

St. Andrew UMC

Newsletter, May 2023

Dear Church,

In this season of transition, I want to give you a few updates about Pastor Brian and Zondra Plum. Last week I had the opportunity to talk with him via ZOOM and attempt to answer any questions he might have for me. He and his wife are excited to begin ministry in St Albans in July.



It is my understanding that the Plum's will live in the Lakeview parsonage. Therefore, the St Andrew trustees, as well as other leaders in the church, are in the process of discerning how to best manage the property on Baier St. Different options are currently being explored and the congregation will be notified once a decision has been made or if any action needs to be taken.

On April 22, Pastor Brian and I attended a workshop for pastors and churches in transition called "Beginning Well." Kathy Stalnaker, Sheila Radochio, and Susan Danford were the lay representatives from St Andrew, and a lay representative from Lakeview UMC was present as well. One of the things that came out of the workshop was that Pastor Brian decided to keep the St Andrew worship time at 10:30am on Sundays, so apparently there will be no changes there for the time being.

The lay representatives from St Andrew enjoyed their time getting to know Pastor Brian, and in my ZOOM conversation he talked about how much fun he had with them. I am thankful that he will be serving as your next pastoral leader. While I have not had the opportunity to get to know him well because we have served in different areas geographically, it is clear that he comes with wisdom, care for the congregation, and a heart for the community. I am excited to continue hearing about St Andrew's bright future under Pastor Brian's leadership.

He shared that he wanted to join us sometime in the near future to meet some folks from the congregation. His tentative plan is to worship with Lakeview UMC Sunday morning, May 7. Then he will join us at The Table at 4:44pm at St Andrew.

Unfortunately, our ability to get into the St Albans High School for The Table fell through with short notice. Therefore, we will meet in Friendship Hall for a meal, music, and a message. In May we will also be blessed by St Mark's Steel Drum band led by St Andrew's former music director, Julie Janisch. I hope you will come, enjoy some food and fellowship, and offer Pastor Brian a warm welcome.

Finally, if you haven't already, I want to encourage you to reach out to your new pastor in the coming weeks to greet him with positive words of welcome. You can email him or send him a message via USPS: 312 E 7th Street, Weston, WV 26452 or umcpastorbrian@gmail.com

Yours in Christ,



Pastor Jonathan
Melanie's Page

Food Donations for the St. Albans Food Pantry

On the first Sunday of each month, items are collected for the St. Albans Food Pantry. For May, any non-perishable food items are always welcome! However, the most needed items at this time are: Hamburger Helper, pudding, Jiffy cornbread mix, and pasta & noodle sides. Your support for this ministry in our community is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Children's Ministry:

Children's Church in Cottrell Hall or on the playground each week on Sunday from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. during worship. All ages are welcome!

Compassion Camp – All children in Gr. K-5 are invited to Roadside Park on Sun. May 21 from 4:00 -5:30 p.m. for a time of flower planting and playground fun. Rebecca Child will be leading this gathering as the children's acts of compassion will be shared with neighbors and friends.



(Pictures from Compassion Camp on April 16)

Debi Ellis shared her talents while leading the children in making spring placemats for the Golden Living Center/Riverside



Health & Rehabilitation. Shaving cream and food coloring were loads of fun!

Youth Ministry

Sun. May 21 – 4:00-5:30 p.m. in Rm. 308 or at St. Peter's UMC. All youth in Gr. 6-12 are invited! Friends are always welcome! Contact Roy & Kathy Smith for further info.

Youth 2023

Donations will be received at *The Table* to be held on Sunday, May 7 in Friendship Hall at St. Andrew to go toward expenses for 2 youth and 1 adult to attend Youth 2023 in Daytona Beach, FL July 25-28.

Summer Church Camp Opportunities

Spring Heights Camp and Retreat Center is excited to offer the following opportunities for campers this summer:

- On-Site Camp in Spencer, WV July 9-14, July 16-21, July 26-29, July 23-25
- DaySpring Mobile Camp
St. John UMC, Scott Depot, WV June 19-22 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Cost: Free
Another nearby location – TBA

Camp Scholarships

The congregation has the opportunity to support those attending on-site camp at Spring Heights by providing scholarships for these students. So far, we have 3-4 interested in attending. The cost of camp is \$200-\$400 each depending on the length of the camp and the age of the camper. Families of campers are being asked to pay \$50 each toward their expenses. If you would like to sponsor a student attending camp, please make your check payable to St. Andrew UMC with Spring Heights Scholarship on the memo line.

Outreach Opportunities

Opportunities are available to meet and connect with neighbors. Is God calling you to participate in any of following? All are welcome. You may call the church at 304-727-7114 for further information.

Sharing a Meal – Thurs. May 25 at 11:15 a.m. at Christ's Kitchen (Fishermen Small Group)



our
the
office

(*Art for All* – Amy Loftis's Small Group April 19)



The **Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive** will be held on Sat. May 13 at the St. Albans Food Pantry located at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Volunteers of all ages are needed to unload and sort all food donations collected by St. Albans letter carriers. Some volunteers are needed for heavy lifting. Please meet at St. Mark's beginning at 12:30 p.m. Stay as long as you are able to assist.

Please let Melanie Ogu know if you are planning to attend, as they would like to know how many volunteers to expect.

Announcements

A Farewell to Melanie

As has been previously announced, Melanie Ogu, who has served St. Andrew in many capacities over the 10 years she has been our Christian Education Director, is retiring as of June 30. The Staff-Parish Relations Committee would like to invite everyone to a reception in Friendship Hall immediately after church on Sunday, May 21. A light lunch will be served. At that time you may contribute to a LOVE Offering for Melanie as she moves back to Keyser, West Virginia. Please mark your calendar for this special event. More information will follow.

Graduates

If you are graduating from high school, vocational school, military training, college, or other secondary educational programs in the spring of 2023, please contact Melanie in the church office.

Library Update

Books will continue to be placed in the overflow from the library. Feel free to take all you want. No further donations for the library will be accepted.

May 2023

- Mon. May 1 **SPRC** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
Sheila Radochio's Small Group – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
- Tues. May 2 **Tim Priddy's Small Group** – 11:00 a.m. by Zoom
- Wed. May 3 **Amy Loftis' Small Group** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
Bob Lilly's Wesley Small Group – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
- Sun. May 7 **The Vine: Virtual Message and Music**
Choir Rehearsal – 9:30 a.m. in the choir room
One Service – 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary
The Table – 4:44 p.m. in Friendship Hall at St. Andrew
- Tues. May 9 **Tim Priddy's Small Group** – 11:00 a.m. by Zoom
Trustees – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
- Wed. May 10 **Amy Loftis' Small Group** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
Bob Lilly's Wesley Small Group – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
- Thurs. May 11 **Fishermen Small Group** – 11:00 a.m. in Rm. 100
- Sun. May 14 **The Vine: Virtual Message and Music**
Choir Rehearsal – 9:30 a.m. in the choir room
One Service – 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary
- Tues. May 16 **Prayer Pillow Group** – 9:30 a.m. in Rm. 300
Tim Priddy's Small Group – 11:00 a.m. by Zoom
- Wed. May 17 **Amy Loftis' Small Group** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
Bob Lilly's Wesley Small Group – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
- Sun. May 21 **The Vine: Virtual Message and Music**
Choir Rehearsal – 9:30 a.m. in the choir room
One Service – 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary
Compassion Camp – 4:00-5:30 p.m. at Roadside Park
Youth Ministry – 4:00-5:30 p.m. in Rm. 308 or at St. Peter's UMC
- Tues. May 23 **Tim Priddy's Small Group** – 11:00 a.m. by Zoom
- Wed. May 24 **Amy Loftis' Small Group** – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
Bob Lilly's Wesley Small Group – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
- Thurs. May 25 **Fishermen Small Group Outreach** – 11:15 a.m. at Christ's Kitchen
- Fri, May 26 **Lifeline Screening** – 8:00 a.m. -5:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall
- Sun. May 28 **The Vine: Virtual Message and Music**
Choir Rehearsal – 9:30 a.m. in the choir room
One Service – 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary

Tues. May 30

Tim Priddy's Small Group – 11:00 a.m.

Wed. May 31

Amy Loftis' Small Group – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom
Bob Lilly's Wesley Small Group – 6:30 p.m. by Zoom

If any of these meetings pertain to you, a Zoom link will be sent in the Midweek Update.

May Birthdays

- 1 Lee Ballard, Kay Rasmussen
- 3 Melanie Ogu
- 8 Caleb Bradley, Rae Lawson, Luke White
- 9 Doug Smith
- 10 Mark Ellis, Gayle Rittenhouse
- 13 Lee Ann Niday, Tim Quinlan
- 14 Heather Proctor
- 15 Kay Craig
- 17 Ruth Frame
- 19 Ann Conley, Carter Dierdorff
- 23 Cynthia Maret, Rachel Shook
- 24 Teenie Morrison
- 26 Tim Henrich
- 29 Will Raines

May Anniversaries

- 3 Joe & Diana Taylor
- 12 Ron & Diana Beane, Nathan III & Rhodanna Hall, Steve & Tammy Snedegar
- 29 Bill & Kelsey Clough
- 30 Richard & Norma King

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; Melissa Henrich; Barbara Asbury; Vernon Taylor; the family of Karen Gray; Janet Willingham; Joanne Hart; Alice Baldwin; Kitty Fizer; the family of Beth Lucas; Bev Hart; Jeannie White; Leora McCoy; Pat Tippet; Wanda Pfof in the passing of her father; the family of Gordon Johnson; Gay Bono; Andrew & Kristina Reeder & children; Steve Niday; Sheila Radochio; Emma Gandee