



St. Andrew,

Ash Wednesday falls on February 18th this year, which means the Lenten season is just around the corner. I'll be honest: Lent can feel heavy, partly because we're not very good at sitting with discomfort, and Lent asks us to do exactly that. It asks us to look honestly at ourselves, to acknowledge what needs to change, and to do the hard work of actually changing it.

This Lenten season invites us into the deliberate work of looking inward and seeking real transformation. Think of it as a boot camp for the soul... a focused restart in an area where we know we need growth. The good news is that we walk this season together. That means support when the work gets hard and companions who are also willing to see truths that challenge how we understand ourselves.

This year's sermon series, *Boot Camp for the Soul*, will walk us through this journey:

- “The Need for Change”
- “Reset”
- “Hydrate”
- “Redefined”
- “Dead End”
- “Celebrate and Wait”

These sermon titles themselves tell a story: from recognizing what needs to shift in our lives, through the work of spiritual renewal, to the waiting and hope of Holy Week. This is demanding work... but reflection and change always are. When we commit to it together, though, and when we're willing to see ourselves truthfully and extend grace along the way, something shifts. The season that feels heavy at the start becomes the season that might just set us free to live new lives.

Grace and peace,

Tripp

<b>St. Andrew Elders &amp; Ministry Leaders 2026.....</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>
<b>Clerk of Session .....</b>	<b>Stu Strong</b>
<b>Building/Grounds .....</b>	<b>Stu Strong</b>
<b>Communications &amp; Outreach .....</b>	<b>Rev. Tripp</b>
<b>Education &amp; Spiritual Formation .....</b>	<b>B. J. Breeding</b>
<b>Finance &amp; Administration .....</b>	<b>Don Koza</b>
<b>Member Care.....</b>	<b>D. Ann Norris &amp; Jackie Naumann</b>
<b>Mission.....</b>	<b>John Jordan &amp; Bob Sparks</b>
<b>Treasurer.....</b>	<b>Philip Gilbert</b>
<b>Nominating.....</b>	<b>Shelly Shull</b>
<b>Worship.....</b>	<b>Linda Grissom</b>
<b>Comptroller.....</b>	<b>Tommy Gates</b>



<b>W.C. Sweeney</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Shelly Shull</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Philip Gilbert</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Abby Stephens</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Harold Culbert</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Anne Campbell</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Peggy McMahan</b>	<b>24</b>



<b>Tom &amp; Bobbie Meier</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>John &amp; Rita Abbott</b>	<b>19</b>

### Birthday and Anniversary

If you would like to have your birthday and/or anniversary appear in the St. Andrew Chronicle (SAC), please email your information to [churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org) or text your information to 256-804-0363.

**Café Connect**  
8:45am – 10:00am  
Fellowship Hall

Join us every Sunday morning  
for coffee and fellowship.



# 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.



## HOMELESS Ministry

Canned Food  
Toiletries  
Men's Clothing  
Women's Clothing  
Underwear  
Socks  
Antiseptic Ointment  
Insect Repellent  
Travel Size Shampoo  
Bar Soap / Deodorant  
Tissues  
Aspirin

A complete item list is available in the HAD folder in the donation area.

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



## CARING HANDS MINISTRY

Meets January 15th

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! All supplies are provided. We also knit or crochet shawls for Hospice and the Cancer Institute.

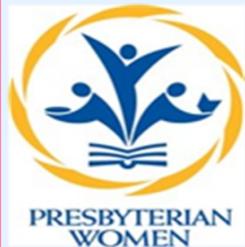
**The following items are highlights of the January 21, 2026, Stated Session Meeting:**

1. The September Stated Session Meeting was held on Wed., January 21, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.
2. The opening devotional on “A Call to Worship” was given by John Jordan based on one done by Rev. Bob Phelps at the October meeting of North Alabama Presbytery (NAP).
3. A motion was passed to approve the use of our facility for a gathering of NAP Presbyterian Women on Saturday, April 11, 2026.
4. The Session elected Philip Gilbert to be Treasurer, Tommy Gates to be Comptroller and Stu Strong to be Clerk of Session – all for calendar year 2026.
5. Linda Grissom was elected to be our Commissioner for the February 28, 2026, meeting of NAP to be held at Westminster church in Florence.
6. Elder Shelly Shull presented a report on the Called Meeting of the North Alabama Presbytery held by Zoom on December 15, 2025. The primary business was to elect Rev. Jaina Glaze as Stated Clerk of NAP effective January 1, 2026, and to elect Ruling Elder Carol Membane for a three-year term as Treasurer for the NAP effective January 1, 2026.
7. The minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of November 19, 2025, and the minutes of the Congregational Meeting held on December 14, 2025, were approved.
8. December year to date income was \$6,146 more than budgeted and expenses were \$9,875 less than budgeted. Our checking and saving accounts increased by \$29,726 since the first of the year.
9. The session approved the 2026 budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.
10. Building and grounds team cut down and removed additional fallen dead limbs during December. Repairs to the fountain are under consideration.
11. B. J. Breeding announced that Tripp will lead a combined Sunday school class on May 31 and that Tripp will be announcing a new members’ class and will provide a free lunch after church on February 8 for those seeking information about the class. Lenten Chat & Chew studies will meet March 2, 9, 16, and 23, 2026 from 11:30 – 12:30.
12. Using funds approved in the new budget, Rev. Brogdon will be working on ways to increase our visibility on social media.
13. Jackie Naumann reported that their team is looking into CATS trips for the coming months.
14. John Jordan announced that our Joy Gift Offering collected \$1010. The donation location has been upgraded with shelving and bins. Be sure to check it out for the current collections!
15. Linda Grissom reported that our average attendance in worship for 2025 was 62 – an increase of five per week over 2024! The worship team is looking into getting new banners for the sanctuary.
16. Rev. Brogdon updated us on books he is currently reading and on educational opportunities he has attended.
17. The next Stated meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 2:00 pm.

**Stu Strong, Clerk of Session**

# Ash Wednesday Service Wednesday, February 18th 5:30 PM

Join us as we prepare for the season of Lent.



## Presbyterian Women's Meeting

Just five days to the next Presbyterian Women's meeting. Our next meeting is February 3rd at 10:00am. We will be discussing our activities for February (college student's gifts, Valentines, and school supplies for Austinville Elementary School). Also, a discussion will be on the PW Spring Gathering to be held at St. Andrew. Our Lesson is "Finding Joy in Christ" led by Linda Grissom. Come and join us for this time of fellowship and Bible study.

## Mission Committee Meeting

The Mission committee will meet on Tuesday, February 10 at 11 AM in the library. We will be discussing 2026 plans and budget. If you would like to join the Mission committee, or if you just want to see what we do, then please join us. You will be very welcome!

John Jordan, Mission Committee Chair



## Hands Across Decatur Soup Kitchen

Monday, February 9th

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



## Meet the Choir

### Teresa Culbert

**Growing up in Russellville, my time was filled with our family of six children and church services: two on Sunday, one on Wednesday and a week-long revival every hot summer with a big dinner on the grounds. My grandmother, Ida, was instrumental in our church attendance, (I still have my 5-year perfect attendance pin), and I still believe she was just the greatest! It was a special treat, especially for all the teenage girls, when “The Grissom Boys” would sing for us at church.**

**Our little Baptist church didn’t have a choir, but we had a rocking congregational singing every service. I’ve always loved to sing, then and now. I don’t read music, so my participation in our choir requires special help from Mavis and Linda. When St. Andrew had two morning services I helped Sheila, Don, and Jake Koza lead the contemporary music.**

**I graduated from Russellville High School in 1970 and attended Florence State College, finishing in 1973 with a B.S. degree in secondary education, majoring in business education and library science. I worked one year at the college library as a paraprofessional in the periodicals department and one year as a school librarian in Lauderdale County. In the fall of 1975. I took the K-12 school librarian job at Mt. Hope School. I returned to UNA for my Masters degree and later added certification in K-12 administration.**

**I worked at Mt. Hope from 1975-1984. Mt. Hope, a close-knit community, was a special place to work with strong parental support, great staff and students, including our own Dr. Gilbreath. In 1984 I moved to the Lawrence County School’s central office and stayed there until I retired from education in 2003.**

**Shortly thereafter, Harold and I formed a real estate investment company, purchasing, managing and flipping close to fifty houses. We are about to sell our last rental house and hopefully retire from this career. We also worked with the Sam Foundation for several years. It is a nonprofit that offers educational services dealing with suicide prevention.**

**I met the love of my life, Harold, after moving to Decatur in 1979. We married in June, 1981. We forgot to have kids, but raised and nurtured several precious fur babies. We enjoy gardening and traveling, especially to the California coast.**

**We struggled with finding a church where we felt comfortable until we visited St. Andrew in the late 1990’s. Harold had work colleagues, Cecilia Gray and Wade German, who attended and invited us. What a surprise, Carl Grissom was front and center as music director! The congregation was, and still is, the most loving and welcoming. We were home.**

## Prospective New Member Lunch

On Sunday, February 8th, we will hold a lunch for any prospective new members following worship. Recently, a few folks asked me about membership and the process for officially joining the church, so I thought a good first step would be to invite any who wanted to join me for lunch at a local restaurant free of charge. You coming to this lunch is not a commitment to join the church, and I won't hound you to join if you come to this lunch.

It is meant to be a casual and relaxed time for prospective members to get to know me better and one another better, and it is meant to be a chance for you to ask any questions you may have about St. Andrew and what membership might look like!

Please let me know if you are interested in joining us on February 8th.

- Tripp



## Easter Dinner Collection

This Easter we will be providing Easter dinner kits for 50 families. Each kit will consist of a ham and all the groceries needed to prepare a home-cooked family dinner. We will begin collecting the groceries at the Donation Location outside the Fellowship Hall as well as cash donations to cover the cost of the hams and additional groceries on Monday, February 23. The last day for donations will be Wednesday, March 25. The cost of each ham will be approximately \$20-24. If you prefer us to purchase the groceries for you, the cost for groceries for one meal is approximately \$20.

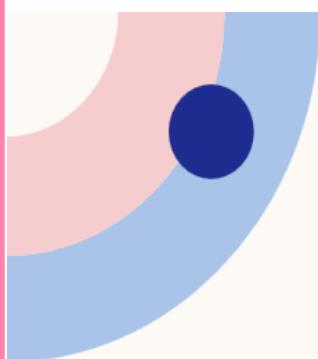
The donation food list for one meal is as follows. Please note that all the can goods are TWO CANS OF ANY SIZE:

2 Canned Fruit	2 Canned Corn
2 Canned Green Beans	2 Canned Candied Yams
1 Boxed Potatoes	
1 Boxed Dessert (if a cake, bring frosting)	



# CHOIR Practice!

Wednesday  
February 11th  
4:30 PM



## CONNECT

### FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

FEB. 11

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5:30 PM  
**CONNECT**  
**Bible Study**  
**w/Rev. Tripp**



Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

3310 Danville Rd. SW

Phone: 256-355-6310

Email: [Tripp@standrewdecatur.org](mailto:Tripp@standrewdecatur.org)

[churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewdecatur.org)

## FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Congregational Meeting after service	2	3 10A PW	4	5 1P Caring Hands	6	7
8 Prospective New Member Lunch	9 HAD Lunch	10 11A Mission Committee Meeting	11 4:30P Choir 5:30P CONNECT Bible Study w/Rev. Tripp	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Ash Wednesday Service 5:30P	19 1P Caring Hands	20	21
22	23	24	25 4:30P Choir	26	27	28

## February Worship Leaders

February	1	8	15	22
Liturgists	Barb Mouton	Faye Anderson	Don Koza	Bob Martin
Ushers	Alan & Shelia Chapman	Lynn Panter & Gillian Buttergereit	Cerese Sweeley & Barb Mouton	Bob & Jackie Naumann
Nursery	Carol Strong	Joan Jordan	Gillian Buttergereit	Barb Mouton
Communion Servers	Faye Anderson, Shelly Shull, Don Koza, Barb Mouton, & Linda Grissom			