

Deadline: Third Monday of every month
Email Submissions to:
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Newsletter of Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church
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These are a few of the precious memories I take with me as I leave Saint Andrew:

Hearing a 3rd-5th grade Sunday School class recite 75 *lengthy* questions and answers from the children's catechism. Because of my own poor memory, I found their ability, enthusiasm, and knowledge astounding.

Seeing another class of preschoolers walk by the door of my office, waving. Children bring a lot of life and joy into our church building.

Sharing in the wedding of Dudley Raine and Suzanne Edmunds in the outdoor chapel. It was a distinctively Saint Andrew celebration.

Hours spent reading and discussing the Scripture together in Tuesday and Thursday morning Bible study groups.

Watching goofy sixth graders follow the example of their older peers on Youth Sunday, and then gradually mature into eleventh and twelfth graders who set the right example for the younger students, leading the church in worship.

Seeing a new columbarium sprout and blossom outside my office window (2005); Seeing the church family share meals in a beautiful and spacious new fellowship hall and having a space set aside for our middle and high school students to make their own (2012); Having a room in the church dedicated to the practice of prayer (2014); Getting a large, attractive church nursery after decades of enduring a crowded, bowling alley-like room, and watching the preschool thrive in a space that reflects the excellence of their program (2016).



The joy of working with the caring, prayerful, and professional staff of Saint Andrew.

Pastor Chuck turning a box full of chicks loose on Easter Sunday with one simple message: *Wow!*

All of the 32 baptisms I shared at Saint Andrew are dear to me, but I'll never forget the Fortune girls. After baptizing an apprehensive Summer Fortune in the outdoor chapel, her sister, Skyler, couldn't wait: *Do me now!* (Of course, baptizing my own granddaughter, Caroline, was another very special day.)

Serving the poor with our students—in Jamaica, Washington, and Philadelphia.

Seeing 50 people waiting to cheer me on outside the Pearson Cancer Center before my final session of chemotherapy on May 15, 2017.

Gary Foster and the Chancel Choir (under several directors), as well as Matt Hildebrand and our Jubilee musicians, leading us into the presence of God Sunday after Sunday.

Conducting the memorial services for so many of our saints, but especially the joint service for Paul and Nancy Childers. They were married over 71 years, members of Saint Andrew for 59 years, and died just days apart. I first met Paul and Nancy when I hired them to call a square dance at Rivermont Presbyterian where I served at the time.

The tears that often streamed from my eyes when our Liturgical Dance Team participated in worship.

Leading the singing at many frantic weeks of Vacation Bible School. Struggling to teach an old, non-dancing brain the words and motions to a new set of songs and then, by the end of the week, seeing a roomful of children transformed into a group of active worshipers singing praises to God.

These are just a few of the many good memories you've given me. Thank you.

*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you,
I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,
being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you
will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*

(Philippians 1:3-6)

Always with you in following the Master,

David

APRIL LECTIONARY

Sun., April 1st, Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or
Mark 16:1-8. Easter Evening: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 114;
1 Corinthians 5:6-8; Luke 24:13-49.

Sun., April 8th, 2nd Sun. of Easter

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2 ; John 20:19-31.

Sun., April 15th, 3rd Sun. of Easter

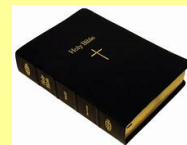
Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7;
Luke 24:36-48.

Sun., April 22nd, 4th Sun. of Easter

Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; Luke 10:11-18.

Sun., April 29th, 5th Sun. of Easter

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21;
John 15:1-8.



APPRECIATION & THANK-YOUs

We express our appreciation to the following individuals:

- To Norm Hopper for fixing a broken table;
- To Dallas Scott, Vic Fleet, Roger Beeker, and Matt Jurkow for repairing an outdoor electric issue;
- To Dudley and Suzanne Raine for coordinating our children's Easter Egg hunt;
- To Pam Hooper who lovingly coordinated the newly named Grady Parker Easter Breakfast which takes place at 10 a.m. on Easter Sunday;
- To John Concklin, Wendy Moon, and Kristi Moon for coordinating the Easter Food Baskets and to the Service Committee to packing and delivering them;
- To Dawn & Ben Crews for their help preparing for the children's egg hunt;
- To Food Lion for giving us a wonderful price per pound for the Easter Hams we give to families in need;
- To Erin Kane and Bill Hammond for shoveling snow from the walkways;
- To all who provided food items for our Easter food baskets;
- To all who purchased Easter lilies.



Vacation Bible School UPDATE

The Christian Education Committee has decided to suspend Vacation Bible School this summer and to consider alternate programming for our children and youth instead. In light of our current leadership transitions, and the success of the Connect program in building up our church family, the committee thought this summer would be a good time for us to step back from the typical programming and prayerfully consider how best to serve our children in ministry. Meanwhile, Summer Sunday School, re-CONNECT gatherings, and a possible weekend children's camp will continue to provide opportunities for spiritual growth of our children, and for youth and adult volunteers to serve and develop relationships with them. At this time we intend to offer VBS again in 2019, and would eagerly accept your involvement in that planning process. If you are interested in helping with any of these children's ministries, please contact Dan Lang, Chair of the Christian Education Committee, or Pastor Dave Roberts.

SOFTBALL Kickoff Party

Anyone interested in participating in Saint Andrew's coed softball team, please come to the kick off party on Friday, April 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Pizza provided. This is a family affair. Questions, speak with Randy Birnschein or Shonda Roberts or call church office for more information.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES



The Service Committee would like to call your attention to the signup sheets for the Salvation Army for 2018. There is also a Daily Bread signup sheet. Choose a date that you are available to help!

LADIES' TEA

[save the date]

The Fellowship Committee will have a Ladies' Tea on May 20th. There will be limited spaces, so please watch for a signup sheet in April.



BOOK GROUP

The St Andrew Women's Book Club will meet next on Monday April 16 at 7 p.m. at the home of Heidi Lang. The group will discuss Awareness by Anthony de Mello.



PUAH CIRCLE

Puah will meet at the home of Beth Groover on Wed. April 11th at 12:30. Our assignment is to finish the book "Search for Sundays." Lunch will be provided

WEEK DAY BIBLE STUDY

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN the Tuesday morning (mixed group) or Thursday morning (retired men) **Bible study groups** for four weeks this Spring. Both groups will be studying the book of Jonah in the Old Testament under the leadership of John Scholer. John is the retired pastor of First Presbyterian in Lynchburg and has a Doctor of Theology degree in Biblical Studies from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia. The Tuesday group will meet in the Andrew Room from 10:30-11:30 A.M. on April 24, May 1, May 8, & May 15. The Thursday group will meet in the Ricketts Classroom from 9-10 A.M. on April 26, May 3, May 10, & May 17. Bring your Bible!

DATE NIGHT RETURNS - MARCH 31ST

A Ministry to Strengthen Marriages
[the next date night is June 23rd]

Saint Andrew is once again hosting a series of date nights for married couples! This is a ministry targeted at younger couples, but open to all. The first date night will be on **Saturday, March 31st**, where church members will share wisdom and answer questions on the topic of "Conflict and Compromise" - how they have resolved issues in their own marriages when middle ground was hard to find. After the discussion (approximately 30 minutes), couples are encouraged to spend time going to dinner, sharing a fun activity, or simply enjoying each other's company. Childcare and pizza dinner for the kids will be provided at the church from 5:15 to 8 p.m. There is no charge, but donations for the cost of pizza are welcome.

Strong marriages take time and intentional work to develop. We hope and pray that this opportunity will help you and your spouse along the way!



NEW MEMBERS

The following new members joined Saint Andrew on March 18, 2018, transferring from Covenant Presbyterian Church which has officially closed:

**Diane Gillespie
Gathel & Bill Meadows
Patricia Belcher**

The following new members joined Saint Andrew by Transfer of Letter from Gospel Community Church in Lynchburg, VA:

Calvin & Helen Lundeen

Peaks Presbyterian Pilgrimage

On April 19-22, Peaks Presbyterian Pilgrimage will host the next three-day weekend at Camp Hat Creek near Brookneal, Virginia. Pilgrimage is a “faith walk” offering the opportunity to explore your personal journey with Jesus Christ. This weekend offers a time to be away from the worldly routine, to reflect on your journey with Christ, to renew your faith in God’s goodness, to allow the Holy Spirit to revitalize your work in the Kingdom, and to bask in God’s abundant grace. Pilgrimage is a lay-lead mission with Presbyterian clergy as spiritual guides. Please contact Marina Gopadze with any questions or to discuss attending the next weekend in April: [540-580-6810](tel:540-580-6810), mgopadze@gmail.com.

What’s Next?

After Pastor David departs as the pastor of Saint Andrew, the session will hire an Interim Pastor to provide leadership for the church until we get our next “installed” pastor. Pastor Dave will, of course, remain as our Associate Pastor, doing his excellent work as usual.

At its March 18 meeting, the session elected the following elders to serve as a “Transition Team” for the months ahead: Sandy Tall (Chair), Sandra Thompson, Chris Conrad, Tim Groover, Marc Johnson, and Dave Roberts (*ex officio*—with voice but no vote). This Transition Team will recommend an Interim Pastor to be hired by the session and will work with that Interim Pastor while a Pastor Nominating Committee searches for our next installed pastor.

When You Pray...

“Christ was in an agony at prayer (Luke 22:44). Many when they pray are rather in a lethargy, than in an agony. When they are about the world they are all fire; when they are at prayer, they are all ice.”

-Thomas Watson (d. 1683)

SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to Connell Hicks on the death of her son, Mark Friend, who died on February 22, 2018.

We express our sympathy to the family of Doris Smith who died in March 2018. Doris has been a member of Saint Andrew since 1994, but until recently lived in Oxford, PA.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

We are pleased to announce that we’ve hired a new Church Administrator. Shelley Scranton is a Lynchburg native who has experience working at two churches previously.

Shelley’s first day in the church office will be Monday, April 9. As she gets oriented to her new position, the church office will continue to be open from 9 A.M.-1 P.M. Monday through Friday. Shelley can be contacted by email at shelley@sapclynchburg.org

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the following Youth who are making their Profession of Faith on Easter Sunday and will become full members of Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church:

Sam Smoot	Son of Gary & Laura Smoot
Sierra Stansbury	Granddaughter of Jane Stansbury



SERVING IN OUR MILITARY

Ian Hopper, Deployed to Korea
outthere2@verizon.net