



St. Andrew,

The Easter decorations and candy will go on sale Monday morning. You've seen it happen... the chocolate bunnies and pastel baskets get shoved to a clearance section, your pastor makes some regrettable decisions regarding Reese's Peanut Butter Eggs, and then the world moves on. As far as the culture is concerned, Easter is a single day that stops at sundown.

The church has always known better, though. Easter is not a day. It is a season... fifty days stretching from the resurrection to Pentecost, longer than Lent itself. The early Christians understood this. They refused to kneel for prayer during Eastertide, a small physical act of defiance against the idea that the resurrection was already behind them. It wasn't. It isn't. In the church, moving on shouldn't be possible, much less easy.

Holy Week confronts us with the full weight of what it cost... complete with betrayal, abandonment, and the cross. We sit with it all and do not look away. Easter doesn't let us rush away, either. The resurrection isn't a plot twist that resolves the tension and lets us off the hook. It is the beginning of something... new creation has broken into the old one, and the risen Christ is still very much in the middle of it.

Often you will hear the season of Eastertide called "The Great Fifty Days." I think that's right. There is something significant about refusing to let Easter be relegated to a single morning of celebration, followed by business as usual. This season asks us to keep living inside the resurrection and allowing it to change how we see our mission, our relationships, our failures, and our hopes.

So if someone asks you in mid-April whether Easter has come and gone, tell them the truth: we're still in it, and we're just getting started. The tomb is empty and Christ is risen! The world will move on the Monday after Easter, but the church never will.

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



Cecile Hydrick	7
Connie Lawton	7
Samuel Shull	12
Doug Coshow	22
Keith Abbott	28
Roger Faulk	24
Keith Abbott	28

Ronnie & Lorrie Smallwood	12
W.C. & Cerese Sweeley	24

Easter Dinners



Thank you St. Andrew!

Thank you to all of you who purchased groceries and brought them to the Donation Location.

Thank you to all of you who gave money to pay for the hams.

Thank you to everyone who helped pack up the meals after Worship.

Thank you to all who made the loving greeting card that went into each bag.

With all of your help, we gave 52 families the opportunity to sit together at their own table in their own home and enjoy a meaningful Easter dinner.

All glory to God!

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 at 1:00pm the first and third Thursday of each 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! All supplies are provided. We also knit or crochet shawls for Hospice and the Cancer Institute.



Presbyterian Women's Meeting

April is a busy month for PW. On April 11, St. Andrew will host the Spring Gathering of North Alabama PW. Ladies from the North Alabama churches will meet to hear of activities of PW and have a worship service with communion. All are welcomed to attend. Please let Barbara Allen know if you plan to stay for lunch.

On April 7, 10 AM, St. Andrew will have our regular meeting. D. Ann Norris will lead our lesson "Remembering Jesus' Baptism". This lesson will emphasize that our baptism identifies us as children of God who are charged to serve him faithfully and lovingly. We will be discussing plans for next year as our first meeting will be held in May. Hope to see you there.

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Good Friday Service

April 2, 2026
at 6:00 pm



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



**ONE GREAT
HOUR OF SHARING
April 5, 2026**



The following items are highlights of the March 18, 2026, Stated Session Meeting:

- 1. The March Stated Session Meeting was held on Wed., March 18, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.**
- 2. The opening devotional on “Prayer Models” was given by B.J. Breeding.**
- 3. A motion was passed to approve the use of one of our vacant classrooms for Caring Hands and other church-related crafts activities.**
- 4. A request from Bobbie Meier was approved for the Pilot Club of Decatur to meet in our Fellowship Hall on the 1st Friday of each month, from about 10:30 am to 1:30 pm, starting on June 5, 2026.**
- 5. Linda Grissom presented a report on the Winter Meeting of North Alabama Presbytery which was held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Florence on February 28, 2026. Highlights included the expansion of Camp Maranatha services to include opportunities for local youth who were members of the Scottsboro YMCA which recently closed, and the Presbyterian Home for Children is developing a new program for unaccompanied minor children who have come to the USA from middle America.**
- 6. The minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of January 21, 2026, and the minutes of the Annual Congregational Corporate Meeting held on February 1, 2026, were approved, as distributed.**
- 7. January year to date income was \$2,781 more than budgeted and expenses were \$934 less than budgeted. Our checking and saving accounts increased by \$5,194 since the first of the year.**
- 8. Building and grounds will be mulching plants soon. Repairs to the damage done in our lawn are being addressed and new cameras covering the outside of our facility are being quoted. Repairs to the fountain will be considered at the next meeting, after we have received quotes for the new cameras.**
- 9. B. J. Breeding announced that Tripp’s Lenten Chat & Chew studies will be extended one additional week, will be on Monday, March 30, from 11:30 – 12:30.**
- 10. Rev. Brogdon announced changes to the way we communicate internally, to hopefully prevent redundancy and improve the spread of information on church activities. The Mid-Week Touch will be the main resource for announcement and calendar updates. The St. Andrew Chronicle will become a document that tells stories of the work of the church and will move from being a monthly publication to 4 times a year (Mid-February, Mid-May, Mid-August, and Mid-September).**
- 11. Jackie Naumann reported that Shepherds Lists for 2026 have been updated, Baccalaureate will be on May 17th for our grads, with refreshments served after church, and several CATS trips are in the planning. Look for announcements on specific activities as the dates get closer. The first will be Ave Maria Grotto on April 30th.**

(Stated Session Meeting continued)

12. John Jordan announced that One Great Hour of Sharing is underway and Easter dinners are set to be distributed on March 30th.
13. Linda Grissom reported on the various special things that will be done for Holy Week Activities this year. In particular, we will hold a Maundy Thursday service with a meal in the Fellowship Hall on Maundy Thursday at 6 pm, followed by the Lord's Supper and we will move into the sanctuary for the Tenebrae portion of the service. Communion dates for 2026 were determined.
14. Rev. Brogdon updated us on books he is currently reading and informed us of work he is doing to serve the presbytery. He also announced his time away for study and vacation over the next few months.
15. The next Stated meeting will be on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 2:00 pm.

Stu Strong, Clerk of Session

Café Connect

8:45am - 10:00am

Fellowship Hall

Join us every Sunday morning
for coffee and fellowship.



CHOIR
Practice

Wednesday
April 8th & 22nd
4:30 PM



Wednesday Night CONNECT

Bible study with Phil Gilbert, Wednesday night, April 8th at 5:30 PM. "Now, the Rest of the Story, The Life and Times of Jesus Christ." Surely, everyone has heard of a few stories of Christ that are not found in the gospels. Truth? Fiction? Or somewhere in between? This topic will be the center piece of the Wednesday night discussion.

CONNECT with Dr. Brian Brown, horticulturist, Wednesday, April 22nd at 5:30 PM. A horticulturist from Morgan County- Alabama Extension Service will present a program in the fellowship hall. Discover the fascinating world of pollinators and why they are essential to our food supply and ecosystems. Join us for an informative and inspiring presentation on pollinators and learn practical ways to support these vital creatures in your own backyard and community.



NAP Men's Meeting

The NAP Men's Group will be meeting Monday, April 6th at First Presbyterian Church in Athens. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hall. Meet at St. Andrew to carpool at 4:45pm.

Seekers Sunday School Class

The Seekers class will begin a new study on April 26 to explore *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense* by N.T. Wright. Wright is the former Bishop of Durham in the Church of England and one of the world's leading Bible scholars.

Join us each Sunday at 8:45am in the senior high room. Everyone is welcome.



Hands Across Decatur Soup Kitchen

Monday, April 13th

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



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APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 1P Caring Hands 6P Maundy Thurs Dinner & Good Friday Service	3 Good Friday	4
5 Easter OGHS Offering CCC Food Pantry Collection	6 Church Office Closed NAP Men's Meeting	7 10A PW	8 4:30P Choir 5:30P Connect w/Phil Gilbert	9 11A DAR	10	11 NAP-PW Meeting & Lunch
12	13 HAD Lunch	14	15	16 1P Caring Hands	17	18
19	20	21	22 4:30P Choir 5:30P Connect w/Brian Brown	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 CATS trip to Ave Maria Grotto		

April Worship Leaders

April	5	12	19	26
Liturgists	B.J. Breeding	Linda Grissom	Nellie Gates	Shelly Shull
Ushers	Lynn Panter & Gillian Buttgerit	Harold Moore & Don Koza	Cerese Sweeley & Doug Coshow	Bob & Jackie Naumann
Nursery	Barb Mouton	Carol Strong	Lynn Panter	Betty Matthews
Communion Servers	D. Ann Norris, B.J Breeding(L), Don Koza, Bob Sparks, & Linda Grissom			