A Word from the Pastor

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard, as it had been told them." (Luke 2:20)

God really does have a sense of humor, doesn't he? The most important announcement the world has ever heard was given by the angels: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11) And to whom did these heavenly messengers bring their tidings? To the powerful, the influential, the movers and shakers of the day, the ones who could amplify this message across the world? Nope. The angels were sent to a bunch of shepherds minding a flock of sheep on the hills outside Bethlehem.

Scholars debate the social status of shepherds in that day, with some saying they were considered as outcasts, and others arguing that they were simply poor and rural. In either case, they were near the bottom of the social ladder. And they were the ones God chose to be the first witnesses to the earthly birth of the King of Kings.

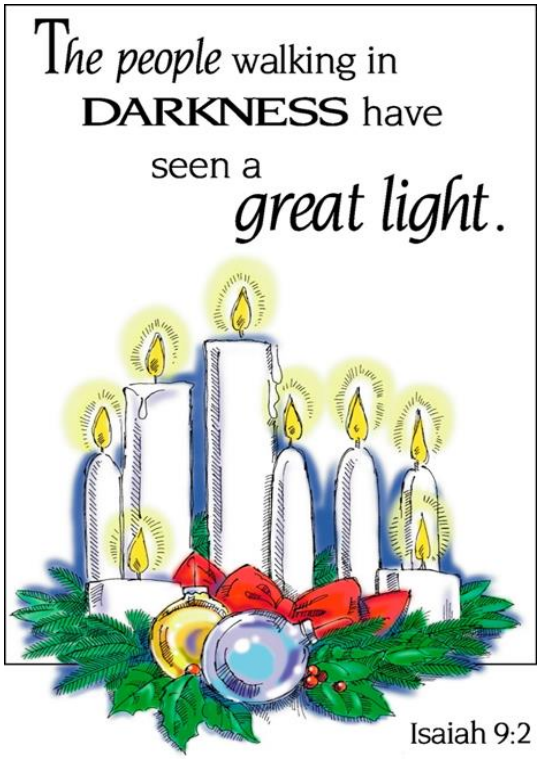
You'd think news like this would be broadcast as wide as possible, accompanied by great signs and miraculous portents that made everything abundantly clear to the whole world what was taking place. But God chose a handful of obscure peasants, who had limited social connections, to pass the word along to their undoubtedly obscure friends.

This is totally in keeping with the way God frequently chooses to work in the world. Other originally obscure shepherds called by God to do his work include Abraham and David, and of course, Jesus referred to himself as "the good shepherd…[who] lays down his life for the sheep." (John 9:11) The point is that God delights in giving responsibility for his kingdom to those the world disregards and even despises. The only requirement is for us to be available when God calls.

As we ponder again the mystery of Christmas – the "Word made flesh" – know that God has called you to bear witness to Jesus Christ, right where you are, just being yourself, doing what you do. May you know the same joy as the shepherds who first heard this news, and may you rejoice in sharing it.

Merry Christmas!
Rev. Ed

The Window View



December 2019

SAINT ANDREW Presbyterian Church

Following Christ
Serving in Love
Engaging the World

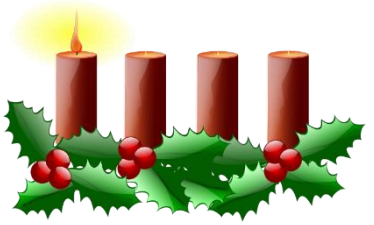
3551 Wheeler Road ▪ Augusta GA 30909 ▪ 706/736-4575 ▪ www.standrewpc.com

DECEMBER 3 JOHN STILLWELL
DECEMBER 4 DOERTHE MCGRATH
DECEMBER 10 KEN KITCHEN
DECEMBER 13 JEANETTE PLAYFORD
DECEMBER 14 MONIQUE CAUBLE
DECEMBER 15 SONG BRADLEY
DECEMBER 17 DAWN HICKMAN
DECEMBER 18 SANDRA BAILEY
MARK WALDEN
MARJORIE LIPPERT
DECEMBER 23 RITA LONG
DECEMBER 28 VIRGINIA CORRADINO
DECEMBER 29 LILLIAN KITCHEN
WILL STURGIS
DECEMBER 30 TIM POUNDS

Blue Christmas

Sunday December 22nd

6:00 pm



Advent Devotionals

Advent devotional booklets are now available in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. These daily guides, covering the four weeks leading up to Christmas, have been prepared by the editors of Christianity Today magazine, and fifteen different authors are represented. The devotionals are suitable for use by individuals, families, or groups; whatever setting you choose, don't miss out on this great resource for the season

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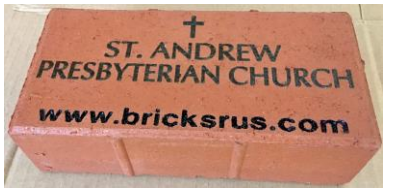


THE AUGUSTA COMMUNITY PRAYER GARDEN

AT ST.ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ENGRAVED BRICK FUNDRAISER

We are raising money to help pay for The Augusta Community Prayer Garden at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. We invite everyone to take a moment from the trials and tribulations of their day, and rest for awhile in this peaceful setting. You can help our community by purchasing laser engraved bricks. The bricks will be placed in the 4 walkways leading into the prayer garden. *We plan on starting construction in the spring of 2020. We thank you in advance for helping us create this much needed sanctuary for the Augusta community.*

4x4…… $40.00

With this brick you get 3 lines with 18 characters per line

8x8…… $100.00

With this brick 6 lines with 18 characters per line

YOU CAN DESIGN AND PURCHASE YOUR BRICKS AT OUR DONOR FRIENDLY WEBSITE or find a form in the narthex to fill out.

bricksrus.com/donorsite/sapc

Bible in a Year Readings

Dec 1	Ezekiel 32-33, Psalm 121, 1 Timothy 1-3
Dec 2	Ezekiel 34-35, Psalm 122, 1 Timothy 4-6
Dec 3	Ezekiel 36-37, Psalm 123, 2 Timothy 1-2
Dec 4	Ezekiel 38-39, Psalm 124, 2 Timothy 3-4
Dec 5	Ezekiel 40-41, Psalm 125, Titus 1-3
Dec 6	Ezekiel 42-44, Psalm 126, Philemon
Dec 7	Ezekiel 45-46, Psalm 127, Hebrews 1-3
Dec 8	Ezekiel 47-48, Psalm 128, Hebrews 4-6
Dec 9	Dan 1, Psalm 129, Hebrews 7-8
Dec 10	Dan 2-3, Psalm 130, Hebrews 9
Dec 11	Dan 4-5, Psalm 131, Hebrews 10
Dec 12	Dan 6-7, Psalm 132, Hebrews 11
Dec 13	Dan 8-9, Psalm 133, Hebrews 12-13
Dec 14	Dan 10-12, Psalm 134, James 1-2
Dec 15	Hos 1, Psalm 135, James 3-5
Dec 16	Hos 2-5, Psalm 136, 1 Peter 1-2
Dec 17	Hos 6-9, Psalm 137, 1 Peter 3-5
Dec 18	Hos 10-14, Psalm 138, 2 Peter 1-3
Dec 19	Joel 1-3, Psalm 139, 1 John 1-2
Dec 20	Amos 1-5, Psalm 140, 1 John 3-5
Dec 21	Amos 6-9, Psalm 141, 2 John, 3 John, Jude
Dec 22	Obadiah, Jonah 1-4, Psalm 142, Revelation 1
Dec 23	Micah 1-3, Psalm 143, Revelation 2-3
Dec 24	Mic ah 4-7, Psalm 144, Revelation 4-6
Dec 25	Nah 1-3, Psalm 145:1-13, Revelation 7-9
Dec 26	Habakkuk 1-3, Psalm 145:14-21, Revelation 10-12
Dec 27	Zephaniah 1-3, Hag 1-2, Psalm 146, Revelation 13-15
Dec 28	Zechariah 1-5, Psalm 147, Revelation 16-17
Dec 29	Zechariah 6-9, Psalm 148, Revelation 18-19
Dec 30	Zechariah 10-14, Psalm 149, Revelation 20-21
Dec 31	Malachi 1-4, Psalm 150, Revelation 22

Financial Report

	November, 2019	Year-to-date, 2019
Contributions	13,992	167,965
Rental Income	1250	12,005
Other	100	1275
Total	15,342	181,245
Expenses		
Admin	2528	19,845
Denomination	946	11,499
Bldg & Maint	*7133	20,391
Utilities	1814	16,826
Staff	10,274	100,385
Programs	-	4171
Total	(7353)	(1872)

*This includes the $5300 cost of replacing the HVAC unit, this was Paid from the reserve funds.)

GAP Ministries

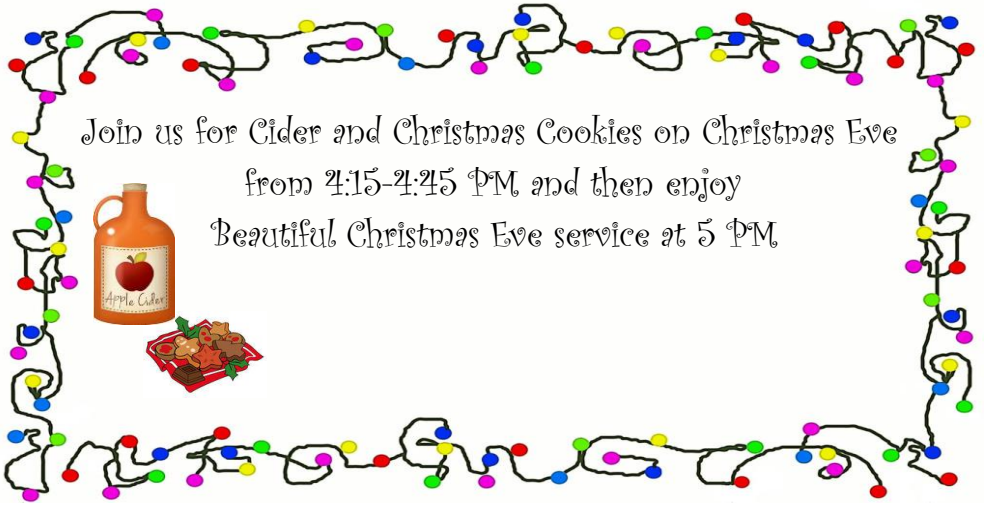
Christians confronting emptiness, choosing compassion, creating community.

Items of the Month:

Canned Chili, Beef Stew, and Hardy Soups.

There is a decorated container in the parlor. Please place items in this container, remembering that if you forget to bring an item, you are welcome to contribute cash or checks (made payable to GAP Ministries).

Presbyterian Women
Will meet on the SECOND Tuesday of this month
December 10th at 9:30 am



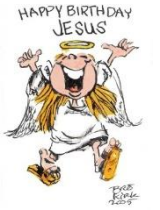
Christmas Day
December 25th

Office closed 12/24- 12/27

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY
EVERY WEDNESDAY
12:00 pm and 6:00 pm
Bring your own brown bag dinner.
Join us in the Fellowship Hall as we study

Suicide Prevention Hotline 1-800-273-8255
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church Calendar
December, 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 First Sunday of Advent 9:30am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Morning Worship with Communion 4:00 pm Christ the King	**2** 11:30 Chapel (Thrive of Augusta)	**3** 11:30am Chapel Study (Harrington Park) 2 pm Knitting Circle	**4** 11:30 am Prayer Gathering 12:00 Brown Bag Bible Study 6 pm Brown Bag Bible Study 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	**5** 7:00pm Prayer Group (Kershner home)	**6**	**7**
8 9:30am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Morning Worship 4:00pm Greene Street Diner 4:00 pm Christ the King	**9** 11:30 Chapel (Thrive of Augusta) **Session meeting 6:30 pm**	**10** **9:30 am Presbyterian Women** 11:30am Chapel Study (Harrington Park)	**11** 11:30 am Prayer Gathering 12:00 Brown Bag Bible Study 6 pm Brown Bag Bible Study 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	**12** 7:00pm Prayer Group (Kershner home)	**13**	**14**
15 9:30 am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Morning Worship 4:00 pm Christ the King	**16** 11:30 Chapel (Thrive of Augusta)	**17** 11:30am Chapel Study (Harrington Park) 2 pm Knitting Circle	**18** 11:30 am Prayer Gathering 12:00 Brown Bag Bible Study 6 pm Brown Bag Bible Study 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	**19** 7:00pm Prayer Group (Kershner home)	**20**	**21**
22 9:30am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Morning Worship 4:00 pm Christ the King 6:00 pm Blue Christmas **29** 9:30am Sunday School 10:15am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Morning Worship 4:00 pm Christ the King	**23** 11:30 Chapel (Thrive of Augusta) **30** 11:30 Chapel (Thrive of Augusta)	**24** **Christmas Eve Cookies and Cider 4:15- 4:45 pm** **Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm** **Office Closed** **31** **New Years Eve**	**25** **Merry Christmas** **Office Closed**	**26** **Office Closed**	**27** **Office Closed**	**28**