



# ST. ANDY'S REVIEW

February 2025 ✦ Vol. 71, Issue 2

## UPCOMING SERMONS

FEBRUARY 2

**BELIEVE: Self-control**

Titus 2:11-15

FEBRUARY 9

**BELIEVE: Hope**

1 Peter 1:3-9

FEBRUARY 16

**Second Chances**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Julie Odle preaching

FEBRUARY 23

**Put on Grace**

Romans 6:1-14

Bruce Partain preaching

## MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Please call or email the office with newsletter submissions on or before

**FEBRUARY 20, 2025.**

## Coming Soon...

In college, I wrote a children's story about a boy named Delightful Drew. It recounted his interactions with various people as he sought to live out Paul's example of being all things to all people in order to share the Gospel. If I am being honest, the story was really cheesy, and the artwork was laughable. However, it was a fun way to explore a Biblical principle and reflect on our identity in Christ and who we are becoming as Jesus' disciples.

Faith formation is something we take seriously. We know God loves us and forgives us; we also know God desires us to grow and mature and put on the new life found in Jesus. Following the COVID pandemic, we have spent the last four years restarting some ministries, strengthening other ministries, and starting new ministries, all to build an environment where folks can *"experience the love of Jesus and the joy of community."* We have much to celebrate in our adult and youth ministries!

Recently, the Christian Education team has identified our children's ministry as a priority for 2025. The desire is to see a more robust offering of faith formation activities for our youngest members. In the past, this has happened primarily through Sunday School, but this is no longer the case. However, we have a consistent group of children in worship each week. With this in mind, the CE team has decided to pivot from Sunday School to Children's Church **beginning on Sunday, March 2.** *You can read more about these changes on the next page.*

Back to my brief foray into children's literature... another story I intended to write but never did (at least yet) was going to be about a lamb and his adventures based on Luke 12:32, which says, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom." This is a great verse to guide our children's ministry; indeed, God is pleased to give our little ones the kingdom! Our hope is that Children's Church will be just the beginning of the new adventures for our "Little Flock" here at St. Andrew's.



# birthdays

- Feb. 3 Sandra Morgan
- Feb. 4 Thomas Furlow
- Feb. 6 Bruce Partain
- Feb. 8 Emily Allen
- Feb. 8 Aurora Montano
- Feb. 11 Keith Wied
- Feb. 12 Jessica Meitzen
- Feb. 14 Janet Pember
- Feb. 19 Grace Bridges
- Feb. 23 Kiara Collins
- Feb. 23 Maryann Sweeney
- Feb. 26 Kathie Platt
- Feb. 27 Tori Armstrong
- Feb. 27 Nolan Collins
- Feb. 27 Geren Raumaker
- Feb. 28 Gene Harris



## In Our Prayers

### In the Congregation

Susanne Nichols, Kay Long, Linda Sparkman, Beth Ann Mistrot, Bob Fisher, Barbara and Dalton Abel

### Friends and Family

Don Linn, Family of Christina Sholl, Charles Childress, Jacob Walton, Charlie Monaghan, David Fertitta, Geneva Broussard, Madeline Johnson, David Cobble, Erika Russell, Karen Thompson Butler, Mary Kennedy, Thomas Fisher, Jack Dillard, Erin Lenhart, Janie Niederstadt Verderame

What Will Stay the Same: The children will still attend worship with their families, and there will still be a Time for Children in the service.

What Will Change: Instead of returning to the pews following the Time for Children, the children will meet volunteers at the sanctuary doors to go to the journey classroom for a child-friendly worship service. This time will include music, Bible teaching, and other activities. Parents will pick up their children from this classroom at the end of worship.

The goal of Children’s Church will be to teach our children about worship while also helping them grow in their understanding of Scripture. Our curriculum will be *Dig In: The Bible in One Year*.

What Is Next: We are recruiting a team of volunteers to share in the leadership of this new ministry initiative so no one will have to miss worship more than once every 4-6 weeks. If you are interested in being part of the team (or want to learn more), please speak with either Pastor Tara, Valera Messer, or Brian Armstrong.

Orientation and Training: There will be an **orientation for volunteers on Sunday, February 9**, immediately following the church luncheon. The purpose of the orientation is to introduce you to the curriculum and Children’s Church format as well as answer any questions you may have. This orientation should take about a half hour. Additionally, there will be a **Safe Sanctuary training for all volunteers on Sunday, February 23**, immediately following worship. A light lunch will be provided.

*-Pastor Tara*



## 2024 Year-End Statements

Year-end statements have been mailed for your 2024 contributions.

Be on the lookout for yours!

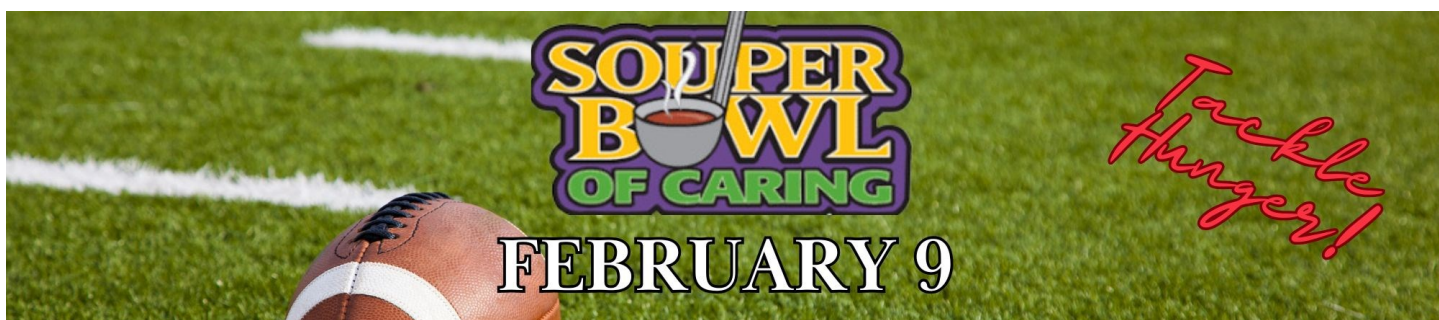
# FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Choir Rehearsal 1:30PM Worship Staff 3:00PM Boy Scouts 4:30PM Youth Group	3 5:00PM Day School Board 5:30PM Strings After School 6:00PM Golden Triangle Square Dancers	4 10:00AM PW Coordinating 11:00AM Staff Meeting 5:30PM Fellowship 5:30PM Strings After School 6:30PM Christian Ed 6:30PM Tuesday Group	5 8:15AM SK @ SOP 9:30AM Day School Chapel 4:00PM AA Group 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal 6:30PM Mission Evangelism	6 8:30AM MOW Cooks 10:00AM MOW Delivers 1:00PM Book Club	7 7:00AM Men's Breakfast	8 8:30AM SETX Food Bank
9 :15AMSunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM Annual Meeting 11:45AM Fellowship Lunch 12:00PM Choir Rehearsal 12:30PM Orientation 3:00PM Boy Scouts	10 12:00PM Rainbow Room 5:30PM Strings After School 6:00PM Golden Triangle Square Dancers	11 5:30PM Strings After School 5:30PM Finance & Property 6:30PM Tuesday Group	12 9:30AM Day School Chapel 5:30PM AA Group 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal 6:30PM Worship Team	13 8:30AM MOW Cooks 10:00AM MOW Delivers	14	15
16 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:45AM Choir Rehearsal 3:00PM Boy Scouts 4:30PM Youth Group 6:00PM Small Group	17 6:00PM Golden Triangle Square Dancers	18	19 9:30AM Day School Chapel 4:00PM AA Group 5:30PM Board of Trustees 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal	20 8:30AM MOW Cooks 10:00AM MOW Delivers	21	22
23 9:15AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 11:30AM Safe Sanctuary 11:45AM Choir Rehearsal 3:00PM Boy Scouts 4:30PM Youth Group 6:00PM Small Group	24 5:30PM Strings After School 6:00PM Golden Triangle Square Dancers	25 10:00AM PW Bible Study 5:30PM Strings After School 6:30PM Session Meeting	26 9:30AM Day School Chapel 4:00PM AA Group 5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal	27 8:30AM MOW Cooks 10:00AM MOW Delivers 6:30PM GTHE Rehearsal	28	<p>KEY MOW = Meals On Wheels PW = Presbyterian Women SK @ SOP = Soup Kirchen at Some Other Place GTHE = Golden Triangle Handbells Ensemble</p>



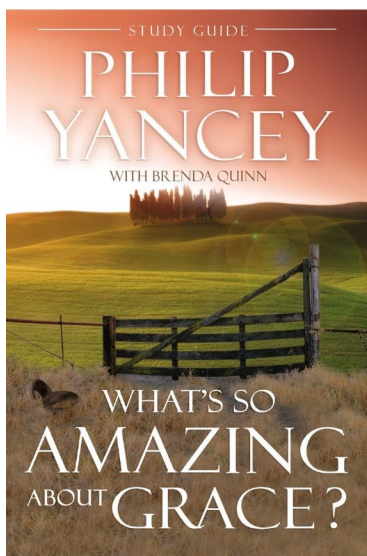
# DAY SCHOOL NEWS

Gloria Pierce, our day school director, recently notified the board that her husband's job is relocating him to their offices in North Carolina. As a result, her family will move in May. Gloria has been a great addition to our school and has positioned us for continued growth into the future. While we are sad to lose her leadership so soon, we are pleased to announce the board has hired Tori Armstrong as the new director. Tori has over a decade of experience and history with our school, and she provided transitional leadership following Deanna's retirement. Most importantly, Tori loves our school and its families. Her knowledge and dedication will be an asset to our school as she leads us. Gloria's last day will be March 7 to allow her time to prepare her house for sale and get ready for the move. She will work with Tori to make this a smooth transition for our teachers and families.



The Souper Bowl of Caring is a nationwide movement that inspires and empowers people to tackle hunger in their communities. Churches, individuals, charities, civic institutions, and schools have worked together to raise over \$170 million in support, all of which stays local.

On February 9, St. Andrew's will gather for a time of food and fellowship immediately following the annual meeting. We will serve the same menu (red beans and rice) and king cake that St. Andy's members prepare each month for Some Other Place. We will also collect nonperishable food items and donations to support the Some Other Place food pantry.



## Sunday Small Group

We are excited to announce a new small group held on Sundays. The launch date will be on **February 16, 2025, at 6 PM.**

**Topic:** *What's So Amazing about Grace?* written by Philip Yancey  
Ten sessions for this study. We will use the Text, Study Guide, and Short video excerpt for each Chapter. One chapter per week.

**Location:** Mike and Kathie Platt's home  
**Facilitators:** Mike and Kathie Platt, and Bruce and Lynn Partain

**Questions and to RSVP:** Please contact the Church Office, Mike or Kathie Platt, or Bruce or Lynn Partain.



# BOOK CLUB

FEB 6 • 1:00 • PARLOR

*We will discuss  
January's snowy setting reads.*

THEME TO DISCUSS AT  
MARCH MEETING IS  
LOVE STORIES



## First Friday Men's Breakfast

**Next meeting:  
February 7  
in the Parlor.**

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

*PW 2024-2025  
Bible Study*

**February 25  
10:00AM in the Parlor**

**Join us as we continue our  
study with Lesson 5.**



**COWBOYS VS. CARDINALS:  
MARCH 1, 2025**

The Fellowship Team invites you to wear red and white and come to the Montagne Center to watch the Lamar Cardinals play the McNeese State Cowboys! The game is **Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 6:00 pm**. Tickets are in section E, rows 6-9 and cost \$10 each. You don't want to miss it! Please RSVP with the number of tickets you need to the church office by February 20.

## Chancel Flowers

Fresh flowers can be given for the chancel in worship on Sunday mornings in memory or honor of loved ones. A standard arrangement is \$80. If you would like to sponsor the chancel flowers, email the church office or use the flower calendar outside the main office.



## 2025 Session Teams

### Clerk of Session

Bruce Partain

### Treasurer

Bruce Burnside

### Christian Education

Brian Armstrong  
Becky Ford

### Worship

Bruce Partain  
Leslie Pember

### Finance & Property

Jeff Newman  
Elizabeth Petit

### Operations & Personnel

Becky Ford  
Bruce Partain

### Fellowship

Dave Collins  
Susan Meitzen  
Will Nichols

### Mission & Evangelism

Mike Dove  
Susan Reese  
Maryann Sweeney

## Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering

We will collect the Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering on **Sunday, March 16**. This is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings. Received in the spring each year, it gives women a tangible way to celebrate the blessings in their lives. This offering celebrates the anniversary of the PW's founding by funding up to five projects each year. Supporting the Birthday Offering is a wonderful way to put faith into action by helping organizations and projects that make a significant impact in communities.

The Red Cloud Renewable Lakota Thiyuha Dome Home in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, is one of the initiatives selected for 2025. The Lakota Thiyuha Project aims to increase housing availability through construction of innovative dome homes that are energy efficient, economical, simple in design and easily teachable.

The grant will help to construct three dome homes, providing housing as well as creating publicity for this affordable option. Construction apprentices will gain experience in this building technique that can rapidly and affordably increase housing availability for Lakota families in need.

**To learn more about this year's grant recipients, visit [presbyterianwomen.org](http://presbyterianwomen.org). To donate, make your check payable to Presbyterian Women, memo: Birthday Offering, and look for the PW envelopes in your bulletins.**

*It is more blessed to give  
than to receive.*

*Acts 20:35*



# Safe Sanctuary Training



All volunteers working with our children and youth are invited for a light lunch on **Sunday, February 23** following worship to complete the required safe church training. During this training we will review best practices for ensuring the safety of our young people and update required background checks. We will also introduce you to the new curriculum being used in our children and youth programs. Please RSVP to the church office by February 16.

***All volunteers with our children and youth  
MUST complete this training!***

## 2025

### St. Andrew's Handbells



If you enjoy music and fellowship (or if you want to be in a choir but don't want to sing!), consider joining the St. Andrew's Handbell Choir in 2025. Led by Martha Giarratano, rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 5:30PM-6:30PM. The bell choir blesses the congregation in worship several times a year, especially in the Lenten and Advent seasons. Musical experience is not a requirement, but it is certainly a plus. If you have questions or would like to learn more, contact Martha Giarratano or the Church Office.

## St. Andrew's Foundation Scholarship

The St. Andrew's Foundation administers two scholarship funds for church members, the Virginia Anderson Scholarship Fund and the Drennan Scholarship Fund.

The Virginia Anderson Scholarship Fund was established as a memorial gift from Murray Anderson to honor his wife, Virginia. This fund provides scholarships to qualified students for their freshman (or first) semester of college or trade school.

The Drennan Scholarship Fund was established by a bequest to St. Andrew's from W. B. "Pappy" Drennan. The purpose of this fund is to provide scholarships to qualified students after they have completed their freshman year (at least 24 semester credit hours) and may also be used for post-graduate studies.

Detailed information, guidelines, requirements and applications are available on the St. Andrew's website under the menu choice: About - Foundation Scholarships.

**The deadline to apply is April 6, 2025.**

### Calling on All Youth!

Everyone is called to use their gifts in service to the body of Christ. The goal is to begin incorporating you in worship leadership in the following ways: livestream, sound booth, liturgist, and/or playing an instrument. Please reach out to Pastor Tara or Thomas to share your area(s) of interest. Yes, you can get volunteer hours.

### New Youth Schedule

Youth group will meet 4:30PM-6:00PM. Due to the challenges of trying to feed a group of finicky eaters, we will no longer serve dinner. Instead we will provide snacks and end at 6PM to allow time for everyone to eat dinner at home. Plus, the new time will allow for students to get home earlier and finish any last minute homework assignments they may or may not have ignored all weekend.



# Fellowship Luncheon

St. Andrew's Youth group truly embraced the spirit of community and teamwork as they prepared a delightful fellowship lunch. The menu was a crowd-pleaser, featuring a classic spread that included flavorful spaghetti and meatballs, which were cooked to perfection and paired with a fresh, crisp salad. The aromatic garlic toast added a comforting touch, bringing smiles to everyone present. No meal would be complete without a sweet treat, and cookies by Mike Dove were the perfect way to round off the feast, offering a delightful mix of chewy and crunchy textures. The event not only satisfied appetites but also strengthened bonds, as members worked together in harmony, sharing laughter and creating treasured memories.





# Fellowship Luncheon





# Ordination & Installation of New Officers

The ordination and installation of new deacons, elders, and officers at St. Andrew's on Sunday, January 5, 2025, marked a significant moment of gratitude and celebration within the congregation. These dedicated individuals have stepped forward to lead by example, embodying the spirit of service and commitment that is vital to the church's mission. Their willingness to contribute their time and talents not only strengthens the fabric of the church family but also extends a positive impact on the broader community. As they embark on their new roles, the church and its members express heartfelt appreciation for their dedication and look forward to the continued growth and support they will provide in the years to come.



Carry each other's burdens,  
and in this way you will fulfill  
the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2

**Become a part  
of our team!**  
*We're Hiring!*  
**Part-time Administrative Assistant**

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church is seeking a part-time Administrative Assistant for Monday through Thursday, 11:30AM - 4:30PM. This position is a good fit for anyone with strong organizational and office skills seeking an enriching part-time opportunity!

Applicants must have a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent and must be 18 years of age or older. Hourly pay starts at \$15 but depends on experience and qualifications. If you would like to apply, please send your resume to our personnel team at [church@saintandy.org](mailto:church@saintandy.org). To read the full job description, please visit <https://saintandy.org/events-media/job-postings>.

YOU ARE INVITED TO  
**Maryann Sweeney's**  
**85th  
Birthday  
Party**  
SUNDAY | 23 | FEBRUARY  
11:45 AM | 2025  
THE PARLOR  
1350 North 23rd St.,  
Beaumont, TX 77706  
No Gifts but funny cards appreciated



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There's something truly enchanting about a rare snowfall, transforming the familiar landscape into a winter wonderland. St. Andrew's, with its serene and majestic presence, looked even more stunning draped in a blanket of white snow. Such moments remind us of the simple pleasures in life and the beauty of God's unexpected gifts.



# 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 <i>Pastor</i>	tara@saintandy.org
Thomas Furlow <i>Music Director</i>	thomas@saintandy.org
Rachel Stiles <i>Organist</i>	rachel@saintandy.org
Joyce Stillwell <i>Admin Assistant</i>	joyce@saintandy.org
Katrina Strong <i>Custodian</i>	church@saintandy.org
Patricia Williamson <i>Accompanist</i>	patricia@saintandy.org
Gloria Pierce <i>Day School Director</i>	dayschool@saintandy.org



### CONNECT WITH US

**CONTACT**  
409.892.8611  
www.saintandy.org  
church@saintandy.org

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

 @saintandy.org  
 @saintandybmt  
 @saintandybmt

The Session has called for a congregational meeting on Sunday, February 9, 2025 immediately following the worship service. The purpose is to conduct the annual meeting. We will receive the 2025 budget and an update on the ministries of the church.