

Due to the death of Pastor Tripp's grandmother this past weekend, we will send out his article later this week. However, we have several events happening this month and wanted to get the news out to you today. I hope you all had a blessed Thanksgiving Day. As we look forward to Christmas and the Advent season, let us not forget the true meaning of Christmas and reach out and help someone. May your Christmas be Merry and Bright!



Merry
Christmas!



*May you have a blessed Christmas season
with those you love.*

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



Sharon Thomson	12/10
Tommy Gates	12/17
Jim Wright	12/19



Dave & Cheryl Ellerbe 12/22



*Welcome Fiona Sarai Ellerbe
Proud Parents: Jason and Piya Ellerbe
Proud Grandparents: Dave and Cheryl Ellerbe*

Piya and I would like to thank you all for the phone calls, love, gifts, and most especially the prayers for Fiona.

Fiona is home and we are so happy to have her here.

Jason

Christmas Advent Candles

November 29	Dr. Jeff Gilbreath
December 6	Turner and Betty Matthews
December 13	Harold and Teresa Culbert
December 20	Ceil Hydrick, Roger and Linda Faulk
December 24	Stu and Carol Strong



Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women of St. Andrew will meet on
 Tuesday, December 8 at 10:00 AM
 Church Fellowship Hall
 Lesson Leader: Linda Grissom
 "Women's Lament"
 Jeremiah 9:17-21; Matthew 2:16-18

All ladies are invited to join us.

Christmas Joy Offering

Sunday, December 20, we will be collecting our annual Christmas Joy Offering. Advent is a time of anticipation and promise, of thanksgiving and celebration. Every year we pour out our gratitude by giving to the Christmas Joy Offering which supports church workers and their families in need and nurtures the promise of our future racial ethnic leaders.

- ♦ 50% provides assistance for current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.
- ♦ 50% makes it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

More information will be mailed to your home.

Barb Mouton, Mission Chair





Not everything is cancelled. Sunshine is not cancelled. Love is not cancelled. Relationships are not cancelled. Music is not cancelled. Imagination is not cancelled. Conversation is not cancelled. Hope is not cancelled.

However, St. Andrew's in-person worship remains cancelled. The Session has agreed that we should not resume worship until the streaming equipment is installed and the AV personnel are trained, and most important—the COVID numbers in Morgan County get lower. There are some activities for worship planned so that we feel like we are able to worship together. Poinsettias will adorn our sanctuary. We will have families to light our advent candles as part of the worship service during the advent season. There will also be some special music, which will include **Mark Petty** on the drums on **December 20**.

There will be a **“come and go” Communion on Christmas Eve from 2:00 to 4:00 PM** for those who would like to come to the church. For this communion time you need to remember to **have your temperature checked and wear your mask as you enter and leave, and practice social distancing.**

Our congregation has remained relatively COVID free and we would like for it to remain that way. We are all anxious to return to worship and the famous fellowship of St. Andrew, but let us continue to pray for each other, that we will soon see an end to this while we worship in our homes and heart. The hope is that 2021 will be a better year for worship and fellowship at St. Andrew. End each day with a positive thought and a grateful heart.

Nellie Gates, Worship Chair

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY AND “BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE”

Bible Studies will be held at 10:00 am at the church and at 2:00 pm on Zoom on:
Wednesday, December 2
Wednesday, December 9
Wednesday, December 16

Contact Pastor Tripp if you plan to attend online or in person.

There will also be short **“Blue Christmas” Service online on Wednesday, December 16th, during our normal devotional time at 6:00 P.M.**

For those who don't know, a “Blue Christmas Service” is a time when we acknowledge that for some folks, the Christmas holiday season is not a time of joy, but of pain and sadness. It's for those who may be alone, depressed, anxious, or grieving the loss of a loved one.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS

The Missions Committee says “thanks” everyone for their generous donations. As you enjoy your Thanksgiving Day meal, 46 families that you helped will be enjoying theirs as well.

Our homeless project is an on-going mission. There are tubs on the Donation Location table. Your support has really been appreciated.

Due to the COVID-19 concerns, all the charitable agencies in Decatur have a long list of needs and are very short on funds and volunteers. Please call or text Barb Mouton at 256.476.6094 if you can help. In addition to our Holiday Hope Chest drive, if anyone wants to contribute new toys, we will get them distributed.

Barb Mouton, Missions Chair



Goody Bags for Friends/Family

**Thank
you
Member
Care!**





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The Chronicle is published monthly by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. To submit articles by email, please submit to: churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org by the 22nd of each month.

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor
Sunday School 8:45 am

Worship Service 10:00 am

Facebook: St. Andrew Presbyterian Church,
Decatur AL
www.standrewdecatur.org

Letters to Santa from the more mature adults:

Dear Santa,

I would like a new birthday suit this year. My current one is old, wrinkled, and sagging

Dear Santa,

I think you got things mixed up last year, so my list remains the same. I want a **skinny body and a FAT pocketbook**. Imagine my surprise when I awoke last Christmas morning!

Dear Santa,

I really don't need anything, but I would like something for my mother, please.
A son-in-law. Just a few specifications—handsome and rich (optional).

Why does **Santa** go through the chimney? Because it soots him.

How does **Santa** take pictures? With his Pole-roid camera.

What kind of **motorcycle** does **Santa ride**? A "Holly" Davidson.

