

May 2025 The Lamplighter

Ministry Spotlight: Holy Week

April 13 - 20 Christians around the world celebrated Holy Week. At SAPC we celebrated with Hosannas in worship on Palm/Passion Sunday. We observed Maundy Thursday in Heffner Hall with traditional hand-washing, a simple supper, and worship together around tables. Good Friday was marked with the choir leading worship in the sanctuary. After the darkness of Good Friday and Holy Saturday we celebrated Resurrection Sunday with fellowship in the courtyard and triumphant Alleluias in worship.









From the Pastor

April showers bring May flowers... and May brings graduations, planning for summer trips, renewed commitments to spend more time outside before the unbearable heat arrives, and so much more. May, as the gateway to summer, is a month for transformation, renewal, and new beginnings. Emily Brontë wrote, "May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope."

This May, we will celebrate transformations and milestones we've been working toward in another Brunch Church worship on May 18. We will gather around tables in Heffner Hall to worship as we share food and fellowship. We will sing songs, pray, recite litanies, hear the Word proclaimed, and glorify God, all the elements of a worship service, even as we eat. As was the case for our previous Brunch Church worship services, the proclamation and participation will look slightly different than a typical Sunday in the sanctuary. Worshippers will have the opportunity to reflect on their journey of faith in creative, interactive ways.

This year, as we continue through the Easter season, our worship will celebrate the transformations and new life possible in Jesus Christ. We'll celebrate our high school graduate, Lily Powell. This will also be a time to celebrate all the ways the Holy Spirit is working to transform this community through Sunday school, Children's church, Lunch & Learn, Presbyterian Women, and other faith formation opportunities. We will invite the St. Andrews School community to join us as we thank God for the new life emerging among the students, their families, teachers, staff, and school board. No matter what May brings for you, I hope you will plan to join us for this special service of worship.

Camille

Brunch Church May 18th, in Heffner Hall

Please help us with Brunch Church, Sunday, May 18th. Brunch starts at 9:45 am. Worship begins at the regular time, 10:00 am. The church will provide coffee, beverages, and donuts. We ask members to contribute breakfast casseroles, fruit and cheese platters, and other brunch items. Please bring food to Heffner Hall by 9:30; we'll need many hands to set up, serve, and clean up. Please sign up here. Contact Cindy Weimer or Marsha Ashby



for more information.

Treasurer's Report Joan Barnes, Treasurer

From January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025, our income was \$78,140.00 and our expenses totaled \$106,241.48. We are in the red by (\$28,101.48). The expenses were mainly in line with expectations but our giving has been down.

Special Offering: Caring Hands

On Sunday, May 11th, we will take a special offering to benefit Presbyterian Homes of Georgia's Caring Hands Fund. For 75 years, the Caring Hands Fund offers benevolent care for six Presbyterian Homes communities in Georgia with contributions directly supporting the care of residents who have outlived their financial resources. Please put "Caring Hands" in the memo of your check. If giving online, please select Mission and put "Caring Hands" in the Notes.

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20 in the meeting room. This will be our last meeting until September. We will go over lesson 9 in our study book. We will conclude the meeting with our annual covered dish lunch, so it's a do not miss gathering! Please bring a dish to share. Also, we will bring our PW Birthday Offering collection, a time to support our giving to two PW's all over our country and the world that have places or organizations that they have done and support in their area, to help others.

So, try to come and enjoy a great lunch and finish to our 2024-2025 study. We continue to support NETWorks collecting personal care products for women and men over the summer in the Narthex.

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

SAPC Staff

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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



Tucker Farmer's Market

The market has returned to SAPC. It's a great opportunity to shop local and to see your neighbors right on our campus. They will be back each week through November, Thursdays from 4-7 p.m. If there is inclement weather, the market will be held in Heffner Hall.

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 <u>contact Pat Baker</u>, or 770-9282833, ext. 122. Even if you can give someone a ride one waylet us know!

Flowers for Worship

<u>Click this link</u> to sign up to bring flowers for worship through June. The Flowers can be from your yard or the shop.

Spring Retreat

The week after Easter, fifteen folks from St. Andrews gathered for our annual retreat at Camp Mikell in Toccoa. Our theme was "Play Will Keep Us Together." Mandy Ealy (Director of Christian Education at Hawfields Presbyterian Church in Mebane, NC) our guest leader, had reflections, scripture, games, storytelling, crafts, a Photo Booth, a nature scavenger hunt, and even chair yoga for us to try out and explore together, with plenty of free time mixed in. Our days were framed with services of morning and evening prayer. Margaret Williams and Mandy put their heads together before the retreat to plan an art project we could all participate in and use in worship for our Earth Care Sunday. The result is amazing! Camp Mikell was great, but we hope to be back at William Black Lodge in Montreat next year. Stay tuned for those dates and make plans to join us.











Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries by Pat Baker

The month of May is traditionally observed as <u>Older Americans Month</u> (OAM), a time to recognize older Americans' contributions, highlight aging trends, and reaffirm our commitment to serving older adults. We'll be observing May 4th as Older Adult Sunday in worship.

The 2025 theme, Flip the Script on Aging, focuses on transforming how society perceives, talks about, and approaches aging. It encourages individuals and communities to challenge stereotypes and dispel misconceptions. This year, join us in honoring older adults' contributions, exploring the many opportunities for staying active and engaged as we age, and highlighting the opportunities for purpose, exploration, and connection that come with aging.

This is so appropriate for our St. Andrews community as we recently began a monthly discussion/support offering on Older Adulthood. We're meeting the third Thursday of every month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the church Library. This is an open discussion on a variety of topics very similar to this year's OAM theme. I hope you will join us.

May Day Trip We will take a guided tour of the Breman Museum's "History with Chutzpa" exhibit on Monday, May 19th. We'll meet at the church at 10:45 a.m. to carpool to Egg Harbor Café in Brookhaven for brunch, and then head over to the museum for our 1:00 p.m. tour. Museum admission is \$7 for seniors and \$5 for adults, payable at the door. Click here for more information about the exhibit and the Breman Museum. RSVP to Pat Baker by May 13th.

Support Our Preschool

Some ways you can help the school include:

- Join En-Core! The Encore readers have been reading to the children every Friday for over a year and the kids as well as the teachers enjoy the interaction. As an Encore reader you decide how often you wish to read. Starting this Summer, we are offering to read every Friday, so this will be a year round activity.
- Share your Passion! Do you have a special hobby, interest, skill or passion to share with the children that would add to the children's Summer School experience? Time commitment is at your discretion. Please <u>contact Cindy Weimer</u> with your level of interest to be involved as an Encore volunteer or to bring a special summer program to the school or with any questions.
- Get Out the Word! St. Andrews Schod still has some spots available in their Summer Camp (ages 1-10) and Fall Classes (ages 1-5) Please contact the school for more information, 770-934-1461. Please share this information with your neighborhood email lists and Facebook pages. Here's the Flyer.

Click this link to see the school's Amazon wish list.

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 on Zoom (password fidelis).

The class uses *The Present Word* series of books. This Spring, the study theme is, "the fullness of faith as a response to God's desire to be in relationship with us" and in May the focus is: Special Offerings and the Sanctuary. <u>Contact Deanna Hall</u> for more information.

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.

Revelation Bible Study to Conclude June 1st

Everyone is welcome to join us for the last few weeks! 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.

May Birthdays

- 1 Debbie Brilling, Samantha Downton
- 2 Cheryl Anderson, Betsy Floyd
- 9 Louis Todd
- 15 Jackson Forrester
- 17 Pat Baker
- 18 Jonathan Compton
- 21 Mike Bearden
- 22 Kjersti Lukens
- 24 Ashley Elder
- 25 Joan Barnes
- 26 Phyllis Jennings, Jonathan Westbrook
- 27 Tim Barnes, Griffin Millican
- 30 Leigh Ann Millican, Charlie Chambers

May Anniversaries

- 3 Charlton & Jenny Allen
- 6 Jeff & Jocelyn Davis
- 18 Robbie & Betsy Floyd
- 21 Tim & Joan Barnes
- 23 Bill & Anne McNair
- 26 Deb & Charlie Chambers
- 30 Marjorie & Jim Holler,

Mike & Kim Rometo

Highlights from the April Session Meeting Jane Thomas, Clerk of Session

- The Baptism of Claire Valentine Meeks, daughter of Sarah and Zachary Meeks, was approved for May 18, 2025 during Brunch Church.
- The Session participated in an exercise followed by a discussion of how we need to work together in leading the church. Trust, Decision-making, and Communication were key components.
- Update on St. Andrews School. The School is doing well under the new leadership. They have hired a cook and have the appropriate number of teachers. Enrollment numbers are low for Summer Camp and Fall, so there is a push for attracting new students. They are also looking for sand to replenish the playground.
- We will have Brunch Church on May 18, with a celebration of graduates and the baptism.
- The Session agreed to think about a Zoom policy for Session meetings. Camille is checking out what other Sessions do.

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 here.
- 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

Connect with us





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