



St. Andrew's United Methodist Church  
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This month I took 382 pounds of food to the Food Bank for a total of 2784 pounds so far this year. Thanks to all those who are so faithful in serving this ministry of the church. Please consider making this a regular part of your Christian service by bringing two cans a week and putting them in the donation box located in the narthex.

The UMW has been busy! We held our annual banquet and a good time was had for all. We installed our new officers – Michelle Trudo is our new President, Sherry Morgan is the new Vice President and Becky Hunt is our new Secretary/Treasurer. Judy Roundtree had been elected but due to her health issues, she resigned prior to being reinstated. We wish all these officers good luck as they start their new jobs leading the United Methodist Women. We also named our Martha Award winner. This year it was Michelle Trudo. She is a caring, compassionate person who serves the Lord daily in her and other's lives! Congratulations Michelle! Our first meeting in January will be our Circle meeting on Jan 14 at 10:30. Everyone is welcome! We have a lesson, then we eat a potluck lunch and have a little fellowship time. Come join us! Then on Jan 28<sup>th</sup> we will have our General meeting. This month we will be doing our Call to Prayer and Self Denial. This meeting begins at 6:00 pm. If you need a ride please let, Becky, Sherry or Michelle know and we will get you there! Please come and join us.

I want to thank a special group of people who seem to always be the last ones cleaning up after each church wide gathering! They are almost always left with the job of cleaning up! Please remember when it is a church wide gathering, then everyone needs to help clean up. These are things we should all be doing anyway, but here's a gentle reminder. This includes but is NOT limited to:

1. Taking care of your own serving dishes and leftover food. We can not just leave the food in the fridge and hope that someone will eat it! We hate to throw it away, but it can't stay! Take it home with you!
2. Don't just wad up the tablecloths. Please shake them out, note if there are any stains that need to be spot cleaned and point them out. FOLD them so it is easier to carry. Even better – volunteer to take the tablecloths home and wash them. Then bring back to the church.
3. Help move tables and chairs back to what is needed for everyday use.
4. Wipe down tables and counters.
5. Sweep the floor.
6. Empty out the coffee grounds and wash the pot.
7. Help take out the trash. The key for the dumpster is in the kitchen. Even if you don't take the bag(s) out to the dumpster, put new bags into the cans.
8. Please be very careful when collecting the decorations! Several have been broken lately and these items belong to members who are loaning them for use. Treat them as if they belong to you.

Thanks for all your help in cleaning up. Remember – if it's a group event, then it should be a group cleanup! And that applies to large and small groups! Let's treat our church as we treat our home.  
 Thanks

# The Beacon

Come home to St. Andrew's United Methodist Church ...  
 There's a Place for You Here!!



## January 2020

St. Andrews is a diverse family  
 sharing God's transforming love  
 with our neighbors



### “Consider the Lilies”

I am frazzled and harassed, hectically moving through life; trying to make my mark, to leave behind some trace of myself to be remembered/noticed even in the church.

Consider the Lilies (Matthew 6:28) and so I look at this blade of Grass and listen to God. The grass moves in the breeze as if stirred and moved by the Spirit of God. It knows its time and when it is right it turns green, and sends forth shoots, occupying its place in the world holding on to the earth from which it draws its sustenance, moving in the breeze from which it draws its breath (cleansing the air, renewing it as it goes) doing its work of making alive that which does not live creating. Unconscious of itself not self-important. When it is bruised, it continues its labor; when it is cropped it does not complain. It carries on unaware of the sustenance it has provided for another, and having fulfilled its purpose of scattering the life that is in it to new places that grass may grow elsewhere in the world.

In its time, it comes to flower. The strain of gravity pulling on the hillside, the continual cropping adding to its stress, the disruption of the ground having made a place where it, the most hardy of God's plants, can grow. Its flower is not large and perfect as grown in a garden. It is small and seemingly insignificant. But when seen by us along with the abundance of its neighbors of many kinds, it is the most beautiful sight in God's creation. The flower draws the bugs, which while spreading the pollen also take of the flowers life, its gift of nectar. They may use the plant cruelly, but in their visiting, life goes on, and the next generation is begun. The gift of life is scattered to other places. When the seasons change and the cold comes, it does not complain. It knows that it needs this season of rest to be renewed. As always, its roots hold fast to the earth from which it draws life.

O God, teach me the lesson of the grass of the field. Root me deep and secure in you, from which my life comes. May I find meaning simply doing that for which you created me. May I lay aside self-importance and rejoice that you are served and seen. May I learn the rhythms of life and come to know the seasons of your plan. May I be stirred by your spirit. May I go about my task of co-creation that others may find life in you and your grace be spread to new places. May I not lament the times of trial or hardships that are part of life, but simply carry on in your plan. Perhaps when others see the life and flower of all my kin (Your church !) they will be drawn to you and in wonder, seek to live in your plan as well. You say to us, consider this blade of grass and listen to God. “Consider the Lilies...”

Pastor David

*Anniversaries*

Chuck & Janet DeWeerd 2nd  
Shane & Michelle Guinther 9th



Thank you, thank you, thank you~ If you baked cookies for the troops congratulations! We took 50 dozen cookies to be shipped to the troops for the holidays! That means over 600 cookies were baked (and yes it was noticed that some bags had more than a dozen!). Thanks for helping to support a ministry of this church each year! This number does NOT include the bags of cookies that came that had peanut butter or nuts included. Those were donated to the local homeless shelter since we cannot send those. We had 5 dozen of those, so thanks to those bakers also!

**New Office Schedule**

Starting in January, the office will be open Monday thru Wednesday 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Request all items needed for bulletins, newsletters, etc. be submitted to office to meet all deadlines. Bulletin information needs to be received by Monday mornings. Thank you

**Rainbow Emmaus Gathering**

The Rainbow Emmaus Group will meet Thursday, January 9th with covered dish and business starting at 6:30 pm and worship to follow. Remember to bring your worship book, cross and name tag. The gathering will be held at Harker Heights UMC.

The communion offering for January 5th is for "Human Relations" If you wish to donate to this mission, place your donation in the envelope provided, make your checks payable to St. Andrew's UMC and make note on the check for communion.

Thank you.



Prayers for the Jean Ross family. Jean passed away on December 9, 2019. Jean has been a long time member of St. Andrews since 1986. Her strong faith, friendship and compassion will be missed by everyone.

*Happy Birthday!*

Jeanne Ashley 7th  
Samuel Gilbert 7th  
Holly McInturf 10th  
Cindy Parrett 19th  
Bud Parrett 21st  
Aurora Cepeda 22nd  
Joe Pelletier 26th  
Jean Wright 29th

**His Unfailing Presence**

Another Year I enter  
its history unknown;  
Oh, how my feet would tremble  
to tread its paths alone!

But I have heard a whisper,  
I know I shall be blest;  
"My presence shall go with thee,  
And I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?  
I may not, must not know;  
Will it be love and rapture,  
Or loneliness and woe?

Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;  
I surely shall be blest;  
"My presence shall go with thee,  
And I will give thee rest."  
—Unknown Author

Prayers for the Walker family. Teresa "Jo" Walker passed away on December 10th. Teresa & husband Charles joined the church in 1995.

The Emmaus group has had fun delivering Christmas cards this year. Hope it helped all of you!

**After Christmas Sermon Series**

**GRACE  
The Gift of God**

Dec 29th Prevenient Grace  
Jan 5th Justifying Grace  
Jan 12th The means of Grace  
Jan 19th Obstacles to Grace  
Jan 26th Sanctifying Grace

# January 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2020 Schedule..  Office Open: Monday thru Wednesday  8:30 to 2:30 pm			1 <b>New Years Day</b>  Office Closed	2	3	4
5 <b>communion:</b> <i>Human Relations</i> Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am  Baptism DeAndre' Johnson	6 <b>Domino</b> Station 12:30	7 <b>Joy Bible</b> Study 9 am  Emmaus Reunion 11 am  Girl Scouts, Cohee 5:30-6:30 pm	8 <b>Upper Room</b> Bible Study 9 am	9 <b>Rainbow</b> <i>Emmaus 6:30</i> <i>Harker Heights</i> <i>UMC</i>	10	11 <b>UMW</b> Board meeting 10:30 am
12 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am	13 <b>Domino</b> Station 12:30	14 <b>Joy Bible</b> Study 9 am UMW Hope group 10:30 Emmaus Reunion 11 am Girl Scouts, Cohee 5:30-6:30 pm	15 <b>Upper Room</b> Bible Study 9 am  Our Centering Time for women 2:00 Cohee Hall	16	17	18
19 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am	20 <b>Domino</b> Station 12:30	21 <b>Joy Bible</b> Study 9 am  Emmaus Reunion 11 am Girl Scouts, Cohee 5:30-6:30 pm	22 <b>Upper Room</b> Bible Study 9 am	23	24	25 <b>Board</b> Meeting 9 am  <i>Fowler Hall</i> <i>reserved 1 pm</i> <i>until..</i>
26 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am  <b>Worship Team</b> meeting after service	27 <b>Domino</b> Station 12:30	28 <b>Joy Bible</b> Study 9 am Emmaus Reunion 11 am UMW general meeting 6:00 Girl Scouts, Cohee 5:30-6:30 pm	29 <b>Upper Room</b> Bible Study 9 am	30	31	