



A Message from our pastor, Rev. Dr. Daryl Goldman

## What you need to know about Wednesday Nights at St. Andrew



On Wednesday evenings at St. Andrew we get a lot done in a short time. At 6 PM, we have a potluck dinner and fellowship time. Lots of children join us for dinner and you get to meet whoever is new at St. Andrew or visit with the long-timers. You will hear their stories, share who you are, and feel like you belong in a very short time. Each family brings something, even if they, like the pastor, stop in at the grocery store at the last minute for something pre-made.

Dinner is finished by 6:30 and we have either a Bible study, watch a video about something related to the Bible, play a game, or watch part of a movie. Regardless, we always finish by 7:30 PM. We get in a lot of benefit for a short investment of your time because we know your time is valuable.

However, this could be the most important hour and a half of your week. Even if you are a regular at worship on Sundays, there is little opportunity for fellowship before or after the worship service. Typically, we hurry in as the music plays and shake a few hands on the way out, but there is little time to get to know one another.

I know, our culture tends to dismiss the importance of sitting down and sharing a meal with others, getting to know them and letting them get to know you. Even though everyone has a built-in need for companionship, belonging, affection, emotional support, and validation, today's media tend to glorify independence and the idea, "I don't need anyone," or "I don't want to burden others with my problems."

Nevertheless, we humans have a God-given need for relationships—to be in communication with others. We also have a psychological need to escape our routine, or loneliness, or maybe just watching TV, and be with others—even if you do not know them that well just yet. It can take some courage to venture into the fellowship hall the first time, especially if you are new. Be assured, this friendly bunch will quickly take care of your feeling like a stranger.

Coming to Wednesday night fellowship does not entail a commitment like joining the church or having to come every week. We simply offer this hour and a half as a "spiritual wellness clinic" for all of us who need to share a little time with others. We laugh, share a prayer request or two, eat a meal, and then have an activity.

Eating together with people you may not know that well is not just about food or nutrition. It is a healing moment of being human together and as a people who have the love of God in common. Simply chatting while eating makes you feel connected. Bringing something simple to share, asking about another person's day, and enjoying a laugh together is a worthy investment of your time.

We still meet weekly during the month of May so go ahead and plan to join us every Wednesday night this month at 6 PM. God bless you and I look forward to seeing you there!

"[Do not] forsake your own assembling together, . . . but exhort one another, . . . as you see the day of the Lord drawing close." (Hebrews 10:25)

Darryl



# VOLUNTEERS FOR May 2017

	5/7	5/14	5/21	5/28	
<b>Liturgists</b>	<b>Nellie Gates</b>	<b>Harold Culbert</b>	<b>Stu Strong</b>	<b>Greg Vogel</b>	
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>D. Foster T. Matthews J. Shull M. Marsh  F Webster alt</b>	<b>D. Coshow D. Watt Ed Wyle F. Webster  G. Hilleary alt</b>	<b>D. Ellerbe H. Culbert G. Vogel C. Hydrick  J. Boyd alt</b>	<b>F. Webster J. Brandon G. Hilleary J. Boyd  B. Matthews alt</b>	
<b>Nursery</b>	<b>L. Zeiher</b>	<b>C. Strong</b>	<b>J. Jordan</b>	<b>B.J. Breeding</b>	
<b>Children's Message</b>	<b>Communion</b>	<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Barb Mouton</b>	<b>Pastor</b>	
<b>Wednesday Host</b>	<b>May 3 B. Allen</b>	<b>May 10 Naumanns</b>	<b>May 17 Brandons</b>	<b>May 24 Barb M., Addi, &amp; Shallon</b>	<b>May 31 No activities</b>
<b>Communion Preparers:</b>	<b>Linda Grissom</b>		<b>Communion Servers 3/5</b>	<b>C. Hydrick, G. Vogel, H. Culbert, S. Strong, N. Gates</b>	

**If you cannot serve at your appointed time, please get a substitute or contact Linda Webster.  
Ushers please use alternate, or call Don Foster, Head Usher.**

The logo for IMI (Interfaith Ministries International) is displayed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on a yellow rectangular background.A green banner with the text "MAY 2017" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

Tues, May 2 6:30 pm PW End of Year Dinner at Fulin's Restaurant

Wed, May 3 Noon - Brown Bag Lunch with Pastor  
6:00 pm Potluck Supper -- Barbara Allen  
6:30 pm Classes for all ages  
7:30 pm Choir

Fri, May 5 8:30 am C.A.T.S. Trip to Milky Way Farms, Pulaski, TN

Sun, May 7 8:45 am Bible Study for all ages  
10:00 am Worship

Wed, May 10 1:00 pm Member Care Meeting  
6:00 pm Potluck Supper  
6:30 pm Classes for all ages  
7:30 pm Choir

Sun, May 14 Mother's Day  
PW Birthday Offering  
8:45 am Bible Study for all ages  
10:00 am Worship

Wed, May 17 4:30 pm Session  
5:30 pm Backpack Night in Jr. High Room  
6:00 pm Potluck Supper  
6:30 pm Classes for all ages  
7:30 pm Choir

Sun, May 21 8:45 am Bible Study for all ages  
10:00 am Worship

Tues, May 23 10:00 am Page Turners

Wed, May 24 6:00 pm Potluck Supper  
6:30 pm Classes for all ages  
7:30 pm Choir

Sun, May 28 8:45 am Bible Study for all ages  
10:00 am Worship

Mon, May 29 Memorial Day, Office Closed

Wed, May 31 No church activities

**NOTE: Beginning May 31 we will start our summer schedule for Wednesday night activities. We will meet for dinner and studies only on the 4th Wednesday of June, July, and August.**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Milton Bridges	May 1
Amy Burks	May 19
Bobbie Meier	May 24
Linda Goldman	May 25
Jane Porter	May 29

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Bob & Jackie Naumann	May 16
Tom & Nellie Gates	May 17
Jim & Virginia Wright	May 24
John & Joan Jordan	May 30



### WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

6:00 pm Potluck Dinner  
 6:30 pm Bible Study for all ages  
 7:30 pm Choir  
 (No Activities on May 31.)  
 Hosts needed, sign-up on bulletin board.

Presbyterian Women  
 Tuesday, May 2 at 6:30 PM at Fulin's  
 Need a ride? Meet at the church  
 at 6:00 pm to carpool.



## C.A.T.S. Event, May 5, Milky Way Farm in Pulaski, Tennessee

Please sign up and pay in the church office by Monday, May 1. We will meet at the church on Friday, May 5 at 8:30 am. The Milky Way Farm has a 25,000 sq. ft. Tudor Style Manor House which was built in 1930 by Franck C. Mars. The home contains 20 bedrooms and 14 baths. We will tour the farm, go on a hayride, and have dessert on a 12 ft. by 28 ft. table! The cost is \$35 which includes the tour, dessert, and transportation. We hope you can join us! Pick up your C.A.T.S. brochure of 2017 events in the Narthex. Sign-up in the church office.



### **Brown Bag Lunch with the Pastor Wednesday, May 3, at noon Church Library**

Come, bring your lunch, and have a casual time of conversation with the pastor and others in the church. We won't be solving any of the world's problems, just enjoying the fellowship of one another. Let Bonita or the Pastor know if you are coming.

# MISSION REPORT

Thank you to all who helped furnish the ham dinners for those in our community who need a little help. We exceeded our goal and that is because of your love and concern for others.



**Next Backpack Night is Wednesday, May 17 at 5:30 pm  
in the Jr. High Room**

May 17 will be the last backpack food delivery for this school term. We have almost enough food on the shelves to fill it already, so there is no need for a lot of donations, just a few dinners and drinks. Please check with me if you want to bring something so we will not have a lot of surplus on the shelf for the summer months.

Thanks to all who have been so generous to these children over this school year. We will be resuming requests for full donations in August.

John Jordan

## **SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS New Study: "The Gospels" Starts May 7**

Could you explain to someone in a few minutes what the differences are between the four Gospels? Why do we even have four? What is unique about Matthew? What primary audience did Luke have? What stories are in John but not in the others?

Each of the four Gospels reveals a slightly different picture of Jesus. Studying them together can help us understand who Jesus is and what it means to be a follower of Christ. In this study, we will explore how the original context of each Gospel shapes the story of Jesus it presents, as well as how the different Gospel stories influence how Jesus is commonly represented in our culture.

Won't you consider joining the Seekers class on **May 7 at 8:45** as we begin to move through all four gospels and learn the similarities and differences among them? John Jordan and B.J. Breeding will lead the class in informal lessons. Come and bring a friend. You will find us and a warm welcome in **Room 111**.



**Presbyterian Women will have a birthday party for  
Presbyterian Towers on Tuesday, May 16, at 2:00 pm  
Everyone invited to celebrate with us.**

## Page Turners'

The book for May is Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography by Harold Smith. Eleanor Roosevelt is remembered as a formidable first lady and tireless social activist. Her personal faith was shaped by reading the New Testament in her youth and fueled her commitment to civil rights, women's rights, and the rights of all "little people" marginalized in American society.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 23, at 10:00 am in the library. Please join us.



## LOCAL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

St. Andrew has teamed with 2 other churches and the community to build a house for the Moore Family. Construction begins on April 4 and will be completed in June. If you can help in any way, please talk to Greg Vogel or Stu Strong, or go to <http://morganhabitat.org> to sign up on-line for the times you can work on 417 Denver Place.

This is a team effort and you can work when you are available.

**Mark your calendar now: Soup Kitchen at the CCC on Monday, June 5. More information will be posted on the bulletin board and in the Weekly.**

Deadline for the June Chronicle is Wednesday, May 24. If you would like to be removed from this email or mail list, please email or call the church office.



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**Sunday School 8:45 am, Worship Service 10:00 am**

**Facebook: St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Decatur AL**

**[www.standrewdecatour.org](http://www.standrewdecatour.org)**