



# The Net

The Monthly Newsletter of  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Burke, Virginia



RECTOR  
THE REV. WILL PACKARD  
[will@standrews.net](mailto:will@standrews.net)

Dear Friends in Christ,

In this season of many new beginnings, we take time to reflect upon God's abounding grace. The season of Advent is our new Church year when we begin again. This season's title comes from the Latin, *Adventus*, meaning "arrival" or "coming." We anticipate the coming of Jesus at Christmas and the promise that Christ will come again. In this anticipation, we intentionally prepare for these comings in the knowledge that we may always begin again.

We celebrate many exciting beginnings this month, especially as we welcome two new clergy to our parish! The Rev. Maria Maguire's first Sunday will be on December 8th and the Rev. Susie Harding, Deacon, will begin on December 1st! At our 10:00 a.m. service on December 8th, we will celebrate the new ministry with our new clergy and Assisting Bishop Bud Shand. In addition, we will welcome those affirming the faith promised at their Baptisms and we will all reaffirm our Baptismal Promises. These are opportunities for us to recall the promises we made and to remember the promise fulfilled in the new covenant by God in Christ and the Holy Spirit.

While the Advent season is often characterized in a similar way to Lent, we will celebrate, especially December 8th as we observe the Advent season. To engage in Advent is to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ and remember the Incarnation. When you reflect upon our Advent offerings, how might you be able to observe the spirit of the Advent season? December is often overshadowed by a secular Christmas season which, while wonderful, can diminish the gift of Advent and new beginnings. I

am not saying to deny the joys of this season. In this time, how might you observe these new beginnings of Advent and recall the promises at Baptism?

One way to encounter Advent is to remember the promises we make in our Baptism which are beautiful and quite difficult. We may sometimes forget that a covenant involves two entities with our God promising grace, blessing, and the fulfillment of the Old Covenant in Christ which continues until his coming again. This is the grace present when this season does not feel as joyful as we feel it should. This grace enables us to return to Christ and God from wherever our earthly pilgrimages have taken us. This grace upholds us in all we encounter and its abundance cannot be counted!

As we begin again, I am grateful to God that we may all live in this Covenant together.

May you have a blessed Advent!

Faithfully yours,

# VESTRY NEWS

## Worship Services

Wednesday @ 9:30 AM  
Saturday @ 6:00 PM  
Sunday @ 8:00 & 10:00 AM

## Bible Study

Wednesday @ 10:30 AM  
Sunday @ 9:00 AM

## Choir Rehearsal

Thursday @ 5:00 PM (Youth)  
Thursday @ 7:00 PM (Adult)

## AA Meetings

Tuesday @ 7:00 PM  
Friday @ 8:00 PM

## ESOL

Tuesday @ 9:30 AM

## Office Hours

Monday 9 - 4  
Tuesday 9 - 4  
Wednesday 9 - 4  
Thursday 9 - 4

## Net Submissions

*If you have an article for the Monthly Net, please email it to Emily ([emily@standrews.net](mailto:emily@standrews.net)) no later than the 20th of the month. All submissions are subject to approval.*



SENIOR WARDEN  
**BRIAN CHATMAN**  
[srwarden@standrews.net](mailto:srwarden@standrews.net)

As we enter into the busy and blessed season of Thanksgiving and Advent, I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to each of you.

### Thank You for Your Continued Time and Talents

Your commitment to our congregation has been a true blessing. Whether you're volunteering in ministry, leading a group, or supporting our community with your time, talents, and prayers, I am so grateful for all that you do. Your dedication enriches our church family and makes a lasting impact in our mission to serve and love one another. Thank you for sharing your gifts and for being an essential part of our shared ministry.

### A Reminder to Take Time for You

As we enter the holiday season, it's easy to become swept up in the business of preparations, events, and gatherings. But I

want to remind you to take some time for yourself. Whether it's a quiet moment of reflection, spending time with loved ones, or just taking a break to rest and recharge, please remember that your well-being matters. You can't pour from an empty cup, and I want each of you to be spiritually, emotionally, and physically nourished throughout this season.

Let us all find moments of peace amid the business and remember the reason for the season—celebrating the light of Christ, who came to bring hope, joy, and peace to our world.

### Looking Ahead

We have many exciting events and opportunities coming up this holiday season, and I am looking forward to gathering together in worship, fellowship, and service. Thank you once again for all that you do. May this season bring you peace, joy, and an abundance of blessings.

# PRESCHOOL NEWS



PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR  
**TAMI PHILLIPS**  
[preschool@standrews.net](mailto:preschool@standrews.net) | (703) 455-8458

I love listening to the sounds of children playing on the playground. It helps me remember just how powerful learning through play is for a young child. As the children play, I hear them telling stories, pretending, walking up the slide, pulling friends in wagons, and decorating a Christmas tree in the gazebo. The natural world is a wonderful resource for helping children meet their early learning goals.

I continue to be amazed at a classroom of children growing into a community of learners. At the beginning of the year our students are unfamiliar with each other, not sure of routines, and wondering why they need to leave their house to come to us. Familiarity and trust lay the groundwork for a powerful learning community. Plentiful unstructured and structured playtimes create a place where children take chances, make mistakes, discover new things, build relationships, and ask thoughtful questions. This transformation is beginning to happen in our classrooms. It is a beautiful reminder of the importance of an engaging classroom.

We look forward to Christmas Programs the week of December 16th followed by a cookie reception and Santa visit! Look for a beautiful Nativity scene designed by our students in the Parish Hall.

There are still a few spaces left in our preschool for the 2024-2025 school year. If you know of someone looking for a preschool next year, please ask them to contact our preschool office at. On our web site [preschool.standrews.net](http://preschool.standrews.net) they can view a virtual tour of our program. There, they can also complete an inquiry to receive more information about enrollment or begin the registration process through our software ChildPilot.

Returning students, alumni families, and parish members can begin enrolling their students for the 2025-2026 school year January 14th!

Our preschool families are a blessing to us. We feel fortunate to be a special part of each child's educational journey.

# OUTREACH

## Giving Tree

Jen Koerner | [facets@standrews.net](mailto:facets@standrews.net)

The FACETS Giving Tree is back for another year on Sunday, December 1st! We have a list of children of various ages hoping to get something special this year. Most of our gift requests will be on our in-person Giving Tree in the church. We also have an online option to purchase gift cards that will allow FACETS to provide gifts to any additional children at our Giving Tree Sign-Up page (<http://tiny.cc/GivingTree24>).



For those children without specific gift requests, there is a list of suggestions on the FACETS webpage (<https://facetscares.org/ways-to-give/holiday-gift-drive>), including a reminder to choose ethnically diverse dolls if that is your gift (suggested limit of \$35).

Once you have your gift, please wrap and label it either with the ornament from the Giving Tree or a tag with the child's first name/last initial, case manager's name, and age.

**Please deliver all gifts to the church by Sunday, December 15th.** Thank you all for your generosity and help in making sure these kids have a wonderful Christmas!

If anyone is interested in helping sort gifts after the 10:00 a.m. service on December 15th or delivering gifts to FACETS the week of 15th, please contact Jen Koerner. Total time commitment would be around 1 hour.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Childcare Help

Katie Campbell | [formation@standrews.net](mailto:formation@standrews.net)

Our Pre-K & K and Nursery classes, which watch our youngest members from 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Sundays, need helpers. We have a paid staff member for each class, but for the safety of everyone, we need one helper with each of them throughout the morning. Teen volunteers (14+) can earn service hours for their work. Scan the QR code or go here to volunteer: <http://tiny.cc/9g6uzz> (new sign up; includes Nov. and Dec. dates)



## Prayer List

John Carver  
Tony Durso  
Don & Marlene Taggart  
Eve Albanese  
Sally Heyer  
Claudia Dugan  
Larry Packard  
Rich Roerig  
D'Arcy  
Ron Mason  
Susan Scott  
Barbara Klix  
Julie Morgan  
Andrea Hellier  
Pam Hauge  
Beth Ridpath  
Jesse Hill

Bill Hartig  
Olivia  
Felix  
Gayle Brooks  
Eddie Fortune  
Bishop Shannon Johnston  
Francisco  
Elaine Askew  
Bill Armour  
Wally Morgan  
Benn Crandall  
Gary Nash  
Cathy Withers  
Mike de Cardona  
Eric  
Craig D.  
Kevin Linehan

Dan Dellapenta  
James  
Roslyn  
Brice P.  
Patrick  
Samuel  
Phillipa  
David Humphrey  
Doffie Crabb  
Ro & Rob Africano  
Karen Brannam  
Jacqueline Turner  
Karen Camp  
Frank Winfield  
Bronwyn Alleman  
Cari Gulley  
Jean Gulley

Cathy  
Hannah Ake  
Donna Hitchings  
Paul Roper  
The Smith Family  
Patsy High  
Martha Lamond  
Bob Turner  
Anne Gallant  
Bishop Gayle Harris  
Annie Hughes  
Millie Nash  
Irma  
Marjorie Nelson  
Carol Payne  
Evelyn Bailey

## Departed

Max Hindenburg (brother-in-law of Jill Meyer)  
Frances Moffett (parishioner)  
Kim Jewart (friend of the Packard family)

## ENDOWMENT NEWS

Why did I establish an endowment fund at St. Andrew's?

A simple answer is: to help St. Andrew's continue into the future.

When Paul and I and our active family arrived at St Andrew's in 1978, little did I appreciate that so many years later, St. Andrew's would continue to be my church family. As the church grew in faith, friendship and commitment to others, we grew right along with it. Our family has celebrated birth, baptism, confirmation, marriage, and death with a community which supported us through it all. Whoever thought a Navy family would stay put so long for that to happen.

I treasure my long-time friendships along with the new friends I just met. In tough times and good times, I feel joy and hopefulness as God leads us forward, together, in "life". My hope is St. Andrew's may continue to be a welcoming family to those who come.

For me, one way to make that happen was to establish an endowment to remember my husband, Paul and my parents and cherish what they gave and taught me as my first family.

Please see Father Will or Pat Conrad to see how you can help ensure St Andrew's future.

- Chris Umberger

Pat Conrad | [endowment@standrews.net](mailto:endowment@standrews.net)

### Christmas Poinsettias

Emily Nein | [emily@standrews.net](mailto:emily@standrews.net)

It's time again for the tradition of decorating the church for Christmas with your gifts of poinsettias. Each poinsettia is a visual symbol of your gift, given as a memorial for a loved one or a thanksgiving for a blessing in your life. Your thanksgivings and memorials will be printed in the Christmas service bulletins.



Envelopes for your donations are located on the bulletin board outside the office. Suggested donations: \$25. **Please return your filled-out envelope to the office by Friday, December 15th.**

### Greening the Church—Magnolia Branches Needed

Martha Turner | [flowerguild@standrews.net](mailto:flowerguild@standrews.net)

In preparation for the Christmas season, the Flower Guild is asking if any parishioners have easy (and legal) access to Magnolia trees and are willing/able to donate some of their branches. Branches will be needed the weekend of December 21st & 22nd. Please contact Martha Turner for more information and/or if you can help. Thank you!



(P.S. The new magnolia tree in front of the church is off limits for the next 26 years.)

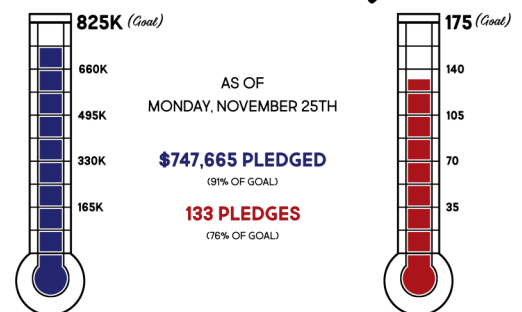
### 2025 Pledge Campaign

Anne Brannan & Paul Foley | [stewardship@standrews.net](mailto:stewardship@standrews.net)

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their pledge cards or pledged online! As of Monday, November 25th, we have already received pledges from 133 families and are at 91% of our pledging goal! Remember, every little bit helps. Even \$5/week makes a big difference, especially when multiple families make that pledge.

In December the Vestry will be preparing the 2025 Budget. Remember that your pledges make up 85% of the annual budget, and the Vestry needs to know how much to budget for based on your response. So for those of you still deciding on your pledge, or a possible increase in what was earlier submitted, acting now would be greatly appreciated to help provide the best picture possible against our 2025 Parrish goal of \$825,000.

### St. Andrew's 2025 Pledge Drive



Thank you all for your support of our staff and our many ministries! Of course pledges can still be received at a later date. Pledge Cards are available on the table in the Narthex, or you can pledge online at [www.standrews.net/giving](http://www.standrews.net/giving).

# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS



November 30	Advent I and Evening Prayer with a modest observance of the Feast
December 1	Advent I services with the Advent Festival. Come all to make an
December 4	Advent I Holy Eucharist
December 7	Advent II Evening Prayer
December 8	Advent II with Bishop's Visitation including Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation, and Celebration of New Ministry. Reception to follow.
December 11	Advent II Holy Eucharist and Advent Bible Study.
December 14	Advent III with Healing Eucharist. A time to receive specific healing prayer, if desired, in the context of the Eucharist. This service may also be particularly welcome for those who may not feel the "joy" of the secular Christmas season.
December 15	Advent III Holy Eucharist Services
December 18	Advent III Holy Eucharist with Advent Bible Study
December 21	Advent IV Contemplative Taizé Service
December 22	Advent IV Holy Eucharist Services (pageant rehearsal during formation hour) Friends of Music and the Arts concert with Karen Ashbrook and Friends (Free).
December 24	Christmas Eve Pageant Service (4pm). Traditional Holy Eucharist with additional instrumentalists (8:30pm hymn sing and 9:00pm service).
December 25	Christmas Day Service, the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ (11:00am), with music.
December 28	Christmas I Holy Eucharist
December 29	Christmas I Holy Eucharist



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## DECEMBER 1, 2024

### Advent Festival

The Rev. Will Packard | [will@standrews.net](mailto:will@standrews.net)

On **Sunday, December 1st** in the Parish Hall immediately following our 10:00 a.m. service, we will have our Advent Festival to ring in the new church year! We will have stations for families to make an advent wreath and there will be festive music and special treats and fun for ALL ages! This will take the place of our regular coffee fellowship time and also replace Formation that day.



## DECEMBER 8, 2024

### Bishop's Visit & Confirmation

The Rev. Will Packard | [will@standrews.net](mailto:will@standrews.net)

The Rt. Rev. James Joseph "Bud" Shand will join us for our 10:00 a.m. service on **Sunday, December 8th** to Confirm, Receive, or Reaffirm those who have worked on becoming full members of St. Andrew's, as well as baptize a few others.

This is also the Rev. Maria Maguire's first Sunday celebrating with us! We hope you can be with us for this joyful occasion. To help with the reception, sign up here: <http://tiny.cc/yjcvzz>.

## DECEMBER 8, 2024

### Women's Fellowship: Cookie Exchange

Karen Hilber | [womensfellowship@standrews.net](mailto:womensfellowship@standrews.net)

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 8th** at 3:00 p.m. for the Christmas Cookie Exchange! It's a yummy, festive event off-site, just for grown-ups. Attendees are asked to bring 2 dozen cookies (homemade or store bought), and can choose two dozen cookies to take home with them. Snacks, drinks, and Christmas cheer will be provided. **RSVP by Wednesday, December 4th.** Address will be provided upon RSVP.



## DECEMBER 15, 2024

### Senior High EYC

The Rev. Will Packard | [will@standrews.net](mailto:will@standrews.net)

All High Schoolers are invited to our next EYC Youth Group gathering on **Sunday, December 15th** from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. There will be food, games, and fun discussions about life, the universe, and everything.

## DECEMBER 19, 2024

### Women's Fellowship: Coffee Chat

Karen Hilber | [womensfellowship@standrews.net](mailto:womensfellowship@standrews.net)

Take a break from the holiday hustle and bustle, and stop by for a hot beverage and warm conversation with St Andrew's friends at the West Springfield Panera on **Thursday, December 19th** at 9:30 a.m. It's a great chance to make new friends, and catch up with ones you already have!

## DECEMBER 22, 2024

### FoMA Concert Series: Karen Ashbrook & Friends Benefit Concert

[foma@standrews.net](mailto:foma@standrews.net)

Join us on **Sunday, December 22nd** at 4:00 p.m., for our annual seasonal celebration with Karen Ashbrook, joined by multi-instrumentalist Paul Oorts, fiddler Andrea Hoag, and vocalist Eileen Estes. These four internationally-known performers have crafted a delightful program of Celtic songs and tunes to celebrate Christmas, winter, and the New Year. The program has a wide selection of traditional and contemporary airs, jigs, and reels from Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man, and Brittany. All donations from this concert will be given to local charities FACETS and ECHO.



## DECEMBER 22 & 24, 2024

### Children's Christmas Pageant

Betsy Cotten | [pageant@standrews.net](mailto:pageant@standrews.net)

It's time for the Christmas Eve Pageant at St. Andrew's! Each year, our children help bring the Christmas story to life, sharing the joy and wonder of Jesus' birth with our whole church family. It's a beloved tradition, and we'd love for your child to be part of it!



All children are invited to join us in celebrating this holy night! We have non-speaking roles for our littlest angels and shepherds, and speaking parts for older kids ready to share their voices. And yes, we've got the costumes covered — halos and all!

Rehearsal Schedule:

- December 22: During the Sunday School Hour
- December 24: Speaking roles meet before the service

To get your child signed up, click here: <http://tiny.cc/u7nxzz>! Please fill out one form per child and let us know if they have a specific role in mind or are happy to help however needed. Please send it to friends/family who may also want to participate! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out. We can't wait to share this beautiful experience together as we celebrate the birth of Christ!

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
BURKE, VA

# Christmas Services

**DECEMBER 24TH**

**CHILDREN'S PAGEANT & HOLY EUCHARIST**  
@ 4:00 PM

**CAROL SING**  
@ 8:30 PM

**HOLY EUCHARIST W/ BRASS**  
@ 9:00 PM

**DECEMBER 25TH**

**HOLY EUCHARIST**  
@ 11:00 AM

WWW.STANDREWS.NET

## LECTIONARY READINGS

([www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net))

### DECEMBER 1, 2024

1st Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-9

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

### DECEMBER 8, 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent

Malachi 3:1-4

Canticle 16

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

### DECEMBER 15, 2024

3rd Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Canticle 9

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

### DECEMBER 22, 2024

4th Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a

Canticle 15

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

### DECEMBER 24, 2024

Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalms 96

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14(15-20)

### DECEMBER 25, 2024

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalms 98

Hebrews 1:1-4,(5-12)

John 1:1-14

### DECEMBER 29, 2024

1st Sunday after Christmas




Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalms 147

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

John 1:1-18

# DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ADVENT 1 	2 Kalinda Smith	3 Hannah Compton	4	5 Betsy Pugin	6	7 Elsa Kirkham Patrick McLean
8 Shepard Kirkham Georgene Chatman	9	10 Denise Turcotte Annel Kelley	11	12 Samuel Hellier	13 Stacey Thomas	14
15 Beverly Bernhards Corey Runkel Beth Ridpath Gracie Parsons-Schwarz Maggie Sertich	16	17 Libby Fike Maddie Vega	18 Gabby Vega	19	20 Lisa Rollo	21 Brian Bowker Connor Ridge Dan Humphrey
22 Jim Kirkpatrick Sandy Mansfield Ayla Petty Jennifer Koerner Emily Paquette	23	24 Obadiah Dugan Declan Cone	25 CHRISTMAS 	26	27 Helen DuVal William Kenney Anna Hinton	28 Adam Sabo
29 Sean Thomas	30 John Chatman	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE Lena Scribner 				

Don't see your name on your birthday? Let us know!  
 Contact Emily ([emily@standrews.net](mailto:emily@standrews.net)) and we'll get you added to the list.



# DIRECTORY

## Clergy & Staff

**The Rev. William L. Packard** | Rector  
[will@standrews.net](mailto:will@standrews.net)

**The Rev. Maria Maguire** | Associate Rector  
[maria@standrews.net](mailto:maria@standrews.net)

**The Rev. Susie Harding** | Deacon  
[susie@standrews.net](mailto:susie@standrews.net)

**Michelle Ramsdell** | Parish Administrator  
[michelle@standrews.net](mailto:michelle@standrews.net)

**Emily Nein** | Communications Director  
[emily@standrews.net](mailto:emily@standrews.net)

**Dj Cortés-Gunning** | Interim Director of Music  
[dj@standrews.net](mailto:dj@standrews.net)

**Tami Phillips** | Preschool Director  
[preschool@standrews.net](mailto:preschool@standrews.net)

**Carlos Guzman** | Sexton  
[sexton@standrews.net](mailto:sexton@standrews.net)

## 2024 Vestry

**Brian Chatman** | Senior Warden  
[srwarden@standrews.net](mailto:srwarden@standrews.net)

**Jeff Reba** | Junior Warden  
[jrwarden@standrews.net](mailto:jrwarden@standrews.net)

**Sarah Akins** | Register  
[register@standrews.net](mailto:register@standrews.net)

**Anne Brannam** | Treasurers  
[treasurer@standrews.net](mailto:treasurer@standrews.net)

**Lori Foster** | Fellowship  
[fellowship@standrews.net](mailto:fellowship@standrews.net)

**Katie Campbell** | Formation  
[formation@standrews.net](mailto:formation@standrews.net)

**Sarah Akins & Laura Sabo** | Outreach  
[outreach@standrews.net](mailto:outreach@standrews.net)

**Carol Robinson** | Safety & Security  
[outreach@standrews.net](mailto:outreach@standrews.net)

**Anne Brannam & Paul Foley** | Stewardship  
[stewardship@standrews.net](mailto:stewardship@standrews.net)

**Pam Hardin** | Welcome  
[welcome@standrews.net](mailto:welcome@standrews.net)

**Dave Umberger** | Worship  
[worship@standrews.net](mailto:worship@standrews.net)

## St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

6509 Sydenstricker Road, Burke, VA 22015  
[www.standrews.net](http://www.standrews.net) | (703) 455-2500

