



The Fishing Line

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30

Church Office: (904) 771-1596

September/October 2021

I think I say it too often: Where does the time go? We're looking at September, and the last quarter of 2021. Thanksgiving and Advent are rapidly approaching. Sometimes it feels like life is similar to trying to drink from a fire hydrant!

Still, in times like these, I think it's wise and necessary to remind ourselves that our lives are always gifts from God. I know it's hard sometimes, and feels too much like we're navigating through endless "toils and snares," but still life is good, even when we're navigating through those rough places.

In some ways even the tough times are good. We never get bored! Life is never boring. I mentioned "toils and snares" a moment ago. You doubtless recognize that line from John Newton's immortal hymn, "Amazing Grace." Newton's story is remarkable. He was a slave trader who became an abolitionist and a minister in the Anglican Church. Newton had served in the Royal Navy after being press ganged (kidnapped and put to work in her Majesty's navy) in his youth. His career before the mast was hard and brutal. He was flogged for desertion at one point. Newton was involved in the slave trade early in his career. Gradually, God spoke to Newton's heart, and he came to understand God's grace.

His conversion appears to have been gradual. But Newton found God (or vice versa) in a vicious storm at sea, "when he was brought to say: 'I stood in need of an Almighty Savior, and such a one I found described in the New Testament. The Lord had wrought a marvelous thing.'"

Newton left the seafaring life and, after hearing evangelist George Whitfield preach, became involved in the Evangelical Revival. He was eventually ordained and served as pastor at St. Mary Woolnoth, London, in 1779, which still stands to this day.

It's an odd and intriguing story. Newton knew God's grace personally and intimately. Newton's life was hard. It was truly "fraught with many dangers and snares", but still God's grace sought him out, even when he was lost, protected him and healed his heart, finally making him an instrument of that same grace that Newton found so amazing.

If there's one thing we have learned in the past couple of years, it's that we still need God's grace in our lives. Life can be downright frightening. In between pandemics, contentious political rancor, the new developments in Afghanistan, global warming and floods or fires depending on which coast you're on—well you get the idea.

What I am trying to say is life is life. Not too profound, but while life can be challenging and even dangerous, it's okay. The Apostle Paul, God love him said, in 1 Corinthians 10:13, "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."

There's grace enough for everyone. Trust in the Lord. It's going to be fine.

God bless you all

Pastor Marc



SEPTEMBER

- 5 WSCO Food Collection, Good Samaritan Offering & Communion
- 6 Labor Day
- 12 Grandparents' Day & Church Picnic
- 19 Rev. Ron Smith
- 21 Session Meeting
- 22 Autumn Begins
- 26 Rev. Ron Smith



OCTOBER

- 3 WSCO Food Collection, Good Samaritan Offering & Communion
- 10 Rev. Jess McCrosky
- 11 Columbus Day
- 19 Session Meeting
- 25 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

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 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

Walter McNair – B&G

Judith Yeaton – Worship

From Bonnie McNally



“ Goodbye and thanks for welcoming me into St. Andrews as a member and then as an elder. I will miss all of you, but it was time for me and my son to move adjacent to my daughter. If you are on my side of town call and stop in. My new address is:”

2013 Prince Albert Court
Jacksonville, FL 32246

Fall Bazaar

Save the Date – November 6th

Tables available for rent

COVID

All of us should practice caution and do what makes each of us feel safe. Please be mindful of your neighbor in the pews. At the present time masks, though not required, are strongly encouraged.

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.

CE and Fellowship

The Annual Church Picnic is scheduled for September 12th immediately after Worship with a covered dish. Meat (pulled pork) will be provided by the Church with the Congregation bringing the sides and desserts. Hope you can attend.

Michele & Summer

AND THEN IT IS WINTER...

THIS IS RIGHT ON THE NOSE.READ IT SLOWLY... I DON'T KNOW WHO WROTE IT, BUT I AM GUESSING IT WAS A SENIOR!!! I FIRST STARTED READING THIS AND WAS READING FAST UNTIL I REACHED THE THIRD SENTENCE. I STOPPED AND STARTED OVER READING SLOWER AND THINKING ABOUT EVERY WORD. THIS IS VERY THOUGHT-PROVOKING. MAKES YOU STOP AND THINK.

You know. . . time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years.

It seems just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. But, here it is... the winter of my life and it catches me by surprise...How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go?

I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like. But, here it is...my friends are retired and getting grey...they move slower and I see an older person now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me...but, I see the great change....Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant...but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be.

Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore... it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will... I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so...now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!

But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last...this I know, that when it's over on this earth...it's NOT over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done...things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet...let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!

Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not! You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life...so, live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember...and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!

"Life" is a gift to you from God. The way you live your life is your gift to Him and to those who come after you. Make it a fantastic one.

LIVE IT WELL! ENJOY TODAY! DO SOMETHING FUN! BE HAPPY! HAVE A GREAT DAY!

REMEMBER:....

It is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver.

LIVE HAPPY IN THIS YEAR AND EVERY YEAR!



Summer continues to let us know it's here. The high heat and humidity, along with regular rain showers makes it difficult for us to do much outside. Fortunately, our aging lawn mower continues to work with a little maintenance, and Ken can keep the yard looking good.

Just a reminder, be careful of wasps when moving about the facility. Our pest control company has not been in operation the past several months due to illness and staffing situations. However, they are up and running again and we hope to get the exterior sprayed for these critters soon.

The annual fire safety inspection has been completed and several extinguishers were replaced. You may notice the addition of large red stickers on the wall pointing to the fire extinguishers in each room. A new code requirement for us. We are now ready for the City Fire Marshal to inspect us if they appear at our door.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 7, at 9:30 AM. The following month we will meet on Tuesday, October 5, 9:30 AM. Come join us for good exercise and good fellowship. Maybe the weather will be more hospitable for outdoor activities. "Fall is coming. Get your work gloves ready."

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Walter McNair



September

10 *Walter & Mary McNair*

October

4 *John & Suzi Starkey*

19 *Brian & Summer Hackney*

OUR PRAYER LIST



*Jill Anderson,
Diane Baylor,
Kade Buchanan,
Pat Bukovac, Dan Carr,
Peggy Condon, Kim Cope,
Stacie Crane
Connie Davis,
Mary Ann Dean, Jim Edgar,
Jerry Fernandez,
Janet Fowler,
Lydia Graham,
Brian Hackney,
Thelma Hardison,
Karen Hardy,
Harrelson Family,
Jack Herpy,
Robert Horn,
Donna Kirksey,
Sue Massey,
Mike McLaughlin,
Charleen Pavlakovich,
Yolanda Raftice,
Flo Six,
Quentin Spalding,
Starks Family,
Kathy Stretch,
Phyllis Stubbs,
Betty Tanner,
Yie Teh, Pat Thomas,
Michael Treadway,
Wayne Weaver,
and
Friends and Family of
William Bubb and
Carl Reedy*

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) 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:

- July 2021 Financials;
 - Month of July Income \$6,785.76, Expenses \$10,582.32
 - Year to Date Income \$55,035.67, Expenses \$63,898.98;
- Stressing to all that St. Andrews is open and will continue to be. Once our savings are nearing exhaustion F&P will make recommendations to Session.
- The copier company finally removing the erroneous 2020 \$25 fee from our monthly bill;
- What fee should be recommended to Session to be paid to an elder filling the pulpit when a guest minister is not available;
- Considering a month-to-month contract with Pastor Marc after expiration of his current contract;
- 2021-22 Stewardship Activities – mailing a letter to all members, having copies of the letter available in the sanctuary for distribution, and combining our dinner with our Thanksgiving celebration;
- Securing a list of members of the recently closed Presbyterian Church in Middleburg and mailing them a letter inviting them to worship with us at St. Andrews; and

The September 15th and October 13th meetings are scheduled for 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall and Terry will Chair these meetings since her trip out of the country has been postponed. Others are welcome to attend and/or join the Committee. Committee member are Cathy Barr, Terry Hallihan, Phyllis Herpy, Mary McNair, Linda Seiler and Judith Yeaton. Peace

Terry Hallihan, Chair

From the Clerk

Hello,

I hope everyone has had a great summer. Your Session got a much deserved break in July and came back in August ready to work. I wanted to let you know that your Session is united in the recommendation to wear a mask while at the Church, this is not a mandate but it is strongly recommended for your safety and the safety of those around you. This is something that can both be lifted and mandated in the future. We are trying to be very watchful on the cases around us locally. I know you all understand. Your Session will keep everyone updated.

Session will be working towards asking the congregation to select a new nominating committee for the purpose of electing new elders to the Session. I don't think I need to tell you how hard your Session at St. Andrews works to make sure the Church is functioning. But the past two years with COVID 19 they have been putting in some overtime and are ready for a rest. Please keep your Session in your prayers for guidance and pray for the upcoming nominating committee and the work they will have to do to fill the open positions for Session

I hope everyone has a chilly Fall and I will be praying for you.

God Bless,
Summer
Clerk

Hope Chest

Come and visit – open on
Wednesdays and after Worship on
Sundays.

Income:

June \$631.00
July \$412.00



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
6 Frank Edwards
8 Michael Banks
12 Sue Massey
17 Teresa Sweat
20 Joyce Miller

Worship

Well September is here again. That means that as of September 1st there are only 115 days until Christmas! And they are telling us to shop early because of shortages of all sorts of things. But that also means that the Fall holidays (all of them) are almost upon us. At the next meeting of the Worship Committee to be held on September 19th following Worship, we will be preparing for All Saints Day, November 1st, when we remember our loved ones who have passed away this year. We will also put Thanksgiving Sunday, November 21st on our calendar and prepare for the cornucopia on our Communion Table. And then, of course, Advent starts the very next Sunday. Christmas is on a Saturday this year so December 19th is Christmas Sunday. There is lots to do to “green up” the sanctuary for Christmas but more on that in our next newsletter. Add to all this is Pastor Marc’s anticipated vacation (if COVID doesn’t get in the way) to find pulpit coverage.

Please come to church on Sundays to join in worshipping our Lord with your Church family. And just so you know, masks are not required but they are strongly encouraged. We want to keep everyone safe.

Yours in the service of Christ,

Judith Yeaton, Chairman

Kathy Dahl

Lynda Edwards

Joan Goldsmith

Harry & Linda Seiler

JR & Jody Wood

Church Calendar

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 we also are welcoming anyone who would like to join us live. Masks are strongly recommended while on the Church property.

We are continuing Hope Chest sales for clothes, shoes, purses, undergarments, socks and more. We also have racks of clothing. The Hope Chest is open every Wednesday from 9-12.

The Hope Chest total for June was \$631.00; for July was \$412.00

M&E committee meets every first Sunday of the month on line.

Please keep safe and pray for all our leaders.

Lynda Edwards

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

DUE

***** OCTOBER 25th *****

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