

# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30

Church Office: (904) 771-1596

July/August 2021

It seems like I am always confessing to you guys! I confess that I am prone to worry. I sometimes wake up in the night and begin to think. I don't intend to. My mind just runs in a kind of a loop in my head. It's hard at times to shut it off.

It's good and necessary in these times to come back to God's word. Scripture can be our anchor in times of uncertainty. There are many scriptures that offer consolation and comfort in these times. For example, in the thirteenth chapter of Hebrews the Apostle Paul reminds us that "God will never leave us or forsake us. Thus, we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'" (Heb 13:5–6)

Jesus himself spoke about worry in the Sermon on the Mount. He came right out and told the crowd not to worry about what they would wear or eat and drink. He also went on to say: "And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?".... Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup> But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today. (Mt 6:25–34)

Then there's one of my favorites from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10: "No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it."

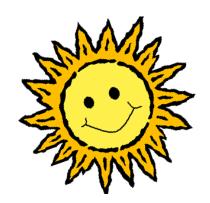
It's human nature to worry about what the future may hold. We have things in the world today that the people in first century Palestine could hardly imagine. The only thing that comes close to the Corona virus is leprosy. Medicine was woefully lacking in Jesus' day and yet they still managed to survive.

These scriptures are just a few examples of God's provision and care for humanity. So let me exhort you to use common sense. Be aware and to be safe, but at the same time to set your worries aside and trust in God. The whole Biblical witness shows us that it's God's nature to save. Remember in the days ahead that our God is love and life, and the good news is that God is in our corner every step of the way.

God bless you all. Enjoy your summers! Pastor Marc



- 4 Independence Day
- 11 Guest Pastor Rev. Ron
   Smith
- 25 Fish Fry



**AUGUST** 

- 8 Cake to celebrate Bill & Elaine
- 17 Session



#### St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

6317 103rd Street Jacksonville, Florida 32210

Being the Face of Christ In our Community.

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED** 

**JULY/AUGUST 2021** 

# **Secretaries**

Judy Medearis Linda Seiler 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

# Worship

Is it July and August already? Whew! Time for a well-deserved vacation!

Wait a minute – The church doesn't take a vacation do we. God doesn't take a vacation so I guess we can't either. And isn't it funny how JEA wants their electric bill paid all summer long. So I guess that means we will be having church services every Sunday morning just like always – and that's a good thing. Even though there are no religious holidays to celebrate during the summer, it will give us more time to actually praise our Lord God without distraction.

That being said, there will be a few happenings.
Our Pastor Marc will be taking a week off and Rev. Ron
Smith will preach on July 11<sup>th</sup> so come and hear Rev.
Smith. You just never know what surprises will be around
the corner any given week. As you have heard the saying
"Life happens", it is no different for our church. Also,
even if it is "Life as usual", come to church to recharge
your religious batteries and say "Hi" to your friends.
Before you know it, September will be here and it will be
time to begin another church year.

Yours always in the service of Christ,

Judith Yeaton, Chair.

Kathy Dahl

Lynda Edwards

Joan Goldsmith

**Austin Merrill** 

Linda & Harry Seiler

#### **OUR PRAYER LIST**



Pam Altwater, Jill Anderson, Elaine Ausitin, Diane Baylor, Kade Buchanan, Diane Carr, Kim Cope, Connie Davis Mary Ann Dean, Jim Edgar, Lynda Edwards, Rebecca Edwards, Jerry Fernandez, Janet Flower, Lydia Graham, Brian Hackney, Karen Hardy, Robert Horn, Donna Kirksey, Bonnie McNally, Linda Miller, Charleen Pavlakovich, Yolanda Raftice, Joe Rigsby, Vickie Roberts, Flo Six, Cody Spalding, Kathy Stretch, Phyllis Stubbs, Betty Tanner, Yie Teh, Pat Thomas, Michael Treadway, and LeoLine Young



Greetings from the Buildings and Grounds Committee!

Welcome summer. Along with higher heat and humidity comes maintenance on our aging buildings. Last week both air conditioners went out in the fellowship hall. This was rather strange since both were relatively new and installed at the same time. On one the compressor went bad. Fortunately, it was covered under the parts warranty. The other unit had the start capacitor go out. Mike Merritt said he had never seen two side by side units go out at the same time. However, Merritt Heating and Air Conditioning was able to repair both problems for St. Andrews. We are running cool again.

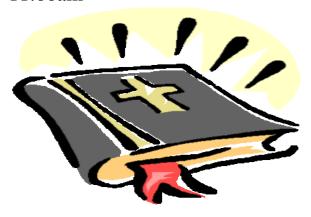
In addition to the heat come numerous wasps making nests along the sidewalks. In 2019, we had the building sprayed for wasps. It seemed to work as the number of new nests were minimized. We are going to do the same thing again. Please be careful and watch out for those stinging critters until we get the building sprayed.

Work on the flower beds is nearly complete. Anyone wanting to help keep the beds in good condition would be appreciated. We have reduced the number of flowers in the beds and installed mulch so the job going forward should be easier.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, July 6, at 9:30 AM. The following month we will meet on Tuesday, August 3, 9:30 AM. Come join us for good exercise and good fellowship. We should have plenty to do.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Walter McNair **JULIET** (Join Us Ladies Into Eating Together) First Tuesday each month @ 6:00pm location TBD.

**Adult Bible Study** – Thursdays @ 11:00am





#### **Finance & Personnel**

	May 31 <sup>st</sup> Month Ending	Year to Date
Income	\$ 9,140.91	\$40,123.36
Expenses	<u>7,059.00</u>	<u>45,597.99</u>
Net /Deficit	\$ <u>2,081.91</u>	<u>(\$5,474.63)</u>

Income exceeded expenses for May since May was a five Sunday month and we had no high dollar expenditures such as insurance. The CWS Blanket Offering will be sent in July to allow inclusion of any straggler donations.

- Mary suggested we consider using \$1,000 from Savings to support Camp Montgomery Scholarships – paying 100% of the cost for those St. Andrews youth attending – granddaughters of Lynda Edwards and Linda Miller and maybe the Swann children. Motion was made and approved for Session to approve expenditure.
- Church has received a renewal of the Florida Consumer's Certificate of Exemption without application probably renewed automatically due to COVID.
- 2022 Offering Envelopes have been ordered.
- Mary suggested since Linda Seiler is now working in the Office she should be added as a check signer replacing Donna Kirksey. Committee members approved adding Linda Seiler as a check signer.
- Donation Receipt submitted by M&E for use by the Hope Chest was
  discussed and Committee agreed on Terry's suggested wording change from
  "According to IRS regulations, a dollar value on donated items is the
  exclusive right of the donor", to "responsibility of the donor." Adoption of this
  should be approved by Session.
- Mary will be out of town 6/13 − 20.
- F&P's August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting was changed from 10:00am to a 1:00pm luncheon meeting at the Loop (4591 Lakeside Dr. #101).
- Since Terry is planning to be out of the United States September 4<sup>th</sup> –
   November 10<sup>th</sup> another Committee member will chair the F&P September 15<sup>th</sup> and October 13<sup>th</sup> meetings.

Terry Hallihan, Cathy Barr, Phyllis Herpy, Mary McNair, Linda Seiler & Judith Yeaton



#### July

5 Linda Stickland 10 Suzi Starkey 8 Kristen Brightwell 12 Dick Massey 9 Miriam Story 15 Pat Thomas 10 Virginia Black 26 Kathy Vynanek 10 Nancy McCall 28 Walter McNair

#### <u>August</u>

17 Scott Brooks-Cope

1 Joel Still 6 Shirley Haynes 18 Joe Fowler 8 Gabriel Bagnola 26 Betty Tanner 29 Charleen Pavlakovich 13 Connie Davis 13 Mary McNair 30 Susan Jones 17 Michele Banks 30 Judy Medearis

17 Brent Hume

31 Marie Jean

# Fellowship and CE

Hello from Fellowship we hope this finds everyone well. We are planning some great summer events - our first will be July 25<sup>th</sup>, a fish fry after Worship. Food will be provided from Fellowship. August 8<sup>th</sup> after Worship we will have a cake to honor the engagement of Bill and Elaine. September 12<sup>th</sup> is our annual Church Picnic. Fellowship will be providing the meat and Church members the side dishes, for the first event in a year. Hope to see you at all these events and to celebrate us being back together in person. Be safe, take care and hope to see everyone soon.

> Peace of Christ God Bless, Michele and Summer



July

None

#### <u>August</u>

4 Walter & Jan Poley

17 Bill & Michele Banks

7 Dick & Sue Massey



St. Andrews has numerous activities in July and August and we hope to see you, your friends and family at these Church activities.

~ Summer

# SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE \*\*\* AUGUST 25th\*\*\*

Articles can be e-mailed to Terry Hallihan

99gwhfth@comcast.net

Or placed in the Newsletter box in the office

# Mission & Evangelism

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.

We are continuing Hope Chest sales of clothes, shoes, purses, undergarments, socks and more. We also have racks of other clothing items.

The Hope Chest total for April was \$851.65 and for May was \$511.50.

Yard Sale total was \$319.25; Blanket total was \$250.00; and Pentecost total was \$40.00

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

Please keep safe and pray for our leaders.

Lynda Edwards

# Daily Devotional – July 4, 2021

A famous hymn, often sung to a Welsh or Irish tune, celebrates God as our Shepherd: "The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever. Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth; and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth."

Restore us, LORD God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.Psalm 80:19

In today's psalm, the entire prayer is framed by the comparison of God as Shepherd: "Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock." In neighboring psalms, the title "Shepherd" refers particularly to God's past guidance of His people through the wilderness to the promised land (see Ps. 77:20; 78:52).

Notice the contrast in verse one. God is described as a shepherd and then, in the second half of verse 1, as "You who sit enthroned between the cherubim." This may seem puzzling, but in Ancient Near Eastern culture "shepherd" was also a metaphor for "king." God is portrayed as both our loving and faithful shepherd and our just, powerful, sovereign, and glorious King.

God's character provides many reasons for praise and petition. In Psalm 80, the main request is "restore us," alongside the priestly blessing, "make your face shine on us" (repeated in vv. 3, 7, 19). To put this in historical context, Assyria had conquered the northern kingdom of Israel. Even though the nation was now divided and Judah remained free, part of God's people were enduring great suffering.

The psalmist prays that the entire nation will return to the Lord and receive His favor and blessing (v. 18). While at the time they were drinking "tears by the bowlful" (v. 5), they remembered how God had liberated them from slavery, provided for them in the wilderness, and prospered them in their new home (vv. 8–10).

#### **Pray**

Father, sometimes our circumstances may persuade us that You have abandoned us. In moments of doubt, remind us of Psalm 80 so that we remember Your promises. Bolster our faith with Your faithfulness to Israel.

By Brad Baurain

Today in the Word

https://www.todayintheword.org/issues/2021/following-the-good-shepherd/daily-devotional/hear-us-o-shepherd/