



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church (USA)

Andrew's Net



January 2026

CATCHING UP ON THE LATEST NEWS

180 24TH STREET WEST BILLINGS, MONTANA 59102 (406) 656-9256 STANDREWBILLINGS.ORG FIND US ON FACEBOOK

We are Building a Servant Community
Seeking to be Christ's Hands and Heart.



Prayer for the New Year

Give us the kindness to hear with compassion,
to offer support,
loving comfort, and care.

Give us the courage to do what is needed,
the wisdom to choose
what is right and most fair.

Give us the vision to see what is possible.

Give us the faith
that will help pave the way
for a present that's hopeful,

a future that's peaceful--
give us the heart to bring joy to each day.

Schedule for January

Pulpit Supply for January

January 4th (Communion)
January 11th
January 18th
January 25th

Rev. David Bierschwale
Rev. Jody McDevitt
Service at All Nations Church
Terri Todd

Liturgist Schedule for for January

January 4th (Communion)
January 11th
January 18th
January 25th

Dave Kimball
Bob Wood
Service at All Nations Church
Cynthia Kessler

Musicians Schedule for January

January 4th (Communion)
January 11th
January 18th
January 25th

Martha Krebill
Jo Chatman
Service at All Nations Church
Jo Chatman

Greeters and Ushers for January

January 4th (Communion)
January 11th
January 18th
January 25th

Bob and Mary Wood, with Dave Kimball
Don Johnson, Sandy Welch, and Mike Paterson
Service at All Nations Church
Stan Bayley, Annette Bayley, with
Jeff Kessler, and Cynthia Kessler

January Birthdays

10 Diana Rogers
10 Tom Molyneaux
14 Barbara Marsh
19 Judy Andersen
21 T.C. Chatman



Dates and Announcements

January 1

January 2

January 5

January 6

January 7

January 8

January 9

January 13

January 14

January 15

January 16

January 18

January 20

January 21

January 22

January 23

January 25

January 27

January 29

January 30

January 31

New Year's Day

Al-Anon meets at 7 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam Group 7-9 p.m.

Office closed

Women's Bible Study at 1 p.m.

Quilters meet at 12 p.m.

Al-Anon meets at 8 p.m.

Al-Anon meets at 7 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam Group 7-9 p.m.

Dab N' Gab

Women's Bible Study at 1 p.m.

Worship Committee meets at 11 a.m.

Facilities 10 a.m.

Al-Anon meets at 8 p.m.

Writers Group meets at 10 a.m.

Al-Anon meets at 7 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam Group 7-9 p.m.

Worship at All Nations

Women's Bible Study at 1 p.m.

Quilters meet at 12 p.m.

Session meets at 10 a.m.

Al-Anon meets at 8 p.m.

Al-Anon meets at 7 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam Group 7-9 p.m.

Annual meeting after worship

Women's Bible Study at 1 p.m.

Al-Anon meets at 8 p.m.

Al-Anon meets at 7 p.m.

Bluegrass Jam Group 7-9 p.m.

Upcoming dates and announcements

- Annual Meeting January 25 after worship.
- Reports for the Annual Report due to Ben Larson on January 10

Women's Bible Study Fall/Winter Schedule

The Women's Bible Study will resume on January 6. We'll be studying hymns of the church, looking at their stories and connecting them with scripture. Please join us each Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Garden Room

January 6

January 13

January 20

January 27

"Be Thou My Vision"

"I Love to Tell the Story"

"I Was There To Hear Your Boring Cry"

Craft

Earth Care in the New Year

Earth Prayers from Around the World, edited by Elizabeth Roberts and Elia Amidon, provides a New Year's prayer from the United Nations Environmental Sabbath Program.

We join with the earth and with each other

To bring new life to the land

To restore the waters

To refresh the air

To renew the forests

To care for the plants

To protect the creatures

To celebrate the seas

To rejoice in the sunlight

To sing the song of the stars

To recreate the human community

To promote justice and peace

To remember our children

We join with the earth and with each other.

We join together as many and diverse expressions of one loving mystery for the healing of the earth and the renewal of life.

There is so much to be grateful for, and so much to be concerned about, one person cannot do it alone. That is why we join with the earth and with each other, to be the community of caring and responsibility. Together, we are God's Earth Care Team!

Billings Climate Coalition will host a presentation and demonstration of "Alternative Fuels in Montana: Renewable Diesel, EVs, and More" on Friday, January 23 at 5 pm at Mayflower Congregational Church. Jesse Therien of Yellowstone-Teton Clean Cities will speak about local solutions which reduce emissions and protect the places we love, improving sustainability in the transportation sector. The city of Billings is already adopting several of these strategies for city vehicles. Come learn more!

What does St Andrew mean to me?

By Bob Wood

After moving to Billings In 1977, I felt led to check out St Andrew, but I couldn't find it! As many of you know, the Garden Room and Sanctuary were not here at that time. The main signage, which was near the south parking lot entrance, read "Andrew Square" and featured a large shield bearing an X-shaped cross. In addition to worship space and pastor and secretary offices, the old part of the building provided office space for a variety of church related organizations.

I finally got on my bicycle one day and rode over and circled the building and found a much smaller rather dark sign which read "St Andrew Presbyterian Church upstairs". After attending for a few months, I was received into membership early in 1978. Early in 1981, I found myself facing an unwanted divorce that became final in May. I was a wreck. The tender care and support I received from my sisters and brothers here kept me afloat.

A couple of years later, my wonderful Mary came into my life. The Reverend Paul Krebill officiated at our wedding service March 29th of 1986. The very next day was groundbreaking for the Garden Room and Sanctuary that we now enjoy. Whenever anyone asks when the sanctuary was built, we can answer precisely!

It has been very special to be a part of the ongoing ministry of this St. Andrew family. I have no doubt that the Almighty still has work for us to do.



Photo by Shirley Dore



Photo By Shirley Dore

Women's Bible Study Gets Creative for December

The Women's Bible Study group wrapped up the year with a fun and meaningful craft session led by Susan. Participants gathered to create Mary, Joseph, and Jesus ornaments, bringing the nativity story to life in a creative way.

The activity provided a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas while enjoying fellowship and laughter together. Each ornament crafted by the group now serves as a reminder of the season's joy and the importance of faith in everyday life.

The Women's Bible Study continues to be a space for learning, creativity, and community, and this December craft session was a perfect way to celebrate the holiday season.



Photo By Shirley Dore

A Man's One-Word-Sermon "Eternity" Reaches Millions (New Year's Eve, 1999)

By Kevin Ott | Dec 27, 2013 | General Christian Topics

As TV networks around the world cycled between the various New Year's Eve fireworks shows and millennial celebrations in 1999, one in particular stood out: Sydney, Australia.

The famous Sydney Harbor Bridge was emblazoned with the word "Eternity" in illustrious copperplate script that looked hand-written, except it was the size of a giant bridge. For many Christians, the word was a happy reminder of God's wonderful promises in Christ. For many others, it was a curious sight, especially if the viewer didn't happen to believe in eternity, or Heaven, or Hell. People began asking about it, and the story got out. An illiterate alcoholic heard a sermon in the 1940s and was powerfully saved. He was subsequently cured of his alcoholism as he grew in his personal relationship with Christ. One day, he heard a sermon in which the preacher shouted the word "Eternity!" and exclaimed that he wished all of Sydney could hear the word and contemplate where they would be spending eternity. The preacher described it as a one-word sermon: "Eternity!"

At that moment, a lightning bolt of revelation struck Arthur Stace's heart. He found some chalk, walked outside, and in beautiful flowing script wrote "Eternity", even though he had never learned to read or write. He could never explain how he managed to write it, but for the next 35 years he wandered through the streets of Sydney in the nights and early mornings and wrote the word wherever he could sidewalks, subway walls, buildings, etc. One newspaper estimated that he would go on to write his one-word sermon 500,000 times. The city took notice, and newspapers searched for the mysterious "Mr. Eternity," as they called him. For years, no one could discover his identity or photograph him, and he never stepped forward.

Finally, in 1956, a reverend caught him writing the word and obtained his name. Only four photographs were taken of him in 35 years. He was very elusive. For him, it was his simple way of getting people's minds focused on spiritual matters so that, hopefully, they would think about their eternal destiny and eventually come to faith in Christ.

It became such a part of Sydney's lore in the 1900s that in 1999, the city honored Arthur Stace by replicating his handwriting in enormous letters across the city's most famous bridge. Cameras focused in on that word during the fireworks show, and millions of viewers around the world saw the simple Gospel message of a reformed, illiterate Christian man.

One word was all he had to offer to God, but, like Jesus multiplying the boy's few loaves of bread, God multiplied Arthur's efforts far beyond anything he could have imagined. His one-word-sermon was preached not just to Sydney, but to millions upon millions of people around the world as the New Millennium began. How's that for going viral? And all he had was a piece of chalk!





Address Service Request
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Happy NEW YEAR

*You crown the year with Your goodness,
And Your paths drip with abundance.*

PSALM 65:11