

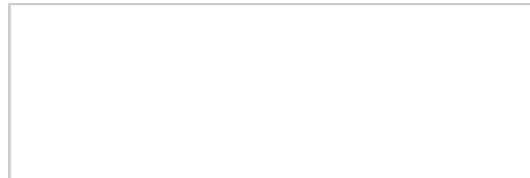


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◆ The Joyful Noise ◆

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

Pastor Larry Mort

January 2012

Dear Friends in Christ,

As the new year begins we may pause to reflect on what has passed and look to what is yet to come. It is good to remember from where we have come. History is a good teacher. But we must caution ourselves never to be so bound to the past that it clouds our vision for the future. The first of the year is about having that vision for the future.

Jesus says, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

We do not have to abandon the past. In fact, no one can. Our history is what makes us who we are. It is important to be acknowledged, celebrated, and built on. However, growth cannot be stymied by what we have been. That is true of individuals, and it is true of organizations including the family of God. If we will be what God intends us to be we will grow beyond what we have always been. And each day is part of that progression of growing.

For some the procession toward the future is frightening. It means leaving some things behind. We can never take everything with us on any journey. It would be too much baggage. It would weigh us down. We have to decide what is truly important and necessary. That is a constant process of evaluating and deciding. For some this process of leaving treasures of the past (whether they are material items or ideas) is far too hard to handle. Never the less, in order to move forward we must evaluate what we take with us and what we must leave behind. And then, like Abraham, we must be willing to go to an unknown destination. But like Abraham the one who calls us forward is the very one who goes with us on our way.

2012 may very well prove to be one of those years for pondering the future. During the past year, St. Andrew was given the opportunity to begin to explore possible directions for future ministry. Although the consolidation of the airport area church did not carry forward to completion, it provided the catalyst for evaluating where we have come, and where we might want to travel forward as a community of faith.

We have a vision for the future. That vision carried us through the discussions with the other congregations. However, it is in its infancy. It is necessary to grow that vision and allow it to become fully activated in our community. In order to do that it is necessary to decide what is truly important to us, and what we can and will let go. We cannot do everything. We must decide what we will do well. This will be our work in 2012.

The one promise that will carry us forward is that God goes with us. We need not cling to the things we know, and look backward afraid to look into the future. Jesus is there as we look ahead, and he will guide our every step, our every decision, our every action.

May this be a year filled with blessing for Jesus' sake.
Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mort

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January Birthdays *

Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating a birthday during the month of January.

Be of good courage, and He will strengthen your heart, all you that hope in the Lord.
Psalm 31:24

Monika Hirsh 01-03	Douglas Arndt 01-14	Larry Polny 01-21
Barbara DeGennaro 01-04	Jonathan Burke 01-14	Bryan Hinch 01-22
Edwin Nelson 01-04	Shannon Camardese 01-14	Carolyn Betlyn 01-23
Grace Arndt 01-12	Lauren McKissick 01-16	Valerie Cinkovic 01-23
Andrea Cinkovic 01-12	Melissa Morrow 01-17	Janice Miknevich 01-25
Geddy Litterini 01-12	Evelyn Bartoe 01-21	Nancy Alstadt 01-28
Audrey Longerman 01-12	Kaitlin Burke 01-21	Cheryl Hazelbaker 01-28
Lindsay Vlasic 01-12	Frank Flora 01-21	Diana Thielman 01-31

*We apologize if your birthday is not included. Please call the office to update our list.

Bible Reading Plan

Date	Jan 1: Gen 1-3; Matt 1	Jan 17: Gen 41-42; Matt 12:1-23
	Jan 2: Gen 4-6; Matt 2	Jan 18: Gen 43-45; Matt 12:24-50
	Jan 3: Gen 7-9; Matt 3	Jan 19: Gen 46-48; Matt 13:1-30
	Jan 4: Gen 10-12; Matt 4	Jan 20: Gen 49-50; Matt 13:31-58
	Jan 5: Gen 13-15; Matt 5:1-26	Jan 21: Ex 1-3; Matt 14:1-21
	Jan 6: Gen 16-17; Matt 5:27-48	Jan 22: Ex 4-6; Matt 14:22-36
Old/ New Testament	Jan 7: Gen 18-19; Matt 6:1-18	Jan 23: Ex 7-8; Matt 15:1-20
	Jan 8: Gen 20-22; Matt 6:19-34	Jan 24: Ex 9-11; Matt 15:21-39
	Jan 9: Gen 23-24; Matt 7	Jan 25: Ex 12-13; Matt 16
	Jan 10: Gen 25-26; Matt 8:1-17	Jan 26: Ex 14-15; Matt 17
	Jan 11: Gen 27-28; Matt 8:18-34	Jan 27: Ex 16-18; Matt 18:1-20
	Jan 12: Gen 29-30; Matt 9:1-17	Jan 28: Ex 19-20; Matt 18:21-35
	Jan 13: Gen 31-32; Matt 9:18-38	Jan 29: Ex 21-22; Matt 19
	Jan 14: Gen 33-35; Matt 10:1-20	Jan 30: Ex 23-24; Matt 20:1-16
	Jan 15: Gen 36-38; Matt 10:21-42	Jan 31: Ex 25-26; Matt 20:17-34
	Jan 16: Gen 39-40; Matt 11	

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We Serve



Council Meeting Schedule

Council Meetings are open to all members.

The Council typically meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month starting at 7:15 pm. Some meetings have been rescheduled. Your attendance is welcomed.

Here are the planned meeting dates for 2011-2012. Please check Sunday bulletins and weekly email updates for last minute changes.

January 19
February 9
March 8

MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

The team gathers to discuss various topics dealing with congregational life. If you feel that an issue needs to be addressed in the congregation, the members of the Mutual Ministry Team are able to listen and get the information to the appropriate person(s).

Chairperson: Bob Toothman
(412) 262-1061

Carol Crawford (412) 269-7725
LaVerne Heisler (412) 264-5743
Audrey Longerman (412) 264-7681
Helen Werling (412) 771-1130
Bob Uhrine (412) 264-6587

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Christine Litterini, Charity Jeck, Virginia Gravener, Babs Yingst, Gary Kochanowski, Carol Crawford, Janice Miknevich, Gary Marten, Lois Baile, Audrey Longerman, Dorothy Balogh, Brenda Bruno

- Mary Jean Kranack, friend of Marty and Billie Schuller
- Tyler Lioi, friend of Kara Bussard
- Scott Mullen, nephew of Jeff and Kathy McKinley
- Teleha Family, friends of Sherri Perfett
- Daugherty Family, friends of Sherri Perfett
- Carol Brokos, friend of the Werthen family
- Christine McCorkle, friend of Rhonda Brite
- Betty Cramer, aunt of Deb Mort
- Steve McCurry, fourth grader from Brooks elementary
- Diane Sirko, friend of the Schuller family
- Keith Jackson, son of Barb Marten
- Ernie Fox, father-in-law of Richard Evertte
- Kathi & Harv Treschow, friends of the Flora family
- Cole Lingren, friend of the Azzizi & Betlyn family
- Donna Conley, daughter of John & Carol Crawford
- Lori Mueller, friend of Kathy McKinley
- Donna Mustari, grandmother of Melissa Mustari
- Lynn Kaltwasser, brother of Deb Mort
- Jack Magee , cousin of Lois Baile
- Maura Schwab, friend of the Schumacher family
- Renee & Robert Bucheit, cousins of Julie Bookser
- Marty Engel & Bill Page, parents of Martha Baxter
- Gary Burnworth, brother-in-law of Lisa Heisler
- James Dale Smith, friend of the Heisler family
- Marion Theobald, mother of Pastor Emilie Theobald
- Ungarean Family, friends of Sherri Perfett
- Lee Robertson, brother of Rhonda Brite
- Katie Walsh, granddaughter of Jean Cordell
- Michael Liptak, nephew of Kathy & Jeff McKinley
- Mary & Stephen Kurnocik, parents of Tim Kurnocik
- Doug Shirley, nephew of Frank & Alice Bruno
- Alice Perruchon, mother of Paula Bussard
- Joanne Kurnocik, grandmother of Tim Kurnocik

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

James Riss, son-in-law of Paula & Jeff Bussard

WM. Jack Fleming Jr., friend of the Nelson family

Mark & Steve Robertson, serving in Afghanistan, nephews of Rhonda Brite

Lt. Col. Jonathan Payne serving in Afghanistan, family living in Moon Township

ADVENT DINNER RECAP

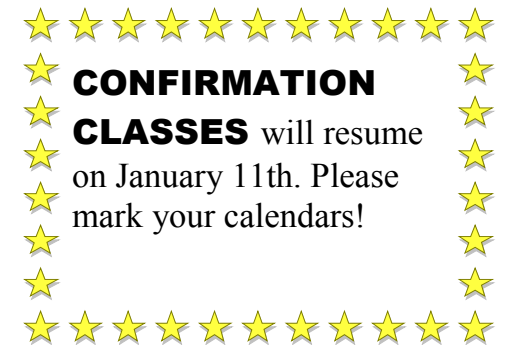
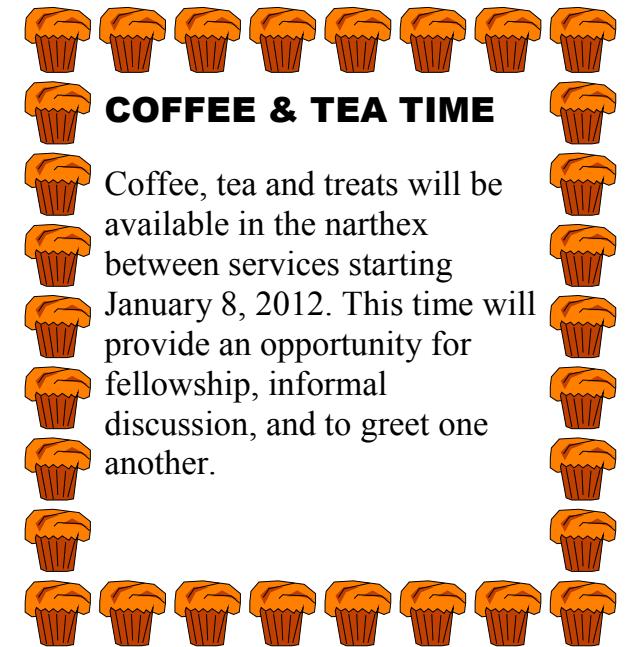
By: Rhonda Brite

If you did not attend the Advent dinner and the concert by the West Allegheny Show Choir on the evening of December 4th, you missed a great opportunity to have fellowship with your church family, members of Resurrection and family & friends of the choir. WA should be very proud of their young adults who preformed. These young adults are to be commended for their great accomplishment. I want to thank everyone who helped set & clean up. It is greatly appreciated.

JANUARY WELCA MEETING

The regular monthly meeting for January will meet on January 11, 2012 at 7:00 pm. Terri Hinch will be teaching us how to make Prayer Journals. Lori Burke will be doing devotions and providing refreshments.

We hope the weather cooperates and that you will be able to be there. Mark your calendar for Jan. 11th. Bring a friend.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

By: Dave Kasper

Many thanks for all those who have contributed to our capital campaign. We have raised almost \$5000.00 at this point. However, we still have a long way to go to reach our \$45,000.00 goal. If you need another list of the projects and/or the special contribution project envelopes, please call the church office secretary, Melissa Mustari. Melissa's office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.

Thanks again to all who are helping us make St. Andrew a safe, clean and comfortable place for worship and Christian ministry.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting will be held on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2012** at 5:00 pm to further explore our budget alternatives. The budget was approved at the last congregational meeting by a 18 to 17 vote. At that meeting our church leadership promised to further review the composition of the 2012 budget and review the basis of congregational staff paid and volunteer positions.

Dinner will be served during the discussion.

We should come together with an open mind in Christian fellowship to discuss and resolve any issues for the benefit of our ministry.



Starting in January 2012, every 3rd Friday of the month will be kids night-out from 7:00 pm–10:00 pm. Parents can drop their children off to have a great night of fun, friends, and food. St. Andrew will have ping pong, foosball, air hockey and pool tables available for the kids. There will also be group chess

play with gigantic chess pieces.

Pizza, chicken fingers, drinks, etc..will be available in the kitchen. Free will donations will be accepted but are not required. Full length "Disney type" movies will be provided in the sanctuary. Sign-up sheets will be available in the narthex starting in January.

ADULT'S NIGHT OUT

- Please join us on February 4th at 6:00 pm at Harold's Inn located at 2134 Broadhead Road, Hopewell, PA 15001. This is a great social event for adults to enjoy a night of fun, food and the company of friends. Please rsvp by February 1st to Carol at 412-269-7725 or Grace 412-262-2318.

TUBE & SKI DAY AT 7 SPRINGS

St. Andrew is sponsoring a tube and ski day at 7 Springs Ski Resort on Saturday, February 18, 2012. The bus will leave the St. Andrew parking lot at 9:00 am that day and will return approximately at 5:00 pm. There will be plenty of chaperons to supervise the children attending.

More information about cost of bus and rental equipment to follow. Sign-up sheets will available in the narthex starting in January.

