



The Bagpiper



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Suffolk, Virginia

February 2024

"SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY

Food collection: Items due by Feb. 11, 2024

Mission and Service Committee will be 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. Collection date through Feb. 11, 2024.

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 "Souper" Bowl Sunday.

BEACON OF HOPE WINTER SHELTER MEALS: HELP NEEDED

The Beacon of Hope organization has secured funding to provide motel shelter for some of Suffolk's most vulnerable homeless population this winter. St. Andrew is scheduled to provide three meals each day to these neighbors for the week of Feb. 12-18, 2024. We need your help!

Breakfasts - Sign up to bring in breakfast items that we'll pack in to-go bags.

Lunches - Sign up to make and pack lunches.

Dinners - Sign up to provide a meal (or part of a meal) for one of our evening deliveries. All to-go boxes will be provided by the church.

Take a look to see what's needed and sign up to help at the Information Kiosk in the Atrium. The church will take care of all food deliveries.

~Beth Lyon-Suhring, Director of Christian Education

BAGPIPER DUE DATE

The March and April Bagpiper will be a combined edition. Info for both months will be due on February 18.

ASH WEDNESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

All-you-can-eat! Eat in or take out!

The Presbyterian Men will host an Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper at St. Andrew on February 14



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 **Bob Thompson or Roger Nelson**.

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. 14, 2024.** 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.



EASTER FLOWERS



Be on the lookout for more information about ordering Easter Flowers. Forms will be available soon to order a flowering spring plant to brighten the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The flowers can be in honor or memory of someone and will also be listed in the bulletin. The flowers will then be available to take with you following the Easter service. You will see more information soon in the Sunday bulletin, next month's Bagpiper, and at the Kiosk! Easter Sunday is March 31

~Deborah Banks

Dear Friends,

“Now here is my secret: I tell it to you with an openness of heart that I doubt I shall ever achieve again, so I pray that you are in a quiet room as you read these words. My secret is that I need God – that I am sick and can no longer make it alone. I need God to help me give, because I no longer seem capable of giving; to help me be kind as I no longer seem capable of kindness; to help me love as I seem beyond being able to love.”

~ Douglas Copeland, *Life After God*.

This has always seemed to me a very touching, heart-rending confession from a person who had given up on God. It is a reminder to us all that we each need God and, as much as ever, our world needs God. At the heart of life on this earth there is a sickness that is destroying the peace, stability, and security of all that we hold dear, and the name of that sickness is hate. We cannot make it alone, we need one another and above all, we need God to teach us again how to live together at peace, respecting and caring for one another.

We need God to teach us again how to be generous so that we may share what we have with those who are less fortunate than us. We need God to remind us that we give not just out of duty, but in response to all that God has given us. And God has given us everything. We need God to make our hearts kinder and less closed to others. We do seem to have forgotten how to be kind and gentle. The world teaches us to be harsh and selfish, putting ourselves first and thinking little of others.

More than anything, we need God to help us to love. There is within us all a yearning that often goes unrecognized, and that yearning is for love, an unconditional love that will remain constant. This is the love of God, a love that claims us repeatedly, even when we fall short. If this is the love that God has for us, then we must strive to learn from God what it means to love in this way.

The love that God has for us is wider, deeper, stronger, bigger, and more powerful than we could ever imagine. This love was perfectly demonstrated in Jesus who embraced the little children, ate with sinners, called simple folk to follow, and forgave even the worst of sins. We all need this God and this love, and because God is gracious this love is for us all.

We need God and our world needs God. We need God's help to be generous, kind and loving, for it is these gifts that will help heal the sickness of this world. So, my friends, may God help us to love one another and may God meet our deepest needs and the deepest needs of this world.

~Blessings,

Pastor Gillian

EVENING PRAYER ON ZOOM

Please join **Pastor Gillian** for Evening Prayers in February on Tuesdays 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.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

January 18, 2024 Stated Meeting

- Elected **David McKercher** as Clerk of Session for 2024.
- Elected **Whit Tucker** and **Brenda Lovell** as Receiving & Disbursing Treasurers for 2024 respectively.
- Approved the 2023 Church Statistical Report and directed the Clerk to post it on the bulletin board in the Office Workroom for review by the congregation.
- Approved a revised Church Use Policy.
- Appointed Elder **Danny Lovell** as St. Andrew's commissioner to the 136th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Eastern VA (PEVA) to be held on January 27th at Great Bridge Presbyterian Church.

~David McKercher, Clerk of Session

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you enjoy seeing flowers in church, there are plenty of opportunities to make that happen! The Flower Sign Up Book is located at the Kiosk. Find an available day, and then bring some flowers of your choice! You can also choose to have a note added to the bulletin if your flowers are in honor or memory of someone or a special occasion. If you need assistance getting the flowers to church or delivering flowers after church, or have other questions, please contact **Deborah Banks** at 757-647-9157 text/call.

Thursday, February 15
Salvation Army;
Bank Street, Suffolk
Cupcakes needed at
St. Andrew by 10:30am



St. Andrew is now preparing and serving the meals at the Salvation Army.



Mission & Service

St. Andrew is a Matthew 25 Church, acting boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor. Our Mission & Service Committee provides many opportunities to engage in our community and the world around us.

➤ **SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY** – a food collection event; details on page 1.

➤ **SUFFOLK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CENTER:**
Clothing donations due on February 18 St. Andrew continues to collect donations of clothing, in addition to food, for the SCFC. The Center is requesting clothing and shoes with a particular emphasis on items for men. In addition, blankets, bedding, linens and towels would be greatly appreciated. Donated items can be brought to church on the 3rd Sunday of each month and placed in the same area as the food that is collected and delivered to SCFC. If you have any questions, please contact **Danny Lovell** or **Rob Estes**.

➤ **EASTER BASKET COLLECTION to Benefit ForKids in Suffolk** St. Andrew is collecting Easter baskets, candy, and other small basket filler items for boys and girls ages 2 – 17 **through Sunday, March 17**. The baskets will be assembled and delivered to ForKids in downtown Suffolk so that they may be distributed to local families in need. Place your donations in the plastic tub in the Atrium (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, March 23 (9:00-11:00)** and help is needed! Please contact **Kyle**

Madden (Kyle.F.Madden@hii-nns.com) or **Karen Topping** (ktopping@trinitynn.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 March 31, 2024.)

➤ **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS)** offering will be received on Palm Sunday, March 24. 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 14 – March 28), 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.

"...Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

~Matthew 25: 40



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Our youth director and four youth will attend the confirmation retreat at Massanetta Springs in Harrisonburg, Virginia February 2-4. Please keep them in your prayers for safe travels, and for deeper relationships with each other and with God.



Thank you to everyone who donated the delicious chili for our youth and young adult ministry fundraiser. Thanks to all who gave so generously. Donations will be used to offset the cost for our retreats and conferences this year.

~Angie Hillis-Baurle, Youth Group Director

LOOKING AHEAD

March 10

March 17

March 24

March 28

March 31

April 7

Daylight Saving Time Begins

Easter Basket donations due

Palm Sunday; One Great Hour of Sharing Offering received

Maundy Thursday with Communion

Easter Sunday with Communion

The Fellowship Committee will host breakfast after the worship service

Sunday worship, no Communion

KIRK NIGHT – WINTER/SPRING 2024

Kirk Night, St. Andrew's mid-week program for all ages, is an evening that begins with dinner at 5:45, followed by classes for all ages that start at 6:30.

Youth Group for middle and high school students – meets in the Youth Room on the second floor of the education building, beginning with a meal at 5:45, and includes fellowship and learning.

Kids, ages kindergarten through 5th grade –

- Music Makers children's choir meets in Room 14, behind the sanctuary at 6:30pm. Songs, musical prayers, and chimes are led by **Choir Director Al Reese**.
- Children's Art Class meets in Room 103 on the first floor of the education building, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Kids will explore the story of the Last Supper as they learn about various artists' depictions of this story and make their own set of Jesus' disciples out of polymer clay.

Chancel Choir Each Wednesday evening, beginning at 7:30. Contact **Music Director Al Reese** for more information: music.standrewpres@gmail.com

Adult Class – Led by Pastor Gillian

This Kirk Night session's class will be

"A Little Lower than the Angels"

In Psalm 8 we read,

"What are human beings that you, God, are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than angels and crowned them with glory and honor."

Sometimes when our better angels are not on display, we may wonder why God cares for us and crowns us with glory and honor. We are not always our best selves and too often we witness the results of what inhumanity we inflict on each other.

Regardless of our less than angelic behavior, God does care for us and calls us a little lower than the angels. This reminds us of the good of which we mortals are capable. Pastor Gillian's class will look at some of the unsung heroes whose love, courage and kindness have made a difference in the world and renewed our faith in humanity, and who inspire us to do great things.

If you are not able to attend Pastor Gillian's class in person on Wednesday evenings, sign up for a Zoom class on Monday afternoons at 2:00pm. Contact **Beth Lyon-Suhring** for the Zoom link at lyonsuhring@hotmail.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



February PW Circle Meeting: Our next circle meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 10:00am** in the church Atrium. **Frances Jornov** will lead us in Lesson 6, "A Person with a Physical Disability Encounters Jesus" from the Horizon Bible Study, *Sacred Encounters:*

The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts by Olive Mahabir. It's never too late to join us for fellowship and study.

Kirk Night Meal The PW will provide the evening meal for Kirk Night on February 21, 2024. We love providing "Breakfast for Dinner" so we hope to see you there!

~Martha Shephard, PW Moderator

SUCCESSFUL CHRISTMAS MISSION SPONSORED BY ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The generosity of St. Andrew is evident in the support of Presbyterian Women's **Christmas Mission**. A total amount of \$2000 will be divided between our local and international missions. As a reminder, donations locally go to **Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters (CHKD) "Lighting the Way Campaign"**. It will support ongoing needs for children's mental health programs for outpatient, inpatient, and partial hospitalization services. These services are critically important for so many reasons. The **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)**, our international mission, is funding established and trusted partners on the ground who support Ukrainian citizens with ongoing needs for food, housing, and basic needs during this time of crisis. Thank you so much!

~Martha Shephard, PW Moderator

PRESBYTERIAN MEN



The Presbyterian Men's Group typically meets the second Monday of each month. Meetings start at 6:00pm and dinner is available for \$10.00. We'll have a sign-up sheet in the atrium. If you

have any questions, please contact **Roger Nelson, Lin Hanbury, John Gillis, or Bob Thompson**.

Note: *The Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper on February 14 serves as February's men's meeting; there will be no other meeting in February. The next gathering is March 11 in St Andrew Hall. Plan to join us!*

~ Bob Thompson

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Finance Report
for Year-to-Date 12/31/23

	<u>Dec Amt</u>	<u>YTD Actuals</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	
Income	\$64,661	\$480,116	\$465,016	
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$52,598</u>	<u>\$501,123</u>	\$519,125	
Net	\$12,063	(21,006)		
<u>Current Assets</u>			<u>Endowment Funds</u>	
Bank Assets	\$114,837		General	\$446,171
Ed Jones Inv.	<u>\$154,377</u>		Mission	<u>\$191,542</u>
Total Current Assets	\$269,214		Tot Endowment	\$637,714
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			<u>Mortgage</u>	
Payroll/Other Liab	\$2,533		Balance	\$454,753
Earmarks	<u>\$123,801</u>		Monthly Amt	\$5,200
Tot Current Liabilities	\$126,334			
NET (Current Assets – Current Liabilities) \$142,879				

Our monthly income in December was the highest monthly amount in 2023, and the net income for December was positive, exceeding the expenses by \$12,063. This reduced our year-to-date deficit and we ended the year with a deficit of \$21,006. Our income for 2023 was \$15,000 more than we budgeted, but it was still below our expenses. Our endowment funds experienced a good year with solid gains in both funds for the year. It is disturbing that we continue to run deficits and we will have to find ways to increase our income. However, we are healthy financially with current assets exceeding current liabilities by \$142,879, low long-term liabilities, and healthy endowment funds.

~Finance and Stewardship Committee



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

PRAYERS & SQUARES

February meetings will be **Friday, February 9 and Saturday, February 24** at 10:00am in St Andrew Hall. Come enjoy time with other St. Andrew members 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 in February.

We have many quilts ready to be dedicated and given to someone in need of prayer. Please don't hesitate to request a prayer quilt. If you would like to request a prayer quilt for a friend or family member, please complete a request form and put it in **Frances Jornov's** box or contact her at francesjrnv@charter.net or 757-646-8955. 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.

There are three sewing machines in the Prayers and Squares closet. If you are 12 years old or older, give Frances a call to let her know of your interest in learning to sew or if you need a review to use your sewing machine. Frances would like to have a beginners sewing class. You may use one of our machines or bring your own.

The Prayers and Squares group will also begin creating quilts to be given in December 2024 for the Angel Tree gifts. *(See pictures to the right and below of some of the quilts that were donated in 2023.)* If you sew and would like to help make quilts for this project, let Frances know. You may get supplies from us and sew at home.





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

~Frances Jornov

FEBRUARY Birthdays

Katie West	3	Michelle Endrusick	17
Helen Chapman	4	Candy Wolbrink	18
Will Hendrickson	5	Steve Corum	19
John Gillis	7	Charlie Cutler	19
Ed Eichelberger	8	Deborah Banks	22
Mike Haverty	9	Mike Romanczyk	23
Meggan Schoenberg	10	Glen Fachin	24
Anthony Walker	10	Jenna Robb	24
Lara Walker	10	Gwen Elmore	26
Tiffany Davidson	12	Caitlin Fears	26
Wyatt Ellenor	12	Robert Holt	26
Drew Parrish	15	Martin McCue	27
Tina Zachary	16	Frances Robb	27
Herb Bondurant	17	Jackson Ellenor	28



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	3
4 10:00 Worship Service; Communion Ordination & Installation of Officers 11:00 Church School for all ages	5 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 10:00 Stitching, CEB* 2:00 Kirk Night Class repeat on Zoom 7:00 AA & Al- Anon, Alateen – CEB*	6 9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells	7 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (*SAH) Kirk Night 5:45 Dinner: Chicken sliders 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:30 – 8:30 Chancel Choir	8	9 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels 10:00 – noon Prayers/Squares, St. Andrew Hall	10
11 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages “Souper” Bowl Food Donations Due	12 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 10:00 Stitching, CEB* 2:00 Kirk Night Class repeat on Zoom 7:00 AA & Al- Anon, Alateen – CEB*	13 9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 10:00 Presbyterian Women, Atrium 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells	14  9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (SAH*) Noon Widows Walk, Library 5:30 – 6:30 Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper 6:30 – 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 – 8:30 Chancel Choir	15 Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, Bank Street, Suffolk 6:30 Diaconate & Session meeting in St. Andrew Hall	16 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	17
18 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages SCFC* Clothing Donations due Combined March/April Bagpiper info due	19  9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 10:00 Stitching, CEB* 7:00 AA & Al- Anon, Alateen – CEB*	20 9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells	21 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga (SAH*) 1:00 Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary Kirk Night 5:45 Dinner: Breakfast 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:30 – 8:30 Chancel Choir	22	23 St. Andrew Volunteers Deliver Meals on Wheels	24 10:00 – noon Prayers/Squares, St. Andrew Hall
25 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages	26 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 10:00 Stitching, CEB* 2:00 Kirk Night Class repeat on Zoom 6:30 Caregivers, library 7:00 AA & Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*	27 9:00 – 5:00 RSA* (CEB*) 6:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom 7:00 – 8:15 Celebration Bells	28 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* Noon Widows Walk, Library Kirk Night 5:45 Dinner: Tacos 5:45 Youth Group 6:30 Programs for all ages 7:30 – 8:30 Chancel Choir	29 		

*Christian Education Building (CEB) *Renaissance School for the Arts (RSA) *St. Andrew Hall (SAH) *Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center (SCFC)

“Souper” Bowl Food Collection through February 11, 2024

Beacon of Hope Winter Shelter: Food donations/meal prep week of February 12- 18, 2024

Easter Basket donations collected through March 17, 2024