



Loaves & Fishes

SAINT ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

MARCH 2018

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS MARCH 21ST

Faith in the Face of Death

Rappin' with the Rev by Pastor Dave Milam



Bonnie has been reading a book called Forgotten Flight. It's about a French airliner's 1989 flight travelling to Paris from Chad, Africa. Her aunt was a passenger, when the plane was blown up by a terrorist bomb while flying over the Libyan Sahara. The book has had Bonnie reliving those tragic days when her family was so devastated by the events, an experience shared by over 100 passengers' families – fracturing spirits, circumstances and kin relationships, the burden of grief placing stress on the most intimate of bonds.

When we witness those enduring such tragedies from a distance, we feel for those who are burdened with such unexpected grief. The incident of mass gun violence at Stoneman Douglas High School has been the latest of such devastating tragedies that are being played out on the news. But there are others we know that are, perhaps, closer to home, even if not as dramatic. It should not surprise us that these losses are often accompanied by a test of faith. How could God let such atrocities happen to good people, to people we love so dearly?

It is probably best to not offer much more than our deepest condolences at such times. Awkward niceties like "God must have needed another angel," or "God doesn't give us more than we can handle," are surely assur-

ances meant to support and care, but neither match the truth of the pain felt, nor say something all that true about God. Rather, the simple act of being present to the bereaved is immeasurably helpful. Hugs and the honest admission of not knowing what to say let the other find assurance that they are not alone. Gently and authentically invoking God's presence works similarly.

The Bible's Book of Job wrestles with both loss and the struggle with where to find faith and to find it helpful. It's a complicated book and long, but can be summarized in a nutshell. In the beginning of the book, Job suffers complete losses of financial resources, his children and then his health. Friends come to help him, offering him an opportunity to take a fearless inventory of his life so that he can figure out what he did so wrong to deserve this turn. As the pages turn on and on, we learn that Job has done no wrong and so wishes to press his case with God.

By the end of the book, Job has his day in court, even though he knows he has no chance to win against God – mostly because of size and power. Despite this, Job still loves God, which is his redemption. He finds that it is love that both allows him the freedom to question and confront God and also that connects him to God with a

transformational power sustaining him beyond his loss. Job recognizes that he is not God – and glad of that – which gives him room to trust God when (and because) there is no one else ultimately to trust. And he trusts because he loves.

I'm imagining that is what may be sustaining the youth and their families and community in Parkland, Florida. Their love of the ones they've lost and their love for one another, exhibited in their willingness to make a difference, is a healing balm in the midst of their unimaginable grief. So are our prayers for them as a way of being present with them, as well.

But the power of this love and faith are ours in situations that may not be in the public eye,

in our connections with our own beloved, and the losses we may also have experienced. The daily practice of love in words of kindness and affirmation, and acts of nurture and care, strengthen us with resilience that is a part of faith. We pray for these students, their teachers, their families and community in Florida, but make our presence known by loving God and one another wherever we may be.

Blessings,

Pastor Dave

Pastor David Milam



On February 4th, Super Bowl Sunday, the members of Boy Scout Troops 169 and 969 encouraged member of the St. Andrew congregation to contribute to Souper Bowl of Car-ing. They collected money in soup pots to benefit Loudoun Hunger Relief. They collected \$148.54. Thank you St. Andrew!

Phoebe's Sisters

This women's group meets the third Saturday each month from 8:30 to 10:30 am at a member's home for breakfast, fellowship and Bible study. All women of the church and friends are invited. The next meeting is March 17th at the home of Bonnie Milam, 122 Amalfi Court, Purcellville. If you are interested in attending the next meeting, please contact Bonnie Milam at 540 454-7816.

The St. Andrew Book Club

This group meets monthly outside the church. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on March 24th at the home of Ann Schmitt. The book under discussion is A Piece of the World by Christina Baker Kline. Please contact Zoe Sowers at 540 338-0999 or zsowers@gmail.com to join the discussion. Do join us; we are a friendly group!

Lovettsville Group

This group meets twice a month on Sunday evenings. The meeting place rotates among the members of the group. Contact Debra Gutenson at 540 882-3205 or gutenson50@loudounwireless.com for more information.

FP4H

First Place 4 Health, a faith-based weight loss program,

meets every Monday evening at 6:30 pm. Contact Ally Fetch at 336 508-2610 or afetch@gmail.com or Deborah Hill at 540 751-9818 or momscully@earthlink.net.

Men's Group

This group meets the first Saturday of the month in the fellowship hall. Coffee starts at 7:30 am and breakfast/fellowship at 8:00 am. The next meeting is March 3rd. To join, contact Jeff Kauffman at jnk@thekauffmangroup.com.

Brunch Bunch

This group meets the second Monday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 am in the church basement. The next meeting is March 12th. We will be discussing Cloud of Witnesses. For more information, contact Ann Paciulli at annpaciulli@gmail.com.

SAPC Investment Group

Everyone is welcome to join the next meeting on March 4th from 9:00 to 9:50 am in the church basement. The group will meet every other Sunday and a different topic will be introduced at each meeting. The meetings are hosted by Manny Njomo and Scott Ziegler.

sympathetic listening, he served as a Chaplain Resident at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, DC before becoming the founding pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Purcellville, Virginia.

David and his wife Lynn, whom he met while serving in the Towson (MD) Presbyterian Church, raised their three daughters in Purcellville, in the shadow of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and cherished their friendships there. Following his calling and gifts in listening to people, hearing them with respect, and helping them know themselves more deeply, David served for 20 years as a Pastoral Psychotherapist with the Pastoral Counseling and Consultation Centers of Greater Washington. He was a Fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. In 1992, with their children grown, David and Lynn embarked on an uncharacteristic adventure and moved to Cary, North Carolina, where he once again served for 20 years as a therapist with Triangle Pastoral Counseling.

Significant facets of David's rich life included -- most importantly -- being a loving husband and father, reading widely, preaching insightful and provocative sermons, writing two books, crafting limericks for special occasions and reciting Shakespearean sonnets from memory, enjoying Mozart, opera, live theater and Orioles baseball, co-teaching adult classes and playing softball for Cary Presbyterian Church, training Stephen Leaders, relishing good scotch with his faithful friends and colleagues, and refreshing his spirit at the family's summer house in northern Vermont. His consummate talents notwithstanding, David was a kind, gentle, compassionate, and humble soul.

David is survived by his wife of 54 years, the former Elizabeth Lynn Hammond; his three daughters, Jane Elizabeth Dunbar (Ian), Ellen Rebecca Govert, and Katherine Lynn Voss; his grandchildren, Jillian and Andrew Dunbar, Jeffrey, Ian and Sarah Govert; his brother, John Daniel Voss; nieces and nephew. He was predeceased by his parents and his son-in-law Gary Govert.

A service to celebrate David's life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 3 at Cary Presbyterian Church, 614 Griffis Street, Cary, NC, with a reception following. Gifts in his memory may be made to Cary Presbyterian Church Music Ministry or the Glenaire Foundation, 4000 Glenaire Circle, Cary, NC 27511.

**OBITUARY****The Rev. David Verner Voss**

September 28, 1934 – February 25, 2018

David Verner Voss departed this life for another on Sunday, February 25, 2018, unafraid, because, in his own words, "What comes next is the extension of a relationship with God that I am already a part of."

David was born in Georgia on September 28, 1934 to John Daniel and Rebecca Auld Voss. He grew up in Atlanta and Augusta and was a valedictorian of his class at the University of Georgia, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. A young man of surpassing intellect and curiosity he continued his education with graduate degrees from Union Presbyterian Seminary, Harvard Divinity School, and San Francisco Theological Seminary. Expanding his understanding of mental illness and his skills in

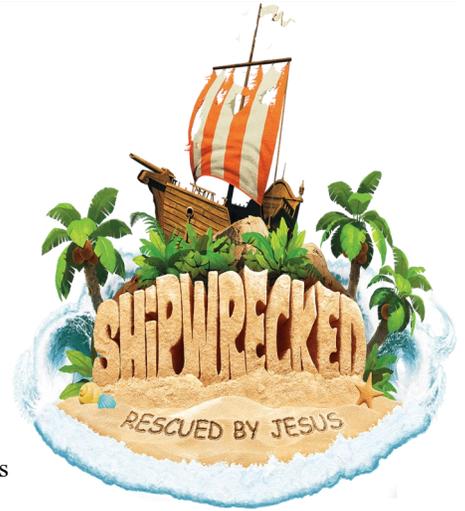
YOUTH AND CHILDREN MINISTRY



March is here and we have lots of exciting things planned for our kids. This month the children will be working on an Easter wreath each Sunday and will get to take it home on Palm Sunday, March 25th. The WAC children will have their end of the year party at the Skating Rink on March 21st. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter, April 1st following the Pancake Breakfast.



Summer is quickly approaching. We are looking for some volunteers who can help with Vacation Bible School in the evenings on June 24th through June 28th. The theme for 2018 will be "Shipwrecked." There will be a family dinner every night and 3 years through 5th grade are invited to participate in VBS. Please let JoAnna know if you would be available to help with this exciting week.



NEIGHBORHOOD LEARNING

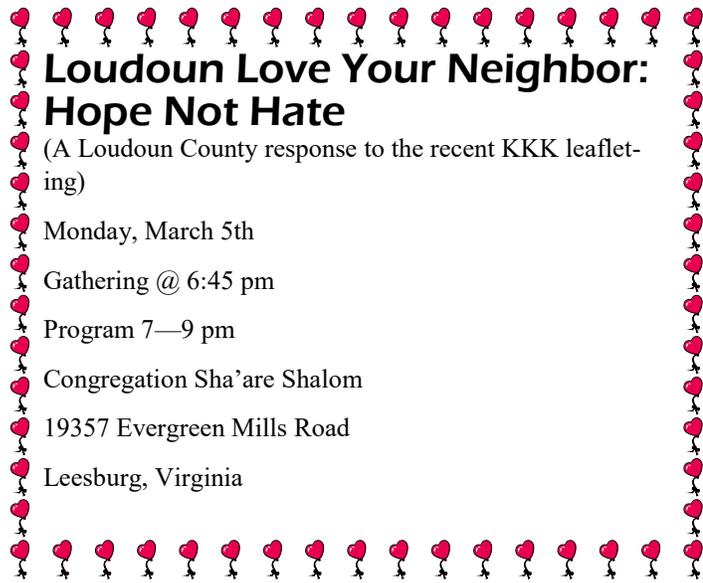
At the NLC this month, we will welcome the McGrath Irish Dancers on March 16th for a 4 pm performance. It will be a WACKY day at the church on Friday, March 2nd, as we celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. There will be a Spring Break Camp on March 26th through March 29th for our school agers during the Loudoun County Public Schools Spring Break. The NLC will be sponsoring a Parents Night Out on March 17th and church families are welcome to come. Please sign up at the Front Desk.



The NLC has a summer filled with exciting weekly camps planned for school age kids. Registration has begun. Please visit our website at www.tnlcenter.com to learn more about the camps.



The children help Pastor Dave at the Ash Wednesday service.



Loudoun Love Your Neighbor: Hope Not Hate

(A Loudoun County response to the recent KKK leafletting)

Monday, March 5th

Gathering @ 6:45 pm

Program 7—9 pm

Congregation Sha'are Shalom

19357 Evergreen Mills Road

Leesburg, Virginia

TRUSTEES

SAVE THE DATE

March 10th at 8 am, Trustee Workday

Projects: Painting, replacing lights, and outside ground work

Come one, come all.



Olivia Butkus received her ashes from Pastor Dave on Ash Wednesday.



She returned the favor!

Music With A Cause

Presents

PIANIST

MARIANNA PRJEVALSKAYA

MARCH 18 at 4PM



Marianna Prjevaskaya, performs as a recitalist and concerto soloist, and captivates audiences with emotional intensity, maturity, richness and beauty of tone.

Tickets are \$20 and proceeds will benefit Mobile Hope. Advance Tickets can be purchased at Eventbrite.com.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Anniversary this month to:	11 Chris Hagert
	13 Nicolai Evans Helen Thomas
15 Tom and Deborah Hill Davis and Betty Willis	14 Tami York
25 Nick and Carlinda Kleck	15 Troy Krepich Marcia Owens
Happy Birthday this month to:	18 Karen Ray Heidi Shields
3 Cindy Fike Garrett Fike Erik Stimeling	20 Sandy Gricius
4 Emma Curtis JoAnna Rich	23 Alden York
5 Kathryn Sink	24 Claudia Faubert Scott Ziegler
7 William Garrett Natalie Miner	26 Harold Pull
8 David Dimoff	27 Kecia Brown
10 Jennifer Carpenter Carson Rich	28 Will Gehl
	29 Cullen Kleck
	30 Sandy Roberts
	31 Elizabeth Barbagallo Cyndie Rinek

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

We lift up our concerns

Congregation

Betty McNair, who fell and broke her hips. Former members of the church Visnius family, on the death of Drew Visnius, son of Jackie Vinius, who was a church elder. Deb Moler and her family on the loss of her mother, Mary Ann Huffer. Tom Ciolkosz and family on the death of his dad, Leonard. Tom Hutchison. Andy Miller. Tom Bolduc on the donor list for a heart transplant. Tom Hill with shingles.

We continue to pray for

Friends and Family

Mitch Seipt's grandfather, Jan Dinsomoor, who died on February 21st. Deb Hill's brother-in-law Chuck Hill, has Lyme's disease. The Diehls pray for their grandson, Dimas Lamp. Bob Kellogg's friend in Ohio, Michael O'Connor. Lucia Pull's friend Liz Cant in hospice.

NLC

Toni Kontos is able to continue her cancer treatment.

Joys

Chelsea Brent (new visitor) welcomed a baby girl, Beatrice, on February 20th. Mark Rohrbaugh on becoming a certified personal trainer. John Barbagallo on completing graduate studies at Shenandoah University. Clark Seipt thanks the trustees for their work on fixing/replacing the building's lights.



Community/World

The families of the shooting victims in Broward County, Florida.

Request for Help

Ann Smith's brother is waiting for a heart transplant and currently commutes to a hospital in Philadelphia. He will need transportation to a from the hospital at times when the local family is unavailable. If you can help, please contact Mike Brenton at (540) 729-0392.

The deadline for each issue of *Loaves & Fishes* is the **21st of each month**. The next deadline is MARCH 21st. Please send your submissions to Sally Brenton at Communications@standrew-pres.org.

MARCH MUSIC REHEARSALS

Choir Rehearsals, Wednesdays at 7 pm
Contact Zack Henderson, zackh900@gmail.com

New Song, Sunday mornings after the service
Contact Laurie Barbagallo 540 454-8215 or lauriewm85@hughes.net

St. Andrew Bell Ringers, Mondays at 7:15 pm
Contact Zoe Sowers 540 338-0999, zoesowers@gmail.com

Children's Choir, For Kindergarten through 5th grade.
Wednesdays at 6:15 pm in the Music Room.
Contact Zack Henderson, zackh900@gmail.com



Flower Calendar

A new flower calendar for 2018 is in the church entry way. Please consider providing flowers for Sunday worship.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Gilmore at 540-338-3154 or ngilmore5@verizon.net.



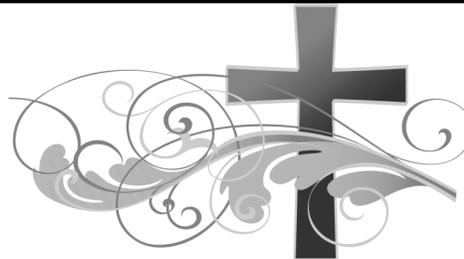
March Flower Calendar

4th	Open	11th	Semiao
18th	Open	25th	Kleck

April Flower Calendar

1st	Easter Tulips	8th	Open
15th	Open	22nd	Brenton
29th	Open		

If you would like to provide tulips for Easter Sunday services, please sign up on the clipboard in the entryway of the church. The tulips are yours to take home after the second service. Please make your checks payable to St. Andrew for \$10 per plant, with the notation "Easter Tulips". If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Gilmore - 540-338-3154 or ngilmore5@verizon.net.



SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR MARCH

Journeys Through the Bible Series:

Breaking the Power of Sin, Evil, and Death



711 W. Main Street
Purcellville, Virginia 20132
540-338-4332,
fax 540-338-4333
secretary@standrew-pres.org
www.standrew-pres.org

March 4th (Third Sunday in Lent; Pulpit Exchange; The Lord's Supper)

Theme: Racism: America's Original Sin
Scripture: Acts 9:1-22
Sermon: Pastor Michelle Thomas, Preaching
Worship Leader: Bonnie Milam
Music: St. Andrew Choir

March 11th (Fourth Sunday in Lent)

Theme: The Devil and Evil as a Spiritual Issue
Scripture: Isaiah 14:12-19; Mark 5:1-20
Sermon: *"Recovering a Spiritual World"*
Worship Leader: Kevin Burel
Music: St. Andrew Choir

March 18th (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

Theme: Addiction
Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Ephesians 6:10-12
Sermon: *"Tolkien's Ring"*

The Rev. Dr. David Milam, Pastor

The Rev. Jo Anna Rich, Children and Family Ministries Director

Kimball Peele, Clerk of Session

Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month

Worship Leader: Kim Peele

Music: St. Andrew Ringers and Choir

March 25th (Palm/Passion Sunday)

Theme: Jesus' Death
Scripture: Colossians 1:11-20; Revelation 5:6-14
Sermon: *"Breaking the Powers"*
Worship Leader: Brad Morell
Music: St. Andrew Choir