

DECEMBER 2019



The CHATTER

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church

1901 Archdale Drive

Charlotte, NC 28210

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PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

Sunday Mornings in December

"Almost Christmas: A Wesleyan Advent Experience"

Christmas Tree Lighting. Sunday, December 1st, at 4:00 p.m. in the Church Parking Lot. We will have a fire pit, inflatables, a mobile petting zoo, singing, crafts and a huge tree to light up! This is a great community event that is fun for all ages!

A Blue Christmas: A Service of Wholeness and Healing. Sunday, December 8th, at 4:00 p.m. In the Sanctuary. Blue Christmas? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in "I am feeling blue." Not everyone is up and cheery for the Christmas holidays. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people. On Sunday, December 8th, St. Andrew's UMC will host a service of hope and healing to welcome those in our congregation and community who are in need of a space to reflect upon what has been and what is and look with hope towards what will be.

Neighborhood Christmas Caroling. Friday, December 13th, at 6:00 p.m. Carpool From Church Parking Lot.

Christmas Lessons and Carols. Sunday, December 15th, at 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Family Life Center and Sanctuary.

Las Posadas. Come be a part of Las Posadas "The Inns" on Sunday, December 22nd, at 12:30 p.m. following the Traditional Service. This is a program in which we begin in the vestibule of the FLC and continue on the journey to Bethlehem with Joseph and Mary for the birth of our Savior. We will be in a procession, stopping at several "inns" until we find the one who has a stable for shelter. There will be singing, reading, and dancers as we celebrate the coming of Jesus into our world. After the program, please join us for a lunch in the Family Life Center. It will be served by our Cross-Cultural Ladies and Gentlemen. This is a glorious and most sacred journey. Everyone is invited to come.

CHRISTMAS EVE. Paper Bag Pageant. Join us on Tuesday, December 24th, at 4:00 p.m. for a wonderful time of celebrating the birth of Jesus. This will be a great time for families of all sizes, shapes, and ages to come and celebrate together.

Traditional Candlelight Service at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Combined Carol Service. Sunday, December 29th, at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

And Coming in January 2020

The Gospel According to Mr. Rogers.

**Follow Jesus.
Make
Disciples.
Transform
the World.**

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



UPDATE ON THE ARCHDALE COMMUNITY CENTER

For many years, St. Andrew's UMC has welcomed its neighbors, e.g., AA, YMCA, neighborhood associations, etc. that were looking for a facility to serve our community. As this activity has increased through a collaboration of partners in recent years, the genesis of an idea was born. Our facility is a tremendous community asset that has been entrusted to us by God to serve our community. Is there a way to leverage our facility and our passion to serve this community to meet more of the needs of our neighbors? The leaders of St. Andrew's embarked on a journey around 18 months ago to determine if creating a separate, legal entity could offer an avenue to expand our outreach to the community.

I am happy to report that we have reached our first milestone in this journey. We have received notification that The Archdale Community Center has been recognized by the IRS as a separate non-profit organization established for charitable purposes. The hope is that this action will allow us to expand funding sources beyond religious and denominational support to further efforts such as Freedom School and other outreach into the Montclaire and surrounding neighborhoods.

There have been some misunderstandings about where we are in the process and what it may mean for our future. Let me offer a few insights that I hope will help allay some concerns:

1. This step to create a separate entity, The Archdale Community Center, was a necessary step in evaluating paths to expand our outreach. It does not cede any facility or portion of St. Andrew's to any other entity.
2. This step, or our development of a future plan, does not set us on a path to "rent" out portions of St. Andrew's to anyone that makes a reservation. Partners would need to comply with our facility use policies and seek to serve our community in a manner consistent with our standards.
3. Having The Archdale Community Center as a separate legal entity does open a path to seek and hopefully receive funds that will support our current and future outreach activities, but it is not a "money tree". We are hopeful that it will lessen the burden of our facility's operational and administrative oversight costs, however we can't and don't expect to pay our normal church costs through these funds.

In early 2020, we will have several forums for everyone to come and learn more about the possibilities this may have for ministries and programs at St. Andrew's. An initial committee will meet in the coming weeks to begin conversation about how The Archdale Community Center best fits with our ongoing ministries and activities and fulfills our role as a safe haven and beacon of light to a community in need. At the heart of this work is our call to welcome, engage, and develop a relationship with our neighbors so that we might "offer them Christ".

As we begin the next steps in this process, we look forward to sharing our progress and gaining your input. For now, we cherish your prayers as we begin, and we look forward to discussing more details in the coming months.

Yours in Christ,
David W. Lisk, Sr.

The CHATTER

CHILDREN'S NEWS



If you would like to volunteer or need more information about any of the announcements for Children's Ministry, please contact Sherry Jackson at ChildrensMinistry@standrewsumc.com or 704-553-1327, Ext 103. Office: (Room #7)



SPAM BLESSING BAGS. Our KICK kids had a great time filling Blessing Spam Bags for those in need. We made 43 complete bags and have 22 more started! Thank you to all who donated to help the kids work on this project. We will be making more in the future and if you would like to make donations towards filling future bags, you may drop off supplies in the children's ministry office (Room #7).



K.I.C.K. EXPRESSIONS (Kid's In Christ's Kingdom)

For kids in Kindergarten thru Grade 5. All kids are invited to join us on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. during our Wednesday night meal and program. Our time together will include music, scripture, games, and activities.

CHILDREN'S COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, December 10th, at 12:30 p.m. in the Commons Room #1.

We will be making plans for what children's ministry will be doing over the next couple of months. If you would like to help make plans or come and help us with our activities, please let Sherry Jackson or Courtney Picha know! We would love to have you share your ideas!

SUNDAY SCHOOL has gotten off to a great start! We have great and dedicated teachers who help share the message of God's love to young curious minds. If you are interested in becoming a part of our teaching team or substitute when a teacher needs to be out, please contact Sherry Jackson at childrensministry@standrewsumc.com.



CHURCH NEWS



PROJECT HARMONY CHRISTMAS CONCERT.

**MONDAY,
DECEMBER 9TH
AT 5:30 P.M.
IN THE FAMILY LIFE
CENTER.**



ADVENTURES IN LEARNING AND BREAKFAST PROGRAM.

On Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. until noon in the Family Life Center, and in rooms #23, #28, and #29. We welcome children from ages 18 months to 4 years old. Special parenting classes are included. For more information, call Pastor David Ortigoza or Phyllis at 704-553-1327, ext. 107.



JOIN PROJECT HARMONY, a FREE after-school orchestra program sponsored by Charlotte Symphony and Arts +, for 2nd to 5th grade students. This year, we will meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m. **Volunteers are needed from 3:30-3:45 p.m.** Please consider being a substitute or regular volunteer on either of these days. Contact Phyllis Lazenby at 704-756-3139 or at ccmsaumc@gmail.com.

BULLETIN BOARD



ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS CARDS.

The Mission Committee is providing our church members the opportunity to give a gift of service this Christmas. Alternative Christmas cards are given to honor or in memory of someone special. Donations support an organization within the church or the community. Checks may be made out to St. Andrew's UMC. Please write your charity choice(s) on your check on the "for" line. Be on the lookout for cards in the Narthex.



United Methodist Women

THANK YOU. The Susanna Circle recently collected and donated 27 coats to Montclaire Elementary during our Annual Coat Drive! THANK YOU to the many of you that cleaned out your closets and purchased new coats to donate to the children of Montclaire. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

SUSANNA CIRCLE MEETING Sunday, December 1st, at 12:30 p.m. in Room #18.

MARY/MARTHA CIRCLE MEETING will meet on Tuesday, December 10th, at noon for lunch at Plantation Estates. Hosted by Shirley Tripp and Linda Collins. For more information, contact Shirley Tripp at 704-577-6294.

RUTH CIRCLE - CHRISTMAS COVERD-DISH Tuesday, December 10th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall #2, #5.

OUR UNITED METHODIST WOMEN are collecting Country Time Lemonade in 5 lb. 2.5 oz. size. These are used once a month when our United Methodist Women go to Urban Ministries to share a cup of lemonade and a smile. Help support our women with this ministry area. Containers labeled for UMW/Urban Ministries, may be left on the counter in the Archdale Kitchen (Room #5).



HARVESTERS. On Thursday, December 5th, Harvesters will meet in the Commons Room #1 at 10:30 a.m. Come be a part of our seniors gathering and program. The St. Andrew's Preschool children will entertain us with their Christmas program. Afterwards, we will enjoy a delicious meal. Invite a friend to join in the fun. Please remember to bring non-perishable food and grocery bags for Loaves and Fishes. Thank you for helping provide food for those in need.



LOAVES AND FISHES. Please consider picking up a few extra items of canned and non-perishable food to donate to this worthy cause each time you shop for groceries. Items may be placed in the grocery cart labeled Loaves and Fishes located in the Narthex. Thank you for your generosity in supplying much needed food.

GET INVOLVED



COMING SOON- MARIMBA CLASSES.

On November 17th, we had the great joy of hearing our new marimba offered in worship. Thanks be to God for His provision of such a special gift; and for bringing us an expert, Steve Chavez of Albuquerque, NM, who lovingly made our marimba ready for use in worship and offered beautiful music to celebrate. It is our hope that this treasured instrument will become a regular part of our worship services here at St. Andrew's, and also a part of our wider neighborhood. If you were able to attend the class given by Steve following worship, then you will know that this marimba has the ability to bring together people of all ages and musical abilities. We will soon be offering a series of classes to learn how to play our new marimba and all are welcome to come. Be on the lookout early in the new year for details, and get in touch with Sara (churchmusic@standrewsumc.com) or Cathy (musicassoc@standrewsumc.com) if you're interested.



UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY SPECIAL OFFERING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST.

Your generous gift supports United Methodist Student Day scholarships, administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. When you give, you enrich ministry and help connect students to their faith. Thank you for your donation.



OUR 16TH SEASON OF ROOM IN THE INN (MINISTRY FOR THE HOMELESS) BEGINS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12TH. The sign-up board is available in the FLC and in the Narthex. We have been very blessed that the Lord has brought this ministry to St. Andrew's for all of these years. There are many ways

you can volunteer; and will find yourself blessed to have done so. Please review the sign-up board for details as to the different areas where help is needed. We assemble toiletry bags to leave on each Neighbor's cot with donations of the following items currently needed: Small (travel size) deodorants, tooth paste, tooth brushes, and socks. Contacts are John Patrick and Larry Morris.

Hebrews 13:2 says: "Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it." Your prayerful consideration to serve in this ministry is greatly appreciated.



PRESCHOOL SOUP SUNDAY Please stop by on Sunday, December 15th, and purchase a container of chicken chili soup in the Narthex. Containers of this delicious soup are \$8.00 each. Proceeds will go towards our Preschool. Mark your calendar for these additional sale dates: 2020 dates: January 12th, February 9th, and March 15th.

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21



The CHATTER

STAYING IN TOUCH

ST. ANDREW'S UMC IS A PRAYING CHURCH.

Our prayer concerns will reset monthly. Prayer request can be made by completing a blue prayer card located in the pews in the Sanctuary, or by emailing the church office at churchoffice@standrewsumc.com or Sherry Council at Sherrybc@carolina.rr.com.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For our family and friends. Phyllis Lazenby's niece, Sarah Cope; Jim Smith; Bill Greene; Milly Ash; Nicole Campbell's friend, Doreen Norris; Joyce and Gene Henney; France Nettles' brother, Bud Stewart; Tammy Thompson's father, Tom Thompson, and kindergartner Clay Jensen; Chris Picha's father, Buddy; and Sallie Eskew.

Pray for our homebound members and members who are able to attend occasionally: Anne Friese; Dot Kille; Carolina Crabtree; Joyce Middleton; and Bonnie White.

Condolences to Sara Terrell and her family on the death of her grandmother, Frances Odell, on Friday, October 18th.

Congratulations. Stephanie and Stephen Love are the proud parents of baby girl Palmer Elizabeth Love, born Sunday, November 17th. Grandparents are: Kim and Jimmy Bradley; great aunt and uncle – Debbie and Jonathan Marshall.



1 Carol Hudgins	9 Jacob Davis	22 Suzette Grist
1 Glenda Lawson-Treadway	11 Ginny Grisdale	25 Miguel Pivaral
3 Robin Rea	11 Gail Thorne	26 Kim Pridgeon
4 Corey Joines	11 Cassidy Wolf	27 Chris Brown, Jr.
4 Gilly Shepherd	12 Richard Council	27 Michael Doriani
4 Yamilet Villatoro	13 Libby Patton	27 Christine Jolley
5 David Patton	12 Susan Saunders	27 Jacob Plaisted
5 James Pendleton	17 Scott Hughes	28 Jane Battin
6 Jim Harris	19 Russ Thorne	28 Carol Kingsmore
6 Glenda Patton	19 Brenda Turbyfill	29 Alex Kendall, Jr.
7 Dianne Kindlick	20 Joan Hileman	29 Teresa Taber
7 Jonathan Marshall	21 Larry Carella	30 Cember Carella
7 Tammy Tokarz	21 Christopher Maher	30 Herb Johnson
9 Nicole Campbell	22 Si Davis III	31 Susan Maxson
	22 Evelyn Farrar	31 Ann Whichard

2019 Schedule

Family Life Center Service Coffee

December 1	Penny Bryant
December 8	Penny Bryant
December 15	Penny Bryant
December 22	Penny Bryant
December 29	Penny Bryant

Recycle Pickup

December	George and Jolene White
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Trustee Church Sunday Lock-up

December	Allen Jackson
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Usher Schedule

December Team Leader	George White Larry Carella Cember Carella Larry Collins Linda Collins
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ST. ANDREW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF

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**NEXT CHATTER DEADLINE - DECEMBER 11TH AT NOON
SUNDAY BULLETIN AND THURSDAY EMAIL DEADLINE EVERY TUESDAY AT NOON**
Please send your Chatter/Bulletin information, inserts, etc. to: churchchatter@standrewsumc.com