

# ROOTED

An inclusive Community Rooted in God's Incredible Love

ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE, PA



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April 2026

## APRIL UPCOMING EVENTS



St. Andrew's United Church of Christ, Perkasie

### HOLY WEEK



#### PALM SUNDAY

*Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes!*

Worship: **10:15am**

#### MAUNDY THURSDAY

*Love one another as I have loved you.*

Communion and Reflection: **5:30 PM at St. Paul's Sellersville**

#### GOOD FRIDAY

*Behold the wood of the Cross!*

Reflections on Stations of the Cross : **5:30PM**

#### EASTER SATURDAY

*In stillness, earth awaits the resurrection.*

Easter Extravaganza Family Event: **10am-Noon**

#### EASTER SUNDAY

*He is not here; He has risen!*

Sunrise: **6 AM at Lake Nockamixon Boat Launch**

Permission by Bureau of State Parks

Worship: **10:15 AM**

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

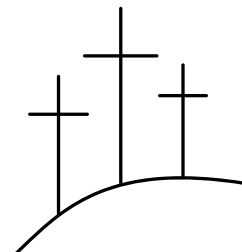
**APRIL 4TH**

**EASTER FAIR & EGG HUNT**

PRESCHOOL - 5TH GRADE  
SCAVENGER HUNT | CRAFTS | FOOD | AND FUN

10 am - Noon | St. Andrew's UCC  
615 E. Walnut Street, Perkasie

Egg Hunts occurring every half hour.  
Bring a can good or non-perishable item for Pennridge FISH





# PASTORS MESSAGE

## RESURRECTION IN THE TIME OF CONFLICT

*"Peace be with you." John 20:19*

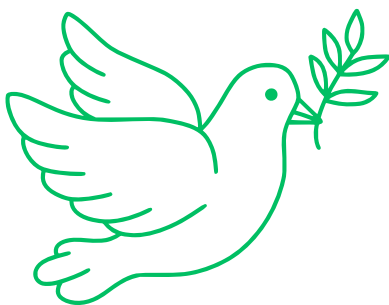
The first Easter came in the midst of fear, grief, and political tension. Jesus was crucified amid political rivalry, religious hatred, and mob violence. The disciples are locked behind closed doors, afraid for their lives after the crucifixion. Into that room filled with anxiety and fear Jesus appears. After the disciples abandoned Jesus and left him to die on the cross alone and then didn't come to the tomb to welcome him when he rose even though Jesus told he would rise on the third day, he could have come with anger and judgement. Instead, Jesus comes and offers them peace. The Resurrection was the answer to strife and conflict that brought death to the people spiritually and physically.



We live in an age that knows conflict intimately. Wars are fracturing nations and displacing families. Communities are being torn apart by federal agents detaining, concentrating, and deporting neighbors without oversight and accountability. Even within the walls of our homes, hearts carry wounds that harsh words have caused and bodies carry trauma that violence has inflicted. We recognize these locked-room moments when violence erupts in our cities and nations, when neighbors become strangers over ideology, and when systems meant to protect instead deepen wounds. Like the disciples, we're tempted to hide away in the comfort of our churches afraid to address what's happening outside our doors.

Resurrection doesn't deny the reality we live in with all its conflict, fear, and division; it transforms how we live within it. The risen Christ still bears the scars of crucifixion. This isn't a triumph that erases suffering but one that redeems it. Jesus sends the disciples back out into the very world that frightened them, transforming them by breathing the Holy Spirit into them and commissioning them to continue his work of peace and reconciliation.

In a time of conflict, resurrection calls us not to withdraw, but to re-enter the world differently. It invites us to be people who carry peace into places of division, who embody mercy where there is judgment, and who seek justice rooted in love rather than retaliation. Consider the peacemakers working in Ukraine and Gaza and now in Iran and Lebanon, chaplains, doctors, and ordinary people who refuse to answer hatred with hatred, who bind wounds on both sides of a line. In cities and towns all across our country neighbors are coming together to care for and protect neighbors: walking children to school and standing at bus stops, buying groceries for those too afraid to leave their homes, supporting families whose loved one provided their income and are now detained. This is not safe work. It's the courageous labor of living as resurrection people.



Easter reminds us that even now, behind closed doors and in conflicted spaces, Christ stands among us and says, "Peace be with you." And in that peace, with the power of love that brings new life, we are sent with the Holy Spirit—again and again into a world still in need of resurrection.

*Pastor Barb*



# MARCH MEETING

## CONSISTORY REPORT

We give thanks for the ways the Spirit continues to move among us, calling us deeper into covenant with God and one another. Our recent Dine & Donate night at the Perk was a joyful expression of that shared life—where connection, generosity, and community came together in a spirit of gratitude. We are thankful for our neighbors and for each of you who helped make the evening a sign of God's abundance.

On April 19 at 2:00 p.m., St. Andrew's will host pastors and delegates from across the North Penn Association. In the United Church of Christ, we understand ourselves as a covenantal people—autonomous yet deeply connected—and it is a blessing to offer hospitality to the wider church. That morning, fellowship hour will be simple—coffee and conversation—as we prepare our space to warmly welcome our guests.

We celebrate the success of our first cleaning gathering on March 14, a faithful act of shared stewardship. In caring for our building, we live out our call to be caretakers of the gifts God has entrusted to us. We are grateful for those who have joined in supporting this ministry and invite others to participate as they are able.

Looking ahead, Consistory will gather on May 9 for intentional, prayerful long-range planning. As a people of faith, we trust that God is still speaking, and we seek to listen together for where the Spirit is leading St. Andrew's in this next chapter of ministry. We look forward to sharing that emerging vision with you.

Our Pixel Power fundraiser continues as we work to enhance our worship space for more dynamic, accessible, and engaging worship. This effort reflects our commitment to proclaim the Gospel in ways that meet this moment—expanding how we share music, message, and story. We are deeply grateful for your continued generosity and partnership in this work.

Consistory is also working to strengthen communication and accessibility within our community. Updates to the fellowship hall usage process and the development of a St. Andrew's Guidebook are rooted in our desire to be a church where all can easily find connection, belonging, and purpose.

With the support of the Mission Resource Team, we are excited to participate in Perkasio Community Day on June 27, offering a visible witness to God's inclusive and extravagant welcome. In that same spirit, we continue our journey toward becoming an Open and Affirming (ONA) congregation—seeking to live more fully into Christ's call.

We look forward to opportunities for fellowship and service in the months ahead, including PRIDE at the Perkasio Farmers Market, a hoagie sale to support Mission week, and the return of the Charlie Zahm concert and Lasagna dinner—each an expression of our shared ministry and outreach.

Consistory continues to steward the financial life of the church with care and transparency. We are currently meeting our needs, and we give thanks for your faithful giving, which sustains the ministries of St. Andrew's and enables us to live out our calling in the world. We will continue to monitor and respond thoughtfully as needs arise.

We are also exploring opportunities to expand accessibility within our building, recognizing that creating a truly welcoming space is an essential part of living out the Gospel we proclaim.

As members of the United Church of Christ, we are reminded that "God is still speaking." We trust that through our shared discernment, faithful action, and deepening relationships, God continues to shape us into a community of love, justice, and hope.

We invite your prayers, your voice, and your presence in the life we share. Consistory will meet next on Thursday, April 23 at 7:00 p.m. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or reflections.

### **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 REPORT

Greetings, St. Andrew's...

Below you will find a financial summary through March year to date as compared to our 2026 Budget and to March 2025. Year to date results show a positive balance between donations and expenses of \$4,718. Our lasagna dinner was well attended and netted just under \$2,000. Same evening was the Charlie Zahm concert, which brought in \$485. Thank you to all who supported these events.

<b>Through March 26, 2026</b>			
<b>Income / Donations</b>	<b>YTD 2026</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>YTD 2025</b>
General Fund	45,404	49,150	42,993
OCWM	1,453	1,500	1,595
Other Benevolence/Local Missions	1,056		1,531
Cemetery	43		238
Special Fund (MRT, Culinary Team)	6,709		8,556
<b>TOTAL Income / Donations</b>	<b>54,665</b>	<b>50,650</b>	<b>54,912</b>
<b>Expenses / Payments</b>			
Salaries and Benefits	29,194	32,807	35,641
Property Maintenance	14,086	11,398	10,465
Other Church Operation Expenses	4,278	4,958	23,176
OCWM		1,500	
Other Benevolence/Local Missions			200
Special Fund (MRT, Culinary Team)	2,389		2,117
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>49,947</b>	<b>50,663</b>	<b>71,599</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>4,718</b>	<b>(13)</b>	<b>(16,687)</b>
<b>Bank Account Balances</b>			
	<b>March 31, 2026</b>	<b>March 31, 2025</b>	
General Fund	19,201	4,663	
Special Fund	24,222	19,972	
Memorial Fund	32,577	31,199	
Investments	125,798	145,495	
<b>TOTAL Bank Account Balances</b>	<b>201,798</b>	<b>201,329</b>	

Our church website has a link to VANCO, our Online giving portal. If you have any questions regarding how to use VANCO, please contact me at [finance@standrewsucc.org](mailto:finance@standrewsucc.org) or 215.896.3134.

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer Flexer, Treasurer



# MISSION WEEK 2026

Our Mission Week team is planning for the fun filled missions they will be participating in throughout our local community. We are very excited to be able to complete missions throughout the wider community right here in the Pennridge area after many years of participating in missions throughout the country. The team is looking at opportunities to serve with RamPacks, Pennridge Fish, St. Stephen's free clothing closet, Pearl S. Buck, Perkasio Pride, Pennridge Community Day and our rummage sale. If you are still interested in serving for mission week or have any questions regarding mission week please contact Karen Peterson and the MRT team.

**Mission Week Team Meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on April 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have any question or concerns please contact Karen Peterson 267-664-0231 or [kapcharlkp@gmail.com](mailto:kapcharlkp@gmail.com)**

# VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN



**GROW PEACE**  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JULY 13-17, 2026

Join us for a week of fun and learning at "Grow Peace" Vacation Bible School. We welcome all children from 3 years of age through those entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade in fall 2026. We meet 9am to Noon daily for the week. Grow Peace includes bible stories, learning about non-violent action and the peace of Jesus through song, creating, exploration, snacks, and experiments. Register by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Register at: [vbspro.events/p/growpeace](https://vbspro.events/p/growpeace)

If you are looking to help with vacation bible school or have questions please contact Amanda Duffy at [standrewsuccvbs@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsuccvbs@gmail.com)



**RamPacks**

# FOOD FEST & CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

APRIL 19TH, 2026

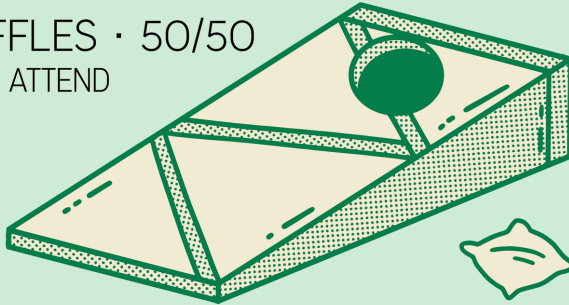
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

PENNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL | 1228 N 5TH ST, PERKASIE

BAKE SALE · RAFFLES · 50/50

NO TICKET NEEDED TO ATTEND

WWW.RAMPACKS.COM



## CORNHOLE TOURNAMENTS:



COMPETITIVE & SOCIAL



REGISTER VIA THE SCOREHOLIO APP  
TOURNAMENTS WILL BE PLAYED IN THE WHITE GYM



# Hoagie Sale

MAY 16TH

10 TO 11:30AM

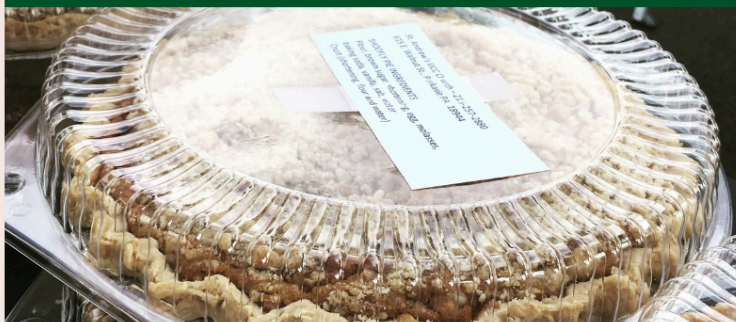
ITALIAN OR TURKEY  
AVAILABLE  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO  
MISSION WEEK

Order online at  
[standrewsucc.org](http://standrewsucc.org), via Order  
Form in Bulletin or by  
contacting Karen Peterson  
at 267-664-0231

GATHER WITH US AT THE

# PERKASIE FARMERS MARKET

Saturday, June 13th, August 1st and September 12th  
from 9am-Noon



ST. ANDREW'S UCC, PERKASIE

# RUMMAGE SALE



June 27th • 8am-1pm  
615 E. Walnut Street, Perkasio  
MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!!  
COME FIND YOUR NEW TREASURES

# ONA TEAM UPDATE



## ONA CONVERSATION

APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> FOLLOWING WORSHIP

**Join us for a circle process conversation featuring Marlene Pray, the director at Rainbow Room. We will focus on terms and language to help us better understand and honor our siblings in the LGBTQ+ community. Please see her bio below to learn more about her work.**

Marlene Pray, MEd (she/her) is a community organizer, sexuality educator, and education and training consultant with over 30 years of leadership in nonprofit management, community organizing, and social justice movements. She is an adjunct professor, and a PhD candidate at Widener University in Human Sexuality Education, with a focus on racial justice and equity.

Marlene is the founder and director of Planned Parenthood Keystone's Rainbow Room, Bucks County PA's LGBTQ+ youth center, now in its 24th year. She also serves as Coordinator for LGBTQ+ Education for Planned Parenthood Keystone, where she leads impactful programming, professional trainings, and community partnerships. Over the course of her career, she has designed and facilitated hundreds of workshops locally, nationally, and internationally on sexuality education, anti-racism, youth empowerment, LGBTQ+ inclusion, and social justice.



In public service, Marlene was elected to Doylestown Borough Council in 2011, where she led the successful effort to pass the borough's LGBTQ+ inclusive anti-discrimination ordinance. She also served on the Bucks County Human Relations Council, addressing discrimination and hate crimes countywide. Her ongoing leadership includes serving on the boards of NAACP Bucks County and NAMI Bucks County. She previously served on the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility Committee of the Bucks County Historical Society as well as other boards of directors. She is a facilitator with White People Confronting Racism and has partnered with the Michener Art Museum as Community Advisory Group Facilitator for the Behind These Walls project, focused on prison history, reform, and decarceration. Marlene is also a Welcoming Schools Ambassador with the Human Rights Campaign.

Marlene's work is deeply rooted in transformative justice and beloved community. She has facilitated with the Alternatives to Violence Project in prisons, created wilderness and garden-based therapeutic programming for youth, and trained extensively with The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, grounding her work in anti-racist organizing and accountability.

She has received numerous honors for her leadership and advocacy, including the 2026 MLK Community Leader Award from Bucks County Community College, the 2025 Social Courage Award from the Peace and Justice Studies Association, and the 2023 Community Leadership Award from the Human Rights Campaign of Greater Philadelphia, as well as the Beyond the Rainbow Award from Planned Parenthood, the New Hope LGBT Community Leader Award, the Association of Planned Parenthood Leaders in Education Award, and the Bucks County Peace Center's Peacemakers Award and Speak Up for Peace and Social Justice Award.

Marlene is a queer activist, mother, homicide survivor, and earth-based celebrant who lives in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. She brings both professional expertise and lived experience to her work, guided by a commitment to justice, healing, and the creation of inclusive, thriving communities. She is also a leader of the Singing Resistance Bucks County community chorus and finds joy in birds, bees, funky music, vegan food, and collective liberation.

# LANGUAGE THAT HONORS OUR LGBTQ+ SIBILINGS

Below are some terms to help us to better understand and honor our siblings in the LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer/Questioning) community:

**Cisgender:** When your identity (how you feel) is the same as the sex that was assigned to you when you were born.

**Gender Binary:** A way of seeing gender as two distinct, opposite groups- female and male. This idea doesn't include all the ways that we experience gender identity or express our gender.

**Gender Expression:** People express themselves in many ways, such as through clothes or hairstyles. Sometimes people think that these things align with certain genders, but you cannot guess someone's gender or pronouns from how they look or act.

**Gender Identity:** How you feel. Male, female, both or neither. Everyone has a gender identity.

**Intersex:** An umbrella term that refers to people who are born with bodies that are naturally different from what is traditionally considered female or male. This occurs in about 2% of babies born, similar to the percentage for redheads.

**Non-Binary (NB, enby):** Term used by some people who do not feel like the words "man" or "woman" fits. They may feel like both or neither. They sometimes use pronouns such as they, them, theirs.

**Sexual Orientation:** Who you love or are attracted to.

**Transgender (Trans):** When your gender identity (how you feel) is different than what sex was assigned to you when you were born.

Definitions are courtesy of Human Rights Campaign Foundation Welcoming Schools Program.

## ONA Team Meeting Dates:

April 14<sup>th</sup> 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 Lee Metzger, Lance and Robin Ide, Karen Peterson, Tara Howell, Debbie Kantner, Erin Rush, Doris Lindmeier, Angela Stofflet, Evie Starkey and Maya Walker-Kulanko.



**GOD'S DOORS ARE OPEN TO EVERYONE**

## ADDRESS CHANGES



Loraine O'Neil  
12 Lutheran Home Dr.  
Shepherd's Way - Rm. 105A  
Telford, PA 18969

Susan Krass  
12 Lutheran Home Dr.  
Shepherd's Way- Rm. 108  
Telford, PA 18969

Save  
THE  
Date



May 9	Consistory Long Range Planning 9am-4pm
May 16	Hoagie Sale
May 17	ONA Conversation Following Worship
June 13	Perkasie Farmers Market 9am to Noon
June 22-27	Mission Week 2026
June 27	Rummage & Book Sale 8am-1pm
June 27	PRIDE at Perkasie Farmers Market 9am-Noon
June 27	St. Andrew's at Pennridge Community Day
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

### April

#### Head Ushers:

Doris Lindmeier & Angela Stofflet

5- Robin & Lance Ide

12- Amy & Jim Smith

19- Erin Rush & Doris Lindmeier

26- Lee Metzger & Ron Grace

May 3- Jen Flexer & Ethel Dietrich



**April Communion Servers**  
Karen Peterson and Amanda Duffy

## LITURGIST

### April

5- Denise Mayhew

12- Karen Peterson

19- Lee Metzger

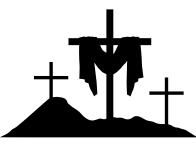


26- Shirley Metzger

May 3- Ron Grace

**April Altar Guild**  
Open



# APRIL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 8:30am Coffee & Conversations	2 5:30pm Maunday Thursday at St. Paul's UCC 	3 5:30pm Good Friday Service 	4 9am Altar Guild Set Up 10am-Noon Easter Extravaganza 
5 6:00 Sunrise Service at Lake Nockamixon 8:45 Adult Circle 9:00 Faith Formation 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion 	6	7 10:15am Bible Study	8 8:30am Coffee & Conversations 	9 Pastor's Writing Day 2:30-9pm CPR Class in Fellowship Hall 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm Elders Meeting	10 Pastor's Day off	11
12 8:45 Adult Circle 9:00 Faith Formation 10:15 Worship ONA Conversation Following Worship 	13 6:30 pm Mission Resource Meeting 7:30 pm Mission Week Meeting	14 10:15am Bible Study 6:30pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm ONA Meeting 	15 8:30am Coffee & Conversations	16 Pastor's Writing Day 6:30pm Bell Choir	17 Pastor's Day off	18 2-7pm Fellowship Hall Rental
Pastor Barb in Harrisburg for Clergy Convocation						
19 8:45 Adult Circle 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Worship 2pm North Penn Association Meeting at St. Andrew's 12-5pm RamPack Food Truck Fundraiser 	20	21 10:15am Bible Study	22 8:30am Coffee & Conversations	23 Pastor's Writing Day 6:30pm Bell Choir 7pm Consistory Meeting	24 Pastor's Day off May Newsletter Deadline 	25 11:30-5:45 CPR Class
Ken and Joyce Barndt on Vacation for any Sexton needs contact the church office						
26 8:45 Adult Circle 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Worship	27	28 10:15am Bible Study 6:30pm Girl Scouts	29 8:30am Coffee & Conversations	30 Pastor's Writing Day 6:30pm Bell Choir		