



Ministry Spotlight: Fall BBQ



Many thanks to all who planned, cooked, brought side dishes, and helped with organization and clean-up. St. Andrews Annual BBQ was a fun time with fellowship and good food enjoyed by all.





VITAL & THRIVING



GROWING *in Generosity*
ROOTED *in Faith*

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it – Psalm 24:1

sapctucker.org

From the Pastor

When journalist and author Mitch Albom began visiting his college professor, Morrie Schwartz, he noticed that folks who visited him, trying to cheer the dying man up, left feeling like they were the ones whose spirits were lifted. When Albom asked about this, Schwartz said, "Giving makes me feel like living." Schwartz had a lot to teach his former student about life and living. Many of those lessons can be applied to our life together as a church.

Giving is an integral part of living as a community of faith. This year, we'll focus on what it means to be a vital and thriving congregation. We will resume our work with the Vital Congregations Initiative this fall. We will explore what it means to thrive and how each of us plays a part in the congregation's life. The dictionary will tell you

that to be **vital** is to be essential or full of energy. It will also tell you that to **thrive** is to grow or develop. To be *avital and thriving* congregation is to grow and flourish. The church thrives on gratitude and responds with generosity. This cycle of gratitude and generosity helps the church to flourish, to be vital, and to thrive.

As we talk more about how we support a vital and thriving congregation with our time, talents, and treasure, I want to start by sharing exciting news. We are on track to be debt-free in 2024! I know those of you who have been through all the capital campaigns and building projects have anxiously awaited this day. We will let everyone know when paying off our mortgage is finalized, but you can be sure that we will celebrate! For 15 years, we've been paying the mortgage that funded new mission initiatives and significant improvements to our buildings and campus with your generous gifts.

We look forward to using your gifts to grow our mission with our annual budget. We invite those of you who have been making an additional gift to the mortgage fund to prayerfully consider continuing to give some or all that amount with your annual pledge to the operating budget.

This month, you will be hearing more about how your gifts to St. Andrews have been spent during the past year and about plans for using your gifts in 2024. We will celebrate the generosity of this congregation and the ways in which Christ is working in and through us. The goal of the Annual Generosity campaign is quite simple—we want to receive pledges of financial gifts to support the salaries and benefits for our pastoral, program, and support staff; support our mission and outreach; provide for worship, Christian education, and nurture for all ages; and to continue to be good stewards of our physical plant.

On October 22nd, we will celebrate pledge dedication in worship. We ask you to prayerfully consider what kind of financial commitment you can make to Christ's mission and ministry at St. Andrews in 2024. Your increased commitment is essential to maintaining the current budget *and* flourishing as Christ's body here in Tucker. It truly takes a village for our church's mission and ministry to thrive. Your time, talent, and treasure are vital to the work that God has called us to be a part of in Tucker and the world. Thank you for all that you do to make St. Andrews Presbyterian a vital and thriving church!

-Camille

VITAL & THRIVING

OCTOBER 1

Vital and Thriving
Psalm 80:7-15
Matthew 21:33-46

OCTOBER 8

Building Faithfulness on the
Way to the Promised Land
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 32:1-14

OCTOBER 15

God's Imprint on Our Lives
Genesis 1:26-31
Matthew 22:15-22

OCTOBER 22

Commitment Sunday
Committed to the Win-Win-Win
Psalm 96
Matthew 22:34-46



sapctucker.org

Vital Congregations Initiative

In November 2021 St. Andrews' session voted to join the PC(USA) Vital Congregations Initiative (VCI), a program designed to help revitalize churches through Spirit-led discipleship and the rebuilding of relationships. A two-year process walks churches through the steps of pursuing God's direction and power in setting the path forward toward new life and vitality. St. Andrews began the journey with a Lenten series in Spring of 2022.



We re-enter the first year of the VCI program this month with a church-wide bible study: "Seven Marks of Vital Congregations." We are asking every member to engage with this study. Join Sunday Morning Together, beginning October 8, as they engage the study each Sunday at 8:45. Other groups may form, or you may study on your own using our "Seven Marks of Vital Congregations" study guide available in the narthex, beginning October 1st.

Several other VCI activities this fall will further our pursuit of vitality: In October and November we'll examine St. Andrews' in the past, with historical remembrances. In December and January other activities will help us see clearly who we are now. And in the Spring, we'll turn toward spiritual discernment as we seek what God is calling SACP to be.

We need everyone to be united in this effort to seek God's quickening and leading, that St. Andrews may regain its vitality and relevance, and be fully alive with the Spirit of Christ. So stay tuned and get involved in all of our Vital Congregations Initiative activities.

Vital Congregations Schedule of Activities

October 8 – November 19th: 7 Marks Study

November 19th: Congregational Vitality Survey

November 26th: St. Andrews' Heritage Exhibit

December 31- January 28: "Who are My Neighbors?"

Interviews

February 14 – March 24: Lenten Study & Discernment



Blessing of the Animals

St. Francis was known, among other things, for his love, respect, and care for all of God's creatures. In honor of his feast day and as a witness to God's and the Church's love, care, and concern for creation, we will celebrate our mutual interdependence with God's creatures. On Thursday, October 5th at 5 p.m. we will offer a blessing of the animals (pets) at Tucker Farmers Market. All are invited to bring their

well-behaved pet (or a picture) for a blessing. If your pets aren't up for a visit to the market, you can take home a blessing card and treat for them. Invite your friends and neighbors, we would love to see you!

Blessing of the ANIMALS



OCTOBER 5TH
5:00 PM
AT THE TUCKER
FARMER'S MARKET

Bring your well-behaved pet
or a picture of your pet to
receive a blessing from our
pastor.



Saint Andrews
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Treasurer's Report Jane Thomas, Treasurer

In August, our income was \$31,394.00 and our expenses totaled \$44,194.45. Year to date, our income was \$311,982.71 and our expenses were \$274,954.92. So, we are in the black by \$37,027.79.

Currently we have a mortgage balance of \$75,572.91. We have \$30,773.98 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 7.5 months of payments.

Presbyterian Women

St. Andrews has an active group of Presbyterian Women that meets at 10:00 am on the Third Tuesday of the month in the Meeting Room and on Zoom. They are getting ready for their next meeting this fall on October 17th. Contact Judy Cook for more information about the Presbyterian Women.

The PW will continue to collect adult diapers, poise pads, maxi pads, and tampons at meetings and in the Narthex for NETWORKS Cooperative Ministries.

Save the Date

We are heading back to Montreat April 23-26, 2024 for another wonderful retreat. All adults are invited. Stay tuned for more details and registration information.

Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries

By Pat Baker

I'm an En-core volunteer...How About You???

I was so excited when I heard about the new initiative of a volunteer partnership between SAPC and the St. Andrews Church, called En-Core, or the Encouragement Core. Several months ago, I decided that one of my goals for 2024 was to organize interested older adults in volunteerism outside of the church. There is so much that needs to be done in our community and the Atlanta area at large. I'm exploring a variety of short-term volunteer commitments currently. A few folks can make a huge difference so I hope that something will pique your interest. A wonderful place to start is in our own building reading to the children at St. Andrews School as an En-Core volunteer. Please contact LaVerne Byas-Smith if you'd like to volunteer too, or leave a message at 770-938-2833 ext. 109. If you have any ideas for other possible venues for volunteers, please let me know.

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

Lonnette Bruce (ext 120)
sasdirector@sapctucker.org

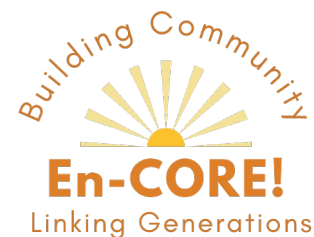
Office Manager

Gretchen Perkins (ext 102)
office@sapctucker.org

Financial Administrator

Helen Hoang (ext 104)
finance@sapctucker.org

[Visit our website](#)



On another note, I'm cancelling the November field trip to Oakland Cemetery because they are doing some road maintenance this fall so the golf carts are not available for those needing to do the "riding tour" instead of walking. I'll get back to Oakland the first of the year and will set up something up for the early spring.

Special Offering

This Sunday, 10/1, our congregation will participate in the Peace & Global Witness special offering (PC USA). In many locations around the world, peace is just a hope due to conflicts between nations, people and ideas. Our gifts to this special offering will work to address these problems through missions, work projects and education as Presbyterians engaged in ministries of peace and reconciliation, and witness to the peace of Christ around the world. [Click here](#) for more information. Additionally, 25% of this offering is retained by our congregation to be used in support of Memorial Drive Ministries in recognition of their local contributions to peace and global witness in our area.

- You can contribute through St. Andrews' [online portal](#), or by mailing a check to St. Andrews. Please put "Peace & Global Witness" on the memo line.

Church Directories

Updated directories were handed out at the BBQ, please [contact the church office](#) to make arrangements to pick up a copy, if you did not receive one at the BBQ.

St. Andrews School Halloween Parade

St. Andrews School and the En-Core volunteers invite the SAPC community to the Halloween Costume Parade and Open House. Thursday October 26th, at 10:30 a.m. SAS teachers will lead the children, dressed in their costumes, in a parade around the courtyard. We'll have seating along the route for spectators, and an indoor reception where church visitors can meet and mingle with school parents.

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



October Birthdays

- 5 Emma Pattillo
- 7 Jenny Allen, Marjorie Holler
- 8 Gretchen Turner, Laura Papotto
- 9 Charlton Allen
- 14 Penny Bellinger, Nancy Berlin
- 17 Erin Johnston, Robert Evans
- 21 Annette Hildreth
- 22 Caroline Johnston
- 29 Mitzi Hoffman
- 30 Paige Kubik

October Anniversaries

- 1 Cheryl Anderson & Pat Creasman
 - 4 Jeff & Rachel Nelson
 - 6 Ed & Linda Weaver
 - 14 J.C. & Carrie Edwards
-

Upcoming Events

The parade starts at 10:30, followed by refreshments, and a time of open touring of the school. Come out and cheer our young SAS friends and greet the school community. It should be a Boo-ti-ful time!

Free Book Exchange Table

Our book table is coming back to the Farmer's Market from 4-7 pm at the Tucker Farmer's Market October 5 & 19. Contact [Laverne Byas-Smith](#) if you would like to volunteer for an hour or two.

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.

October

1 World Communion Sunday

5 Blessing of the Animals, 5 pm

17 Presbyterian Women

22 Pledge Dedication Sunday

29 Reformation Sunday

November

4 Caregiver Event

14 Presbyterian Women

18 All-Church Walk in the Park

Fall Flowers

[Click this link](#) to sign up to bring flowers for worship September-November. The flowers can be from your yard or from the store. If you would like to donate them in memory or in honor of a loved one, please enter that information when you sign up online.

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

To Donate:

Call 800-872-3283

[Click here](#) to donate online

Text 'PDA' to 20222 to donate \$10

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

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

770-938-2833

office@sapctucker.org

sapctucker.org

Connect with us



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church | 4882 Lavista Rd , Tucker, GA 30084

[Unsubscribe finance@sapctucker.org](mailto:finance@sapctucker.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data
Notice](#)

Sent by office@sapctucker.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!