



# The Bagpiper



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Suffolk, Virginia

April 2023



## Easter Flowers

Order your Easter flowers now for \$20. You can help bring glory to the church for Easter with a flowering plant (not Easter Lilies), then take it home to keep or gift it to someone. Please pick up a form in the Atrium or in the church bulletin to order. Just fill in the form and attach a check to the church earmarked "Easter flowers" or \$20 and place in the collection on Sunday or in Whit Tucker's box in the church office. Orders will be taken until Sunday, April 2. Call or text **Helen Chapman** with any questions. 757-412-7847

## EASTER SUNDAY IS APRIL 9



Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Please join us on Easter Sunday, April 9 at 10:00am for our Easter worship service, with music from the Chancel Choir and Celebration Bells. Church School classes will not meet. Please stay for breakfast following the service (eat in, or take out).

## EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

### April 9; following the worship service

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting an Easter Sunday breakfast after the 10:00 church service on April 9. There will be no Sunday School classes or Crosswalk that day. The congregation is invited to share a time of fellowship in the Atrium while enjoying a light breakfast buffet of finger sandwiches, deviled eggs, vegetable and fruit platters, and desserts. Take-out containers will be available for anyone who won't be able to stay.



We are asking church members to help us by providing one of the various menu items. **A sign-up sheet is in the Atrium.** Please consider donating a food item, and if possible, come early and help set up, or stay after to help clean up. If you have any questions, please contact **Kay Smith** (717-614-7585). Thank you for your continued support to the Fellowship Committee.

*~Angel Henkel, Marion Hale, Kay Smith;  
Fellowship Committee*

## FLOWERING CROSS

On Easter Sunday you are encouraged to bring fresh flowers from your yard to add to our outdoor Easter Cross (located in the grass circle in front of the church), which will serve as a visual reminder of the new life we celebrate on this Day of Resurrection. This is a great photo spot for family pictures.



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 6 at 6:30pm



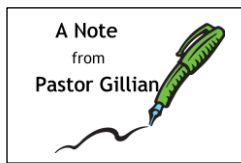
Join your church family, and invite your friends and neighbors, for a short reflective Maundy Thursday service, which includes Communion and music.



## Restoring Hope, Feeding the Hungry, Empowering the Oppressed

The **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** offering will be received on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Received during the season of Lent (February 22 – April 9), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. We will be collecting this offering through Easter with giving envelopes provided in the Palm Sunday bulletin. Please give generously as you are able this year.

*~Mission & Service Team*



Dear Friends,

*“I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence;  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I –  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.”*

Taken from the poem, The Road Not Taken, these words of Robert Frost strike a chord with many of us. There are times in every life when we are faced with choices, large and small. This poem argues that the choices we make shape our journey through life. Thinking about “the road less traveled” always makes me think about the path of faith. Fewer people choose this path these days, preferring to take easier paths that are known and familiar. The temptation is great to stick on the path that is safe and asks little of us.

As Jesus made that journey toward Jerusalem and the events of Holy Week, he too was faced with a choice of which path to take. The easiest thing in the world, and perhaps the smarter thing to do, would have been to avoid Jerusalem at all costs. After all, Jesus was doing good work, teaching, healing, and helping people, so why not keep his head down and continue with this ministry. But Jesus took the road less traveled toward Jerusalem, the road of sacrifice and love. The disciples warned Jesus against going to the place where many were plotting his demise. Jesus looked the danger in the eye and decided to go ahead and enter the city on Palm Sunday. The road from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday took Jesus to the Temple where he displayed his anger at the moneychangers, to an Upper Room where he shared a meal with his friends, to a garden where he prayed that the cup of suffering might pass, to an appearance before Pilate, to a heart-wrenching betrayal, to a cross and to a borrowed grave.

If Jesus had chosen not to take this path, we would know nothing of the extent of God’s love for us, nor would we have the hope that the resurrection brings to our lives that death has been defeated and life-eternal a promise from God.

The road that Jesus took was the less traveled one; it was the road of love and the path to reconciliation between us and God. The question then is what road do we take through life, the road of faith or of fear?

Whichever road we choose, we are assured through the risen Christ that we are never on that road alone. Thomas Merton says it better than I ever could,

*My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that  
I think I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.*

*But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.*

*I hope that I will never do anything  
apart from that desire.  
And I know that, if I do this,  
you will lead me by the right road,  
Though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore I will trust you always  
though I seem to be lost  
And in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
And you will never leave me  
to face my perils alone.”*

At the heart of Easter and the resurrection, is the promise that we are never left alone for the risen Christ is with us on whatever path we take through life.

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](mailto: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](mailto:pastorgillian1885@gmail.com).**

**May Bagpiper  
Info Due  
April 23**

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

March 16, 2023 Stated Meeting

- Approved transfer of membership for **Ruth Nawyn** to Green Acres Presbyterian Church.
- Approved **Linwood & Cheryl Hanbury** for membership; Lin by letter of transfer from Bayside Presbyterian Church and Cheryl by reaffirmation of faith.
- Approved **Scotty & Maureen Higgs** for membership by reaffirmation of faith.
- Approved the recommendation of the Safety Task Force to establish a permanent Safety Committee as a sub-committee of Personnel & Office.
- Appointed **Margaret Richardson** as our Commissioner to the 133<sup>rd</sup> Stated Meeting of PEVA on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

~David McKercher, Clerk of Session

## APRIL SOUP KITCHEN

St. Andrew participation at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen will continue on **Thursday, April 20, 2023**. 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.

**Congratulations to Debbie & Marty McCue** on the birth of their first grandchild, Atlas Fabian Martin, born March 3 to daughter Abigail. Atlas weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches long. Atlas is the great-grandson of **Susan & Roger Nelson**.



## PRAYERS & SQUARES QUILTING

April meetings will be **Friday, April 14 and Saturday, April 29** at 10:00am in St Andrew Hall. Come enjoy time with other St. Andrew women and help make prayer quilts. If you've been attending before, please bring whatever project you have and are working on. If you are interested in learning about quilts and sewing, come see what we are doing this month.

If you would like to request a prayer quilt for a friend or family member, please complete a request form and put in Frances Jornov's box or contact Frances Jornov (francesjrnv@charter.net or 757-646-8955). There are many completed quilts in our closet ready to be dedicated and given. Also there are Pocket Prayer Squares in the atrium that you may take to include in a card or give to

someone. Say a prayer, tie a knot and pass it to your friend or relative. They will fit in a pocket or purse and the person can take your prayers everywhere with them.

Would you like to learn to sew and make quilts?? Come to a meeting and Frances will get you started. Give Frances a call if you want more details or have questions.

Come join us-you don't have to sew--we need help putting the ties into the quilts, pressing fabric and straightening the fabric shelves. And don't forget we do enjoy the visiting! Looking forward to seeing your smiling faces!

~Frances Jornov

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW)

Please join us for our next PW circle meeting on April 11, 2023 at 10am in the church Atrium. Lesson 8, "Sabbath and Justice" from the Horizon Bible study *Celebrating Sabbath*, will be led by **Martha Shephard**. Hope to see you there!

**PW Sponsored Offerings:** Spring is the season St. Andrew Presbyterian Women support our national women in promoting the Thank/Birthday Offering. Thank Offering grants support 20 to 30 mission projects that range from \$5,000 to \$50,000. The Birthday Offering funds one to five capital improvement projects each year from \$75,000 to \$150,000. At least 40 percent goes to fund health ministries. Each supports a variety of projects here in the US as well as globally. An example of a current recipient of the Birthday Offering is to *Making Miracle Group Home* in Tallahassee, Florida which helps mothers develop lifelong skills toward greater independence after living in abusive relationships. St. Andrew has supported many projects of the PW. Our thanks as always for your generosity. If you would like to support the PW mission, please make checks out to either "St. Andrew PW" (notation Birthday/Thank Offering) and place in Sandy Poole's church box, or to "St Andrew Presbyterian Church" (notation PW Birthday/Thank Offering) and place the check either in an offering plate or the Receiving Treasurer's (Whit Tucker) office mailbox. Donations are accepted until early June 2023.

**May 23 – PW Sponsored Spring Fellowship Event:** All women of St. Andrew are invited to enjoy an evening of fellowship and a covered dish meal at The Retreat at Bennett's Creek community center in Suffolk. More details to follow.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic will hold their Summer Gathering at Massanetta on June 8-11. Guest presenter is the Rev. Dr. Olive Mahabir who will introduce the 2023 Horizon Bible study titled: *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*. It will be an in-person event as well as virtual. More information will follow.

~Martha Sheppard, PW Moderator

## St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Finance Report

for Year-to-Date 2/28/23

	<u>Feb Amt</u>	<u>YTD Actuals</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>	\$36,054	\$69,796	\$77,503
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	<u>\$38,288</u>	<u>\$76,985</u>	\$87,188
<b>Net</b>	<b>-\$2,234</b>	<b>-\$7,190</b>	
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			<b><u>Endowment Funds</u></b>
<b>Bank Assets</b>	\$257,256		<b>General</b>
<b>Ed Jones Inv.</b>	<u>\$76,699</u>		<b>Mission</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$333,955</b>		<b>Tot Endowment</b>
			<b>\$548,226</b>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>			
<b>Other Liabilities</b>	\$3,086		<b><u>Mortgage</u></b>
<b>Earmarks</b>	<u>\$266,123</u>		<b>Balance</b>
<b>Tot Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$269,208</b>		<b>Monthly Amt</b>
			<b>\$5,200</b>
<b>NET (Current Assets – Current Liabilities) \$64,747</b>			

Both our year-to-date (YTD) income and expenses were below the budgeted amounts. However, our income is below our expenses by over \$7,000. Our current assets still exceed our current liabilities by a comfortable margin, but the trend of net losses is disturbing. The stock market declines had a negative impact on our endowment funds, reducing their total value by \$25,875.

~Stewardship & Finance Committee



Dottie Vann	2	Turner Coffman	21
Zie Medrano	3	Andrew Kowalski	21
Allen Zachary	3	Sarah West	22
Denise McAlpine	4	Margaret Gartman	24
Gillian Weighton	5	Terry Phelps	24
Rob Baker	6	Thomas Czerwinski	25
Mark Buehlman	7	Landon Estes	25
Frances Jornov	8	Robert Hayslett	25
Betty Hare	9	Charlotte Johnson	25
Bo Hamrick	12	Andrew Stephenson	26
Mark Morrell	12	Jim Viser	26
Carolyn Tucker	13	Dee Campbell	27
Beth Lyon-Suhring	14	Wayne Gwaltney	27
Hannah Emert	15	Lily Hayslett	28
Martha Goodwin	15	Josh West	29
Mark Hendrickson	15	Ashley Poe	30
Mike Babyak	18	Neve Stone	30
Michelle Malven	20		
Kevin Valentine	20		



3	Robert & Hope Bradshaw
18	Art & Tina Zachary
19	Andy & Helen Chapman
20	Roger & Marilou Estes
28	Gary & Connie Parrish
28	John & Mette Petersen
30	Cam & Angie Ebel
30	Kevin & Amy Gray



**P**lease remember in prayer the following St Andrew members who have recently lost loved:

**Jim Perkinson**, whose mother, Billie, 98, passed away on March 20, 2023.

**Cam Ebel**, whose mother passed away on March 21, 2023.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<p>2</p>  <p><b>Palm Sunday</b></p> <p>One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Received 10:00 Worship Service; Communion 11:00 Church School for all ages <u>LAST DAY to order Easter Flowers</u></p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching, library 2:00 Pastor Gillian’s Last Monday Kirk Night class repeat on Zoom 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon – CEB*</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30 – 4:30 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 Bell Choir practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 7:00 Chancel Choir practice</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>6:30 Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p>7</p> <p>St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels</p>  <p><b>GOOD FRIDAY</b></p>	8
<p>9</p>  <p>10:00 Easter Worship Service Breakfast following the worship service <b>NO CHURCH SCHOOL</b></p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching, library 6:30 Caregivers; library 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon – CEB*</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30 – 4:30 RSA* (CEB*) 10:00 Presbyterian Women in Atrium 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 Bell Choir practice</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) Noon Widows Walk; library 7:00 Chancel Choir practice</p>	13	<p>14</p> <p>St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels 10:00 – Noon Prayers/Squares in St. Andrew Hall</p>	15
<p>16</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching, library 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon – CEB*</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 – 4:30 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 Bell Choir practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 7:00 Chancel Choir practice</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Soup Kitchen at Salvation Army, Bank St. in Suffolk 6:30 Diaconate &amp; Session meeting in Sanctuary</p>	<p>21</p> <p>St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>22</p>  <p><b>Earth Day: GO GREEN</b></p>
<p>23</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages 1:00 – 5:00 Church Reserved; Sanctuary, Atrium &amp; Kitchen in use <u>MAY BAGPIPER INFO DUE</u></p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB**) 10:00 Stitching, library 6:30 Caregivers; library 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon – CEB*</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30 – 4:30 RSA (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 Bell Choir practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) Noon Widows Walk; library 7:00 Chancel Choir practice</p>	27	<p>28</p> <p>St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 – Noon Prayers/Squares in St. Andrew Hall</p>
<p>30</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages</p>						

\*Renaissance School for the Arts (RSA) \*Christian Education Building (CEB)



**Looking Ahead** Music is the Message Sunday 2023 will be on May 21<sup>st</sup> during the 10:00am service; the Chancel Choir, Combo and Celebration Ringers look forward to presenting the message of God’s love through the medium of music.



