



The Net

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



RECTOR
THE REV. WILL PACKARD
will@standrews.net

Dear Friends in Christ,

We often think of Sunday School to provide Christian foundations for children. In reality, our "Sunday School" never stops as does our need to intentionally follow Jesus as disciples. I would love to see letters from Paul and modern parables from Jesus in the world today! That is exactly what we will explore this program year, "The 21st Century Disciple: Practicing Ancient Faith in a Modern World."

Each of these sessions will take place after the 10:00 a.m. service on Sundays between 11:30 and 12:30. We will record them as we are granted permission by each expert.

SEPTEMBER 13 - Introduction to Modern Discipleship – The Rev. William L. Packard

SEPTEMBER 20 - Christian Mission Relations in the 21st Century – [Denise Vargas, Executive Director, El Hogar](#)

SEPTEMBER 27 – Living Faithfully in a Political World: The Good News of Church Politics – [The Rev. E. Ross Kane, Ph.D.](#) Associate Professor of Theology, Ethics, and Culture and Director of Doctoral Programs.

OCTOBER 4 – Youth Christian Mission Today: The 21st Century Experience – The Rev. Maria Maguire, Carl Jones, Gloria Spaans, and our Teens

OCTOBER 11 – Artificial Intelligence, Authentic Faith – [The Rev. Canon Lorenzo Lebrija, DMin, MBA](#), Chief Innovation Officer of Virginia Theological Seminary and the Executive Director of TryTank Research Institute, which focuses on advancing theological research to meet the evolving needs of the church in the modern world.

OCTOBER 18 – Famine and Global Food Insecurity in an Age of Abundance – Parish-Wide Food Packing Event with RISE Against Hunger

OCTOBER 25 – Faith Under Fire: Discipleship Lessons from the Frontlines – [The Rev. Jaqueline Pippin](#), Air Force Chaplain and Chaplain at Episcopal High School

NOVEMBER 1 – The Communion of All the Saints – Join us for an Intergenerational Event as we are all called as 21st Century Saints!

NOVEMBER 8 – Shrine Mont Retreat on Discipleship Today – The Rev. Jess Speaker, Deacon from Diocese of Atlanta (Note: Sessions take place at the Parish Retreat)

NOVEMBER 15 – Ministry of Literacy Today with Book Bounce Inc. – Susan McWilliams, Founder and President Book Bounce Inc.

NOVEMBER 22 – Bishop's Visitation – A Celebration and Discussion with [the Rt. Rev. Mark Bourlakas, Assistant Bishop](#), The Diocese of Virginia

NOVEMBER 29 – Ancient Practice for Today – Parish Advent Wreath Making Event

DECEMBER 6 – Celebrating the Holidays as a Modern Disciple – Church Staff

We will ground ourselves in Scripture, Tradition, and Reason as we seek to live into our Baptismal Covenant and respond to our prayers for "an inquiring and discerning heart." As we engage these sessions we will build tools for living into our faith each day.

Faithfully yours,

VESTRY NEWS

Worship Services

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

Formation

Sunday @ 11:30 AM

Bible Study

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

Choir Rehearsal

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) no later than the 20th of the month. All submissions are subject to approval.



SENIOR WARDEN
STEPHANIE MEADOWS
srwarden@standrews.net

While hard to believe, sometimes during a Sunday service my mind wanders a little. During the August 23rd 10:00

a.m. service, after reading about the "call for acolytes," I started considering what I should write for my September Monthly Net article. During the second reading, it struck me. As we get ready for a new church program year, starting on September 13th, we are in need of volunteer time and energy – or in the words of Paul, we are in need of your humble service to Christ.

"For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

Of the ten Commissions overseen by your Vestry, several can use extra hands as we kick off our fall activities:

- Fellowship Commission** – This ministry brings parishioners and others together in social settings. Vestry Lead: Karen Spencer (fellowship@standrews.net).
 - Fellowship has a need for a new lead coordinator to organize our Foyer Groups. The coordinator puts the groups together at the start of each cycle; from there, each group sets its own meeting times and gatherings. If you enjoy building community and supporting small-group connections, we will welcome your leadership. Direct Contact: Karen Spencer (foyergroups@standrews.net)
 - There is also a call for volunteers to join the Creative Gifts Ministry under Fellowship. Direct Contact: Debbie Williams (creativegifts@standrews.net)
- Formation Commission** – This ministry focuses on leading, promoting, and organizing child and youth Christian education at St. Andrew's. Vestry Leads: Pam Hardin and Becky Haler (formation@standrews.net)
 - Currently we have a need for Nursery Volunteers**– Direct Contact: Holly Welty; Superintendent, and Teachers and Assistants for Grades 1-3 and 4-6**– Direct Contact: Alexandra Kuhns
 - **NOTE: The time commitment can be one Sunday per month
- Outreach Commission** – This ministry provides spiritual and monetary assistance to people and outside organizations that help those in need. Vestry Lead: Kate Lewis (outreach@standrews.net)
 - Outreach has two upcoming Parish-wide ministry events that will require many volunteers. On October 18th, we will be partnering with an organization called Rise Against Hunger to host a food packing event, which is new this year. Direct Contact: Kate Lewis (outreach@standrews.net).
 - Also, we will be hosting our annual Hypothermia Prevention Week shelter on January 3 – 10, 2027. There will be several opportunities to serve. Stay tuned! Direct Contact: Steve Koss (hypothermia@standrews.net)
- Worship Commission** – This Commission ministry is dedicated to providing a beautiful and meaningful worship experience for all. Vestry Lead: Carol Robinson (worship@standrews.net)
 - The Commission is looking for eager volunteers to join the Lay Ministry Team (Worship Leaders; Lectors; Lay Eucharistic Ministers; and Intercessors). Direct Contact: January Layman-Wood (lems@standrews.net).
 - Additional volunteers for the following programs are always welcome: Lay Eucharistic Visitors – Direct Contact Deb Braun (levs@standrews.net);
 - Ushers for the 10:00 a.m. Service – Direct Contact: Chris Runkel (ushers@standrews.net);
 - Altar Guild – Direct Contact: Jane Gironde (altarguild@standrews.net);
 - Acolytes – Direct Contact: Jennifer Koerner (acolytes@standrews.net)

We all have gifts to offer. If you are new to the church or a long-time member, please consider sharing yours and getting further involved in all that St. Andrew's offers. Feel free to reach out to the Vestry leads or the direct contacts noted above to find out more information and join in!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Foyer Group Coordinator Needed

Karen Spencer | foyergroups@standrews.net

St. Andrew's is seeking a new coordinator to organize our foyer groups. The coordinator puts the groups together at the start of each cycle; from there, each group sets its own meeting times and gatherings. If you enjoy building community and supporting small-group connection, we'd love to have your leadership. Please connect with Debbie Williams, Sharon Gould, or Karen Spencer for more details.



2026-2027 ESOL Class

Pat Conrad | esol@standrews.net

St. Andrew's ESOL program will resume this September. Classes will be held on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:00 AM in the Parish Hall. We kindly request your assistance in spreading the word about these classes to our community members. By the end of August, we will have information cards ready for you to distribute to potential students. You may also consider leaving cards with your neighbors for their friends or relatives who might be interested in improving their English language skills. Cards can also be left with service providers or merchants. If you have any questions about the program, please don't hesitate to contact Pat Conrad.



New Seminarian Starting this Fall

The Rev. Will Packard | will@standrews.net

I am thrilled to join you this year. I am from the Diocese of Arizona where I have lived for sixteen years. Before coming to Seminary, I was a middle school science teacher at an Episcopal Day School in Phoenix. I have a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from ASU and a Doctorate in Educational Ministry and Leadership from VTS. I grew up in Montana so many of my hobbies, like hiking and camping, involve spending time outside. I look forward to getting to know you through worshipping and learning together at St. Andrew's.

Sincerely,
Alison Moran D.Ed.Min



Prayer List

Tony Durso	Roy Eichhorn
Don Taggart	Katie Gould
Marlene Taggart	Julie Morgan
Eve Albanese	Mary Petze
Larry Packard	Scott Kelley
Rich Roerig	Mary Roper
D'Arcy	Kay Jones
Susan Scott	Doug Taggart
Barbara Klix	The Rev. Carey Connors
Jeff Dutton	Cathy Sears
Sarah Lillard	Alice Corbett
Mary Richardson	Carolyn Keller
Cathy Harman	-----
Kit Thompson	Bill Hartig
Scoutie Prior	Felix
Gene Gironde	Eddie Fortune

Bishop Shannon Johnston	Chuck DeBellevue	Benn Crandall
Bill Armour	Mike Columbus	Jim Lorenzen
Eric	Barbara Pelletier	Judy Vogel
James	Mark G.	Jean Gulley
Phillipa	Jack Miller	Flora Wouters
Karen Brannam	John Neal	Jonathan Wouters
Carol Payne	Jeff Taltavull	Marcela Wouters
Paula Masterson	Fidel Gonzalez	Carla Beachy
Jane Hoge	Bess Yang	John Roy
Marla Cook	Rebekah Guerra Day	Jerry Shaffer
Susan Henderson	Norman Procopie	Bill Browder
Janet Williams	Mark Pierce	Fany Santos
Terri Bennett	Kim Howard	Reed Freeman
Nora Herrera	Priscilla Howard	Chuck Hafers
Jon Wise	Todd Howard	Joy MacLean
	Jill Hicks	Ronni

Departed

Chris Boyle (neighbor of Moose & Ree Bruce)
 Betty Anderson (parishioner)
 Jerry Ryan (friend of Simone Reba)
 Father Michael Duesterhaus (friend of Elise Humphrey)
 Linda McCullah (friend of Deacon Susie)

CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY NEWS



ASSOCIATE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES

THE REV. MARIA MAGUIRE

maria@standrews.net

"The Good Shepherd opens the gate so the sheep can go out into a green pasture. Have you ever been in a green pasture?"

This past Sunday, preschool chapel teacher Katie Campbell told the story of the Good Shepherd to a group of 12 Sunday School parents and ministers who gathered in the small chapel outside the Nave after a tasty meal from Wegmans together. Using Godly Play, a Montessori-based curriculum developed by an Episcopal priest, Ms. Campbell guided our children's ministry team through the comings and goings of sheep – and the Good Shepherd who takes care of them.

As we sat in a circle in the quiet chapel, we watched the scene unfold. Pieces of felt cloth showed us a green pasture, a still pond, a group of treacherous rocks, and the sheep pen. We met three sheep and their Shepherd who guided them to still waters and green pastures. "Have you ever been in a green pasture?" Katie asked us. We sat in quiet contemplation, taking in the peaceful parable, wondering how it connected to our lives.

As she guided the paper sheep across the green felt pasture, they rested and found still water, too. Then, as they went onward, the sheep went into a group of rocks, some treacherous terrain. "Sometimes the sheep wander off to a dangerous place and get lost. Have you ever been to a place like this?" Heads nodded, knowing the struggle of life.

This fall we are launching Sunday School with a new curriculum for 1st-3rd graders: Godly Play. Our Sunday School Leadership Team believes this method, with its tactile relatability, "wondering" questions, and richly spiritual storytelling, will work especially well for our children, and in particular our younger elementary population.

We are also introducing a second curriculum for our older elementary students (4th-6th grade): Weaving God's Promises. In a previous church setting, I found that this curriculum worked well with this age group. Vestry Formation Co-Lead Becky Haler tested it out last year on our PreK-K Sunday School Class, and she loved its versatility and accessibility, as well as its "Episcopal threads" section that helps the students and teachers alike to connect Scripture to our Tradition.

At the training we also reviewed some changes and values for the upcoming Sunday School program year. Two of the most significant updates include a pager system for classroom management support and the relocation of class from the preschool wing to the Chapel and Conference Room.

After a year and a half of observation, our lay leaders and I have come up with several grounding values for this year:

- shared ownership of outcomes
- clarity of roles

- sustainability in procedures
- integrity of the learning environment

As part of these grounding values, we will steward our human resources well by respecting the limits in availability each volunteer has set. Each volunteer minister will know what is theirs to do and, just as importantly, what is not theirs to do.

We are looking forward to hosting a **mandatory Sunday School Parent & Minister Meeting on Sunday, September 13th from 11:30-12:30 in the Conference Room**. Lunch will be provided and childcare with a movie will be offered. We understand this conflicts with the Adult Forum Introduction to Modern Discipleship, so please know:

- This Parent–Minister meeting is designed to strengthen the faith community of parents and children alike, and to foster the foundation for a strong year of growth in Christ. Please do your best to attend.
- We will review logistics and expectations for Sunday School 2026-27. A listening session will follow mid-year at a date TBA and sent at least 6 weeks in advance.
- As we adults help children to be formed as disciples, we, too, are formed as disciples. Our elementary-aged children will wrestle with modern discipleship in ways that are mutually beneficial for child and adult guides alike as wisdom is shared.
- A healthy Sunday School supports parent formation both in the Sunday School Classroom and in the parish hall in the Adult Forum series. The more active and engaged parents we have in Sunday School, the more opportunities there are for parents to attend Adult Forum and be formed while their child is getting age-appropriate discipleship.

We will share another tasty meal together as we continue to build our community as ministers and parents alike! Please RSVP on the Gcal invite so we can get an accurate headcount for food. If you haven't received a Gcal Invite, please e-mail maria@standrews.net.



OUTREACH

ECHO Food Drive

Mandy David | echo@standrews.net

It's almost time for our annual food drive to support ECHO in feeding our community. From **September 12th-October 3rd**, we will be collecting non-perishable food items. Last year, your generosity led to 1,083 pounds of food donated!

We will distribute cards with the list of ECHO's most-needed food items during the services on September 12th & 13th; they will also be found in the Narthex.

Interested in learning more about ECHO or getting involved in this ministry? Find our group on Realm!

Rise Against Hunger

Kate Lewis | outreach@standrews.net

We are excited to bring a new opportunity for hands-on service and intergenerational fellowship and fun to St. Andrew's this Fall.

Rise Against Hunger is an organization that works in countries worldwide to fight hunger, targeting communities facing high rates of food insecurity. We will be hosting a food packing event at St. Andrew's on **Sunday, October 18th** during our formation hour (and a bit beyond) packing meals for global hunger relief. Come for some refreshments/lunch after the 10:00 a.m. service and then stay to help us pack from about 12:00-2:00 p.m. We'll need all of us working together to meet our goal of packing 10,000 meals in about 2 hours!

Rise Against Hunger provides experienced staff to facilitate the event and all the materials we'll need---but St. Andrew's, we'll be providing the volunteer power—and the fellowship and laughter. This is an intergenerational event with ages 5-105 welcome to participate and various volunteer tasks available to meet different needs and abilities.

Sign up and additional information coming shortly, but for now SAVE October 18th from 12pm- 2pm on your calendars. And if anyone is interested in helping with some of the planning for this event, reach out to Kate at outreach@standrews.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

Men's Fellowship: Coffee to Stay or Go

Darren Williams | mensfellowship@standrews.net

Please stop by the West Springfield Panera (Rolling Rd and Old Keene Mill Rd) for some fellowship on **Friday, September 11th**, between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m.!

Stop by on your way to work, or stay and have coffee and a bagel. Be it 5 minutes or an hour, we'd love to see you! Upcoming dates are October 9th, November 12th, and December 11th.

SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

Creative Gifts Ministry

Debbie Williams | creativegifts@standrews.net

Volunteer Opportunity: we're restarting the Creative Gifts Ministry, a simple and meaningful way to lift up parishioners who need comfort—those facing illness, walking through hardship, welcoming a new baby, etc. Create anything from your heart: prayer squares, shawls, tokens, lap blankets, baby blankets, bookmarks, etc. All crafting is done at your own home, at your own pace.

We'll meet quarterly to share our creations, pray over them, and photograph/inventory the items to provide for pastoral care.

Next gathering: **Saturday, September 12th, at 10:00 a.m.** — Conference Room. If you can't attend but want to be part of this ministry, just let us know—we'll gladly add you to the roster.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

Adult Preparation for Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, & Reaffirmation

The Rev. Will Packard | will@standrews.net

What: Formation classes for adults interested in Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation, or learning what these terms even mean.

When: Sundays, 1:30 - 3:00pm (It will not always go until 3). We will begin September 13th and conclude at the Bishop's Visitation on November 22nd (although your discipleship continues). We will not meet on November 8th. *Note: If you began our formation series this past Spring, you will only need to attend the first two meetings on September 13th and 20th to complete your formation.*

Where: We will schedule the Conference Room and have a hybrid option on Zoom.

Who: Adults completing formation; those seeking to "join" the church; and all curious adults.

Why: You feel a call to go deeper in your faith; officially "join" the church; want to learn about the Bible, Prayer, and the Church; your spouse told you to go; a member of the clergy recommended you "look into it"; or you're just curious.

SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events)

Sean Hilber | safety@standrews.net

The Fairfax County Police Department will be leading a CRASE Course on Saturday, September 19th at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) course is designed to provide strategies, guidance and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event. Topics include the history and prevalence of active shooter events, civilian response options, medical issues, and considerations for conducting drills.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

FoMA Concert Series: Nick & Brew

foma@standrews.net

Join us for our first concert of the 2026-2027 season on **Sunday, September 20th** at 4:00 p.m.

It's hard to put into words, isn't it, when something just feels right? But that's exactly how it was for Nick & Brew. Like long lost brothers- one from the South, the other from the North; one raised Protestant, the other Catholic. When they met amid the vibrant music scene of Asheville, NC, it just felt right. We think when you hear their "Nick & Brewgrass" sound, it'll just feel right for you, too.

OCTOBER 2, 2026

St. Andrew's Golf "Tournament"

Tom Horan | golf@standrews.net

Join us for an exciting morning of golf at Penderbrook Golf Club in Fairfax on **Friday, October 2nd**. We aim to have at least 40 golfers to maintain our shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. Check in begins at 7:30 a.m. Everyone (16 and older) is invited to join us, so bring your friends and neighbors!

The participation fee is \$110 per person. Additional expenses, like mulligans, string, and a toss, are priced at \$100 per foursome or \$25 per individual and can be paid on the day. After the game, we will convene for lunch (self-pay) on the terrace and present awards for achievements like closest to the pin, longest drive, and most lost balls.

Registration is now available online: <http://tiny.cc/golfing26>. Payment (\$110) must be made at time of registration. Register by Friday, September 25th.

LECTIONARY READINGS

(www.lectionarypage.net)

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalms 149

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 14:19-31

Psalms 114

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Colin Browne Jack Lewis Brian Shannon Alexandra Kuhns	2 Steve Ramsdell Karen Steele	3	4	5 John Osthaus Jonathan Nein
6 Mary Richardson David Cruickshank	7 LABOR DAY	8	9	10 Diane Hill Luke Groves	11 PATRIOT DAY Andie Hardin	12 Claire Watson Sean Akins
13	14 Mary Grogan Amelia Haubner Holden Kuhns Geneva David	15 Will Spencer	16 Virginia Sertich Elizabeth Riley Lydon Hawkins	17 Heather Flanagan Hadley Cone	18	19 Gretchen Parrott
20	21 Audrey Spaans	22 AUTUMN BEGINS CJ Brannam Randall Prior Karen Nies-Vogel 	23 Marc Turner Julian Spaans	24 Peter Dasher	25 Jonathan Withington Madeline Akins Carol Robinson Joseph Grundlehner	26
27	28 Bridget Spencer	29	30 Lucila Woodard			

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

DIRECTORY

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. William L. Packard | Rector
will@standrews.net

The Rev. Maria Maguire | Associate Rector
maria@standrews.net

The Rev. Susie Harding | Deacon
susie@standrews.net

Michelle Ramsdell | Parish Administrator
michelle@standrews.net

Emily Nein | Communications Director
emily@standrews.net

Alan Moser | Minister of Music, Organist, & Choirmaster
alan@standrews.net

Tami Phillips | Preschool Director
preschool@standrews.net

Carlos Guzman | Sexton
sexton@standrews.net

2026 Vestry

Stephanie Meadows | Senior Warden
srwarden@standrews.net

Gail Bouton | Junior Warden
jrwarden@standrews.net

Jeff Reba | Register & Land Stewardship Lead
register@standrews.net

Dan Humphrey | Treasurer
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Bruce McWilliams | Assistant Treasurer
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Karen Spencer | Fellowship
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Becky Haler & Pam Hardin | Formation
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Kate Lewis | Outreach
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Sean Hilber | Safety & Security
safety@standrews.net

Bill Johnson | Stewardship
stewardship@standrews.net

Scott Hellier | Welcome
welcome@standrews.net

Carol Robinson | Worship
worship@standrews.net

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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