

# St. Andy's Review

## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

November 10, 2022 | Vol. 68 | Issue 21

### MAKING CHANGE

NOVEMBER 13

#### Change of Priority

Haggai 1:1-11

New Members Class

NOVEMBER 20

#### Change of Attitude

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Commitment Sunday

ADVENT SERIES:

### CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

NOVEMBER 27

#### Preparations

Matthew 1:18-25

### Be On the Lookout

Contribution statements that run through the end of October are being mailed on November 14. This is for you to review to be sure your giving is on track and to help make corrections, if necessary. Email Melissa with questions: [melissa@saintandy.org](mailto:melissa@saintandy.org)

In the earliest pages of Scripture, we see that God creates everything and then entrusts the first humans to care for it. God's desire is for us to be partners in the work He is doing. This partnership is called stewardship and we are the stewards, or managers, of what belongs to God. Look at it this way, if someone lends you their car or some tools, won't you take extra care with them knowing they don't belong to you? This is the principle of Biblical stewardship.

In helping folks to think about how they spend their money, John Wesley offered the following question: "In spending this money, am I acting as if I owned it, or am I acting as the Lord's trustee?"

It's a good question to ask ourselves as we make our budgets and plan out expenses, both individually and corporately. It helps us reframe the way we think about and use the money and possessions with which we have been blessed.

During this season of stewardship in the life of the church, it is a good reminder that in fact, stewardship is not a season at all but a way of life. As we approach year-end budget goals and begin plans for next year, we need the full participation of each person so that we can use our blessings to be a blessing to our neighbors.

If you are new to stewardship, consider making a commitment to becoming a *First-time Giver* by committing to a one-time gift. If your giving has been sporadic or only on special occasions, consider making a commitment to become a *Regular Giver*, whether that is weekly, monthly, or quarterly. If you are already a regular giver, consider a commitment to becoming a *Tither*, which is a commitment to giving 10% of your blessings back to God. And if your experience of giving has grown over time and you are already a tither, consider a commitment to being an *Extravagant Giver* giving above and beyond the tithe as the Spirit leads you.

No matter where you are on your stewardship journey, your giving matters! Please fill out your "estimate of giving" card and return it no later than Commitment Sunday on November 20.

- Pastor Tara

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: FELLOWSHIP TEAMS

This week's Ministry Spotlight is on the [St. Andrew's Fellowship Team Ministry](#). The Fellowship Team consists of elders and church volunteers who meet monthly to plan and coordinate activities which foster and strengthen the relationships within the church. Since resuming activities following the pandemic, their efforts have focused on congregational meals, but in 2023 they are planning to add some additional activities to gather folks together.

The Fellowship Team oversees the Servant Teams, which are comprised of 29 people on four rotating teams who provide leadership and support for all of the fellowship luncheons, breakfasts, and socials at St. Andrew's throughout the year. In the tradition of the very first deacons (Acts 6), these volunteers give of themselves and their talents as they shop for groceries, cook, clean, decorate, and even wait tables. Planning for events begins months out, when teams coordinate to choose themes, menus, and volunteer roles. The week of an event, the Servant Team in charge assists the cook in preparation and serving the monthly meals for the congregation. Even very early on Sunday morning and during the worship service, the Servant Teams are brewing tea, plating food, and setting things out to make much-anticipated events like Pirate Sunday or the Kickoff Sunday Breakfast successful.

The hours and energy that they invest in planning events at St. Andrew's bring joy to young and old, members and visitors. These events create opportunities for conversations and connections that we would otherwise miss. We are grateful for their behind-the-scenes faithfulness and service. There are a variety of ways to be involved in this ministry of the church; you can be part of the Fellowship Planning Team, be on a Servant Team, serve as a cook, or assist with decorating tables. [If you would like to serve as part of this vital ministry, contact Pastor Tara at \[tara@saintandy.org\]\(mailto:tara@saintandy.org\) or call the church office.](#) We especially need folks who are interested in being part of the Planning Team.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN *Thank Offering*

In 2022 the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women reviewed [24 Thank Offering applications](#) and selected 10 projects for funding. One of the Thank Offering grant recipients this year was the Neighborhood Stabilization Plan for the City of Toledo, Ohio. This enables the purchase of materials such as siding, wood, paint, concrete reinforcements, doors and windows for home repair. The project's goal is to lift up marginalized neighborhoods so that families find stability and seniors are able to age in their homes. [If you'd like to donate to the Thank Offering](#), make out a check to the Presbyterian Women Treasurer, make a note in the memo, and place it in one of the offering baskets around the sanctuary.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:  
November 22, 2022**



- 11-11 Jeff Newman
- 11-16 John Alexander
- 11-16 Sarah Bardwell
- 11-17 Caroline Bridges
- 11-17 Janna Caywood
- 11-20 Sue Chatagnier
- 11-21 Audrey Parigi
- 11-22 Gary Wells
- 11-23 Tom Cobb
- 11-23 Julianna Dockens
- 11-23 Steve Richardson
- 11-23 Olivia Thompson
- 11-24 Susan Reese
- 11-24 Liz Webb
- 11-25 Penelope Neyland
- 11-25 Luke Nichols
- 11-26 Brian Sparkman

## Office Closing

The Church Office will close at 12:30PM on November 23 and will be closed on November 24 for Thanksgiving. Note that the **next newsletter deadline is two days earlier than usual (November 22)**.

## GTHE *Winter Concert*

The Golden Triangle Handbell Ensemble invites you to their winter concert on **December 11, 2022 at 7:00PM** in the St. Andrew's Sanctuary. Come share in some music and Christmas joy!



## CHRISTMAS PACKAGES FOR SEAFARERS

The **Presbyterian Women** are meeting on Tuesday, November 15, at 10:00AM in the Parlor to assemble Christmas gifts for seafarers who arrive in our port and are far from home for the holidays. Donations for this ministry can be dropped off at the church office. Assembling kits usually takes around two hours. If you have any questions, **contact Maryann Sweeney or Sally Nichols.**

### ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

*Available starting November 20 at the Gladys and Courtyard entrances*

## IRA Contribution Info

As we come to the end of another year, we want to remind you of a potential tax savings if you are required to take an RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) from your IRA. If you have your financial advisor send your distribution directly to the charity you desire to give to (church, Boy Scouts, Food Bank, etc.) this will bypass you and you do not have to pay taxes on those distributions. You can contribute to more than one charity as long as you do not receive the funds yourself. Any 503(c) corporation is legal. Your financial advisor can help you accomplish this.



## IN OUR PRAYERS In the Congregation

Jeff Newman, Lynn Burnside, Bobby Thompson, Mary Pat Linn, Kay McIlrath, Eleanor Alexander, Bob Fisher, Shelley Plunkett, Barbara and Dalton Abel, Bill McIlrath, Kay Long, Joyce Head, Dave Darchuk

### Friends and Family

Cindy Anglin, Karen Thompson Butler, Sylvester Hill, Nick Bynum, Cathy Thayer, Evelyn Sibley Jameson, Jerry Linn, Thomas Fisher, Rachel Lawrence, Jill Botkin, Jack Dillard, Tina and Bob Workman, Paul Harborth, Janie Niederstadt Verderame, Esmee Foster, Erin Lenhart, Mary Kennedy

## Christmas Traditions: Advent Sermon Series

We all have Christmas traditions: gift-giving, baking, cards, volunteering, lights, parties, movies, carols, trees, nativity scenes, and the Nutcracker... I'm sure you could probably add a few more to the list. The fact is we all have traditions that are part of our preparation and celebration. They are the things that make Christmas, well, Christmas. The things which give us a sense of comfort and peace. The things which make us feel as if all is right with the world.



Sometimes though traditions can obscure what they are meant to reveal. Sometimes traditions can become an end in and of themselves rather than a means by which we remember and celebrate. When this happens, traditions become empty rituals or hollow customs. They may still be fun and elicit feel-good emotions, but they are void of meaning and significance.

During Advent, we will explore **Christmas Traditions** from the pages of Scripture. Together, we will remember the reason for our celebration... and who knows, maybe even adopt a new tradition in the process!

## St. Andy's Blood Drive on Nov. 16



The Mission and Evangelism Team is sponsoring a LifeShare blood drive on **November 16 from 4:00pm-7:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendars so that you can give blood and save a life!

**ST. ANDY'S REVIEW**  
(USPS# 19394)  
Published Biweekly by  
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
Beaumont, TX 77707

Periodical Postage  
PAID  
Beaumont, Texas

Postmaster:  
Send address changes to:  
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Newsletter  
1350 N. 23rd Street  
Beaumont, TX 77706



*St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church*



*St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church*

**Partners In Ministry**

**Tara R. Thompson**  
*Pastor*

**Thomas Furlow**  
*Music Director*

**Rachel Clark**  
*Administrative Assistant and  
Accompanist/Pianist*

**Melissa Hoyt**  
*Office Administrator*

**Deanna Weitzel**  
*Day School Director*

**Katrina Strong**  
*Janitorial Services*



**Contact Us**

Office Hours are Monday - Thursday  
8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Ph: (409) 892-8611  
Email: [church@saintandy.org](mailto:church@saintandy.org)  
Website: [saintandy.org](http://saintandy.org)

**Employee Email Addresses:**

- Rachel Clark*.....[rachel@saintandy.org](mailto:rachel@saintandy.org)
- Thomas Furlow*.....[thomas@saintandy.org](mailto:thomas@saintandy.org)
- Melissa Hoyt*.....[melissa@saintandy.org](mailto:melissa@saintandy.org)
- Tara R. Thompson*.....[tara@saintandy.org](mailto:tara@saintandy.org)
- Deanna Weitzel*.....[dayschool@saintandy.org](mailto:dayschool@saintandy.org)