



# Loaves & Fishes

SAINT ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

OCTOBER 2019

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 21ST

## Bless This House, O Lord

Rappin' with the Rev by Pastor Dave Milam



I've been reading through the Bible this year and am at present just past the Old Testament prophetic book, Ezekiel. He's a crazy man! He sees visions that are UFO like – flying creatures with wheels in wheels and with four faces (human, lion, eagle and lamb). In order to show what's coming for unjust and recalcitrant Israel, he lies on his side for six months making a siege on a model of Jerusalem with what might well be the equivalent of the "Army guys" that kids (may or may not still) get as a toy. He sees a vision of a valley full of dry bones that come together and stand up, gaining flesh and spirit as a sign of the hope Israel should keep. And then there's his depiction of the Spirit leaving and – after an exile – returning to the Temple.

The Spirit takes the form of what is called God's *shekinah* glory. This glory is smoke-shrouded lightning and thunder, a cloud that first comes out of the Temple, hesitating beyond Jerusalem's walls and then making an abrupt turn to the beyond. Ezekiel's message is clear. God isn't with the house of Israel any longer.

After ignoring the poor, after worshipping whatever god might seem to offer a better deal, after ignoring ethics and morality, God's help is gone.

To tell the whole story, after a period of broken relationship, Ezekiel has another vision of that same Spirit, that same *shekinah* glory, returning to a new temple. Hope is restored. New life is promised.

When we think of our homes, our households, our congregation as the place where God's family meets, we might have similar visions in mind of how important it is to have the presence of God with us.

The Greek word for household is Οἶκος (Oi-kos). True to the broad meaning of household in ancient society, the household included the work of the family to provide for itself, its inner workings and its importance to the world beyond it. Its meaning is present in hidden ways in any English word that has eco- in it. "Economy" and "ecology" stem from the Greek root of Οἶκος, for instance. In other words, our economic life, whether in micro- or macro- manner,

describes what it is to live as a household. When we say that earth is our home, inviting us to concern and stewardship of the environment, we are saying that we are part of the household of God.

In the next several weeks, our Sunday services will be organized around how we might glorify God by seeking to live well in our houses. Certainly, we ought to think about our homes on our street and in our town. But also we ought to free our minds to consider how God blesses our church as God's household. In similar ways Scripture calls us to responsibility to peoples near and far who live in poverty and hunger. We are asked to hear God's creation crying out to us because of the injury it is receiving when its resources are exploited, leaving future generations with the prospect of ruin.

To help us visualize the house God promises to bless, we will put out common symbols from our houses that call us to faithfulness as God's household. A welcome mat will remind us of the practice of hospitality. A table will remind us of how our work has its good end in our gathering

for food, drink and conversation. A window will help remind us to look out onto the world which is a part of our larger home. A bed will remind us of the rest with which God blesses us through keeping a Sabbath. When God finishes the creation, God rests, giving that day off to us as a reminder that we are free people, not slaves to our jobs, money, guilt and the like.

I hope that this series evokes the vision Ezekiel had in the end, of the Spirit of God coming with a thick and fiery presence into the house made ready for God's presence. I invite you to see both how close God's presence is to us all, but also how extensive, as well. The household of God includes our family, our home, but it also extends to the creation itself with groans with longing for us humans to live into being God's children.

Yours in faith,

*Pastor Dave*

Pastor David Milam



**ADULT MINISTRIES**



**FP4H**

First Place 4 Health, a Christ-centered weight loss and healthy living program, meets every Monday evening at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. New members are always welcome. Contact Ally Fetch at 336 508-2610 or [afetch@gmail.com](mailto:afetch@gmail.com) or Deborah Hill at 540 751-9818 or [momscully@earthlink.net](mailto:momscully@earthlink.net).

**The St. Andrew Book Club**

Every book club is doing a Toni Morrison book this fall. This club doesn't want to be different. In fact, they are looking forward to it. The book under discussion will be The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison. The meeting will be held on October 27th at 7:30 pm at the home of Deb Bourget. Please contact Zoe Sowers at 540 338-0999 or [zsowers@gmail.com](mailto:zsowers@gmail.com) to join the discussion.

**Lovettsville Group**

This group meets approximately every other Sunday evening for Bible study and welcomes others to join in. The meeting place rotates among the members of the group. They are meeting just once in October on October 20th. Contact Debra Gutenson at 540 882-3205 or [guten-son50@loudounwireless.com](mailto:guten-son50@loudounwireless.com) for more information.

**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 October 5th. All men of the church are invited. To join, contact Chris Butkus if you are interested in joining ([chrisbutkus@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisbutkus@yahoo.com)).

**Brunch Bunch**

This group meets on Mondays once each month from 10:00 to 11:30 am in the church basement. The next meeting is October 21st. Their study book in a Horizons Bible Study: Love Carved in Stone—A Fresh Look at the Commandments. For more information, contact Ann Paciulli at [annpaciulli@gmail.com](mailto:annpaciulli@gmail.com).



**A Blessing for Your Pets**

Our pets are so much a part of our homes. In his book called *The Grace of Dogs*, Andrew Root tells the story of his son's prayer at the occasion of their black lab, Kirby's, passing. Kirby had been a pup just before Owen was born. Kirby had stood guard over Owen's crib, let him pull his tail and grab his fur. And always had loved this boy. Owen assured Kirby that he would see him in heaven.

A professor of theology, Root was asked that question that children ask and haunts the rest of us: "Do you *really* believe that Owen will see Kirby again?" Root answered in response: "I know in my soul - like Owen on the floor of the vet's office ... that the love of a dog is strong enough to last both in this world and in the next. No one knows for sure, but my answer is yes. The grace of God is echoed by the grace of dogs. And grace is eternal."

Affirming this sense of grace, we are inviting our church members and friends to bring their pets for a blessing. We are going to do this on Sunday morning, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the entry to the church. Pastor Dave will bless your dog, cat, parakeet, chicken, goat, even your pet snake.

We also want a picture of you and your beloved - which we will show in the 10:00 am service to follow. After the 9:00 am blessing, please return your pet home and then come back for our worship service. The children will be invited to tell us their pet's names and their favorite thing about him or her.

For those who cannot bring their horse or cat or emu to church, we would love a picture to put up for our prayer time. If you are still grieving a beloved pet who is with Kirby in heaven, then send that picture in to our office ([secretary@standrew-pres.org](mailto:secretary@standrew-pres.org)). We will put your pet's picture up on the screen during our prayer time, remembering their special meaning to you.

Just in case you might be looking for a new pet, the Loudoun County SPCA will be bringing a few pets up for adoption following the service. Blue Ridge Veterinarian will also be contributing some goodie bags.

Come join us for Bless the Animals Sunday!

**MISSION COMMITTEE**



**It's Ten Thousand Villages time!  
November 23—24**

**SIGNUP FOR YOUR TABLE TODAY!**

(After October 6, we will open this opportunity to the community at large)

Our bi-annual sale will be November 23 and 24, and we are again inviting our talented crafters to set up their own table to sell their handmade treasures. Members of the St. Andrew/NLC family will have first chance to claim a table. After October 6, we will open this opportunity to the community at large.

The Ten Thousand Villages sale will benefit a charity selected by the Mission Committee (most likely Loudoun Hunger Relief) and crafters will make a donation through the church to the same charity of \$30 or 20% of their sales (which ever they prefer).

To claim your table, contact Ibby Dickson ([edickson36@gmail.com](mailto:edickson36@gmail.com)) by Oct. 6. And, of course, reserve that weekend for volunteering to help at the sale and to get all your Christmas shopping done in one place at one time.

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**Mobile Hope**  
 Sometimes simple things can make a big difference. Mobile Hope has requested that the Mission Committee hold a socks and underwear drive. They need all sizes for male and female youth age 18 to 24. We will set out a collection bin in the narthex on October 6th. We will continue collecting until October 20th. This is such a basic need that most of us can afford to take for granted. Please help Mobile Hope provide for these young people.  
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**Items of the Month Suggestion**

loudoun hunger relief

**October ---**

**Cereal Items, Oatmeal and Breakfast foods.**

Not sure what to donate? Each month the Mission Committee will have a suggestion. Thank you for your continued support with this important Mission!

**Thanksgiving Baskets**

We will be collecting Thanksgiving food items mid-October through early November. Watch the bulletin for more information.



# Family NIGHT at

SAINT ANDREW  
Presbyterian Church

## KICKOFF PICNIC & POTLUCK

Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>  
6:00pm

Deli Sandwich Bar and Drinks will be provided.

**What to bring:** Dessert or side dish to share, and CHAIR.

Dinner will be served at 6:00pm followed by play time at the park and family fellowship.

*Join us for this midweek gathering where you can reconnect and recharge with your St. Andrew Family and Friends!*

*Dinner at 6:00pm, followed by activities for kids and adults  
6:30pm - 7:30pm.*



FREE FAMILY FUN!  
Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>  
5:30PM – 7:00 PM

Please consider signing up to decorate your trunk and hand out goodies (nut-free candy, small toys, etc.) You'll need to be set up by 5:30 pm. Plan on up to 150 kids visiting your trunk.

Individuals or church groups are welcome to sign up.

There will be moon bounce, a face painter, a balloon artist, food and a trunk load of fun!

NOTE: No scary or gory costumes or decorations, please. And NO nuts!



# SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE

## Youth Fall Kickoff

Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>  
6:00pm – 8:00pm

**Bring a Friend!**

A fun gathering for Middle and High School Youth!

Session is excited to announce that the vision, goals, and objectives for St. Andrew were finalized and approved during the September 2019 meeting. The updated vision reflects feedback from the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) conducted in 2018 and includes worship as an area of focus for our beloved church family. More information will be forthcoming, but if you have any questions, please reach out to a member of Session..

## St. Andrew's Vision, Goals, and Strategic Objectives

### Vision

*At this moment in time, God is calling St. Andrew Presbyterian Church to be an open, welcoming and accepting community of faith. Christ is our center, children are our future, and service is our mission. Responding to God's grace, we are committed to be the church, worshipping God together, as we nurture seeds of faith, love our neighbor and embrace*

**Goal 1 - WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER:** Deepen and strengthen our connection with and commitment to God through intentionally gathering to worship and praise.

*Objective 1.* Offer well-organized opportunities for worship that are exceptional in both quality and spiritual content.

*Objective 2.* Challenge ourselves and our congregation to encounter God in creative, unique and meaningful ways.

*Objective 3.* Identify and nurture ways that worship helps us nurture seeds of faith, love our neighbor and embrace the stranger.

**Goal 2 - NURTURE SEEDS OF FAITH:** Learn and embody our faith so that we can live out faithfulness to Christ, flourishing as human beings.

*Objective 1.* Define a framework of Christian formation, rooted in the biblical story and that serves all ages.

*Objective 2.* Develop, implement and advertise a full spectrum of St. Andrew programs and activities that teach the Biblical story and provide opportunities to live out faith.

*Objective 3.* Broadcast the "Good News" of Jesus beyond the walls of St Andrew.

*Objective 4.* Develop congregational capabilities to share about how their faith makes life worth living in intentional ways.

**Goal 3 - LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR:** Bear a witness to Jesus Christ through more intentionally focused acts of service within the congregation, into our community and our world.

*Objective 1.* Establish specific, intentional and focused mission partners locally and globally.

*Objective 2.* Develop opportunities for congregational members to connect to service projects and mission endeavors.

*Objective 3.* Encourage one another to boldly stretch beyond their comfort zone to discover and be responsive to Christ's call near and far.

*Objective 4.* Continue to engage members of other faiths and denominations through face-to-face encounters.

**Goal 4 - EMBRACE THE STRANGER:** Grow our witness through community engagement, and by acts of hospitality that convert visitors to friends and members.

*Objective 1.* Be intentional towards inviting others to participate in St. Andrew Presbyterian worship and church life.

*Objective 2.* Become better known by our community and as for our community.

*Objective 3.* Engage NLC Families.

*Objective 4.* Engage the NLC staff as ambassadors of St. Andrew to NLC families.



**BRIAN GANZ**  
 In **"CLAZZICAL PROJECT"**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 @ 4PM**  
 Concert proceeds will benefit  
 Community Coalition of Haiti (CCH)  
 Presented By Music With a Cause

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- Happy Anniversary this month to:*
- 3 Charlie and Erin Schwieger
  - 17 Chris and Megan Butkus
  - 21 Rusty and Karen Ray
  - 27 Craig and Donna Greco  
Geoff and Lottie Kohl
- Happy Birthday this month to:*
- 1 Andrew Ciolkosz  
Parker Gondella  
Sarah Sassak
  - 2 Sally Brenton  
Yvette Evans
  - 3 Nancy Gilmore  
Brian McGranahan  
Mackenzie Moler
  - 6 Seamus Wade
  - 7 Bailey Evans  
Priscilla O'Donnell
  - 8 George Cassutto
  - 11 Matt Evans
  - 12 Ibby Dickson
  - 13 Christine Ronan
  - 14 Alexis Lutz
  - 15 Charles Trickey
  - 16 Betty Wiley
  - 18 Aiden Read  
Branson Stroop
  - 20 Benjamin Carpenter  
Bennett Kohl  
Kirsten Shields
  - 23 Bradley Morell  
Ethan Morell
  - 24 Ann Paciulli
  - 26 Brady Ronan
  - 28 Tyler Marquardt  
Suzanne Wade
  - 29 Dottie Stewart
  - 30 Manny Njomo  
Jack Sassak  
Finn Wade
  - 31 Andie Broskevitch

## LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

**We lift up our concerns**

### Congregation

Melissa Macdonald. Kristin Westfall, Kara Marquardt. Dan Miner. Jeff and the Kauffman family for the death of Raye Ann Kauffman. Bob Bousman. Pamela Schmidt. Betty Willis. June and Tom Hutchison. Tom Bolduc. Betty McNair. The family of Anna Kramer upon her death (Kramers, Diehls, Yurishes). Maureen Blake on the death of her mother.

**We continue to pray for**

### Friends and Family

Bonnie Milam for her mom, Sally Johnson who is on a waiting list for an apartment in an independent living complex. Priscilla O'Donnell for the Witten family whose 11-year-old son, Mason died of leukemia. Matthew Falter's aunt, Mary Kay (Falter) Dyer passed away. Virginia LaBahn for 1-year-old great-nephew, Jason with leukemia. Deborah Gutenson for friend, Ingrid home after surgery, John Howard for his boss, Tom Hubert whose nieces were hit and killed by driver in Dayton, OH. Louise Howard for friend Jermaine Connolly who was injured in a car accident. Barbara Sesene for thyroid. Marj Diehl for Erlin Paredes, RN volunteering at the border to help with migrants. June Hutchison for daughter, Kim Butler's foot surgery. Kathi Hottinger for Kathi's former co-worker, Casey



Carr from Winchester who is going through ovarian cancer, had surgery and chemo to follow. Also, Youth Pastor from her former church, Lauren Noelle is on bed rest for preeclampsia. Deb Hill for friend Debbie Hyatt, diagnosed with breast cancer. Suzanne Wade's brother, Randy Smith diagnosed with Colon Cancer. The Diehl's cousin, Pat Oest has breast cancer. Kate Rohrbaugh's dad, Donald Goddard with Parkinson's disease.

The deadline for each issue of *Loaves & Fishes* is the **21st of each month**. The next deadline is **OCTOBER 21st**. Please send your submissions to Sally Brenton at [sbrenton@rstarmail.com](mailto:sbrenton@rstarmail.com).

## OCTOBER MUSIC REHEARSALS

**Choir Rehearsals, Wednesdays at 7 pm**  
Contact Zack Henderson, [zackh900@gmail.com](mailto:zackh900@gmail.com)

**New Song, Sunday mornings before the service**  
Contact Laurie Barbagallo 540 454-8215 or [lauriewm85@hughes.net](mailto:lauriewm85@hughes.net)

**St. Andrew Bell Ringers, Mondays at 7:15 pm**  
Contact Zoe Sowers 540 338-0999, [zoesowers@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:zackh900@gmail.com)

## Flower Calendar

If you would like to provide flowers to decorate the sanctuary, please sign up on the Flower Calendar in the entryway. Purcellville Florist will deliver the flowers to the church in time for the Sunday service if you order from them. Of course, you are free to bring in your own arrangements or get them elsewhere. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Gilmore at 540-338-3154 or [ngilmore5@verizon.net](mailto:ngilmore5@verizon.net).



### October Flower Calendar

6th	Wiley	13th	Open
20th	Open	27th	Open

### November Flower Calendar

3rd	Open	10th	Open
17th	Open	24th	Open

## Experience the Holy Land Israel/Palestine Summer trip 2020

Pastor Dave invites you to join him on a trip to Israel/Palestine next summer in June. You will visit holy sites and experience the different realities of Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities in the midst of a conflict zone, and witness firsthand the deep faith and vibrant cultures of the Holy Land. The trip is open to all church members, friends, and family. The cost is between \$3,380 and \$3,840 per person which includes airfare and all expenses in Israel.

## SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR OCTOBER

### Sermon Series: Bless This House, O Lord

#### **October 6<sup>th</sup> (World Communion Sunday; The Lord's Supper)**

Scriptures: Psalm 127:1-3; Genesis 28:10-22; Ephesians 2:19-22

Theme: Household

Symbol: The Welcome Mat

Sermon: *"God the Economist"*

Worship Leader: Josh Shields

Music: St. Andrew Choir

#### **October 13<sup>th</sup> (Bless the Animals Sunday)**

Scriptures: Psalm 133; Deuteronomy 24:17-22; Luke 7:36-50;

Revelation 2:17

Theme: Memory

Symbol: Oil

Sermon: *"Remembering Our Names"*

Worship Leader: Deann Ashby

Music: St. Andrew Choir

#### **October 20<sup>th</sup>**

Scriptures: Psalm 84; John 13:1-20

Theme: Service

Symbol: The Towel

Sermon: *"Where's a Towel When You Need One?"*



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The Rev. Dr. David Milam, Pastor

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

Marcia Owens, Clerk of Session

Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month

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Worship Leader: Marj Diehl

Music: St. Andrew Ringers

#### **October 27<sup>th</sup> (New Member Reception)**

Scriptures: Psalm 126; Numbers 20:1-13; Isaiah 55:1-2; John 4:7-15

Theme: Budget

Symbol: The Check Book

Sermon: *"Balancing Well"*

Worship Leader: Stacy Newton

Music: New Song and the St. Andrew Choir