



Weekly CHATTER

DECEMBER 20, 2020
**THIS SUNDAY WORSHIP
ONLINE ONLY.**

CHURCH NEWS

WORSHIP UPDATE. This Sunday, December 20th, will be a special online-only service of Las Posadas led in large part by our Cross-Cultural family. December 27th, will be online as well as Epiphany Sunday, January 3rd. We trust that as you gather with family and friends, you will include us in those gatherings, and worship together.

Christmas Eve we will be in our Sanctuary for two in-person services at 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. as well as online at 7:00 p.m. Reservations are required for the in-person services.

For those planning to participate in online worship on Christmas Eve, kits will be available for pick-up from the church office on Monday, December 21st - Wednesday, December 23rd. The kit will include battery-operated votives and fellowship cups for use in the online service as well as a special activity for you and your family. You can also call the church office and we'll make arrangements to get them delivered to you if needed.

Save your place by RSVP at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090948abab2ca02-standrews>

or by calling the church office at 704-553-1327. Sign-ups are limited to 60 congregants and 15 worship leaders for each service.



JOIN SARA AND FRIENDS FOR A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION!

Wednesday, December 16th, at 7:00 p.m. Singing, devotion, and prayer on our Facebook Live! page:

<https://www.facebook.com/St.AndrewsUMC.Charlotte>.

Special guests will include: the Rev. Caroline East, Chaplain at Sharon Towers; Jimmy New; Jacob Plaisted; Kevin Ward; the St. Andrew's Ringers; the Chancel Choir; Ginger Wyrick; and more. Come celebrate Christmas with us!

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE.

December 27th - The 1st Sunday of Christmas - Worship online at 10:00 a.m. via our Facebook page and Zoom connections. (It will be a special worship service from the Western NC Conference UMC.) The connection link will be in next week's Chatter and on the church's website on December 26th.

PRAYER VIGIL. St. Andrew's UMC will be praying in the new year! From Wednesday, December 30th, to Thursday, December 31st, we will have a 24-hour prayer vigil! Please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/SAUMCprayer> for a 30-minute slot (or two) and help us pray in 2021! Questions? Please email Kevin Ward at kjw2517@gmail.com or Pam Bame at pambame@gmail.com.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL is available online for download and self-printing at www.standrewsumc.com; viewable daily at <https://saumcadventdevo.blogspot.com> as well as on our St. Andrew's UMC Facebook page; and printed copies are available at the church.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

WHAT'S COMING UP? WINTER VBS! Please join us in January as we host a Winter Vacation Bible School entitled "Knights of North Castle". We are planning to meet in person as well as online. **Donations are needed as we begin preparing for this event.** **We need:** Brown craft paper rolls, clear zip ties, white tulle, polyester fiberfill, aluminum foil, rectangle plastic tablecloths (purple, light blue or lime green). And if you are getting rid of your old artificial tree, we can use that too. Email Sherry Jackson at childrensministry@standrewsumc.com for more information. You may drop your tree off at the church or make arrangements to have it picked it up. Thank you.



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

How has God sustained you this year? How has he blessed you this year?

We've asked members how they'd describe St. Andrew's in one word, and we've heard responses like supportive, caring, connected, family. What would you say? 2020 has certainly shown us that our church is not a building!

God has helped our staff and members find creative ways to serve our community through online worship services, drive-by birthday celebrations, take home worship & VBS kits, online Bible studies, virtual learning kits, sharing our building for afterschool care, providing safe outdoor gatherings to meet the community while supporting small businesses and partner ministries, and many other opportunities for us to be the church. In all these activities, it is God's faithfulness that has shone through. It is through His strength that we are able to serve others.

As we approach the end of the year, we hope that you have been able to see a blessing through God's sustaining faithfulness. We invite you to consider giving a year-end financial gift in response to this blessing so that St. Andrew's may continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community. Gifts, which can be given on line at www.standrewsumc.com or mailed to the church office, are needed by December 30th to complete processing by year-end. Thank you for helping us see the Word come alive at St. Andrew's.

In Christ, Lisa & Thomas Pool
Stewardship Committee

CONDOLENCES. Alan Davis passed from the church militant to the church triumphant on Monday, December 14, 2020. A memorial service is in planning for after the Christmas holidays. Details will be announced at that time. Please keep Alan's family in your prayers.



Alan Davis



20 Joan Hileman
21 Larry Carella
21 Christopher Maher
22 Si Davis III
22 Evelyn Farrar
22 Suzette Grist
25 Miguel Pivaral
26 Kim Pridgeon

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 20
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Las Posadas - Online

DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVE
First Service - 5:30 p.m.
In-Person, Sanctuary.
Online - 7:00 p.m.
Second Service 8:00 p.m.
In-Person, Sanctuary.

DECEMBER 27
Western North Carolina
Conference United
Methodist Church Service
Online.

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

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
CHURCH HOURS:**
The church office will be
closed on Christmas Eve,
Thursday, December 24th,
and Christmas Day,
Friday, December 25th.

SCRIPTURE LESSON
Luke 2:28-32 (NLT)

Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"