

From the Interim Pastor:



James 5:14: "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord."

Recently, the Worship Team and the Member Care Team chairs met with me over concern for the number of people in this congregation who are ill, who are caring for someone who is ill, or who have other challenges and prayer needs, and how we might better minister to them. After discussing various options, we felt the Spirit was leading us to offer a personal time of "Prayer for Wholeness" after worship on the first Sunday of each month. We will begin this offering September 1 in one of the classrooms or the parlor.

Who would this service be for? For members who are ill and would like prayer. For members who have a loved one who is ill and would like to receive prayer for that person. For members who are struggling with emotional or spiritual issues. For anyone in need of any kind of personal prayer.

What would happen during this time? The service would consist of a brief scripture, a time of prayer, anointing with oil, and laying on of hands for those who desire it. Leaders would include the pastor and at least one other elder (or commissioned member) trained in praying for specific needs in the areas of healing and wholeness.

Why would the church offer this? Because of the scripture mentioned above. Because it's what Jesus did, and we are called to model Jesus. Because our Book of Order states: "Services of wholeness and healing are one way of enacting the church's ministry of pastoral care. The central element in these services is prayer, calling upon God's saving grace or giving thanks for healing received. It includes the proclamation of the Word, focusing on the promise of abundant life in Jesus Christ. Prayers may be enacted through the laying on of hands and anointing with oil, remembering that healing always comes as a gift from God, not as a product of human prayer." In other words, our prayers are lifted to God who heals as God sees fit.

I will be explaining more about this service in the weekly announcements and the bulletin over the month August. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Blessings,

Pastor Rosemary

NOTE: An audio and written copy of each week's sermon is available on the website at www.standrewdecatur.org.

St. Andrew Elders & Ministry Leaders 2019

Chairperson

Clerk of Session.....	Philip Gilbert
Worship	Nellie Gates
Member Care.....	B. J. Breeding
Education & Spiritual Formation.....	John Jordan
Mission	Greg Vogel
Communications & Outreach	Ceil Hydrick
Administration, Finance & Property.....	Turner Matthews/Ed Wyle
Building/Grounds	Bob Naumann
Nominating.....	Dan Watt
Comptroller	Tommy Gates



Jackie Naumann	4	Donna Moore	21
John Abbott	5	Linda Webster	22
Jeremy Stephens	6	Sherrie Nelson	24
Carol Strong	7	Fate Webster	25
Turner Matthews	14	Virginia Wright	27
Sylvia Newbill	16		



Don & Jan Foster	3
Greg & Frances Vogel	4
Fate & Linda Webster	14
Jim & Joyce Boyd	23
Stu & Carol Strong	24
Philip & Nelda Gilbert	30



CARING HANDS MINISTRY (Shawls & Lap Blankets for Hospice) 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 1:00 pm

The Caring Hands ministry meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday in the church library. You don't have to know how to sew or knit to be a part of this ministry. We will teach you.

Some ladies are now making knitted hats for Austinville Elementary children who need a warm hat for winter.

ALL ARE WELCOME! Donations for yarn, fleece material, needles, labels, etc. are appreciated. An envelope is available in the office.

We'd love to have you join us each time, but if you can't, join us when you can!

If you have any questions, please contact Barb Wyle or the church office.



New books have arrived!

Eleanor by Harold Ivan Smith

Eleanor Roosevelt: A spiritual biography provides insight into one of America's most famous women, particularly the spiritual influences that made her so active in social justice issues.

Half the Sky by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

These stories show the power and resilience of women and who would have every reason to give up but never do.

These books were donated by Barbara Allen, in honor of the Presbyterian Women.

Thank you from the Library Group

Wednesday, August 28

NO ACTIVITIES AT ST. ANDREW CHURCH

The Christian Education Committee has canceled the August 28 activities.

We will start our Fall weekly schedule on Wednesday, September 4 with potluck supper at 6:00 PM followed by regular activities.



New Study in Hargrave Class beginning August 4

The Hargrave class will be doing a DVD session on parables in August and September. The parables are according to the culture of the time of Jesus' ministry.

Join us as we explore the parables.



**Our mortgage
balance as of
July 31, 2019 is
\$12,496.65.**

Praise the Lord!



"...and Lord, we also ask that we may enjoy this meal without a telemarketer calling..."

NORTH ALABAMA PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S MEETING LADIES INVITED! Monday, August 19, 5:30 PM

NAPM's Summer 2019 meeting will be held at First Presbyterian Church in Athens on Monday, August 19. First Presbyterian men will host this meeting.

We will celebrate the first of two Ladies' Nights at this meeting.

We will meet at 5:00 to carpool to Athens. Registration and fellowship begins at 5:30 and a meal being served at 6:00. This will be followed by a brief worship service and business meeting. Jeanie Glynn, coordinator of Meals on Wheels for the Huntsville Area, will discuss "Serving Seniors - Meals on Wheels."

Since the excellent cooks of First Athens need to know how many to prepare meals for, please sign-up by Tuesday, August 13, in the church office.



Dave Weible, president
John Spears, vice president
Kenny King, secretary/treasurer

If you have questions, contact Tom Meier.

Next meeting October 28. Mark Mueller, Director of Development, The Outreach Foundation, will be the speaker.



Committee on Church Cooperation (CCC) Lunch for GED Students Tuesday, August 6

St. Andrew will be partnering with CCC to provide breakfast and lunch to GED students enrolled in class through Calhoun Community College. Some of these students are homeless and most have very limited resources.

We will provide a biscuit with meat and orange juice for breakfast, which will be purchased. Lunch will consist of an entrée, side item and home-made dessert. We will prepare the lunch at the CCC kitchen. CCC will provide salad and beverage.

Currently, there are 19 students and CCC usually has 12 – 15 come for lunch. We will serve both meals on Tuesday, August 6th, and Tuesday, September 3rd.

You can help by providing a dessert, helping prepare the entrée and side item or serving the lunch at CCC. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board. For the first breakfast and lunch, we will have a Mission Committee Member there to help prepare. We need four volunteers for August 6.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Vogel, Chair of the Mission Committee.



C.A.T.S. (Casual Adults Traveling Society)

Friday, August 16

Lunch at the Old Cookstove, Danville

Meet at the church at 10:30 am

Sign-up in the church office.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women will start meeting on Tuesday, September 3rd at 10 AM in the fellowship hall. This year's study is "Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments" by Eugenia Anne Gamble, an author, speaker, retreat leader, and former Presbyterian minister. Nellie Gates will lead the September lesson and Jan Foster will be hostess.

Our officers for 2019-2020 are:

Moderator: B. J. Breeding
Treasurer: Anne Campbell
Circle Leader: Barb Mouton
Secretary/Historian: Barbara Allen

Committee Coordinators:
Cards: Cheryl Ellerbe
Yearbook: Nellie Gates
Special Friends (DHR foster child):
Betty Matthews

Pew Sitters Come Forward:

According to a not-so-scientific study, here are the top 10 reasons to sit at the front of the church.

1. Statistics show that the front of the church building is the safest in the event of a natural disaster.
2. There's still lots of padding in these pews since they're almost like new.
3. You only have to comb the back of your hair and iron the back of your shirt.
4. It's easier not to be seen passing the offering plate by.
5. No one will hear your stomach make all those "alien" noises as noon nears.
6. You can keep an eye on changes in choir members' hair color and styles.
7. You want to justify the feeling you've always had that everyone's looking at you.
8. It's an ideal place to keep from seeing how your teens behave during the service.
9. The minister looks "out" at the congregation, so you are below his/her direct eye contact.
10. You actually love worshipping God and feeding on His word.

Taken from World's Greatest Collection of Church Jokes

Compiled and Edited by Paul M. Miller

Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) Progress Report

July 24, 2019

Summary

St. Andrew's PNC continues to work on your behalf to find our next pastor. To date, we have evaluated 163 PIF's (Personal Information Forms). Numerous candidates were of interest to the PNC, all of whom indicated they would consider a ministry in Alabama. Of all the candidates we contacted, only a small handful would actually consider relocating to Alabama.

The latest candidate considered was interviewed by phone, and a site visit was planned. Unfortunately, the candidate fell seriously ill and had to cancel the visit and withdraw from consideration.

Recently, Rev. Kim Mitchel met with the PNC to consult with us and provide advice on our approach. She worked with us on two tasks. She reviewed our interview questions and provided input as to changes. She also recommended that we revise our MIF (Ministry Information Form) to hopefully help potential candidates better understand our ministry.

The interview questions were revised and used in our latest candidate interview. The MIF has been revised based on Rev. Mitchel's suggestions. In addition to Rev. Mitchel's suggestions, we updated the Clerk of Session information and changed the position to full time Solo Pastor

We have uploaded the revised MIF to the CLC (Church Leadership Connection) and requested and received a new group of PIF's. We are reviewing these candidates now. We have invited Tom Lewis, our COM (Committee on Ministry) liaison, and Christie Ashton, our Presbytery's stated clerk, to meet with us and provide any advice or insight they may have to offer. They have agreed to meet, but based on their and PNC members' vacation and travel schedules, it looks like it will be September before we can get together.

We continue to covet prayers from each of you to ask God to guide our efforts as well as to put St. Andrew's ministry on the heart of the next pastor He has chosen to lead our church. Thank you again for your continued support.

St. Andrew PNC
Harold Culbert, Chair
Faye Anderson
B.J. Breeding
Joan Jordan
Stu Strong

THANK YOU!



**Thanks
for Your
Help!**

Thank you to all who save aluminum cans and foil. We donated 80 pounds of aluminum and \$50 was donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Please continue to bring your cans and foil to the church for recycling.

Bob Naumann

St. Andrew Stated Session Meeting Notes of July 17, 2019

- ◆ St. Andrew membership at 74 following dismissal of Daniel Marsh from the church roll.
- ◆ The mortgage is still projected to be paid off about October 2019; current balance after June payment is approximately \$17,100.
- ◆ Approved the initiation of “Prayer for Wholeness” opportunity in which an informal prayer gathering will be conducted on the first Sunday of the month following the worship service to offer a personal time for prayer with the pastor and an elder (or commissioned member) for those who may be facing illnesses or other issues. These gatherings could consist of a time of prayer, brief scripture, anointing of oil, and laying on of hands for those who desire it. More information concerning this initiative will be forthcoming.
- ◆ In the called Session Meeting of June 26, the session approved a Threat Action Plan to address actions to be taken during a threatening event at church. To that end, Rev. McMahan has been seeking out individuals to volunteer serving on the Action Team who will receive training from Lt. Ward of the Decatur Police Department and W.C. Sweeley. Installation of security cameras continues along with the updating of the church’s first aid kit and the investigation on the use and procurement of a defibrillator on-site.
- ◆ The Christian Education Committee reported on the various youth attending Maranatha and Montreat this summer, a review of this year’s VBS, and presented a proposed Wednesday night schedule for this upcoming school year. It was noted that a CEC meeting will be held on July 31 to make a final decision on the schedule and what activities will be offered on Wednesday night.
- ◆ The Nominating Committee reported that a slate of three prospective candidates for elders have been nominated and that the search continues for two members for the Nominating Committee to replace two members rotating off. A congregational meeting is tentatively set for Oct. 20 to vote on these nominations and to receive nominations from the floor, if any.
- ◆ A draft of the proposed Church Bylaws was presented to Session for further review and solicitation of changes with the expectation that a final draft will be presented at the next stated session meeting for approval.
- ◆ An update of the PNC was received.
- ◆ Next stated meeting will be held Wednesday, September 18, at 4:30 PM.

Philip Gilbert,
Clerk of Session



The Chronicle is published monthly by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. To submit articles by email send to: churchoffice@standrewdecaturn.org by the 22nd of each month. You may also submit articles in print to the church office Monday through Thursday. 8:45 am—1:00 pm.

3310 Danville Rd. SW
Phone: 256-355-6310
Email: churchoffice@standrewdecaturn.org

Rev. Rosemary McMahan, Interim Pastor
Sunday School 8:45 am
Worship Service 10:00 am
Facebook: St. Andrew Presbyterian Church,
Decatur AL
www.standrewdecaturn.org

August Ministry Teams



AUGUST	4	11	18	25	
Liturgists	Greg Vogel	Dan Watt	B.J. Breeding	Nellie Gates	
Ushers	J. Shull H. Moore J. Newbill A. Simmons	S. Strong D. Coshaw C. Ellerbe B. Mouton	G. Vogel D. Foster S. Shull E. Wyle	J. Naumann B. Matthews B. Wyle S. Newbill	
Nursery	Sylvia Newbill	John Shull	Carol Strong	Shelly Shull	
Wednesday Host					
Communion July 7	Preparer: Linda Grissom	Communion Servers: Turner Matthews, Ed Wyle, Greg Vogel, B.J. Breeding, Nellie Gates			

August Upcoming Events:

Aug. 6: CCC Lunch for GED Students
 Aug. 7: 1:00 PM Finance Committee; 5:00 PM Worship Committee
 Aug. 16: CATS Lunch at Old Cookstove (meet at church at 10:30 AM, sign-up in office)
 Aug. 19: NAP Men's Meeting (Ladies invited), leave church at 5:00 PM
 Aug. 28: No activities on campus.