

***Message from your Staff:***

**2024 has been a great year at St. Andrew! We can't wait to see what God has for us in 2025! We love you and are praying for you.**



**Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.**

**Proverbs 16:3**

**Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.**

**Philippians 4:6**

<b>St. Andrew Elders &amp; Ministry Leaders 2024</b> .....	<b>Chairperson</b>
Clerk of Session.....	Stuart Strong
Building/Grounds.....	Bob Naumann
Communications & Outreach.....	D. Ann Norris
Education & Spiritual Formation.....	B. J. Breeding
Finance & Administration.....	Don Koza
Member Care .....	Faye Anderson & Jackie Naumann
Mission .....	Barbara Mouton & John Jordan
Treasurer .....	Philip Gilbert
Nominating .....	Shelly Shull
Worship .....	Linda Grissom



<b>Mavis Stephens</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Nellie Gates</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Stu Strong</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Bob Naumann</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Donald Foster</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>John Shull</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Cerese Sweeley</b>	<b>23</b>

### Presbyterian Women’s Christmas Lunch

The Presbyterian Women, along with a couple of guests, enjoyed their Christmas lunch at Olive Garden.



### Presbyterian Women’s Meeting

Tuesday, January 7, 2025  
 at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall  
 Lesson: “Air Quality”  
 Leader: B.J Breeding  
 All Ladies Welcome!



### Hands Across Decatur Soup Kitchen

Monday, December 9th

Please sign up on the bulletin board to bring rolls, cornbread, dessert, or serve.

I would like to thank everyone for their generous gift. You are all so kind and giving. It is a blessing to be a part of the staff here at St. Andrew.

Blessed,  
 Jennifer Chitwood

# CONNECT

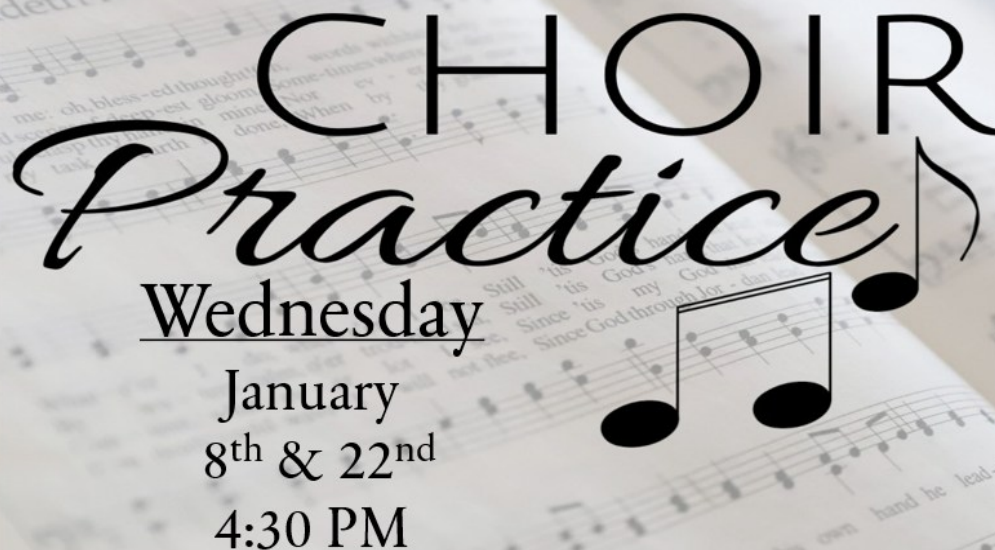
## JANUARY SCHEDULE

JAN. 8

5:30 PM  
w/Addie Zeiher

JAN. 22

5:30 PM  
Bible Study  
w/Rev. Tripp



**CHOIR**  
*Practice*  
Wednesday  
January  
8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
4:30 PM

### Bible Study Drop Box

Is there a topic you've always wanted to know more about? Is there a question you've always been hesitant or scared to ask in church? It can be anything! You can now ask it anonymously through a drop box located on the table right outside the office. Each month during our Wednesday CONNECT Bible Studies in 2025, Tripp will choose one of your questions as the topic, so ask away!

## Mission Night 2024

Mission Night, November 20, was a wonderful success! We packed 50 Thanksgiving meals to donate, stuffed 45 purses with needed items for abused women and worked on a few more Holiday Hope Chests.

Thanks to everyone who was there to do hands on ministry and to everyone whose donations made this all possible. "If we all do a little, it adds up to a LOT!"



## NAP Men's Winter Meeting at First Pres., Athens

Monday, January 20,  
Dinner Program  
6:00 PM

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. There will be a carpool from St. Andrew's parking lot, meet at 5:00pm.

## Seekers Sunday School

The Seekers Sunday school class will begin a study of *The Epic of Eden: Ruth* by Dr. Sandra Richter on January 5. This study is for newcomers to the story of Ruth as well as others who have perhaps studied the book of Ruth multiple times. As she makes the characters come alive, Dr. Richter will connect the story of Ruth to the whole Bible and will relate how the story of Ruth is still speaking to us today.

Several members of the class rotate leading the lessons. If you are looking for Bible study and fellowship, we invite you to join the Seekers in the senior high room at 8:45 each Sunday. You will be welcomed.



## MEET THE CHOIR

(This column is an introduction to the members of St. Andrew's choir. We hope you have enjoyed getting to know a little more about us! If you enjoy music and love to sing, we invite you to come to one of our practices for a visit. Our normal practices are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 4:30 in the sanctuary. A Bible study or a program usually follows choir practice at 5:30 in the fellowship hall.)

Mavis Stephens grew up in Montevallo, Alabama and in the Presbyterian Church. She graduated from the University of Montevallo (then known as Alabama College) with a degree in music education. She earned a master's degree in music from the University of Alabama and did additional studies in music at Ball State University.

Mavis's teaching career included four years in the Birmingham area and twenty-seven years in the Decatur School system. She also taught violin at the Covenant School of Fine Arts and privately.

Mavis played violin in the Huntsville Symphony, the Decatur Chamber Orchestra, the Shoals Symphony, the Huntsville Opera Theatre Orchestra, and in the pit orchestra at the Princess Theatre for many, many musicals. She sometimes played in church orchestras.

Mavis sang in the Decatur Civic Chorus for thirty-two years and sometimes performed in their musicals. She sang in church choirs all of her adult life.

After retiring, Mavis studied art at Calhoun Community College and studied with many prominent artists. Her art works have been shown in Montgomery, Birmingham, and in many galleries and shows in North Alabama.

While at the University of Alabama Mavis met and married Bob Stephens, a left-handed Presbyterian musician. She has two sons and four grandchildren.

Mavis's hobbies have included reading, cooking, sewing, and traveling. Of course, her greatest joy was helping raise her grandchildren.

Mavis currently directs the choir at St. Andrew and is grateful for this opportunity to serve the congregation and God.



## Hanging of the Greens and Soup Dinner 2024



## Christmas Brunch 2024



On December 15, the Fellowship Hall was filled with chatter and laughter, smells of delicious food, and beautiful decorations. Thank you to all who decorated and all who brought food. May the warmth and friendship experienced during that time be felt throughout the Advent season.

## Special Offerings Summary

	2024 (Beginning Advent 2023)					
	Total	sent to Denom		used at SAPC		
		%	amt	%	amt	to
<b>One Great Hour of Sharing</b>	\$905	100%	\$905	0%	\$0	N/A
<b>Pentecost</b>	\$815	60%	\$489	40%	\$326	NCC Summer Youth Leadership program
<b>Peace &amp; Global Witness</b>	\$615	75%	\$461	25%	\$154	NCC Ruth House (Increased to \$175 from Mission general fund.)
<b>Christmas Joy (2023)</b>	\$950	100%	\$950	0%	\$0	N/A

## Café Connect

8:00 AM to 9:50 AM

Fellowship Hall

Join us every Sunday morning for coffee, light refreshments and fellowship.



Volunteers are needed to assist with the refreshments. A sign-up sheet with details is posted on the bulletin board. If you have any questions contact any member of the Member Care Committee.



## Christmas Caroling 2024

Some of our wonderful choir went caroling to spread Christmas cheer for some folks in our congregation at their homes! Although this cannot be confirmed, the rumor is that neighbors remarked that the small band of singers sounded like a choir of angels. Thanks to Tom Meier for organizing and leading the caroling.

# 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.

### CARING HANDS MINISTRY

Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



We make cards that will be used to send out hope filled messages to those needing some encouragement or just a little extra “hug” to let them know how much we care about them. The only skills needed will be the ones you learned in kindergarten: cutting and pasting! We have several paper artists in our group who will provide patterns and supplies from their overflowing stashes! No need to buy anything. We also knit or crochet shawls for Hospice and the Cancer Institute. 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.

Clothing, sheets, blankets, sleeping bags, tents, tarps, coats, gloves, socks, bikes, etc. are all welcome.





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# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p><b>HAPPY New Year!</b> Church Office is closed</p>	2 11A DAR (FH) 1P Caring Hands	3	4
5	6 AM remove Christmas Decor	7 10A PW 6-8P CC (FH)	8 4:30P Choir 5:30P Connect w/Addie Zeiher	9	10	11
12	13 HAD Lunch	14 6-8P CC (FH)	15 10A GC-FH 2P Session Meeting	16 1P Caring Hands	17	18 10A-11:30A DMC in the sanctuary
19	20 6P NAP Men's Meeting Church Office Closed Martin Luther King's Birthday	21 6-8P CC (FH)	22 4:30P Choir 5:30P Connect w/Rev. Tripp	23	24	25
26	27	28 6-8P CC (FH)	29	30	31	



## January Worship Leaders

Jan	5	12	19	26
Liturgists	Bob Naumann	Shelly Shull	B.J. Breeding	Stu Strong
Ushers	Doug Coshow Dave Ellerbe	Don Foster Don Koza	Harold Moore Harold Culbert	Cerese Sweeley D. Ann Norris
Nursery	Betty Matthews	Joan Jordan	Barb Mouton	Shelly Shull
	Communion Servers	Bob Naumann, Shelly Shull, John Jordan, Stu Strong & Nellie Davis		