



# weekly CHATTER

December 3, 2023

10:00 a.m. Worship Service in the Sanctuary, and Online.

1901 Archdale Dr., Charlotte, NC 28210 [www.standrewsumc.com](http://www.standrewsumc.com) 704-553-1327

## WORSHIP UPDATE

**This Sunday, December 3 begins the season of Advent.** We will be guided by a work from Susan Robb entitled **"The Angels of Christmas, Hearing God's Voice in Advent"**. This week we will look at the encounter between Zechariah (Elizabeth's husband) and the angel Gabriel. A rich passage found in Luke 1, we'll consider the gift of silence in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. We will also celebrate Communion with one another. If you join us online, you're invited to gather elements for the table, grape juice, and bread are the normal fare, but you are welcome to gather those things that remind you of the goodness of God. See you on Sunday.

## WINTER FESTIVAL



**Join us on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.** for family fun in the Family Life Center. Crafts, games, food, and a very special visitor.

**Lighting of Christmas tree** will also take place in the parking lot. All are invited.



**Volunteers are needed for this event**, please reach out to the Sherry Jackson at: [childrensministry@standrewsumc.com](mailto:childrensministry@standrewsumc.com) or check out the **Sign Up Genius** available soon.

## Needed Festival Supplies

- Empty plastic milk jugs
- Cotton Balls
- Brown paper grocery bags
- 4 oz. bottled water
- Paper Towels

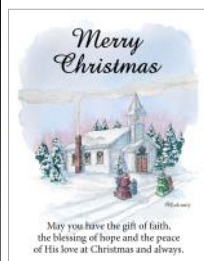


## YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Youth will meet at St. Andrew's UMC **this Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. We will leave at noon to participate in **"Rise Against Hunger"** meal packing from 12:30- 2:00 p.m. On **December 10<sup>th</sup>** at 12:30 p.m. the youth will have a Christmas party at Sedgfield UMC.

## MISSION GIVING CARDS.

St. Andrew's is once again providing our church family the opportunity to share **"Mission Giving Christmas cards"** to honor or remember someone special. Donations support outreach of our church and our partner ministries. Artwork is



from our very own Kenn Bullock and Patti Huss. Payment can be made through the usual channels, check, cash, or EFT. Please designate the ministry or ministries to be supported. Cards will be available

beginning **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** during worship and office hours.

## HOLIDAY MISSION FOCUS IS LOAVES AND FISHES.

The last time we collected for Loaves and Fishes we filled 12 squarrels. A challenge has been made to fill 20 this time between now and Christmas Eve. We've filled 4, that leaves us 16 to go. Thanks for your support. Here's a checklist of their greatest needs. Monetary gifts can also be made directly to Loaves and Fishes or to SAUMC (**designate Loaves and Fishes**).



## Priority Needs

- Canned Meat: Tuna, Chicken, etc...
- Canned Fruit: low sugar or in juice
- Pasta - Canned or Dry Boxed
- Low Sodium Canned Vegetables
- Peanut Butter
- Diapers - especially larger sizes

**No Glass Please**

## HARVESTER'S MEETING

**Thursday, Dec., 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**Gathering Time:** 11:00 a.m. in the Commons Rm #1  
**Program:** 11:15 a.m. Preschool Christmas songs, and making Christmas cards.



**Lunch at Noon.** In the Fellowship Hall Rm #2.  
**Menu:** Sliced ham, sweet potato casserole, green beans, cranberry salad, coconut cake, and rolls.



## CUMPLEAÑOS DE JESUS/ JESUS' BIRTHDAY! Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center.

This year "Las Posadas" will be a different type of program. It will be presented as a great nativity drama! We will celebrate the "Birthday of Jesus", an historic day of the Lord. A group of roughly 40 Cross-Cultural community youth from the "Church of Change" ministry will be performing the drama of Christianity. It will be spoken **IN SPANISH (with English translation)** based on the Gospel, with music, readings, and the interaction of biblical characters in a contemporary way. All are invited to come and experience this joyous presentation. Be sure to arrive early to get a good seat. See you there.



## BE AN ANGEL TO A MONTCLAIRE STUDENT!

Montclair Elementary School is asking our community for additional Angel Tree sponsors this year, due to higher-than-anticipated student and family need. If you would like to be a Christmas Angel to a student by purchasing 2-3 gifts on their wish list, please visit [www.tinyurl.com/MESAngelTree](http://www.tinyurl.com/MESAngelTree) to sign up. **Act quickly, as gifts need to get to the school by December 15<sup>th</sup>.** Thanks for your help!

## DECEMBER Birthdays

- 3 Allen Jackson
- 3 Robin Rea
- 4 Yamilet Villatoro
- 5 David Patton
- 5 James Pendleton
- 6 Jim Harris
- 6 Glenda Patton
- 6 Jacob Reyes
- 7 Dianne Kindlick
- 7 Jonathan Marshall
- 7 Tammy Tokarz
- 9 Nicole Campbell
- 9 Jacob Davis



**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**December 3, 2023**  
**9:15 a.m. Worship Thru**  
**Prayer Service #29**

**10:00 a.m.**  
**Worship in the**  
**Sanctuary.**

**"In the Presence"**  
**Luke 1:8-15a.**

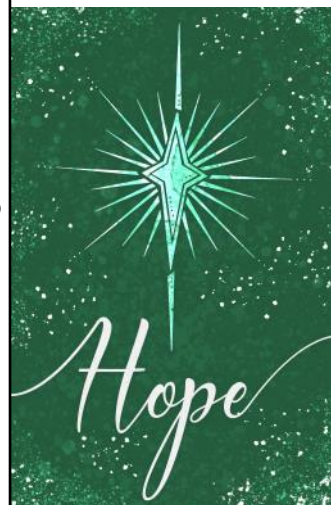
**11:11 a.m.**  
**Small Group Gatherings**  
**Youth Ministry**  
**12:30 p.m.**

**REGULAR CHURCH**  
**OFFICE HOURS:**  
**Monday-Thursday**  
**9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**  
**Closed on Fridays.**

**GIVE ONLINE/**  
**OFRENDAR EN LÍNEA.**



**Our QR code will take you to SECURE GIVING/ Nuestro código QR lo llevará a DONACIONES SEGURAS.**



## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

I give money because the church gives it to the poor and also uses it to help the church and the community. I think that's good because Jesus wanted us to give. I also give money because that's what the bible tells us to do. The money helps the poor because the church gives the poor money and uses it for clothes, food, and water to give to the poor. It helps the community because then we can do stuff like pets day out and feeding teachers at Montclaire. It helps the church by giving them money for bills and renovations. The church offering is like a charity because it helps the church for wants and needs and helps them give wants and needs. Thank you for your time.

~Tripp Lisk

## MONTCLAIRE TEACHER LUNCH

Teaching is precious work! We're saying thank you to the staff at Montclaire with a bag lunch on **Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**, as they finish up the fall term. Here's how you can help out:

- Bake a batch of your favorite Christmas cookies.
- Donate money towards the purchase of Chick-Fil-A sandwiches.
- Donate needed lunch bag supplies.
- Help prepare, assemble, and deliver lunches.



Look for a sign up sheet in worship or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/MontclaireBagLunch> to view needs and sign up.

Thanks for supporting our teachers!

## LONGEST NIGHT



**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> AT 11:00 A.M. OR 6:30 P.M.** For many of us, the holidays can be hard. Joy can seem elusive, and loss can loom large at this time of year. There is hope. God hears our cries and is close to the brokenhearted. On the longest night of the year, join us at 11:00 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. for a service of prayer, word, and music; to offer space for the burdens we carry, and to be reminded that our Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. Come as one who grieves, or come as a friend to one who grieves. All are welcome.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPDATE.

Thank you to all of our church members and neighbors who bought gifts and filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes this year. The total shoeboxes that were filled was 46. Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, and another thank you for your contribution to such a special program.

~Linda & Larry Collins



## CONDOLENCES.



Jackie Auville, a beautiful lady, passed from our midst at noon on Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. She was a faithful member of St. Andrew's UMC

until poor health caused her to move to Greenville, NC where most of her family lives. There are many who knew her and a few of us to whom she was especially dear. We love you, Jackie, and we will always carry you in our hearts. A private graveside service will be held in Virginia.

## PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS FROM HANGING OF THE GREENS



## PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CHAPLAIN GRADUATION



On November 19<sup>th</sup>, St. Andrew's new group of chaplains graduated, receiving their certificates and credentials to enable them to give service to others in the church and community. In this group, were people from all over the Americas: Peru, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras, Venezuela, Dominican Republic, and Mexico for a total of 22 graduates. We praise the Lord for all He has done and will do in their lives.