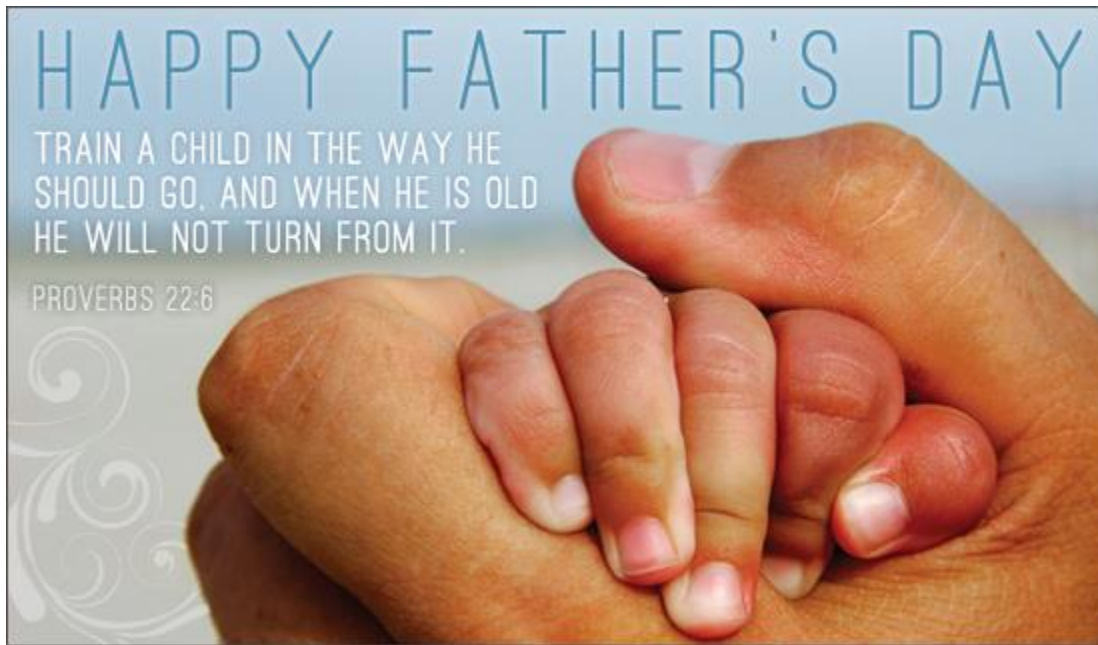




The Beacon

June 2017



PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

Have you had a chat with the Lord today? No appointment needed, the opportunity is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Keep praying, prayer changes things.

PRAYER EMPHASIS FOR JUNE

Let Your Good Deeds Glow

“Let your good deeds glow for all to see, so that they will praise your heavenly Father.”

Matthew 5:16 TLB

God as a Hobby?

What do you like to do in your spare time? What are your hobbies? Most of mine involve sports and physical activity. I like to play tennis, bike, walk the dogs and go for hikes in the woods. I also enjoy gardening and working in the yard, though the joy in that diminishes in July and August for some hot reason! That's when I start thinking about how nice it will be to have cooler weather, and even snow (can you believe I said that awful four-letter word?!), because I love to cross-country ski and occasionally downhill ski, as well. I usually play the guitar after dinner each night. I manage to read a book each month or so, though when I'm focused on a topic I can do a book or two a week. I'm a pretty avid Phillies fan, but I rarely go to the games; I watch on TV. I definitely love to travel. OK, enough about me! What about you? What do you like to do in your spare time?



School is nearly over (such sad news for our kids!) and most of us who work will have some extra time over the summer to pursue some other interests. Hobbies are activities that we like to do when we have extra time, activities that give us pleasure or relaxation, that renew us in some way. Back in 1993, Yale University law professor Stephen L. Carter published a book entitled *The Culture of Disbelief: How American Law and Politics Trivialize Religious Devotion* (Basic Books); the fact that then President Clinton recommended the book made it a bestseller. One of the chapters in Carter's book is entitled "God as a Hobby", which I've always found an intriguing idea. Carter says, "The message of contemporary culture seems to be that it is perfectly all right to *believe* that stuff—we have freedom of conscience, folks can believe what they like—but you really ought to keep it to yourself, especially if your beliefs are the sort that cause you to act in ways that are . . . well . . . a bit unorthodox" (p. 25). If that was true then, how much more is it today? The increasing accent on "tolerance" as *the* great public virtue and diminution of ideas of divine authority and absolutes has caused a great reversal in our thinking: God cannot really be Lord of all we think and do if we are supposed to be, culturally speaking, open to anything anyone else does, so God has slipped into the domain of something we consider and follow when we have a little extra time. God has become, for some, a hobby, a focus we engage in at our leisure, to do with as we choose.

The practical consequences of this are profound. It entails nothing less than a reversal of the Creator-creature relationship that was part of the fall of humanity into sin. We become the ones who decide on God's significance and we stand over him as though we were divine, instead of recognizing him as Lord of all and the one before whom we must bow.

We too often take our direction from our culture and not from Scripture, though we are supposed to "demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God" and "take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ" (2 Cor. 10:5). We too often think of corporate worship as something we do when we feel like it or if we have time instead of seeing it as "the Lord's day", a kind of Sabbath we set aside to focus on God, be instructed in his Word, and praise him with his people. We too often give to God what is left of our time, our talents, and our treasures instead of giving to him the first and best of what he has placed in our management.

God is *not* to be considered a hobby, no matter what the surrounding culture suggests. God commands us as our Creator to love and honor him as Lord of all aspects of our lives. "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31). Enjoy your summer with Jesus as Lord!

Peter Rind

Pastor's Report for April, 2017
Prepared for Session Meeting of May 7, 2017
Rev. Randall Otto

- A. Service of the Lord's Day
 - a. Prepared and led worship on 5 Sundays, Easter sunrise and Maundy Thurs
 - b. Administered sacrament of Lord's Supper on Apr 2
 - c. Sunday night activities-- teaching on world religions
 - B. Visits and Contacts (Pastoral and other)
 - a. Home visits: 8
 - b. Hospital visits: 1
 - C. Administration
 - a. wrote the pastor's page, other items for Beacon
 - b. moderated session Apr 9
 - c. did updating of church website and Facebook page
 - d. began Standing Rules revision on Mar. 9, continued Mar. 29
 - D. Community outreach/church connections
 - a. Wed. morning Bible study
 - b. Participated in Good Friday community worship
 - c. Resourced and participated in Mission Study committee meeting Apr 9 & 30
 - d. Put up new Facebook page for church. Please *like, follow, and share* it.
-

Coming on June 11—Pastor's Press Conference!

No, this is not your pastor's way of "looking presidential"! Instead, it is your pastor's way of offering you the opportunity to ask some of the questions of the faith that have perhaps been on your mind for a while! On Sunday, June 11, in lieu of a sermon, Pastor Otto will take any question pertaining to the faith that you wish to ask and will answer as many as time allows. You will be given a 3"x 5" card in your bulletin or as you enter on which to write your question. The cards will be collected during the service and Pastor Otto will then answer these questions to the best of his ability! Any questions that remain unanswered, either due to time constraints or depth of treatment needed, will be answered in subsequent newsletters! Begin thinking now about what you may wish to ask!!



Our first reflection session on May 21 after worship helped us think about vision, particularly the future vision of St. Andrew's church. We also thought about how the church's identity intersects with that of the surrounding community and we gave some attention to potential gaps between the church and the community in terms of what we're like and what the community is like and how we can connect better with our context.



Our next reflection session will be held after worship on June 25. It will only be one hour long and will be focused on becoming more specific about what we can do in the near and longer terms in connecting with our community. We urge all who are able to attend and give us your input. The future of the church's mission focus is being fashioned in these meetings. We want to hear from as many as we can about what God would have us be and do as the St. Andrew's of the future.

FROM THE DEACONS June 2017

Adopt-a-Student

The Adopt-A-Student Program is designed to encourage a positive attitude towards school by helping with the supplies students need to achieve success. This year, the Deacons will be collecting school supplies for Brookside Elementary School on the following Sundays: July 9, July 16, July 23 and July 30. Please place your donations of backpacks, pencils, pens, composition books, spiral notebooks, crayons, etc. in the wicker basket in the church entry. Monetary donations can be given to any Deacon. Thank you for your support of this program.

Church Picnic, September 10 at Lums Pond

Save the date. We hope to see you there, to share good food, fun and fellowship.

Quilts for Comfort, October 14

Mark your calendars. We'll need your help making quilts that will be donated to at-risk babies and children, as well as cancer and dialysis patients. Sewing skills are not required; we can find a task for anyone willing to help. More info to follow.

Next Deacons' Meeting, June 11.



www.standrewsnewark.org

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Stated Session Meeting
April 9, 2017

Meeting opened with prayer by moderator Rev. Dr. Randy Otto at 4:12 pm
Quorum present and docket was approved

Elders present: Florence Fonjweng, Darrell DiStefano, Myron Hardesty, Dave DiMartine, Jane Wright, Julie Guns, Cliff Wood.

Elders not in attendance: Flora Atangcho and Mary Anne Colbert.

Minutes from the March Session Meeting were approved with one correction.

Treasurer's Report was approved pending audit. Total revenue for March 2017 was \$12,392.20. Total expenses for March were \$13,712.57. Net revenue over expenses was -\$1,320.37. For the YTD total revenue was \$36,449.11. For YTD total expenses were \$40,593.02. For YTD net revenue over expenses was -\$4,143.91.

Pastor's Report was reviewed and approved.

Clerk's Report:

- Letter read from NCP approving Cameroon Pastors' Retreat for \$5,500.
- Request for use of church space once a week for the Herbal Life Health Coach and Nutrition Club will be postponed until some questions have been answered.
- Due to an oversight, the number of active members on St. Andrew's membership roll was adjusted by one female. Membership total is now 112 members.

Motions made, seconded and approved:

- Allow Representative from Gideons to come and share their mission during a Sunday service and hold a special offering. Date yet to be determined.
- In lieu of Sunday night activities on Sunday evening, May 7th there will be a slide show presentation by Roger and Winnie Wagner of their recent trip to South Africa.
- Accept with regret the resignation of deacon, Jean Pasapane, due to health issues.
- Received all previous Committee Reports.
- Next Session Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 7th instead of May 14th.
- Adjourn meeting with prayer at 5:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen B. Hunt, Clerk of Session



Morning Circle

Our next meeting will be Thursday June 1st at 10 AM.

Naomi Circle

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday June 20th at 7 PM.

Naomi Circle is selling out our inventory. We have 1 slicer, 7 paring knives (peeling, regular and heavy duty), and 3 knife sharpeners. Each item is \$5.00. See Joanne Rager the first Sunday of the month during coffee hour or call her at 302-378-0600. Proceeds benefit Naomi Circle.

Ruth Circle

Our next meeting will be on Monday June 6th at 7 PM.

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, and generosity during the past few weeks.

My heart and soul are doing well. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful church family at St. Andrews.

Mary Anne Colbert

Betty Winter is in need of baby wool and 4 ply yarn. If anyone has any to donate, please drop it off to her or bring it to church. Thank you!

Karen Johnson would like to thank everyone for bringing in their bags. Please keep them coming, she is working on her fourth mat. Special thanks to Marianne Hardesty for cutting and rolling bags. If you would like to help out with this task, Marianne sure could use a break. Anyone interested in helping out should contact Karen 302-442-3362.



DOLLARS AND SENSE - THE BOTTOM LINE

In April, St. Andrew's received \$14,550.60. That amount is \$1,442.60 more than the income budgeted for the month. Budgeted monthly income in 2017 is \$13,108. We spent \$13,460.61 in April, which is \$401.45 less than the budgeted expenses of \$14,197.35. The surplus for the month was \$1,089.99. The deficit for the year is \$3,053.92.

In 2016 St. Andrew's received \$157,364.56 and spent \$160,339.08 resulting in a deficit of \$2,974.52.

ST. ANDREW'S APRIL FINANCIAL POSITION - ACTUAL VS BUDGET

MONTH	INCOME	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD INCOME	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET
APRIL	\$14,550.60	\$13,108.00	\$1,442.60	\$50,999.71	\$52,432.00	-\$1,432.29
	EXPENSE	BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET	YTD EXPENSE	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL VS BUDGET
PASTOR	\$7,187.81	\$7,249.99	-\$62.18	\$28,000.98	\$28,999.96	-\$998.98
STAFF	\$3,883.60	\$3,983.57	-\$99.97	\$15,684.40	\$15,934.28	-\$249.88
PROGRAM	\$142.87	\$312.48	-\$169.61	\$755.05	\$1,249.92	-\$494.87
BLDG GRDS	\$2,246.33	\$2,269.98	-\$23.65	\$8,543.83	\$9,079.92	-\$536.09
PER CAPITA	\$0.00	\$298.00	-\$298.00	\$894.45	\$894.00	\$0.45
MISSIONS	\$0.00	\$83.33	-\$83.33	\$174.92	\$249.99	-\$75.07
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$13,460.61	\$14,197.35	-\$653.41	\$54,053.63	\$56,408.07	-\$2,354.44
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$1,089.99	(\$1,089.35)		(\$3,053.92)	(\$3,976.07)	

YEAR TO DATE INCOME-EXPENSE (APRIL)






JUNE 2017



- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 -- Sandra Miller | 24 --Kay DiStefano |
| 4 -- Pam Strickland | 26 --Doris Hoeflinger |
| 6 -- Trevor Klair | MaryBeth Schweitzer |
| 9 -- Doris Davidson | 27 --Bea Fairchild |
| 18 -- Pat Pierce | 28 --Ted Weeden |
| Achille Tenkiang | 29 --Mike Guns, Jr. |
| 19-- Scott Kuykendall | Gene Stiltz |
| Danielle Wood | 30 --Rob Johnson |
| 23 -- Judith Kupelian | |




- 10-- Roger and Winnie Wagner
 22 --Neil and Bea Fairchild
 27 --Darrell and Kay DiStefano
 28 - Randy and Nancy Otto

				1 Morning Circle 10AM Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM	2	3 STRESSED? Jeremiah 29:11 Proverbs 29:11 Proverbs 3:5-6 Ephesians 4:26 Ephesians 4:31-32 Matthew 6:19-21 Hebrews 12:6
4 Combined Pentecost Service with KCOS 11:00 a.m. Communion Youth Sunday/ Food Collection Sunday Sunday Night Groups end of year picnic at Furry's 5:00 p.m.	5	6 Ruth Circle 7PM	7 KCOS 7:30PM	8 Praise Band Rehearsal 6PM Choir Rehearsal 7PM	9 KCOS Youth 6PM	10 WORRIED? PSALM 46:10 PSALM 37:5 PHILIPPIANS 4:6 1 PETER 4:7 MATTHEW 6:25-27 PROVERBS 3:5-6 MATTHEW 6:34
11 Blended Service 10:00 AM Deacon's Meeting 11:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM Session Meeting 4:30 PM	12	13	14 KCOS 7:30PM 	15	16 KCOS Youth 6PM	17 DEPRESSED? PSALM 37:23-24 JOHN 16:33 NEHEMIAH 8:10 PSALM 42:5 HOSEA 6:1 2 TIMOTHY 1:7 PHILIPPIANS 4:13
18 Blended Service 10:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM 	19 Beacon Deadline	20 Naomi Circle 7PM	21 KCOS 7:30PM 	22	23 KCOS Youth 6PM	24 
25 Blended Service 10:00 AM Church of Service Worship 12:30 PM	26	27	28 KCOS 7:30PM	29	30 KCOS Youth 6PM	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JUNE 2017

1 Thursday	Morning Circle	10:00 a.m.
	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
2 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
4 Sunday	Combined Pentecost Service with KCOS	11:00 a.m.
	Communion	
	Youth Sunday/Food Collection Sunday	
	Sunday Night Groups end of year picnic at Furry's	5:00 p.m.
6 Tuesday	Ruth Circle	7:00 p.m.
7 Wednesday	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
8 Thursday	Praise Band Rehearsal/Choir Rehearsal	6:30/7:00 p.m.
9 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
11 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Deacon's Meeting	11:00 a.m.
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
	Session Meeting	4:30 p.m.
14 Wednesday	Flag Day	
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
16 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
18 Sunday	Happy Father's Day	
	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
19 Monday	Beacon Deadline	
20 Tuesday	Naomi Circle	7:00 p.m.
21 Wednesday	Summer begins	
	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
23 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.
25 Sunday	Blended Service	10:00 a.m.
	Reflection Session immediately following worship	
	Church of Service Worship	12:30 p.m.
28 Wednesday	Church of Service	7:30 p.m.
30 Friday	Church of Service Youth	6:00 p.m.





JEREMIAH 29:11

CONGRATULATIONS

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Willem Avenarius graduates from Glasgow High School and will be studying Programming at Pittsburgh Technical College in the fall.

Katrina Mae Hardy graduates from Conrad Schools of Science. She will be attending University Of Delaware in the fall, She was accepted in to the Pre Veterinary Medicine program, majoring in Veterinary Science.

Brianna Johnson, daughter of Randy & Michelle Johnson graduated from Newark Charter High School. She is also the granddaughter of Neil & Bea Fairchild and the late Gloria and Walt Johnson.

Karen Miller, granddaughter of Sandy Miller, will graduate from Shenendehowa High School in Clifton Park, New York. Karen will attend Penn State University in the fall in the Engineering Honors Program.

Imere Miller will graduate from A.I. DuPont High School and will be studying Psychology at Goldey Beacom College in the fall.

Delma Ndifor is graduating from Fairwinds Christian School and will be majoring in nursing at Wesley College in Dover in the fall.

CJ Wood graduated from Goldey Beacom College with a Master's Degree in Finance.