

Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning

Zoom Worship

9:30am - [Zoom Link](#)

Mtg. ID: 766 598 8948

Call in number

646.558.8656

Sunday Holy Eucharist

8:30am In-person Rite I

10:30am In-person Rite II

(No 8:30 am or Zoom service on Dec. 28 or Jan. 18. Please join the livestream on Youtube.)
[Click Here](#)

Christmas Worship

- **December 24, at 5pm:** Christmas Eve Service & Pageant
- **December 24, at 10pm:** Candlelight Zoom Service
- **December 25, at 10am:** Christmas Day Service
- **Sunday, December 28, at 10:30am:** Lessons and Carols

[ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR](#)

CLICK FOR INFORMATION AND NEWS

St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church
300 Third Street, Elyria
Phone 440.322.2126
office@standrewselyria.org
revjunehd@gmail.com
www.standrewselyria.org



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.: Office Closed

Tues.-Fri. 9:30 am- 12:30pm

Rector's Letter

One of the joys of being Episcopalian is our adherence to fully embrace the season of Advent. We decorate the church in blue and adorn the altar with greens. We slow down (or try to) to take on a posture of waiting and watching. We dive deep into art, music, poetry as we explore a specific Advent theme through the Advent Scriptures. We pray and sing and read and study with a different rhythm during the Season of Advent.

While there is no "Advent police", guarding the doors lest there be an intrusion of Christmas before Dec. 24, waiting and watching for Jesus in Advent means we get to explore what it means to live in anticipation and hope.

This year our theme for Advent is "What do you fear? Insisting on Hope" and holds the dual realities of there being much to fear AND there being much for which to hope. In our theme, fear and hope are not given equal billing but hope is invoked in the face of fear.

Many Advent hymns articulate our desire for hope to show up, many of them naming Jesus as that hope. "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus, O Come, O Come Emmanuel, Come, Jesus Come" all sing out the invitation and longing.

In a devotional titled "Sun" in the Quiet Collection, author Emily P. Freeman says this about the first Christmas.

"Who they expected was not who showed up. They expected a man who would rule and reign with power and authority. They expected a king who would impress, rule and conquer. They expected a warrior who would deliver them, a hero, a savior to actually save them. " She continues, But instead of a man, they first got a girl. And instead of a warrior, they first got her baby, They got their king but it didn't seem that way then. Because instead of reigning as expected, he came to serve. His coronation was incarnation: Emmanuel, God With Us. "
(Emily P, Freeman in Advent Quiet Collection "Light")

So beloved St. Andrew's, let us watch and wait with hope. Naming our fears, let us insist on hope. As we sing, "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus", let us be open to Jesus showing up in unexpected places and in unexpected people. Let us point out to one another when that happens and notice. Let us move through Advent with hopeful expectation and making room for God to surprise us. Let us move into Christmas, with the knowledge that who we expect may not be who shows up. Let us greet the New Year in 2026 with listening hearts and open eyes to see what God is calling us to be, do and become.

Blessed Advent, beloved church,
Mother June



Message from Kathy Kerber, Sr. Warden

The “Tell Out My Soul” stewardship campaign for 2026 is complete and the Resource Management Commission has finalized the 2026 budget for presentation to Vestry. As of November 30, 2025, thirty-nine households have submitted pledge cards. The projected pledge income is \$247,440. Thank you for your support. If you are considering a pledge, it is not too late.

Pledge income as well as non-pledge plate offerings are used to fund the operations of St. Andrew's. Expenses paid with pledge/non-pledge plate income includes salaries and benefits, utilities payments, insurance, Diocesan assessments, office operation costs, building and grounds maintenance expenditures as well as the support of music, worship, and Christian formation programs. Directed donations such as to the Freedge, Organ Fund, Choral Scholars and Flowers are used for expenses as specified by the donor. Withdrawal requirements from investment accounts are set up to protect principal and/or restrict for purpose. We are limited to the amount we can withdraw to cover operational expenses. We have reached our limit for 2025.

St. Andrew's needs additional money to support operations for the remainder of 2025. It is an input-output imbalance. On the input side, plate income is much lower than predicted and some individuals are behind on pledge payments. On the output side, electricity costs have been higher than budgeted. My suspicion is the increased usage is related to the kitchen construction. In the 3rd quarter of this year, there was the bat problem. The bats have been safely relocated and the church entry points used by the bats have been sealed, but at a significant cost.

I am confident we can overcome this financial challenge. Please consider adding to the non-pledge plate collection each Sunday. If you have pledged for 2025, review your pledge statements to see if you are current with contributions. In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to all who share their time, treasure, and talent for St. Andrew's and the community.

Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 18 – 9:30 am

On Sunday, January 18 at 9:30 a.m., we will gather for our Annual Parish Meeting as part of our regular worship service. The service and the meeting will be live-streamed and provisions will be made for those attending remotely to participate by voting and speaking if they desire.

This is an important time in the life of our congregation—a moment to give thanks for the year behind us, to hear updates on our shared ministries, and to look with hope toward the work God is calling us to do in the year ahead. Your presence, prayers, and participation help strengthen our common life and ensure that every voice in our parish community is heard and valued. There will be one in-person service on that day which will begin at 9:30 am.

As we prepare for this gathering, we invite you to prayerfully consider offering your gifts for leadership in the coming year. We are seeking individuals to serve on the Vestry, to represent us in the North Central Mission Area, and to serve as Delegates to the 210th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Ohio in November 2026. Each of these roles offers a meaningful way to share the unique gifts God has entrusted to you—gifts of wisdom, compassion, creativity, vision, and faith. If you feel a nudge of the Spirit or sense that your talents may be needed at this time, please reach out to Rev. June, Amy Kellogg or Hans Van Wormer to learn more. Together, let us offer our gifts for “Sharing God's Unconditional Love” in 2026 and beyond. A light lunch will be served after the Annual Meeting to allow us to continue conversation and fellowship.

Music Memos
December 2025 Edition
by Music Director, Mark Skladan

The long “ordinary” Pentecost season has come to a close and Advent/Christmas is upon us. We celebrate the arrival of the Christ child with music of the season.

Service music for Advent

We will substitute The Gloria for The Kyrie using the version in WLP. We also will be singing the Sanctus from WLP. WLP is the Wonder, Love and Praise Green Hymnal which has been added to supplement the 1982 hymnal. We will sing the same Sanctus for Christmas and use a Song of Praise instead of the Gloria.

Chorister Schedule for December

The Choristers have been preparing a Christmas Eve Anthem and will continue in December.

12/14. Rehearse during the sermon

12/21 final rehearsal in the church with microphones (after church)

12/24 call time determined by Ben and will include a sing through of the anthem in the choir room. Christmas Eve family service is 5pm

Adult choir schedule for December

12/14 ADVENT 3, ANTHEM, Magnificat

12/21 ADVENT 4

12/24 rehearsal at 4 pm for Christmas Eve

12/25 NO CHOIR

12/28 no choir, Lessons and Carols at 10:30

January 4, no choir

January 11, Choir resumes

Christmas Eve, 5pm

Choristers, Adult Choir, Candlelight Silent Night, Instrumental Music

Christmas Day, 10am

With Music

Lessons and Carols

following the traditional Church of England service and hosting Christ Church and Redeemer

12/28 at 10:30am

Piano Tuning

The Steinway sanctuary piano and choir room rehearsal piano was tuned in November. Thank you to parishioners pledges that support maintenance of our instruments.

Choral Scholars

Thank you to the vestry for approving funds for our choral scholar program through the end of 2025. Maren, Kaitlyn, Erin, Christine, Isaac, Sara and Corryn thank you for supporting this part of our music ministry.

Finally, thank you to everyone at St Andrew's as I start my 4th year at the helm. It is pure joy for me to serve this church.

I look forward to this season of anticipation and the joy of Christmas

Mark

Happenings with the Congregational Development Commission **by Greg Hebble, Chair**

The Altar Guild and Congregational Development Commission would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the Harvest Altar collection of food items for the Freedge. A great amount of food was collected and taken to the Freedge for distribution.

Also, please know that collection of food pantry items and personal care items are still being collected weekly. The need is great, and we know that between 8 and 20 people come to the South Branch of the Elyria Public Library Freedge every day seeking food. Food insecurity in our area is real and there is extreme need.

Please bring your food and personal care donations to Church and place them in the collection basket in the Nave or consider making a monetary donation (write Freedge on the memo line of your check). Your donations are greatly appreciated.

The Commission voted to spend \$ 500.00 out of Community Outreach Funds to purchase sliced oven roasted turkey breasts and sliced smoked hams to be distributed at the Freedge. Over a 3-week period prior to Thanksgiving 30 turkeys and hams were delivered.

Thank you to all that participated by taking a tag from the Giving Tree to support the children for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Holiday Party. All the tags were taken, and each child received a nice gift and warm clothing item at the event.

In-person dining is beginning again at St. Andrew's for the Community Meals program.

St. Andrew's volunteers serve the fourth Wednesday of every month. We are seeking volunteers that would like to help those in our community that are hungry and in need.

Would you consider volunteering to help serve the meals, provide hospitality for our guests or help with cleaning up?

Please contact Bill Hebble, Myki VanWormer or the Church office for more information.

Christmas Greens and Flowers **(Christmas Memorials)**

Flowers and greens will be arranged at the altar and throughout the church for the Christmas season, and may be given in memory, honor, or in celebration of loved ones or in thanksgiving for God's blessings. If you are interested in giving a commemoration, please contact Leanne or Cheri at the church office (440-322-2126 OR office@standrewselyria.org) or Ellen Otis at 440-284-1747. The price is \$40.

Christmas Cards

Tables will be set up by the elevator for you to leave your Christmas cards for others in the St. Andrew's congregation. The original idea was to use the money saved on postage for cards mailed to fellow St. Andrew's congregation members and offering the funds to the church OR to make a charitable donation to a charity of your choice. Please have Christmas cards on the table by Christmas Eve. Thank you!

Boar's Head Festival: **December 28,** **at 2pm and 4:30pm**

The 63rd Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival at Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland, invites you to participate in this year's annual presentations. This Elizabethan Christmas experience, a beloved family tradition, has opportunities to participate including cast, choir, and behind-the-scenes help. For more information please [Click here](#)

December Birthdays

Jane McDonald	6
Phyllis DeMark	6
Lise Day	8
Cathy Heck	8
Shannon Von	13
Gunten	
Jeff Hahn	16
Claire Skladan	18
Jerry Welsh	20
Roja Schuster-Little	25
Eric Barnes	30



January Birthdays

Karen Hahn	4
Colette Van Wormer	7
James Casselberry	13
Robert Lehman	15
Lee Kauffman	15
Russ Van Wormer	18
Pat Barns	19
Sylvia Taylor	20
Cathy Whalen	20
Kim Reich	26
Carrie Hebble	31
Kathy Kerber	31
Myki Van Wormer	31
Judith Beebe	31

Send us your news!

If you have information, you would like included, send to office@standrewselyria.org.
Deadline for the January issue of the Carillon is **December 23.**

Annual Meeting

January 18, at 9:30am

The Annual Meeting will in the church and will be livestreamed. There will be one worship service at 9:30am, incorporating the Annual Meeting. After the meeting, a light lunch will be served.

St. Andrew's Prayer List:

Our Spiritual Leaders

Sean, our Presiding Bishop
Anne, our Bishop
June, our Priest
Jane, our Deacon
Mark Skladan, our Music Director
Joan, our Music Director, Emerita
Ben, our Director of Youth and Children's Ministry

Our Friends

Christ Church, Oberlin
Church of the Redeemer, Lorain
Avon United Methodist
Redeemer Lutheran, Elyria
Emmanuel Lutheran, Elyria
Elyria First United Methodist
The Original Glorious Apostolic Church

Our Community Partners

The Freedged
A Place to Recover (P2R)
Neighborhood Alliance
Pet Pantry of Lorain County
Second Harvest
Urban League

Active-Duty Military: John Able, Stephanie Bacskey, Rose Buttle, Luke Colcough, Aaron Colcough, Dylan Donnelly, Charles Kellogg, Kim Reich, Gavin Schwan, Ryan Sumner, Ashley Augustine

Churches in Our Mission Area: St. Paul's, Bellevue; St. Paul's, Fremont; Christ Church, Huron; Redeemer, Lorain; St. Paul's, Norwalk; St. Thomas, Port Clinton; St. Paul's, Put-in-Bay; Grace, Sandusky; Old Trinity, Tiffin; Christ Church, Oberlin

Health Concerns: Kathy Inderrieden (Karen Blair's daughter), Pauline McKenna (Karen Blair's daughter), Paul Tanner (partner of Jolene Adkins), Scott Holcomb, Shelly Perkins, John Palermo, John Grehn (family of Ryan Palermo) Judie Housel, Ben Schuster, Russ Panchak, Karen Blair, Sally Miyara, Badger King, Mya Wissinger, Dakota Maloney (Daughter of Claire Skladan & Jeff Maloney), Roja Schuster Little, Joe Dembek; Deb Schwan, Ryan Palermo-Varnier, Ryan (friend of June Hardy Dorsey), Scott Pennington, Doug Elmer, Cooley Derzis, Marion King, Gwen Frazier, Lee Kauffman, Linda Wilbert, Dan Burnett, The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Wilbert, Gale Hillbery (friend of Retta Reynolds), Sharon Stith (Chanin Tyler's mother.)

At Home: Virginia Larson, Sally Ruth, Barbara Tobin, Patricia Pozywak, Linda Wilbert, Judith Beebe, Bob Thomas, Bob Sharkody, Karen Wells,

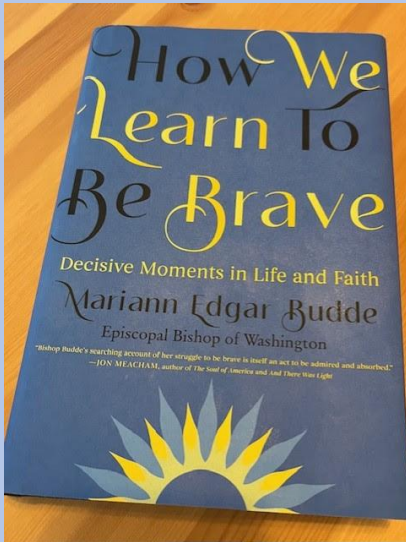
Those Who Have Died: Cindy McClymonds, Robert Powell, Kathy Plank, Emma Fischer, Chuck Farlow (Margo Reich's Brother-in-Law), Shirley Zeh (Cousin of Badger King), David George, Karen Ramirez, Jim Toth, Phillip Wagner, Stephen Secaur (Jeremy Secaur's father), Archie Jablonski, Mary Ann Hursky (Aunt of Amy Kellogg), Mitchell Osborne, Ruth Smith, Jane Cameron, Mary Lou Jolly (Bp. Anne's mother-in-law), Terry Gribble (Chanin Tyler's uncle.)

For the Newly Baptized: Avi Holcomb

Other Concerns: Dale Ann, Randy Lehman, Nancy Farlow and Family, the Family of Shirley Zeh, Eliot Prior, Maddie Smith, Scott Pennington, Jessica and Corey (friends of June Hardy Dorsey), Dee Knaack, Mark & Laura Burnett, Joyce Toth, Lonnie, Gail Peyton and Linda Dembroski, (daughters of Mary Ann Hursky), the Holcomb and Osborne Families

Caroling and Cocoa – December 14, 2025 2 pm

You are invited to Caroling and Cocoa, an intergenerational outreach and fellowship event starting at Wesleyan Village at 2 pm. We will sing carols there and then return to St. Andrew's for Cocoa and festive goodies. All are welcome!



The Episcopal Church of Lorain County Advent Book Study Two More Wednesdays in Advent.

The three Episcopal parishes of Lorain County are co-hosting a **three-session Advent Book Study** on the Wednesdays before Christmas. We have selected **How We Learn to be Brave, by the Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop of Washington (DC)**. All sessions begin at **7:00 p.m.** The first session was on December 3 at Church of the Redeemer, Lorain where we discussed the Introduction-Chapter 2. By design, all those who have read the book, hope to read the book, want to know what the book contains are all welcome. A portion of the text is read aloud and all are invited to participate.

Welcomed by delicious baked goods, fruit, coffee and tea, 27 people from all three parishes gathered. A contemplative meditation began the program and there were plenty of opportunities for conversation and engagement. All are

welcome to attend the upcoming sessions.

December 10 at Christ Church, Oberlin: Chapters 3, 4, 5

December 17 at St. Andrew's, Elyria: Chapters 6-7, Epilogue

The Episcopal Church of Lorain County is exploring together what it means to "Learn to be Brave."

A Message from the Treasurer

We are currently experiencing a shortfall in funds that are needed for our operating expenses and mission. Unfortunately, we have had to use funds that are designated for other purposes. We have also withdrawn \$20,338 from our savings accounts, the maximum amount that our spending policy permits. Please consider paying earlier your planned amount of giving, or perhaps even an additional amount, for the remainder of 2025. God has provided us with many gifts and now is the time for us to share God's unconditional love. Thank you for your ongoing support of St. Andrew's.

As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate in contacting me.

Doug Skladan – Treasurer

Follow Up by Vestry Action - On Nov. 14, the Vestry passed a motion to temporarily address the shortfall in operating funds. Amy Kellogg provided the following explanation:

Vestry passed this motion because Doug Skladan, our Treasurer, brought to Vestry's attention that our operating income has been depleted for a variety of reasons—timing of receipt of funds, lagging pledge payments and lower plate income. While we think that we will have enough to pay our December expenses it was really cutting it close. In discussing this with RMC and our Treasurer, we thought it would be best to borrow from the Wasserman Reserve Fund (in essence, borrowing from ourselves), so that we could provide a cushion in our savings account. We decided to borrow an amount equal to 1 month of our expenses. We will repay this loan with 4 percent interest over the next 24 months. **Why did we do this?** Well, first of all while we do have a lot of funds, most of those funds are designated and cannot be used for our operating expenses. (Thus, the importance of when you are donating funds to St. Andrew's, make sure that you donate them as non-designated funds which gives the Vestry more flexibility in how they are used.) Second of all, we can only take a certain amount of interest (in 2025 - 4.5%) from our trust funds, because we don't want to deplete our principal. It's important that we maintain our principal so that we can continue to support our amazing ministries of St. Andrew's into the future.

We didn't make this decision lightly, but like any family we need to make sure we have enough money in our "savings account" to not only cover our normal operating expenses such as building upkeep, salaries, utilities and insurance, but also to cover the cost of our outreach ministries which are so important to this parish and our community.

Update from Justice and Peacemakers

In an effort spearheaded by Sarah Schuster, the Justice and Peace Makers Task Force hosted our first networking event for local community organizations. We were thrilled to have representatives from organizations including A.G.A.P.E. Youth Ministries, Families First Health Services, Girl Scouts, P2R Training and Resource Center, and Second Harvest Food Bank as well as several local churches. In a relaxed environment with refreshments, the attendees had the opportunity to share about their current work and build connections to groups offering related services. Looking ahead, the task force is discerning whether to make this a regular offering and would gladly welcome the input of any St. Andrew's community members interested in this effort. In particular, we would be very appreciative of suggestions of additional community organizations that could be included in future iterations.

A Message from Ben Holcomb, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry

Siblings in faith,

It got cold fast, didn't it? It seems we barely had a fall, but instead rocketed from summer heat to winter cold. Sometimes changes happen fast like that, but changes like this bring their own blessings, like beautiful snow, and Christmas lights. This is one of, if not my favorite time of year. I'm glad I can share it with you all.

Since I've been back, we have a lot of awesome stuff coming with the youth and children's ministry, some of which have already happened. For example, we just had a Friendsgiving meal together with our families on November 16th, which was a lot of fun. We had food, games, and good conversations, talking about the things we're thankful for.

We have a lot of amazing things coming up this month, like Caroling and Cocoa on December 21st at 2:00pm at Wesleyan Village, where we will go to the church for some fellowship at 3:00. Everyone is invited to that! Of course, we also have the Christmas pageant! It's one of my favorite projects of the year, guiding the children in celebrating the birth of Christ in new and creative ways.

Like I said above, change can happen fast, like the seasons of Ohio, or a no-win streak of Ohio State vs. Michigan. There's been plenty of changes in my own life this year. My son comes to mind. But that's just it; these changes bring blessings. My son is the light of my life, and a ball of joy and love I can only see with him. The seasons bring refreshing temperature changes, new sights and sounds, and holidays I love dearly. Change can be scary, though, so I wonder what is changing in your life? Is there a new job opportunity, or a new baby coming soon? In this time of advent, we are challenging ourselves to see hope beyond fear. What is scaring you about the changes around you? It's okay to be scared. Being scared means you care, and because you care, that means you can find hope. So, where is there hope? Where do you see God in fear? I ask you all to find the hope amongst the fear this Advent, and lean into that hope, that radical, life-changing hope that exists in spite of fear.

God Bless,

Ben

Advent at St. Andrew's

Your are invited to observe a meaningful Advent with these offerings.

Sunday Morning Advent Formation for Adults 9:30 am

Room C on Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14, Dec. 21

Tuesday Noonday Visio Divina on Facebook Live

Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16, Dec. 23

Wednesday Morning Advent Morning Prayer 8 am on Zoom
and

Wednesday Evening In-Person Book Study with
the Episcopal Church of Lorain County

Dec. 3 (Church of the Redeemer, 647 Reid Ave, Lorain)

Dec. 10 (Christ Church, Oberlin , 162 S. Main Street, Oberlin)

Dec. 17 (St. Andrew's - In the parish lounge)

Reading and Studying

"How We Learn to Be Brave" by Bp. Mariann Budde

Thursdays at Noon

In-Person Advent Contemplative Candlelight Service

St. Andrew's Side Chapel

Christmas Worship Schedule

You and your family are invited to
Christmas Worship at St. Andrew's

- **December 24, at 5pm:**
Christmas Eve Service & Pageant
- **December 24, at 10pm:** Candlelight **Zoom** Service
- **December 25, at 10am:** Christmas Day Service
- **Sunday, December 28, at 10:30am:**
Lessons and Carols with the Episcopal Church of
Lorain County (*one service only on this Sunday*)

*Holy Communion is offered at all of the in person services listed above and
all are welcomed at the Lord's Table.*