



Loaves & Fishes

SAINT ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

DECEMBER 2017

The Music That Remakes Christmas

Rappin' with the Rev by Pastor Dave Milam



Every once and a while, my radio will bring up Dave Matthew's "Christmas Song." It's something of the best of two worlds for me. If you haven't noticed, I am a classic rock music fan, especially ballad-types of songs. If a song has an insightful phrase or a good story behind it, it touches my soul. But I also love Jesus (I'll just put that right out there!). My work is to be a witness that he comes alive in ever new and compelling ways. So, putting music together with Christmas is like when someone eating peanut butter crashed into another eating chocolate! It's a match made in heaven!

Of course, Christmas music is much broader than the several classic rock ballads that still capture it anew in our day. Christmas has a whole set of classics from as long ago as the 4th Century's "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence," to the medieval *Greensleeves*-tuned "What Child Is This." Protestant pioneers sang "O Come, All Ye Faithful," towards the beginning of the Reformation era. The 19th century Romantic era gave us "Silent Night," which crossed enemy lines when German and English soldiers sang in harmony to one another on a Christmas Eve truce in World War I.

Preaching during Advent and Christmas is always a new opportunity to "make the

Word become flesh," as the Gospel of John describes Jesus' advent into the world. Yet, I have to say mere words don't compare to words set to music. For me (and I'd guess for you, too), Christmas songs are essential to make real that God came to earth in the child Jesus.

In our December worship, we will be immersed in music this year. The scriptures for the four weeks of Advent will come from poetic lyrics spoken (if not sung) by psalmist, prophet and Jesus' mother, Mary.

On Saturday evening, December 9th at 7:00 pm the Loudoun Chorale will be our Music with a Cause concert. Their *Holiday Time Machine* selection of songs will traverse the centuries with Christmas music from old to new. This energetic and growing choir under the direction of Max Nolin will delight you with profits from the concert benefitting the Loudoun Families for Children nonprofit that places children in stress in caring homes temporarily.

On Sunday morning, December 17th our St. Andrew music groups will take over the 10:00 am service presenting *Tapestry of Light*, written by Joseph Martin. Our resourceful and talented Music Director, Zack Henderson, will be mixing music from our St. Andrew Choir, the St. Andrew Ringers, New Song and our children's choir, in be-

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 21ST

tween readings of Scripture by those St. Andrew members who missed their chance to be radio personalities, given their gifted vocal chords! Be sure to invite a neighbor or family member to join you for the service.

Finally, Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. The regular morning service will be a bit shorter, centered around the communion table where we might recall that ballad by Dave Matthews which sings not only about "love, love, love all around," but also about how we are called to be authentic to our devotion to Jesus by ceasing religious warring and animosity.

Our two evening Christmas Eve services will give us all the opportunity to sing a repertoire of Christmas songs – all our favorites with maybe a couple of new songs as well. Our 5:00 pm service is prepared especially for children and their families – welcoming the noise of their excitement to be the accompaniment to our singing. At 8:00 the St. Andrew Choir and Ringers will add vocal and instrumental majesty to our welcome of

the Christ child into our world once again. Both evening services will conclude with candlelight and the singing of "Silent Night."

Music is a way that we communicate our deeper emotions. Just as joy seems to require a musical shout and despair finds consolation by singing the blues, the news and closeness of God coming into the world in Jesus needs a song of a silent night, a holy night. I invite you to be present for these events which hope to welcome God's holiness entering into our common world to touch us. I bid you to sing in your shower, hum along to the music in the malls and to the radio as you travel. And see if in the song, God doesn't draw near in a way that makes Jesus come alive to you, as well.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave

Pastor David Milam



Crockpots full of chili and the intrepid judges.



ADULT MINISTRIES

Phoebe's Sisters

This women's group meets the third Saturday each month from 8:30 to 10:30 am at a member's home for breakfast, fellowship and Bible study. All women of the church and friends are invited. The next meeting is December 16th. If you are interested in attending the next meeting, please contact Edith Samson at 770 378-7965.

The St. Andrew Book Club

This group meets monthly outside the church. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on December 8th. The book under discussion will be Commonwealth by Ann Patchett. Please contact Zoe Sowers at 540 338-0999 or zsowers@gmail.com to join the discussion. Do join us; we are a friendly group!

Lovettsville Group

This group meets twice a month on Sunday evenings. The meeting place rotates among the members of the group. Contact Debra Gutenson at 540 882-3205 or guten-son50@loudounwireless.com for more information.

FP4H

First Place 4 Health, a faith-based weight loss program, meets every Monday evening at

7 pm. Contact Ally Fetch at 336 508-2610 or afetch@gmail.com or Deborah Hill at 540 751-9818 or momscully@earthlink.net.

Men's Group

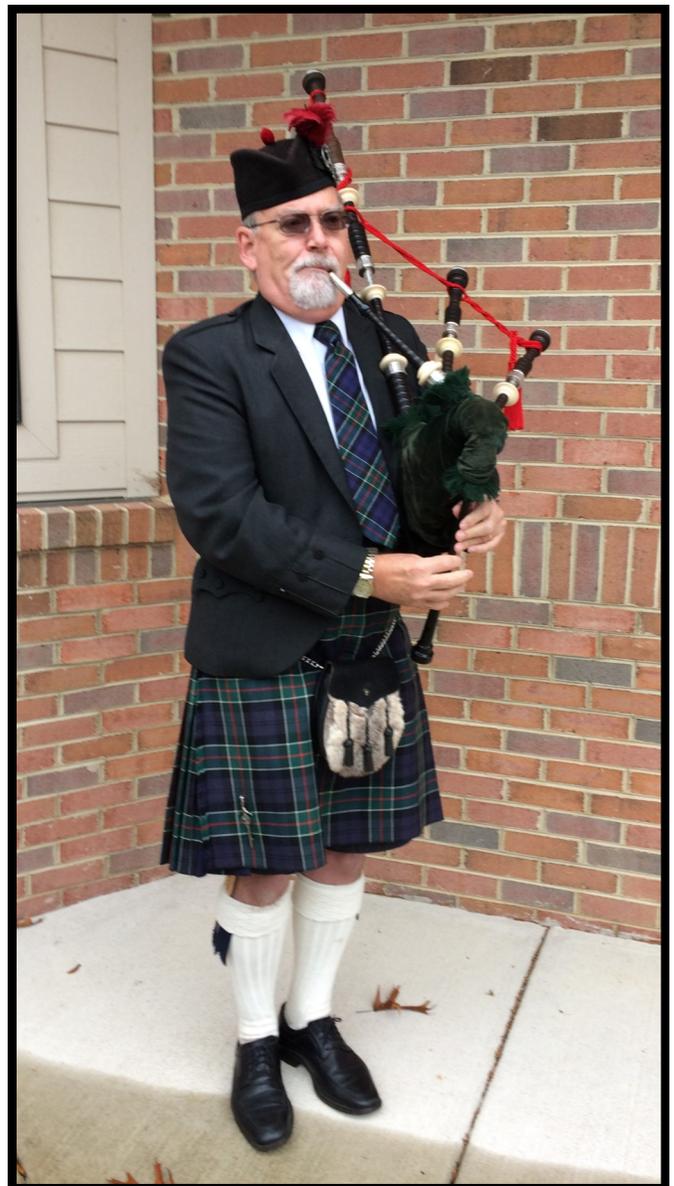
This group meets the first Saturday of the month in the fellowship hall. Coffee starts at 7:30 am and breakfast/fellowship at 8:00 am. The next meeting is December 2nd. All men of the church are invited. To join, contact Jeff Kauffman at jnk@thekauffmangroup.com.

Brunch Bunch

This group meets the second Monday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 am in the church basement. The next meeting is December 11th. For more information, contact Ann Paciulli at annpaciulli@gmail.com.

SAPC Investment Group

Everyone is welcome to join the next meeting on December 3rd from 9:00 to 9:50 am in the church basement. The group will meet every other Sunday and a different topic will be introduced at each meeting. The meetings are hosted by Manny Njomo and Scott Ziegler.



Timothy Kirkpatrick greeted worshippers on St. Andrew Day, November 5th, with his piping.



On Sunday, November 5th, Pastor Dave presented new members to the St. Andrew congregation. From left to right, they are Jo Anna and Carson Rich, Maria and Kevin Burel, and Jennifer and Joe Ratke.

WINTER YOUTH RETREAT



! **SIGN UP BY DECEMBER 14**
● Sign up Sheet in Narthex!

DATES: JANUARY 12 - 14, 2018
(Leave Friday– Return Sunday)

WHO: MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLERS
GRADES 6TH–12TH

WHERE: DEER VALLEY, PA

COST: \$103 (STUDENTS) | \$122(ADULTS)

Also sign up by contacting Diane at Church Office
(secretary@standrew-pres.org) | Call–540-338-4332

Introducing Ashley Baker Our Sunday Nursery Care Giver

We are delighted to have Ashley caring for our young children on Sunday mornings. Ashley also cares for the Toddlers at the Neighborhood Learning Center. She says that she has worked almost every kind of job out there from office work to waitressing to retail management, but “that childcare is the first career path I have truly loved.” She came highly recommended to St. Andrew from Rev. Jo Anna Rich, our Neighborhood Learning Center Director.

Ashley is from Leesburg. She is married to her best friend Eric, and they also have an extremely spoiled boxer-mix named Ruthie. She is studying Advertising and Public Relations at Penn State University, wanting to use this degree to work for children’s non-profit organizations, or become a communications teacher. Eventually, she hopes to get a Master’s degree, becoming a children’s librarian. In her spare time, she enjoys writing and sewing her own clothes.



Alternative Gift Market

Hunting for the perfect Christmas gift? We all want to give "just the right thing" to those we love, those we respect. But let's face it, very few of us "need" any *thing*, but we would all like to know that we're doing something good for others. That's why the Alternative Gift Market is the perfect solution to most of your shopping "needs." Teachers don't need another mug, uncles don't need another tie, and children probably think they need another toy, but they also need to learn the joy in sharing their wealth with others. This year, we will have four charities in our Alternative Gift Market list. **Loudoun Habitat for Humanity** builds affordable housing in Loudoun County, and they have started a new program of home repair for those who already have a home but need help keeping it up. **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** works in many areas, but this year we are singling out hurricane relief in Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Houston, and Florida. And donations to PDA for hurricane relief will be matched by the National Capitol Presbytery! **Community Coalition for Haiti** (led by our own Clark Seipt) provides community building assistance, education support, and medical services in Haiti. Finally, **Heifer International** gives the means for economic development (animals, knitting supplies, seeds, etc.) to individuals in developing countries with the requirement that they share their benefits with their neighbors. You can make your donations to as many of these charities as you wish in one easy stop and you will receive gift cards for each donation that you can give to the lucky people you have honored with your donations. The Mission Committee will be in the narthex on Sunday mornings December 3rd and 10th and before the Music with a Cause concert on Saturday evening, December 9th.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

The Loudoun Abused Women's Shelter (LAWS) provides free, confidential services to adults and children who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. Their goals are to empower, inform and advocate for these individuals, to educate the community about these issues and to work towards eliminating personal and societal violence.

The Mission committee has set up the LAWS Christmas gift tree in the narthex. This year we have been asked to adopt three families. Each family has two children and one or two adults. We are doing this in conjunction with the Neighborhood Learning Center. If you would like to participate, please take an ornament tag off the tree and buy the gift listed. Return the unwrapped gift with the tag attached. The reverse side of the tag tells us who the gift is for. Please return all gifts to the church by Sunday, December 10th. The Mission committee will deliver the gifts to the LAWS office. Thanks in advance!



10,000 Villages Report

The final tally for the Ten Thousand Villages sale event held in late October was a total of \$4,984.03 at the sale. Fifteen percent of that total will be returned to St. Andrew, and we will in turn write a check for \$747.60 to Loudoun Hunger Relief. In addition, as you will remember, we had four separate tables set up by our congregation members. Three of those tables sold a total of \$550, and those three individuals have given 30% of their total sales or \$165 back to St. Andrew to be passed on to a local mission. The fourth table represented the Community Coalition for Haiti, and they sold a total of \$947. Their 30% donation (\$284.10) back to St. Andrew will simply be returned to CCH since they are one of the mission efforts that the church supports. Altogether, that's a total of \$1,196.70 that St. Andrew has been able to pass on to local charities through *your* shopping. Thank you!

Blood Donation **SIGN UP TO DONATE BLOOD By DEC. 15**

In appreciation for the care and support that Dimas (Marjorie and Frank Diehl's grandson), received from the Children's Hospital in DC. Marjorie Diehl is organizing a blood donation trip to the Blood bank in DC.

SAVE THE DATE

BLOOD BANK TRIP: SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2018

NUMBER OF PEOPLE NEEDED: 5-15

TRANSPORTATION: Transportation will be provided from church to DC if we meet our target number of people.

For more information please contact Marjorie (marjoriediehl@gmail.com) Sign up sheets in lobby.

UPDATE ON DIMAS:

Marjorie would like to thank you for all your continues prayer and support. Dimas is doing well and in good spirits. He is while still undergoing treatments. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.



Making star ornaments at the Advent workshop

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Happy Anniversary this month to:</i>	16 Amelie Rosslee
	17 John Owens
	Natalie Yurish
13 Kyle and Kathi Hottinger	18 Betty McNair
16 Brian and Georgia McGranahan	20 Brandon Elledge
<i>Happy Birthday this month to:</i>	21 Melissa Macdonald
	22 Erik Crossfield
1 Brooks Elledge	Sophia Hall
Deann Mitchell	Sam Ryburn
4 Jacob Burel	Erik Sassak
Katie Cahoon	23 Marie Cahoon
5 Kestina Carneal	Alex Hottinger
Bill Waller	Anthony Immel
6 Morgan Blanton	26 Trinity Yager
8 Chris Butkus	Will York
10 Tom Rampulla	27 Ryan Hottinger
11 Alexander Dimoff	John Howard
12 Kyle Sullivan	Randy Sink
13 Sarah MacWhorter	29 Dan Miner
14 George Phillip	Drew Sassak
Luke Rohrbaugh	30 Robin Laybourne

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

We lift up our concerns

Congregation

The Brownell Family, for the passing of Jim Brownell on Nov. 19. Melissa Macdonald Scoliosis (back pain). Prayer for the Cahoon and Buttrick family, for the death of Rev. Steve Cahoon . The Wiley family, for the death of Dr. Jim Wiley. Diane Pitman recovering from surgery. Andy Miller. Sarah MacWhorter who is undergoing cancer treatment. Tom Hutchison

We continue to pray for

Friends and Family

The Diehl's, pray for their grandson, Dimas. Laurie Barbagallo for a Social Studies teacher in Clarke County, whose wife Judy Revensenft died. Deborah Hill's friend, Sunita Runke who's doing well after illness. Former member of church, Meredith Moore had surgery and is in Rehab. George Casuto's sister, Hetty, who awaits kidney donation. Eugene Evans mom. Aileen hospitalized for lung infection. Anna & Marion Carneal's friend, Shelby Waugh, died suddenly on a flight. John Howard for friend, Peter Seagal's son who died at Univ. of Texas . Deb Moler's dad, Caroll Huffer who passed away.

NLC

Good news - Toni Kontos cancer tumor is shrinking.



Joys

Sharda Edward's cancer is in remission. Davis Willis is thankful to have granddaughter visiting for Thanksgiving for the first time in 18 years. Terrie Combs thankful to have her mom with her in service.

The deadline for each issue of *Loaves & Fishes* is the **21st of each month**. The next deadline is DECEMBER 21st. Please send your submissions to Sally Brenton at Communications@standrew-pres.org.

DECEMBER MUSIC REHEARSALS

Choir Rehearsals, Wednesdays at 7 pm
Contact Zack Henderson, zackh900@gmail.com

New Song, Sunday mornings after the service
Contact Laurie Barbagallo 540 454-8215 or lauriewm85@hughes.net

St. Andrew Bell Ringers, Mondays at 7:15 pm
Contact Zoe Sowers 540 338-0999, zoesowers@gmail.com

Children's Choir, For Kindergarten through 5th grade.
Wednesdays at 6:15 pm in the Music Room.
Contact Zack Henderson, zackh900@gmail.com

Flower Calendar

Please consider signing up on the flower calendar in the entryway to provide a floral arrangement for Sunday worship services.

If you have any questions, please call Nancy Gilmore (540-338-3154) or send an email to ngilmore5@verizon.net.



December Flower Calendar

3rd	Open	10th	Open
17th	Open	24th	Poinsettias
31st	Open		

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to provide poinsettias for our Christmas eve services, please sign up on the clip board in the church foyer. The poinsettias are yours to take home after the second Christmas Eve service. The cost is \$12 per plant and they are available in red, white or pink. Please make check payable to St. Andrew with notation of "poinsettias" and place in the offering plate. If you have any questions, please call or email Nancy Gilmore at 540-338-3154 or ngilmore5@verizon.net.



Zoe Sowers, director of the St. Andrew Ringers, leads them in rehearsal at the Herndon Handbell Festival on November 4th in preparation for the evening's concert.

DECEMBER SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS

Journeys Through the Bible Series: Expecting Messiah



711 W. Main Street
Purcellville, Virginia 20132
540-338-4332,
fax 540-338-4333
secretary@standrew-pres.org
www.standrew-pres.org

December 3rd (First Sunday of Advent; The Lord's Supper)

Theme: Hope

Advent Candle Lighters: The Confirmation Class

Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-17; 11:1-9

Sermon: *"God Is with Us"*

Music: St. Andrew Choir

December 10th (Second Sunday of Advent)

Theme: Joy

Advent Candle Lighters: The York Family

Scripture: Luke 1:46-55

Sermon: *"Rejoice, Our Salvation Has Come"*

Music: St. Andrew Ringers

December 17th (Third Sunday of Advent; Christmas Cantata)

Theme: Peace

Advent Candle Lighters: The Rohrbaugh Family

Scripture: Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon: *"Prepare the Way of the Lord"*

Music: St. Andrew Choir; St. Andrew Ringers; New Song, Children's Choir

December 24th (Fourth Sunday of Advent; The Lord's Supper)

Theme: Love

Advent Candle Lighters: The Semiao Family

Scripture: Revelation 12:1-12; John 13:12-20

Sermon: *"Love, Love Is All Around"*

Music: Zack Henderson

The Rev. Dr. David Milam, Pastor

The Rev. Jo Anna Rich, Children and Family Ministries Director

Kimball Peele, Clerk of Session

Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month

December 24th (Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 and 8:00 pm)

Theme: Light

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-4a; Isaiah 9:2-7; John 1:1-14; Hebrews 12:1-3

Sermon: *"Light Bearers"*

Music: New Song at 5:00 pm; St. Andrew Ringers and Choir at 8:00 pm

Journeys Through the Bible Series: Family, Tribe and Nation

December 31st (First Sunday after Christmas)

Scripture: Luke 2:22-40

Sermon: *"Child of Promise"*

Liturgist: Kim Peele

Music: Hymn Sing