



# The Bagpiper



St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Suffolk, Virginia

May 2025

## TEACHER APPRECIATION & GRADUATE SUNDAY

May 18, 2025

St. Andrew will honor its teachers and celebrate its high school and college graduates on Sunday, May 18 during the 10:00 morning worship service.



Thanks Teachers!

The Christian Education Committee is thankful for the many teachers that help make our Christian education program a success. Thanks to the many nursery workers, crosswalk teachers and shepherds, youth teachers, adult teachers, kirk night teachers and our preschool teachers.

We will also honor our high school and college grads on May 18. Please let one of the CE Elders (**Carol Wilson, Rhonda Gordon, or Sandy Poole**) know if you have someone in your family graduating this spring. We want to make sure that we include ALL of our graduates.



~ Christian Education Committee

## COMPASSION SATURDAY

May 10, 2025; 9:00am - Noon

Join us for three hours on a beautiful Saturday morning, and enjoy **Fellowship, Love, Compassion, and Faith in Action!**

We will have several activities for you to be a part of:

- Making casseroles (for those in need in partnership with ForKids)
- Window washing (inside and out to better enjoy our Church grounds)
- Making cards (get well, sympathy, missing you...)
- Trash pickup on Bridge Road (from Burger King to Cedar Point)

**Bring the kids, bring a friend, bring your smile! If you can help, please sign up in the atrium.**

~Mission & Service Committee

**Memorial Day Sunday**

**May 25, 2025**

**Worship Service at 10:00**

**No Church School**

## SUPPORT TOYS FOR TOTS

### FOSTER FAMILY DAY

Donations through May 11, 2025

Did you know that Toys for Tots does work to benefit children *all year* round? In June, Toys for Tots will be hosting a Foster Family Day for foster families in Isle of Wight. The event will allow foster families the opportunity to spend a fun day in the sun with a variety of fun activities and crafts for children of all ages. You can help support this event by donating any of the following items:

- Beach towels
- Sunscreen
- WHITE t-shirts (to be used for tie-dying)--all sizes are needed for children and adults
- Toiletries (soap, shampoo, deodorant, hair care, dental hygiene, etc.)

The Mission and Service team will be collecting these items **through May 11**. Please leave your donations in the marked bins in the atrium. Thank you for your support!

~Karen Topping

## NEW HYMNALS FOR THE SANCTUARY

### Your help is needed!

Looking for an opportunity to contribute to St Andrew's worship service? Help by purchasing the hymnal book *Glory to God*; each hymnal is \$25. If you are planning to sponsor a hymnal, please fill out a form on the table in the atrium. You may designate each hymnal you purchase as In Honor Of, In Memory Of, and Given By. A bookplate with this information will be placed inside the front cover of the hymnal. Our goal is 250 hymnals; the deadline for purchasing is June 16.

Place your check payable to St Andrew Presbyterian Church with "Glory to God" in the memo line along with an order form in an offering plate or mail your check and order form to

Attn: Whit Tucker  
St Andrew Presbyterian Church,  
1885 Bridge Rd, Suffolk, VA 23433

Thank you for bringing even more "Glory to God" to our worship services!

~Sylvia Ryder, Worship Committee



By the time you read this, we will have celebrated Resurrection Day—Easter—and I will be out of the office for a week on vacation. (Thank you, **Rev.**

**Leigh Gillis**, for filling the pulpit while I'm out!)

Much as with Christmas, the Easter perspective is one I wish the world (including me!) could maintain for much longer than it does. The joy and sense of a new beginning, even if every feature of that new beginning isn't fully known, can bring renewed purpose and fresh, positive change. Easter reminds us that **we are resurrection people**—the new world that God has in store for us, into which we have been baptized, has already begun—and we're reminded that **now** is the time to begin to live into that identity. Taking the high road, doing the right thing, despite the pain it can bring, is a lesson Jesus taught us from the cross. Very few decisions in our lives today can compare to the choices that faced Jesus that final week—and that perspective is one that can help sustain us through our own challenges and trials.

I thought I would also share with you here a couple of the things I'm working on in conjunction with interim tasks. There are a lot of administrative projects that need to be done; one of the first is to incorporate. Our *Book of Order* requires that churches should incorporate where permitted by civil law. Prior to a landmark case in 2002, Virginia and West Virginia were the only two states that prohibited churches from incorporating. Now approximately 90% of Virginia churches are incorporated, and St. Andrew will soon join them.

In the article to the right, you will see that **Beth Martin** will begin as a full-time Office Manager at the end of April. I'm looking forward to working with Beth more as we build up the office resources for both the congregation and its church leaders. All of this is part of the work of an interim—helping to prepare the church for its next called installed pastor by ensuring that staff, policies, and processes are in place for a smooth transition.

It is my prayer that you will have had a meaningful and joyful Easter. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

In all things, be encouraged, and pursue *shalom*!

~Pastor Lou

## **ST ANDREW NOW HAS A FULL-TIME OFFICE MANAGER**

**Beth Martin** now has a full-time schedule (Monday-Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm, as of April 28) as **St. Andrew's Office Manager**.

The Session determined that, with the departure of Director of Christian Education Beth Lyon-Suhring and the upcoming retirement of Youth Director **Angie Hillis-Baurle** (August 29), clerical and front office coverage was needed to provide a consistent resource for staff, the work of the church, deliveries, phone calls, and other vendors and repair techs that need to access the building during the week.

Beth will work with **Pastor Lou** and the Personnel & Office committee to evaluate and prioritize tasks. If you are aware of a need, please see **Pastor Lou**, **Heather Gregg** Clerk of Session, or **Sonja Morrell** (Diaconate Moderator).

~Pastor Lou

## **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

### **April 10, 2025 Stated Session Meeting**

- The Finance Committee has completed our mortgage loan renewal paperwork with TowneBank. The new loan is amortized over 15 years, but will renew again in 5 years, similar to the arrangements for our previous loan and the renewal that came due in March. Many thanks to the committee for diligently managing this renewal - it was a long, and important, process!

- Session approved Audio/Visual improvements that you will see in use very soon! These improvements will greatly improve the reliability of our live stream and improve participation for all worship attendees and participants, regardless of location within the sanctuary. The improvements also include a new speaker in the cry room/parlor! These improvements were partially funded through a Presbytery of Eastern Virginia grant.

~Heather Gregg, Clerk of Session

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Session is finalizing the reestablishment of the Safety Committee, which will report directly to Session and have the task of evaluating all aspects of safety at SAPC, making recommendations where needed. *If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please see **Heather Gregg** or **Pastor Lou**.*

## SUMMER SUNDAY CLASSES

➤ **June:** Sunday Morning Classes for the whole family - Each Sunday in June, St. Andrew will gather in the atrium after morning worship to enjoy an intergenerational class using the Lift material (Living In Faith Together). Our study will be Friends in Christ and will give us the opportunity to come together around the tables to share food, enjoy fellowship, worship together, and study the Bible.

### ➤ **July**

There will be no Sunday Morning Classes on July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. CrossWalk and Youth classes will not meet in July.

July 13: If you are wondering where we are in our search for a new Pastor then this class will be for you as **Pastor Lou** teaches on the interim process.

July 20: You will have the opportunity to learn more about St. Andrew being a Matthew 25 church. **Pastor Lou** will explain what this means and how we as a congregation are living out this mission.

July 27: Have you ever wondered about what the **Beacon of Hope Mission** is all about? Many of you have prepared meals for this organization. **Cheryl Griffin**, Director of Beacon of Hope, will come to speak to us after morning worship.

Mark your calendar and join us for all these opportunities.

There will be no Sunday Morning Classes in August.

~*Christian Education Committee*

## NURSERY HELPERS NEEDED

### **Nursery helpers needed during the 10:00am service**

After May 18, we will no longer provide nursery care from 9:00am – 10:00am or 11:00am – noon.



Nursery care will be provided during the worship service through August (10:00am – 11:00am). Nursery care during the 11:00 – noon Church school hour will resume after

Rally Day in September. If you can help provide care for our youngest children, please contact **Carol Wilson** at 757 621-5009 for the sign-up link.

## SOUP KITCHEN

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Salvation Army;

Bank Street, Suffolk

Cupcakes needed at

St. Andrew by 9:30am



## 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, June 8. 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*

## THANK YOU TO ALL FOR A SUCCESSFUL KIRK NIGHT SEASON



The Christian Education Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make Kirk Night a success. We are thankful and grateful for our dedicated teachers: **Steve Suhring, Liz Fachin, Cara Boyle, Al Reese, and David McKercher**. The children had a great time learning about the Fruit of the Spirit thru art and the adults grew in their faith.

Also, thank you to the following groups for hosting the dinners: Mission & Service, Deacons, Youth Group, Presbyterian Women, and St Andrew Preschool. The groups were able to raise \$1,555.00 and the money went to the Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center Food Pantry, Prayers & Squares Quilting, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (wildfires), youth group work camp, various Presbyterian Women missions and various Preschool projects.

We are looking forward to our next Kirk Night in the fall.

~*Rhonda Gordon, Christian Education Committee*

## DINNER FOR EIGHT

All Dinner for Eight groups will gather in the SAPC Atrium on May 9th at 6:00pm for our final dinner of the spring session. See your group leader to find out what to bring to the potluck. Look for the fall season sign-ups in September. If you have any questions, please get in touch with **Rena Thompson** or **Gwen Elmore** (Congregational Care Co-chairs).

Thank you to all who participated!



### Music Notes from Al

First, let me put on my A/V team hat – thanks in part to a technology assistance grant from PEVA, we have been able to replace our A/V computer, get sound piped back into the cry room and set up a 2nd projector in the sanctuary – now **Pastor Lou**, the lay readers, choir and combo can see what’s on the screen, too! Many thanks to **Pastor Lou and Ron** for procuring the re-homed projector! In a few weeks, we will also be replacing and re-locating the video camera so folks watching the livestream will have a better view of the worship service.

Second, let me give a tremendous ‘THANK YOU’ to **Bob Boyle** for manning the A/V booth for the past many months – he has truly been multi-tasking before, during and after each service to bring the service to not only folks worshipping in-person, but also the people watching online. There is a good reason that many churches have 2 or 3 people running sound, operating the camera, maintaining the stream and running the ‘slide-show.’

Interested in helping out? We’d like to come up with a pool of folks to draw from that would let us have some 2-person teams to run the audio, computer program and camera for our services. If you are interested, or have questions, please contact me at music.standrewpres@gmail.com, or speak with Bob Boyle or myself on Sunday.

Third, summer is coming – and it will soon be time for the choir to take a well-deserved break. Are you a musician whose schedule doesn’t allow you to participate in the choirs? Summer is a great time to offer a prelude, anthem or offertory – please let me know if you’d like to provide some music during the summer!

Finally: “Music is the Message” Sunday will be celebrated on June 1<sup>st</sup> – come on that Sunday to hear the Word presented in music by the choir and the combo!

~Al Reese, Music Director



Please lift up prayers of comfort for **Deborah & George Perry** & family as they mourn the loss of Debra’s mother, Minnie Crocker.

### GRADUATE INFO NEEDED



To all St. Andrew members who will graduate this spring from high school, college, or beyond: **email the details below to [lizatucker@hotmail.com](mailto:lizatucker@hotmail.com) by June 22** so that their graduate details 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

### CONGRATULATE OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRAD

Please take a few minutes to write in our high school senior’s (Cara Boyle) journal in the atrium. It’s the perfect opportunity to congratulate her, share your favorite Bible verse, or share some good advice. Feel free to email [love2dance68@gmail.com](mailto:love2dance68@gmail.com) with your entry if you don’t have a chance to write in it.

(St. Andrew’s Graduation Sunday is May 18.)

-Angela Hillis-Baurle

### EASTER BREAKFAST ENJOYED BY ALL

A BIG THANK YOU to all who donated food and their services to make the Easter breakfast so successful. We also want to thank all the church members who attended the breakfast. It was a wonderful combination of good food and fellowship as part of the celebration on Easter Sunday.

~Fellowship Committee

### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



**Angie Hillis-Baurle** welcomed her third granddaughter to the family on March 31, 2025. Mabel Louise Gressley weighed 7 pounds 13 ounces, and measured 20 inches.

**PW SPRING GATHERING****MAY 17, 2025****Presbytery of Eastern Virginia (PEVA) Presbyterian Women (PW) Spring Gathering  
Registration Deadline: May 10**

St. Andrew PW will host a PEVA PW Spring Gathering on Saturday, May 17 from 8:30am – 1:30pm with the theme **Nurturing God's Creation:**



**The Birds and the Bees.** Attendees are expected from throughout Eastern Virginia. There will be a worship service, informative breakout



sessions, lunch, and Communion. It will be a great opportunity to network with the larger PW community and showcase St.

Andrew as a welcoming community. Pre-registration is required by May 10. \$10 for lunch will be collected at the door. Cash or check are required. **A tri-fold brochure at the Kiosk includes a registration form.** Give your form to **Loyce Bryan** or **Sylvia Ryder** or put it in the Presbyterian Women mailbox.

~Loyce Bryan, PW Moderator

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

**Monthly meeting & Bible Study:** PW will meet Tuesday, May 13 at 10:00am in the Atrium. **Frances Jornov** will facilitate Lesson 9 *Sustaining Creation's Health for All*.

**Gloria Womble** will provide the devotional. This will be our last regular monthly meeting for this season. The Coordinating Team for next term will be installed.

**PW Synod Summer Gathering:** The PW in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic is holding a summer gathering at Massanutten Springs Camp and Conference Center in Harrisonburg on June 12-15. St. Andrew PW will provide help with registration fees depending on numbers of interested St Andrew women. The Synod says "Worship, education, camaraderie and the natural beauty of Massanetta Springs await you." If you will consider attending, please contact Loyce Bryan or Sylvia Ryder. Flyers are available at the Kiosk.

~Loyce Bryan, PW Moderator

**St. Andrew Prayer Chain:** If you or a friend or loved one are in need of prayers, contact **Susan Cox** at [susanmcox2017@gmail.com](mailto:susanmcox2017@gmail.com) and your request will be added to the Prayer Chain.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN  
SPONSORED OFFERING**

Presbyterian Women support several missions organized by our national PW. Promotion of the **Thank/Birthday Offering** is conducted in April 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 payable to "St. Andrew PW" with a notation "**Thank/Birthday Offering**" and give it to **Sandy Poole**, PW Treasurer, or place it in the PW Office mailbox, or place it in a Sunday offering plate. Donations will be accepted until June 1, 2025. As always, we thank you for your support of many mission projects!

~Loyce Bryan, PW Moderator

**PRESBYTERIAN MEN**

The next Presbyterian Men's Group gathering takes place on May 12, 2025 at 6:00pm in St Andrew Hall. Dinner is available for \$10.00. Please sign up in the atrium so we know how much food to prepare. We'll continue our guest speaker series with **Rob Estes**, who will talk to us about, "Financial Health Longevity." You won't want to miss it!

Our June meeting will be a cookout with burgers and hotdogs. We'll have no speaker in June, just good food and fellowship. We're taking a summer pause in July—no meeting—then picking back up August 11<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions or suggestions for future speakers, please contact **Lin Hanbury**, **Jim Pratt**, **John Gillis**, or **Bob Thompson**.

~ Bob Thompson



2	Lin & Cheryl Hanbury
2	Clyde & Bonnie Harper
6	Mark & Michelle Hendrickson
10	Doug & Katie Lemon
15	Peter & Kim Stephenson
17	Don & Alyce Golding
27	Lee & Kira Livingston
27	Mark & Sonja Morrell
31	Wayne & Amber Gwaltney

**PRAYERS & SQUARES**

The Prayers and Squares quilting group is working on creating the quilts for the Angel Tree children and seniors 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 9 and Friday, May 23** 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 her at [francesjrnv@charter.net](mailto: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

**SUFFOLK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
**CENTER FOOD PANTRY**

**Donations of food & clothes due on May 18, 2025**

**Food Items most often needed:** boxed mac & cheese, any pasta noodles, Hamburger Helper box kit, instant mashed potato packs, Ramen (any flavor), packages of individual-sized instant oatmeal, packages of individual-sized boxed cereals, shelf stable milk (individual-sized servings), peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti/tomato sauce, canned peas, canned or cups of fruit, canned chicken or tuna



**Clothing & Shoes** – with an emphasis on items for men, as well as blankets, bedding, linens & towels



Stephanie Caggiano	2	Chloe Prince	19
Angela Martin	3	Maggie Prince	19
David McAlpine	3	Nathaniel Lanoue	15
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	Cal Luck	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 Romanczyk	25
Kyle Madden	14	Bruce Walker	25
Luke Estes	15	Kerry Holt	27
Kasey Campbell	17	Steve Suhring	30
Josh Romanczyk	17		

**Mother's Day is May 11, 2025**







**BIBLE QUIZ**

What was the name of the wealthy merchant of purple cloth who met Paul and his companions, was baptized and became a leader in the Philippian church?

- A. Priscilla
- B. Lydia
- C. Dorcas
- D. Joanna

Answer: See Acts 16:11-15, 40

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Beth Martin's (Office Manager) Office Hours: Mon – Fri 8:30 – 4:30	Pastor Lou's Office Hours Mon – Thu: ~9:30 – ~4:00 Call the church office first to make sure she's in Office: 757-238-3550	1  9:30 – 2:00 RSA* Teacher Meeting, CEB*	2 St Andrew Members deliver Meals on Wheels 6:00 – 9:00 Piano Recital, Sanctuary	3 8:30 – 10:30 12-Step Program, CEB*
4 10:00 Worship Service, Communion 11:00 Church School for all ages 12:30 – 4:30 Sampler Guild, CEB*	5 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 10:00 Stitching, CEB* 7:00 AA & Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*	6 7:00 Bell Choir	7 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 7:00 Chancel Choir	8	9 St Andrew Members deliver Meals on Wheels 10:00 – noon Prayers/Squares, SAH* 6:00 Dinner for 8 group dinner, Atrium	10 Registration Deadline for PW Spring Gathering 8:30 – 10:30 12-Step Program, CEB* 9:00 – noon Compassion Saturday
11  10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages Toys for Tots donations due	12 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 10:00 Stitching, CEB* 6:00 Presbyterian Men, SAH* 7:00 AA & Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*	13 10:00 Presbyterian Women, Atrium 7:00 Bell Choir	14 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* Noon Widows Walk, Library 7:00 Chancel Choir	15 Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, Bank Street, Suffolk 6:30 Diaconate & Session meeting in SAH*	16 St Andrew Members deliver Meals on Wheels	17 8:30 – 10:30 12-Step Program, CEB* 8:30 – 1:30 Presbytery of E VA Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering at St. Andrew
18 <u>Teacher                      Appreciation/Grad                      Sunday</u> 10:00 Worship Service 11:00 Church School for all ages <u>SCFC* Food &amp;                      Clothing Donations                      Due</u>	19 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 10:00 Stitching, CEB* 7:00 AA & Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*	20 7:00 Bell Choir	21 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 7:00 Chancel Choir	22 10:00 Preschool Graduation, Sanctuary, Atrium	23 St Andrew Members deliver Meals on Wheels 10:00 – noon Prayers/Squares, SAH*	24 8:30 – 10:30 12-Step Program, CEB*
25 10:00 Worship Service, Communion No Church School	 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* 10:00 Stitching, CEB* 7:00 AA & Al-Anon, Alateen – CEB*	27 7:00 Bell Choir	28 9:00 – 10:00 Yoga, SAH* Noon Widows Walk, Library 7:00 Chancel Choir	29	30 St Andrew Members deliver Meals on Wheels	31 8:30 – 10:30 12-Step Program, CEB*

\*Christian Education Building (CEB)

\*St. Andrew Hall (SAH)

\*Suffolk Christian Fellowship Center (SCFC)

**LOOKING  
AHEAD**



June 1	"Music is the Message" Sunday
June 1	Presbyterian Women Thank & Birthday Offerings due
June 8	Pentecost Sunday
June 12 – 15	PW Synod Summer Gathering
June 16	Hymnal Orders Due

**JUNE BAGPIPER SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE ON  
SUNDAY, May 18, 2025  
LOOKING AHEAD**  
 The July/August Bagpiper will be a combined issue.  
 Info for both months will be due on June 22, 2025.