

St. Andrew Messenger February 2020

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Worship in February 2020

Sunday, February 2

4th Sunday after Epiphany
Holy Communion Sunday
5th Sunday after Epiphany
6th Sunday after Epiphany
Transfiguration of the Lord

Sunday, February 9
Sunday, February 16
Sunday, February 23



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRIAN

At **St. Andrew** we are up and running, ready for 2020!

In January, we ordained and installed our new officers (elders and deacons), and said a grateful “thank you” to those who have completed their service. We are a volunteer organization that is only able to do as much as we do because so many are willing to sacrifice a handful of weekday evenings for music practice and committee meetings. We couldn’t do it without you.

And so, I wanted to write a short description of a few of the different committees we have at **St. Andrew** and a handful of our goals for 2020:

Pastor Brian (con't)

Congregational Life organizes the majority of our social events – picnics, parties, potlucks, pizza and puzzles, and pumpkin decorating – our goal for 2020 is to break out of old alliterative patterns and purely to plan periodic possibilities for Presbyterian public parley. Oh! And we're going to shoot a new church directory.

Mission organizes and raises funds for our work trips with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and for our local work with Rebuilding Together. This committee encourages the congregation to volunteer for and give to worthy causes such as Earth Day, Thornton High School, Bay Area Border Relief, mental health programs and more.

Joint Management maintains our property, in conjunction with the New Life Congregation. One of our goals for the new year is to improve signage around the church.

Nominating recommends new elders and deacons for service in the congregation and keeps our other committees functioning at full strength.

Nurture oversees our Sunday School Program (along with our Sunday School Superintendent, **Kim Carpenter**, and identifies suitable locations for our Post Church Chat gatherings.

Outreach is our newest committee, formed to ensure that we work hard to engage thoughtfully with our community. We're going to do some advertising, reflect on more effective ways to welcome visitors, and constantly invite new people to participate in our activities.

Personnel manages our church employees and will improve some of our outdated employment contracts and policies in 2020.

Preschool oversees the Terra Nova Christian Preschool, along with representatives from the New Life Congregation. This year, we will open new infant and toddler care programs, reflect seriously on incorporation as a separate 501(c)3, and maintain high safety and educational standards.

Presbytery represents us at regional Presbytery meetings.

Pastor Brian (con't)

Stewardship plans our annual stewardship drive. In 2020, we will coordinate with our regional representative from the Presbyterian Foundation, and do more to properly thank our members for their gifts of time, money, and expertise.

Worship helps to plan our regular worship services (weekly and seasonal). We are always planning new and creative ways to worship God. Look, this year, for a more tactile journey through Lent and a fresh take on some of our familiar rituals.

These are, of course, just a few of the ways that people volunteer with and serve our congregation. We also have a **Treasurer, Clerk of Session, Board of Deacons**, people who donate musical talents, childcare workers, donation counters (the countesses), ushers, kitchen angels, communion servers, and so many more. But our committees are an essential part of how we are organized (our committees make us Presbyterians). If you have any questions or suggestions for a committee or for Session, feel free to reach out to me or to any member of Session and we'll get you in touch with the person who can answer or create change.

Blessings,
Pastor Brian

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

The Tradition of Mardi Gras King Cakes

The King Cake is believed to have originated in France around the 12th century. These early Europeans celebrated the coming of the three wise men bearing gifts twelve days after Christmas calling it the Feast of the epiphany, Twelfth Night, or King's Day.

The main part of the celebration was the baking of a King's Cake to honor the three Kings. The cakes were made circular to portray the circular route used by the kings to get to the Christ Child, which was taken to confuse King Herod who was trying to follow the wise men so he could kill the Christ Child. In these early King Cakes a bean, pea, or coin was hidden inside the cake. The person who got the hidden piece was declared King for the day or was said to have good luck in the coming year.

In Louisiana, Twelfth Night also signifies the beginning of the carnival season which ends with Mardi Gras Day. The bean, pea and coin have been replaced by a small plastic baby to symbolize the Christ Child. The person who gets the baby is expected to carry on the carnival festivities by hosting the next King Cake party.

It has been a tradition at **St. Andrew** that on Epiphany Sunday we have a cake and/or King Cake. Inside the cake is a hidden cross. The person who finds the cross is to have prayers lifted up for them throughout the next year and in return that person prays for St. Andrew. Our recipient of the cross this year is **Spencer Rice**. Remember to include **Spencer** in your prayers this year and he will pray for us as well.

Congratulations **Spencer!** You are in our prayers.

Submitted by
Kathy Jeanneret

Annual Congregational Potluck Dinner and Meeting

The Annual Congregational Potluck Dinner and Meeting was held on Sunday, January 26. There was plenty of delicious food made by members. Presbyterians never lack for good food!!

The meeting portion of the evening had respective Session chairpersons giving their report for 2019. We also recognized Sessions member going off this year **David Andrews & Jennifer Benesis** and welcomed the new Session members **Ray Camacho and Deborah Etienne.**

The congregation attending the meeting approved the Annual Report, 2020 Budget and By-Laws.

Those who attended received their 2019 Annual Report. Members who have not received their report may pick one up from our table in the Social Hall.

Kitchen Angels

Take time to thank our January Kitchen Angels: **Carol Allen, Becky Christ, Judi Kuhn, Sally Martinez & Sandi Quibell.**

If you are interested on becoming an Angel, please contact any of the Angels.

Please sign-up to become an Angel and/or bringing refreshments.

Submitted by
Mary Dare

MISSION

Puerto Rico Update:

January 21, 2020

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has been in constant communication with our Presbyterian Leadership in **Puerto Rico** since January 6th, 2020. Two PDA staff members were on the island when the most powerful earthquake from the earthquake swarm (6.4) struck on Tuesday January 7th. The situation in Puerto Rico, especially in the south of the island, continues to worsen as the days go by. Since December 28, and until this date, multiple earthquakes and aftershocks occurred daily, some reaching the magnitude of 5.9. Public buildings, schools, houses, temples, bridges and roads have been severely affected. Thousands of people have left their homes for fear of a larger earthquake or because their homes are already compromised or completely destroyed. Today, about 8,000 people camp in government-based shelters and a similar or possibly greater number have established popup shelters around their homes or in public areas.

The **Rev. Edwin González-Castillo** and **Rev. Jim Kirk** spent Tuesday and Wednesday visiting the impacted areas, meeting with local Presbyterian leadership, connecting with partner organizations through the Puerto Rico VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster), communicating with FEMA personnel, and having a presence at one of the emergency shelters. **Rev. González-Castillo**, stayed on the island until this past Wednesday, supporting the work of the Southwest Presbytery and churches, visiting pastors and affected communities.

Rev. González-Castillo and **Rev. Kirk** continue to stay connected since returning to Louisville. Since the 6th of January PDA has...

- Approved two church damage grants.
- Approved an initial assistance emergency grant for the Presbytery of Southwest to use to respond to the immediate needs of survivors.
- Deployed two National Response Team members to assist the Presbytery of the Southwest as they continue their assessment.
- PDA volunteers from **St. Andrew Presbyterian Church** from Pacifica, CA who were on the island when the earthquakes hit were able to help with donations in the immediate aftermath. Read their report here: <https://www.standrewpac.org/puerto-rico-2020>

Puerto Rico Update (con't)

In addition to the response from the National Church there have been many individuals, congregations, and mid-councils that have reached out to offer support to those impacted on the island.

As a result of the planning and coordination that has taken place since Hurricane Maria, the Presbyteries of Northwest and San Juan have been supporting the response in the Presbytery of the Southwest. The Presbyteries of the Northwest and San Juan have donated immediate relief supplies such as water, food, and blankets. They have opened their churches to receive evacuees. The PDA volunteer host sites stand ready to receive disaster response volunteers and evacuees.

As the tremors and threat of another large earthquake continue it is clear that there will need to be a significant long-term recovery effort. PDA will support Southwest Presbytery and impacted communities in the long-term recovery.

Not only have buildings and homes been shaken, but also the spirit of the people. The needs are not just physical, there are also emotional and spiritual needs. Please join us in praying for those impacted and living in fear as we affirm our faith that, *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult."* May our support for our Puerto Rico family make this promise come to life in the lives of those impacted by this series of earthquakes!

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/pda-blog/2020/01/21/puerto-rico-update>

St. Andrew Aids Puerto Rico

Excerpts from communication between **PDA** and **St. Andrew**:

St. Andrew – Jeanette Waight: Our Presbyterian church has participated in Gift of the Heart kits for a number of years. It would encourage us greatly to know how many kits have been distributed to our fellow citizens of Puerto Rico in the wake of their earthquake disaster.

St. Andrew Aids Puerto Rico (con't)

PDA: *Hi Jeanette, we received word this morning that CWS has shipped hygiene kits and blankets to Caguas, PR and expects further shipments. We do not have a total, but it would be based on the number requested and the inventory in the warehouses.*

PDA: *We received word that CWS has shipped hygiene kits and blankets to Caguas, PR and expects further shipments.*

Hygiene Kits:

Hygiene Kit: As our continued response to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Gift of the Heart Kits, St Andrew's Mission Committee will once again collect donations for Hygiene Kits. Please visit the opportunity table after Sunday service through the month of February.

Value: \$15 plus recommended \$2 processing fee per kit*

*A note from our PDA partners, Church World Service regarding processing fees: Shipping of the kits to their final destination is expensive. Costs include renting space on trucks, boats and planes, paying for gas, for the insurance of each shipment and for other delivery fees. We ask that our donors help cover a small amount of this cost.

Submitted by **Jeanette Waight**

WORSHIP

Ash Wednesday Service

To begin our Lenten commemoration, please join us for a solemn ceremony to celebrate Ash Wednesday February 26, at 7 pm in the sanctuary.

Submitted by **Meg Hunter**

Newsletter Notes

- Deadline for the (**March 2020**) newsletter is (**February 23, 2020**).
- Please send newsletter articles to: standrewpacificanewsletter@gmail.com
- Session Committee Chairpersons are encouraged to submit their reports.
- Members are also welcomed to submit any news items (i.e. life events/transitions, announcements, graduations, etc.)

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Visit our Website: standrewpac.org

Open Attachment for report on
St. Andrew Puerto Team
January 3-10, 2020
Submitted by Berni Schuhmann

Visit our Website for pictures of the Puerto Rico Mission Trip
www.standrewpac.org



February 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Note: Meeting dates and time subject to change; please check the website to confirm.						1 2:00 PM S.A.S.H.
2 9:15 AM Worship, Holy Communion; Sunday School, Child Care 10:15 AM Coffee Hour Super Bowl Sunday	3	4 7:00 PM Joint Management	5 7:00 PM Hand Bell Choir	6 7:30 PM Choir	7	8 9:00 AM Women's Group
9 9:15 AM Worship, Sunday School, Child Care 10:15 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worshipp Meeting	10	11 7:00 PM Session Meeting	12 7:00 PM Hand Bell Choir	13 7:30 PM Choir	14  Valentine's day	15
16 9:15 AM Worship, Sunday School, Child Care 10:15 AM Coffee Hour 11 AM Post Church Chat	17 President's Day Holiday	18	19 7:00 PM Hand Bell Choir	20 7:30 PM Choir	21	22
23 9:15 AM Worship, Sunday School, Child Care 10:15 AM Coffee Hour	24	25 7:00 PM Deacons' Meeting	26 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service	27	28	29