



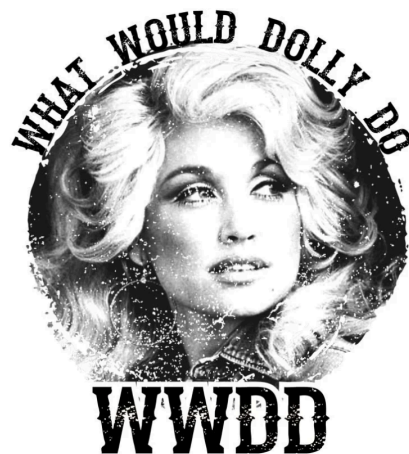
Ministry Spotlight: Back-to-School Carnival

The Back-to-School Carnival on August 8th was a huge success. Initial estimates indicate we hosted between 350-400 people! In addition to all the fun activities our guests enjoyed, we also shared information about how to visit, partner with, and support St. Andrews. Thank you to all who helped bring this event to life!



From the Pastor

As I sat down to write this letter, I was trying to organize my thoughts about the idea of “legacy.” Of course, you can start with the basic definition. Legally speaking, a legacy is usually a gift of personal property or a bequest. A legacy can be anything handed down from the past—the kinds of things you can’t put into a last will, like service to the community. There are more modern uses of the word, such as legacy admission to a college, sorority, or fraternity, and legacy can even refer to something obsolete, like technology.



Beginning on September 27th, we’ll begin a new sermon series about *Legacy: Celebrating God's Faithfulness*. So, I was thinking about what a legacy means for individuals and for the church. Then I was interrupted by the news of Dolly Parton’s death. Soon, tributes and stories were shared. Dolly touched so many people through her music, advocacy, relationships, the way she treated all the employees at Dollywood, her financial contributions to medical research, and to children through her literacy program. Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library has gifted over 332 million books

to 3.2 million children in the past 31 years. What a legacy. Dolly once said, “If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, then you are an excellent leader.” What a legacy she leaves for us.



Despite the popular “Saint Dolly of Sevierville” prayer candles and “What Would Dolly Do?” t-shirts and bumper stickers, she will not be the focus of the coming sermon series. But we will recall the saints whose legacies we continue. We will revisit the stories of Jesus and his legacy. We will be encouraged to consider what kind of legacy we want to leave in our relationships, our community, and our congregation. We will be invited to take the

long view of God’s mission, celebrating our chapter in the everlasting story of God’s vision for the church and the world.

Camille



Treasurer's Report

by Charlton Allen

In July our income was \$28,649.00, and our expenses totaled \$44,569.05. For the month, we are in the red \$15,920.05. Year to date, our income is \$244,407.11 and expenses are \$290,275.10. So, we are in the red by \$45,867.99 for the year.

SAPC Staff

Pastor

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Rally Day

Join us as we kick off our new year of Faith Formation at Rally Day, Sunday, September 13th, with refreshments at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. We’ll have time for fellowship, and we’ll share information about the various activities where you can grow as a disciple through educational opportunities, participation in choir and worship leadership, and

Visit our website

Giving

serving within the congregation and in mission beyond the walls.

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



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](#).

Congregational Meeting

September 13 in worship, for the purpose of electing the congregational nominating committee.

Fall BBQ

The smoker has been ordered; the shopping list finalized... the Fall BBQ is just a few weeks away on September 27th.

Pork, chicken, and rolls are provided by the church but we need lots of sides and desserts. Find your best Potluck recipe and bring your offerings to share with your church friends. Please be generous as we are also taking a Bar-B-Q dinner to Clifton for their evening meal. Join in by volunteering to help set up or clean up, and to help with pulling the pork and chicken. Contact [Marsha Ashby](#), [Bernadette Angelo](#), or [Cindy Weimer](#) to sign up to help.



Fabric Collection for New Paraments

Margaret Williams is planning to make new paraments for Advent, Lent, and Easter, and want to ask people to bring fabrics that she could use to make them.

Blue, purple, white, and/or gold fabrics of any kind are needed. It could be old clothing, ties, pillowcases, tea towels, or any other scraps they might have. It's not necessary to buy new fabric, in fact we would prefer to recycle old things into something special. A short note indicating who donated the fabric and any information associated with it would also be appreciated.

Please bring your fabric donations to the collection box in the Narthex *through September 13th*. Feel free to include who the donation is from and if there is a story to share that goes along with it.

Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries

By Pat Baker

Adult Day Program

I'd like to express my sincere thanks to those of you who have stepped up to volunteer with the New Beginnings Adult Day Program. We can always use more volunteers and since this will be an ongoing program, if you are ever interested in becoming a volunteer, please speak to me. Thanks!



October Outing

The Please join us on October 22nd for a Tour of the Fabulous Fox Theatre followed by lunch at Mary Mac's Tearoom. I need your input on if you want to go and which TOUR you prefer. Our choice, since it is in October, is the **Architectural and History Tour at the price of \$20.00/person OR the Haunted History Tour at the price of \$25.00/person**. I visited with them by phone, and they assured me that they could accommodate any mobility

issues. By September 21st, please let me know if you would like to go on this tour and WHICH tour you prefer. Majority rules. If you have questions about the outing feel free to [contact Pat Baker](#).

Reflection

From *Aging without Apology; Living the Senior Years with Integrity & Faith* by Robert E. Seymour

In this book, Robert Seymour suggests that besides getting your regular annual physical checkup that everyone should be submitted to a regular spiritual checkup. He contemplated the following questions that could be asked: "What motivates your life?" "What causes matter most to you?" "Where do you look for your sense of personal security?" then adds- "The way we ponder such matters is surely relevant to our overall well-being. Questions like these become increasingly important as we advance in years, and they deserve a place on every agenda for healthy aging."

Upcoming Mission Opportunities

In early August your Mission Ministry elders, Margaret Williams and Merle Westbrook, attended the *Standing with Immigrants Conference – An Interfaith Gathering to Build Partnerships* in nearby Clarkston. We learned so much about the work to be done right here in our own backyard to support our immigrant and refugee neighbors. While it can be overwhelming to feel that there’s nothing one individual can do alone, there is a lot we can do together. To learn more, we invite you to consider attending one of these September events. All these nonprofits are working vigorously to be certain that all of God’s children can be happy, healthy, and safe here in their new homes.

Open House Tour at Friends of Refugees

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 9:30 AM-11:30 PM

Join us for a a van tour around Clarkston visiting program sites, for [Friends of Refugees](#), including Jolly Garden. [Click here](#) to register for this event.

Stand for Peace

Saturday, Sept. 12, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Front Lawn at First Baptist Church of Decatur

Stand for Peace ([click here](#)), a morning of stories, music, food, and community. Families welcome, kids encouraged. Learn about the work **STAND** is doing feeding immigrant and refugee families in our area.

Annual Fundraiser for Memorial Drive Ministries

Saturday, Sept. 26, 5:00-7:00 PM St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church in Dunwoody

Bridge to Belonging, an annual fundraiser ([event info and tickets here](#)) for Memorial Drive Ministries. This event celebrates the work of Memorial Drive Ministries and partners with dinner by Refugee Women’s Network!

To learn more and sign up for any of these events, talk to [Margaret](#) or [Merle](#).

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.

September Birthdays

- 1 Adrienne Morse, Evelyn Morse
- 3 Edward Forrester
- 6 Nancy Davenport, Merle Westbrook
- 12 Katey Johnston
- 18 Micah Nelson
- 19 Linda Johnson
- 20 Paul Burns, Lynn Kozlosky
- 27 Scott Williams

September Anniversaries

- 19 Ed and Emma Forrester

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.

28 Tambre & Ross Phillips
30 Nancy & John Reichmann

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 the Tucker location of Mellow Mushroom Pizza on September 29th. Everyone is welcome!

Come Gather and Grow with Us!

Sundays at 9:00 am, starting 9/20

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, between the sanctuary and the fellowship hall, 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. Zach Meeks will be the lead teacher for the children. David Lukens will also be visiting the children for music time in coordination with the class.
- 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.

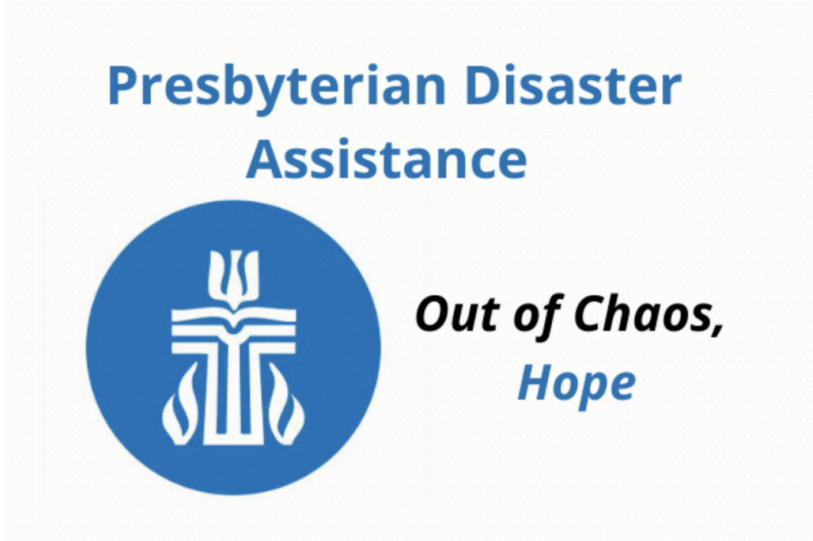
News from the Session

- Elected Marsha Ashby to attend the annual Regional Agape Fellowship gathering for the Central Region on August 22, 2026.
 - Called a Congregational Meeting for September 13, 2026, to elect a Nominating Committee.
 - Elected Cindy Weimer as commissioner for the Fall stated meeting of the Presbytery on November 7.
 - Authorized a one-time transfer of \$66,075 from the Operating Reserve as a bookkeeping correction.
 - Discussed the importance of welcoming visitors after Worship.
-

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](#).



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