

"For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known." - 1 Corinthians 13:12

A recent Pew survey found that 65 percent of Americans say they often or always feel exhausted when thinking about politics and 55 percent often or always feel angry. The question that seems to be on most people's minds in recent years is: How do we make sense of these times in which we are living?

Really what I think we are asking is: Where is God in all of this? Where is God in the political upheaval, the continued strains of inflation, the ongoing wars and escalating conflicts around the world, and the storms of life (both literally and figuratively)?

We want to understand how God is at work in the midst of all that disappoints and hurts. Ultimately, we are asking to see God, to know He is present and in control. And in some ways, we are asking for a sign, some glimpse of supernatural activity, to reassure us that our faith and hope have not been misplaced. The apostle Paul tells us that on this side of eternity, we will not see completely or understand clearly the full picture of God's activity. And that is okay because what matters at the moment is not our knowledge of God, but God's knowledge of us.

So, the next time you feel like you are left with more questions than answers remember this:

God knows you. God loves you. God is at work.

The one thing we can be certain of in all seasons of life is that God never fails; the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus make this abundantly clear. So instead of being filled with worry and anger and consumed with oversimplified soundbites and "us versus them" mentalities, allow the Spirit to fill you with the peace of Christ that surpasses our ability to understand. May we be rooted and grounded in Christ's love so that His love will be reflected in us, bringing hope and peace to those around us.

- Pastor Tara

### Upcoming Sermons

SEPTEMBER 1

BELIEVE: Bible Study Why Study the Bible?
Psalm 1

SEPTEMBER 8

BELIEVE: Single-Mindedness **How Do I Stay Focused?**Deuteronomy 6:1-9

SEPTEMBER 15

BELIEVE: Total Surrender What Is Sacrificial Service? Daniel 3:8-28

SEPTEMBER 22

PIRATE SUNDAY More than a Slogan Romans 12:9-21

SEPTEMBER 29

You Are ... John 9:1-12 Julie Odle, C.R.E., preaching

## OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Please call or email the office with newsletter submissions on or before **September 19, 2024**.

## September birthdays

- Sept. 1 Nancy Davis
- **Sept. 1** Tom Meadows
- Sept. 2 Mary Pat Linn
- Sept. 2 Jan Niederstadt
- Sept. 2 Chris Thompson
- **Sept. 4** Alicia Thompson
- Sept. 7 Maggie Everett
- Sept. 8 Colleen Burns
- Sept. 9 Lauren Pember
- Sept. 10 Chris Allen
- **Sept. 11** Margaret Chase
- Sept. 14 William Armstrong
- Sept. 15 Ron Everett
- **Sept. 15** Penelope Johnson
- Sept. 15 James Newman
- **Sept. 16** Howard Caywood
- Sept. 18 Bill Hale
- Sept. 20 Hannah Greenberg
- **Sept. 20** Gwen Johnston
- Sept. 21 Rachel Stiles
- Sept. 22 Colleen Clarke
- Sept. 23 Dylan Durham
- Sept. 23 Terry Sparkman
- Sept. 23 Becky Yoes
- Sept. 24 Becky Newman
- **Sept. 24** Kim Nichols
- **Sept. 28** Brooklynn Myers
- Sept. 28 Betty Wells
- **Sept. 30** Sarah Pember
- Sept. 30 Randy Yoder

### First Friday Men's Breakfast

Men, join us on the first Friday of every month for food, fellowship, and prayer!

Next meetings: 9/6 and 10/4 in the Parlor at 7:00AM.

### Coming Up in September



AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
BEAUMONT CHAPTER PRESENTS

Hymn Fest

5:00PM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

COME HEAR AND SING YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS, AS PLAYED BY YOUR FAVORITE ORGANISTS.

**ADMISSION IS FREE!** 

TRINITY UMC 3430 HARRISON AVE., BEAUMONT, TX 77706



### GIVE BLOOD, SAVE A LIFE

St. Andrew's LifeShare Blood Drive Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 4:00PM-7:30PM in the Fellowship Hall

### Save the Date: Fall 2024

### SCOTTISH SUNDAY



october 20

Join us as we celebrate our Scottish Presbyterian heritage with special music and a luncheon! The menu is stew, biscuits, and shortbread.

# All hands on deck to DECK THE HALLS Join the SAPC family for Advent decorating! 11.24.2024 at 4:00pm. Pizza and drinks to follow!

### Christmas Luncheon

following worship on December 15, 2024

Join us for chicken enchilada soup, tamales, chips and dips, and fellowship!





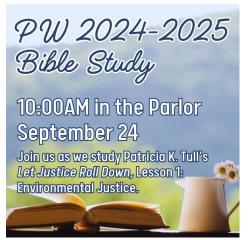
### In Our Prayers

In the Congregation

Evelyn Lord
Family of Lucille Bryan
Bobbie Wied
Becky Ford
Linda Sparkman
Beth Ann Mistrot
Bob Fisher
Barbara and Dalton Abel
Kay Long

Friends and Family

Ron Williamson
Bob Higgins
Ellen Wiemers
Jerry Linn
Madeline Johnson
David Cobble
Erika Russell
Karen Thompson Butler
Val Rayzor
Mary Kennedy
Thomas Fisher
Jack Dillard
Erin Lenhart
Janie Niederstadt Verderame



### Homeland Security Grant

St. Andrew's has been awarded a Homeland Security Grant to improve the safety of our campus. In the coming months, we will begin work to add security cameras around the church and Day School, change door locks, and install remote entry access for the main doors. Stay tuned for more updates!

### Bible Presentation, September 8

We will present Bibles to our students in second grade in the worship service on Sunday, September 8. Please be in attendance as we take this step to encourage our children in their walks of faith.

### Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

The St. Andrew's Meals on Wheels (MOW) ministry provides hot, fresh meals to homebound Beaumont residents who are not able to shop or cook for themselves. If you can spare an hour one Thursday a month and \$5 for gas, you would be a good candidate for a MOW driver! Even if you can only volunteer as a substitute or on an occasional basis, that would still be a great blessing. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact the Church Office, Susan Reese, or Bob Webb.

### God's Creation Calendars

God's Creation Calendars are available for preorder at the Church Office! They cost \$15 each, and you can pay once they arrive. Featuring beautiful color photographs and Bible verses, the calendars make great gifts. Right now we have received 2 preorders. If we do not receive 20 preorders, we will not be able to order the calendars this year.





## NEW MUGS FOR SALE!



Beginning on September 22, you can purchase the new St.
Andrew's coffee mugs for \$5.00 each from the Church Office.

They are full-color, ten-ounce mugs with a design on both sides.

## Chancel Flowers

Fresh flowers can be purchased for the chancel in memory or honor of loved ones. A standard arrangement is \$80. If you would like to sponsor the Sunday chancel flowers, email the church office or use the flower calendar outside the main office. Right now, all Sundays in September are available!

Saturday		14 8:30AM SETX Food Bank 9:00AM New Officer Orientation	21	28	
Friday	6 7:00AM Men's Breakfast	13	20	27	
Thursday	5 8:30AM MOW Cooks 10:00AM MOW Delivers	12 8.30AM MOW Cooks 10.00AM MOW Delivers	19 8:30AM MOW Cooks 10:00AM MOW Delivers	26 8:30AM MOW Cooks 10:00AM MOW Delivers	
Wednesday	8:15AM SK @ SOP 9:30AM Day School Chapel 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal 6:30PM Mission and Evangelism	9:30AM Day School Chapel 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal 6:30PM Worship Committee	18 9:30AM Day School Chapel 5:30PM Board of Trustees 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal	25 9:30AM Day School Chapel 4:00PM LifeShare Blood Drive 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal	at Some Other Place
Tuesday	10:00AM PW Coordinating 5:30PM Fellowship Team 6:30PM C.E. Team 6:30PM Tuesday Group	10. 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:30PM Strings After School 5:30PM Finance and Property 6:30PM Tuesday Group	5:30PM Strings After School 6:30PM Session Meeting 6:30PM Tuesday Group	24 10:00AM PW Bible Study 5:30PM Strings After School 6:30PM Tuesday Group	KEY MOW = Meals On Wheels PW = Presbyterian Women SK @ SOP = Soup Kitchen at Some Other Place
Monday	2 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	9 5:30PM Strings After School 6:00PM Golden Triangle Square Dancers	5:30PM Strings After School 6:00PM Golden Triangle Square Dancers	5:30PM Strings After School 6:00PM Golden Triangle Square Dancers	30 5:30PM Strings After School 6:00PM Golden Triangle Square Dancers
Sunday	9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM Congregational Mtg. 11:45AM Choir Rehearsal 3:00PM Boy Scouts	9 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Choir Rehearsal 12:00PM New Members Class 3:00PM Boy Scouts 5:00PM Youth Group	9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Choir Rehearsal 12:00PM Deacons Meeting 3:00PM Boy Scours 5:00PM Youth Group	22 PIRATE SUNDAY 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM Luncheon 12:15PM Choir Rehearsal 3:00PM Boy Scouts	9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Choir Rehearsal 3:00PM Boy Scours 5:00PM Youth Group



The St. Andrew's Day School welcomed three new teachers to the team for the 2024-2025 school year! **Patricia Williamson**, a familiar face who plays piano for us in Sunday morning worship and sings in the choir too, is teaching the 4's Class. **Mary Saenz** is teaching the 2's Class, and **Keyah Keller** is floating between the FBO Class and the 3's Class.

### St. Andrew's Day School: School Supply Drive Results

Thanks to your generosity, the St. Andrew's Day School started the fall semester on August 12 with 77 items purchased from their Amazon wish list and with numerous other items donated during the summer School Supply Drive. Thank you for helping our students and teachers! Below is a partial list of items that were collected:

18 Cleaning Supply Items

16 Toys or Games

11 Packs or rolls of paper

6 Decorations

3 Books

2 Sets of Paints

2 Packs of markers

2 Organizers

2 Containers of Glue

2 Charts

1 Stool

1 Set of Ink Pads

1 Pack of Bookmarks

1 Organizer

1 Microscope

1 Clock

1 Book of Stickers

1 Apron

## St. Andrew's Members Invited to Join the Golden Triangle Square and Round Dancers

Beginning on Monday, September 9, the Golden Triangle Square and Round Dancers (GTSRD) will meet weekly in the St. Andrew's Parlor from 6:00PM-8:00PM. This group has been meeting since the 1960s and is affiliated with the Texas State Federation of Square and Round Dancers. St. Andrew's folks are invited and encouraged to visit one of the weekly meetings. The group is happy to provide dancing lessons and introduce visitors to square dancing. Diann Griner, one of the group's members, explained that dancing is good for both body and mind; although the basics of square dancing can be learned in a single evening, there is a lifetime of steps and music to learn! Members range in age from 55-80, but anyone 16 years or older is welcome. If you are interested in visiting the GTSRD, RSVP to the Church Office by calling or emailing.

### Day School Yard Signs Available

The St. Andrew's Day School has new yard signs available in the Church Office. You can pick one up during office hours, or you can ask Rachel for one after the worship service on Sunday. We appreciate your help in advertising the Day School!

#### YOUTH ROOM UPDATES!



The Youth Room has gotten some updates in the past few months! At the end of August, we finished installing these brand new (and super cool!) light fixtures. Church members also generously donated a new ping-pong table and some couches to replace our well-loved old ones.

### YOUTH GROUP

The St. Andrew's Youth Group is having a great time going through our church-wide study, *Believe*. Students in grades 6-12 are invited for food, fellowship, and thought-provoking discussion on Sunday afternoons, 5:00PM-7:00PM, in the Youth Room. The Youth will not meet on September 1 (Labor Day Weekend) or on September 22 (a luncheon Sunday). Friends are always welcome!



## CHRISTMAS KITS FOR SEAFARERS: SUPPLIES NEEDED

Located in the Port of Beaumont, the Seafarer's Center assists seamen with legal issues and with contacting their families. The Center also provides a much-needed place for relaxation, recreation, and reconnecting with world events for those far from home. Each year, the Presbyterian Women assemble Christmas care packages for the Center. This year they will be assembling packages on Wednesday, November 13, at 10:00AM in the Parlor. We will collect items for these care packages from Sunday, October 6 until Sunday, November 10. A partial list of requested items is below. Please do not donate food.

- White socks
- Gloves, knitted caps, and scarves
- Thermal underwear
- Flip flops, men's size 6-9
- Washcloths
- Shaving cream and razors
- Chapstick
- Band-aids
- Soap bars
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Combs and nail clippers
- Playing cards
- Small Bibles and devotionals
- Pocket Kleenex packs
- Small notebooks
- Puzzle books
- Batteries of all sizes
- Note cards and envelopes
- Stationery and pens
- Hand lotion

## Kickoff Sunday

The St. Andrew's Family celebrated the beginning of a new school year on August 11 with a delicious pancake breakfast and a time of fellowship. Thank you, cooks and servant team! We had a Time for Educators and a Blessing of the Backpacks in worship. It was a great reminder that Jesus has your back!













## The 2024 Tasting for Some Other Place

St. Andrew's participated in the annual Tasting for Some Other Place, the community event that helps fund all of the outreach efforts at Some Other Place (SOP). SOP runs a soup kitchen and a day center for the homeless, and also provides utility and rental assistance, nutrition services for seniors, school supplies to children in need, and much else. Our folks had a great time selling tickets and manning the church booth. Pastor Tara was even one of the event judges for booth decorations!



### New Officer Trainings

For those who accepted nominations as elders, deacons, and board members, put these important dates on your calendar.

- Congregational Meeting: Sunday, September 1, immediately following worship. All nominees should attend.
- New Officers' Orientation: Saturday, September 14, from 9AM to 1PM. Elders and deacons should attend.
- Elders' Training: Sunday, October 13, from 12PM to 3PM.
- Deacons' Training: Sunday, October 20, from 12:30PM to 3:30PM.
- Ordination and Installation of Officers: Sunday, January 5, 2025, during the 10:30AM Celebration of Worship.
- Commissioning of Board Members: Sunday, January 5, 2025, during the 10:30AM Celebration of Worship.

### **New Members Class**

Are you interested in learning more about or joining St. Andrew's?

If so, you are invited to a New Members' Class on Sunday, September 8, at 12:00PM in the Parlor. This class is a great way to meet church leadership, ask questions, and learn more about our beliefs, history, and traditions. Attending does not commit you to joining. Lunch is provided. Please RSVP to the Church Office by Thursday, September 5, so that we have enough lunch for everyone!

### **LAST CHANCE: 2024 DIRECTORY**

Time is running out to submit your member profile cards for our 2024 photo directory! Call or email the Church Office or visit www.saintandy.org/events-media/documents to fill out a form digitally.



### PW THANK OFFERING

St. Andrew's will collect the PW Thank Offering on Sunday, September 15. The Thank Offering began in 1888, when Eliza Clokey of Ohio urged each woman to give one dollar more than her usual contribution to Presbyterian missions. In the 135 years since Eliza first asked women to give a "thank offering to her Lord," more than 1,600 projects in the U.S. and abroad have benefited from grants funded by faithful and generous givers.

One of this year's recipients, in the Synod of Mid-Atlantic (Presbytery of New Hope) is the SAFEchild Advocacy Center. SAFE stands for *Stop Abuse for Every Child*. This organization is the leading voice for child abuse prevention through evaluation, intervention, and treatment in Wake County, North Carolina. SAFEchild offers children and families a safer future, where they can find support and live into their true capabilities and callings.

You can learn more about this year's recipients by visiting presbyterianwomen.org/thank. If you would like to give to the Thank Offering, make checks out to PW Treasurer. You can place your donation in the offering baskets or in the PW treasurer's mailbox.

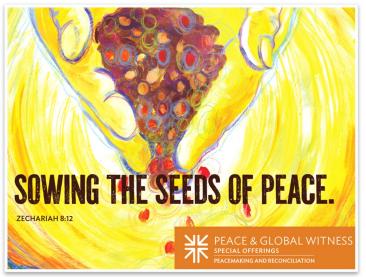


## PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

We will collect the PCUSA Peace and Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, which falls on October 6, 2024.

Our gifts to this offering are helping our neighbors in need, whether they live next door, down the street, or across the globe: 25% of the offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community; 25% goes to the mid-council to join other congregations in supporting regional peacemaking work; and 50% supports the work being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

This is the last year that the Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected by the denomination. Visit pcusa.org/peace-global/ for more information.





### ST. ANDREW'S

### Presbyterian Church

Experience the love of Jesus and the joy of community

1350 N. 23rd Street Beaumont, TX 77706



#### PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

Tara R. Thompson Pastor

Thomas Furlow Music Director

Rachel Stiles

Admin Assistant and Organist

Joyce Stillwell Admin Assistant

Katrina Strong Custodian

Patricia Williamson Accompanist

Gloria Pierce Day School Director tara@saintandy.org

thomas@saintandy.org

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### **CONNECT WITH US**

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OFFICE HOURS Monday-Thursday 8:30AM-4:30PM





