



We love new things, don't we? We can't wait for that new TV show to come on or that new movie to come out. We browse online or in stores to look for new clothes, new shoes, new furniture, or even a new car. When it comes to technology, there is always something new and exciting on the horizon - a new phone, a new TV, a new software. Folks scramble to have the latest and most sophisticated.

On the surface, then, it does seem like we love new things. But do we really? Maybe we do as consumers, but what about in other areas of our lives?

That might be a different story.

With new things comes change, and let's face it, change can be hard.

This has been on my mind these past two weeks as Jennifer has begun her work as Administrative Assistant here in the office. There will be a time of acclimation for her as she learns this new job, as she gets to know us, and as we get to know her. That's to be expected, though, and we are excited to have her as a new member of our St. Andrew family!

Any time we are confronted by something new or by change, it has the tendency to stir us from our complacency of what we have always been used to. That can be exciting if we allow it to be.

Isaiah 43:18,19 says, "Don't remember the prior things; don't ponder ancient history. Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness."

Revelation 21:5 says, "Then the one seated on the throne said, 'Look! I'm making all things new.'"

When it comes to God, being stationary or becoming stagnant isn't even a consideration, because God is constantly working to make things new... and yes, that involves change.

Retired United Methodist Bishop Will Willimon once said, "Change, even when we don't know where it is headed, opens space for the Holy Spirit to intrude and show us what God can do."

What things in your life need to change and be made new?

What things in our community need to change and be made new?

What things in our world need to change and be made new?

Questions to ponder in this month and beyond.

Grace and peace,  
Tripp

| <b>St. Andrew Elders &amp; Ministry Leaders 2023</b> |                                | <b>Chairperson</b> |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Clerk of Session.....                                | Stuart Strong                  |                    |
| Building/Grounds .....                               | Bob Naumann                    |                    |
| Communications & Outreach .....                      | Rev. Tripp Brogdon             |                    |
| Education & Spiritual Formation.....                 | B. J. Breeding                 |                    |
| Finance & Administration .....                       | Turner Matthews                |                    |
| Member Care.....                                     | Faye Anderson & Jackie Naumann |                    |
| Mission .....  | Barbara Mouton & John Jordan   |                    |
| Treasurer .....                                      | Philip Gilbert                 |                    |
| Nominating.....                                      | Shelly Shull                   |                    |
| Worship .....  | Linda Grissom                  |                    |



|                  |        |                  |         |
|------------------|--------|------------------|---------|
| Jane Lowery      | Aug. 2 | Ronnie Smallwood | Aug. 7  |
| Jackie Naumann   | Aug. 4 | Turner Matthews  | Aug. 14 |
| John Abbott      | Aug. 5 | Sylvia Newbill   | Aug. 16 |
| Jeremy Stephens  | Aug. 6 | Donna Moore      | Aug. 21 |
| Carol Strong     | Aug. 7 | Linda Webster    | Aug. 22 |
| Lorrie Smallwood | Aug. 7 |                  |         |



|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Donald & Jan Foster    | Aug. 3  |
| Doug & Jean Coshow     | Aug. 9  |
| Stu & Carol Strong     | Aug. 24 |
| Philip & Nelda Gilbert | Aug. 30 |

## CONNECT

**Wednesday, August 9, 2023 5:30 pm**

"The Reality of Being a Student in America:  
A Piece on School Shootings across the Country."

Join us at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 9 to hear Addi Zeiher share a piece she wrote following a school shooting threat at Decatur High School on March 31, 2023. Addi will give us a look inside what was happening across the classrooms that day, prior incidents across the country, and how students feel about their sad reality.



## WORSHIP NOTES

**Linda Grissom**

This spring and summer we've been fortunate to have several members and guests volunteer to share their musical talents with us. By singing a solo or in a small group, or by playing their instrument, they have given their time and their talents for the glory of God as well as for our enjoyment.

"Thank you" to Shelia Koza, Jeff Gilbreath, and John Jordan for their vocal solos earlier this summer and to Virginia Hardy for her wonderful clarinet solo with accompanist Jeff Gilbreath.

In August and September we look forward to Amelia Adams singing and for a trio made up of Faye Anderson, Linda Faulk, and Ceil Hydrick sharing their voices with us. We'll also hear Jacob Shull on violin accompanied by Linda Webster.

Last, but not least, let's not forget the members of the choir and director, Mavis Stephens, who give both their time and many abilities to God's worship.

Thanks be to God for His gift of music!

# CCC FOOD PANTRY

## Collection the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month.



### Items Needed Most

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Grits/Oatmeal    | Soup          |
| Hamburger Helper | Crackers      |
| Peanut Butter    | Canned Greens |
| Canned Fruit     | Pasta         |
| Canned Veggies   | Pasta Sauce   |
| Dried Beans      | Rice          |

Please leave items in shopping cart.



Men's Fellowship

### NAP Presbyterian Men's Summer Meeting

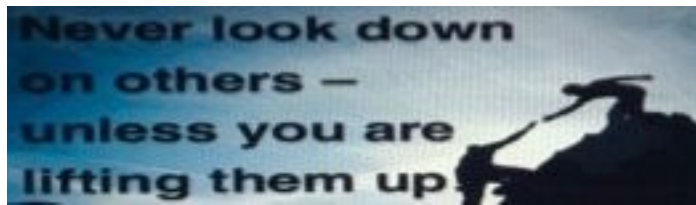
The Presbyterian Men will have a breakfast and swim at the Timberland Club House in Decatur at 8 AM on Friday, August 11. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



Canned Food  
Toiletries  
Men's clothing  
Women's Clothing  
Underwear  
Socks  
Antiseptic ointment  
Insect Repellent  
Travel size shampoo  
Bar Soap / Deodorant  
Tissues  
Aspirin

More items listed in the donation area.

Call or text Barb Mouton for more details or how you can volunteer.



**Monday, Aug. 14**  
**Hands Across Decatur**  
**Soup Kitchen**

The menu is pork and gravy with green beans. Please sign up on the bulletin board to bring desserts and cornbread.



**CARING HANDS MINISTRY**

We knit or crochet shawls & cut & tie lap blankets for  
Hospice and the Cancer Institute.

We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!** No skills needed, we will teach you.  
Donations for supplies are appreciated.  
An envelope is available in the office.

**July Movie Night**



“But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like.”

James 1: 22-24 NRSV



### Highlights from the Session Meeting

The following items are highlights from the July 19, 2023, Stated Session Meeting:

1. The July Stated Session Meeting was held on July 19, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
2. The minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of May 17, 2023 were approved.
3. Our membership as of June 30, 2023, changed to 76 by the addition of Sara Bush and Stacey Nelson by Letter of Transfer on May 17, 2023 and with the death of Fate Webster on June 7, 2023.
4. The Session met with Grace Nelson (daughter of Stacey Nelson), examined her and received her into membership by Letter of Transfer.
5. The Session Conducted an evaluation of Stacey Nelson and voted unanimously to endorse her to the CPM Committee of North Alabama Presbytery as a Candidate for the Ministry. We will be sponsoring and supporting her as she completes her studies at Dubuque seminary and the Ordination process.
6. Faye Anderson reported on the Summer Stated Meeting of North Alabama Presbytery which was held at First Presbyterian Church in Guntersville on June 13, 2023.
7. Turner Matthews reported that June YTD income was \$1293 more than expected and expenses were \$7895 more than budgeted, primarily due to the church's share of the expenses required to repair the sink hole near Vestavia Drive. Even though income is better than expected, Pledges YTD are worse than budget by \$11,165.
8. Bob Naumann reported that the sink hole project has been successfully completed, primarily due to the excellent work by Dave Ellerbe and Bob. He also mentioned that the refrigerator should be repaired by next week and that our sprinkler system is in good shape. We are looking into re-keying the church since we have been in the building for many years and do not have a good record of where all of the keys are now. We will then put in place a system to keep track of the keys.
9. B. J. Breeding reported that the movie night was very successful and that her team will be meeting next on July 26, 2023.
10. Tripp Brogdon advised that newsletters and bulletins are now available on our website and soon we will have automatic updates of sermons as well.
11. Faye Anderson reported that the CATS lunch at the Freight House was well attended and plans are being made for a cook-out and the Christmas Brunch.
12. The Mission Team reported that the Pentecost Offering raised \$685 and that we continue to support local charities and that \$1000 was given to help First Presbyterian in Huntsville support a Ukrainian family.
13. Linda Grissom reported that the Worship team had accepted an offer of \$500 to buy our old organ (which is not working), and we also saved \$400-500 which we won't have to pay to remove it. We will move a piano to that location for future duets.
14. The next Stated meeting will be on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 2:00 pm.

Stu Strong, Clerk of Session



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## August Worship Leaders

| Aug        | 6                             | 13   | 20                           | 27                         |
|------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Liturgists | Nellie Gates                  | Linda Grissom  | John Jordan                  | Shelly Shull               |
| Ushers     | Betty Matthews<br>Barb Mouton | Jackie Naumann<br>Harold Moore                                   | Cerese Sweeley<br>Don Foster | Dave Ellerbe<br>Stu Strong |
| Nursery    | Jackie Naumann                | Jane Lowery  | Shelly Shull                 | Betty Matthews             |
|            | Communion Servers             | Bob Naumann, Shelly Shull, Don Koza, Linda Grissom, Nellie Gates |                              |                            |



## AUGUST

| Sunday | Monday          | Tuesday | Wednesday                                     | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|-----------------|---------|---|----------|--------|----------|
|        |                 | 1       | 2   | 3        | 4      | 5        |
| 6      | 7<br>PEO 6P     | 8       | 9 Choir 4:30p<br>Connect 5:30p<br>Addi Zeiher | 10       | 11     | 12       |
| 13     | 14<br>HAD Lunch | 15      | 16<br>Finance 4p                              | 17       | 18     | 19       |
| 20     | 21              | 22      | 23 Choir 4:30p                                | 24       | 25     | 26       |
| 27     | 28              | 29      | 30  | 31       |        |          |