

SAINT ANDREW
United Methodist Church
SEPTEMBER 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 September 8 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!
- **Worship Service & Picnic.** Mark your calendar for a very special Sunday. On **September 13** we will worship outdoor at our usual time, followed by a picnic to kick off the new year. Plan to bring a dish to share. Hot dogs and burgers will be provided.
- **Christmas Cantata.** What Sweeter Music Can We Bring by Mark Hayes. Singers, young and old are invited to a listening gathering immediately after church on **September 20.** We will listen to the cantata, distribute music and rehearsal schedules. Recordings of individual parts (SAB) will be available as well. Rehearsals will begin in September. We are hoping all singers will join to lift up the songs and carols of Christmas. The Christmas cantata will be presented Sunday December 6 @ 3:00pm. Any questions contact Jim Gilbert jim@standrewtr.org
- **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 starting on September 20. 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, **September 16.** Come and enjoy beef and chicken enchiladas, fruit salad and dessert. There is food for all and all are welcome! Fellowship Hall 5:00-6:00pm.
- **Musical Opportunities.** We always welcome new members. Our musical groups are a way to worship and fellowship with other brothers and sisters in Christ. Grade 6 to Adult are encouraged to join. **Bell Choir, Thursdays 3:00pm starting August 27; Adult Choir, Thursdays 4:00pm starting September 10; Praise Band, Wednesdays 6:30pm**

singers and musicians welcome to join. Contact Jim Gilbert @ jim@standrewtr.org

- ***Social Action Committee. Save the date Beach Sweep Saturday, October 24!*** Participate in a beach cleanup as part of statewide effort to stop ocean pollution. The information you collect about debris at your local site will help spread the message about the dangers of litter in the marine environment. Registration opens September 1. We are meeting at the Ortleigh 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](#).
- ***Trustee News. Blood Drive Thursday, September 3 from 1-7:00pm in Fellowship Hall.*** Appointments are encouraged. Walk-ins are welcome! For an appointment call 800-933-2566.
Solar Energy update. The solar energy panels were successfully installed on both the Parsonage and Fellowship Hall roofs in July. At the writing of this report, the project is just waiting on the Township inspections, and once approved, the system will be activated. For more information on this project, please refer to the July and August newsletters and a taped presentation available through a QR code on flyers available in the Narthex.
Memorial Garden. Good news! Our own Erik Napier organized and led a renovation of the Memorial Garden for his Eagle Scout project. The Garden now has a new fresh look. Erik also installed a help-yourself food pantry box at the edge of the Garden to be a compatible with the food pantry efforts. Very shortly, information will be forthcoming for those interested in adding a Memorial Brick to the Garden to honor or memorialize a loved one. If interested in helping with this project please contact the Trustees.
JBH Garden. The garden in the back of the property is in full production mode. Tomatoes, peppers, squash, eggplant and more are ripening quickly. Volunteers from the JBH eatery have been harvesting. If interested in being active in this ministry, please reach out to the Trustees.
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 **September 13 has been canceled**. The next breakfast will be **October 11**, breakfast served at 8:00am. All men are welcome and encouraged to come!
- ***United Women in Faith (UWF).*** Save the date! 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!
- ***Veterans Ministry.*** Our Veterans Ministry is meeting the third Sunday of each month after service in the Sanctuary. At the end of October, we will be providing holiday cards for members of the congregation to fill out for our troops around the world. These cards will be made available in baskets on the tables in the back of the church. This will continue through Veterans Day for anyone who wishes to express their appreciation to our troops. The Knit Wits will be creating scarves and hats for military family members at Joint Base Lakehurst, NJ. Members of the congregation are invited to contribute yarn (4 ply yarn-2 skeins for one set, scarf and hat) or store bought hats and scarves (any size child to adult). Our very own Lisa Lockwood, who is a veteran, will be speaking during our Veterans Day Service November 8 about her time in the military. We continue to support Operation Jersey Cares, US War DOGS, MSA Food Program and from time to time our own food pantry. Please remember our Freedom isn't Free. God bless our troops around the world, and may they return home safe and sound with God's help. For more information contact Sgt. David Nordt, Veterans Ministry Leader at 732-703-0064 or veteransatstandrewumc2019@gmail.com.
Veterans Day Paint Party. The Veterans Ministry is hosting a Veterans Day DIY **Paint Party at 12:00pm on Saturday 11/7/26**. Wear messy clothes or bring an apron, and come create a patriotic canvas for your home – no fancy painting skills required, just come and have fun! We'll provide all the supplies, and even have some goodies to share during our snack break. Tickets are \$25 and will be on sale starting in October. All funds will go to support the Wesley Theological Seminary Military Chaplains Program, providing pastoral support to active-duty soldiers around the world. Please save the date and invite your friends!