

SAINT ANDREW
United Methodist Church
OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

- **SAUMC Annual Church Conference.** You are all welcome to join our annual church conference being held at First UMC of Toms River, located at 129 Chestnut Street **Saturday, October 17 at 11:30am. Worship will be at 10:30am.** If you are attending the conference please arrive for 10:30am worship.
- **Administrative Board.** The next Board meeting will be held on **Tuesday October 13 at 7:00pm via video conference call.** Call the church office (732-349-5367) if you are not a board member and would like to attend. All are welcome!
- **Calling All Church Singers – Summer Singers now “St. Andrew Singers.”** Come share your voice and fellowship with our St. Andrew Singers! We will lead the singing during our 10:00am worship service on **October 25, November 22 and December 20.** Join us at **8:30am** for coffee, doughnut holes, and a review of the hymns and songs. At **9:00am**, we will rehearse in the sanctuary with the Praise Band before worship. There are **no extra rehearsals**, and **no music-reading experience required.** The hymns and songs will be familiar and easy to learn. Sign-up with a choir member. It’s a wonderful opportunity to sing and worship alongside fellow church members!
- **Cards of Encouragement: A Night of Faith & Creativity.** Join us for a special evening of crafting, connection, and encouragement! Come create beautiful handmade cards that will uplift hearts and share God’s love. No experience needed. All supplies provided. Just bring yourself! **Thursday, October 15 from 4:30–6:30pm, rooms 4–6.** Bring a friend and enjoy a relaxing, faith-filled night together. Let’s create something meaningful—one card at a time. We can’t wait to see you there!
- **The Holiday Bazaar is coming and WE NEED YOU!** We are hosting a Holiday Bazaar on Saturday November 21 from 9:00am-1:00pm. Our goal is to raise \$2500 to support our church’s yearly commitment to our ministry partners in Tanzania. Your support of the tables the church runs is critical to meet this goal – so here is how you can help! **Granny’s Cupboard:** This is our table where we sell premade dinners, soups and homemade items like sauces, jams, pickles. You can make some especially for the bazaar, or just make extra when you are cooking this fall and save it in a disposable container in the freezer. See Sue Magyar for more information, and we can provide containers and labels if needed. **Attic Treasures:** This is our table where we sell gently used treasures. If you have something to donate such as Christmas decorations, small décor items, kitchen appliances, toys etc. please start setting them aside. We will have collection boxes available starting in October. See Amanda Eggen for more information, or if you have multiple items you would like to have picked up. **The Jewelry Box:** One of our customer favorites! It’s time to go through your collections and see if you have jewelry or watches you no longer wear that you can donate. We also can use empty small jewelry boxes for the display. We will have collection boxes available starting in October. See Paulette Gooden or Bernadette Cataline for more information. **Angel Crafts:** Our craft table is where we sell items made by our church members. If you would like to make crafts at home for our table, please reach out and let us know what you will be making and it can be dropped off on November 19 or 20. If you would like to work on simple crafts together with us, we will be holding crafting sessions on Sundays after church in rooms 4-6 from 11:30-1:30. No special skills required – we hope you will come join us for some crafting fun! See Lisa Lockwood for details or if you have any questions. **Bake Sale:** We need bakers to help us fill our bake sale table with cookies, brownies, cupcakes and all sorts of candy and chocolate treats. If you would like to make goodies at home, please reach out and let us know what you will be making and it can be dropped off on November 20. We will also be baking together at the church to make cookies and cakes on Friday November 6 and Thanksgiving pies on Thursday November 19 – we hope you can join us! We will be taking pre-orders for the pies, so you can also help us by ordering pies for your Thanksgiving celebration. Please contact Lisa Lockwood about anything related to the bake sale. Please contact us if you know anyone who might be interested in being a vendor at the bazaar – spaces are filling up!
- **Meals That Heal.** Please join us on Wednesday, **October 21.** Come and enjoy Kielbasa, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes and other delicious foods. There is food for all and all are welcome! Fellowship Hall 5:00-6:00pm.
- **Social Action Committee. Beach Sweep Saturday, October 24!** Participate in a beach cleanup as part of statewide effort to stop ocean pollution. We are meeting at the Ortley Beach location 3rd Ave (near St. Elizabeth’s Chapel-3rd Ave Seaside Heights) at 9:00am. See Lynn Koch for more information or visit their website [Clean Ocean Action: Beach Sweeps Volunteer](#).
- **Trunk or Treat Sunday October 25, 3:00-5:00pm.** This event is open to the public and just around the corner. We need your help to make it a safe, joyful, and welcoming afternoon for our church family and the families and kids in our neighborhood. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to pitch in. **Host a Trunk:** Decorate your car trunk (simple or elaborate-it’s up to you!) and pass out candy. Costumes are strongly encouraged! **Donate Candy:** Can’t bring a car? We are gladly accepting donations of candy in the Narthex and Shared Ministry Office. **On-Site Helpers:** Lend a hand with setting up, greeting families, guiding parking, etc. Come before 3pm with your decorated trunk and goodies. Contact Jackie Jones, Marilyn Mazer, Marie Yarger or Lynn Napier and they’ll gladly add you to the list of contributors. Let’s show our community the love and joy of our church family!

- **Trustee News. Blood Drive Friday, October 9 from 12:30-6:30pm in classrooms 4-6.** Appointments are encouraged. Walk-ins are welcome! For an appointment call 800-933-2566. **Thanksgiving Baskets:** The air is cooling so it must be time to start thinking and planning our 2026 Thanksgiving Basket project! Yes, we will be handing out Thanksgiving dinners and pantry items to families in need again this year. We thank all of you who have so faithfully supported this project in the past and look forward to working with you all again to assist the families who so thankfully appreciate the help that we extend. This year's details are as follows: **Turkeys, turkeys, turkeys...**we can use as much help as possible in accumulating the 50 or so turkeys we will need. Please let us (Sue or Dave Richardson) know if you can donate a turkey. **Food items...**as we move closer to the Holiday, we will know more about specific food items that we will need. Of course, **it is always helpful to give financially** as our shoppers will get what is needed. **For those that want to help** – we can use shoppers, packers and help during the distribution day. Currently, we are planning to pack food sets on Friday, November 20th at 10am and distribute the baskets on Sunday, November 22nd starting at 12 noon (after service!). Be on the lookout for sign-up sheets in October. Please see Sue or Dave if you have any questions. Thank you!!

Building use request: The Trustees urge all groups and persons interested in using rooms and halls in the Church to try and plan at least three (3) months in advance. Classrooms 4, 5 & 6 have a good amount of daytime flexibility but Fellowship Hall has daily weekday pickleball use through the winter, making the space mostly unavailable, except for important Church needs that come up. Fellowship Hall does have pretty good flexibility for use on Saturdays. **See something...say something:** The Trustees encourage all of our members and friends to never be timid in alerting our Committee to areas of need - whether they be comfort or safety. The Trustees will evaluate all concerns and suggestions. **Sunday Service Security:** Did you know that we have a team that provides a basic level of security to the Church during services? The team of currently seven (7) members rotates weekly, keeping tabs on the building during service - making sure doors are locked (including our front doors after service begins), the children get to Sunday School safely, assisting visitors with bathroom locations and stationing ourselves in the Narthex so as to monitor the front doors for any late arriving members. If you would like to help and be part of the team, please check us out and let one of the members know.

A Friendly Reminder About Donations: We are grateful for everyone who generously supports our church and its missions. Your donations are a blessing and help us serve our congregation and community. We kindly ask that all donations and items being dropped off at the church be coordinated with the church office beforehand. Please do not leave donations at the church, outside the building, in hallways, or in other areas without first notifying the office. There may be times when the church is unable to accept certain items, or when there is no one available to receive, sort, or properly store them. Unannounced drop-offs can also create additional work for our staff and volunteers. Before bringing or leaving any donation, please contact the church office to make arrangements. Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and continued generosity. We truly appreciate your desire to support our church and its missions.

- **United Methodist Men's Breakfast.** The men's breakfast will be on **Sunday, October 11**. Breakfast will be served at 8:00am. All men are welcome and encouraged to come!
- **United Women in Faith (UWF).** Our general meeting will be held on **October 24**. A volunteer from Caregivers will be our guest speaker. Please join us at 10:00am in classrooms 4-6 for a delicious continental breakfast. Thank you for helping us support Caregivers! **SAVE THE DATE:** Our annual Christmas Tea will be on **December 5**.
- **Veterans Ministry New and Exciting Initiatives.** There are some new and exciting things happening with the St. Andrew Veterans Ministry, and we are happy to share them with you! **Winter Warmth for Military Families:** The Veterans Ministry is partnering with the Knit Wits to provide warm winter hats and scarves to military families at Joint Base Lakehurst, NJ. We invite all members of our congregation to participate in this special initiative by donating store-purchased hats and scarves by Sunday, November 8. Items may be for any age, from baby through adult. Donations may be placed in the bin located in the narthex clearly labeled for this purpose. Pastor will offer a special blessing for these gifts during our Veterans Day Ceremony on Sunday, November 8. Following the ceremony, Chaplain Mike Schaffer will deliver the donations to the base. **Cards of Thanks for Our Active Military:** The Veterans Ministry is also asking members of our congregation to consider signing a card with a few heartfelt words of love, appreciation, and praise for the brave men and women who protect our freedom every day. Beginning Sunday, October 11 baskets containing cards and pens will be placed on each table in the rear of the church. Please feel free to take a card, write a personal message, and return the completed card to the basket. These cards will also receive a special blessing during our Veterans Day Ceremony. They will then be given to Operation Jersey Cares, where they will be included in care parcels sent to our active military members. **Patriotic Paint Party Fundraiser:** Come join us for some fun and creativity at the St. Andrew Veterans Ministry Paint Party on Saturday, November 7, at 12:00 noon. The cost is \$25.00, which includes all painting supplies and light refreshments. Wear messy clothes or bring an apron and get ready to create a patriotic canvas to proudly display in your home! No special artistic skills are required—just come ready to have fun! All proceeds from this fundraiser will be donated to the Wesley Theological Seminary Military Chaplaincy Program, helping support the education and preparation of those called to serve our military communities through chaplaincy. **Veterans Day Ceremony:** This year's Veterans Day Ceremony will take place on Sunday, November 8, at 10:00. Please bring your favorite veteran and/or a special photo or piece of memorabilia belonging to you or a veteran to share on the table in the narthex.
- **WOW! Women's Book Club.** Calling all Women who love to read! Our selection for October is *The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali. We will meet via ZOOM on **October 31 at 10:00am**. Happy Reading!