



April came in like a lion and appeared that it was going to go out like a wheeze. Things have changed in ways none of us could have imagined since the last newsletter. I had been ahead of the curve and had sent Terry an article for the newsletter but as I thought about it, I realized that whatever I'd said it was no longer relevant considering our current reality.

Reality. It is what it is, although just *what* it is, is hard to say. We're still trying to figure out *what* we're dealing with. We're all getting to be familiar with the challenges of social distancing, shortages of toilet paper and antiseptics, gloves and masks.

I am not a medical professional or even a medical amateur, my area of expertise—if I have one—is the supernatural, or in more church jargon, theology. Theology is derived from two Greek words: “Theos” which is Greek for God and “ology” from the Greek word “logos”, which when translated to the English, is simply “word”. Thus, “theology” translated literally to English is “God word” or “God speak.”

I mentioned recently a quote from CS Lewis:  
“God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks to us in our conscience, but shouts in our pains.”

God is shouting at us. We are doubtless wondering what exactly God is saying right now. He has our attention to be sure. I am grateful that most of us are doing pretty well by God's grace. We are all tired of being locked up in our homes, but no one that I know of personally has the Corona virus. Some of us know people who have died or are ill with this stuff and that causes us pain as we grieve their passing, but even then, we grieve mindful of the promise of the resurrection. We are blessed too that none of the members of our congregation have contracted covid-19.

From what we have seen in scripture and experienced in our own lives we can be encouraged that God is still in charge, and that God will bring good out of this mess. During this time of isolation, we would do well to use some of our spare time to enter a time of introspection. God is shouting at America and the world. The message in theological terms is the same as it has always been: Return to me!

King David, on realizing his sin prayed to God to restore his relationship:

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.” (Ps 51:10–12)

Pastor Marc



M A Y

- 5 Cinco de Mayo
- 10 Mother's Day
- 25 Memorial Day



J U N E

- 14 Flag Day
- 21 Father's Day & Summer Begins



**St. Andrews Presbyterian Church**

6317 103rd Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32210

*Being the face of Christ  
In our Community.*

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**MAY/JUNE 2020**

**Secretaries**

*Donna Kirksey  
Judy Medearis  
Judith Yeaton*

**Active Elders**

*Michele Banks – CE&F  
Lynda Edwards – M&E  
Summer Hackney – CE&F  
Terry Hallihan – F&P  
Bonnie McNally - CCN  
Walter McNair – B&G  
Judith Yeaton – Worship*

## Finance & Personnel

Month ending March, 2020 is as follows:

Income = \$7,746.11, Expenses = \$7,418.31  
equaling a positive balance of \$327.80.

March 2020 Year To Date:

Income = \$20,901.79, Expenses = \$26,451.24  
resulting in a negative balance of \$5,549.45.

The April numbers will result in a larger negative balance since April has 3 payroll periods and our Property Insurance bill of around \$3,000 is due.

At our next Session conference call meeting we will begin the job of evaluating our personnel. Worship will evaluate our Director of Music, Building & Grounds will evaluate Julia and possibly Ken (our grounds keeper) and Session will evaluate the Pastor.

One bright spot – we were granted a waiver from the Presbytery and not required to pay \$295.00 per month to the Board of Pensions for 3 months – March, April and May.

Also, F & P Committee recommended and Session approved the Church applying for a forgivable loan through the CARES Act to cover our staff salaries for 90 days - part of March, April, May and part of June. We encourage you all to keep up your pledges which helps our church pay its bills and commitments.

Our next conference call meeting is June 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am unless we are able to meet in person.

Yours in Christ, Terry Hallihan, Cathy Barr,  
Phyllis Herpy, Mary McNair, Linda Seiler and  
Judith Yeaton

## OUR PRAYER LIST



*Roger Barr,  
Lynda Edwards,  
Joe & Veda Haltom,  
Frankie Hawkins  
Janice Hutsell,  
Linda Kneece,  
Blair Lober,  
Ray Massey,  
Sue Massey,  
The Parramore Family,  
Charleen Pavlakovich,  
Carol Shircliff,  
David Spranger,  
Susan Spranger,  
Helen Starks,  
Jack Strickland,  
Phyllis Stubbs,  
Pat Sundt,  
Clarence Sweat,  
Betty Tanner,  
Pat Thomas,  
Art Vaughn,  
Penny Waller,  
and friends & families of  
Alan Annesley  
and  
Ralph Story  
And  
All our Church Family*

# Q U A R A N T I N E

**Q** - Quiet your soul

**U** - Unite as one with God

**A** - Act with Godly love

**R** - Read your Bible

**A** - Activate your faith

**N** - Nourish your soul

**T** - Talk to God

**I** - Intercede for others

**N** - Nestle in the presence of God

**E** - Elevate God in Worship

God Bless you and your family!

## VISITS TO OUR SHUT-INS



Anyone interested in visiting and/or taking Communion to our shut-ins once the "Stay in Place" is lifted, contact the Pastor, Rev. Marc Jones.

**JULIETs** (Join Us Ladies Into Eating Together) & **Romeos** - TBD

**Adult Sunday School** - TBD

**Adult Bible Study** - TBD



During my self-isolation Quarantine Diary I struck up a conversation with a spider today. Seems nice. He's a Web Designer.

## **Worship**

May is here! Where has February, March and April disappeared too? Without our “normal” routine I have found it difficult to even remember what day it is. Since we have had to close the church, the Worship Committee has not had to carry out all the Easter plans we had made – BUT I was so excited about the Easter service that Pastor Marc, Summer, our Music Director, Kathy Dahl, and our technician, Austin Merrill, who filmed it and put it all together. It was a masterpiece for our little church! I hope you all got a chance to view it as well as subsequent ones. The Session meets by phone conference call every two weeks and last Tuesday we voted to allow Pastor Marc to have a similar service every Sunday till we can re-open our beloved church.

With the Governor’s request that we all stay at home as much as possible, I have viewed this as a gift of time that I normally would not have had. With no meetings to attend, I have managed to houseclean a lot – so much so, in fact, that what I had accumulated over 35 years found its way to our Hope Chest Thrift Store for when they can re-open. I still have about 2 weeks of cleaning to do which should take us to sometime in May when I hope we can start to get out and about. One of my future projects that I hope I can get to is to write a new Joy Gift Program as I found some pamphlets with notes on them suggesting I do that.

Your Worship Committee hopes that everyone stays well and keeps that old virus far away.

Yours in Christ’s service,

Judith Yeaton, Chairman

Lynda Edwards

Judy Medearis

Diane Parker

## **St. Andrews Church’s Flea/ Thrift Shop – “Hope Chest”**

When reopened, please remember to check-out the goodies in the “Hope Chest” on Sundays after Services or on Wednesdays between 8:00am – Noon. We have many new items thanks to all the recent house/closet cleaning.

Thank you,  
Barbara,  
Donna, Diane,  
Lynda and all  
Our Volunteers

## **Reflections**

I wanted to take a minute and reflect on this moment in time for me and share it with you. Being told you can't shake some one's hand or hug the person you love, made me realize how much human contact is needed in my life. I am not going to hide the fact that I have been very anxious my anxieties are thru the roof, and how can I not be fighting the emotions of depression. It's a reality we are all having to deal with. And as I was preparing for the May 3rd service and one of the Scriptures we will be reading is Psalms 23, and some words jumped out at me. Verse 4 says "Even though I walk through the darkest valley I fear no evil; for you are with me: your rod and your staff- they comfort me". If you have never known the feeling of being anxious, having anxieties or dealing with depression, it is darkness even in a room full of light. Not knowing when things will get back to normal or not knowing if our old normal will ever be our new normal has made me feel these feelings, but reading this Psalms today and remembering that Jesus is here to comfort me. That helps me to take that much needed deep breath and wait with patience for healing and to allow Jesus to give me that hug when I need it.

I love you all and will patiently wait till we can all be together again.

Summer Hackney  
Elder/Clerk

## **Christian Education & Fellowship**

### **Fellowship**

Committee prays that everyone is well and safe. We lift up those who need our special prayers. We look forward to the time we can gather together again. We are strong in our faith, so with God's blessing we will be able to share food and fellowship together again soon.

May God Bless  
and Keep You  
Michele Banks



### May

13 Chuck Kersten	21 Rachel Kersten
15 Scott Haynes	23 Valerie Boardman
19 Janet Fowler	23 Pyhllis Herpy

### June

12 Flo Six	21 Ron Moore
19 Pat Sundt	29 Katlin Starkey



### May

10 Ron & Stephanie Moore  
 18 Todd & Jennifer Allen  
 20 Herman & Flo Six  
 28 Joseph & Helen Ballester  
 31 Scott & Shirley Haynes

### June

1 Scott & Suzanne Brooks - Cope	
4 Michael & Susan Jones	19 Joe & Janet Flower
14 Jim & Virginia Black	24 Bert & Judith Yeaton



## *Buildings & Grounds*

Greetings from the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Hope all of you are enjoying your vacation from normal life and avoiding possible exposure to Covid-19. Whatever you are doing it must be working since none of our members to my knowledge, have contracted the virus. Keep up the good work, the end of our isolation is near. Pray it will be soon.

Here are a few tips to pass the time while you are at home. You could do a little painting. Flower gardens always need weeding. Wash your windows for a change. Pressure wash the driveway or sidewalks. Trim those pesky limbs getting ready to fall in your yard. Pick up any trash blown in your yard from the road.

If all this gets done, you will feel good about yourself, your house will look inviting, and you will feel better about the situation we are in. Enough time may even pass to allow the virus to dissipate.

But Wait! St. Andrews is also our house and all the things mentioned above are needed there. When the isolation period is over please plan to apply those skills perfected at your house to the buildings and grounds at St. Andrews. When we are given the green light to meet again as a church, use the green light to start working on our buildings and grounds again.

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Walter McNair



*A Note from  
the Clerk*



Many activities will be planned once we are able to move around without social distancing. In the mean time stay safe and keep your Church and their families in your prayers. Summer

## *Mission & Evangelism*

M&E committee is continuing our mission of helping members as well as the community in many ways. Although our Hope Chest (thrift store) and Claire's Café (bread give-away) is closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, we are continuing our commitment to church members and the community. At this time we have Stephanie Moore, Mary McNair, Joan Goldsmith, Penny Waller, Donna Kirksey and Claire (from Claire's Café) making face masks for church members and First Responders. In this unprecedented time of medical uncertainty we hope and pray for relief and safety for all from God Almighty.

*Lynda Edwards*

We should fear only if God were not in control.  
We should worry only if He were not able to meet  
our needs.  
We should strive only if the Lord were not our  
Shepherd.  
We should doubt only if He were not faithful.  
We should grieve only if Jesus were not risen!  
Alleluia! His life and love have set us free!

*~from Dayspring*

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**JULY/AUGUST  
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES  
DUE**

**\*\*\* JUNE 20th\*\*\***

Articles can be e-mailed to  
Terry Hallihan:  
**99gwhfth@comcast.net**  
Or placed in the Newsletter box  
in the office

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