

ROOTED

An inclusive Community Rooted in God's Incredible Love

ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE, PA



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March 2026

MARCH UPCOMING EVENTS

LASAGNA DINNER AND CHARLIE ZAHM CONCERT

MARCH 7TH 4:30-6PM WITH CONCERT AT 7PM



Join us for our lasagna dinner including salad, lasagna, garlic bread, and delicious desserts from 4:30-6pm (or until sold out). Join us at 7pm for the Charlie Zahm Concert featuring Steve Hobson. Tickets are \$15. Find more information inside the newsletter about these two exciting upcoming events.



A NIGHT AT THE PERK MARCH 23RD 5-9PM

Join us on March 23rd for a night at the Perk! Have some delicious dinner with a percentage of proceeds from meals and drinks donated back to St. Andrew's. We will also have some raffle baskets and enjoy time of fellowship with one another and our local community.

LENTEN JOURNEY WEDNESDAYS AND SUNDAYS

Throughout the Lenten season we will be sharing worship, fellowship, reflection, prayer, and the word with our UCC sister congregations.

We look forward to the opportunity to deepen our knowledge and understandings with our "Tree of Life" theme. Throughout lent Wednesday's will include joint lenten experiences at both mid-day and evening times as well as Sunday worship services filled with the spirit.

Find out more about times and locations in the newsletter.



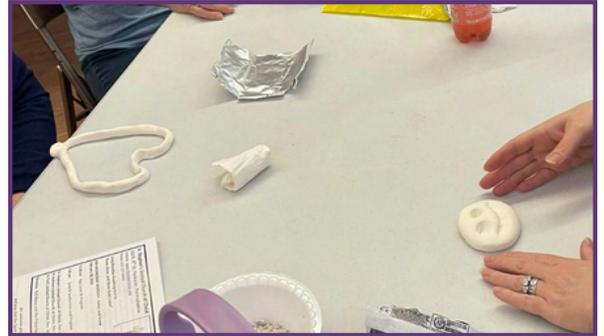


PASTORS MESSAGE

IS THERE JOY ON THE LENTEN JOURNEY?

"Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain in me a willing spirit." Psalm 51:12

At our Ash Wednesday, lunch gathering, we were given modeling clay and asked to create something to represent how we are feeling going into the Lenten journey. There were crosses, a heart, angels, among other creations but there were two people who created something to show joy. One person commented that Lent is a serious season and it's hard when one carries joy in their heart. The other said they found joy in Lent because we come together as a community to share the journey.



Lent is indeed a serious season. It's a time when we slow down and consider what it truly means to follow Jesus on the road to Jerusalem and ultimately to the cross. We begin with Ash Wednesday, a day to remember our mortality and that it is God who gives us the breath of life and through Christ, new life. Lent invites us to stand honestly before God, ourselves, and one another, taking responsibility for the parts of our lives that diminish life—our sins, failures and shortcomings. Yet, it is only then through God's love, grace, and reconciliation can healing begin moving us towards wholeness and new life in Christ.

As we turn back to God, many of us take up Lenten practices. Some will give up certain foods or habits to create space for prayer and reflection. Others fast from social media or unnecessary spending. Still others will take up a discipline: reading Scripture daily, exercising, organizing, praying, volunteering or serving. These sacrifices and disciplines can deepen our relationship with God and with one another. Sometimes they even become life-giving rhythms we carry beyond Lent.

Still, we don't often describe sacrifice and discipline as joyful. And yet, there is joy woven into this season. The forty days of Lent do not include Sundays. Each Sunday is considered a "mini-Easter," a weekly celebration of the resurrection, even within this reflective season. Though our worship carries Lenten tones with purple paraments and vestments, Lenten prayers, hymns and messages for guidance and wisdom on the journey, Sunday remains a day of rejoicing. It's a reminder that repentance and renewal are always held within the promise of resurrection.



Does that mean you must pause your fast or discipline on Sundays? That's between you and God. There is no spiritual scoreboard. For some, continuing the practice strengthens resolve. For others, a weekly pause restores energy for the journey ahead. Either way, the heart of Lent is not rigid rule-keeping but an intentional return to God.

Lent encompasses sacrifice, discipline, and yes, joy. Joy is found in walking together. Joy is found in honest repentance and fresh starts. Joy is found in a deeper relationship with God. As we continue this Lenten journey, may we embrace its seriousness without losing sight of its hope. For even on the road to the cross, resurrection is already promised.

Pastor Barb



FEBRUARY MEETING CONSISTORY REPORT

St. Andrew's consistory met with 5 other UCC churches on Tuesday, February 24th to discuss ways to support one another in our ministries and have a stronger UCC presence in the Pennridge area. A result of the meeting is a new facebook page, the Pennridge UCC Collaborative where all our churches will share events, information about joint ministries and create a place of extravagant welcome for the Pennridge Community. If you haven't followed the page already make sure to do so! We also discussed what some joint ministries and missions may look like in the future. We will continue to meet as a collaborative on a periodic basis to discuss and plan ministries opportunities.

We discussed our Pixel Power fundraiser and how we move forward with investing in screens for our sanctuary. We know that for many of us it is hard to imagine making a purchase like this following the need to review and economize our budget. We want to ensure members are aware that a large portion of the costs for the screens has already been donated by an anonymous member and the purchase was already in early stages prior to our budget economization. We look forward to the modernization, growth, and opportunities new screens will bring to our worship services and events.

We discussed a need for fellowship hour hosts. Please be sure to sign up to provide a small snack and make coffee for our fellowship time during worship. If you have questions about how to host fellowship hour or what it entails please see a consistory or culinary team member.

A new communication rack has been placed in the upstairs narthex. Soon it will hold our newsletters, brochures, consistory agendas and minutes, and further information so it can be a one stop shop for all our communication and information materials. Check it out next time you are at church.

We discussed our worship services and some voiced concerns about the length of our services with multiple suggestions from members about ways we could improve worship. We did a review of the average length of mainline protestant churches in the United States and in our local area. Our research shows that mainline protestant churches average a service length of 60-90 minutes per week. Over the last few months we have averaged a 76 minute service which falls right into the average range of service length.

We approved a large number of exciting and upcoming events including Easter Egg Extravaganza on April 4th from 10am-Noon, Rummage and Book Sale on June 27th, Setting up a booth at Community Day on June 27th, Farmers Market Pie days for June 13, August 1st, and September 12th. We look forward to the many opportunities we have ahead.

As always if you have questions, concerns, or suggestions please reach out to a consistory meeting or attend our meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7pm.

Consistory Members 2026:

Elders- , Karen Peterson, Ron Grace, Tara Howell and Doris Lindmeier

Deacons- Erin Rush, Lance Ide, Herb Volk (Vice President) , Amanda Duffy (President), Angela Stofflet (Secretary), Evie Starkey and Cindy Grace.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Greetings, St. Andrew's...

Below you will find a summary for the month of January as compared to our Budget and to January 2024. January results show a shortfall of \$3543, mainly in Income and Donations. Thanks to Mother Nature, we needed to cancel two consecutive Sunday worship services. Our Pork and Sauerkraut dinner was a great success, resulting in \$2473 in donations, and many full bellies.

Through January 31, 2026			
	YTD 2026	YTD Budget	YTD 2025
Income / Donations			
General Fund	11,193	16,386	14,385
OCWM	280	500	431
Other Benevolence/Local Missions			357
Cemetery	15		118
Special Fund (MRT, Culinary Team)	2,473		2,809
TOTAL Income / Donations	13,961	16,886	18,100
Expenses / Payments			
Salaries and Benefits	10,320	10,935	12,080
Property Maintenance	4,465	3,798	373
Other Church Operation Expenses	2,018	1,653	1,580
OCWM		500	
Other Benevolence/Local Missions			
Special Fund (MRT, Culinary Team)	701		639
TOTAL Expenses	17,504	16,886	14,672
Difference	(3,543)	-	3,428
Bank Account Balances			
	January 31, 2026	January 31, 2025	
General Fund	11,178	4,681	
Special Fund	21,695	19,264	
Memorial Fund	31,152	31,199	
Investments	124,505	148,784	
TOTAL Bank Account Balances	188,530	203,928	

Below is a link to our church website where you can set up online giving. If you have any questions regarding how to use VANCO, our online giving platform, please contact me at finance@standrewsucc.org or 215.896.3134. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Flexer, Treasurer

TREE OF LIFE LENTEN SERIES



St. Andrew's UCC, St. Stephen's UCC, Perkasio and St. Paul's UCC, Sellersville are joining together for the Lenten season. Beginning with Ash Wednesday and each Wednesday until Holy Week we'll be meeting twice a day to eat together and share in a Lenten experience. Then we'll come together for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Choose the time of day that works best for you:

Midday Gatherings: 11:30 AM- 1 PM Bring a brown bag lunch.

Evening Gatherings: 5:30-7 PM Soup and sandwich meal provided by host church.

Ash Wednesday with the Imposition of Ashes

February 18 Midday and Evening Gathering St. Stephen's UCC

Midweek Gatherings

February 25 Midday and Evening Gathering St. Andrew's UCC

March 4 Midday and Evening Gathering St. Paul's UCC

March 11 Midday and Evening Gathering St. Andrew's

March 18 Midday and Evening Gathering St. Paul's UCC

March 25 Midday and Evening Gathering St. Stephen's UCC

Holy Week - Evening Gatherings Only

April 2 Maundy Thursday St. Paul's UCC

April 3 Good Friday St. Andrew's UCC

Locations

St. Andrew's UCC 615 E. Walnut St. Perkasio

St. Paul's UCC 104 Green St. Sellersville

St. Stephen's UCC 110 N. 6th St. Perkasio



MISSION MOMENT FLUKE, OUR STUDENT IN THAILAND

The Mission Resource Team would like to update you on our Student in Thailand. Grittayot "Fluke" Duangrat just celebrated his 13th Birthday on February 18. WOW now a teenager. His life is simple and his needs are being met thru the Pearl S. Buck Child Sponsorship Program that we at St. Andrew's support. He is able to attend school and is now in the 7th grade level. He is a good student but needs extra help with some subjects. He enjoys social activities with his friends, especially playing Soccer. The Thai language is his favorite subject. He hopes to become a police officer. Fluke helps his mother with home chores. There is no running water in his home so his one task is filling the water containers for drinking, washing and doing dishes every day. We get letters from him and we post them on the board in the upper foyer. He recently experienced a 'class trip' and was able to see a movie in a theatre for the first time. Thru our sponsorship he receives educational needs and supplies, food/meals at school and medical care. His home is in the country and he takes a bus to school each day. His parents work in the farm fields near their home. They are very poor, but are grateful that Fluke is able to receive our sponsorship. Fluke is on our prayer list each week, so prayers for him and his family are needed. If anyone is interested in the child sponsor program at Pearl S. Buck International you can visit their web site Pearlsbuck.org or reach out to Joyce Barndt for more information.

Recent international news articles expressed concerned because of boarder disputes between Thailand and Cambodia. Fluke is from Ubon, the area where the fighting between Thailand and Cambodia has been happening. Pearl S. Buck is setting up mobile learning units for the children who have been displaced, as well as helping families that have returned home, building bomb shelters so they can have a safe place to go when bombings start.

February 13, 2025

Dear Mission Resource Team,

Sawasdee krub (Hello). I am studying in grade 7 in this school year. About my studying result in last school year, I got G.P.A. 1.83. I will study hard. On Buddhist Lent Day period, the candles at the temple in my village were very beautiful. I drew and colored a picture for you. How are you doing ? I wish you are doing well, healthy, strong, and having long life to see my successfulness in studying.

Respectfully yours,
Grittayot Duangrat (Fluke)





MISSION WEEK 2026

St. Andrew's has a long history of mission trips to a wide variety of places. We have learned a lot and always enjoyed the company and of course the food. You may have always wanted to participate but did not have the time off or the budget to make it happen. You may have worried that you would not be able to do the work required of the mission trip team. Well, this is your year. We are planning a mission week to serve our own community or nearby mission needs. June 22nd, to June 27, 2026, is being designated as Mission Week. We will be planning mission activities for each day of that week with a possible overnight. We will be leaving from the church or meeting at a specific site each day to complete a project. It may include such things as serving at FISH, St. Stephens clothing cupboard, painting, building or a trip to Old First UCC in Philadelphia to serve at the Urban Cupboard. We will not know all the activities until we know who is interested and how many people are available each day. You can sign up for the week or a day or even part of a day. To make our plans we need people to sign up by February 15th so that we can begin making our plans for the week. We will then form a team to begin our preparations.

Mission Week Team Meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on March 9th. Please plan to attend if you are going to be engaged in mission week. If you have any question or concerns please contact Karen Peterson 267-664-0231 or kapcharlkp@gmail.com

EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA



April 4, 2026
10-Noon

Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt every half hour.
Crafts, food, games and more!

If you have any questions or are willing to volunteer please contact Karen Gossard.

AN EVENING WITH Charlie Zahm

joined by the excellent, award-winning guitarist Steve Hobson



\$15 PER PERSON

7TH MARCH | 7 PM

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

MUSIC | REFRESHMENTS | RAFFLE | 50/50



SCAN ME

We encourage reservations by calling Karen at 267-664-0231 or email kapcharlkp@gmail.com Checks can be made out to St. Andrew's and mailed to the church or purchase tickets online at standrewsucc.org.

Proceeds to St. Andrew's Mission Resources

Lasagna Dinner



Saturday March 7, 2025

4:30-6 pm or till SOLD OUT

St. Andrew's UCC

Cost - Donation

Eat-In or Take-Out

Proceeds to benefit Church Mission Projects & General Fund



One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery.

Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.

Thank you for your gifts!

2026 Easter Flowers

Help beautify the church sanctuary this Easter season. To purchase flowers, please fill out the order form and return it to any Altar Guild member by Sunday, March 22nd. Thank you for your continued support.

__ In Memory of _____

__ In Honor of _____

__ To The Glory of God Given by: _____



	Flower	Price	Qty.	Total
	Tulip	\$10.00	_____	_____
	Hyacinth	\$10.00	_____	_____
	Daffodil	\$10.00	_____	_____
	Lilly	\$15.00	_____	_____

Checks should be made payable to St. Andrews UCC
 Due to allergic reactions, Hyacinths will be placed outside the door by the parking lot.

ONA TEAM UPDATE



The ONA team is continuing to offer educational opportunities to the congregation. Results of the survey the team sent out in the fall, revealed that folks were interested in hearing from other congregations that had gone through the ONA process and what living into the ONA covenant might look like for our church. Pastor Alan, from Zwingli UCC, recorded a Mission Moment that really captured the importance of affirming an ONA covenant. We were grateful for Zwingli's DEI team that joined us for worship on February 15th. The DEI team and Pastor Alan provided a question-and-answer conversation after worship.

The ONA team showed the movie 1946: The Mistranslation that Shifted Culture on February 21st. A Circle process was used to have a conversation about the movie. 15 St. Andrew's members attended and 1 member from one of our sister congregations joined us. You can rent 1946 on Amazon Prime if you are interested in watching the movie on your own.

We are still looking to have another church come speak about their ONA process and to reschedule Pastor Zach Jackson to speak about church hurts.

We look forward to providing more educational opportunities. Please reach out to any ONA team member with questions or concerns.

ONA Team Meeting Dates:

March 3rd, March 31st, and April 14th, all at 6:30 p.m. - 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

Save
THE
Date



April 2	Maundy Thursday at 5:30pm at St. Paul's UCC
April 3	Good Friday at 5:30pm at St. Andrew's
April 4	Easter Extravaganza 10am-Noon
April 5	Easter, Worship at 10:15am
May 24	Pentecost, Rite of Confirmation
June 13	Perkasie Farmers Market 9am to Noon
June 22-27	Mission Week 2026
June 27	Rummage & Book Sale
July 13-17	Growing Peace Vacation Bible School
August 1	Perkasie Farmers Market 9am to Noon
Sept. 12	Perkasie Farmers Market 9am to Noon

SERVING SCHEDULES

USHERS

March

Head Ushers:

Herb Volk & Angela Stofflet

1- Deb Kantner & Doris Lindmeier

8- Herb Volk & Ethel Dietrich

15- Lee Metzger & Ruth Yothers

22- Jen Flexer Jess Reese

29- Brian & Karen Rush

April 5-Robin & Lance Ide



LITURGIST

March

1- Kathy Fretz

8- Karen Gossard

15- Ron Grace

22- Karen Peterson

29- Linda Brickajlik

April 5- Jess Reese Wamsley

March Communion Servers
Karen Peterson and Lance Ide

March Altar Guild
Karen Gossard & Lois-Ann Barndt

March



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p>8:45 Adult Circle 9:00 Faith Formation 10:15 Worship</p> <p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:15am Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm ONA Meeting</p> <p>SAFE SPACES for EVERYONE</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30am Coffee & Conversations</p> <p>Midweek Lent at St. Paul's UCC 11:30am & 5:30pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Pastor's Writing Day</p> <p>6:30pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Pastor's Day off</p> <p>9am Lasagna Dinner Set up</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4:30-6pm Lasagna Dinner</p> <p>7pm Charlie Zahm Concert</p>
<p>8:45 Adult Circle 9:00 Faith Formation 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion</p> <p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>630 pm Mission Resource Meeting</p> <p>7:30pm Mission Work Week Team Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:15am Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30am Coffee & Conversations</p> <p>Midweek Lent at St. Andrew's UCC 11:30am & 5:30pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Pastor's Writing Day</p> <p>6:30pm Bell Choir</p> <p>7pm Elders Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pastor's Day off</p>	<p>14</p> <p>CPR Training 9:30-3:45</p> <p>10am Cleaning Party Organizational Meeting</p>
<p>8:45 Adult Circle 9:00 Faith Formation 10:15 Worship with One Great Hour of Sharing Offering</p> <p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:15am Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30am Coffee & Conversations</p> <p>Midweek Lent at St. Paul's UCC 11:30am & 5:30pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pastor's Writing Day</p> <p>6:30pm Bell Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pastor's Day off</p> <p>April Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>8:45 Adult Circle 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Worship</p> <p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5-9pm Night at the Perk</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:15am Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm Girl Scouts</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30am Coffee & Conversations</p> <p>Midweek Lent at St. Stephen's UCC 11:30am & 5:30pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Pastor's Writing Day</p> <p>6:30pm Bell Choir</p> <p>3:30-6:45 CPR Training</p> <p>7pm Consistory Meeting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Pastor's Day off</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>8:45 Adult Circle 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Palm Sunday Worship with Bell Choir</p> <p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:15am Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm ONA Meeting</p>				