



Ministry Spotlight: POAMN Conference

Pat Baker and Penny Bellinger recently attended the Annual National Conference of POAMN (Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Network) - *Rooted In Hope*- at First Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, TN. First Presbyterian Church was a beautiful, historic church established in 1792.



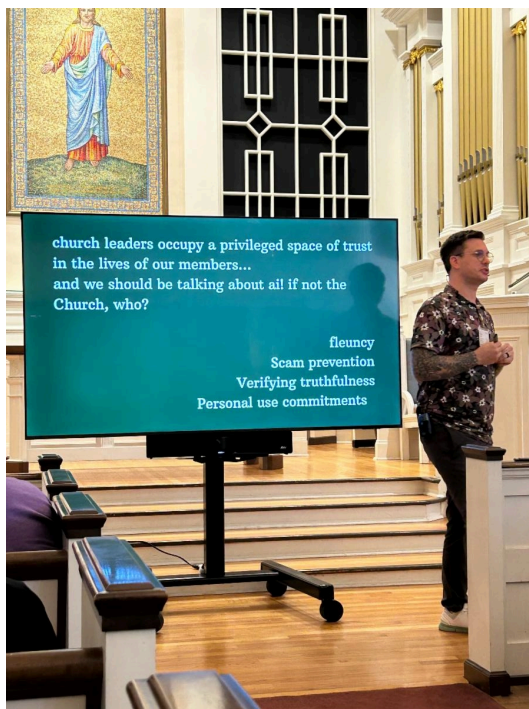
On the way to the conference, Pat and Penny made a short stop to visit a wonderful rock garden behind the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Calhoun, GA. It was full of miniature rock and stone buildings, including the Little Town of Bethlehem, Notre Dame, ancient castles and towers, villages, painted rocks and so much more. They were awed by all the intricacies of the structures and took lots of pictures.

At the conference Pat connected with many friends whom she has known since the early days of POAMN in the 1980's. Penny immediately connected with many POAMN conference "first-timers" and found new friendships among them. In her own words:

"I had the great pleasure of attending the recent POAMN conference "Rooted in Hope" with Pat Baker. Attending the conference provided me with the opportunity to learn from and engage with Christian leaders representing diverse backgrounds. The session that resonated the most with me was titled "Do Not Forsake Me"- Embracing Those With Dementia. This session focused on how to communicate with individuals with dementia. We discussed the different types of dementia and the difficulties one encounters when communicating with individuals who have one or more forms of dementia. Researchers now believe that 40% of those unable to communicate due to their dementia actually understand what is being said. The problem is their inability to respond. It can take as long as 90 seconds for a person with dementia to respond. What you say to a person with dementia matters. How you say it matters. Do not talk to a dementia person like they are not there. Remember there are several way to communicate: verbal, non-verbal, written and visual. This was an incredible experience and I am grateful I was able to attend."

The workshop sessions were all excellent; Pat and Penny picked different ones to attend so SAPC had someone in every session. The one that resonated the most for Pat was a Keynote on Discern.AI: Faithful Leadership in an Age of Artificial Intelligence presented by Rev. Dr. Andy Morgan. He explored artificial intelligence through the lens of Christian discipleship and the church's call to love God, self, and neighbor. He coined the word "runamokness" in terms of AI and stated as a church we either need to "flee it, fight it....or something else." He went on to talk about what that something else is.

If you are interested in hearing more about this conference Pat and Penny will be glad to give you an ear full!



From the Pastor

On October 23, 1960, sixty-seven neighbors met to charter St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. Stone by stone, story by story, dollar by dollar, they built a legacy of faith that we have all inherited.

In years like this, it's easy to get tunnel vision about today's struggles and worries. But God is always calling us to a bigger story than just our own, and even in a season of uncertainty—maybe especially in a season of uncertainty—we are called to create a legacy of faith for the future of this community.

So, what legacy are we creating?

- **A legacy of worship** that sings and rings in praise of God, welcomes children to call us to worship, prays in a variety of ways, wrestles with God's presence in joy and in suffering, and extends beyond our sanctuary to online worshippers across the country!
- **A legacy of faith formation** that lets kids be kids as they learn the stories of our faith, challenges adults to deeper study and growth, and encourages Christians of all ages to ask the big questions.
- **A legacy of connection** that paves the way for pastoral care visits in homes and hospitals, supports caregivers, values fellowship and recreation, builds relationships between church members and preschool families, and keeps the network of care strong through our deacons.
- **A legacy of service** that keeps the guests of Clifton Sanctuary Ministries fed throughout the year, supports our neighbors through NETWorks Cooperative Ministries, sends funds out to disaster victims across the world, and provides quality childcare and early childhood education to our neighbors through St. Andrews Preschool.

These things don't happen on their own. They happen because of God's grace and YOUR giving! So, as you think about the future, what legacy do you want to leave at St. Andrews? What story do you want your life and your giving to tell?

This month, you will hear more about how your gifts to St. Andrews have been spent over the past year and about plans for their use in 2027. We will celebrate the generosity of this congregation and how 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; to continue to be good stewards of our physical plant; and invest in Christ's mission and ministry at St. Andrews through ongoing capital improvements.

On October 18th, 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 2027. Your increased commitment is essential to maintaining the current budget and flourishing as Christ's body here in Tucker.

This generosity season, we encourage you to pledge not just to a budget but to a legacy—a legacy that will prepare us for a future God is leading us into!

In Christ's hope,
Camille



October 4
Our Ancestors' Faithfulness
Ruth 4:9-7

October 11
How Will We Be Remembered?
Matthew 26:6-13

October 18
Building on Christ
1 Corinthians 3:1-15

October 25
A Legacy of Faith:
Reformation Sunday
Deuteronomy 34:1-12

November 1
All Saints
Revelation 7:9-17

Treasurer's Report
by Charlton Allen

In August our total income was \$37,873.50, and our total expenses were \$32,830.09. For the month, we are in the black \$5,043.41. Year to date, our actual income is \$282,280.61 and expenses are \$323,105.19. So, we are in the red by \$40,824.58 year to date.

[SAPC Staff](#)

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

Director of Music
David Lukens (ext 118)
dlukens@sapctucker.org

Associate Director of Music/Organist

Edward Weaver (ext 118)
ejweaver@bellsouth.net

Collections for NETWorks

Our collection of food and hygiene items for NETWorks is going well. Thank you for your ongoing generosity to our neighbors. Please keep bringing in shelf-stable food and hygiene items like adult diapers, poise pads, maxi pads and tampons to the collection bins in the Narthex. Or monetary donations to NETWorks may be made directly [here](#).

Director of Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries

Pat Baker (ext 122)
pat@sapctucker.org

Director of St. Andrews School

La Toya Johnson-Bowden (ext 120)
sasdirector@sapctucker.org

Manager of Administration

Gretchen Perkins (ext 102 & 104)
office@sapctucker.org
finance@sapctucker.org

[Visit our website](#)

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has begun the process of identifying and nominating a slate of elder and deacon candidates to present to the congregation later this fall. Members of the congregation who wish to suggest someone (either self or another member) for these positions should complete the Nominating Committee Suggestion Form [found here](#) and, in the Narthex, and place it in the offering basket on Sunday. You can also nominate someone via an [email to Camille](#), [the church office](#), or by reaching out to a member of the nominating committee: Jane Thomas, Gretchen Turner, Bernadette Angelo, Pat Zrolka, and Robbie Floyd.

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

World Communion Sunday and Special Offering

October 4th in Worship

Join us in worship this Sunday, October 4th as we participate in World Communion Sunday by celebrating communion together and receiving a special offering. The World Communion Offering (formerly the Peace and Global Witness Offering) goes toward cultivating reconciliation by supporting racial and gender justice, peacemaking efforts, global witness, and nurturing ecumenical and interfaith relations. If contributing, please put World Communion Offering, or "WCO" on the memo line of your check, or use the [Mission Fundraiser](#) option online and put World Communion Offering or "WCO" in the notes.



Realm is Coming to SAPC!

"What's Realm?," you may ask. It's an app for your phone or tablet that is specific to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.



Realm is by ACSTechnologies, which the church has used for years for our member database and finance software. Realm is simply the latest version of that software, and it's for all of us.

What's changing:

In the Realm Connect app, you can see the church directory, update your information, sign up for church events, access your giving records, make a donation, and more.

What's staying the same:

Your personal and donation information are still kept secure and confidential. No one outside of St. Andrews will have access to our Realm Connect app.

Our transition to Realm is planned for the week of October 12th; please be patient through the transition. We will let you know when it is ready for St. Andrews members to download. Please see the video below for an overview of what is coming.



Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries

by Pat Baker



The next **Older Adulthood Discussion/Support** session will meet Thursday, October 15th at 10:30 a.m. in the meeting room. The topic will be Assisted Living presented by Lynn McDermott. Lynn is the Senior Agent of Assisted Living Locators that partners with healthcare professionals to ensure that patients transitioning out of rehab, managing complex diagnoses like dementia, or those who can no longer live safely at home find the exact care level they need. She guides families through the entire placement process - handling the information on vetting, availability and costs - AT NO COST TO THEM. She becomes an extension of your care team, ensuring a seamless, stress-free discharge into a safe environment. Please plan to join us for this informational session.

Day Trip

Ever wonder if the Fox Theater is haunted? Come to our next day trip and you'll find out. On Thursday, October 22 we'll travel down to the Fox Theater and take the Haunted History Tour that is only offered during October of each year. The tour begins at 11:00 am so plan to meet at the church at 9:45am to travel down together. The cost of the Haunted Tour is \$25.00 per person. There is no show that evening so we'll be able to park right by the building. I'm told the tour will be accessible to everyone. After the tour we'll have lunch at everyone's favorite- Mary Mac Tea Room. Please pay the church the \$25.00 NO later than October 13th and be sure to indicate FOR FOX TOUR.

Tools for Caregivers

Starting October 6th, St. Andrews will be offering Powerful Tools for Caregivers which is a 6-week twice weekly workshop where caregiver will learn to reduce stress, communicate their needs to family members, make tough caregiving decisions, and focus on self-care to improve their caregiving journey and experiences. Please spread the word. [Click here](#) for more information or to sign up.

Please call or [email Pat](#) if you have any questions about the discussion, the trip or the New Beginnings Program

Parking Lot Repaving

Repaving is planned for October 13-16 in the east parking lot by the sanctuary, weather permitting. Parking will be available in the lot by Heffner Hall while the work is underway. Every effort is being made to avoid the work process conflicting with Sunday worship. Stay tuned to your weekly emails for updates.

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 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.

Cards for Roberta Dodds by Roberta Dodds-Ingersoll

My mom, Betty Dodds, turns 100 years old on October 7, 2026 and we'd love to shower her with cards. It would be wonderful if she could receive some from St. Andrews.

Betty Dodds, 200 Rockaway Road, Apt. 286, Peachtree City, GA 30269.

Just a bit of history. My dad, Richard A. Dodds, and mom both worked at St. Andrews from 1964-1973. Dad was the pastor and mom was his secretary, both as volunteers and later as paid staff.

FYI: While mom has a number of physical challenges, she is sharp as a tack and has so many memories of that time. I love hearing her stories.

OA Meetings coming to SAPC

We are pleased to announce a chapter of Overeaters Annon. (OA) has been approved to begin meeting at St. Andrews on Tuesday evenings in the church library, beginning in October. There are only seven in-person OA meetings in the entire metro area, and St. Andrews is glad to be a place where AA and other groups are welcome. [Contact the church office](#) for more information.

Upcoming Election

Perhaps you've heard, there's a general election coming up on November 3rd. You can check your registration, register to vote, request a mail-in ballot,

October Birthdays

- 5 Emma Pattillo
- 6 Charlie Sullivan
- 7 Jenny Allen, Jacob Ayuk, Marjorie Holler
- 8 Laura Papotto
- 9 Charlton Allen
- 14 Penny Bellinger
- 15 Bill McNair
- 17 Erin Johnston, Robert Evans
- 21 Annette Hildreth
- 22 Flora Chen, Caroline Johnston
- 29 Mitzi Hoffman
- 30 Paige Kubik

October Anniversaries

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

39ers

The 39ers are a group that meets for lunch and fellowship at noon on the last Tuesday of the month. 39ers will meet at Northlaske Thai Cuisine (3939 Lavista Rd.) on October 27th at 12:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!



Flowers for Worship

[Click this link](#) to sign up to bring flowers for worship in the coming months. The flowers can be from your yard or a shop.

and see your polling place and find early voting information at the [My Georgia Voter Page](#). There are some important election dates below.

 **IMPORTANT DATES**

Election Day: **November 3rd**

Last day to register to vote: **October 5th**

In Person Early/Advance Voting: **October 13th – 30th**

First day to request an Absentee by Mail Ballot: **August 17th (Last day is October 23rd)**

Come Gather and Grow with Us! Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

We’re excited about the return of our newest Sunday morning offering for Faith Formation: *Gather. Grow. Give. Go.* There will be something for all ages:



- Children: gather at 9:00 am in the classroom at the end of the hall, by the meeting room, for a lesson from “God’s Big Story.” Children will experience the stories from the Bible with their whole bodies as they joyfully discover God’s love.
- Adults and youth: gather in the youth room for fellowship and coffee, followed by a brief discussion on Bible study or current events.
- Some weeks, the children, youth, and adults will gather for an intergenerational project or activity.

We hope that this will be a meaningful, but relaxed time to make connections with God, the church, each other, and the world.

Fidelis Sunday School Class

Fidelis Sunday School will continue to meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 am during the summer.
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. [Contact Deanna Hall](#) for more information.

Communion Update

In May 2026, the session approved a motion from the Worship Ministry authorizing the use of wine, in addition to the usual unfermented juice, for the celebration of the Lord’s Supper. The action authorized the Worship Ministry to work in conjunction with the Pastor to determine the timing and procedures.

Our Presbyterian Book of Order gives us guidance on celebrating the Lord’s Supper:

The use of one loaf and one cup expresses the unity of the body of Christ and the communal nature of the Sacrament. The bread used for the Lord’s Supper should be common to the culture of the congregation; those who prepare the bread shall make provision for the full participation of the congregation. The session will determine whether wine is used; a non-alcoholic option shall be provided and clearly identified. (W-3.0413]

On October 4th, we will celebrate World Communion Sunday in worship. The Worship Ministry decided this would be an appropriate time to serve wine with the bread and juice in this service. For those in the sanctuary who come forward to receive the elements, after receiving the piece of bread, will find two cups to choose from: one of grape juice and one of wine. There will be clear instructions given at the table about the cups and the process.

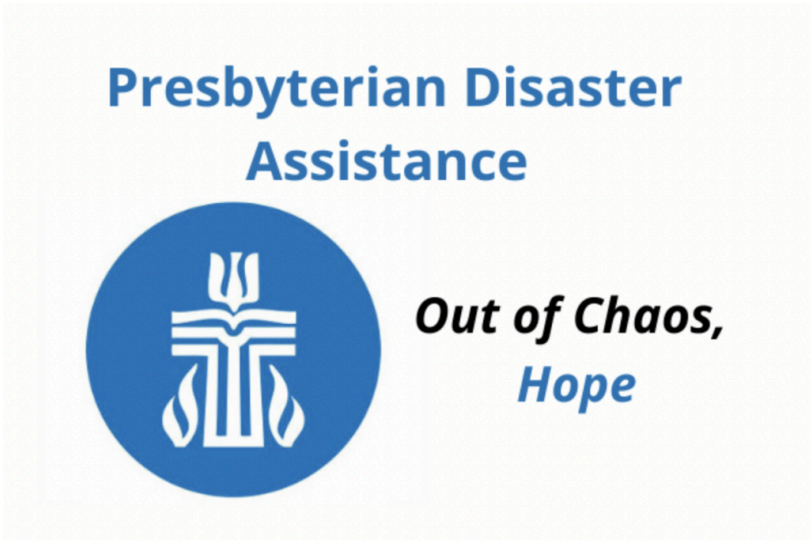
We trust that Jesus Christ is truly present and active among us, by the power of the Holy Spirit, in worship. The meal we share proclaims God's sustaining grace offered to all people, calls us to respond to that grace, nourishes us, and sends us to mission in the world. If you have any questions or concerns about this action, please get in touch with Pastor Camille or one of the worship elders, Curtise Morse and Gretchen Turner.

News from the Session

- Approved the invitation to Rev. Rodrigo Cruz to conduct the wedding of Zoe Cook (granddaughter of Judy Cook) and fiancé, Turner Fricks, at St. Andrews on May 22, 2027.
 - Rev. Dr. LeBron led us in a fruitful discussion of how the budget and designated accounts work and the responsibilities of the Session in managing the finances of the church.
 - Prepared for Generosity Season.
-

Out of Chaos, Hope Flood, Hurricane & Wildfire Response and Relief by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is a ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) which enables congregations and mission partners to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events. PDA has deployed National Response Teams to the Texas Hill Country flooding, Spring tornados, Southern California wildfires, Florida, North Carolina, and Georgia to support the congregations and communities affected by the natural disasters. 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. If you would like to contribute a financial gift to support PDA's immediate and long-term work to rebuild and recover, you can give [using this link](#).



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 US

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