



The Bagpiper



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Suffolk, Virginia

February 2023



LENTEN STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF MARK

On Line or In Person

Lent, the forty days leading up to Easter, provides Christians around the world with an opportunity to reflect on what the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus mean to them. St. Andrew invites you to join one another in just such a reflection as we encounter Jesus in ***On the Road to Jerusalem – Binge-Reading the Gospel of Mark.***

Mark, the earliest of the four gospel writers, begins his account of Jesus' life with these words: "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God ..." and settles in with an urgency to prove the truth of this claim. Meet Jesus all over again as we explore the good news that Mark brings during this six-week study.

Pastor Gillian will be preaching from Mark's gospel during Lent as well.

We will offer two opportunities for this class:

- Sundays online at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom, from February 26 through April 2
- Tuesdays in person at 1:00 p.m. at Knott's Coffee Shop, 1500 Bridgeport Way, Suffolk, from February 28 through April 4.

Our gatherings, both online and in person, will be conversational in nature, and we'll learn together as we explore Mark's story. Participants will receive reading assignments ahead of time. No previous knowledge of the Bible is necessary! The conversations will be facilitated by **Beth Lyon-Suhring**. Please contact Beth at lyonsuhring@hotmail.com if you'd like to join one of the classes.

"SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY

Food collection: through Feb. 12

The Service Committee is collecting canned food and other non-perishable items for the annual "Souper" Bowl competition (AFC team v. NFC team). Show your support for the team you think has the best chance of



winning the Super Bowl by depositing your canned items in either the NFC or AFC box located in the Atrium. Donations will be accepted through February 12, 2023.

All items will be donated to the Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center food pantry.

Which team do *you* think will win? Wear your team colors on February 12, "Souper" Bowl Sunday.

ASH WEDNESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

All-you-can-eat!

Eat in or take out!



Pancake Supper

The Presbyterian Men will host an Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper at St. Andrew on February 22 from 5:30 – 6:30 in the Atrium. Net proceeds from the event will go towards supporting the St. Andrew youth. **Tickets** will be on sale at the church the day of the event. Prices will be \$6/adults, \$3/children, with a maximum of \$20/family.

Join us for this all-you-can-eat meal of pancakes and sausage and attend Pastor Gillian's Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 following the supper. Please plan to come out to the event for some good food, good fellowship, and a good cause. Bring your whole family; invite your neighbors and friends. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help, contact **Russell Richards**.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

The first day of Lent in the Christian calendar falls 46 days before Easter. It is a time of reflection and preparation for the celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter. **This year Ash Wednesday is on Feb. 22, 2023.** Join us that day for a Pancake Supper at 5:30 – 6:30 (details above) and stay for Pastor Gillian's Ash Wednesday service for all ages from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. that will include the imposition of ashes.



Dear Friends,

“In my life, I have lost my way more times that I can count. I have set out to be married and ended up divorced.

I have set out to be healthy and ended up sick.

I have set out to live in New England and ended up in Georgia.

When I was thirty, I set out to be a parish priest, planning to spend the rest of my life caring for souls in any congregation that would have me.

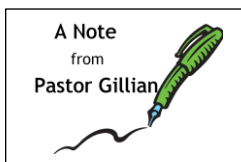
Almost thirty years later, I teach school.

While none of these displacements was pleasant at first,

I would not give a single one of them back.

I have found things while I was lost that I might never have discovered if I had stayed on the path.”

~ Barbara Brown Taylor



Unplanned unfoldings, like the ones described by Barbara Brown Taylor, are part and parcel of life. We set out with our plans, thinking that we know exactly where we are going and what we want, only to find that things do not

work out quite like we imagined or hoped. It is true that the unplanned is not always pleasant nor welcome. It upsets our equilibrium and can make us feel out of control. The truth of the matter is that we are rarely in as much control of our lives as we try to tell ourselves.

Sometimes, we do find things when we are lost, and when life takes us down an unexpected path, that we may not otherwise have discovered. Perhaps when we are taken off guard and find ourselves facing the unexpected and unwelcome, we also find that we have more resilience than we imagined. We may surprise ourselves when we survive the unthinkable, the unimaginable or the unspeakable. In these unplanned detours, we may learn things about ourselves that we didn't want to learn but we may also become stronger than we thought possible.

There has been a debate for centuries about whether Jesus' life unfolded as he planned, with his temptations in the wilderness, his journey toward Jerusalem and the events of the last week of his earthly life that culminated in the crucifixion. Whatever Jesus knew or did not know, planned or unplanned, Jesus persevered with faith and trust in God. As we begin our own journey through Lent and remember the path that Jesus took, planned or otherwise, we too must trust in God and pray that we will discover new things about ourselves and be drawn closer to God. However lost we may become in the unplanned unfoldings of our lives, we know that we have been found by God who loves us and who is with us wherever the path of our lives takes us.

Blessings and peace,

Pastor Gillian

EVENING PRAYER ON ZOOM

Please join **Pastor Gillian** for Evening Prayers each Tuesday night at 6:30 via Zoom. These thirty minutes of scripture, music, and prayer will help refocus our hearts and minds on the God who calls us beloved. **Beth Lyon-Suhring** sends out the Zoom invitation by email. If you are not receiving this email each week and would like to be included, please contact Beth at lyonsuhring@hotmail.com.

Are you interested in joining the St. Andrew family?
If you would you like to become a member of St. Andrew, please contact Pastor Gillian at pastorgillian1885@gmail.com.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

January 19, 2023 Stated Meeting

- Approved **Bob and Rena Thompson** for membership by letter of transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Dale City.
- Elected **David McKercher** as Clerk of Session for 2023.
- Elected **Whit Tucker and Brenda Lovell** as Receiving Treasurer and Disbursing Treasurer for 2023 receptively.
- Approved the 2023 Budget.
- Approved the Pastor's Terms of Call for 2023 which will be presented to the congregation at the January 29th Annual Congregational Meeting.
- Approved the 2022 Statistical Report which will be published to the congregation by posting on the bulletin board in the office workroom after submittal to PCUSA on February 9th.
- Approved ordination/installation of new church officers (Class of 2025) at the 10 AM worship service on February 5th.

KIRK NIGHT

St. Andrew's Mid-Week Program for All Ages February 1 through March 29, 2023 (February 22: Pancake Supper and Ash Wednesday Service – no Kirk Night classes)

Kirk Night,* St. Andrew's Wednesday night program for all ages, will begin again on Wednesday, February 1. Kirk Night starts with a meal and includes classes or childcare for all ages. Come for the meal, join us for the classes, or take part in both.

Dinner. Kirk Night dinners are provided by a different church organization each week. Check the church bulletin on Sunday to find the menu for Wednesday. Dinner begins at 5:45 p.m. and ends at 6:30 when classes start. The cost is \$4.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children, with a maximum charge of \$20.00 per family.

Classes. Join our classes for elementary-aged children through adults. Nursery care is available for our youngest participants in Room 12 on the Preschool Hallway. Classes begin at 6:30 p.m. and run through 7:30 p.m.

For Children

- 6:30-7:00 - **Music Makers Music Class** (Room 14, behind the sanctuary) Children from Kindergarten through fifth grade can participate in this child-centered music program. Led by Music Director **Al Reese**, children are introduced to new songs, musical prayers, and instruments that are all combined in Worship to praise God.
- 7:00-7:30 p.m. – The children's art class this fall will be "**Dear God: Prayers in a Box.**" Kids ages Kindergarten through fifth grade will learn about different types of prayers, each week making a new box in which to store their prayers. Led by **Beth Lyon-Suhring** and **Steve Suhring** in Room 103 on the first floor of the Education Building.

For Youth

- 5:45-7:30 – **Youth Group** meets in Room 202 on the second floor of the education building under the direction of Youth Director **Angie Hillis-Baurle**. Middle School and High School youth begin with dinner and enjoy fellowship and learning together.

For Adults

- 6:30-7:30 - **Pastor Gillian's class:**
The Gospel According To.....
Gospel means "good news" and in church we usually think of the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. But "good news" comes to us in many ways and Pastor Gillian's class will explore some of these avenues in the coming weeks. Looking forward to seeing you there. Pastor Gillian's class will meet in Room 204 on

the second floor of the education building. She will repeat the class on Monday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom. Contact **Beth Lyon-Suhring** at lyonsuhring@hotmail.com to let her know you'd like to receive the Zoom link.

*"Kirk" is the Scottish word for church.

EASTER BASKET COLLECTION TO BENEFIT ForKids IN SUFFOLK

St. Andrew Service Committee will be collecting Easter baskets, candy, and other small basket filler items for boys and girls ages 2 – 17 from Sunday, February 26 through Sunday, March 26. The baskets will be



assembled and delivered to ForKids in downtown Suffolk so that they may be distributed to local families in need.

Look for the plastic tub in the Atrium during the collection dates for your donations (suggested items include: wrapped candy, small toys, baskets, small crafts, Easter grass, books, individually packaged toothbrushes, and toothpaste).

If you want to support this mission but are unable to shop, please write a check to St. Andrew and note **Easter Baskets** on the memo line.

Baskets will be assembled in the church atrium on Saturday, April 1 (9:00-11:00) and help is needed! Please contact **Kyle Madden** (Kyle.F.Madden@hii-nns.com) or **Becky Nagy** (bnagy31@gmail.com) if you would like to help.

Thank you in advance for your donations and for sharing God's love this Easter!

(Easter Sunday is April 9, 2023.)



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Finance Report
for Year-to-Date 12/31/22

	<u>Sept Amt</u>	<u>YTD Actuals</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	
Income	\$43,998	\$451,571	\$508,256	
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$39,309</u>	<u>\$474,848</u>	\$505,809	
Net	\$4,689	-\$23,277		
 <u>Current Assets</u>				<u>Endowment Funds</u>
Bank Assets	\$206,541			General \$372,624
Ed Jones Inv.	<u>\$76,685</u>			Mission <u>\$163,105</u>
Total Current Assets	\$283,226			Tot Endowment \$535,729
 <u>Current Liabilities</u>				
Other Liabilities	\$0			<u>Mortgage</u>
Earmarks	<u>\$221,179</u>			Balance \$495,391
Tot Current Liabilities	\$221,179			Monthly Amt \$5,200
 NET (Current Assets – Current Liabilities)				\$62,047

Our income in December was higher than average, resulting in a net income for the month of \$4,689. This reduced our net deficit for 2022 to \$23,277. Our budget for 2022 assumed we would use \$60,000 of our rainy-day fund to balance the budget, but we used only about 1/3 of that amount. Although we finished the year with a net deficit, our expenses for the year were also below what we had budgeted, reflecting that our committees did a good job as stewards of St. Andrew’s funds. Our endowment funds finished the year with a small decrease due to the decline in the stock market. Our current liabilities consist entirely of our earmarks, and our current assets exceed our current liabilities by \$62,047. Both the number of pledges and the amount of the pledges increased nicely for 2023 over our 2022 pledges. Overall, St. Andrew’s finances are still in relatively good shape.

~Finance & Stewardship Committee



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW)



February PW Circle Meeting Our next PW circle meeting is scheduled for **February 14, 2023 at 10:00am** in the church Atrium.

Gloria Womble will lead us in Lesson 6, "Sabbath and Hospitality". We would love for you to join us for this meaningful study; "Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift

of Rest and Delight" by Carol Bechtel. Contact Martha Shephard for questions.

Many thanks for the generosity of St. Andrew in support of our annual PW Christmas Mission. This year local donations will help individuals and families who need rent assistance, utilities, or other necessities through **Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk (CAPS)**.

Internationally, money will help buy **Emergency Life Packs** through presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org. The pack contains food, water, basic hygiene items and a blanket provided to churches assisting refugees and asylum seekers in border regions. The total amount of donations is pending. If you are interested in giving to support this mission, checks should be given to Sandy Poole, PW Treasurer (checks made out to "St. Andrew PW.") Donations will be accepted through January 2023.

~Martha Shephard, Presbyterian Women Moderator



February 14

DEFIBRILLATORS AVAILABLE AT ST ANDREW FOR EMERGENCY USE

We have two AED (automated external defibrillators) devices for use in the event there is a medical heart emergency at church. The devices have voice instructions and are intended for medical and non-medical personnel to be able to use. Take a few minutes to re-familiarize yourself with the locations of the AEDs at church and how to use the device by watching a short video at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UDf1LGiTykY>

If you are interested in learning more about CPR, AEDs, or First Aid, follow the link below and join a class. These classes are very informative and help you feel more prepared in the event of a medical emergency.

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class>

COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Niche Availability: As of January 2023, there are 22 Single Niches available in the Columbarium. There are 35 Double Niches available, which hold 2 urns. If you are interested in reserving one, please contact **Helen Chapman** at 757-412-7847 or hcchapman10@gmail.com.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS OPPORTUNITY

There is a sign-up book on the counter in the Atrium to reserve dates for you to provide flowers in the sanctuary on Sundays. Please sign up today to honor or memorialize someone, to commemorate a special date, or just because. We hope to have many of the slots reserved, as there is not a budget for the flowers. As always, you may contact **Helen Chapman** at 757-412-7847 with questions or to schedule bringing flowers.

March Bagpiper Info
Due on
February 19



Please remember the following people in your prayers:

- The family of Bo Bohon. Bo passed away on December 14, 2022. He was a charter member of St. Andrew, who moved with his wife Pat to a retirement community in Newport News a few years ago.
- Grant Smyers (age 10) and Family. Grant's grandmother (and Paul Smyers mother) passed away on December 15. Grant's father is Paul Smyers; and his mother is Angela Martin.
- The family of Kathy McKercher. Kathy was a long time member of St. Andrew. Her husband, David, is our current Clerk of Session.
- The family of Chris Keltner. Chris Keltner passed away on January 11, 2023. Chris and his family are former members of St. Andrew.



Thank you to everyone who made chili & dessert for our youth and young adult ministry. Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed to our ministry. We will use it for our missions.

~Angie Hillis-Baurle, Youth Director



FEBRUARY SOUP KITCHEN

St. Andrew participation at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen will continue on **Thursday, February 16, 2023.** St. Andrew prepared 150 meals in November. The distribution of the meals continues to be through a drive-by system distributed by the Salvation Army staff.



Cupcakes are needed at St. Andrew by 10:30 on the day of the soup kitchen. Many thanks to all who donate cupcakes each month.



FEBRUARY

- 03 Roger & Susan Nelson
- 09 Sue & Lee Harrison
- 10 Cliff & Charlene Barr
- 11 Mike & Kathy Romanczyk
- 29 Danny & Brenda Lovell
- 29 Martin & Debbie McCue

- Katie West 3
- Helen Chapman 4
- Will Hendrickson 5
- John Gillis 7
- Mike Haverty 9
- Meggan Schoenberg 10
- Anthony Walker 10
- Lara Walker 10
- Tiffany Davidson 12
- Wyatt Ellenor 12
- Drew Parrish 15
- Tina Zachary 16
- Herbert Bondurant III 17
- Michelle Endrusick 17
- Candy Wolbrink 18
- Steve Corum 19
- Charlie Cutler 19
- Deborah Banks 22
- Mike Romanczyk 23
- Glen Fachin 24
- Jenna Robb 24
- Gwen Elmore 26
- Caitlin Fears 26
- Robert Holt 26
- Martin McCue 27
- Frances Robb 27
- Jackson Ellenor 28

The Basin Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat <small>Page 7</small>	
			1 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) <u>Kirk Night</u> 5:45 Dinner 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:15 – 8:30 Chancel Choir	2	3 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	4	
5 10:00 Worship Service; Communion Ordination/Installation of new church officers 11:00 Church School for all ages		6 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching, library 2:00 Kirk Night Class repeat on Zoom 4:45 – 6:45 TPCS*, Parlor 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	7 8:30 – 4:30 RSA* in CEB* 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells	8 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) Noon Widows Walk; library <u>Kirk Night</u> 5:45 Dinner: Chili 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:15 – 8:30 Chancel Choir	9	10 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels 10:00 – Noon Prayers/Squares St Andrew Hall	11
"Souper" Bowl		Food Collection	Sponsored by	Mission	Committee	Through	February 12
12 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages <u>"Souper" Bowl Food Donations Due</u>	13 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB**) 10:00 Stitching, library 2:00 Kirk Night Class repeat on Zoom 4:45 – 6:45 TPCS*, Parlor 6:30 Caregivers, Library 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	14  8:30 – 4:30 RSA* in CEB* 10:00 Presbyterian Women Circle, Atrium 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells	15 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) <u>Kirk Night</u> 5:45 Dinner: Breakfast 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:15 – 8:30 Chancel Choir	16 Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, Bank Street, Suffolk 6:30 Diaconate & Session meeting in Sanctuary	17 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	18	
19 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages <u>March Bagpiper info Due</u>	 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB**) 10:00 Stitching, library 2:00 Kirk Night Class repeat on Zoom 4:45 – 6:45 TPCS*, Parlor 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	21 8:30 – 4:30 RSA* in CEB* 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells	22 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) Noon Widows Walk; library 5:30 – 6:30 Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper 6:30 – 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service 7:15 – 8:30 Chancel Choir	23	24 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	25 10:00 – Noon Prayers/Squares St Andrew Hall	
26 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages 6:30 On line Lenten Study Begins Easter Basket Collection Begins	27 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching, library 2:00 Kirk Night Class repeat on Zoom 4:45 – 6:45 TPCS*, Parlor 6:30 Caregivers, Library 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	28 8:30 – 4:30 RSA* in CEB 1:00 In Person Lenten Study Begins 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p><u>Easter Basket Collection to Benefit</u> <u>4Kids in Suffolk</u> <u>Donations accepted February 26 – March 26</u></p> </div>				

*Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Service (TPCS) *Renaissance School for the Arts (RSA) *Christian Education Building (CEB)