



Ministry Spotlight

In June, our own David Lukens served as music co-leader for the first two weeks of Montreat Youth Conferences. He led music in the daily worship services, morning singing before the keynote, and worked with the



conference choirs and small groups of musicians. It also looks like he had a lot of fun. John McCrosky served as co-director of the conference. This month Lily Powell will serve on the planning team for weeks three and four of the conference. It's great to have our folks involved in the leadership of such a special conference. Maybe next summer, we'll get a group to attend the youth or intergenerational Worship and Music conferences.



From the Pastor

I am pleased to introduce our new Coordinator of Congregational Vitality to you, LaVerne Byas-Smith. In January, I met LaVerne in the Mindfulness and Self-Care for the Helping Professions class I took at Columbia Theological Seminary. When Ashley announced her move, and we posted the job opening, LaVerne reached out. Charlie Chambers, on behalf of the Management Ministry, and I conducted interviews and checked references. We are so grateful LaVerne found us. Thankfully, all parties involved think this is such a good fit for the gifts, skills, and needs of the church.

LaVerne and her husband have joined us for worship a couple of times, so some of you might have met her already. During the commencement activities in June, I learned two more things about LaVerne that she might be reluctant to share. She has a gorgeous voice and she won multiple awards given to graduating students. One

award, in particular, I think is worship sharing—The Julia Abdullah Award is given for the best paper on the subject, “How to make the church school hour the most interesting hour of the week.”

We look forward to welcoming her officially in worship on July 9th. Her email address will be laverne@sapctucker.org, and her phone number will be 770-938-2833, ext. 109. Here's a little more about LaVerne:

Raised in a church-going family, nevertheless, LaVerne reached adulthood before making the Faith her own. She is thus keenly aware of God's grace and prays to serve faithfully wherever He calls.

Through the Spirit-given gifts of teaching and faith, LaVerne served the past 27 years in the local Atlanta area and Ashburn, Virginia churches. Most recently, she directed Family Ministries (BPCKids) at Brambleton Church (PCUSA). Last August LaVerne moved to Decatur to complete the Master of Arts in Theological Studies program at Columbia Theological Seminary, graduating in May. A perpetual student of the Scriptures, LaVerne has been a Sunday school (ages preschool to adult) and VBS teacher, a Sunday School superintendent, a woman's bible study leader, as well as a short-term missions team member, and always a choir member. Outside the local church, LaVerne served for over 20 years in the international discipleship ministry, Community Bible Study (CBS), as Core Facilitator, Prayer Chair, Teaching Director, and finally, as CBS Area Director for the DC Metro Area until entering seminary. LaVerne and her husband Michael, otherwise known as “Gram & Papi,” enjoy their Decatur home, a short 10 minutes from their 2-year-old grandson, Tatum, the secret to their youthful joy.



-Camille

Church at Prayer

Every Friday at 9:00 a.m., members of St. Andrews faithfully meet with church staff on Zoom for prayer. There is time to share joys and prayer requests and a brief prayer liturgy where we lift up our concerns and prayers. Rev. Dr. Camille has streamlined the format, and our goal is that meetings will last 30 minutes to allow for more people to attend. The link and current prayer list are in the Thursday email each week.

Everyone is welcome and it is a great way to start your day.

Sign Up and Save the Date

Our Back-to-School Carnival will be held on Saturday, August 12 at 10:00 am. Mark your calendars!

Now is the time to reserve a slot to volunteer.
[Click this link](#) to sign up.



GOOD NEIGHBOR BACK TO SCHOOL SHOP

COLLECTING DONATIONS THROUGH JULY 15



Networks Back-to-School Shop

It seems like Summer has just started, but it's already time to collect items for NETWORKS' Good Neighbor Back-to-School Shop. More information about the program can be found [here](#). We will have collection bins in the Narthex and by the office beginning this Sunday, July 2nd. Collection ends Sunday, July 19. [Click this link](#) for the list of most needed items. The expense of school supplies can be a burden on families. The Back to School Shop collects new school supplies and families that qualify for NETWORKS' services can shop for what they need when they visit the food pantry at deeply discounted prices.

[Click this link](#) to volunteer at NETWORKS, and [this link](#) to donate in lieu of shopping for items. Thank you for supporting this important outreach to our neighbors.

Collection Bins are available through July 15 in the narthex, and in the courtyard by the door to the office. Additionally we will be collecting at The Tucker Farmer's Market (July 6 & 13).

Treasurer's Report

Jane Thomas, Treasurer

In May, our income was \$17,098.39 and our expenses totaled \$41,624.48. Year to date, our income was \$173,986.98 and our expenses were \$173,515.15. So, we are in the black by \$471.83.

Currently we have a mortgage balance of \$87,194.48. We have \$34,011.98 in our mortgage fund, and a monthly payment of \$4,111. Thus, we have funds on hand to

SAPC Staff

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Camille LeBron Powell
(ext 106)

camille@sapctucker.org

Coordinator of

Congregational Vitality

LaVerne Byas-Smith (ext 109)

laverne@sapctucker.org

cover 8 months of payments.

Mission Project

The International Rescue Committee is hosting a camp at Clarkston High School this summer for students in grades 6-12, most of whom are from families of immigrants and refugees. Like all teenagers, they love snacks. We at St. Andrews can help by donating snacks for the camp such as individual bags and packs of chips, cookies, snack crackers, granola bars and fruit. (No pork products, please.) We are collecting items through July 9th. Please bring your donations to the collection boxes in the narthex and in the breezeway by the office door in the courtyard.



Sunday Morning Together

Come join us for Sunday Morning Together, our intergenerational Sunday school class, July 9th-July 30th at 9:00 am in the Youth Lounge. We will study Jonah and also Jesus through the eyes of the Old Testament. Please take a few minutes and read the book of Jonah. It is very short, only 48 verses!



Director of Music

David Lukens (ext 118)
dlukens@sapctucker.org

Associate Director of Music/Organist

Edward Weaver (ext 118)
ejweaver@bellsouth.net

Director of Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries

Pat Baker (ext 111)
pat@sapctucker.org

Director of St. Andrews School

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Office Manager

Gretchen Perkins (ext 102)
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Financial Administrator

Helen Hoang (ext 104)
finance@sapctucker.org

Visit our
website

Giving

Online giving applies to your pledge just the same as a paper check. Secure online contributions can be made by clicking [this link](#), or checks can be mailed to: SAPC, 4882 Lavista Rd, Tucker, GA 30084

GIVE NOW
through the Presbyterian Mission Exchange

July Birthdays

- 1 Pat Blair
- 4 David Darnell

Lemonade in the Shade

Sundays after worship in July, join us for a St. Andrews Summer tradition: Lemonade in the Shade. We'll gather in the courtyard after worship for a cool glass of lemonade and some treats.

[Click this link](#), or [contact the church office](#) to sign up for a date to help and bring lemonade and treats. There are two slots for each Sunday in June and July and each slot is to bring lemonade and treats for 25-30 people, so no one will have to set up or provide the lemonade/treats by themselves.

Is Your Garden Blooming?

Do you have flowers from your garden to share this Summer? Would you like to pick up a bouquet from the store? You can sign up to bring flowers to church on an upcoming Sunday and dedicate them in honor or in memory of someone special to you.



Please [sign up with this link](#) to bring flowers this summer. When you sign up, there is a place on the website to add your dedication for the bulletin.

Ongoing Collection Projects

The Presbyterian Women are continuing to collect personal hygiene items for NETWORKS Cooperative Ministries. Needed items include adult diapers, poise pads, maxi pads, and tampons. Please bring items to the collection box in the Narthex.

Caring for Creation is continuing to collect eyeglasses in the Narthex. Please bring in any glasses that you no longer need. Items accepted include prescription glasses, lenses, sunglasses, reading glasses, and broken glasses.

- 8 David Lukens
- 9 Mike Rometo
- 10 Jeff Pattillo
- 12 Deby Brooke
- 13 David McCowen,
Lynda Robinson
- 14 Karen Burns
- 16 Natalia Papotto
- 18 Jim Barnhart,
Deanna McFarlan
- 19 Rachel Nelson
- 23 Lewis Gleason
- 25 Lily Powell
- 26 Jeff Jackson
- 27 Jared Papotto
- 28 Marcia Noble
- 30 Margaret Williams,

July Anniversaries

- 6 Deby & John Brooke
 - 17 Klara & Al Smith
-

Nursery Volunteers

One volunteer is needed each week to help in the nursery. [Click this link](#) to sign up.

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries

There are spots available for upcoming dates to bring food to Clifton. For more information or to sign up, [click here](#). This ministry is a very easy thing to do while maintaining your social distancing since meals are dropped off on Clifton's front porch after calling ahead to let them know when you are coming.

A group is gathering on the 4th Sunday of the month after worship to make lunches for

Clifton. If you are interested in helping, contact Phyllis Bearden.

Our congregation feeds the men at Clifton Sanctuary Ministries on the fourth Sunday of every month.

Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries

by Pat Baker

Is a caregiver support group for you?

A caregiver is anyone who **feels responsible** for another person's welfare (financial, emotional) because of illness, frailty, life changes and/or losses. Statistics show that at least one person out of every families has caregiving duties.

The third Tuesday evening of every month at 7:00pm I hold a virtual caregiver support group through Zoom. Persons who might benefit from this support group are spouse caregivers, caregivers of aging relatives- in home, in community, and long distance, caregivers of life partners or significant others and those who share caregiving duties.

The objectives of my support group are as follows:

- Provide a place where people feel understood in the special way that only others who have faced or are facing a similar situation can understand.
- Provide respite from care giving situations (time away) - a safe place.
- Help caregivers achieve a sense of perspective on their problems.
- Provide an opportunity to share resources.
- AND much more

If you are interested in finding out more about this group, please contact me at 678-438-3673 or email pat@sapctucker.org.

Summer Sermon Series

Join us in worship this July and August as our Summer series continues: Family Reunion. We are exploring the story of Abraham's family through the generations and finding lessons of hope for our own.



July 2 An Unthinkable Trial
Romans 6:12-23 Genesis 22:1-14

July 30 Sibling Rivalry: Part II
Romans 8:26-39 Genesis 29:15-28

July 9 A Biblical Romance?
Romans 7:15-25a
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

August 6 Holy Wrestling
Romans 9:1-5 Genesis 32:22-31

July 16 Sibling Rivalry: Part I
Romans 8:1-11 Genesis 25:19-34

August 13 Forgiveness in the Family
Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Genesis 45:1-15

July 23 8th Sunday after Pentecost
David Rogers, Guest Preacher

Did You Know...?

. . . The City of Tucker is holding its annual 4th of July celebration on Monday, July 3rd. [This link](#) has more information.

. . . Tucker has it's own electronics recycling center called E-Recycle USA. It is located at 4545 Granite Drive and is open to the public M-F 8:30-5:00. [Click this link](#) for their website and for a list of the items they accept. It's free, with the exception of TV's and CRT monitors.

. . . Scraplanta is a creative re-use center located in the Briarcliff Village Shopping Plaza (Near TJ Maxx, behind Rose's Alterations.) They accept donations of pre-loved art, craft, classroom, office, and party supplies and re-sell those items for folks to create sustainable art projects at affordable prices. They also offer classes and workshops. Scraplanta is open Th-Su, 10-6. [Here is their website](#) with more information.

PDA: Disaster Relief and More

Did you know that Presbyterian Disaster Assistance responds to more than just tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, fires and floods? They also aid refugees and asylum seekers, as well as respond to incidents of public violence, like mass shootings.

When you are not sure what to do besides offering thoughts and prayers, supporting PDA is a way to do more. [Click here](#) to contribute directly to their efforts. To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to:
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

To Donate:

Call 800-872-3283

[Click here](#) to donate online

Text 'PDA' to 20222 to donate \$10

The code to designate gifts to the humanitarian response in Ukraine is DR000165.

The code to donate to hurricane relief, including Hurricane Ian is DR000194

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

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