



# The Bagpiper



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Suffolk, Virginia

October 2023

## ST. ANDREW STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign is "Stewardship is a Way of Life." It asks, "What will you give back to God from the many blessings you have received?" The graphic emphasizes that when you think about giving back, you should think in terms of your time, talent and treasure. St. Andrew provides many opportunities during each year to give back to your church, your community, and the world.

St. Andrew has an impressive history of community outreach and mission support. In fact, we are involved in so many different efforts that most of us are unaware of some of those efforts. Please scan the list below of some of the many St. Andrew outreach activities. Each provides an opportunity for you to "Give Back."

- St. Andrew Preschool
- CAPS (Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk)
- Rise Against Hunger
- Suffolk Meals on Wheels
- Soup Kitchen
- ForKids
- SAM's Helping Hands (SAM - St. Andrew Men)
- Salvation Army School Supply Drive
- Groceries for Migrant Farm Workers
- Blessing Bags
- Renaissance School of the Arts
- Prayers and Squares
- Suffolk Library Hunger Mission
- Deacon's Fund
- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



- Easter Baskets
- Presbytery of Eastern Virginia Hunger Initiatives
- Joyful Noise Offering
- Pentecost Offering
- Peace & Global Witness Offering
- Preschool Yard Sale
- Red Cross Blood Drive
- Mitten Tree
- Gift Cards for College Students
- Stephen Ministry
- Water Mission
- Restoration Farm Ministries
- Foreign Missions
- Angel Tree
- Suffolk Food Pantry

~Stewardship Committee

### DEDICATION SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 22

*Join us for a meal & fellowship following the worship service.*

**On Sunday, October 22, St. Andrew will be celebrating Dedication Sunday. A meal will be provided** by the Finance and Fellowship Committees after the Sunday service. We look forward to providing food and an opportunity for fellowship as a culmination to our day of dedicating our stewardship cards.

The Finance Committee will be providing the meat for our dinner and the Fellowship Committee will be securing all the wonderful sides to complement their meat donation. AND THAT IS WHERE YOU CAN HELP. We are looking for volunteers to bring a hot dish of vegetables, potatoes, or mac & cheese; a cold dish of salad or fruit;

OR a dessert. There will be a sign-up sheet in the church atrium starting October 1. We also will be sending out emails to those who are on the memorial reception or PW mailing lists. If you are involved with either of those groups, please watch for this email.

If you have any questions, please contact **Kay Smith** at (717) 614-7585, or [jokaysmith@charter.net](mailto:jokaysmith@charter.net).

We thank you in advance for your food contribution and look forward to enjoying this time of fellowship on October 22, 2023.

~Kay Smith, Marion Hale, Angel Henkel  
Fellowship Committee

**Dear Friends,**

*“Now God said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.”*  
(Genesis 12: 1-2)

Here is the call of Abram and Sarah whose journey marks the birth of a new people called and set apart by God. Prior to this call in Genesis, the biblical narrative has focused on creation and the subsequent fall from grace. The biblical scholar, Walter Brueggemann writes about this transition of tone in the narrative,

*“The One who calls the worlds into being now makes a second call. The call is specific, addressed to the aged Abraham and to barren Sarah. The purpose of the call is to fashion an alternative community in a world gone awry, to embody in human history the power of blessing.”*

The response to the call is succinct and without fanfare, *“So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.”* Along the way, there are missteps and mistakes made, detours taken and terrible decisions that cause harm. But the mistakes do not negate the faithfulness of Abraham and Sarah as they strive to follow God’s call and trust in God’s leading.

Taking a leap of faith, like Abraham and Sarah, is both frightening and energizing. But like them, God calls us to fashion a new community in a world gone awry. There are many ways in which the world has gone awry as we tackle the effects of climate change, or watch as wars continue to be fought, and as our communities struggle with violence, injustice, poverty and discord. We, as a church, are called to be a blessing, and to show the power of blessing to transform lives in this time in human history.

At St Andrew, we have answered the call to be a blessing through the many missions, both near and far, to which we are committed. We provide a preschool for the little children around us and pray they grow up safe and secure, knowing they are loved. We strive to create community by being a place where all are known, welcomed, accepted, and loved. We grapple with our faith in classes that encourage life-long Christian formation. All of this, and much more, is done because we have heard the call of God to be a blessing. But what we also need is your money to help us continue to bless those around us.

As we enter our season of stewardship, and as you consider your pledge to the mission and ministry of St Andrew, please be generous in your ongoing support so that we may truly bless the lives of others and embody the love of Christ in our world today.

Blessings,

*Pastor Gillian*

**EVENING PRAYER ON ZOOM**

Please join **Pastor Gillian** for Evening Prayers in October on Tuesdays at 6:30 via Zoom (check your email for updates during October). 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).

**SIGN UP TO RECEIVE PASTOR GILLIAN’S E-VOTIONAL**

If you would like to receive Pastor Gillian’s E-votional, contact her at [pastorgillian1885@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgillian1885@gmail.com). The weekly email usually includes an e-votional and prayer, the upcoming scripture for the Sunday sermon, details about Sunday Church School, and Kirk Night info for the week.



There is tremendous comfort that comes from knowing that you are being lifted up in prayer when you or someone you love is in distress. That comfort is magnified when prayers are said by many people united in God’s love.

St. Andrew has an active prayer chain, comprised of many people who have made the commitment to pray for others when needs arise.

When sickness or other crises come about, or when a new baby or other occasions for celebration come into your life, contact the church’s prayer chain and know that many people will be holding you and yours in prayer. Contact **Beth Lyon-Suhring** at [lyonsuhring@hotmail.com](mailto:lyonsuhring@hotmail.com) to have your request sent out.

If you would like to be a part of St. Andrew’s prayer chain, committing to pray for others, we would love to welcome you into that ministry, too. Again, contact Beth, and she will add your name to the email distribution list for prayer requests.

## PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

This third Special Offering of the PCUSA for the year will be received on **October 1st**, World Communion Sunday. Through participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. God's peace, empowered by God's joy, reminds us that we are connected to each other. We are not alone. Peace begins with each of us. Seventy-five percent of the offering will be used by the larger church in programs advocating for peacemaking and justice. The remaining 25% will be retained at St. Andrew and donated to support a local charity. Please give generously as you are able.

~Mission & Service

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

### **September 21, 2023 Stated Meeting**

- Approved **Jim and Julia Pratt** for membership by reaffirmation of faith.
- Approved the Worship Committee recommendation for two worship services on Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00pm and 7:00pm. Communion will be served at the second service. Please note that there will be no 10:00am worship service on Christmas Eve.
- Approved the slate of officer candidates for the Class of 2026 presented by the Nominating Committee and called a **Congregational Meeting for October 29<sup>th</sup>** following the worship service for the purpose of electing officers.
- Appointed **Margaret Richardson** as our Commissioner to the 135<sup>rd</sup> Stated Meeting of PEVA on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

~David McKercher, Clerk of Session

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO**



It's  
a  
Boy!

**Rhonda & Doug Gordon** as they rejoice in the birth of new grandson James Douglas Compton, who was born to Lauren and Joe Compton on September 7, 2023. He weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.

## GIFT CARDS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Welcome and Congregational Care Committee will be sending our college students gift cards as a way of letting them know we are thinking about them and wishing them well on their exams in December. We would like to send each of them a \$10 gift card so they can enjoy a meal and recharge while studying. Starting on OCTOBER 15, 2023, please consider donating a gift card to Chick-Fil-A, Starbucks, Subway, Panera, or similar and place it in the office mailbox of **Lynne Wood/Gwen Elmore** no later than NOVEMBER 5, 2023.



If you prefer, you can make a monetary donation to the committee to purchase gift cards. Make check payable to St. Andrew with a note "College Gift Cards." Thank you in advance for your donation. Please contact **Lynne Wood** at woodpile\_lb@charter.net or **Gwen Elmore** at gwenelmore49@gmail.com if you have questions.

## Property Committee Seeks Help Identifying Church Facility Problems

As we enter the rainy season and winter months, we ask everyone to keep an eye out in the church for problems or issues with our facilities. If you see a leaky sink or running toilet, please help us conserve water and energy and let one of the Property Deacons know. Kevin Gray, Cliff Barr, Steve Poole, and Bob Thompson are your points of contact.

## Our prayers are extended to the families & friends of:

- **Eulane Rose**, former St. Andrew member, who passed away on September 16, 2023. She was a member of the Genesis Gospel Quartet at St. Andrew for many years.
- **Bill Smith**, former member of St. Andrew, who passed away on September 16, 2023.



With  
Christian  
Sympathy

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



We had a wonderful opening gathering of the PW year on September 12<sup>th</sup>. The opening prayer and installation of the Coordinating Team was led by Pastor Gillian. *Elizabeth's Sacred Encounter* from Horizon's Bible Study, **Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts** by Olive Mahabir was presented by guest, Kay Dezern. Kay is a counselor at Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Services. She was our guest last year and we thank her once again for such a meaningful, interactive lesson. She brought insight into what it means to live on the margins of society and how we might better fulfill our purpose as Christians.

The October PW Bible study circle meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 10:00am** in the church Atrium. **Lesson 2, *The Exorcism in Gerasa***, will be facilitated by **Martha Shephard**. Even if you couldn't make it to the last meeting, all women of St. Andrew are welcome! The lesson is also presented on the PW St. Andrew Facebook page if unable to come to the meetings. If you aren't on the Facebook website and would like to join, contact **Gloria Womble** or **Martha Shephard** for a private invitation. It's another avenue to know what's happening in our PW.

The following invitation comes from PW Cindy Bitterman from Great Bridge Presbyterian Church. They are holding a fall retreat in the Outer Banks, Kitty Hawk **November 3-5, 2023**. As noted by Cindy: *"We are opening up the retreat to others as the entire theme of the retreat is "Just Open the Door." Jen Schmidt, the speaker for the program, has written a book about how the simplest acts of hospitality can open the door to bringing others to Christ.*

*Attendees can participate for one day or the entire event; however, if anyone wants to stay at the host hotel (Hilton Garden Inn in Kitty Hawk), reservations need to be made by October 4 to guarantee the rate and availability. We are accepting program reservations up to 2 days in advance; after that date, we can confirm availability by phone.*

*If anyone has any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. We would love to see your ladies!!!"*

It should be a memorable event. Let me know if any of you are interested in attending.

~Martha Shephard, PW Moderator



### **Music Notes from AI**

It's been so nice having the entire music ministry back after a well-deserved summer break. (The Combo continues its leadership and music ministry year-round, and I'm very thankful for their continuous service!)

Are you looking to get involved in the music ministry at St. Andrew? Even if you haven't sung, rung or played in awhile, we would be happy for you to join us. Our Combo enjoys using a wide variety of instrumentation, from melodica, to ukulele to cello (and others). Do you enjoy more contemporary Christian music? We'd be happy to add some more vocalists to the group.

Feel a bit more traditional? Read music but only sing privately? Then maybe the bell choir would be a good fit. Singers? The Chancel Choir still has a few choice seats available!

Want to participate in the choir, but aren't ready or able to make a longer commitment? We will present our Christmas Cantata on Dec 17<sup>th</sup> during the 10 a.m. service. If you'd like to join us for that, we will prepare that music during the first 15-20 minutes of choir rehearsal which happens on Wednesdays at 7:30.

If you're interested, or would just like some more information, please speak with Angie Hillis-Baurle (for the Combo) or me (AI Reese) after the Sunday service – I'm hard to miss – look for the pony tail hiding behind the organ console. 😊

~AI Reese, Music Director

## OCTOBER SOUP KITCHEN

St. Andrew participation at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen will continue on **Thursday, October 19**. St. Andrew provides 150 take-out meals and cupcakes are a welcome addition.



**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...you are angels for your continued support. The distribution of the meals continues to be through a drive-by system distributed by the Salvation Army staff.

## St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Finance Report

for Year-to-Date 8/31/23

	<u>Aug Amt</u>	<u>YTD Actuals</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>	\$36,937	\$295,226	\$310,011
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	<u>\$37,640</u>	<u>\$315,644</u>	\$345,810
<b>Net</b>	<b>-\$703</b>	<b>-\$20,417</b>	
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			<b><u>Endowment Funds</u></b>
<b>Bank Assets</b>	\$52,319		<b>General</b> \$424,230
<b>Ed Jones Inv.</b>	<u>\$232,016</u>		<b>Mission</b> <u>\$182,129</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$284,335</b>		<b>Tot Endowment</b> <b>\$606,359</b>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>			
<b>Other Liabilities</b>	\$3,446		<b><u>Mortgage</u></b>
<b>Earmarks</b>	<u>\$234,200</u>		<b>Balance</b> \$468,485
<b>Tot Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$237,646</b>		<b>Monthly Amt</b> \$5,200
<b>NET (Current Assets – Current Liabilities) \$46,689</b>			

Our monthly income for August was slightly above the average monthly income for the year. However, we still had a deficit of \$703, making our year-to-date deficit equal to \$20,417. At this rate we anticipate a deficit of about \$30,000 for 2023. While it is disturbing that St. Andrew has been running deficits every year since the pandemic, our overall financial health is still good with our current assets exceeding our current liabilities by \$46,689 and our endowment funds exceed \$600,000. Hopefully, our 2024 stewardship campaign will generate sufficient pledges so that we can balance our 2024 budget. In order to generate more income, we recently transferred a large portion of our bank account balance to our Ed Jones investment account. This action is generating almost \$1000 each month in risk-free income.

~Finance & Stewardship Committee



**Dedication Sunday**  
**October 22, 2023**



Bob Boyle	1
Andrew Snyder	1
Tyler Baurle	2
Garrett Ellenor	2
Brett Endrusick	3
Doug Gordon	3
Hannah Hamrick	3
Carrie Estes	5
George Perry	5
Rhett Franklin	6
Gary Parrish	6
Carolyn Coffman	7
Joe Sessoms	7
Curtis Corl	8
Kris Baker	9
Mary Stuart Campbell	10
Vivian Smith	10
Lindsay Spires	10
Sandra Carnegie	11
Cheryl Hanbury	11
Angel Henkel	13
Sandy Poole	13
Jeremy Spires	13
Cooper West	13
Leslie White	13
Wes Newman	14
Ruth Chester	15
Sean Golding	15
Cal Vann	15
Alexis Korahaes	16
Katherine Gwaltney	17
Marc Richardson	17
Warren White	17
Howard Anderson	18
Sonja Morrell	18
Bob Thompson	18
Stefanie Lomax	21
Susan Nelson	21
Carole Prince	22
Inga Miller	23
Christopher Taylor	25
Betty Beard	26
Rachel Smith	26
Jeff Coston	28
Harrison Senter	28
Benjamin Gregg	29
John Schalk	30

4 Mark & Vanessa Buehlman
4 Tim & Kathy Hamer
4 Stephen & Lindsay Steele
7 Bert & Sheryl Senter
7 Paul & Rachel Smith
9 Frank & Gloria Womble
13 Rob & Kris Baker
22 Robert & Kerry Holt
22 Jeremy & Heather Mushero
23 Travis & Harmony Madden



**BIBLE QUIZ\***

Not long before Jesus' arrest, he said: "I did not come to \_\_\_\_\_ the world, but to \_\_\_\_\_ the world." Fill in the blanks.

- A. judge; save
- B. hate; love
- C. condemn; teach
- D. disrupt; conform to

Answer: See John 12:47, NIV  
 \*Churchart.com; October 2023

**LOOKING AHEAD**

<u>November 12</u>	Preschool Sunday
<u>November 15</u>	Last Kirk Night
<u>November 17</u>	Info Due for Combined Bagpiper issue for Dec 2023 & Jan 2024
<u>November 26</u>	Hanging of the Greens
<u>December 3</u>	First Sunday of Advent
<u>December 17</u>	Christmas Cantata
<u>December 24</u>	Christmas Eve Services at 4:00pm & 7:00pm (No 10:00am Worship Service)

**PRAYERS & SQUARES**

Come join the Prayers and Squares group to create quilts and to enjoy time with friends. Our October meeting dates are **Friday October 6 and Saturday October 28** at 10:00 am in St Andrew Hall. Choose what works for you--Friday and/or Saturday meetings. Please bring whatever project you have and are working on. There are quilts that need quilting and ties to be added. There are also quilt kits that need to be machine sewn.

The Prayers and Squares members have been working hard making quilts that will be given to the children for the Angel Tree gifts. We have a shelf full of forty some quilts ready to give. A special thanks to everyone who helped with making this project a success.

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.

Would you like to learn to sew?? If you are 12 years old or older, 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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p><u>World Communion Sunday</u> <u>Peace &amp; Global Witness Offering Received</u> 10:00 Worship Service; Communion 11:00 Church School for all ages</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00 Stitching, CEB* 2:00 Pastor Gillian's Kirk Night Class on Zoom 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) <u>Kirk Night</u> 5:45 Dinner 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:30 – 8:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:00 Prayers &amp; Squares Quilting, St. Andrew Hall St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:00 Stitching, CEB* 2:00 Pastor Gillian's Kirk Night Class on Zoom 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 10:00 Presbyterian Women Circle, Atrium 5:50 – 9:00 Gov. Point HOA, Atrium 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) Noon Widows Walk; library <u>Kirk Night</u> 5:45 Dinner 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:30 – 8:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages</p> <p><u>Donations of Gift Cards for College Students Begin</u></p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 Stitching, CEB* 2:00 Pastor Gillian's Kirk Night Class on Zoom 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) <u>Kirk Night</u> 5:45 Dinner 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:30 – 8:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Soup Kitchen at Salvation Army, Bank St. in Suffolk 6:30 Diaconate &amp; Session meeting in Sanctuary</p>	<p>20</p> <p>St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p><u>Dedication Sunday</u> 10:00 Worship Service No Church School 11:00 Stewardship Meal <u>November Bagpiper Info Due</u></p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:00 Stitching, CEB* 2:00 Pastor Gillian's Kirk Night Class on Zoom 6:30 Caregivers, library 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (CEB*) Noon Widows Walk; library <u>Kirk Night</u> 5:45 Dinner 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:30 – 8:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00 Prayers &amp; Squares Quilting, St. Andrew Hall</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service Congregational Meeting following the service 11:00 Church School for all ages</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:00 Stitching, CEB* 2:00 Pastor Gillian's Kirk Night Class on Zoom 7:00 AA &amp; Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells</p>				

\*Christian Education Building (CEB)

\*Renaissance School for the Arts (RSA)

**BAGPIPER DUE DATES:** November Bagpiper info will be due on October 22.  
December 2023 and January 2024 will be a combined issue, with info due on Friday, November 17.