



Message from our Pastor:

St. Andrew,

The first Sunday in October, I will be in Georgia for a seminary classmate's wedding. Thankfully, it will be away from the hustle and bustle of Atlanta... and by hustle and bustle, what I really mean is TRAFFIC!

The wedding will be in Dahlonega, which is a small town nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Aside from the wedding, I'm looking forward to seeing if the leaves have begun to change colors just yet. I love a good drive through the mountains in the fall to see the leaves return from green to yellow, orange, and red.

And the town boasts that "There's no better place to experience the magic of autumn than in Dahlonega, Georgia." I hope they're right!

I learned something interesting this week about leaves changing colors. To be fair to my elementary science teacher, I most likely learned it and then forgot all about it.

Most of us might remember that leaves are green due to chlorophyll, a green pigment which captures energy from sunlight. Green is not the only pigment in leaves, though. There are other pigments, too: red, yellow, orange, and purple! Most of the time, we just can't see them because of the overabundance of green chlorophyll. They are always present, and in the fall, they finally emerge.

As I began to think about those changing leaves, I couldn't help but think about the ways that we change, too. It's part of who we are as followers of Christ. Our Triune God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - changes us.

The author of 2 Corinthians says in Chapter 5, *"Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life emerges! Look at it!"*

You and I are being changed from within, because God is within us. It is something beautiful, worthy of our admiration and appreciation... just like with the changing leaves in the fall.

Remember that this autumn as you marvel at the yellow, red, and orange around you.

Grace and peace,
Tripp

"But now thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." Isaiah 43:1

St. Andrew Elders & Ministry Leaders 2023	Chairperson
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



Hank Livingston	5	Leslie Matthews	21
Cheryl Ellerbe	12	Barb Wyle	27
Jacob Shull	13	Dave Ellerbe	28
Lee Zeiher	15	Linda Faulk	30
Shelia Koza	19		

Hank & Linda Livingston 5

CONNECT

OCTOBER SCHEDULE

OCT. 11

OCT. 18

OCT. 25

4:30 PM
Choir
5:30 PM
Bible Study
With Rev. Tripp

5:30 PM
Cookout

4:30 PM
Choir

Member Care

1. The Member Care Committee brought food to a family with Covid and visited members in assisted living.
2. All of the Shepherd groups have met.
3. A group of 24 enjoyed fellowship and food at the CATS lunch on September 21 at Logan's.
4. The Fall cookout is scheduled for Wednesday October 18 at 5:30.

The following items are highlights from the September 20, 2023, Stated Session Meeting:

1. The September Stated Session Meeting was held on September 20, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
2. The minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of July 19, 2023, were approved.
3. Bob Naumann was elected to be our Commissioner to the Fall meeting of North Alabama Presbytery (NAP) on October 17, 2023
4. B. J. Breeding gave a report on the Called meeting of NAP held via zoom on August 15, 2023.
5. Our membership as of August 31, 2023, increased to 78 by the addition of Grace Nelson on July 19, 2023 and D. Ann Norris on August 21, 2023, both by Letter of Transfer
6. The Session voted to receive into membership Bob and Genie Sparks by Letter of Transfer.
7. Turner Matthews reported that August YTD income was \$8997 more than expected and expenses were \$6927 more than budgeted, primarily due to the church's share of the expenses required to repair the sink hole near Vestavia Drive. Stewardship Sunday will be November 19, 2023, with Minutes for Mission messages in the two or three preceding Sundays.
8. Rev. Brogdon outlined his plans for vacation and study for the rest of the year. He will be taking vacation, working on continuing education and attending a course in Louisville to prepare him to be the moderator of NAP next year.
9. Bob Naumann reported that trees have been trimmed with the help of Philip Gilbert and he is looking into replacing worn carpeting at the entrance to the sanctuary. The Session also approved the purchase of a new heating and cooling system for the Fellowship Hall. Bob found a reliable vendor who gave us a great price, and a discount because we are a church, and have no cost financing which we can pay off at \$1k per month.
10. B. J. Breeding reported that our next movie night will be on September 27. Advent devotionals are being ordered for each family's use in December. Also in December, Tripp will be leading a three-week Advent Study.
11. Tripp Brogdon advised that we will be updating photographs for the church directory.
12. Faye Anderson reported that the CATS lunch will be held on September 21 at Logan's and that most of the Shepherd groups have met.
13. The Mission Team reported that a lot of work has been done to improve the kitchen facilities for Hands across Decatur and this was paid for by a donation from St. Andrew. We are aiming to provide 61 Thanksgiving dinners this year vs. 46 last year.
14. We will celebrate World Communion Sunday with Rev. Judy Rich on Oct 1 and will have a PCUSA peacemaker in our pulpit on October 8.

The next Stated meeting will be on Wednesday, November 20, 2023, at 2:00 pm.

Stu Strong, Clerk of Session

CATS Luncheon at Logan's



Presbyterian Women's Meeting

Tuesday, October 3

10:00 AM

Fellowship Hall

"The Exorcism in Gerasa", Luke 8:26-39

Lesson Leader: Nelda Gilbert

Shoeboxes for kids



Holiday Hope Chest Project

The Holiday Hope Chest Project is underway for the 2023 Christmas season!

The Volunteer Center of Morgan County provides Christmas boxes for children from low-income households. Here's how you can help; preassemble a box, donate items to fill a box or give a monetary donation. More information can be found at the table set up in front of the Fellowship Hall. Boxes must be turned in by Monday, December 4th.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERING
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



Join us this Sunday October 1, as we give together to help people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ wants for all of us.

Our Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own community & across the world.

40th Anniversary
A Season of Peace



Making the Commitment to Peacemaking

The Commitment to Peacemaking is a tool to help Presbyterians engage individually and collectively in peacemaking ministries and was introduced to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in 1983. Since then more than 4,300 congregations and other groups have affirmed the Commitment and used it to shape faithful and creative ministries of peace and justice.

Why Make the Commitment to Peacemaking?

- Declare that becoming a part of God's peace-giving is a mission priority;
- Challenge growth along the peacemaking journey;
- Establish a framework for planning and implementing peacemaking in every aspect of ministry;
- Invite Presbyterians to work for peace in their own lives, families, communities and international arena;
- Provide a means for evaluating peacemaking efforts; and

Encourage contact and cooperation with other congregations, communities and individuals in other denominations and faiths involved in peacemaking.



Presbyterian Mission
Peacemaking Program



OUR COMMITMENT TO PEACEMAKING

Responding to God's Covenant,

NAME OF WORSHIPING COMMUNITY OR ENTITY _____ in _____ CITY, STATE
commits itself to peacemaking. In fulfilling this commitment, we will engage in peacemaking through:

WORSHIP: provide worship that expresses the reality of God's peace giving;

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY: encourage prayer, Bible study, and spiritual disciplines that nurture and deepen the spiritual life of the community and equip people to share the gospel message of peace with the world;

PEACEMAKING IN FAMILIES AND IN COMMUNITY LIVING: create opportunities for people of all ages to engage in peacemaking practices and develop peacemaking skills such as conflict resolution, mediation, accompaniment and nonviolence that will help them grow as peacemakers in their families, congregations, and communities;

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES: work with and support ecumenical, interfaith and other partners in the pursuit of social, racial, and economic justice; confront racism and all other forms of prejudice; and partner with local, national, and global communities addressing poverty, unemployment, and other economic challenges;

STUDY AND RESPONSE TO GLOBAL ISSUES: support human rights and economic justice efforts in at least one area of the world through partnerships and relationship-building;

GLOBAL SECURITY: study global security concerns, work for worldwide arms control, support alternatives to military solutions to international and civil conflicts, and offer the Church's care to our military personnel, chaplains, veterans and their families;

MAKING PEACE WITH THE EARTH: protect and restore God's creation through study, advocacy, and environmentally-minded stewardship;

RECEIVING THE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING: financially support the churchwide peacemaking effort by receiving the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

The [Session] or [other Entity within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)] will provide leadership and support in its commitment to peacemaking. It will name a team of people to be the contact with the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program to receive and distribute information and resource materials that will help us to fulfill this commitment.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
MODERATOR / CHAIRPERSON

Signed: _____ Date: _____
CLERK / WITNESS

Has your congregation considered the Commitment to Peacemaking?
Information and resources can be found at
www.pcusa.org/peacemaking



NAP Peacemaking Task Force

Moderator

Rev. Brandon Miles, First, Florence

Committee Members

Rev. Christie Ashton, Hope, Huntsville

Rev. Frank Broyles, Faith, Huntsville

Tom Caddell, Decatur

Yeggy East, Grace, Madison

Edgna Fallin, Fellowship, Huntsville

Rebecca Harbor Jones, Grace, Madison

Barb Mouton, St. Andrew, Decatur

Rev. Dr. Jim Roberts, HR

Mary Witherspoon, Covenant, Huntsville

Jewell Witherspoon, Covenant, Huntsville



NAP Peacemaking Dove

The Peace Dove was presented to North Alabama Presbytery at the General Assembly in 1995 to recognize the Commitments to Peacemaking made by more than 50% of the churches in North Alabama Presbytery. Since 1995 the Dove has been passed around among the churches which have made a Commitment to Peacemaking--to remind us of God's call for us to be peacemakers.

NAP Churches who have signed The Commitment to Peacemaking

Athens, Copeland
Athens, First
Decatur, Westminster
Florence, First
Florence, Westminster
Gadsden, Trinity
Guntersville, First
Hartselle, First
Huntsville, Covenant
Huntsville, Faith
Huntsville, Fellowship
Huntsville, First
Huntsville, Hope
Madison, Grace
Mt. Hope, Rock Springs-Mitchell Memorial
Toney, Madison Crossroads





On Sunday, October 8, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church will welcome the NAP Peacemaking Task Force's 30th International Peacemaker Efi Latsoudi.



Efi Latsoudi is one of the founders of Lesvos Solidarity, in Greece, which is focused on a strong advocacy presence for the rights of refugees, runs housing, educational, employability, psychosocial and medical programs. She is a filmmaker who has created short documentaries and films and written scripts for fiction films. She holds degrees from the University of Athens, School of Philosophy, the University of Picardi-Jules Vernes in Maitrise de Psychology Clinic and the University of Paris. She has also received numerous awards for her work with refugees and her "commitment to maintaining peaceful coexistence".

There will be a coffee meet and greet after the service.



Thanksgiving Dinner Collection

Our yearly Thanksgiving meal collection will start October 15! A designated area at the Donation Location will be set up for the items. Deadline is Sunday, November 19. We will be accepting donations to purchase the turkeys in the church office. Make check payable to SAPC. Below are the items needed for the meals.

- Corn - 2 regular or one large can per meal
- Green Beans - 2 regular or one large can per meal
- Candied Yams - 2 regular or one large can per meal
- Cranberry Sauce - 1 regular can per meal
- Cornmeal – 2 lb. bag (or larger)
- 1 boxed dessert item (if a cake, bring frosting)
- 1 box of instant potatoes (no fresh potatoes)



Wednesday, October 18
5:30 PM

Don't miss this—food, FELLOWSHIP and fun! More details will follow in the Mid-Week Touch.

Hands Across Decatur Soup Kitchen
Monday, October 9

The menu is New England Boiled Dinner.
Please sign up on the Bulletin board to bring cornbread, fruit, or dessert.



CCC FOOD PANTRY

Collection the 1st 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.



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 at 1:00PM.
ALL ARE WELCOME! No skills needed, we will teach you.



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.

As you begin to do fall cleaning and changing to warmer clothing, please remember the homeless who will need items for cold weather. Warm clothing, sheets, blankets, sleeping bags, tents, tarps, coats, gloves, socks, bikes, etc. are welcome.



Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor
 3310 Danville Rd. SW
 Phone: 256-355-6310
 Email: Tripp@standrewdecatur.org
churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 World Communion Sunday Judy Rich Preaching	2 Color Group 9A PEO 6P	3 PW 10A Civic Chorus 6P	4	5 DAR 10:30A-12:30P	6	7
8	9 HAD Lunch	10 Civic Chorus 6P	11 CONNECT 5:30P Choir 4:30P	12 Caring Hands 1P	13	14
15	16 Color Group 9A	17 NAP Maranatha Civic Chorus 6P	18 Finance Comm. 4P Cookout 5:30P	19	20	21
22	23	24 Civic Chorus 6P	25 Choir 4:30P	26 Caring Hands 1P	27	28
29 Reformation Sunday Stacey Nelson Preaching	30	31 Civic Chorus 6P				

October Worship Leaders

Oct	1	8	15	22	29
Liturgists	Stu Strong	Rev. Tripp Brogdon	Ceil Hydrick	Don Koza	John Jordan
Ushers	Doug Coshow Don Foster	Barb Mouton Dave Ellerbe	Harold Moore Don Foster	Stu Strong Ceresee Sweeley	John & Shelly Shull
Nursery	Joan Jordan	Shelly Shull	Jackie Naumann	Carol Strong	Barb Mouton
Communion Servers	Bob Naumann, Shelly Shull, Don Koza, Stu Strong, Nellie Gates				