This week at St. Andrew's

Thursday, November 5, 2026

Welcome to St. Andrew's Weekly E-mail Newsletter. In an effort to keep the congregation better informed we will be sending out this newsletter on Thursdays to cover events happening at the church through the following Wednesday. We hope you find it useful.



The Mission of St. Andrew's Parish is to worship God, grow in discipleship, and share Christ's love.
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2018

24 Pentecost

November 8, 2026

8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman
Intern: Shanon Cotta
Altar Guild: Ruth Piper & Les Foster
Eucharistic Minister: Malcolm Foster
Lector: Jim Swan
Ushers: Ann & Kelley Kash
Vestry Announcer: Laura Blanchard

The worship booklet for the 8am Sunday service is available by clicking here

10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman
Intern: Shanon Cotta
Organist: Sean Fleming
Choir Director: Linda Blanchard
Livestream Operator: Bill Judd
Altar Guild: Nora Lundeen
Eucharistic Minister: Bob Lundeen
Lectors: Nora Lundeen & Martha Dodge
Ushers: Martha Dodge & Belinda Nields
Vestry Announcer: Kay Liss

The worship booklet for the 10am Sunday service is available by clicking here
You may also watch this service on St. Andrew's YouTube channel. (Live or recorded)

Weekly Wednesday Services

Wednesday Healing Service with the Holy Eucharist 11:30 am
Please join us for lunch on Wednesday, December 2nd.

The Contemplative Garden

Our spring, summer and fall seasons maintaining the gardens have come to an end.

We've cleaned out beds, replaced damaged plants, removed tree limbs and much extra time spent watering due to the dry summer, has kept our garden group busy.

Special thanks to a few volunteers from our community, who have helped care for our garden over the last few years; Patty Alferi, Betsy Evans, Catherine Lyons and Jackie Nowell.

We're an informal group. We gather weekly, Monday mornings 10am – 12 noon. Drop by whenever you can. Bring garden tools and a beverage.

Contact Sally Pearce, salpearce1943@icloud.com

ROAD CLEAN UP

Our semi-annual road clean-up is scheduled for **Saturday, November 14**.
A sign-up sheet is available in the undercroft. As usual, we will meet at St. Andrew's at **9:00 AM** to pick up trash along U.S. Route 1, and we should finish by **11:00 AM**.
Vests, trash pickers, and bags will be provided, though you are welcome to bring your own. If you have any questions, please contact Marek Pruski.

Stewardship

Whatever our political affiliation, the election this week has generated more stress and concern than has been present for years. The virulent ads, the name calling and accusations of wrong doing have been appearing repeatedly on our television sets and in our mail. We are relieved to see them end. In such trying times we all seek a place of refuge and comfort. For many, St Andrew's is one of those places. One parishioner shared his feelings about our beautiful church. "It is a place where I feel calm and at peace in a world of turmoil". St. Andrew's does represent a refuge for many of us. It's a place where we have found friends and a sense of belonging as well as God's love. Please think of the special connections in your life as you decide on a gift to support St. Andrew's and it's ministry this coming year.

To those who have already pledged, the Stewardship Committee sends their grateful thanks.

A BIG Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our Halloween Candy Distribution such a success! We are so grateful to everyone who donated candy, helped sort and pack the bags, and volunteered their time to help distribute candy to our community's children.

Thanks to your generosity and teamwork, we were able to hand out all 800 bags of candy! It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and bring a little Halloween fun to our community.

We couldn’t have done it without all of you. Thank you for your kindness, generosity, and willingness to lend a helping hand.

We are already looking forward to next year!

Veteran's Day

Church offices will be closed on
Wednesday, November 11 in observance of Veteran's Day.

A Message from the Flower Guild

Silk Flower Arrangements: Many thanks to those who donated towards the silk altar flower purchase. The fall silk flowers were in church last Sunday and will be at the altar this Sunday as well. We plan on having a winter arrangement and a spring/summer arrangement as well.

Flower Chart: You may also have fresh flowers on the altar in memory of or thanksgiving for a friend or loved one. We have provided a flower chart beginning in November and running through 2027 which will be kept on a clip board in the undercroft. If you would like to reserve a Sunday, please put your name and phone number by the Sunday your would like flowers. A member of the flower guild will contact you a few weeks before your chosen date to discuss the type/color of flower, dedication for the bulletin and price if you want the flower guild to make arrangements with the florist. The cost of two fresh flower arrangements has gone up to $80 with the cost increasing up to $100 for specialty flowers (i.e. roses). You may also sign up and provide your own flowers (with or without a dedication).

If you have any questions, please contact Ann Kash.

Advent Weekly Book Discussion Group

The Gospel writers speak often of the Kingdom of God or the Kingdom of Heaven, which they contrast with the kingdoms of this world. For many centuries of Christian history, churches closely aligned with worldly powers have encouraged Christians to think of the Kingdom of God primarily as something we enter after we die.

Yet biblical scholars and theologians have increasingly reminded us that when Jesus spoke of the Kingdom of God, he was not simply talking about what happens after death. He was proclaiming God’s reign breaking into the world here and now—and inviting his followers to live in ways that reflect and participate in that reign.

This question feels especially urgent in a world marked by war, nuclear proliferation, white supremacy, patriarchy, and the many ways these forces

harm women, LGBTQ+ people, people of color, and other marginalized communities. What does it mean for us, as followers of Christ, to recognize the powers and values of empire at work around us—and within us—and to choose instead the life-giving ways of Jesus?

Kat Armas explores these questions in her book Liturgies for Resisting Empire: Seeking Community, Belonging, and Peace in a Dehumanizing World. Through reflections and prayers, she invites us to notice the many ways empire is woven into how we live and move and have our being, and to begin untangling our lives from patterns that diminish human dignity, community, and belonging. Armas writes:

> "The capitalist world economy influences our relationship to time, our bodies, our families, and our sense of purpose. It shapes our priorities, our responsibilities, and how we understand ourselves and others. My hope is that this book will help illuminate how this happened and how we can foster new, life-giving ways of belonging to each other in a world marked by division, discord, and individualism. Empire, after all, is not a relic of the past. It's alive, entrenched in our daily rhythms. This was true for the early followers of Jesus under Roman rule, and it is true for us today. As Palestinian scholar Edward Said notes, empire isn't just soldiers and weapons; it's ideas, attitudes, practices, and stories. It's a way of imagining the world.
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> "I wrote this book to uncover the imperial ideologies woven into our everyday lives—whether we are raising children, shopping, working, vacationing, or enjoying a meal with friends. More specifically, I wrote it to uncover the imperial ideologies woven into our spirituality, our churches, our study of the Bible. Understanding these ideologies is essential to understanding ourselves, our world, and our faith—and to imagine new ways of being and belonging."
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> —Kat Armas, Liturgies for Resisting Empire, p. 9

I would love to gather with any of you who are interested in reading and discussing this book together, while also praying some of Armas's prayers with one another.

I propose two possible meeting times for a five-week Advent group:
Sundays at 11:15 a.m.
November 22 and 29; December 6, 13, and 20
Mondays at 1:00 p.m.
November 23 and 30; December 7, 14, and 21

We can welcome participants both in person and via Zoom.
If you are interested, please let me know by Monday, November 2nd, which day—or days—would work for you, and whether you would like me to order a copy of the book for you. You may call the church office at 207-563-3533 or email me at Stasrector@tidewater.net.

Peace,
Suzannah

Coffee Hour update

Please sign up for coffee hour in November and beyond! There are lots of opportunities to host Coffee Hour in the coming months. Hosts are responsible for set-up, keeping the coffee and tea water topped off and clean up. Members of the congregation are encouraged to bring sweet or savory nibbles as the spirit moves them. If you would like to sign up to host, please put your name on the clipboard in the Undercroft or contact Jim Swan or Sara Samdberg through the church office.

November 8
8:00 am: Karen Johnson
10:00 am: Belinda, Priscilla, Cynthia

November 15
8:00 am: Les Foster & Margaret Coit
10:00 am: Martha Dodge & Sarah

November 22
8:00 am: Laura Blanchard
10:00 am:

November 29
8:00 am: Jim Swan
10:00 am: Stephanie Stephenson, Christine Taylor, Cynthia Garrels

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Holy Women, Holy Men

The Nativity of Mary

On almost every day of the year, the Episcopal Church honors faithful followers of Jesus who went before us. Every Wednesday at St. Andrew's during our Healing Eucharist, we remember one of more of these Holy Men and Women. We take time to remember these people for three important reasons. First, they deserve to be remembered. The people chosen for our calendar are remembered because they were particularly remarkable followers of Jesus. The second reason we remember them is because in remembering we are connected to Christians throughout time. And last but not least, we remember them because in remembering we can learn how to be better followers of Jesus in our day and time. This week we remember Mary.

Please click here to learn more about her..



Vestry Meeting Minutes

If you would like to read the vestry minutes, please click here



St. Andrew's Book Club next meeting

Our November book is going to be "To the Lighthouse" by Virginia Woolf. We will meet at St Andrews on Thursday, November 19th at 2:30.in the Library. All are welcome!



St. Andrew's Church Calendar

St. Andrew's Church calendar is available online. If you would like to access it, please click here

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Meetings

Benedictine Group: 10:00 AM Wednesday (Zoom only)
If you are interested in attending the meeting, please contact Fran Hargreaves or the church office at 207-563-3533.

Senior Choir rehearsal: 7-9pm Thursdays

Knitting Group: 2-4pm Fridays, in the Undercroft
All are welcome -- knitters, non-knitters, and general conversationalists.
If you'd like to be part of the group but are not on the email list, please contact Sara Sandberg. You don't have to be a knitter (or crocheter or quilter or embroiderer or anything else) to join us. All that's required is enjoying one another's company on Friday afternoons from 2 to 4pm.

Intercessory Prayer List

"The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words." (Romans 8:26)

We pray for those who are ill or with special needs:

Rob & Irma Hargreaves, Alan Hargreaves, Phil Bartley, Tom Belanger, Dick, Tyler & Christine, Julie, Cynthia Troxel, Nathan Hargreaves, Janice Roman, Beth, Joanne Sousa, Ian J., Robin Schneider, Susan & Fred Murray, Nicole & Family, Susan O'Brien, Steve Busch, Lydia, Joe & Sherry, Anne, David, Matthew Schneider, Ellie Kuniholm, The Fr. Chad Williams Family, Pat Erb, Cally & Pete Pratt, Melinda Hayes, The Dickson-Smith Family, Julia Ruggieri, Beth Hoke, Jed

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St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
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E-mail: stasnew@tidewater.net
Web site: standrewsnewcastle.org

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Suzannah Rohman
Senior Warden: Bob Lundeen - Junior Warden: Kelley Kash
Clerk: Les Foster - Treasurer: Ed Ross
Organist: Sean Fleming - Choir Director: Linda Blanchard
Parish Administrator: June Budrow
Ministers: All Members of the Parish

Visit our Website

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