



**WORSHIP UPDATE**

**This week, our Lenten journey continues.** As was shared last week, we will be spending an extended time in the passion narratives found in the Gospels, and you are encouraged,



as a Lenten discipline, to read through one gospel account each week. The stories are found as follows: **Matthew 26-27, Mark 14-15; Luke 22-23 and John 18-19.** And a question to ponder as you read them is “what would you have thought, or done, had you been there? As Levine offers in summary, “nobody said this was going to be easy”. So, we’ll see you this Sunday. We begin with intercessory prayer at 9:15 a.m., followed by worship and small groups. Youth will meet here this Sunday at 12:30 p.m. See you here.  
~Pastor Sherri

**OUR FINANCE COMMITTEE**

recently shared the current financial status for St. Andrew’s UMC as we began 2024 with a significant deficit. With that, the Finance Committee asked all committees to consider a reduction in spending of 20-25%. Staff Parrish has met over the last month to discuss the budget for staff and the need for reduction. We have taken an opportunity to review line items, take into consideration upcoming changes or impacts, as well as, consider budget norms from the district and within the Charlotte area. Although a difficult decision, we understand that it is a necessary one based on our status.

In order to meet the budgetary requirements, we proposed the following:

- Moratorium on any Continuing Education or Travel expense.
- Reduction of lay staff, Cross-Cultural Minister and Director of Worship salaries,
- Reduction of Senior Pastor salary,
- Elimination of Children’s Minister position as of April 1, 2024.

Please know, that St. Andrew’s is not in a unique situation as others within the district are making similar considerations. With Sherry Jackson’s departure, admittedly, this is a loss I feel personally. I know as a congregation and family you all will be impacted as well. I want to take this opportunity to recognize her tenured service to St. Andrew’s, its children, families, and community in being a light of Christ in all her work. She has spent her career fostering relationships, touching lives, quietly loving and supporting our church family. Her loss will be a notable one.

However, there is still good and important work to be done here at St. Andrew’s. We are a church serving so many through God’s work and as Pastor Sherri Barnes shared just a few weeks ago, have touched over 5,000 lives in 2023 alone.

**On Palm Sunday,** we will share in a Celebration of Service for **Sherry Jackson.**

This will be immediately following worship and in the Commons Room.



Please be sure to join in the celebration to share stories, laugh and continue to lift Sherry and her family in love. We ask that you continue to pray for Sherry as her service in Christ will not end. And continue to pray for St. Andrew’s as we go through this transition.

If you have any questions, and need to reach out, please feel free to contact me at 704-340-3707. Or Pastor Sherri Barnes in the church office.

Thank you for your continued support in prayers and service to St. Andrew’s and its work in Christ.

~Kind regards, Courtney Picha



**GENERAL CONFERENCE.**

This year, we welcome our denomination’s General Conference to Charlotte, and your help is needed to extend hospitality to our brothers and sisters from across the globe. Go to: <https://welcometogc.org/> and create an account. From there, you can sign up to volunteer as you’re able. Help is needed starting Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. More information to come.

**SAVE THE DATE. The Book Club** will meet on **Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.** to discuss the book **“The Bondwoman’s Narrative”** by **Hannah Crafts.**

Nicole Campbell will be hosting this event at her home at 1617 Lyndale Place, Charlotte, NC. Everyone’s welcome. See you there.



**MARCH Birthdays**

- 10 Jada Morgan
- 11 Davy Lisk Jr.
- 13 Anne Lisk
- 14 Barbara Brank
- 14 Carla Corless
- 14 Mary Kelton Adams
- 15 Justin Wolfe
- 16 Christina Fitzgerald
- 16 Ermitania Gonzalez
- 16 Don Owens



**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**MARCH 10, 2024**  
**9:15 a.m. Intercessory Prayer Service #30**

**10:00 a.m.**  
**Worship in the Sanctuary**  
**“The Soldiers”**  
**John 19:23-24**

**11:11 a.m.**  
**Small Group Gathering**

**11:30 a.m.**  
**Youth Ministry Here.**



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

**GIVE ONLINE/OFRENDAR EN LINE.**



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



Mark your calendars Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> to set your clocks ahead one hour.



SAVE THE DATE for an Easter Celebration on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-Noon. Join us as we gather in the Family Life Center for a time of crafts and games, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn. We would love to have children of all ages join us! If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Sherry Jackson at childrensministry@standrewsumc.com. Donations of eggs and individually-wrapped candies are welcome. There will be a green tub in the Narthex for donation drop-off.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN for the 2024 Metro District Lay Servant Ministry training! We are offering basic and advanced classes at Central UMC, Charlotte, April 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> as well as an advanced course via Zoom. Class size is limited so register early. **Deadline to register is March 31<sup>st</sup>.** The Basic Lay Servant class will be offered. Advanced classes include. **"The Method of Our Mission"** by Lacey C. Warner; **"The Caring Congregation Ministry"** by Karen Lampe and Melissa Gepford; and **"Sharing the Prayers of the People: The Art of Intercession"** by Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher.



The ministry of the laity is vital to our churches, district, communities, conference and the world! Lay Servant Ministry is a way persons can grow spiritually, become equipped to serve,

discover their spiritual gifts and ways to use them, and experience connection and fellowship with other Lay Servants. The training is open to all. Interested? Reach out to Pastor David Ortigoza or Pastor Sherri Barnes for the needed recommendation. **Registration fee for in person courses is \$15** and the fee for the **Zoom course is \$10, plus the cost of books.**

**THE USE OF ZOOM ON SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR WORSHIP HAS BEEN SUSPENDED.** During the height of COVID, ZOOM provided an essential gathering place, but over the last 18 months, we have seen an ongoing decline in the need for it. You can still access worship via YouTube on your television, smartphone or tablet, and here's the link to do that. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI2Duj4T\\_ovp5GEp\\_PXdFLQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI2Duj4T_ovp5GEp_PXdFLQ). The link can also be found on the SAUMC website. And a special thanks to Tammy Thompson for her long term care of this ministry.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**

**Dot Kille**  
Lake Wylie Senior Living  
4877 Charlotte Highway  
Room 114 (Memory Care)  
Lake Wylie/Clover, SC  
29710



**CHURCH STAFF LUNCHEON PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS**



A warm thank you to our staff parish for the wonderful lunch and goodies given in appreciation of the church staff. Host Gail Lewyn and Noah Hernández prepared a colorful table spread leading to a very enjoyable time of fellowship. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,  
St. Andrew's UMC staff.