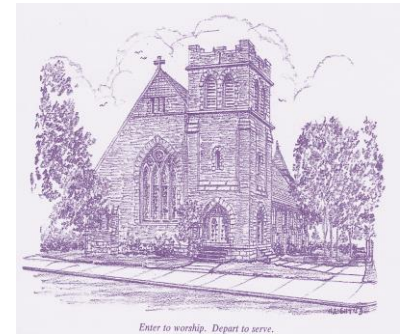


# Saint Andrew's UMC Newsletter

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## Table of Contents

Pastor's Message	1
Sunday School	2
Announcements	3
Finance News	5
Finance Report	6
Missions	6
Church Contact Information	8

### Dates to Remember:

**Clean-Up Day** every First Saturday of the month

**Administrative Church Council** TBA

**Worship Schedule** will continue at 10:00 AM

**December 22** Christmas Fellowship following the service

**December 24** Christmas Eve Service 6:30



### \*Happy Birthday!

Lynn Stowe (1/15)  
Jim Copeland (1/18)  
Briannah Morales (1/19)  
Shandra Marks (1/25)  
Brenda Hermann (1/29)  
Vincent LaTulippe (2/2)  
Ralph Pickup (2/9)  
Carmen Tobias (2/9)  
Lucille Clancy (2/10)  
John M. Quimby (2/14)  
Brenda Burgos (2/23)



Sisters and brothers in Christ:

### God's Love for Us

"There once lived a railroad keeper who lived in a small village. One of his responsibilities as a railroad keeper was to manage the opening and closing of a drawbridge. When a train was about to pass by, he pulled a lever to connect the bridge. When a ship needed to pass under, he pushed the lever to lift the bridge open. On Sundays, there was only one train that went across the bridge, so the bridge was left open the entire day and was lowered only right before the train approached. After the train had passed, the bridge was lifted again. And so, the railroad keeper spent Sundays having a picnic with his five-year-old son on a hill near the drawbridge.

On one beautiful Sunday, the railroad keeper was having a picnic with his one and only son, whom he loved very much. He played ball with him, ate food with him, and ran around frolicking about with him. As they were having a great time, however, the railroad keeper momentarily forgot about the train's scheduled arrival time. The train was already approaching from far away. The keeper rushed up towards the station so that he could bring down the drawbridge. But just as he reached the station and was about to pull the lever, his heart froze as his beloved son was chasing after him, he had gotten his foot caught on the railroad and could not move.

The train was almost at the bridge. He did not have time to save his son. He needed to decide fast. Either he could refrain from pulling the lever, most likely killing all the many people in the train and saving his son, or he could pull the lever saving the people in the train but sacrificing his beloved son. The railroad keeper ultimately decided to pull the lever and connected the drawbridge. Hot tears flowed out of the father's tightly closed eyes. As he opened his eyes, he saw the train pass over

the connected bridge and the people who were saved through the sacrifice of his beloved son."

This is God's love. This love that God has shown through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ is truly, in all the entire history of man, the greatest love that has ever been expressed. Through Jesus' coming, death, and resurrection, God showed His love for us, and enabled us to be new people as righteous and saved. Without this love, there is no way to be saved.

Brothers and sisters, we are Christians who hold in our hearts God's amazing love. How about we share this love of God among us and with others in our society? If you haven't made your New Year's decision yet, how about add "Sharing God's love" to the list? I believe that when we stand as faithful workmen of God's love, God will perform great works through us, despite how small our efforts may be. When we spread the love, we will also receive the power of God and this power will be our great strength that will help us handle all the problems that we encounter in our lives and in the world. I know that many of us have already experienced God's awesome power when we shared God's love with others!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,

that who so ever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16.

Remember that God loves you, loves us, no matter who we are, no matter where we live, and no matter what kind of life we have lived in this world. Amen!

In Christ's Love,

Pastors Joon & Songha



## Sunday School

The Sunday School members, along with adult participants, presented a beautiful pageant at the Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve. It was a great experience and enjoyed by everyone. Many thanks to all who made the pageant so successful.

Following the holidays, the Sunday School returns to its regular schedule. Classes will meet on the second, third, and fourth Sundays of each month.

On the first and fifth (when there is one) Sundays, everyone will attend the worship service.

We look forward to an exciting New Year of spreading the Word of God to the young people of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church.

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## Announcements

**1. Happy New Year!** May the Lord richly bless us all to be a blessing for the world and shine forth the light of love upon us and our church in 2020!

**2. Thank you All** who put away all Christmas tree and decorations after Epiphany Sunday worship. Many thanks to our St. Andrew's Men who cleaned the church on Work Party Saturday. God bless you!

**3. 2020 Offering Envelope Boxes** are available for pick up at the sanctuary. If you are a new member or have not had envelopes in the past, please tell Lucille Clancy.

**4. Sunday School & Youth Teachers** will meet on Sunday, February 9, to prepare the children's Bible study and events for Lent and Easter season.

**5. 2019 Apportionment was Completed!** St. Andrew's was able to pay 100% of our Connectional Apportionment to New York Annual Conference. Thanks and blessings to everyone who gave generous giving for the mission of God in the world!

**6. Super Bowl of Caring!** We will work together to fight hunger and poverty in our own communities in the time of the Super Bowl football game, February 2, 2020. Please bring a soup to share! Free-will donation will be collected for our local hunger relief charity.

**7. Ash Wednesday Service** will be held in February 26, 7:00 pm at St. Andrew's UMC. All are encouraged to attend and receive the ashes for the sign of God's forgiveness as we begin Lenten season with God's blessing.

**8. Spring/Lent Bible Study Registration:** Pastor Joon's Bible Spring/Lent Study will meet on Sundays after fellowship hour at the sanctuary beginning March 1. Please sign up, if you want to join us.

**9. Lent begins March 1:** We will begin 40 days of Lent season with the observance of Ash Wednesday. In this time, we will focus on our complete sinfulness and the necessity of Christ's suffering and death to insure our salvation with prayers.

**10. Confirmation Class:** Pastor Songha is starting up a confirmation class for students ages 12 and up. The class will be held for 7 Sundays beginning February 23 and continuing through April 5. If you or your children want to be confirmed by the work of God's grace, please tell Pastor Songha.

- **Worship Leader & Scripture Reader (January):**

**1/5:** Phillipa Blake / Marylou Adametz (Matthew 2:1-12, Isaiah

**1/12:** Ann Penington / Morris Penington (Matthew 3:13-17, Acts 10:34-43)

**1/19:** James Lawson / James Lawson (John 1:29-42, 1 Corinthians 1:1-9)

**1/26:** Christopher Miller / Ross Grippen (Matthew 4:12-23, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18)

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- **Worship Leader & Scripture Reader (February):**

**2/2:** Brenda Herrmann / Christopher Miller (Matthew 5:1-12, Micah 6:1-8)

**2/9:** Phillipa Blake / Diana Grippen (Matthew 5:13-20, 1 Corinthians 2:13-16)

**2/16:** James Lawson / James Lawson (Matthew 5:33-37, Deuteronomy 30:15-20)

**2/23:** Brenda Herrmann / Phillipa Blake (Matthew 17:1-9, 2 Peter 1:16-21)

**2/26 (Ash Wednesday):** James Lawson (Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21), Diana Grippen (Isaiah 6:1-5),  
Carolyn Pickup (Joel 2:1-2, 12-17)

## Our Vital Signs

The mission of The United Methodist Church is to "Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" (Matt. 28:18-20; Matt. 22:36-40). This mission is achieved through vital congregations that equip and empower people to be disciples of Jesus Christ in their homes and communities around the world.



The Vital Signs Dashboard is a tool developed by Brick River through GCFA. This tool allows you to track your weekly worship attendance, professions of faith, small group participation, missional participation and financial giving for your congregation. It is a tool designed to help congregations follow their progress on the goals that they set for each year, based upon the goal-setting challenge initiated by the Vital Congregations work. It is in response to the Call to Action to focus on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations effective in the mission of The United Methodist Church.

Date	Worship Attendance	Small Groups Attendance (week)	Pledges & Offerings	Charitable Giving	New Members
12/1/19	27	18	\$1,036	\$25	0
12/8/19	34	24	\$6,790	\$115	0
12/15/19	26	14	\$1,068	\$25	0
12/22/19	51	28	\$1,224	\$25	0
12/29/19	34	15	\$1,033	\$25	0
1/5/20	29	15	\$1,092	\$95	0
1/12/20	35	15	\$3,692	\$25	0
1/19/20	22	16	\$495	\$25	0
1/26/20	33	14	\$2,288	\$25	0

## Finance News



The General Council on Finance and Administration is proud to be in partnership with Tribute to present UMCmarket.org -- the online portal designed for United Methodists to shop online at a variety of retailers who will donate to your local church or other United Methodist entity, to help you raise funds for ministry. Visit [umcmarket.org](http://umcmarket.org), establish your free, online account and support our church by creating donations.



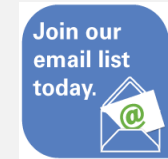
AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support our church every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to our church. Make sure you select St. Andrew's UMC as your organization!



Are you interested in becoming a member of our church or want to learn more about us? Please contact our pastors.



Here at St. Andrew's, we believe in the power of prayer! If you or someone you know needs prayers, please contact our pastors by phone or email.



Receive updates, prayer requests and what is happening in worship every week, subscribe to our mailing list by emailing us, [office@standrewsnh.com](mailto:office@standrewsnh.com)



**Many Thanks to Pastor Joon and Pastor Song Ha** for sharing their love of photography and giving us so many precious memories. Thank you!



Our pastors are available for talks, prayers and visits. In fact, they would love for you to invite them to visit. Please call the office or email them to set up an appointment. Let them know if you or a loved one is in the hospital.

# We're on a mission to Change the world



We serve God by serving others; here is what you can do: *Connectional Giving* — all of us giving together — allows United Methodists to do together what we cannot do alone.

We join in with United Methodists around the world in 6 special collections throughout the year. The money collected goes 100% to a specific mission designated by the general church. For more information, go to [UMCGIVING.com](http://UMCGIVING.com). Every first Sunday you can donate to the **Pastor's Discretionary Fund**. This money is used by the pastor to help with immediate needs in the community.



Food Pantry  
Donations Needed

**Food Pantry Collection**, non-perishable items are collected during the month. Every first Sunday of each month all the collected food items will be delivered to a local Food Pantry.



**Hope Bags:** We are looking for items to fill Hope bags to share with people in a homeless situation around New Haven. So far our members have distributed more than 100 kits. Praise God! Some ideas are: 1-gallon zip lock bags, socks, cereal bars, water bottles, tissues, soap, deodorant, shampoos, etc. You can also donate money to this ministry and we will shop for you!

## Finance Report January - February 2020

Thank you for supporting St. Andrew's UMC as we practice all our ministries.

We are continuing to repair the damage the termites have done to both structures which as has been mentioned will be an expensive project. Just the treatment will be over \$5000 but fortunately through Jamie's efforts we are on a payment plan. Our carpenter/handyman will continue to work on repairing the damaged areas as his time permits.

We are continuing to evaluate our electricity suppliers. Please remember to turn lights we don't need off and don't keep the outside doors open while chatting. Please shut the lights in the kitchen and the big hall off during the service. Not only will the church save money but it's good for the environment. As always, the Trustees and the Finance board continue to look for ways to reduce our expenses.

If anyone that previously pledged and hasn't filled out a Pledge Card, please prayerfully consider pledging again and completing a card which is



Thank You to our pastors, Pastor Joon and Pastor Song Ha, for the blessed and happy Christmas Sunday service and Christmas Eve service that we joyfully experienced with you, with children's pageant and bell choir that we practiced and performed, and the music and the message of Jesus's birth.



A very special Thank You to Morris Penington for his many contributions to St. Andrews. He is announcing that St Andrews is in need of a volunteer to take the bottles that we collect to the supermarket for recycling. This constitutes our "bottle money" that helps with church expenses.

If you can help, please see Morris or Ralph.

on the table. If you haven't pledged before, we request you prayerfully consider pledging this year. The completed cards can be placed in the collection plates. Anyone having questions or issues related to their pledges or the church's finances please contact me at 203-248-1556.



The 2019 Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Program is officially over. As I mentioned last month, we completed all the items needed for the 100 shoeboxes and met our monetary goal of \$9.00 per box. We will start up during the summer to take advantage of the pre-school sales.

Thank you from my family but most of all THANK YOU from all the children that received these boxes.

God Bless.

John, Jocelyn and John M. Quimby



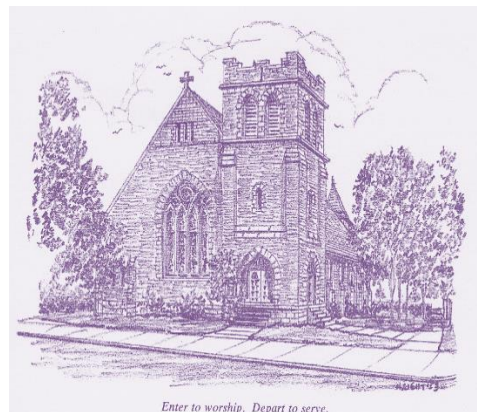
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January/February 2020