



# The Messenger



PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF  
SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TOPEKA, KANSAS

February 2024

Volume 46, No.2



**WISHING YOU A  
HAPPY  
VALENTINES DAY**



## Valentines Day

Where did Valentine's Day originate from? The history of the holiday—and the story of its patron saint—is shrouded in mystery. St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition.

Tradition recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. Still others insist that it was Saint Valentine of Terni, a bishop, who was the true namesake of the holiday. He, too, was beheaded by Claudius II outside Rome.

The oldest known valentine still in existence today was a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt.

Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s.

Today, according to Hallmark, an estimated 145 million Valentine cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. More cards are sent at Christmas.

Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and—most importantly—romantic figure.



Sunday, February 11th is the Superbowl between the Kansas City Chiefs and the San Francisco 49ers. We will be collecting cans of soup and boxes of crackers to



benefit Doorstep. There are boxes in the narthex to put your donations in.

We will have our annual Souper Sunday luncheon following service. There is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall for soup, salads and desserts.

GO CHIEFS!

## Lent Begins



The Lenten Season begins on February 14<sup>th</sup> with Ash Wednesday. We will celebrate this occasion with a service at 5:00 p.m. Join us as we begin the journey toward the day of resurrection.

## Lenten Study

As a part of the Lenten season, Pastor Stacey will be leading a Lenten Meditation at the Sunday morning Bible Study. We meet in Fellowship Hall at 10:15. Take advantage of this opportunity to enrich your advent experience



## **Doorstep News ~ February 2024**



Each year has its challenges when it comes to providing basic needs services; often they are the same as

the previous year. In 2023, we saw a sharp increase (88-90%) in the number of households and individuals needing food assistance. Our member congregations answered the call to help, donating an additional 11,608 pounds of food over 2022 for a total of 44,164 pounds of food. We received \$11,000 in Project Topeka funds to purchase food, but we also had to spend an additional \$54,632 out of pocket to keep enough food on the shelves to meet the need. In total, Doorstep provided 127,370 pounds of food to 2,307 households in 2023.

So far in 2023, we are not seeing a decrease in the need for food assistance in our community. And this year having a successful Souper Bowl Sunday weekend is even more important than in year's past. Help us fill those our and show your neighbors you care!

**Souper Bowl Sunday is February 11<sup>th</sup>** and we are asking our member congregations to collect soup and crackers that weekend again this year to help stock our food pantry! We can use all varieties of soup, big and small cans, and crackers. A successful Souper Bowl Sunday weekend can stock our pantry with these items into the spring months!

**Our goal for 2024 is 5,000 pounds = 2.5 ton!**

We set the same goal in 2023 and exceeded it by 3,000 pounds... Let's do it again!!

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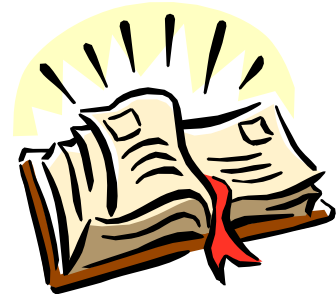
Communion will be celebrated on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

### February 2024 Lectionary

**Sunday, February 4** Isaiah 40:21–31 Psalm 147:1–11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16–23  
Mark 1:29–39

**Transfiguration of the Lord—February 11** 2 Kings 2:1–12  
Psalm 50:1–6 2 Corinthians 4:3–6 Mark 9:2–9

**Ash Wednesday—February 14** Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or Isa.  
58:1–12 Psalm 51:1–17 2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10 Matt. 6:1–  
6, 16–21



**First Sunday in Lent—February 18** Genesis 9:8–17 Psalm 25:1–10 1 Peter 3:18–22  
Mark 1:9–15

**Second Sunday in Lent—February 25** Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16 Psalm 22:23–31  
Romans 4:13–25 Mark 8:31–38



### February Birthdays

Karen Beckley, February 9<sup>th</sup>

Susan William, February 12<sup>th</sup>

Sharon McDaniels, February 17<sup>th</sup>

Dean Robinson, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

**No February Anniversaries**



Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be Sunday, February 4th after worship. Please plan to attend as we conduct the important business of the church.

### ***Caring for our Members and Friends***



Please remember the following in your prayers:

Pastor Stacey, Jan Rice, Sue Aschenbrenner ,Anita Evanhoe  
Tad Estes, Kaylin McDaniels, Don and Suzie Marker, Dana  
McDaniels, Marlene Watson, Jo Ann Miller, Judy Morton

Keeping in our prayers: Dolores Wilmers, Rita Kelly, Cheryl Kelly

Remember all our service men and women, both active and veterans, those who protect us- firefighters, EMTs, police officers.

Prayers for the hungry and the homeless.

Prayers for the victims of the ongoing Israel-Palestinian War and war in Ukraine.

Prayers for the release of hostages.

Pray for our government officials and world leaders..

For those across the nation suffering from the extreme cold, ice, snow and floods.



# Session Meeting

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS-Sunday, January 21, 2024

[P] '25 Dean Robinson      [ P ] '24 Sharon McDaniels      [P] '23 Betty DeShazer  
[P] '25 Larry William      [ P ] '24 Linda Ozaki      [P] '23 Bill DeShazer  
[P] '25 Jan Rice      [ P ] '24 Stephanie Reynolds      [P] '23 Charles Frank

[P] Session Moderator- Rev. Dr. Stacey Shaffer Jones  
[P] Clerk of Session-Bill DeShazer  
[P] Treasurer-Stephanie Reynolds

Total Current income for 2023 was \$63,273.07; total current expense was \$61,977.71.

Income from Rummage sale was approximately \$8,651(after expenses), with approximately \$2,300.00 from in-person sales and \$6,351.00 from sales on ebay. Still need items to sell on ebay.

Received judgment freeing the Bagby account for general use if necessary.

Will be using city trash service, dropping the current Orion service. City is less expensive.

Renewed Pastor Stacey's contract for 2024.

Souper Bowl luncheon will be following worship on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

McCrites will be using Fellowship Hall for a fundraiser for an employee on February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

Planning on a ham and bean feed, possibly in March.

Annual Congregational meeting will be February 4<sup>th</sup> following worship

Next session meeting is Februar4y 18th following worship.

.Communion will be celebrated on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

February 2024							
◀ January							March ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2	3	
4 Communion Annual Cong. Mtg.	5	6 Presbytery By zoom	7	8	9	10	
11 Souper Bowl Lunch	12 Susan William B'day	13	14 Happy Valentines Day Ash Wednesday Svc. 5:00	15	16 McCrites Fundraiser Set up	17 8-3-McCrites Fundraiser  Sharon McDaniels B'day	
18  Session	19	20	21	22	23  Dean Robinson B'day	24	
25	26	27	28	29	Palm Sunday-March 24 Easter – March 31		

Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church  
1821 SW 37<sup>th</sup> Street, PO Box 5122  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**February 2024**



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**WELCOME TO  
SAINT ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Bible Study, Sunday, 10:15 AM  
Sunday Services 11:00 AM**

