



The Bagpiper



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Suffolk, Virginia

May 2023



Thanks,
Teachers!

TEACHER APPRECIATION & GRADUATION SUNDAY

St. Andrew will honor its teachers and celebrate its high school and college graduates on Sunday, May 7 during the 10:00 morning worship service.

Please let **Beth Lyon-Suhring** (lyonsuhring@hotmail.com) know if you or your child will be graduating this spring. We want to make sure that we include ALL our graduates!



~Beth Lyon-Suhring, Director of Christian Education



The music ministry of St. Andrew is looking forward to presenting the annual "Music Is the Message" service on May 21st – the Chancel Choir, Combo, Celebration Ringers and Music Makers will all be taking part in this service.

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite your family, neighbors and friends to join you for worship as we celebrate God's Love through music and song.

MUSICIANS NEEDED

Looking ahead to the summer – during the summer months, both the Chancel Choir and Celebration Ringers will be on 'break' and I'd love to have anyone that is not able to sing, ring or play with us regularly to provide musical offerings during the summer months. This is a great opportunity for college age folks who are not in the area during the school year to return and share their talents. Please reach out to me if you or any of your family members would be interested – thanks so much – you can talk to me before or after the Sunday service, or email me at music.standrewpres@gmail.com.

~Al Reese, St. Andrew Music Director

PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING

The Pentecost Offering is the second special offering of the Presbyterian Church USA of the year. It will be received on Pentecost Sunday, May 28. This offering allows Presbyterians to invest in the church's greatest resource – our youth – and join in ministries that address the needs of at-risk children and encourage, grow and support our young people. 40% of the offering will be retained by St. Andrew for investment in local programs focused on children at risk and development of youth. The remainder will be used by the larger Presbyterian Church to support Young Adult Volunteers (25%), Ministries with Youth (25%) and Advocacy for At-Risk Children (10%). Please give generously as you are able.

~Mission Committee

Memorial Day Sunday

May 28, 2023

Worship Service at 10:00
NO Church School Classes



GROCERY LIST FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

You'll be hearing more about St. Andrew's June intergenerational program in the weeks ahead, but we need to start now to gather supplies for one of these projects: groceries for migrant farmworkers of Virginia's Eastern Shore.

- 4-lb bag of MASECA (cornmeal)
- 2-lb bag of dried black or pinto beans
- 16 to 48-oz bottle of cooking oil
- 2-lb bag of enriched long-grain rice
- 12 to 18-oz can of jalapeno peppers
- Canned tomato sauce
- Canned vegetables
- All-purpose flour

~Beth Lyon-Suhring, Director of Christian Education



Sunday
May 14

Dear Friends,

Many years ago, I was introduced by a Quaker friend to the writings of Oriah Mountain Dreamer. One of her most well-known poems, *The Invitation*, asks some great questions –

“It doesn’t interest me what you do for a living.

I want to know what you ache for

and if you dare to dream of meeting your heart’s longing.....

It doesn’t interest me where or what or with whom you have studied.

I want to know what sustains you

from the inside when all else falls away.

I want to know if you can be alone with yourself

and if you truly like the company you keep in the empty moments.”

It is, for sure, a searching question about what sustains us when all else falls away. Where do we find the energy, strength, wisdom, inspiration to keep going when we feel like everything we knew and relied upon falls away. We can only avoid for so long the truth that our health can be taken from us, our wealth may dwindle, our careers may falter, our relationships may sour, our hopes might be dashed, and our fears may be realized. Life is fragile and these are difficult times through which we are all living. So, where do we turn for sustenance?

For many of us, sustenance comes from being in community and from the deep connection and bonds that we have established with each other. At St Andrew, there is a rich system of support that we offer to one another as we serve, grow, learn and worship together. And ultimately, it is our connection to and our relationship with God that is the most powerful sustaining force in our lives.

When all else falls away, there is God.

God is not some distant deity, unmoved by the plight of what it means to be human. In the life and teaching, death and resurrection of Jesus, we see God in flesh and blood, present with us and relentless on our side. When all else falls away, we are confident that God sustains us and longs for us to be in relationship.

Jesus said it most beautifully in these words from John’s Gospel,

“I am the vine, and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit; for you can do nothing without me.”

May our faith and trust in God sustain us and may we know that in our empty, quiet moments, when we are alone with ourselves, God is also with 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 (NO Evening Prayer on May 16). 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

April 20, 2023 Stated Meeting

- Approved transfer of membership for Rick and Shirley Martin to Westminster Presbyterian Church in Waynesboro, VA.
- Approved Heather Moore, Billy Cope and Laura Walker for membership at St. Andrew.
- Approved the recommendation from the Endowment and Mission & Service Committees to withdraw \$5,000 from the St. Andrew Mission Endowment and donate it to hunger relief causes as follows: \$2,000 each to Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center (SCFC) and Isle of Wight County Community Outreach Program (IOW-COP) and \$1,000 to the UN World Food Program.

~David McKercher, Clerk of Session

Looking Ahead to Summer: Caring for the Earth

Mark your calendars for Sundays in June and July as we learn together about this beautiful gift of a planet on which we live.

In June ... the whole congregation will have an opportunity to gather in the Atrium and work together on hands-on intergenerational projects that will honor and care for the earth.

In July ... we'll hold a combined adult church school class focusing on major issues facing our planet and practical ways each one of us can work to make healing changes.

~Beth Lyon-Suhring, Director of Christian Education

GRADUATE INFO NEEDED

Graduate announcements for the Bagpiper:



To all St. Andrew members who will graduate this spring from high school, college, or beyond: **email the details below to lizatucker@hotmail.com by**

June 18 so that they may be shared with our readers in the summer newsletter edition. You may also place a graduate announcement form (located at the Kiosk in the Atrium) in the Bagpiper Office mailbox.

Name of Graduate:

Parents' names or name of husband/wife (if appropriate):

Graduated from which school (and location of school):

Type of degree:

Future plans:

~Liza Tucker, Bagpiper Editor

NEW FLOWER COORDINATOR

The Worship Committee would like to thank **Helen Chapman** for her hard work and support as the Flower Coordinator the past few years. Helen will be stepping away from that position, and we wish her all the best!

Flowers are a great way to celebrate, honor or remember someone or a special occasion, or simply just to brighten the church. If you would like to bring flowers or have them delivered, they are always welcome! To sign up for an available Sunday please use the Flower Book located in the atrium.

If you need any help getting the flowers to church, delivered to yourself or someone else after church, please reach out to **Deborah Banks**, #757-647-9157 (text or call) or djbanks64@hotmail.com; she will be happy to help.

~The Worship Committee

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Join the Presbyterian Women for our final circle meeting of the year scheduled May 9, 2023, at 10:00am in the church Atrium. PW is honored to have **Pastor Gillian** lead us in Lesson 9, *Sabbath and Community*. The 2023-2024 Bible study year will begin in September and run through May of next year. Stay tuned for summer social events.

PW Summer Gathering: Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic will hold their Summer Gathering at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center in Harrisonburg, Virginia on June 8-11. Introduction to the 2023 Horizon Bible Study: *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* will be offered by guest Rev. Dr. Olive Mahabir. It will be an in-person event as well as virtual. Specific information will follow as it becomes available.

POSTPONED: The originally planned spring fellowship social event on May 23rd at the "Retreat" at Bennett's Creek community center has been postponed until the summer or early fall. Sorry for the inconvenience and once a new date is determined, all women of St. Andrew will be invited!

PW Sponsored Offerings: Presbyterian Women support several missions organized by our national PW. Promotion of the Thank/Birthday Offering is conducted every spring until the first part of June. Thank Offering grants support 20 to 30 mission projects in the US which range from \$5,000 to \$50,000. Birthday Offering grants go to 1 to 5 recipients for capital improvement projects which total \$75,000 to \$150,000. Health ministries receive at least 40 percent. Each offering goes to many worthy causes. If you would like to provide an offering, please make checks out to either "St. Andrew PW" (notation Thank/Birthday Offering) and place in Sandy Poole's church box, or to "St. Andrew Presbyterian Church" (notation Thank/Birthday 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.

~Martha Shephard, PW Moderator

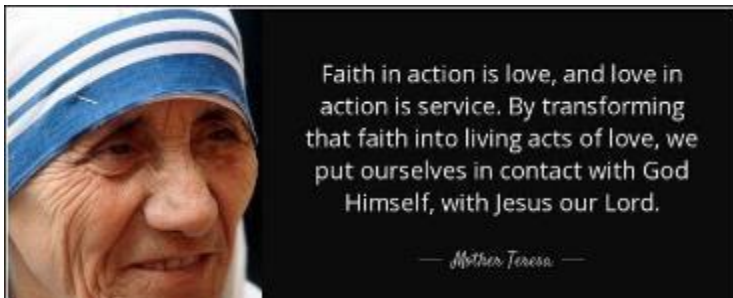
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Finance Report

for Year-to-Date 3/31/23

	<u>Mar Amt</u>	<u>YTD Actuals</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Income	\$35,742	\$105,532	\$116,254
Expenses	\$37,882	\$114,867	\$130,287
Net	-\$2,140	-\$9,335	
 <u>Current Assets</u>		<u>Endowment Funds</u>	
Bank Assets	\$273,093	General	\$392,045
Ed Jones Inv.	\$76,724	Mission	\$171,600
Total Current Assets	\$349,816	Tot Endowment	\$563,644
 <u>Current Liabilities</u>		<u>Mortgage</u>	
Other Liabilities	\$3,191	Balance	\$485,329
Earmarks	\$288,451	Monthly Amt	\$5,200
Tot Current Liabilities	\$291,642		
 NET (Current Assets – Current Liabilities) \$58,174			

Both our year-to-date (YTD) income and expenses were below the budgeted amounts. Our net Loss for March was over \$2,000 resulting in a YTD net loss of over \$9,000. Our current assets Are still comfortably greater than our current liabilities by almost \$60,000, and our endowment Funds total \$563,644. Our major liability is the mortgage that we have on our property which now has a balance of \$485,329.

~Finance & Stewardship Committee



COMPASSION SATURDAY

May 6; 9:00am - Noon

What better way to start a weekend than fellowship with friends while putting faith into action! We will have 5 activities for you to be a part of:

- Making casseroles (for those in need)
- Sorting boxes of food for the Food Pantry
- Planting flowers (to add a colorful touch)
- Making cards (get well, sympathy, missing you...)
- Trash pickup on Bridge Road

Bring the kids, bring a neighbor, bring a friend!

~Mission & Service Committee

PRAYERS & SQUARES

The Prayers and Squares group is beginning to create the quilts for the Angel Tree children and youth gifts. If you would like to help us with this project let Frances know. You can work at home using supplies we will provide or you can join us at our meetings. If you would like to learn to sew, we can help you with that goal--learn while making an Angel Tree gift quilt. 10 years old and up are welcome to join in this project. (Frances was a home economics teacher and enjoys teaching children and adults to sew.)

May meetings will be **Friday, May 12 and Saturday, May 27** at 10:00 am 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 her at 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.

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

IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Please remember in prayer the following members and their families:

- **Sue Lentini**, whose mother passed away on April 5, 2023
- **Lois Taylor**, whose sister Linda, passed away on April 8, 2023







Stephanie Caggiano	2	Josh Romanczyk	17
Angela Martin	3	Chloe Prince	19
David McAlpine	3	Maggie Prince	19
Cara Boyle	4	Neil Wilson	19
Jennifer Henson	5	Erin Boyle	20
Connor Parrish	5	Art Zachary	20
Thomas Seymour	5	Clay Ames	22
Rachel Thibodeau	6	Grace Wonpat	23
Lauren Hillis	9	Tyler Hayslett	24
Austin Ebel	10	Kelly Parrish	24
Maddie Ebel	10	James Sessoms	24
Clara Spanos	11	Lucy Willis	24
Bonnie Franklin	12	John Petersen	25
Alex Gregg	13	Mary K Romanczyk	25
Kyle Madden	14	Bruce Walker	25
Luke Estes	15	Kerry Holt	27
Maggie Fears	15	Steve Suhring	30
Kasey Campbell	17	Elizabeth B. Viser	30

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month that is not listed or is listed incorrectly, please call the church office at (757) 238-3550.

2	Lin & Cheryl Hanbury
2	Clyde & Bonnie Harper
6	Mark & Michelle Hendrickson
10	Doug & Katie Lemon
15	Peter & Kim Stephenson
16	Leif & Susan King
17	Don & Alyce Golding
19	Lisa & Scott Thibodeau
21	Kasey & Dee Campbell
24	Deborah & Rich Sessoms
27	Lee & Kira Livingston
27	Mark & Sonja Morrell
31	Wayne & Amber Gwaltney



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	2 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 Bell Choir practice	3 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 7:00 Chancel Choir practice	4 9:30 – 2:00 RSA* Teachers' Meeting (CBE* rooms 201 & 202)	5 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	6 9:00 – Noon Compassion Saturday Activities at St. Andrew
7 <u>Teacher Appreciation & Graduate Sunday</u> 10:00 Worship Service; Communion 11:00 Church School for all ages	8 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching 6:30 Caregivers; library 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	9 10:00 Presbyterian Women Circle; Atrium 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 Bell Choir practice	10 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) Noon Widows Walk; library 7:00 Chancel Choir practice	11	12 10:00 – Noon Prayers & Squares, St. Andrew Hall St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	13 3:00 – 8:00 Church Reserved, Atrium and Kitchen in use
14  10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages	15 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	16 No Evening Prayer 7:00 Bell Choir practice	17 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 7:00 Chancel Choir practice	18 Soup Kitchen at Salvation Army, Bank St. in Suffolk	19 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	20
21  10:00 Worship Service: Music is the Message <u>JUNE BAGPIPER INFO DUE</u>	22 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching 6:30 Caregivers; library 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	23 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom	24 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) Noon Widows Walk; library	25 6:30 Diaconate & Session meeting in Sanctuary	26 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	27 10:00 – Noon Prayers & Squares, St. Andrew Hall
28  10:00 Worship Service; Pentecost Offering Received Memorial Day Sunday No Church School	29  9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) 10:00 Stitching 7:00 AA & AI-Anon – CEB*	30 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom	31			

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