

The Fisherman's Network

St. Andrews United Methodist Church

1020 Maryland Avenue; Hagerstown, MD 21740

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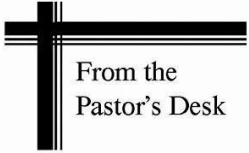
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Our Mission: "To Show, Share and Grow in God's Love, through Jesus Christ."

Our Vision: "Believe in God, Follow Jesus, and Serve Others."

May 2023 Newsletter



From the
Pastor's Desk

Is Easter way behind us now?
We are still in Easter season
thankfully remembering Christ's
resurrection every Sunday

morning for we are resurrection people.

Jesus announced peace to the disciples and
breathed on them the Holy Spirit sending them out
to be Christ ambassadors. "As the Father sent me,
so send I you."

Let us this spring through the summer season,
represent Jesus our king and Lord. We have the
good news, "that while we were yet sinners, Christ
died for us." Jesus had paid our sin debt in full on
the cross. He has breathed on us the Holy Spirit
power to do his work.

Take the authority given to us to share the good
news of Jesus our savior. Tell of his healing power.

Jesus declared that "All power has been given to
me – go in my name." God bless you all with flesh
anointing of the Holy Spirit and power.

Thanks so much for all the work done with the
peanut butter egg making.

Thanks so much for the successful work done for
the potato drop project.

Thanks so much for the painting of the church
parking lot.

Thanks go to all participants in the winter
monologues.

Blessings be upon all of us as we serve the Lord
the rest of the year.

Happy Mother's Day!

Blessings,
Pastor Chris



St. Andrews Music Notes

"God didn't remove the Red Sea.
He parted it. God doesn't always
remove your problems, but He will
make a way to get through them." I'm not sure
where I read this, but I thought how true this quote
is in our everyday life. It reminds me of the song,
"Waymaker". Isn't it wonderful that our God is a
Waymaker that we can go to for help in any and all
circumstances.

The Faithful Ringers and the Chancel/Praise Choir
will soon be taking a break during the summer. If
you would like to provide special music during the
summer months, please see me so that we can get
you scheduled for a Sunday. Each year, I suggest
that families choose a Sunday. This could mean
you and your sibling, your children, your spouse, or
any other family members.

I'm so excited about our "Christmas In July" service
for July 9th. Please plan to attend and spend the
afternoon with us as we have many exciting things
planned for that day.

Any suggestions to enhance our worship services
are always welcomed.

Anyone who would like to try playing the bells or
singing on the choir, is encouraged to do so. See if
that is a way that you want to use your talents to
worship the Lord.

Thank you so much to everyone who participated
in any way during our Lenten and Easter Season.

Lisa Shives,
Music Director



in May

May 4 - 10:00 am Bible

Study

- May 4 - 7:00 pm Trustees
- May 9 - 6:30 pm Finance Committee
- May 10 - 6:00 pm Worship Committee
- May 11 - 10:00 am Bible Study
- May 14 - Mother's Day
- May 15 - June Newsletter articles are due
- May 16 - 6:00 pm SPRC
- May 17 - 11:30 am Emmanuel Senior's Lunch
- May 18 - 10:00 am Bible Study
- May 21 - Ascension Sunday
- May 27 - 9:00 am UMM meet at church
- May 28 - Pentecost Sunday
- May 29 - Memorial Day – church office closed
- May 31 - Annual BWC Conference



Worship Events this Month

There are special observances on the church's calendar in May.

The second Sunday in May is dedicated to all women as we honor and celebrate Mother's Day on May 14th. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed the holiday into law. Did you know more phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year? Some of the most popular gifts given are greeting cards, plants, flowers, and candy.

The third Sunday, May 21st, is celebrated as Ascension Sunday following Ascension Day which is on a Thursday, 40 days after Easter, May 18th this year.

For many, Ascension Day will go relatively unnoticed. Forty days after Easter is just another Thursday with many of us in our ordinary weekday routines. The event it celebrates, however, is an important episode in the life of Jesus that the church has regarded highly through the years.

Luke tells the story of Jesus' ascension both at the end of his gospel (Luke 24:50-53) and the beginning of his writing about the early church (Acts 1:9-11).

John Wesley included Ascension Day in the *Sunday Service*, because it "marked not just something about Jesus or the church, but about the scope of salvation for the whole universe," the worship resources continue. Jesus "ascended to heaven to assume the fullness of his reign."

May 28th is Pentecost Sunday and also the Sunday before Memorial Day. Let's wear red, white and blue to church on this day to honor service members who gave their lives.

Wear red, white and blue to worship May 28th



Remember -
our fallen heroes.
They are the reason
that we are free.



Food Donations:

Thank you for helping to feed our neighbors! Since March 15th we have delivered 38 boxes of cereal and 16 other items to St. Mark's Food Bank.

Bester Elementary received 27 boxes of snacks and 32 pantry items. Sherri took 12 food items to the

Rescue Mission. Everyone appreciates our support. As a special note, Brian, who is always there to help carry in our donations at St. Marks, helped with the Potato Drop on April 15th. Thank you, Brian!

REACH of Washington County:

We received a special hand written note from Jeannie Asbury, Executive Director of Reach. "Thank you for blessing Reach with your "Souper Bowl" collection. We are so grateful for your support and gift. Thank you!" Our donation was \$158.00.

Brooke's House Collection:

We are continuing our donations through May. We are helping with toilet paper and cleaning supplies for their home. Some examples are Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Scrubbing Bubbles, Clorox Bleach, Multi-Purpose Mr. Clean, and Lysol Multi Surface Cleaner. Please leave items on the hall table box. We are glad to reach out to these young ladies.

St. Andrews Potato Project:

During the United Methodist Men's very successful Potato Drop on April 15, donations of \$340.00 were made. Did you know that "every dollar donated equals about 30 servings of food for people in the most need? This summer we will continue sharing our garden produce with our congregation and sending money donated to the Society of St. Andrew.

Applying Bible Principles

An oxymoron is the use of two terms which are contradictory in nature. "Jumbo shrimp" is an oxymoron. "Ferocious lamb" is another. "Dumb scholar" is yet another.

One of the saddest and most contradictory is the oxymoron, "Stingy Christian." Because we have been redeemed through our faith in Christ, Christians should be the most generous of all people. We have been abundantly blessed of God, who has given us all things richly to enjoy (Rom. 8:32).

James 1:17 expresses this truth clearly: "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

Think about some of God's good gifts:

God gives the seed (Gen. 1:11).

God gives the rain (Job 5:10).

God gives health (Jer. 30:17).

God gives life (Acts 17:25).

God gives strength (Isa. 40:29).

God gives riches (1 Chron. 29:12).

God gives grace (2 Cor. 12:9).

God gives eternal life (Rom. 6:23).

And God gives us money and the ability to get wealth. Solomon said that money is one of God's gifts to people. The purpose for which He gives us money is stated clearly in Ecclesiastes 5:19 — for our enjoyment.

Some of us make that the primary reason for money. We major in pleasure and the things money can do for us. But there is another major purpose God gives us money, something that also can bring great pleasure: To give it back to Him.

That's why of all the oxymorons in existence, "Stingy Christian" is the most contradictory. We who have been given the most from God should be the most generous people in the world.

As the tombstone in an old cemetery read, "What I spent, I had; what I saved, I lost; what I gave, I have."



St. Andrews Potato Project

St. Andrews United Methodist Men, working with the Society of St. Andrews and the Baltimore Washington Conference, sponsored an End Hunger Potato Drop on April 15th. Our church is blessed to have a large parking lot for the tractor trailer and pick up vehicles without interrupting the local traffic flow. God gave us a cloudy day and held back the worst of the rain until the end allowing us to distribute 42,000 pounds (840 bags) of potatoes.

Organizations from Annapolis, Baltimore, Washington D.C., Jefferson County W.V., and Waynesboro PA, came to Hagerstown to pick up potatoes. Potatoes were taken to be distributed to food banks and pantries. A drive-thru was created for local needy families of Hagerstown to pick up potatoes. The demand of the local community was the greatest we have seen. It is estimated that 200 bags or more were distributed through the drive through process to local families.

Besides the distribution of potatoes to end hunger, the event was a great time for Christian fellowship and meeting fellow Christians within the Baltimore Washington Conference. St. Andrews UMM is grateful for all the help by church members. Along with the UMM were members of our church who helped break down the fifty-pound bags into ten-pound bags. They then went out to the sidewalk and gave these away to passing motorists. Thank you to all who came out to do service! People pitched in to help load each other's' vehicles.

\$340 was donated and will be forwarded to the Society of St. Andrews to support the continuation of their program to end hunger. This was a wonderful outreach opportunity for us and a blessing to many in the community. St. Andrews UMM is grateful we could sponsor this event and

look forward to sponsoring another potato drop in 2024. The Society of St. Andrew does not charge any fees for their services or potatoes.

Men, please join us for our monthly UMM meetings on the fourth Saturday of each month at 9:00 am and help us to build our group.

Check out the video of the Potato Project at <https://www.facebook.com/HagerstownStAndrewsUMC>

PICTURES OF A SUCCESSFUL UMM POTATO PROJECT
Thanks to the many members and friends who helped with this mission!



