



ST. ANDREW'S Lutheran Church

June 2023

VBS 2023 June 25-29



**Join us for storytelling, science discovery,
service projects, arts and crafts,
music, and much more!**

**Kid Friendly Dinners will be
served each night at 5:15 p.m.,
with Bible School 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Adult classes will be held each evening
6:15 - 7:30 p.m.**

Let's all be menders of God's world!

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The Importance of religion in the lives of Americans is on the decline.

That was the headline this week from a National Public Radio news report about a recent study by the Public Religion Research Institute. It was not surprising to those of us in the church. The study revealed what we have been seeing for some time, especially among “mainline protestants” such as Lutherans. Just 16% of Americans surveyed said religion is the most important thing in their lives, down from 20% a decade ago. According to Melissa Deckman, CEO of the PRRI, indicates that Americans “are becoming increasingly likely to become religiously unaffiliated.” The survey also confirmed that Christian congregations are still largely racially segregated. Even among those

who do claim some religious affiliation, participation in houses of worship continues to decline. Twenty-eight percent of respondents said they “seldom” attend religious services, and 29% of respondents said they “never” attend religious services. A decade ago those figures were 22% and 21%, respectively. However, “despite the downward trends in overall church attendance, PRRI found that those still going are happy. Eighty-two percent say they’re optimistic about the future of their church.”

What do these statistics say about us? Maybe among other things that we should not get too discouraged when our pews are not as full as they used to be. Also, our community is not as diverse as God’s world, but we are doing a little better than most congregations. This report reminds me to be thankful for all the support and work you put into this mission. You are faithful. And, and I hope, that you are optimistic about your church! Who knows where God is leading?

What do you think?

Peace,
PT

BIBLE STUDY



RETIRED AND RESTLESS BIBLE STUDY will meet in the month of June, on the 14th and the 28th at 11:00. Maybe this is a nice time for you to try out this lively group as we explore the upcoming lessons?

DISCIPLES BIBLE STUDY will be meeting in JUNE on Mondays at 11:00 and Wednesdays at 5:45 (with Zoom). We will be wrapping up the “minor prophets.” Anyone can join in at any time!

We Gather



A Capital Funds Campaign for
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

WE GATHER CAMPAIGN UPDATE

From: We Gather Campaign Steering Team, Congregational Council

As all of you know there are many phases of this effort, including gathering and sharing information, commitment and giving of funds, hiring contractors, finalizing plans, and then the completion of the work. What is important to note is that these stages don't have clean beginnings and ends until all is finished. We still need to share information, to celebrate and give thanks for the gifts received, and yes, we need to continue our giving toward the projects. To that end, we wanted to share an update with all of you who have generously supported this effort, who long to see it completed, and who might be able to contribute moving forward. All financial figures are rounded off as of this writing.

Where are we with the projects?

KITCHEN: By the time you receive this a great deal of the kitchen work will be completed. It has been gutted, painted, the old stove and oven removed, the new are sitting in the Fellowship Hall ready to be installed, a new hood is present, and much more. There are further steps to be accomplished but it will not be long before we can cook again! The kitchen is also coming in on budget, around \$80,000. There have been many volunteers who have helped.

NARTHEX/SANCTUARY: We have continued to meet with Boudreaux architects and Springhill Construction to finalize figures and design. As can be expected some things are more expensive now than the original estimates we received. The design remains the same, although the carpet will be different than was presented, but similar in design. We hope to have drawings and samples available soon. There are other choices of manufacturers that helped lower the costs. The work is scheduled to begin this summer. Due to expenses as of this writing we will not be able to work on the Gathering Area immediately.

The estimated expenses to complete the Narthex and Sanctuary paint and carpet is \$300,000.

The balcony carpet will be replaced at a slightly later date and will match the new carpet that will be installed downstairs. This will allow us to wait until we have the cash on hand to complete this. The cost for the balcony carpet with installation is approximately \$20,000.

Total cost for Kitchen and Narthex/Sanctuary will be approximately \$400,000.

PARKING LOTS: Considering the construction vehicles we'll have in our main parking lot we plan to wait to resurface the parking lots once the Narthex/Sanctuary work is complete. We do not have updated estimates for the parking lots. However, we have been advised to expect a significant increase from our earlier estimates. There is quite simply nothing we can do about that! If the original estimates (we received two) were still valid, we would have almost every dime needed for the completion of the projects. More information will follow.

FUNDING:

- As of this writing you have given or pledged \$499,700. Our goal was \$500,000. THANK YOU!
- We have "cash on hand" of approximately \$380,000.
- We have paid out approximately \$31,000.
- We would like to spread the projects out to not have to borrow.
- Unfortunately, we may still need more gifts to complete the parking lot(s). Once the first two projects are done, we will move forward and share with you what is needed.
- There is \$17,000 set aside, dedicate to the parking lot, but there will be approximately \$100,000 available. We just have to wait to see the costs.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Go look at the kitchen any time you would like. The Fellowship Hall is a mess but a good mess!
- Ask any questions you have? Contact any member of council or the We Gather Team.
- Continue to pray for our faith community and our church leaders that our giving and decisions glorify God.
- Contribute! We are still hoping for some more significant gifts to the campaign that do NOT come from your regular contributions to the ministry of the church. Through all of this you have continued to support all that this church does in God's name.

The goal of the WE GATHER CAMPAIGN is in the name. These projects are designed to help us gather in God's name, to share food and fellowship, to kneel around God's table, to care for the treasures given to us over the years by the witnesses that have gone before us. You are making all of this possible. Thank you!

Sincerely,

The WE GATHER CAMPAIGN STEERING TEAM (Pastor Trump, Anna Berger, John Wertz, Georgia Godfrey, Claire Birdsong, Curtis Amick)
St. Andrew's Congregational Church Council

KITCHEN RENOVATION

Check out some of the new kitchen renovations!



What a mess!



YAY, new hood, wall, ceilings, and much more to come!



Air conditioning IN the kitchen, WHAT?!



Oh Yeah, almost done!

**St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
Statement of Income and Expense
April of Fiscal Year 2023
Fund: 01– General**

	April Actual	2023 YTD Actual
Current and Benevolence Giving	\$ 42,928.76	\$ 180,639.52
Expenses	\$ 55,104.90	\$ 183,481.59
Expenses under (over) Giving	\$	\$ (2,842.07)
Current and Benevolence Giving	\$ 42,928.76	\$ 180,639.52
Budget	\$ 46,363.76	\$ 188,155.04
Giving (under) over Budget	\$ (3,435.00)	\$ (7,515.52)

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
May 18, 2023

Council President Berger called the council meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
Devotions led by Lindsay Canniff-Kuhn, minutes of previous meeting approved.

Capital Campaign Update: Anna Berger and Pastor Trump gave an update on the We Gather campaign and shared the news that we have reached the goal of \$500,000 in pledges. They stressed the importance of continuing to update the congregation on progress being made as the projects continue. A letter will be mailed next week to members who have contributed. Council members discussed whether the balcony carpet would be considered part of the sanctuary and if the parking lot repairs should come first. The council asked for an updated parking lot cost estimate and for the steering team to come back to council with a formal recommendation for prioritizing the projects included in the We Gather campaign.

President's Report: President Berger reported that staff job descriptions are being finalized and will be brought to council as soon as they are complete.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Trump's report was included in the agenda packet and accepted as information.

Deacon's Report: Deacon Holland's report was included in the agenda packet and accepted as information. Deacon Holland indicated there had been positive feedback regarding the Neighbor to Neighbor block party. She also requested help with VBS, specifically citing the need for help with the nightly meals. The council will work together to provide the meal on June 25.

Children's Ministry: Ingrid Driggers submitted a report which was included in the agenda and accepted as information.

Finance: Brian Teusink referred to the report that was included in the agenda packet. He noted giving was down in April, and cash on hand for operations was also down to about \$126,000. He explained that expenses were up due to the semi-annual insurance payment. In addition, Mr. Teusink told the council that the financial activity assessment had been completed. After he reviews it with Ms. Berger and Pastor Trump, the information will be shared with the Finance Team and then with council. He asked how much money was spent on the Neighbor to Neighbor event, and which funds were used to pay for the event. Deacon Holland reported that the cost was covered by the original grant and social ministry funds.

Social Ministry: Cathi Cooper submitted a report that was in the agenda packet. Mr. Teusink asked about the hygiene kits made during the Neighbor to Neighbor event. Many kits were taken home by church members and the rest were picked up by Larry Nichols to be distributed. Deacon Holland and members discussed asking the congregation to provide supplies for the kits and making them available to members throughout the year.

Old Business: There were no items of old business to be addressed by council.

Strategic Vision/Goals: The council reviewed the revised Worship, Care, Faith Practice and Community Engagement goal. Council members also discussed the Social Ministry goal. Ms. Driggers shared that the Social Ministry team recommended that St. Andrew's does not need to have its own disaster relief plan or supplies, but that the church should partner with organizations that already specialize in disaster relief, such as the American Red Cross. Ms. Berger asked all of the teams to review the vision/goals and provide feedback to council at the next meeting.

New Business

Council members discussed quarterly team meetings and agreed that setting a date was helpful, but that teams can plan alternate meeting dates to maximize attendance if needed. The next quarterly meeting for teams is June 4.

Pastor Trump led council in prayer.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR BLOCK PARTY

Sunday, May 7 was a great day for the congregation and the neighborhood! Using an ELCA grant we received during the pandemic, following outdoor worship we were able to host our neighbors and church family for lunch, games, and a bouncy house. We worked together to pack bags for those facing homelessness and made flower arrangements to take to those who needed some cheer. The Richland County Police Department were on hand to answer questions and support the neighborhood, allowing people to take photos in the cool police car. Even Sheriff Leon Lott joined in on the fun day! The local Fire Department brought one of the fire trucks by for the kids and kids-at-heart to see and the firefighters talked to the children about fire safety. And, to top it all off, the weather was perfect! Thank you to all who helped to make this a good day of fellowship, service and worship.



FELLOWSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES

FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK: JUNE 4-9

As we have done during our previous host weeks, we will donate money to Family Promise to help cover some of the rental of the triplex and a week of utilities. Meals can also be prepared and taken to the families. Our current budget doesn't allow us to provide financial support for additional things like gift cards for groceries or restaurant meals. If you wish to donate gift cards you can give them directly to Family Promise or bring them to the church office. Click [here](#) if you would like to donate directly to Family Promise. If you are interested in providing a meal, click [here](#) to sign up. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.



Lutheran Women will meet at church on June 7. Lilly Okoronkwo will be the guest speaker. Please join us!



Lutheran Men
St. Andrew's
Lutheran Church

Lutheran Men will meet at Tuesday, June 13, 6:30 p.m., at Maurice's BBQ, 1141 Lake Murray Blvd, Irmo, SC 29063.

TEAM MEETINGS

One way to serve at St. Andrew's is to join a team. The teams are: Social Ministry, Fellowship Stewardship, Property, Communication, Education, Youth Ministry, Children's Ministry, Finance, Worship, and Cemetery

If you are not already connected with a team and would like to serve in this way, please contact [Deacon Sandra](#) to discuss ways to use your gifts for service. If you are already on a team, please contact your team leader to find out the plans for meeting on Sunday, June 4.



Young at Heart will meet Thursday, June 15. Event venue TBD.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Genesis/Connections class and Sojourners class will meet through the month of June.

SUMMER SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP REFRESHMENTS

Enjoy time for fellowship this summer along with coffee and light refreshments in the gathering area, June 18 and July 16 from 9:30-10:15 a.m.



The South Carolina Synod Assembly will be held in Columbia this year. Your representatives are Pastor Trump, Deacon Holland, Beth Trump, Anna Berger, and Deborah Slice. Beth Trump is on the ballot for Synod Council. Keep all in your prayers.

GRADUATION CELEBRATIONS

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Michael Berger

River Bluff High School

University of South Carolina, majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

Hannah Montgomery

AC Flora High School

Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Florida, majoring in Marketing.

Carter Godfrey

Dutch Fork High School

University of South Carolina Honors College, majoring in Broadcast Journalism.

Luke Bradley

Dreher High School

University of South Carolina, Moore School of Business

Jacob Semones

Dutch Fork High School STEM Honors Academic Magnet Program

University of South Carolina Aiken, majoring in Nursing.

Jake Derrick

River Bluff High School

Clemson University, majoring in Business



TABLES OF GRACE



Tables of Grace will begin again in September. More information about how to sign up will be available in August.



COLLEGE GRADUATES

PAUL GAGLIANO graduated from Clemson University with his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He also graduated from Newberry College with his Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics.

Paul is now employed full time as a supervising engineer at BorgWarner in Seneca, SC.



GEOFFREY GIBBONS graduated with a Masters of Arts in Educational Leadership from Queens University of Charlotte.

JESSIE RAY graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and inducted into Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society. She will be pursuing graduate work in Archeology.

STEPHEN ABBOTT graduated with a Masters of Divinity Degree from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jun 2	Dana Robinson	Jun 11	Susanne Senn
Jun 2	Bernice Sims	Jun 12	Shawn McCutchen
Jun 3	Becca Kelly	Jun 14	Bailey Derrick
Jun 4	Jamie Lucas	Jun 14	Michaela McCutchen
Jun 5	Deb Varco	Jun 16	Audrey Free
Jun 6	Theresa Henry	Jun 20	Elena Thomasson
Jun 6	Robert Lunsford	Jun 25	Donna Ray
Jun 6	June Steadman	Jun 27	Bert LaSalle
Jun 6	Renee Tokunaga-Mulvihill	Jun 28	Ligaya Parks
Jun 6	Beth Trump	Jun 30	Tom Bane
Jun 8	August Potts	Jun 30	Janet Coleman
Jun 9	Frances Sims		
Jun 10	Susie Derrick		

YOUTH



Youth Service Project **June 25-29**

Upcoming Events:

July 18-Whitewater Center in Charlotte

Congratulations to Christa LasSalle. She is spending the summer as a counselor in Lutheridge.



FRIENDS & RELATIVES

- Ed Saye, brother of Vicky Saye Henderson
- Katie, Tom and Theresa Henry's niece
- Corbett Anderson, nephew of Amy Vickers and grandchild of Mike and Susan Beeler.
- Stephen Finger, friend of Jan Bass
- Sandra Ouzts, sister of Debra Ouzts
- Ernie Davis, friend of Lee Bowling
- Jimmy Asbill, son of Shirley Swanson
- Bonnie Seibert, cousin of Jada Mitchell
- Mike Chase, cousin of Vicky Henderson
- Frances Dyches, sister of Bobbie Bell
- Edna Wheeler's granddaughter
- Davis Bowling, son of Judy and Lee Bowling

HOMEBOUND

- Sarah Cook
- Sharon Guest
- Dot and Joe Meador
- Christine Metts
- June Steadman

MEMBERS IN EXTENDED CARE

- Miller Shealy, Wellmore Assisted Living
- Adrian Trexler, The Brian Center
- Mitch Mayer, Lexington Extended Care
- Jim Chapman, North Carolina
- Vern Free, Generations, Chapin
- Shirley Swanson, NHC Lexington
- Betty Dawkins, Presbyterian Home

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

- In memory of Mike Hughes, given by Sandra and George Metts
- In memory of Mike Hughes, given by March and Anne Seabrook
- In memory of Buddy Lewis, given by Mary Ann Jacobs
- In memory of Buddy Lewis, given by Claude and Barbara Galarneau
- In memory of Buddy Lewis, given by Carol York
- In memory of Buddy Lewis, given by Pat and Marie Jones
- In memory of Buddy Lewis, given by George and Sandra Metts
- In memory of Buddy Lewis, given by Michael and Judy Newman
- In memory of Michael Hughes, given by Trent and Joyce Shealy
- In memory of Michael Hughes, given by Ashley J.
- In memory of Buddy Lewis, given by Dicky Hoyt
- In memory of Buddy Lewis, given by Joyce and Trent Shealy

IN OUR PRAYERS

- Beth Trump, recovering from surgery
- Sybil Long, recovering at home
- Sandra Holland and her family upon the death of Sandra's brother-in-law, Mike Elmore

June 4

Lay Assistant: Pat Gagliano
8:30 Reader: Sharon Berger
10:30 Reader: Rick Gibbons
10:30 Communion Assistant: Jay Folk
10:30 Crucifer: Jake Derrick
10:30 Acolyte: Ellie Brown
Council Collections: Deb Varco, Jason Bradley, Ingrid Driggers
Grounds: Bryan Potts, Robert Luther
Recycling: Folks
Altar Guild: TBD
8:30 Ushers: Robert Luther, Paul Osmundson
10:30 Ushers: Layne Birdsong, Curtis Amick
Counters: Bobbie Bell, Sharon Berger
Nursery: Connaker

June 11

Lay Assistant: Tom Henry
8:30 Reader: Mary DeHihns
10:30 Reader: Jay Folk
10:30 Communion Assistant: Deborah Slice
10:30 Crucifer: Michael Berger
10:30 Acolyte: Michaela McCutcheon
Council Collections: Deb Varco, Jason Bradley, Ingrid Driggers
Grounds: Jay Folk, Ron Walrath
Recycling: Folks
Altar Guild: Sharon Berger, Youth
8:30 Ushers: Layne Birdsong, Curtis Amick
10:30 Ushers: Robert Luther, Paul Osmundson
Counters: Sharon Berger, Mary Ann Jacobs
Nursery: LaSalle
Flowers: Folks

June 18

Lay Assistant: Mandy Glowacki
8:30 Reader: Hal Ray
10:30 Reader: Phillip Jenkins
10:30 Communion Assistant: Youth
10:30 Crucifer: Rebecca LaSalle
10:30 Acolyte: Jessica Bradley
Council Collections: Deb Varco, Jason Bradley, Ingrid Driggers
Grounds: Curtis Amick, Robbie Derrick
Recycling: Folks
Altar Guild: Sharon Berger
8:30 Ushers: Mari Frye, Brian Haley
10:30 Ushers: Layne Birdsong, Curtis Amick
Counters: Bobbie Bell, Susan Beeler
Nursery: Johnson/Skillman
Flowers: Thompson/Riley

June 25

Lay Assistant: Ron Walrath
8:30 Reader: Curtis Amick
10:30 Reader: Brian Teusink
10:30 Communion Assistant: Paige Gibbons
10:30 Crucifer: Godfrey
10:30 Acolyte: Evie Casey
Grounds: Professional
Council Collections: Deb Varco, Jason Bradley, Ingrid Driggers
Recycling: Folks
Altar Guild: Sharon Berger
8:30 Ushers: Layne Birdsong
10:30 Ushers: Mari Frye, Brian Haley
Counters: Sharon Berger, Anita Murphy
Nursery: Bradley
Flowers: TBD

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Team meetings	5 11:00 a.m. Disciples Bible Study	6	7 10:30 a.m. Lutheran Women 5:45 p.m. Disciples Bible Study in person and on Zoom 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10
11 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	12 11:00 a.m. Disciples Bible Study	14 6:30 p.m. Lutheran Men	15 11:00 a.m. Retired and Restless Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Disciples Bible Study in person and on Zoom 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	16 11:00 a.m. Young at Heart 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting	16 8:45 a.m. Soup Kitchen at Washington Street Methodist Church	17
18 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30-10:15 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Worship	19 11:00 a.m. Disciples Bible Study	20	21 5:45 p.m. Disciples Bible Study in person and on Zoom	22	23	24
25 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:15p.m. VBS Dinner 6-8 p.m. VBS	26 11:00 a.m. Disciples Bible Study 5:15p.m. VBS Dinner 6-8 p.m. VBS	27 5:15p.m. VBS Dinner 6-8 p.m. VBS	28 11:00 a.m. Retired and Restless Bible Study 5:15p.m. VBS Dinner 6-8 p.m. VBS	29 5:15p.m. VBS Dinner 6-8 p.m. VBS	30	



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

1416 Broad River Rd.

Columbia, SC 29210

RETURN SERVICE

REQUESTED

To Reach Us

Telephone: 803-772-6034

Email: officemgr@salutheran.com

Website: www.salutheran.com

Pastor

The Rev. John P. Trump

Deacon

Sandra Holland

Director of Music Ministries

Jenny Walrath

Choir and Ensemble Director

Nancy Gibbons

Office Administrator

Mari Frye

Children's Music and Youth Ministry Associate

Paige Gibbons

Congregational Council

President: Anna Berger

Vice President: Jason Bradley

Secretary: Beth Mullins

Treasurer: Judy Venturella

Financial Secretary: Sharon Berger

Council Members:

Jill Areheart

Whanna Bouknight

Lindsay Canniff-Kuhn

Cathi Cooper

Robbie Derrick

Ingrid Driggers

Brian Teusink

Deb Varco

Darrick Williams