



The Bellringer

A Publication of **St Andrews Presbyterian Church**
October/November, 2014

Meet Our Church Officers . . .

Editor's note: You have been meeting the Church's chairpersons of Session and our Clerk of Session, Francis Priester. This issue we will introduce you to our Moderator, Rev. Dr. Harvey Jenkins.

Reading the Bible

by **Harvey Jenkins**

*"The word of God is living
and active...." - Hebrews
4:12a*



Since the invention of the printing press, there have been published more translations, versions, editions, and copies of the Bible than of any other book ever written.

No other book has been more widely read, studied, or quoted. It is a book that has had a huge impact on the world, and it has the power to change lives. As biblical scholar Alan Richardson writes, "Through all the long centuries God has spoken to men and women through the Bible. This is not a hypothesis or a dogma, but a statement of fact."

Sadly, many Christians read the Bible only to substantiate what they already think or believe. Many quote from the Bible to underscore what they are against rather than what they are for, and many become overly dogmatic with an excessive emphasis on law rather than grace.

Using the Bible only support preconceived notions does not allow God to speak to them and to change them through His Word.

In the book Creation Continues, psychoanalyst Fritz Kunkel gets it right when he says that only "a dynamic reading of the Bible changes the reader."

The Bible can change lives when it is read as a living and active word from God. So, don't read into the words of the Bible what you already think. Listen for what God's Spirit is saying to you through its words.

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Session Actions

Jimmy Whisenant was elected to serve as Chairman of the Nominating Committee. He will be asked to select two members of the congregation to serve with him.

The Session reviewed and approved the draft of the "Temporary Supply Pastor's Contract" Elder George Carothers was asked to arrange a meeting to interview prospective candidate, BELL TOWER STATUS – Is in the hands of Leo Nelson, Chuck Martin and George Carothers – report to follow.

With a unanimous vote, the Session voted to retain the Inactive Member category of members

Presbyterian Women of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

The Women of the Church meet the 2nd Thursday of every month at 2:00 PM at the Church. We encourage all women who are interested in Bible study and good female fellowship to join us and bring a friend. We are studying about Paul from 2nd Corinthians. We are also making plans for our church Yard/Bake sale to be held on October 18th in which the proceeds will go toward our Building Fund. We are also making plans for our Annual Church Thanksgiving meal to be held on Sunday November 23rd following the morning worship service. Come join us in our women's ministry!!

Dixie Retherford

BIRTHDAYS

One missed in October

17 Sue Heh

NOVEMBER

09 Dixie Retherford

19 Jane Perry

21 Margie Nelson

29 Bob Arnold

DECEMBER

01 Robin Perry

09 Charles Charette

16 Chuck Martin

18 Patsy Moates

19 Bonnie Charette

JANUARY

01 Daphne Clark-Watkins

04 Gloria Rowell

06 Maxine Priester

16 Dianne Vaughn

18 Scott Perry

30 Fleta Dean



Submitted by Steve Wade from a series of renderings entitled 'Jesus'



... yes, we are doing the Scarecrow Festival again this year. The theme is, "From Our Home to Yours".

Big Bertha is the center of our trio. She's followed by Andrew (our original winning entry) then Otto (who won last year). I don't think we're supposed to reusing these scarecrows, but they have become a part of our 'pumpkin-headed' family.

George and Beverly Carothers, Jimmy and Jennifer Whisenant were finishing up of the details on Bertha and setting up Andrew when I dropped by. I had been busy working on the Bellringer and had stopped that to take our application for the scarecrow contest to the museum. Parked across Beck to get a look at Big Bertha (she's huge) and was talking to Wendy, manager of Enzo's,

I was explaining the concept of the three figures were there to represent 'family', and Wendy says "Oh, yeah! The Trinity".

Thanks Wendy for being so perceptive & the Carothers and Whisenants for doing a great engineering and design work. Unless they make us take it down 'Big Bertha', Andrew, Otto should be up until October 31.



We all are Invited to Enjoy & Give Thanks,

Thanks to the Presbyterian Women of St. Andrews, we will be invited to the pre-Thanksgiving dinner here at the Church.

We will gather in the Fellowship Hall following Sunday service, November 23. This is not a fundraising dinner, the Women of the Church are setting aside this Sunday, as they traditionally do, to give Thanks, have good fellowship and enjoy some good wholesome food.



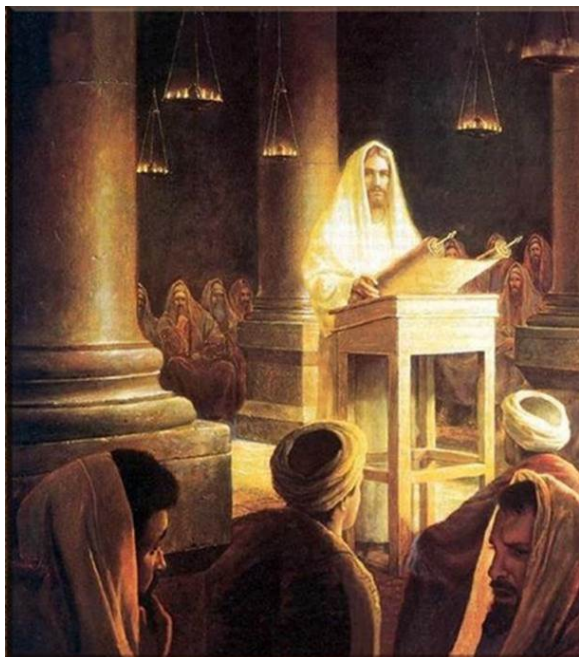
Presbyterian Bay Men to Meet . . .

Grace Presbyterian Church will host the October Bay Men's group meeting. Meeting date is Thursday, October 30 – time

6:30pm.

Grace is at the corner of Airport Rd and Lisenby Ave,

St. Andrews is requested to furnish the number of those attending by Monday, October 27. Lester Naples is the guest speaker – this is a dinner meeting.



"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24

On the first of March, 2001, John Painter died. He was 112 years old. Mr. Painter was a hero in our Tennessee community, the oldest survivor of World War 1. He was never bedridden but remained active until the day of his death.

There are all sorts of stories about John. Some people will tell you that if you had a wart on your hand and you shook hands with old John Painter, the wart would disappear. Some say he walked for three days right after he broke his hip. The thing about this dear gentleman that I admired most, however, was his presence in today. Patsy, his grandson's wife, said of John, "He didn't look back, and he didn't look forward. He lived one day at a time." When I read that quote about Mr. Painter in our morning newspaper, I took it as a precious jewel left behind by a wise man. So often I miss what's

happening at the moment because I'm anticipating something around the corner. Sometimes the joy of today is shadowed by worry about tomorrow. Too often it takes a tragedy to make us cherish life and savor each day. Perhaps we can take this gift from an old man who had seen a lot of life yet didn't miss the present moment. We can worship God today. We can love our family today. We can live fully, today.

Father of today and every day, thank you for this day. I give it to you and ask you to live through me and love through me all day long. Amen

Taken from the Women of Faith Daily Devotional

Submitted by *Maureen Wade*



Hurray, a new music director

Wanda Sherman has agreed to become our new choir director, much to the delight of everyone especially the choir. Wanda is a very talented pianist - but more about her in our next Bellringer

JUST IN. . .

We were saddened to hear the news from Canada this week. It was such sad news to hear of the terrorist attack in Ottawa and the car attack earlier. Particularly, we remember Bonnie & Charette of Ottawa, one of our winter visitors.



This was the beginning of a very successful Oct.18 sales enterprise.

OCTOBER 18TH YARD/BAKE SALE

For many weeks the Women of the Church collected rooms full of various items such as - furniture, infants & children's clothes & toys, books & household items. Some of the men went to people's homes & picked up heavy things in their pick-up trucks and brought them back to the church.

The Thursday & Friday prior to the sale workers tirelessly worked



Here is some of valiant crew who put in the hours to make the Yard/Bake sale a success,

setting up the fellowship hall. Bright and early Saturday people were lined up outside the door prior to the 8 A.M. opening anxious to get first pick of our bargains. When the doors closed at 1 P.M. the workers, 12 women & 7 men



Then there was little left.

had realized a profit of **\$1,760** from everything including the baked goods. Many thanks to everyone who brought in and/or made purchases. The money that was raised will be used for the building fund.

Anything that was left over at the end of the day was picked up by people from the Rescue Mission



'Can't walk those dogs no more!

*These Yard Sale pictures by **George Carothers***



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2014

It rained a few times the week before as well as the week after, but Sunday the 14th turned out to be a glorious sunny day. About 50 of us gathered in the friendship hall after our worship service and got to enjoy an endless array of homemade covered dishes and desserts.

Did I mention why we gathered there for this feast? It



was **St. Andrews Presbyterian's 128th Birthday!** We are the oldest established church in Panama City and very proud of that fact.

One thing was done a little differently this time - we asked for a special donation so that we can have our bell taken down and repairs to the belfry and the leaking roof. Thanks to



everyone who donated, over \$1,000 was raised.

Among our special guests that day were Rev. Jim Huffaker, Scott, Jane and Robin Perry and our Pastor Emeritus Rev Tom Douglas and his wife Mary Lou.

More Yard/Bake Sale Photos



Over Steve's shoulder (no, not the one where Maureen is standing) is the evidence that we did have goods for our Bake Sale – Sold out within a very short time



Sara Daffin along with other members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Women smiles happily after observing how well Yard/Bake Sale went Saturday, Oct 18

Special Thanks to Sally Teer for these photos and many of the unrecognized other pictures in issues of Bellringers



Margie Nelson displays the makings for a wonderful fundraising dinner. We all enjoyed it!

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

The Worship Committee, headed by Sara Daffin, and a group of hard working volunteers prepared a tasty spaghetti supper the evening of October 8th. It was well attended by many who ate in the friendship hall and also others who chose to take their meals home.



We are in need of funds for our building fund, so we requested donations and **\$705.00 was raised.**



Below... is from Steve Wade's "Prayer Request".

Those of you who do not have a computer are missing this regular update by Steve. (also, St. Andrews is now sending out Weekly Bulletins, Announcements and Bellringers via email.)

Please pray for Tami Matthews, Mac and Wanda McCreary's daughter, her family and friends upon her passing. Her memorial service took place Saturday, October 18 at Wilson funeral home. Tami had serious lung problems for several years.

Pray for Ann Melton, friend of Maureen's, that she healed of her brain tumor. She had surgery Thursday and is in stable condition.

Pray for Chuck and Brenda as they go through health problems with Bobbi. Pray for Bobbi for unspoken prayers.

Continued prayers for Tom and Mary Lou, Ken and Mary Ann, Bob and Marsha, Reba Loves' daughter with unspoken prayers,

Aimee Jo Nelson, Sara Daffin, Judy Burd, Daphne, Jan and Peder, and those individuals that need our prayers daily, Scott Stallins,

Rose's son, Sally Teer as she gets over her cold, Dianne Vaughn with unspoken prayers, Ruth and all military members stationed overseas and state side that they be kept safe, and their families waiting for their safe returns.

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We have selected three of a series of 12 pictures that were used in a religious email forwarding program sent out by Steve Wade. This particular piece was entitled 'Jesus' and was used to illustrate a commentary to see if you could identify certain events depicted. The artists of these pictures were not credited. Thanks you Steve for sending this to us.

On the Table . . . in the rear of the Sanctuary, is a sheet sent out by our Synod that lists 9 grants that might be of interest to you. One in particular is the Small Church grant...it shows that it is for South Carolina, but there are probably similar programs

here or through General Assembly. This is something to look into for our Belfry modifications and repairs.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Coming Events:

November 23 – **Thanksgiving Luncheon**, Fellowship Hall following 11 am Services. Furnished by St. Andrews Presbyterian Women.

November 30 – Beginning of the **4 Weeks of Advent**.

Weekly Schedule:

Sundays, 9:30 am, **Sunday School**, parlor; 11 am, **Worship Service**, sanctuary (**see Schedule for Visiting Pastors**), (3rd Sundays) 1:30 pm, **Session Meeting**, Sunday schoolroom.

Mondays, 9 am, **TOPS**, TOPS room & fellowship hall.

Tuesdays, 9 am, **Fitness** (yoga, strength, stretch, two sets of core development – with & without bands). Which of these Fitness activities are published in Weekly Announcements.

Wednesdays, 8:30 am, **Walk about St. Andrews**, begins at fellowship hall; 9 am, **Fitness** (see Tuesdays for listed activities); 3 pm, Choir Practice, choir room.

Thursdays, 4:30 pm, **Line Dance**, fellowship hall; (2nd & 4th Thursdays), **Girl Scouts**, Sunday schoolroom, (2nd Thursdays), **St Andrews Presbyterian Women**, parlor.

Schedule for Visiting Pastors

Oct. 26, **Rev. Sheila Palmer**; Nov. 2, **Rev. Roland Gallagher**; Nov. 9, **Rev. Virgil Tillman**; Nov. 16, **Rev. Jim Huffaker**