to unload items from your car. Will also be accepting regular FISH items.

DROP-OFF LOCATION



St. Andrew's UCC
615 E Walnut St, Perkasio PA 18944

ITEMS NEEDED

- ▶ Canned and dry cat or dog food
- ▶ Food for other household pets
- ▶ Other regular FISH items

For More Information :

267-614-1453 (Kelly Finno)

standrewsucc.org



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL RECAP

Create Peace Vacation Bible School was a fun filled and God inspiring week! We were blessed with 40 fearfully and wonderfully made children who brought the gospel alive through story telling, games, snacks, activities, science, crafts and more. Each child shared their unique God given gifts throughout the week and our staff was over joyed to get to know each and everyone of them. We spent our week learning about how we were all fearfully and wonderfully made by God, ways to respect and love God's creation, share our gifts and God-given talents, and ways we could forgive those around us. We went on lion hunts, made paper cranes, collected 'bee pollen', went on nature walks, sang songs, created backpacks, planted plants, created snack bugs and s'mores. Our week was filled with love, peace, and the holy spirit. Thank you to all of the volunteers the week of and leading up to VBS for making the week run flawlessly. We are so blessed to have such invested and wonderful volunteers. A big thank you to all who donated supplies and helped to fund our VBS week this year. We can't wait to share in another year of VBS next summer.



ONA TEAM UPDATE

PERKASIE PRIDE MARKET REFLECTION

On June 28, the ONA Team participated in the PRIDE Market at the Perkasie Farmer's Market. It was a wonderful event that was greatly supported by the community! Several organizations, including other churches, were represented at the event. St. Andrews had sticker and bracelets to hand out and our ever-popular photo booth. Participants could choose a sign to hold and have their picture taken, with this sign, on their phones. The signs had messages of inclusion and PRIDE. Many people from the community stopped at our table to have a group picture taken!

The event was so much fun! There was so much love, acceptance, and inclusion present throughout the three-hour event! The PRIDE market was busy the entire time, from 9am until 12pm! The number of people present was so wonderful. Words cannot describe the energy and love felt among those who attended the event. Many members of the community thanked us for being there to support our LGBTQ community. They were grateful that a church was so supportive!

Even though we say everyone is welcome, there are many who do not trust the welcome. When an explicit welcome is offered, the community shows up! This was truly what the PRIDE market proved. An explicit welcome to all our LGBTQ members brought out the community in an overwhelming way!



ONA Team Meeting Dates:

August 19, Sept. 9, Oct. 21, 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, and Erin Rush.



GOD'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE

Save
THE
Date



- Sept. 6 Pies @ Perkasio Farmers Market
- Sept. 7 Back to Church - Rally Day Sunday with other UCC's
- Sept. 13 Consistory Long Range Planning Retreat
- Sept. 13-27 Heading God's Call
- Sept. 14 Sunday Lunch in the Pavilion
- Sept. 27 Pet Food Drive
- Sept. 27 Pig Roast
- Sept. 28 Congregational Meeting Following Worship
- Oct. 18 Rummage Sale
- Nov. 15 Bingo Night at St. Andrew's
- Dec. 14 Philadelphia Bronze Concert
- March 7 Charlie Zahm Concert

SERVING SCHEDULES

USHERS

August

*Head Ushers: Doris Lindmeier
& Lee Metzger*

3- Amy & Jim Smith

10- Erin Rush & Karen Peterson

17- Linda Brickajilik & Ron Grace

24- Ken Barndt & Ethel Dierich

31- Doris Lindmeier & Deb Kantner



August Communion Servers
Doris Lindmeier and Herb Volk

LITURGIST

August

3- Karen Gossard

10- Linda Brickajilik

17- Tara Howell

24- Robin Ide

31- Kathy Fretz








August Alter Guild
Ethel Dietrich & Doris Lindmeier



ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE

AUGUST 2025



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
8:45 Adult Circle 3 10:15am Worship with Mission Moment: Back Bay Mission 	4	5 10:15am Bible Study 	6	7 Pastor's Sermon Prep	8 Pastor's Day off	9
8:45 Adult Circle 10 10:15am Worship with Holy Communion 	11 7 pm Mission Resource Meeting	12 10:15am Bible Study	13	14 Pastor's Sermon Prep 7pm Elders Meeting	15 Pastor's Day off	16
8:45 Adult Circle 17 10:15am Worship	18	19 10:15am Bible Study 6:30pm ONA Meeting 	20	21 Pastor's Sermon Prep Pie Baking 8am	22 Pastor's Day off Pie Baking 8am	23 9am-Noon Pies at Perkasie Farmers Market 
8:45 Adult Circle 24 10:30 am Worship at Perkasie Park  7pm Community Prayer Service 	25  Septmeber Newsletter Deadline	26 10:15am Bible Study	27	28 Pastor's Sermon Prep 7pm Consistory Meeting	29	30
8:45 Adult Circle 31 10:15 am Worship						



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

Follow us

