

February 2025 The Lamplighter

Ministry Spotlight: Officer Elections

On January 26th at our Annual Meeting, we installed new officers for the Class of 2026 and presented the annual report. The 2025 budget was also presented and members passed the motion to approve the pator's terms of call. Click here to view a copy of the 2024 Annual Report.

2025 Session, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Clerk of Session

Jane Thomas, Class of 2026

Treasurer

Joan Barnes

Elders

Education Ministry

Michael Bearden, Class of 2025 Klara Smith, Class of 2026

Engagement Ministry

Marsha Ashby, Class of 2026 Cynthia Weimer, Class of 2026

Management Ministry

Kimberly Rometo, Class of 2025 Basil Papotto, Class of 2026

Mission Ministry

Margaret Ellingson, Class of 2025 Margaret Williams, Class of 2026

Worship Ministry

Deborah Brilling, Class of 2025 Curtis Morse, Class of 2026

Deacons

Pat Zrolka

Annette Hildreth

Judy Cook

Linda Fuller

Mary O'Brien

Sarah Slusher Linda Fouts

Mitzi Hoffman

From the Pastor

Last Sunday, we held our annual congregational meeting in worship. We wove in some reporting of the ministry and mission from 2024. I made a year-in-review video to celebrate and give thanks for God's faithfulness here in 2024. Putting the video together served as a time, personally, to prayerfully reflect on the past year and offer up hopes and prayers for this new year.



As is often the case, depending on the day, I might feel exceedingly grateful thinking of all the Holy Spirit has done in and through St. Andrews in the last year... or I might get stuck focusing on the challenges that occupied too much time and energy. The annual meeting used to feel just like the day to do things decently and in order—more housekeeping than anything else (the addition of the election of elders and deacons is relatively new to our practice). Now, it is an opportunity to affirm the words of Ephesians 3:20-21:

The One who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

The annual meeting was also a time to formally proclaim the action the session took in March. Marcia Noble served as clerk of session at our March 17 meeting, where we did two things she loved—polity (rules and order) and visioning. We ate lunch together and continued by reviewing the results of the Vital Congregations Initiative congregational survey (which we later presented at Brunch Church in May). Not long after adjourning that meeting, Marcia suffered a stroke and died a week later.

At our April session meeting, we made temporary plans to cover the duties of the clerk of the session. We also paused, took some time to hold space for our grief, and then a motion was made and passed to name Marcia Noble Clerk Emerita. Below is the resolution read in worship on January 26, 2025.

I continue to thank God for Marcia Noble and for the faithful who have served and continue to serve Christ's body with their own unique gifts and talents.

Peace, Camille

Resolution Honoring Marcia Jane Noble Posthumous Bestowment of the Title "Clerk of Session Emerita"

Whereas, Marcia Jane Noble faithfully served as Clerk of Session at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Tucker, Georgia, from 2007-8, 2013-16, 2019-20, and 2023-4, having been elected by the congregation to serve as a Ruling Elder and to this position by the Session, and



Whereas, as Clerk of Session, Marcia demonstrated exceptional leadership, dedication, and organizational skill in fulfilling the specific duties of this office, including preparing agendas and packets for meetings, recording the minutes, handling directed correspondence, and maintaining the rolls of the church, and

Whereas, Marcia worked tirelessly to ensure that the church's official records were meticulously kept, including overseeing the preparation of the annual statistical report to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), granting membership transfers, and keeping accurate records of baptisms, deaths, marriages, and the service of officers, and

Whereas, Marcia demonstrated her commitment to the spiritual and administrative health of the church by collaborating closely with the Pastor and Session, assisting with special projects, initiating the annual financial review, and ensuring the ongoing review and update of the church's bylaws, personnel manual, and operations manual, and

Whereas, in her role as Clerk of Session, Marcia exemplified a deep commitment to ensuring that the business of the church was conducted with transparency, efficiency, and grace, and

Whereas, her service went beyond the formal duties of the Clerk, as she served as a reliable and devoted presence at congregational meetings, kept the attendance records of the Elders, and always offered guidance and support in all areas of church life, and

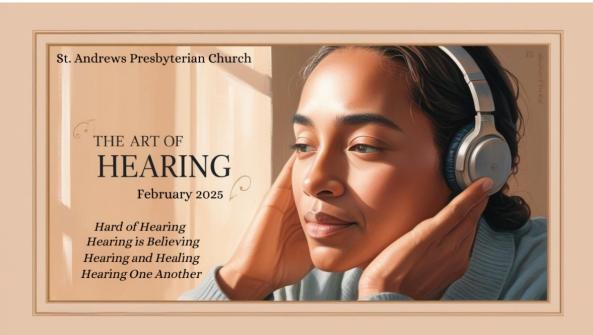
Whereas, Marcia was a faithful servant of Christ, consistently embodying the values of humility, integrity, and dedication in all aspects of her life, and her leadership as Clerk enriched the ministry and mission of our congregation, and

Whereas, Marcia's passing has left a profound impact on all who knew her, and her legacy of service and faith continues to inspire our congregation,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that, in recognition of Marcia Noble's exceptional and dedicated service as Clerk of Session, we, the members of the Session of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, do hereby posthumously bestow upon her the title of Clerk of Session Emerita, as a lasting tribute to her invaluable contributions and as an acknowledgment of her faithful commitment to our church, its mission, and its people.

February Sermon Series

Worship in February will focus on discovering the power of God's voice through stories from Luke's gospel.



Rise Against Hunger

On February 2nd, St. Andrews is going to

pack 10,000 meals to help end hunger around the world. We will join with Rise Against Hunger, an organization that works in countries worldwide to fight hunger, targeting communities facing high rates of food insecurity. They provide volunteer-packaged meals and other assistance, often through school feeding programs, to support nutrition, education and health for children and families facing hunger right now. They



also partner with local leaders to implement sustainable agriculture and income-generating projects that support long-term solutions to food security and empower communities to become self-reliant and thrive.

The online sign up is full, but come this Sunday, if you'd like to help.

Here is the schedule for the day:

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Set up tables and get the room ready 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM Rise Against Hunger arrives with the supplies at 2 PM. We will help unload the truck and set up all the supplies. 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Meal Packaging 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM Clean Up

Treasurer's Report Jane Thomas, Treasurer

In December, our income was \$52,861.25, and our expenses totaled \$44,446.33. Year to date, our income is \$464,203.54 and expenses are \$453,079.81 So, we are in the black for 2024 by \$11,123.73.

Join me in welcoming Joan Barnes as our new treasurer in 2025.

-Jane Thomas, Soon-to-be Ex-Treasurer

Need a Ride - Can Give a Ride?

As we age, driving challenges seem to become greater, especially with the traffic around Metro Atlanta. If you are not attending church on Sundays or the evening events at St. Andrews because you are no longer driving at all, or after dark, we'd like to know. The Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries is working on matching up members who are not driving with members who might be willing to transport folks to St. Andrews. If you Need a ride, or can give a ride, please contact Pat Baker, or 770-9282833, ext. 122.

New Phone System

Thanks go out to the Management Ministry for overseeing the installation of our new telephone system.

Our phone numbers are the same,

SAPC Staff

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Camille LeBron (ext 106) camille@sapctucker.org

Coordinator of Congregational Vitality

LaVerne Byas-Smith (ext 109) laverne@sapctucker.org

Director of Music

David Lukens (ext 118) dlukens@sapctucker.org

Associate Director of Music/Organist Edward Weaver (ext 118) <u>ejweaver@bellsouth.net</u>

Director of Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries Pat Baker (ext 122) 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

Giving

Online giving applies to your

but now our system is modernized, streamlined, and working well.

Please see the list of staff extensions to the right.

Church Office - 770-938-2833 St. Andrews School - 770-934-1461 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



Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries

by Pat Baker

50 Secrets of the World's Longest Living People

This delightful book, written by Sally Beare, is about her travels around the world to discover the mysteries behind living longer. Enjoy the 50 secrets she discovered on her travels.

- 1. Eat until you are only eight parts full.
- 2. Consumé five to seven servings of fresh fruits and vegetables a day.
- 3. Choose buckwheat, brown rice, and other whole grains.
- 4. Eat sprouted wheat bread.
- 5. Use hemp.
- 6. Eat meat as a treat.
- 7. Prepare your meat right.
- 8. Choose organic goat's and sheep's cheese.
- 9. Be full of beans.
- 10. Have a good egg.
- 11. Find good fats in fish.
- 12. Have a handful of nuts and seeds daily.
- 13. Choose the wonder oil- extra virgin olive oil.
- 14. Beware of fats in disguise.
- 15. Use garlic and onions—nature's healers.
- 16. Discover the power of crunchy vegetables.
- 17. Keep aging away with a salad a day.
- 18. Give thanks for sweet potatoes.
- 19. Enjoy pizza...guilt free.
- 20. Snack on apricots and apricot kernels.
- 21. Find long life in a bowl of berries.
- 22. Have yogurt for a very friendly bacteria.
- 23. Eat fermented foods.
- 24. Choose soy---the traditional way.
- 25. Sprout your own superfoods.
- 26. Eat magical mushrooms.
- 27. Remember your herbs.
- 28. Don't pass the salt.
- 29. Go organic and avoid "frankenfoods".
- 30. Chew.
- 31. Beware of the pastry counter.
- 32. Have a glass of red wine with dinner.
- 33. Make time for tea—green tea.
- 34. Drink water---the most essential nutrient.
- 35. Combine your foods.
- 36. Spring-clean with juices and saunas.
- 37. Supplement your diet.
- 38. Exercise, exercise, exercise.
- 39. Get your daily dose of sunshine.
- 40. Jog your memory.
- 41. Breathe—and hum.
- 42. Sit still and do nothing.
- 43. Have faith.
- 44. Laugh it off.
- 45. Sing in the shower.
- 46. Give help to others.
- 47. Marry—or get a dog (or cat- my addition).
- 48. Invite a friend.
- 49. Avoid the SAD—Standard American Diet.
- 50. Sleep.

And, I'm adding a 51st since it's February... so love one another as God has loved you!

Clifton Sanctuary Ministries



There are spots available

for upcoming dates to bring food to Clifton. For more information or to sign up, <u>click here</u>. 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 gathers on the 4th Sunday of each 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.

Fidelis Sunday School Class

Everyone is welcome to join the Fidelis Sunday School Class, which meets at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings in the Library, and <u>on Zoom</u> (password fidelis).

The class uses *The Present Word* series of books. This Winter, the study theme is "A King Now and Forever," and in February the focus is: Life in God's Kingdom. Contact Deanna Hall for more information.

Staff Party

To celebrate surviving the joyful and busy Advent and Christmas seasons, the church staff came together for some time without any work to do. We gathered at the home of Pat and Arch Baker for a party on Saturday, January 18th. We enjoyed as salmon dinner from a local catering company, plenty of chocolate toffee and fruit trifle, Arch's homemade eggnog, and a white elephant gift exchange. It is always a delight to spend time with these gifted colleagues in ministry!

Revelation Bible Study

We are going through Revelation verse by verse. Please join us in the church library Sundays at 2:00 pm, as we delve deeper into the material by Bruce Gore, facilitated by Arch Baker. Everyone is welcome!

February Birthdays

- 1 Scott Johnson
- 5 Benjamin Ashby
- 7 Emily Bunce
- 9 John Artley
- 11 Rosemary Broom, Jeff Davis, Linda Fuller, Andrew Todd
- 16 Walter McDuffie
- 17 Maria Mackas
- 18 Stephanie Allen, Shellie Bunce
- 19 Pat Creasman, Mary O'Brien
- 22 Bret Moore, Jacob Nelson
- 23 Sarah Phillips
- 25 Charles Jackson, Jeff Nelson
- 27 William Ashby

February Anniversaries

28 Julie & Louis Todd

Sunday Mornings Together

Everyone is welcome to join us in the meeting room Sunday mornings at 8:45 am as we study Conversations on the Feast. Look for an announcement about our Lenten book study coming soon.

Save the Date

Mark your calendars - Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. Stay tuned for more information about the theme, special services, and available devotional materials.



Walking group at Main Street Church

Main Street Church Tucker (formerly known as First Baptist Church of Tucker) would like to invite you to drop in and walk with us.

Come to the Main Street Church Tucker Gym, also known as "The Healing Place", located at 2367 Main Street, Tucker, and walk with us in a safe, weather-controlled space accompanied by soft music playing in the background.

The Healing Place is open each week Monday thru Thursday, 9:30 am to 11:00 am although we are closed for major holidays.

Come join us for a fun time walking, socializing, and making new friends. We look forward to having you be a part of our walking group! If you have questions, please call the church office at (770) 938-1688 or contact Glenda Newell, our coordinator for The Healing Place, at (678) 641-6667 or glendanewell16@gmail.com.

Hurricane Wildfire Response and Relief

Here are four ways you can give and make a difference:

- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has already deployed National Response Teams to Florida, North Carolina, and. Georgia to support the congregations and communities affected by the storms. If you would like to contribute a financial gift to support PDA's immediate and long-term work to help these areas rebuild and recover, you can give here
- The Montreat Conference Center and surrounding areas have suffered significant damage. Montreat is a special place to many in our congregation. It's where we've held retreats and sent youth to conferences for years. Your gift to the Montreat Hurricane Relief Fund will directly support relief efforts in this beloved community. For updates and to donate visit their website.
- Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, located between Cherry Street downtown and the Montreat gate, has power. The congregation is actively serving as a relief station, providing meals, water, power, and respite for those in need. You can contribute directly to help them continue this vital work <u>here</u>.
- Pray: Please continue to pray for all those affected by Hurricane Helene and Milton—the families, communities, and relief workers. Pray for healing, strength, and resilience in the weeks ahead.

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church 770-938-2833 office@sapctucker.org sapctucker.org

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

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