



weekly Chatter

Februaury 16, 2025

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

WORSHIP UPDATES SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16th.

I've shared before that the many folks believe the shortest verse in scripture is "Jesus wept" found in **John 11:35**. But the shortest verse (according to my New Testament professors) based upon the number of Greek letters is actually found in Paul's second letter to the **Thessalonians Verse 5:16 - "Rejoice Always"**. This week, we will look at the lesser known beatitudes found in the **Sermon on the Plain in Luke**, and Jesus says that despite our troubles and woes that we are to **"rejoice in that day."** This and more this Sunday. **Youth is at Woodlawn Community Fellowship (we switched weeks)** and confirmation conversations continue. **Small groups will meet** and then **we'll celebrate the Day of Love and Friendship with our Cross Cultural Ministry friends** and later that afternoon **celebrate the life of Carolyn Kier**. A full and blessed day.



OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 2025-2026 ST. ANDREW'S PRESCHOOL HAS BEGUN.

Please check with your neighbors and friends and invite them to check out our preschool program and register for the next school year. Registration forms and pricing may be found on our website at www.standrewsumcpreschool.com. For more information or for a tour, please call Sherry Jackson, director, at 704-553-7896.



SQUARE DANCE LESSONS OPEN HOUSE.

Western-Called Square Dance. Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall Rm. #2
If you can walk you can square dance. Great exercise - low impact. \$5.00 per week - approximately 16-week committment. Sponsored by the Swinging Saints Square Dance Club.

PICKLEBALL

Wednesdays: February 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.

UNITED METHODIST MEN.

Men, please join our UMM for breakfast on **Saturday, February 15th, at 8:00 a.m.** in the Family Life Center.



DAY OF LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP! JESUS, OUR BEST FRIEND!

Join the great celebration on **Sunday, February 16th, at noon in the Family Life Center** (following the service and Sunday School classes).
Please bring:
Some friends.
1 dish of food to share.
Come cheerfully dressed in red, pink, purple, or white!



MEMORIAL SERVICE.

The **Covenant class** will hold a memorial service for **Carolyn Kier** on **Sunday, February 16th, at 2:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** We will gather in the **Commons Room #1** following the service.

CONDOLENCES

to the family of **Caroline Crabtree** who passed away on **Monday, February 10th.** **Visitation will be at 2:00 p.m. followed a Celebration of Life service at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 16th,** at Hankins and Whittington, 1111 East Blvd., Charlotte, NC. 28203.



HARVESTERS.

Thursday, March 6th
Looking for a chance to fellowship with friends, new and old, and have a delicious home-cooked meal? Come join our **"Harvesters"** on the **first Thursday of the month in the Commons Room #1.** The program starts at **11:00 a.m.**

ASH WEDNESDAY.

Mark Your Calendars.
On **March 5th,** we will offer **Imposition of Ashes** from **12:30-1:30 p.m.** by drive-through in the portico, the Sanctuary will be open for prayer. **Service of Worship will be at 6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** Prior to the service, we will gather in the **Family Life Center from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.** for our Annual **Pancake Supper.** Proceeds to benefit Hurricane Relief through the Leicteister charge.



FEBRUARY Birthdays

- 16 Robert Gutierrez
- 16 Adrian Jelley
- 18 Grayson Dowless
- 21 Jean Hunter
- 21 Debra Lentz

**WORSHIP SERVICE
FEBRUARY 16, 2025**
9:15 a.m.
Intercessory Prayer Service #30
10:00 a.m.
"Rejoice Always" in the Sanctuary
Luke 6:17-26
11:11 a.m.
Small Group Gatherings.
NOON
Youth Lunch and program at Woodlawn Community Fellowship.

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS
SUNDAY, FEB. 23RD**
2:00 p.m. Trustees in room #17 (hybrid).
3:00 p.m. SPRC in room #17 (hybrid).
4:30 p.m. Finance online only.

Financial statements are available for pick-up in the church office and will be mailed out on February 17th.

**GIVE ONLINE/
OFRENDAR EN LINE.**
Our QR code will take you to

**SECURE GIVING/
Nuestro código QR lo llevará a
DONACIONES SEGURAS.**

REPORT FROM THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

AN INVITATION....

On Sunday, February 2nd, a Town Hall was offered to provide an update on recent repairs to the building, plans to pay for them, and their ministry impact. We were reminded of the ministry value of the building, in short, a mustard seed planted by our forebears that has grown into a place of welcome for over 15,000 people in the past three years.

As Thomas Pool shared, we have worked very hard to close the gap between money spent and money received each year since the pandemic. We have reduced our staff and program expenditures and grown our building usage revenue. We have sought to be faithful stewards of every gift entrusted to us.

The challenge is that throughout 2023 and 2024, we experienced a number of major building repairs, most recently the heating system. In review, we have also become aware that other building systems such as our fire suppression and roof have reached or are nearing the end of their life expectancy.

As of now, we are in need of \$225,000 to cover these upgrades and repairs. Again, while our congregational giving has been consistent with expectations and our building usage income has grown, we have been unable to raise enough to overcome the deficit created by these repairs.

On February 2, 2025, the Church council upon the recommendations of the Trustees and Finance Committee authorized taking out a second mortgage to cover these expenses. We are hoping to reduce the amount of the mortgage needed by asking for your help.

Any funds you give will be matched up to \$97,000 due to gracious legacy gifts entrusted to us. We are hopeful that if we can raise \$128,000 on or before March 1st, we can avoid a second mortgage altogether. No gift is too small. No gift is too big. **And we are grateful that as of February 10, 2025 we have received over \$70,000 in gifts and commitments toward the capital expenses.** We're also asking that any gifts be second-mile gifts so that our current budget is not impacted.

So thank you for your prayerful consideration about your ability to give over and above your usual gift. Questions reach out to Thomas Pool, Tom Patton, David Lisk, or George White. And please designate any gifts as "2025 major building repairs".

For as Thomas also shared, the apostle Paul in **2 Corinthians** says, **"Remember this...each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."**



CONGRATULATIONS TO Russell Dowless upon graduating from Independence High School. He is currently employed at McGee Brothers, where he is learning masonry. He is the son of **Anthony** and **Alison Dowless**, and brother to **Wesley** and **Elise**; and pictured above with his grandparents, **Norma** and **Jimmy Dowless**.



OUR NEXT BOOK CLUB MEETING is Friday, March 7th, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Nicole Campbell (1617 Lyndale Place, Char., N.C.). We will discuss **"The Four Winds" by Kristin Hannah**. All are welcome. Invite a friend.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS. SUMMER CAMP FOR PRESCHOOLERS (you do not have to be enrolled in our regular program to attend).



Our dates for camps are **June 9th-12th (Summer Fun), July 7th-10th (Bug Camp), August 4th-7th (Jungle Camp). Cost is \$150 per camper per week.** Contact the preschool office for more information or find the registration form online at:

www.standrewsumcpreschool.com.



Please donate new or used devotional materials to "Jail Ministry".

Devotionals may be drop-off in the green bin located in the Narthex under the "Upper Room" pamphlet rack. Thank you.