



St. Andrew,

Some seasons arrive on the calendar, while others arrive in life. This year, Lent arrived on the calendar on February 18th, but for many of us, a harder season arrived sooner. In recent weeks and months, our congregation has carried a heavy load: health scares, long illnesses, family worries, hospital visits, and loss. Some of you have been walking through your own valley.

Others of you have walked alongside someone you love through theirs. Either way, it has been a lot. I want you to know that I see it, and I am humbled to walk with you through it all.

The season of Lent has been on my mind and in my heart for a few months now, and what I have been finding is that of all the seasons in the church year, Lent is the one that was made for exactly the hard times that we've been going through.

It is not a season of pretending. It is not a season of silver linings and easy reassurances. Lent is the season where the church looks honestly at the hard things... our mortality, our frailty, and the ways life can unravel... and refuses to rush past them toward Easter.

That doesn't mean there is no hope. Of course there is hope, but hope doesn't require us to pretend. We are allowed to say that this has been hard. We are allowed to grieve. We are allowed to be tired. The church has been saying that since the 4th century, when we started observing the season of Lent.

The ancient church didn't create this season on a whim. They built it into the calendar partly because they understood that life includes seasons like this one... that suffering and loss and fragility are not interruptions to the Christian life, but part of it. After all, Lent is the season in which we acknowledge that no one knows better what suffering and loss and fragility are than our savior, Jesus Christ, who is with us in our troubles.

So wherever you are right now... whether you are in the thick of something difficult, or catching your breath after it, or quietly carrying someone else's burden... know that you are not alone in it. We are in this hard and holy season together, and Jesus is with us, too.

Grace and peace,

Tripp

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



Betty Matthews	2
Bob Sparks	5
Jan Foster	10
John Jordan	10
Harold Moore	14
Marilyn Hinkle	17
Don Breeding	21
Shelley Vinzant	23
Tripp Brogdon	23

**Our new banner
in shades of purple,
the liturgical color
for Lent.**



Café Connect
8:45am - 10:00am
Fellowship Hall

Join us every Sunday morning
for coffee and fellowship.



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.



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.



It's time to spring forward!

Don't forget to **CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS**

March 7, 2026

Easter Flowers

Donations in honor or memory of someone can be made for any amount. A sign-up sheet is in the church office. Checks should be made out to St. Andrew Presbyterian Church.

The deadline for donations is March 15, 2026.

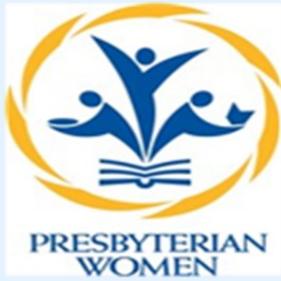


Responding to Christ's call to ministries of compassion for the world's most vulnerable.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sunday, April 5, 2026



Presbyterian Women's Meeting

Happy St. Patrick's Day: Presbyterian Women will meet on March 3, 10 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for this time of Bible study and fellowship. Jan Foster will have the lesson, "The Woman Who Was Bent Over". Come hear how this woman who was in bondage to a foreign spirit was able to serve others. Our project for the month of March is toiletries, socks and feminine hygiene products for the homeless women. If you would like to participate, please put your items in the PW bin at the Donation Location.

Seekers Sunday School

Beginning Sunday, March 15, the Seekers class will begin a six-week's study of Adam Hamilton's book, *Why Did Jesus Have to Die? The Meaning of the Crucifixion*. In this study, Hamilton introduces several theories about how Jesus' death brings us into a right relationship with God.

Join us at 8:45 on March 15 in the senior high room. All are welcome.

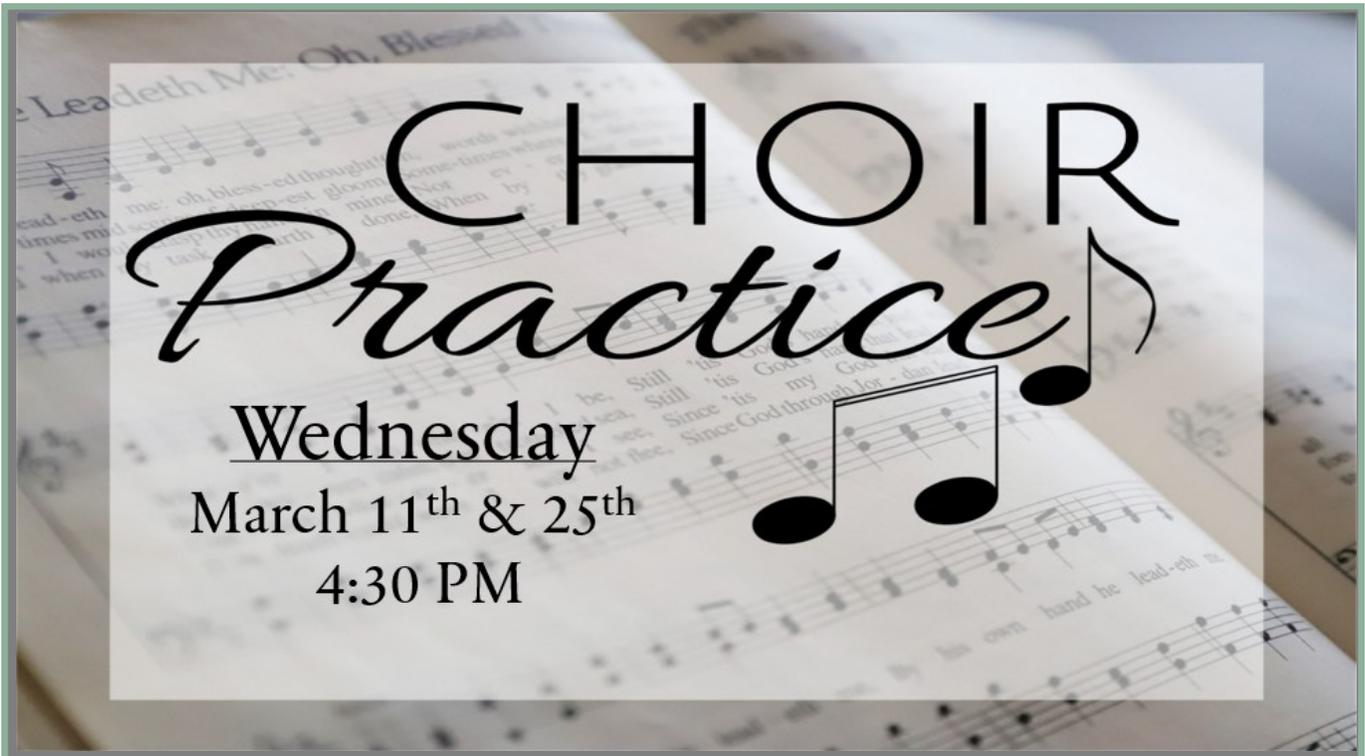


Easter Dinner Collection

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 are 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. 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. You may leave cash donations in the "Easter Dinner" envelope that is in the church office. Make checks payable to SAPC. The last day for donations will be Wednesday, March 25.

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) | |



Hands Across Decatur Soup Kitchen
Monday, March 9th
 Please sign up on the bulletin board to bring rolls,
 cornbread, dessert, or serve.

A decorative graphic in the top left corner of the section, consisting of a blue circle and curved shapes in pink and light blue.

CONNECT

MARCH SCHEDULE

MARCH 11

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



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



MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Chat "N" Chew 11:30A-12:30P Lenten Bible Study	3 10A PW	4	5 1P Caring Hands	6	7 Move clocks forward
8 Daylight Savings Time	9 HAD Lunch Chat "N" Chew 11:30A-12:30P Lenten Bible Study	10	11 4:30P Choir 5:00P Security Team Refresher 5:30P Connect w/Rev. Tripp	12	13	14
15 last day for Easter flower donations	16 Chat "N" Chew 11:30A-12:30P Lenten Bible Study	17	18 2P Session Meeting	19 1P Caring Hands	20	21
22	23 Chat "N" Chew 11:30A-12:30P Lenten Bible Study	24	25 last day for Easter dinner donations	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday Pack Easter dinners after service	30	31				

March Worship Leaders

March	1	8	15	22	29
Liturgists	Stu Strong	Bob Sparks	Shelly Shull	Jackie Naumann	Linda Grissom
Ushers	D. Ann Norris & Doug Coshow	John Shull & Don Foster	Sylvia Newbill & Cerese Sweeley	Alan & Shelia Chapman	Betty Matthews & Stu Strong
Nursery	Betty Matthews	Shelly Shull	Gillian Buttgerreit	Joan Jordan	Lyn Panter
Communion Servers	Bob Naumann, Tom Meier, John Jordan, Stu Strong (L), & Nellie Gates				