

**From Pastor Tripp Brogdon:**



*“What do we want? Patience! When do we want it? NOW!”*

While whoever came up with that clever line clearly meant it as a joke, the quote above is serious for many of us during this time. We know that we should be patient and to be more safe than sorry, but sometimes it is hard. I’ve always considered myself a pretty laid-back person and at least somewhat patient, but even I am itching to get back to the way things were. I don’t think it would be a stretch to say that we all long to get back to “normal.” But we’re not there yet...

***The Session met this week and decided to continue the suspension of in-person worship services and church activities for the month of***

**May** – which means we continue to wait to see each other. It is without a doubt the correct decision, because the health and safety of everyone that would step into St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is paramount. Your Session and I will continue to monitor the news and the advice of health care professionals, along with national and local authorities.

Even though it is the right call to stay closed, that fact does not necessarily make our waiting easier. Our patience will continue to be tested. So what are we to do? After all, we want patience, and we want it now!

To answer that question, I would refer us to a verse from Paul’s letter to the Church in Rome:

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” -Romans 12:12 (NIV)

Too often when we think of patience, we view it as passive waiting...as a state of “being.” While that can be true, this verse tells me something more. Patience is also one part of the bigger whole of who we are as followers of Christ. Paul suggests something more active than passive, and he proposes that all three of these thoughts are related. Patience amid our afflictions involves being joyful in hope and being faithful in prayer!

So when impatience takes over, ask yourself “For what do I hope? For what do I pray?” Then take it a step further and ask, “Am I being joyful in hope? Am I being faithful in prayer?” I would imagine that if we can answer yes to those last two questions, then patience will follow. If that still seems hard, don’t worry! Paul didn’t say it would be easy, and our experience with patience confirms it. Don’t forget, though, that we are not alone, because God is with us in our hope, in our affliction, and in our prayers. Thanks be to God.

Grace and peace be with you all,  
Pastor Tripp

## Results of the Session Meeting on Wednesday, April 29.

From Pastor Tripp:

Grace and peace to you all in the name of Jesus Christ. I hope this finds you all well, or at least hanging in there! I miss you all so much.

1. Your Session met this Wednesday afternoon and decided to continue the suspension of in-person worship services and all church activities throughout the entire month of May. We all share your frustrations of not being able to be back together just yet, but this is for the safety of everyone. We will continue to monitor information coming out from the CDC, along with national and local authorities. The Session has already started looking into ways to keep us safe once we do decide to come back together in person.
2. Out of the same precautions of safety for church members and children, Vacation Bible School has been cancelled this year. It hurt everyone's heart to make that decision, but I believe it is the right one, for everyone's sake. (I still may try to make it down a slip 'n slide, even if I'm alone in doing it!)
3. Our normal Wednesday evening time of prayer and reflection will be at 6 o'clock on our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewDecatur/>

I have also created a YouTube channel for St. Andrew for those who are still struggling to join us via Facebook! So feel free to look there if you've been having issues with Facebook. I will be uploading all videos to YouTube for both the Wednesday evening reflections and for Sunday worship. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFwIzq5UwfdT\\_515DbjJLjQ/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFwIzq5UwfdT_515DbjJLjQ/videos)

Please let me or your shepherd group leader know of any concerns or if you need any help. We are here for one another!

Take care, and may the peace of Christ be with you all!

Grace and peace,

**Tripp**

**IMI**



**M A Y**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Birthdays</b> <b>Anniver-saries</b>					1 <b>Bub Bridges</b>	2
3	4		6	7	8	9
10 Happy Mother's Day <b>Robt. Sumner</b>	11	12	13	14	15 <b>Ed Wyle</b>	16 <b>Naumann's</b>
17 <b>Gate's</b>	18	19 <b>Amy Burks</b>	20 2:00p Session	21	22	23
24 <b>Bobbie Meier</b> <b>Wright's</b>	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29 <b>Jane Porter</b>	30 <b>Jordan's</b>
31						



**The Chronicle** is published monthly by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. To submit articles by email send to: [churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewdecatur.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.

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