



The Fishing Line

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30

Church Office: (904) 771-1596

September/October 2020

Good morning to you all. Actually, it's just past noon. Time always impresses me. It keeps on moving inexorably forward regardless of what I do. Just look around and it's too soon gone.

The latest news: The Session has decided to reopen the Church on September 6. It's Passover Sunday. Passover is not a "Christian" holiday per se, but it's significant to the church in spite of that for a number of reasons.

The Jewish Passover is exactly what it sounds like. God "passed over" the Israelites and struck the Egyptians. The Passover was not arbitrary. The door frames and lintels of the Israelites houses were marked with the blood of the sacrificed lambs so that God knew who was who, so that God would see his people and distinguish them from the Egyptians.

When you think about it, the sacrament of communion is quite similar. In celebrating communion, we are marked as God's own people like Israel was marked. The bread that we partake of is similar to the Passover meal. God sees us and knows us as his own when we take the cup, which represents the blood of Christ. No accident that Christ is called the lamb of God.

I mentioned time in the beginning of this. Time can be simultaneously too fast and too slow. When we are doing well time may seem to be going too quickly. When we're not having good days, it can feel like time is dragging by at a slug's pace.

This year has certainly stretched our faith. 2020 has been challenging. We're all aware of the litany of troubles that have bedecked this year. Civil unrest. Political unrest. Viruses and the response or lack thereof to said virus, just to name a few.

At times it's enough to make even the elect despair. But in the times that we feel overwhelmed by doubt and fear it is good to be reminded that we are marked and numbered with the redeemed. We are God's people. We may feel we can only see through a glass dimly right now, but we have God's word that he will never leave us nor forsake us.

Who knows what the future holds? The future is the province of God. You and I can only hope, only guess at what the future may hold. Still we know who holds tomorrow.

There's an old gospel song penned by Ira Stanphil, "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" which sums our lives up very well.

- I don't know about tomorrow; I just live from day to day.
- I don't borrow from it's sunshine, for it's skies may turn to grey.
- And the path that is my portion. May be through the flame or flood;
- But His presence goes before me, and I'm covered with His blood."

Faith, the Apostle Paul said, is the "shape of things hoped for, of things not seen." This is where you and I find ourselves. We cannot know the future precisely but we can keep the faith, trust in God and God's goodness, and remember that indeed, our God is with us.

*God bless you all,
Pastor Marc*



S E P T E M B E R

- 6 WSCO Food Collection, Good Samaritan Offering & Communion
- 7 Labor Day
- 13 Grandparents' Day
- 15 Session Meeting
- 22 Autumn Begins



O C T O B E R

- 4 WSCO Food Collection, Good Samaritan Offering & Communion
- 12 Columbus Day
- 20 Session Meeting
- 22 Newsletter Articles
- 31 Halloween



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

6317 103rd Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32210

*Being the Face of Christ
In our Community.*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

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*

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Reopening Plan

This provides how detailed or restrictive we need to be as a Session to protect our congregation, volunteers and community as we reopen. As the congregation wants changes made, this plan can be adjusted to the needs of the community.

Important

Members and visitors need to be very observant of their own health. Before leaving your home, check to see if you have a temperature, or are showing any symptoms of illness. Not only do you not want to infect someone but you do not want to be infected.

Rules

- Masks must be worn at all times on Church property. The only time this will be optional is while at the pulpit or at the organ.
- Church Services will be hands free no books will be used.
- There will be no choir. Music honoring God can be done by married couple duets or instrumental anthems.
- No gatherings in the Narthex or back of the Church before or after Church services:
 - Church will start promptly at 10:30am.
 - When you come to Church you will be asked to go directly to a pew and be seated.
 - When services are over, an usher will direct each pew to exit row by row through the center isle so not to clog the Church isles or the back of the Church.
- No "Passing of the Peace" to avoid the urge of hugging.
- No "Offering" will be collected during Services. At the end of Services, please leave offerings in the plate at the rear of Church.
- No Fellowship events will be planned.
- Thrift Store will be Closed on Sunday.

Communion

Individually packaged Communion Cups and Wafer Sets will be used. It's an all- in-one self contained set. On Communion Sunday the Sets will be on a table behind the last pew at the back of the Church. When entering the sanctuary, please retrieve your Communion Cup and Wafer set.

Bible Study - Sunday School - Committee Meetings - Session Meetings

- At the discretion of Session, Studies and Meetings can be held:
 - Through video chat programs (Zoom);
 - Studies and Meetings may be held in person in the Sunday School Rooms, provided 5 or fewer people participate and social distancing is maintained.
 - Studies and Meetings with 6 to 12 people must be held in the Fellowship Hall provided each person sits at their own table.
- Masks must be worn during studies and meetings. You may bring your own drink; but no food or drink are to be brought in to share.
- After the meeting - All areas must be cleaned and/or sprayed down with disinfectant.

Bread and Food Giveaway

Bread and Food Giveaways can continue providing outreach to our Westside community based on the guidelines the Mission & Evangelism Committee, along with Session, have established. Volunteers must wear masks at all times.

As we progress through this process Session will evaluate the needs of the Church Community and change these rules and procedures considering CDC guidelines.



Hello from the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Hope all of you are doing well. COVID-19 has limited our activities this year, but don't give up hope. At the moment, things are getting better. With our prayers we may get through the pandemic soon. We miss seeing all of you at Church and hope to see you soon.

The Session has agreed to open St. Andrews on Sunday, September 6. However, we will be following a set of rules to keep us safe. The rules will be given to you soon. They will include a set of restrictions you may already expect in this situation. Face masks required, safe seating distances, clean hands, no congregating in groups, are just some of the guidelines we will need to follow to protect us all. More information will be sent to you soon.

Since St. Andrews has been closed the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not been having formal meetings. Now that the Church is going to open, we will restart regular meetings again at the Church. There will not be a meeting in September. Our next regular meeting will be October 6, at 11:30 AM.

Looking forward to normalcy again. Join us at our next meeting to discuss our buildings and "growing" grounds.

Walter McNair



September

10 Walter & Mary McNair

October

4 John & Suzi Starkey

6 John & Pat Eubanks

19 Brian & Summer Hackney

OUR PRAYER LIST



*Robert Aloysius,
Pam Altwater,
Roger Barr,
Diane Baylor,
Pat Bukovac,
Kim Cope,
Connie Davis,
Lynda Edwards,
Michael Edwards,
Janet Fowler,
Brian Hackney,
Marissa Jones,
Jason Kanengater,
Linda Miller,
Gayla Page,
Lorena Parker,
Charleen
Pavlovich,
Patricia Shipley,
Susan Spranger,
Phyllis Stubbs,
Betty Tanner,
Bert Yeaton,
and
Friends and
Family of
Arthur Hendon*

VISITS TO OUR SHUT-INS



Anyone interested in taking Communion kits to our shut-ins, contact the Office.

JULIET (Join Us Ladies Into Eating Together) Stay Tuned as to when this will be implemented on the First Tuesday of each month @ 6:00pm location TBD.

Adult Bible Study – Thursdays @ 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall and via Zoom.

F&P

The Finance & Personnel Committee met and discussed the:

- July 2020 Financials;
 - Month of July Income \$5,387.46, Expenses \$9,720.49
 - Year to Date Income \$46,957.83, Expenses \$62,886.18;
- Church should be receiving a check for \$13,000+ for overpayment of our JEA Water bill from April 2010 to May 2020 due to JEA installing an incorrect size meter which resulted in excess bills. (NOTE- Check recently received.)
- Delivery and installation of the new copier on July 29th and training of office staff (Donna Kirksey, Judy Medearis & Judith Yeaton) and others (Terry Hallihan & Mary McNair). With the new copier someone standing in the office can now print from their “smart telephone,” provided they add the copier as a printer;
- Comcast installation and reconnection of the “alarm” by United Alarm. When the alarm is knocked off-line due to a lighting strike in the vicinity of the Church, United will need to be called to reconnect the alarm to the monitoring service. Even though the alarm is knocked offline the alarm will sound but no distress signal will be sent to the monitoring service.

The next meeting is in the Fellowship Hall on September 9th at 10:00am. Members of this committee are Cathy Barr, Terry Hallihan, Phyllis Herpy, Mary McNair, Linda Seiler and Judith Yeaton. Others are welcome to attend the meeting and/or join the Committee.

Peace
Terry Hallihan, Chair

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- No “Offering” will be collected during Services. At the end of Services, please leave offerings in the plate at the rear of Church.
- No Fellowship events will be planned.
- Hope Chest will remain Closed except for the “outdoor thrift store” each Wednesday.

Fall Bazaar

Due to COVID-19 planning for our Fall Bazaar is on hold. Stayed tuned.

Hope Chest

Come to our outdoor thrift store – open on Wednesdays.



September

11 Loraine Nelson
 13 Hunter Jones
 14 JR Wood
 16 Diane Baylor
 16 Kristie Christiansen
 16 Judith Yeaton
 18 Jody Wood
 22 Bonnie McNally
 26 Summer Hackney
 29 Linda Seiler

October

1 Phyllis Stubbs
 2 JP McCall
 5 Tessa Roberts
 6 Frank Edwards
 8 Michael Banks
 12 Sue Massey
 17 Teresa Sweat
 20 Joyce Miller

Communion

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Worship

To our steadfast members & friends,

With joy in my heart, I finally get to say that Church will resume on the first Sunday in September (Sept. 6th). Your Worship Committee has had very little to do for the last 5 months but at last we can begin to look forward to the Holidays. All the candles have been purchased, the Advent Wreath is ready to be put to use, and our beautiful Crèche is waiting to see the light of another Advent season. Of course I realize that I'm rushing the season just a bit – after all Halloween has to come first followed by Thanksgiving, but one must be prepared – right??! Soon our Committee will meet and choose the Advent Devotional reader for this year. And let me extend an invitation to any of you who would like to join our little group, that we would welcome any newcomers who are interested. Many hands make light work.

Our first Sunday is Communion Sunday and it will be a little different from the way we have done it in the past. Little sealed cups complete with both grape juice and wafer will be at the back of the church so that when you come in, just pick one up and be seated. The pews have signs for where you can sit and some pews are roped off as we do our best to comply with "Social Distancing". So be sure to bring your mask and join us as we worship together – even if we can't touch each other. Following church you will be directed by a friendly usher, row by row, to depart the church and go outside where you can gather to talk.

May God bless us and keep us well,

Judith Yeaton, Chairman

Lynda Edwards

Joan Goldsmith

Judy Medearis

Diane Parker

Church Calendar

With the Church reopening, members and Committee Chairs are reminded and encouraged to add events to the calendar in the Office.



St. Andrews has limited activities in September and October. Please bring your family and friends to our Sunday Worship Service.

~ Summer

Mission and 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 the church will be open for 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.

On Wednesday, September 2, we will begin a modified outdoor opening of the Hope Chest beginning at 10:00am. Tables will be set up outside for clothes, shoes, purses, undergarments and socks. We also have racks of clothing. These will be set 6 feet apart with hand sanitizer on each table. There will be signs for social distancing and mask wearing. There was \$65.37 counted and recorded from individuals who bought item unofficially over the last several months.

Gleaner's produce give-a-way went very well. Many cars pulled up and took boxes of produces. Gleaner's is working on getting a contract with another such give-a-way program.

The Session is now requiring anyone on our property to wear a mask to control the spread of COVID 19.

Please keep safe and pray for all our leaders.

Lynda Edwards

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

DUE

*** OCTOBER 22nd***

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