

St. Andrew UMC  
Newsletter, January 2022

Dear Church,

Happy New Year!

I am excited about beginning a new year of ministry with you. I believe that God has many great things in store for St Andrew UMC in 2022 and I hope that you will join us where God is at work.

This year I felt led by God to try something that I have never done, and that is to introduce a theme for an entire year. Through my time in prayer and reflection, I believe God is leading us to embrace the theme of “Being Disciples” for 2022.

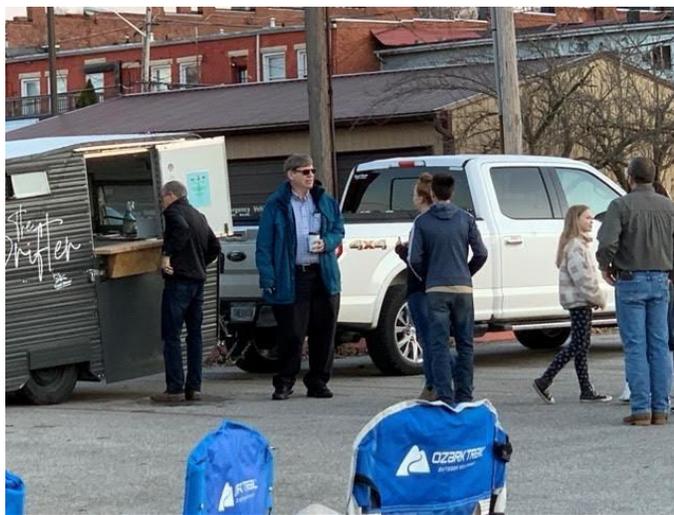
The mission statement of the United Methodist Church is to “Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.” I believe that one of the challenges we face as a denomination is that it is difficult to “make disciples” because many of us still have quite a bit of room to grow in becoming disciples ourselves. This claim is not meant to be disparaging in any way—it is simply an opportunity for us to identify the best way for us to grow in executing our mission.

*What exactly does it mean to Be a Disciple, you might ask?*

In the most basic sense, being a disciple means being a student of Jesus. However, being a student of Jesus is more than simply quoting Bible verses—being a student of Jesus means embodying the teachings of Christ in every aspect of our lives so that when others see us, they see Christ.

Since being a disciple is a lifelong process, it is imperative that we routinely evaluate our own personal growth so that we are better equipped to lead others on the discipleship journey. To put it simply, as the Church of Jesus Christ, we exist to become disciples who make disciples.

In addition to sermon series each month that focus on a different aspect of *Being Disciples*, there will also be a “Discipleship Challenge”. The *Disciple Challenge* will be a thoughtful way to practically live out discipleship.



Folks from *The Table* lined up to get a hot drink from the Coal River Coffee Company mobile unit, “The Drifter.” There were over 70 in attendance at our December gathering.

For the month of January, the *Discipleship Challenge* is to “Find Your One.” Instead of a “blitz play” where we all invite as many people to worship as we possibly can, I am challenging each of you to identify one person or family for 2022 whom who are led to be a witness of God’s love.

Your “one” might be a friend, relative, neighbor, or acquaintance. Your “one” might also be someone from St Andrew who has disengaged from church life in recent years.

After prayerfully identifying your person or family, here are some practical suggestions for how you can bear the light of God’s love:

- Routinely check in with them through call or text.
- Genuinely become invested in what is happening in their life.
- Ask how you can pray for them.
- Pray with them.
- Invite them to lunch periodically or find other ways you can spend quality time with them.
- Look for opportunities to share how you have witnessed God’s grace recently in your life.
- Invite them to join your small group for your monthly outreach ministry. Remember that almost everyone wants to be engaged in making a positive difference. Your “one” might be more inclined to engage in an outreach opportunity than join you for Sunday worship initially.
- Invite them to *The Table* for a meal, music, and a message.
- Invite them to view *The Vine*, our weekly online worship service.
- Invite them to join you for in-person worship at the drive-in service or worship in the sanctuary.
- Invite them to join your small group for a social gathering or time of discussion.

Please notice that the suggested order outlined above does not begin with inviting someone to church. Although inviting others to join us for worship is important, it should not be our default mode for making disciples. We must work at growing in our own personal witness by building authentic relationships which is modeled for us by Jesus.

Beginning January 9<sup>th</sup>, our sermon series will be “Paradigm Shift.” We will be looking at how church will permanently change in light of the pandemic and how we can learn to adapt our mission to a changing world.

On January 9<sup>th</sup> the title of the sermon is “Paradigm Shift,” and I will be talking about how despite the decline in church engagement, the Church in North America is not dying. Instead, what is dying is our model. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we must learn to love our mission more than we love our model and find new ways to be the church.

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, the title of the message is “From Membership to Partnership”. I will be talking about the missional strategy that Jesus employed during his public ministry. Interestingly, instead of initially inviting people to follow him, Jesus finds people and joins them where they are. Jesus helps potential disciples see how they can add value to the kingdom by using their gifts.

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, the title of the sermon is “The Gospel is Good Enough”. I will talk about how our current paradigm shift requires us to move away from an attractional model of ministry. In other words, inviting people to attend a program will seemingly have little impact in the future. People are too busy and have other opportunities to engage in similar activities in the community. As the Church of Jesus Christ, we must capitalize on the life transforming power of God’s grace that is already at work in our own lives. The Gospel *is* Good Enough—let us bear witness to it!

The final Sunday in January the message is entitled, “Telling Your Story”. Sharing our faith can be intimidating. To be disciples who are making disciples, we must work on sharing our faith with others. In this message I hope to demystify what it means to share our faith story.

There are a lot of facets of discipleship that I hope to cover in 2022. One of them is to “love one another”. This is the final command that Jesus gave to his disciples before he is arrested. We will explore Jesus’ command more fully in February as we celebrate the month of love.

As always, I am available if you need a prayer or just someone to listen. You can contact me at 304-444-3874 or [jonathan.wvumc@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.wvumc@gmail.com)

I am blessed to serve with you,

Pastor Jonathan



Members of St Andrew representing the church at the St Albans Christmas Parade

## Melanie's Page

### Christmas Caroling –

Children and their families, and other friends of St. Andrew, recently shared in caroling with Craig Hinchman at The Villager Apartments. Hot chocolate, was enjoyed by all, prepared by the Bradley family. Thanks to all who participated in this festive event!



### Compassion Camp

Children in Gr. K-5 will be meeting on zoom at 4:45 p.m. on Sun. Jan. 9 for a lesson on Baby Moses along with other activities. Join the zoom gathering by using the link in the Midweek Update. Our act of Compassion this month will be related to caring for babies through The Gabriel Project in St. Albans.

### Youth Ministry

The youth met in December for a Bible lesson with discussion and decorated Christmas cookies. Their next meeting on Sun. Jan. 16 at 4 p.m. will focus on Martin Luther King, Jr.



### Christmas Baskets



Thank you to everyone who helped support our Christmas Basket ministry during the month of December. Twenty-six baskets were distributed to individuals and families in our community, feeding eighty-nine individuals total.

### United Methodist Men



This year the UMM baked 810lbs of fruitcake. The proceeds from their fundraiser will be used for charitable giving.

### Christmas Eve Services



There were over 100 in attendance at our Christmas Eve service at the Loop. 72 joined us for our 9pm service in the sanctuary, and there are 89 views to-date for our online Christmas Eve service.

### Change of Address

Emma Ellis is relocating to Scott Depot. Her new address is:

Cottage 301  
5 Rolling Meadows Dr.  
Scott Depot, WV 25560

## Here is this month's "S.N.A.P. SHOT"

Hello St. Andrew! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from S.N.A.P.!

December has been busy for us preparing for the holidays. We had fun presenting the candle of Love for Advent. We also enjoyed dancing with the Lakette's at the Hansford Center as well as singing Rudolph and Silent Night.

We joined the church in preparing and sharing a Christmas basket with a family less fortunate than ourselves.

We are now preparing for our Christmas party, Thursday Dec. 23. Pop in for a Merry Christmas Shout Out if able!

Christmas Love and blessings, S.N.A.P.

Johnny, Mandy, Nick, Kelsey, Kaleb, Ms. Linda, Ms. René, Ms. Ruth



## Officers for 2022

### CHURCH COUNCIL

Chairperson	Diana Taylor
Christian Education Director	Melanie Ogu
Finance Chair	Ernie Downey
Lay Leader	Sheila Radochio
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Susan Danford
Missions Chair	Ernie Downey
Staff Parish Relations Chair	Bill Clough
Treasurer	Robert Stalnaker
Financial Secretary	Carol Hutchison
Trustee Chair	Oscar Hutchison
UMM President	Tim Priddy
Pastor	Jonathan Dierdorff

### Finance Team

#### Chair- Ernie Downey

2022	2023	2024
Beth Lucas	Walter Wood	Kim Wood
Jim Winter	Norma King	Steve Brucker
Roger Rasmussen		

*Ex officio:* Jonathan Dierdorff, Sheila Radochio, Carol Hutchison, Robert Stalnaker, Oscar Hutchison, Bill Clough, Susan Danford, and Diana Taylor

### Nominations

#### Chair- Jonathan Dierdorff

2022	2023	2024
Ted Danford	Becky Lilly Randi Robinson	Amy Loftis John Radochio Toni Fitzwater

### Staff Parish Relations Committee

#### Chair- Bill Clough

2022	2023	2024
Lois Downey Loren Smith	Kathy Stalnaker Rae Lawson	Ruth Frame Randy Robinson Clark Fitzwater

*Ex-officio:* Jonathan Dierdorff and Sheila Radochio

## Trustees

Chair- Oscar Hutchison

2022

Oscar Hutchison  
Steve Perry  
Tim Priddy

2023

Robert Stalnaker  
James Lawson  
Tim Henrich

2024

Betty Moore  
David Duncan  
Rich Ingram

*Ex-officio:* Sheila Radochio

## Missions

Chair- Ernie Downey

Joe Taylor  
Steve Perry  
Marilu Lilly

Tim Priddy  
Lois Downey  
Rich Ingram

Sheila Radochio  
Libby Londeree

## January 2022 Schedule

Sun. Jan. 2

**The Vine: Virtual Message, Music and Children's Message**  
**Drive-In Worship** – 9:45 a.m. in the church parking lot  
**Adult Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. in Rm. 100  
**In Person Worship** – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary  
**The Table** – 4:44 p.m. at St. Albans High School

Tues. Jan. 4

**Trustees** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom

Wed. Jan. 5

**Weekly Small Groups** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom or SAUMC

Sun. Jan. 9

**The Vine: Virtual Message, Music and Children's Message**  
**Drive-In Worship** – 9:45 a.m. in the church parking lot  
**Adult Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. in Rm. 100  
**In Person Worship** – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary  
**Monthly Small Group with Sheila Radochio** – 12:30 p.m. in the parlor  
**Compassion Camp** – 4:45 p.m. by Zoom  
**Monthly Small Group with Karen Bradley** – 9:00 p.m. by Zoom

Mon. Jan. 10

**Monthly Small Group with Brenda Parsons** – 11:00 a.m. in the parlor  
**Finance** – 6:30 p.m. by zoom

Wed. Jan. 12

**Weekly Small Groups** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom or SAUMC  
**Monthly Small Group with Kathy Talley** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom or SAUMC

Thurs. Jan. 13

**Monthly Small Group with Fisherman Class** – 11:00 a.m. in Rm. 100

- Sun. Jan. 16                   **The Vine: Virtual Message, Music and Children's Message**  
   **Drive-In Worship** – 9:45 a.m. in the church parking lot  
   **Adult Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. in Rm. 100  
   **In Person Worship** – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary  
   **Youth Ministry** – 4-6 p.m. in Rm. 308
- Wed. Jan. 19                   **Weekly Small Groups** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom or SAUMC
- Sun. Jan. 23                   **The Vine: Virtual Message, Music and Children's Message**  
   **Drive-In Worship** – 9:45 a.m. in the church parking lot  
   **Adult Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. in Rm. 100  
   **In Person Worship** – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary
- Wed. Jan. 26                   **Weekly Small Groups** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom or SAUMC
- Sun. Jan. 30                   **The Vine: Virtual Message, Music and Children's Message**  
   **Drive-In Worship** – 9:45 a.m. in the church parking lot  
   **Adult Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. in Rm. 100  
   **In Person Worship** – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary  
   **Small Group Leaders** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom

**January Birthdays**

- 2        Sue Ann Holstein  
 4        Jeff Goode, Sheila Harrison  
 5        Chuck Young II  
 7        Nathan Hall III, Judi Thompson  
 9        Andrew Lawson  
 10      Jim Bowles, Roger Rasmussen  
 12      Peggy Allison, Alyson Hoff  
 13      David Duncan  
 15      Maxwell Stumpf  
 21      Hunter Easter  
 22      Emma Ellis, Jeff Harrison, Carmen Priddy  
 23      Keith Asbury, Olivia Fitzwater, Tim Priddy  
 26      Lori Counts-Smith, Betty Moore, Megan Rohan  
 27      Alan Sturm  
 29      Stephen Cox  
 30      Peggy White  
 31      Cheryl Quinlan

**January Anniversaries**

- 7        Jeff & Sheila Harrison

**PRAYER CONCERNS,**

Our Church, Our Staff, Nursing Homes & Shut-ins, Healing for our nation and the world, Those suffering from anxiety/stress, Unspoken, Our Military, Rev. Jarrold & Debbie Lanham, Dinah Withrow, Ed Crawford, Lovell Haines, Bill Hensley, John Hensley, Melissa Henrich, the family of Joe French, the family of Joyce Harmon, the family of Don Baker, Rebecca Child, Dottie McAllister, Lois Reed, the family of Charles Tuitt, Nathan Weiskircher, Don Dierdorff, Rick Carey, the Maddy Family, Ed Crawford, Stephanie, Celeste Easter, Diane Reese, and Tim and Karen Alonzo

**Prayers of sympathy:**

Jack & Ann Browder in the loss of their son

Cathy McCallister and family in the loss of her mother, Lucy Fowler

Joanne Hart and family in the loss of her twin sister, Joyce Harmon

Ron Baker and family in the loss of his twin brother, Don Baker

If you would like to be added to the prayer chain you can call Sue Fowler at 304-755-7516. Texting is one of the options available if you would prefer to receive a text rather than a call.