

The Fishing Line

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30

Rev. Marc Jones, Pastor

Church Office: (904) 771-1596

January/February 2021

January 1st is New Year's Day. I am aware that I repeat myself. I always wonder where the year went. You'd think after a while I would quit being surprised by it. New Years isn't as much fun as Christmas though I am beginning to wonder why we don't give out gifts to friends and family for having made it through another year.

2020 would be a major contender for starting the new tradition. 2020 was unlike any other year we can remember in our lives. Contentious politics—enough to keep us all agitated, no matter where we stood on the political spectrum. An election year with the fate of our nation and our democracy apparently on the line. Wow!

And if that wasn't enough, in the middle of all the debate, we have a pandemic and ensuing pandemonium. We were all bombarded by information, misinformation, fake science, no science, and just plain gibberish at times. It makes a person's head spin. Should we stay or should we go? Wear a mask or no? Get a vaccine or not? I heard someone online state that Bill Gates was going to put a microchip in the vaccine. Don't know what the chip was going to do exactly but it sounds a lot like the mark of the beast! Still trying to make up my mind on that one.

And in the midst of this furor of confusion and strife, if we take time to stop and listen, we can find our Lord, Jesus Christ. The same yesterday and today and forever. In the eye of the storm speaking to our hearts. Jesus promises to never leave us or forsake us. Jesus, promising to give us the wherewithal to stand in faith, to complete in each of us the good work he began at our baptisms.

Ira Stanphill wrote a great hymn that's been recorded by various artists. The version I became familiar with was recorded by Alison Kraus. The tune is called "I Don't Know About Tomorrow".

"I don't know about tomorrow, I just live from day to day and I don't borrow from its sunshine, for its skies may turn to gray

And I don't worry about my future, for I know what Jesus said and today He walks beside me, for He knows what lies ahead

Many things about tomorrow, I don't seem to understand, but I know who holds tomorrow and I know who holds, who holds my hand."

That's the Good News. God bless you all in 2021! Keep the faith!

Pastor Marc



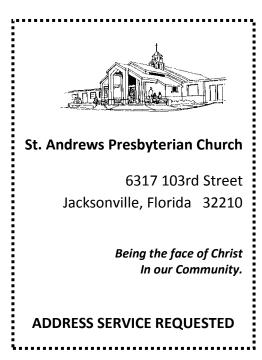
JANUARY

- 6 Epiphany
- 7, 14, 21 & 28 Weekly Bible Study
- 18 MLK Day
- 20 Session
- 31 Congregation Meeting



FEBURARY

- 4, 11, 18 & 25 Weekly Bible Study
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday & Chinese New Year
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 President's Day
- 17 Ash Wednesday
- 17 Session
- 21 1st Sunday of Lent
- 22 Washington's Birthday



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

Secretaries

Donna Kirksey Judy Medearis Judith Yeaton

Active Elders

Michele Banks – CE&F Lynda Edwards – M&E Summer Hackney – CE&F Terry Hallihan – F&P Bonnie McNally - CCN Walter McNair – B&G Judith Yeaton – Worship



F&P Committee

The Finance and Budget Committee, Receiving Treasurer and Disbursing Treasurer have worked diligently on our Church finances in 2020. We were able to switch to high speed internet service and our telephone service from AT&T to Comcast in July. The switch allows us to "live stream" Sunday Worship without the "freezing" previously experienced. Additionally a replacement copier was acquired in August replacing the old copier's 6 year contract which expired in May.

As of November 30^{th} our Year to Date reflects: Income \$77,410.12 Expenses <u>100,992.69</u> Deficit <u>(\$23,582.57)</u>

To date the 2020 Stewardship Campaign has generated 20 Pledges totaling \$66,780 as compared to our approved 2021 Budget expenses of \$125,937 yielding a projected \$59,157 deficit. If 2021 Income and Expenses continue at the current rate our Savings will be depleted by 2nd quarter 2022.

If you are interested in learning more about Church finances please join us at one of our 2021 meetings at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall - 2/10, 4/14, 6/9, 8/11, 9/15, 10/13 and 12/8. The June, September and December meetings may be changed to Luncheon Meetings starting at 11:15am at locations TBD.

Cathy Barr, Terry Hallihan (Chair), Phyllis Herpy, Mary McNair, Linda Seiler and Judith Yeaton



Robert Aloysius, Pam Altwater, Jill Anderson, Elaine Austin, Diane Baylor, Diane Brown, Mark Browne, Kade Buchanan. Pat Bukovac, Diane Carr, Jim Chapman, Kim Cope, Connie Davis, Barbara Dennison, Jim Edgar, Lynda Edwards, Rebecca Edwards, Jerry Fernandez, Dave Fountain, Janet Fowler, Brian Hackney, Phyllis Herpy, Jeanene Hiett, Belle Hockett, Robert Horn, Elinor Jordan, Lori Joyce, Jason Kanengater, Linda Kneece, Pam Kozak, Linda Miller, Howard McNulty, Beth Moore, Charlene Pavlakovich, Mary Ann Pinkston, Yolanda Raftice, Carol Shircliff, Judy Sholds, Flo Six, Susan Spranger, Miriam Story, Phyllis Stubbs, Betty Tanner, Pat Thomas, Pat Whittle & LeoLine Young

SHUT-INS



Anyone interested in visiting and/or taking Communion to our shut-ins once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, contact Pastor Marc Jones.

JULIET (Join Us Ladies Into Eating Together) Fourth Tuesday each month @ 6:00pm once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Adult Bible Study 11:00 Thursdays & also via Zoom



SALVATION ARMY

We had a very successful toy drive. The "barrels" were filled and lots of children received toys thanks to your generosity. The St. Andrews Congregation once again came through.

> Thank you! Lydia Windham

March/April NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE *** February 22nd ***

Articles can be e-mailed to Terry Hallihan: 99gwhfth@comcast.net Or placed in the Newsletter box in the office



Happy New Year from the Buildings and Grounds Committee!

Well, another year has gone by and the Buildings and Grounds Committee would like to thank all those who helped us around the facility in 2020. As we report each year, we all have gotten a year older and so have our buildings. With support from the congregation we have made it through another year. Thanks for your help in 2020.

Now we are in 2021, and the committee will continue to need your help. No less maintenance will be required in 2021 than in 2020, only more. Please continue to support us in keeping St. Andrews a desirable place to meet and worship.

Beginning in January, the committee will concentrate on catching up on some maintenance we were not able to do in 2020 due to the pandemic. There is much to do with a facility as old as ours. Several doors need to be replaced, roof leaks need attention, fence lines are overgrown, air conditioners need maintenance, and our mature trees are always dropping rotten limbs.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting is January 5, 9:30 AM. The following month we will meet on February 2, 9:30 AM. Come join us. We should have plenty to do in 2021. Let's put 2020 behind us and make 2021 a better and prosperous year for St. Andrews.

> Happy New Year! Buildings and Grounds Committee, Walter McNair



<u>January</u>

- 5 Terry Hallihan 11 Chloe Allen
- 11 Jack Herpy
- 14 Hannah Miller
- 18 Bert Yeaton, Jr.
- 19 Helen Ballester
- 20 Diane Parker 24 Jan Poley 25 Kristen Merrill 26 Donna Kirksey 30 Bill Starks

<u>February</u>

1 Lynda Edwards	11 Michael Miller
2 Bernadette Gilmore	13 Liz Parker
2 Jimmy Poff	16 Roger Barr
4 Jennie Leverett	21 Kyle Miller
6 Sydney Baldwin	22 Pat Eubanks
6 Claire Helmer	25 Olivia Hume
11 Baylee Parramore	



<u>January</u> 4 JR & Jody Wood

<u>February</u>

2 Bernadette Gilmore & Jimmy Poff

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Appointments for Jacksonville residents 65 and up for the first dose of the vaccine can be made beginning Wednesday (Dec. 30) at 8:00am by calling the Florida Department of Health Duval County Immunization Program at 253-1140. The shots for these residents will be administered starting Monday morning (Jan. 4).

Jacksonville firefighters who have been given the vaccine will help give out the shots.

Worship Committee

Happy New Year everyone!! We have finally survived 2020 and the Christmas festivities. The Sanctuary is beautiful but the poinsettias that are left desperately need to go home with someone. I try to water them but they don't get much sun in the sanctuary so please, if your purchased a poinsettia to beautify the sanctuary for Christmas, take it home for some TLC as soon as possible.

The first Sunday in January is Epiphany Sunday when we celebrate the arrival of the Wise Men. The following Saturday at 9:30 we will "de-Christmas" the sanctuary and narthex and get back to "our new normal" for a few weeks.

However, don't get too comfortable. Fast approaching is Ash Wednesday, February 17th. At this time I am not sure how we will go about "doing" our Lenten and Easter celebration but I am reasonably sure that we will have an Ash Wednesday church service but maybe not our traditional baked potato supper before. Easter is the first Sunday in April this year and we will know much more by the time our next Newsletter is published.

Our next Worship Committee is January 3rd following Worship. Most all our meetings are on Sundays following Worship so people don't have to come to church an extra time. I have also had meetings by phone to get a gathering of opinions on issues that come up that need immediate attention.

Our New Year wish for you is to be healthy. This Covid-19 mess is not done with us just yet so continue to be careful and I have every confidence that we WILL get back to REAL normal sometime this year.

Yours in the service of Christ,

Judith Yeaton, Chairman Lynda Edwards Joan Goldsmith Judy Medearis Linda & Harry Seiler

Congregational Care and Nurture Committee

Bonnie McNally and Marie Jean took cookies, cards and various goodies to those on the Pastor's Shut-in List. All were delighted to be remembered by St. Andrews and to receive the gifts although via social distancing or through a staff member when entry was not permitted. Bonnie and Marie drove over 50 miles the Sunday before Christmas spreading the love of St. Andrews.

Miriam Story fell on November 4th and broke her right hip and left femur. She is in Brooks Bartram Lakes Assisted Living (Brooks Bartram Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32258).

Jeanene (Carol) Hiett fell and broke her ankle. She is in Oak View Rehabilitation Center Room 111 833 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park, FL 32073. You can call her on 904-200-5029.

Additionally, the congregation signed a Christmas card to Ralph & Sue Ramsay's daughter, Diane, who expressed her thanks for the continued prayers being sent up and kindness shown her over the years by the St. Andrews Family.

Bonnie McNally

Every new year invites us to bring our best selves- our talents and our gifts- to make a fresh start for ourselves and our world. Arriving on the heels of a year that brought so much upheaval, 2021 will likely give us many opportunities for healing, growth, and service.

Along the way, we may find ourselves pushed out of our comfort zones to do what we're not sure we can. Or we may feel called to heal old hurts so we can open to a greater experience of love and belonging. No matter the challenge, we can begin to conquer our fears and heal our pain through the power and love of God within us.

We do not know what this year will bring, but we know what we can bring to it. We can be the hands and heart of God in the world.

Teresa, Daily Word January/February 2021

Fellowship Committee

Our Thanksgiving "Order/Take –out Luncheon" went great. Thanks to the ordering process, the cooks, the plating and bagging crew, the pick-up process and our social distancing fellowship.

Happy New Year from the Fellowship Committee, hopefully by Spring we will be able to have some safe Fellowship events. In the mean time, stay safe and healthy with God's blessing.

Michele, Summer and Linda



St. Andrews will have numerous activities for family and friends once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Please plan to participate in the future. ~ Summer

Mission & Evangelism Committee

We will begin this year with clear hearts and minds by continuing our services with the Hope Chest and bread and food give-a-way each Wednesday following our COVID-19 guidelines.

M&E Committee is continuing our mission of helping members as well as the community in many ways. Although the Church is still broadcasting Sunday services we also are welcoming anyone who would like to join us live. Masks MUST be worn while on the church property.

Our outside pre-packaged bread give-a-way has been going well. We carry bags down to cars or hand to walk ups.

We are continuing our Outdoor Hope Chest sales with tables set up for clothes, shoes, purses, undergarments and socks. We also have racks of clothing. These are set 6 feet apart with hand sanitizer on each table. There are signs for social distancing and mask wearing.

M&E Committee meets every first Sunday of the month in the yellow room.

Please keep safe and pray for all our leaders.

Lynda Edwards