August 9, 2026

Weekly Chatter

1901 Archdale Dr., Charlotte, NC 28210 www.standrewsumc.com 704-553-1327

PASTOR NOTES
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

Evangelism Sermon Series: "The Wesleyan Way of Sharing Faith".

This Week: *"A Journey We Begin"*

This week, we continued our sermon series on evangelism with **"A Journey We Begin"**, based on ***John 15:1–5***. Jesus reminds us, ***"Abide in me as I abide in you."*** The Christian life is not simply about beginning our faith journey; it is about continuing to walk with Christ each day. John Wesley understood that we were never meant to make this journey alone. The early Methodists gathered in small groups to pray, study Scripture, encourage one another, serve their neighbors, and ask the important question, "How is it with your soul?"

Our lives are often filled with distractions that can pull our attention away from God. Busy schedules, phones, worries, and the demands of everyday life can leave little room for Christ. Yet God continues to pour His grace into our lives. The question is whether we are making room to receive it. This week, I invite you to come back to the cup—to slow down, abide in Christ, and allow His love to fill and transform you. And as we grow together as a church family, may the life of Christ overflow from us into the lives of our neighbors and our community. Let us continue the journey together.

~Peace and grace,
Pastor Norma

WEDNESDAYS:
AUGUST 12TH, 19TH, and 26TH.
FROM 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.
IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER.
Join us for loads of fun. All skill levels are welcome. Bring a friend. Please use the Emerywood Dr. entrance.

89+ BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

Please shower Nell Smith **(Friday, August 14th)** with cards on her special day. Cards may be sent to:
Nell Smith
1020 Camborne Place
Charlotte, NC 28210-3748

Join us for a morning of encouragement, conversation, and community with other men.

MONTCLAIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

needs shoes (tennis shoes) for elementary aged children, sizes 1-6. Please leave your donations in the Narthex (bin marked for Montclaire) by **Sunday, August 16th.**

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE.
Like to help support our Montclaire Teachers?

You can by donating school supplies. Scan the QR code to purchase from our supply list. Items may be dropped off, in the green bin located in the Narthex by **Thursday, August 20th**. Thank you for making a difference!

BACK TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Help us welcome teachers and staff back to school by baking a casserole for our **"Back to School Breakfast"**! Sign up sheet available in the Narthex.

Questions?
Contact Glenda Patton at
gbpatton@earthlink.net

CELEBRATION OF LIFE.

Norma Dowless's memorial service will be held at St. Andrew's UMC on **Saturday, August 8th**, at **2:00 p.m.** Visitation will follow in the Commons Room (#1). We hope to see you there. Norma passed on Sunday, June 21, 2026.

Condolences to the family of **Pat Parker** who passed away on **Thursday, July 23, 2026.** Funeral service will be held on **Monday, August 10th** at **1:00 p.m.** at St. Andrew's UMC in the Sanctuary. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Christine Jelley passed away on **July 12, 2026**. Her memorial service will be held at St. Andrew's UMC on **Saturday, August 15th,** at **2:00 p.m.** Visitation will follow in the Commons Room (#1). Please continue to keep her family in your prayers.

PRAYERS TO THE FAMILY OF Russell Ott, who passed away on **Monday, August 3, 2026**. He was the son of Hampton and Gladys Ott (both deceased) and sister Ann Gaston. A graveside service will be held at:

Andrews Chapel UMC
Andrews Chapel Road
off of Highway 6
St. Matthews, SC 29135

NEW ADDRESS.
Freddy and Nance Holtkamp
Brookdale Senior Living
5515 Rea Road
Charlotte, NC 28226

AUGUST Birthdays

9 Blane Barnes
14 Nell Smith

WORSHIP SERVICE
AUGUST 9, 2026
9:15 a.m.
Intercessary
Prayer Service #18.

10:00 a.m.
Worship in the Sanctuary.
"A Journey We Begin"
John 15:1-5

11:11 a.m.
Small Group Gathering.

No Youth Group Meeting.

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

GIVE ONLINE/ OFRENDAR EN LINE.

Our QR code will take you to SECURE GIVING/ Nuestro código QR lo llevará a DONACIONES SEGURAS.

WEEKLY CHATTER DEADLINE.
Do you have information you wish to run in the Weekly Chatter? Please submit your copy, photos, etc. **on or before each Monday by noon.** Please email Patti Huss at: churchchatter@standrewsumc.com or call the church office at 704-553-1327.

CAMP TEKOA
HENDERSONVILLE, NC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
CELEBRATING OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY
CAMP TEKOA!

Did you know that St. Andrew's UMC was the first church to host a family weekend at CampTekoa? I didn't! I just knew that my family ALWAYS went to Camp Tekoa on Labor Day weekend. We would like to make this year a reunion and a time to share memories from our past years at Camp Tekoa. We hope you will be able to join us the Labor Day weekend, September 4th-7th! The cost for the weekend is $150 per person. If you join us just for the day it is $20 per person, plus the cost of any meals. Click THIS LINK: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdV6HNK8rSbfQWkB_N_ZPMJnNkObN96APMk6waK7rmNIJ95KA/viewform to access the registration form and for more information.

If you have any questions, reach out to Brian Dowless: dowlessbrian@aol.com or Katie Patton: mary.patton822@gmail.com

Weekly Chatter

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FINANCIAL REPORT

We are halfway through the year; and as of June 2026 our total money received has been **$263,400**. A total of **$259,800** has been spent leaving a **surplus** of **$3,600**. This surplus is $2,000 better than our budget. This surplus has **reduced** our deficit carried over from 2025 to **$57,750**.

Our **Congregational giving** to the operating budget is down **$17,000** from budget. The budgeted giving has stayed the same as 2025 plus a slight increase. Instead, giving has **dropped 5%** from 2025.

We have **two unbudgeted positives** that have helped money received. **Giving for Major Repairs** has totaled **$15,800** and we received **sales tax refunds** of **$13,300**. These sales tax refunds came mostly from all the sales tax we paid for major repairs in 2025. Building Use income is under budget due to timing of some receipts. We should catch up and be back over budget in July.

Property Management is **over budget** by **$11,700** primarily due to higher utilities, custodial costs, and building maintenance. This amount over budget has been offset by reduced spending in all other budget areas to bring us down to just $3,300 over budget.

Thank you to all who support the church. Without you, we could not carry out the ministries of the church and our ministry partners. If you are not giving to the church, I encourage you to start giving to help spread the **Light of Christ** to our neighbors. Every little bit helps when combined together.

If you would like to have additional information or have questions, please contact Tom Patton at tjpatton@earthlink.net.

~Tom Patton
for the Finance Committee

JESUS Lights the Way

MARK YOUR CALENDAR.

BOOK CLUB. Join us on **Friday, September 11th,** at **6:30 p.m.** at the home of Nicole Campbell (1617 Lyndale Place, Charlotte). We will be decussing the book **"One Italian Summer"** by **Rebecca Serles.** All are welcome. Invite a friend. Gail Lewyn has some copies to share if you need one. Contact Gail at: flamingo_gail@hotmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS. Interested in spreading God's word to our children? Grades: K-2nd, 3th-5th, and 6th-9th need Sunday School teachers. Contact Pastor Norma at: pastornorma@standrewsumc.com if you would like to make a difference in our children's spiritual lives.

CHURCH OFFICE: Would you like to volunteer to man the front desk in the Narthex? We are looking for someone to help out on **Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** Please contact **Gail Reynolds, Office Manager, at 704-553-1327** if you are interested in helping out.

ATTENTION HARVESTERS!

I am pleased to welcome three new members to our Harvester cooking team — **Nicole Campbell, Gail Lewyn,** and **Myra Huntley**, who will join our existing members, **Vicki Robinson** and **Jolene White**. Thank you, ladies, for stepping up when we called for help!

Please note - THERE WILL BE NO HARVESTER MEETING IN SEPTEMBER. The first Thursday is the day before our big church 50th reunion at Camp Tekoa, and many people are involved in preparing for that event.

We will begin our fall Harvester meetings on the first Thursday of October (10/1/26), at 11:00 a.m. I hope to see you then!! **(Also, please watch your mailbox for a letter from me.)** ~Regards, Sue Bullock

nourish up

NO CHILD SHOULD HAVE TO GO TO BED HUNGRY. Many children need help being fed during the summer months. Please donate non-perishable items or give financially to **Nourish Up** here at St. Andrew's UMC. $1.00 = to 4 pounds of food. If you have any questions about this organization, please see Bill Robinson.

FROM THE DESK OF MUSIC TOM:

Choir

BELL CHOIR

Our Director of Music and Worship Arts, Tom Lyons, a/k/a Music Tom, has a weekly blog related to worship! Check out his musings by scanning here or the following church's website: www.standrewsumc.com.

NOTES: