



October 2026 Newsletter
St. Andrew United Methodist Church

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Our worship hour begins at 11:00 AM each Sunday.
Nursery and Sunday School for the Children will be provided.

Bible Study is held every Thursday morning at 10:30 AM.
We meet at Coal River Coffee on Olde Main Plaza in St. Albans.

SNAP meets Monday through Wednesday from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM.

Karate is held every Monday at 6:00 PM in Friendship Hall.

Boy Scouts meet every Monday evening at 6:30 PM in Cottrell Hall.

Cub Scouts meet every Thursday evening at 6:30 PM in Cottrell Hall.



Donation Options

As we approach the end of 2026, many retirees and others are in a position that they must take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from their 401K or their traditional IRA. One consideration is to use a portion of this RMD to make a contribution to St. Andrew to fulfill your pledge or give above and beyond..

One question to ask yourself is **did you know that you can take an RMD from your 401K or traditional IRA and donate it to a qualified charity (eligible nonprofit organization) and reduce your tax obligation?** These distributions **are not taxable** but they still count toward satisfying your required minimum distributions for the year and reduce your tax obligation. For 2026, you can donate up to \$111,000 from your IRA as a Qualified Charitable Deduction to avoid taxes if:

- Your IRA custodian agrees to transfer the funds to your chosen charity on your behalf. (You can't make the donation directly.)
- You don't claim that donation as a charitable deduction on your taxes.

As an example if your RMD is \$15,000 this year, and you wish to make a donation to the church for \$10,000, you may ask your **IRA custodian (Financial Institution) to make a payment directly to St. Andrew from your IRA.** This payment can be to **cover your entire pledge for the year or a gift above and beyond your pledge.** By doing this, your tax obligation on your RMD is reduced from the original \$15,000 to \$5,000, saving you a \$10,000 tax obligation for the year.

If you would like to take advantage of this option on your 401K or Traditional IRA RMD, please take the time to contact your Financial Institution and discuss this option with them.

IF you would like to speak with someone on the Finance Team about this option, please contact Ernie Downey (Finance Team Chair), Carol Hutchison (Finance Secretary) or Walter Wood, any of which would be glad to discuss this possibility with you. This donation can be done anytime during the year, and most Financial Institutions will work with you to make these contributions once or multiple times during the year. **The only thing you need to consider is that your contribution must be received by the church before the end of the calendar year to qualify for this years contribution. For this year, all contributions need to be in the church by December 23.**

Outreach

For the past several weeks, you have heard Pastor Darick reference during his message, how we as a church need to “give back” to those in need of assistance and help. As we look around our church, we have many blessings to be thankful for. As a congregation how we use the donations and monies of the church to the blessings of others is one of those things we need to celebrate.

This year a few of those blessings we have been able to share in our outreach include:

- Monetary Donations are made to support benevolences in St. Albans, including Christs Kitchen, Food Pantry, Jubilee Fund, Jericho House and Hezekiah House.
- Scholarships for Undergraduate and post Graduate students. This year our church supported 3 undergraduate students Alex Ward, Annalee White and Lydia Sturm.
- Our Church sponsored 30 families with Christmas Baskets for our 2025 Basket drive, and this year hope to do more.
- Continued evolution and support of a Youth and Children's program including Sunday School and planned events for youth children to attend beyond our normal Church services.
- Sponsored “Art for All” showcasing the talent of many individuals in the community and church as they shared their artistic talent.
- Supported Race Against Hunger by donation from our Mission Team and funds collected at the August 5th Sunday worship.
- Provided housing and kitchen space to Summer YouthWorks group from Indiana while they performed services to locals in need.

As the Church looks back at how we are spending donations and contributions for Outreach, we should be proud of the programs we continue to support. Your donations and financial support of St. Andrew are making a difference in the lives of not only our Church, but also in our community.



Again, this year our church will be collecting adult and children's **coats and shoes** for Christ Kitchen. Donations can be brought beginning October 1 continuing through the end of the year and placed in the box near the table in the Sanctuary. Questions contact Lois Downey, 304-545-1852.



Tim's small group meets on Tuesday at 11:00 AM on Zoom.
Bob's small group meets on Tuesdays at 6:30PM on Zoom.
Amy's small group meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM on Zoom.
Fishermen's small group is attending the Thursday Bible Study at 10:30 AM.



"Cereal September"

The pantry is in need of cereal. Last September, your generous donations of cereal blessed the pantry immensely, and lasted a long time. So, it's Cereal September and we are asking all area churches to collect cereal (any kind) during the month of September for the pantry.

The **Food Pantry** also needs hamburger helper, stuffing mix, brownie mix, spaghetti sauce and tuna.

Christ's Kitchen needs canned corn, canned fruit, and chicken noodle soup.



2026 Christmas Basket Program

Beginning this week we will be opening up the registration for this years Christmas Basket program. As in the past, we are asking families, small groups, individuals to adopt a family or families in support of this city wide program.

Again this year the St. Albans Ministerial Alliance (SAMA) has supplied a list of food to be purchased for various size families of 1-3 and for 4 and greater. The estimated cost of the items on each list is \$80 and \$100 respectfully (which we all realize is low based on current grocery prices). SAMA is asking everyone to adhere to the list they have provided as well as the quantities suggested. By doing this, it will hopefully reduce questions by recipients as to "why someone received more food than my family".

If you or your family, small group etc. would like to adopt a family, please contact the church office (304-727-7114) starting Wednesday, September 23 and provide Brenda **your Contact Name, Phone Number and email address, Small Family or Large Family. Cutoff for adopting a family or families will be Wednesday, October 21.** At that time, I will provide to SAMA the number of families our church will be sponsoring. SAMA should provide me with the names of those needing assistance before Thanksgiving and I will get that information out to you. **IF you prefer a small family, 1-3 please let Brenda know. IF you prefer a large family of 4 or more please also make that known when you register with her.**

Last year you will recall that we did not reimburse sponsors who adopted a family but did make a donation to both Christs Kitchen and the Food Pantry. Again this year to help the "after Christmas" need for food, our Church will be making a similar contribution to both the Food Pantry and Christ's

Kitchen. This contribution will be to help provide food for those in need after the holidays.

If you have any questions please give me a call (304-545-7857) or shoot me an email, Ernsglass@aol.com Once we have the list of sponsors from the church, I can provide SAMA with the number baskets our church will sponsor. I should get the names of the families in need from SAMA, before Thanksgiving and I will match those up and supply you with the food list and family names. Once we have that, then you will need to contact the family, as you have in the past, let them know you have their name, see if there are any special needs and set up the date and time to meet your family for delivery. More about that as we get closer to that time.



Prayer Requests September 30, 2026

Unspoken prayer request by Kathy Stalnaker
Bob and Karen Tate
 Brother-in-law and sister of Bev Hart
Emma Gandee
Jarrold Lanham
Grace Cochran, friend of Kathy Stalnaker
Linda White, friend of Kathy Stalnaker
Beverly Loftis
Josh Reuter, cousin of Kathy Stalnaker
Tim Dempsy, cousin of Robert Stalnaker
Alice Baldwin
Mary Frances Combs
Larry Winter, Claudia Bowles's brother
Pam Cochran
Lela Ann Carroll by the Downeys
Nancy Lawrence
Mark Null by Nancy Crawford
Brian Tyree by Randi and Randy Robinson
Barbara Asbury
Pat and Joanne Hart
Richard "O.J." Ojeda by Bob and Barbara Foster
John Winter by Connie Winter
Daughter of a friend of Connie Winter
Pam Duncan
Alex Ward
Lenny Ward, father of Alex Ward
Missy McGhee by Nancy Crawford