

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30

January/February 2020

Church Office: (904) 771-1596



J a n U a r Y

* 5 Epiphany & Communion
* 15 Annual Committee Reports Due
* 19 Elder Installation
* 20 MLK Day
* 26 Annual

Congregational Meeting



F E B r U a r Y

* 2 Ground Hog Day
* 2 Communion & Souper Bowl
* 14 Valentine’s Day
* 17 President’s Day
* 26 Ash Wednesday

Well, we did it again. Another year has flown by. I don’t know where the time goes. It’s a mystery to me. By the time you read this, Thanksgiving and Christmas will have come and gone. Then it’s 2020, which sounds like something out of an eye-exam. I like that diagnosis though my eye-sight isn’t 20/20 anymore. All of this gets back to that time phenomenon—i.e., where does it go?

2020 will be an “interesting” year. Of course, it’s an election year which means we will be bombarded by both sides about the direction the nation should be heading in. For one reason or another both sides seem to think we’re on a slippery slope. The general idea is impending doom if the opposition gets control. It doesn’t matter which side you’re on, that’s just the way it is.

I don’t know if the nation has always been so divided. Actually, as I reflect, I think that it has. From the very beginning Americans were divided over whether or not we should get rid of the British. Then there was the Civil war. Lots of people didn’t want to get involved in WWI or WWII. Viet Nam was a really divisive “policing operation”. I rest my case.

As Christians, though, we always have hope. I am convinced in spite of all the hostility and rancor that pervades our news and media today that Americans can still find common ground if we use our heads, and the task may be simpler than we think—perhaps all we need to do is look for the common good. The Holy Spirit can bring us together. The Great Commission and the Great Commandment still stand as imperatives which we received from Jesus.

The Great Commission tells us to go out into the world with the Good News and make disciples. The Great Commandment charges us to “do unto other” as we would have them do unto ourselves. The two are actually not mutually exclusive, but rather, complimentary.

What would the world be like if we did do both simultaneously? I think we might find that we have much more in common that we originally imagined. Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit the politics might just go away and we might be able to truly say that we are “one nation under God.”

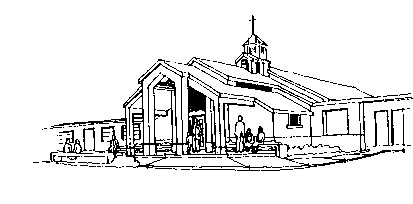
Amen and amen!

Pastor Marc

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**Bible Quiz**

Complete this proverb from the Bible: “Better is a dinner of vegetables where love is … ”   
  
A. “ … than a silver platter of meat and unresolved anger.”   
B. “ … than a fatted ox and hatred with it.”   
C. “ … than a prepared bird and family bickering.”   
D. All of the above.



**St. Andrews Presbyterian Church**

6317 103rd Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32210

***Being the face of Christ***

***In our Community.***

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Secretaries**

*Donna Kirksey*

*Judy Medearis*

*Judith Yeaton*

**Active Elders**

*Michele Banks – CE&F*

*Summer Hackney – CE&F*

*Terry Hallihan – F&P*

*Bonnie McNally - CCN*

*Walter McNair – B&G*

*Judith Yeaton – Worship*

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020**

*OUR PRAYER LIST*



Nancy Anson, Diane Baylor, Alan Brightwell, Pat Bukavac, Kim Cope,

Maywood Crowder,

Connie Davis, Kathy Dahl, Lynda Edwards,

Janet Fowler, Cathy Giddens, Theresa Gray, Lyndia Ison, Shapin Johnson,

Catherine Jones, Lori Joyce, Ken Lindscold,

Jennifer Kessler,

Linda Kneece, Ray Massey,

Sue Massey,

Allison McCutchen,

Howard McNulty,

Linda Miller,

The Parramore family, Charleen Pavlakovich,

Tim Pierson, Ralph Ramsey, Vickie Roberts,

Michael Schott,

Bob & Carol Shircliff,

David, Richard and Susan Spranger,

Thelma Starkey,

Helen Starks, Jack Strickland, Phyllis Stubbs, Pat Sundt, Clarence Sweat,

Betty Tanner,

Robert Tarkinson,

Sam Taylor, Pat Thomas,

Art Vaughn,

and Windy Wright



**F&P**

The Finance and Personnel Committee has worked hard this year keeping track of our employees and making sure all bills were paid.  Not an easy job!  December’s figures are not in yet, of course, but as of November we are showing a negative balance of ($13,974.34.)

One of the “problem” areas is the flower fund which showed a negative balance of $155.87.  This has come about for a number of reasons, one of which is Sundays that were not signed up for.  Gladwell’s sends flowers every Sunday regardless so that we will always have fresh flowers to beautify our sanctuary on Sunday.  The cost is only $30.00 which is a bargain at today’s prices.  The new flower chart is up and hopefully all Sundays can be filled in this year.  A caring member has graciously paid the $155.87 outstanding balance so that we can start the new year with a 0 balance.  Several alternate ideas for flowers were also discussed including using artificial flowers every Sunday.  Since nobody really wanted to do that, we kicked the can down the 2020 road hoping that we can do better next year.

It was brought up that we have lost about 10 pledging units since last year, resulting in an approximately $10,000.00 decrease in pledged amounts.   Our 2020 budget that was passed by the Session is a negative balance budget like it has been for several years.  Our two Treasurers do a wonderful job “balancing” our budget and making sure all bills are paid.  A herculean effort for sure.

Are YOU interested in how our church is run??  Why not consider joining this committee or any of the other committees for a better understanding.

Doing the work of our Lord,

Judith Yeaton (Chair), Cathy Barr (Receiving Treasurer),

Phyllis Herpy, Mary McNair (Disbursing Treasurer) and

Joyce Miller

**Survey Responses**

Happy New Year, I hope 2020 will be a great year for everyone. I wanted to take a moment of your time to review the survey we did at the end of September. We mailed out to 47 active families and received around 25% back with responses. I was very happy to see a great response. In the attached letter your session was asking for your thoughts on the current activities of the church and its future stability.

In the responses to the three survey questions the overall understanding is that we are a small church our members are getting older and there is a concern about the growing homeless population in our area. Some of the responses for new programs for St. Andrews were the idea of a daycare, more activities during the daytime directed for the elderly members and dinners for more fellowship time. When asked, do you feel our current church location is still making a difference for the 103rd street area or do you feel St. Andrews could be more impactful somewhere else on the Westside of Jacksonville? There were so many that voiced gratitude for the great work the ladies do at the Thrift Store. Along with giving away free bread on Wednesdays the store has attracted regular customers and we are doing more than addressing those in need but also providing friendship, fellowship and spiritual growth. Understanding that our neighborhood has changed over the years there are concerns over safety for our members, the cost of keeping our church open and the idea of the possibility of our church merging with another church was brought to our sessions attention through the responses of the questionnaire. (Your session discussed and researched the idea of selling the property, relocating and/or merging with another church; at this time your session has voted to not proceed with any additional conversations about this subject.) We asked you to tell us some dreams you had for St. Andrews. You said you would love to have more families with young children, more younger adult men to help keep up with the church, to see our attendance double in the next three years and triple in the next five years. You said that you would like to see us update our current buildings to help make them more manageable. I have gotten one clear message from the responses from the survey and that is you love St. Andrews Presbyterian Church and you only want the best for its members. You are good stewards of God. Your session thanks you for your thoughts and we know you will continue to pray for your church. If ever you have an idea or you want to start and run/work a program, all you have to do is reach out to me and I will be able to guide you in the right direction. If you would like a copy of the detailed responses please email me at sapcclerk@yahoo.com. I will email a copy to you. I wish all a Happy New Year and look forward to working with you in 2020.

Summer Hackney

Clerk

**Mission & Evangelism**

Happy New Year to All

M&E committee is continuing our mission of helping members as well as the community in many ways. Our Thrift Store is open Wednesdays 8-12 and Sunday mornings after services. All money is deposited into St. Andrews general fund. October’s Thrift Store income was $696.00 and November was $383.00. We are still teaming up with the Gleaners who provide free bread and bakery items to the public.

At this time the Joy Gift Offering is $115.

We are requesting coats, jackets, sweaters, gloves to be donated to the Thrift store at this time.

We will be collecting the Souper Bowl Offering on February 2.

Mission and Evangelism meets every first Sunday after service in the yellow room.

In Christ’s Name,

Lynda Edwards

**Worship**

The Worship Committee was very busy preparing for the Holiday Season.  On Thanksgiving Sunday our Cornucopia was bursting with all things wonderful to eat.  We are so blessed to have such abundance of food in this great country.

But hot on the heels of Thanksgiving came the time for Christmas preparation. Advent booklets were out for everyone to take and enjoy.  The Advent Wreath was set up for the very next Sunday as this year there was no Sunday in between Thanksgiving and Christmas Advent.  The Candle of Hope was reverently lit by the thrift store workers - Diane Parker, Elaine Mechelke and Bonnie McNally.  The Candle of Love was lit by the church office staff - Donna Kirksey, Judy Medearis and Judith Yeaton.  The Candle of Joy was lit by members of the choir - Stephanie Moore, Herman Six and Susan Spranger.  The Candle of Peace was lit by our Pastor and his family - Marc, Leatha and Brian Jones.  The last candle, the Christ Candle was lit on Christmas Eve by the Swan family - Brian, Lorene, Donna Miller and Adam.

Soon we found ourselves setting up the tree which was again donated by Roger and Sherrie Smith in memory of Roger’s first wife.  It is a Sand Pine Tree – and looks very much like a Blue Spruce except for the long needles.  Very lovely!  JR and Jody Wood hung the wreaths and other greenery and the Crèche was set up (minus the Christ Child, of course.)  Angels adorned every pew and larger angels were placed in the windows.  Poinsettias arrived and were set up by JR & Jody.  Altogether the Christmas Season is beautifully welcomed at St. Andrews.  It seems like such a shame that we have to dismantle it so soon (January 11th after Epiphany of the Lord on January 5th.)

On a more serious note, late in October our Music Director, Kathy Dahl, fell and broke her left arm.  We have been blessed to have had two wonderful fill-in organists.  Valerie Pafford played for us the first two Sundays in November and Marge Roddy has been with us every Sunday since.  Kathy has been working hard to get her arm functional again so she can return to the organ bench in January.

We were happy to welcome new members on December 22nd.  Joan Goldsmith and the Swan family joined our church family.  Joan has been a regular “visitor” since Faith Lutheran Church closed and has taken an active role in our church.  The Swan family will be with us for about 2 years as Brian works at NAS JAX and will be transferred according to the Navy’s schedule.  Lorene has already joined the choir and it is so wonderful to have more children in our midst.

As this is was written just days before Christmas, your Worship Committee hopes each and every one of you and our larger Church Family were blessed with a very Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year.  2020 – here we come!!

Yours in Christ,

Diane Parker, Chair, Lynda Edwards, Judy Medearis, JR & Jody Wood, and Judith & Bert Yeaton

**THANKS**

I wanted to thank our exiting elders Frankie Hawkins, Linda Miller and Diane Parker for serving on Session, and welcome Summer Hackney and Terry Hallihan to Session for the next 3 years

Session Chairs will be:

Walter McNair-  Buildings & Grounds

Michelle Banks- Christian Education & Fellowship

Summer Hackney - Christian Education & Fellowship

Bonnie McNally - Congregation Care & Nurture

Terry Hallihan - Finance & Personnel

Lynda Edwards- Mission & Evangelism

Judith Yeation - Worship

If you are interested in serving your church through one of these committees you can get with anyone on your session or see me and I will be happy to help.

Your Clerk,

Summer

**Welcome New Members**

Joan Goldsmith and the Swan Family ( Brian, Lorene, Donna Miller and Adam).

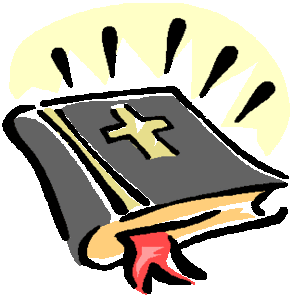


Anyone interested in visiting and/or taking Communion to our shut-ins, contact the Office.

JULIETs (Join Us Ladies Into Eating Together) & **Romeos -** First Tuesday each month @ 6:00pm location TBD.

Adult Sunday School – Each Sunday at 9:15AM

Adult Bible Study – Each Thursday at 11:00AM



St. Andrews Church’s Flea/

Thrift Shop – “Hope Chest”

The Hope Chest will re-open on Wednesday, January 8th with a Christmas clearance sale.

**Thanks to all for your donations and support in 2019.**

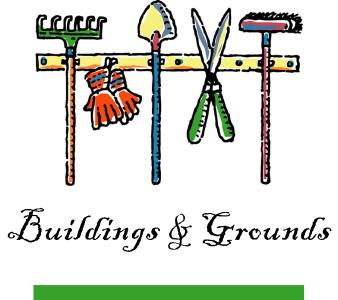
We look forward to a successful 2020. Stop in and see what is new.

Happy New Year!!

Thank you,

Donna, Elaine, Diane and all Our Volunteers





Greetings from the Buildings and Grounds Committee!

Well, another year has gone by and the Buildings and Grounds Committee would like to thank all those who helped us around the facility in 2019. Not only has each of us gotten a year older but so have our buildings. With support from the congregation we have made it through another year. Thanks for your help in 2019.

Now we are in 2020 and the committee will continue to need your help. No less maintenance will be required in 2020 than in 2019, only more. Please continue to support us in keeping St. Andrews a desirable place to meet and worship.

Beginning in January, the committee will concentrate on improving the lighting in the fellowship hall and the possible removal of some additional trees that threaten the sanctuary. We would like to avoid having another situation like last year when a tree fell through the youth room roof.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Come join us. We should have plenty to do in 2020.

Happy New Year!

Walter McNair

B&G

**January**

5 Terry Hallihan 20 Diane Parker

11 Chloe Allen 24 Jan Poley

11 Jack Herpy 25 Kristen Merrill

14 Hannah Miller 26 Donna Kirksey

18 Bert Yeaton, Jr. 30 Bill Starks

19 Helen Ballester

**February**

1 Lynda Edwards 11 Baylee Parramore

2 Bernadette Gilmore 13 Liz Parker

2 Jimmy Poff 16 Roger Barr

4 Jennie Leverett 21 Kyle Miller

6 Sydney Baldwin 22 Pat Eubanks

6 Claire Helmer 25 Olivia Hume

11 Michael Miller



**January**

4 JR & Jody Wood

**February**

2 Bernadette Gilmore & Jimmy Poff

SALVATION ARMY

We had a very successful toy drive. The “barrels” were filled and lots of children received many toys thanks to your generosity. The St. Andrews Congregation once again came through.

Thank you!

Lydia Windham



Elder Installation will be January 19th.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be January 26th.

*Just a reminder to all Committee Chairs:*

Annual Reports are Due January 15th.

Summer

***MARCH/APRIL***

***NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE***

***\*\*\* FEBRUARY 18th\*\*\****

*Articles can be e-mailed to Terry Hallihan:*

***99gwhfth@comcast.net***

*Or placed in the Newsletter box in the office*