

## ***From Pastor Tripp:***



Retired Methodist Bishop and Pastor, Will Willimon, tells the story of a tribe of Native Americans who lived long ago in what is now the state of Mississippi. They lived along the shore of a rather large river, a river whose current was so swift and strong that it was impossible to cross without being swept away by the powerful current.

As the story goes, one day this particular tribe was attacked by a neighboring tribe and found themselves pinned against the banks of the river. They had two options. They could stay and fight their much larger and much stronger enemy, or they could flee into the river, to certain death.

And despite what they knew of the river, they decided to move out into the treacherous waters. So they gathered the oldest and the youngest, the weakest and the most vulnerable, and they placed them on the shoulders of the strongest and most able. And they began to wade into the water, to what they assumed would be their death. But amazingly, the weight of the oldest and the weakest kept the most able from losing their footing, allowing them to cross safely to the other side.

This solution for saving their tribe is an excellent example for what it means to be “church.” Individually, in the strong currents of life, we would perish. In contrast, when we care for and carry one another, we make it safely to the other side. Immediately, I suspect, many of us think of carrying and caring for others! Yet, for each of us, there are times we are the ones who must be carried.

This is what makes St. Andrew such a special place. We take care of each other, and we take care of others. More than anything, I want to encourage you to continue supporting one another, working with one another, and carrying one other as we cross this strong river current of Covid-19. Keep it up, and we’ll see each other again soon!

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Tripp

*NOTE: An audio of each week’s sermon is available on the website at [www.standrewdecatour.org](http://www.standrewdecatour.org), Facebook, and YouTube*

**St. Andrew Elders & Ministry Leaders 2020** **Chairperson**

Clerk of Session.....	Philip Gilbert
Worship .....	Nellie Gates
Member Care.....	B. J. Breeding
Education & Spiritual Formation.....	Cheryl Ellerbe
Mission .....	Barb Mouton
Communications & Outreach .....	Sue Mitchell
Administration, Finance & Property.....	Turner Matthews/Ed Wyle
Building/Grounds .....	Bob Naumann
Nominating .....	Dan Watt
Comptroller .....	Tommy Gates



John Brandon	9/11
Sue Mitchell	9/15
Carol Watt	9/24
Joan Jordan	9/24
Teresa Culbert	9/28
Robert Lawton	9/29

John & Betty Brandon 9/23

**Drive-In Fellowship Event!**

**When: Wednesday, September 2nd at 6:00pm**

**Where: Church Parking Lot**

Join us for a unique fellowship opportunity next week as we gather together without even leaving our cars! There will be no road rage, no bumper cars, and no demolition derby allowed. However, rubber-necking will be permitted because it's been so long since we've seen each other!

Enjoy visiting with your church family "face-to-face" from the socially distanced and air-conditioned comfort of your own car. If you need a ride, contact the church office and we'll see what we can do. Once you enter the parking lot, someone will direct you where to go and how it will work. All you have to worry about is spending time with each other!

On behalf of the Member Care Committee, we hope to see everyone there!

## Are you willing to serve?



It is that time of year again for the selection of Ruling Elders and Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee is beginning the task of selecting these candidates to be presented to the congregation. Please be in prayer for the committees at this time and for a position that you might best serve St. Andrew.

*"Serve the Lord with gladness, come before Him with joyful songs." Ps. 100:2*

### CONGRATULATIONS! LESLIE MATTHEWS on 30 Years of Service



*Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the Kingdom of God. Mark 10:14*

When Jesus spoke these words to his disciples, He knew there would be a Leslie. Leslie does not have to say "come" to children; she smiles, opens her arms, and they come running.

For 30 years, Leslie Matthews has cared for our children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and any child who walks into our church. She began her service on August 1, 1990, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, and she continues to this day at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. She is here for Sunday worship, Wednesday Bible Study, Vacation Bible School, Christmas plays, and other events. If children might be present, Leslie is here!

Leslie cares for adults. She sends cards at Easter to those in the nursing home and cards to our sick members. She cares deeply for the homeless. She will transport the homeless to a shelter and helps them find assistance for housing.

Leslie is a cheerleader for St. Andrew. She tells others about our church and fills her car with neighborhood children bringing them with her.

She has touched many lives over her years of service. Her gracious kindness fills both children and adult hearts with joy. St Andrew is blessed to have had her with us all these years.

***Thank you, Leslie, for your dedication and loving service.***



Presbyterian Women, normally we would be getting ready for our September meeting. This year, we will need to wait for session approval on September 16. Depending on the outcome, our first meeting will be in October 6 at 10am. It may be on Zoom. BJ Breeding will lead the lesson. No refreshments will be served.

You can pick up our new study guide and the PW yearbook on Sept.15 from 10:00 to 11:30 at the church under the overhang. If you would like to donate to the Least Coin and Slush Funds for the year, make checks to Presbyterian Women. They will be accepted at this time also.

### During the month of September, Let's Play "Tag--You're It!"

Don't worry! You don't have to put on your tennis shoes or go outside in this heat to play. All you have to do is make ONE phone call. If each of us makes just ONE phone call, every person at St. Andrew can be checked on while we cannot be together.

We will conduct our calls in alphabetical order, per the church directory. The church directory will be sent in a separate email. So, our first callers will be the Abbotts calling Barbara Allen and then Barbara calling Faye Anderson, etc. At the end, Addi and Lee Zeiher will call the Abbotts to complete the list.

If you do not wish to participate, please let Teresa Culbert at 256-306-4552 know. She can fill in if needed, so the process won't grind to a halt.

**Instant Church Directory** is a secure app for viewing our church directory. **ONLY ST. ANDREW MEMBERS** who have submitted an email address to the church office may access this directory. It's a simple way to view and use our directory from your smartphone or iPad. It is always up-to-date, thanks to Bonita. You can use Instant Church Directory to:

- View family information and photos (just like the traditional paper version)

- Search members to call, email, or text.

- Click on member's address to launch your default map app.

- There is also a separate tab for our staff members too.

**Our church has a paid membership to this service, and only friends/members** listed in the directory can gain access. Here's how to download the APP.

Go to the App Store (if your use Apple) or to Google Play (if you use Android).

Search **Instant Church Directory** – icon looks like this:

Download it – it's free to our church members.



Since you have never logged in it will ask you to **create** Login. It will ask you for your **email address**. You must put the same one that you have given the church to be used in our church directory.

It will also ask you to create a **password**. The password must be 8 characters long and contain at least 2 of the following: cap letters, numbers, or symbols. Then you will retype it to **confirm**.

Should you forget your password later, there's a easy process to set a new one.

That is it. Then it will open, and you will select the buttons for families. They are in alphabetical order.

Here's a link to more instructions and also a short video, if you need more information.

<https://help.instantchurchdirectory.com/article/1096-logging-into-the-app>



**The Chronicle** is published monthly by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. To submit articles by email send to: [churchoffice@standrewdecalur.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewdecalur.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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**Phone: 256-355-6310**  
**Email: [churchoffice@standrewdecalur.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewdecalur.org)**

**Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor**  
**Sunday School 8:45 am**  
**Worship Service 10:00 am**  
**Facebook: St. Andrew Presbyterian Church,**  
**Decatur AL**  
**[www.standrewdecalur.org](http://www.standrewdecalur.org)**

### Mission Committee News

In early September you will be mailed information and an envelope for the Peace and Global Witness offering. We usually collect this offering on World Communion Day, Oct. 4, but it can be sent in any-time.

We will also be sending out a "Help" handout for your information and to give out to anyone you encounter who needs aid.

Later we will present ways to donate items that these agencies need to help others.

We appreciate your support.



"You will not impact the world by faithfully going to church. You will impact the world by faithfully being the church when you go out into the world." (Filling Station)

Through the month of September, St. Andrew's impact on our community will be limited contact with others. The Worship Committee will meet again in September to determine whether or not we will recommend to the Session to resume our worship services. This has been a different kind of worship for us these last six months. Please pray for the Session as they have your concern and welfare at heart and the Worship committee as they make their recommendation to the Session. Make an impact wherever you are and wherever you go!

Nellie Gates, Worship Chair

**"Gonna ask my mom if that offer to slap me into next year is still on the table."**