

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF MINISTRIES
FEBRUARY 1 - FEBRUARY 7

SUNDAY, February 1

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
9:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee Time
9:50 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

MONDAY, February 2

7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
5:00 p.m. Missions
6:00 p.m. Charity Circle

TUESDAY, February 3

10:00 a.m. Christian Studies Class
5:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery

WEDNESDAY, February 4

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Stephen Ministry Training
5:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
5:30 p.m. Children's Choir
6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice
6:00 p.m. Youth/Children Activities
7:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice

**ST. ANDREW'S GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH**
615 MAIN AVE. SW
CULLMAN, AL 35055-4729
256-734-0340
STAFF@STANDREWCULLMAN.
ORG
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

We're on the web!
standrewcullman.org



The Monthly Newsletter of St. Andrew's Global Methodist Church

SA ND NEWS

January 21, 2026

Volume 27, Number 1

ST. ANDREW'S STAFF

Senior Pastor
Robert Lancaster
Associate Pastor
Brian Bradley
Children's Director
Kellie Britton
Youth Director
Michael Thompson
Choir Director
Melody Bradley
Organist
Jannie Ratliff
Pianist
Melinda Briscoe
Office Administrator
Lori Tafazoli
Preschool Director
Wendy Ryan

Are You a Thistle or Lily?

The other day, I was listening to Christian radio, and they were having an interesting discussion about Genesis 3:18. They were talking about how working the ground became harder after God made Adam and Eve leave the garden. The conversation turned to thorns and thistles, mentioned in 3:18. Then the man asks the lady an interesting question: Are you a thorn or thistle to someone? When I hear the word thistle, I go back to the days of working on the farm in Park City, Kentucky. My grandfather hated to see a thistle on the farm. The moment he saw one, he had to stop what he was doing and go dig up the thistle. If one ever got a chance to bloom and go to seed, he would be beyond upset. He even got mad when other farmers let thistles go to seed, saying that when they bloom, the wind might blow the seed onto his land.

I tell you the story about my grandfather because it reminds me how aggravating thorns and thistles can be. In contrast, there is *Solomon 2: "I'm a rose of the Sharon plain, a lily of the valleys. 2 Like a lily among thornbushes, so is my dearest among the young women."* In the Song of Solomon, the writer describes the beauty of a lily and how it is so admired among the thorns. These verses got me thinking. Am I a thistle or a lily in the life of the people around me, who love me? Do I bring joy and beauty to their life or aggravation? At the office: Am I a thistle or a lily? I suspect Lori might say a little of both on some days. But it is a good question that we, as children of God, should ask ourselves. Do we bring joy into the lives of the people who know us and are around us? Do we make their days better? Are they glad to see us coming? As children of God, we should always put our best foot forward. We should strive to be a presence of peace and calm. Because, like a thistle that has gone to seed, someone in a bad mood, being hyper-critical, or always condemning and criticizing others, will spread their attitude and behavior well beyond the one thistle. Will we always be a lily? No! I have never met a perpetual lily. But it doesn't mean we have to accept being a thistle without trying to do better.

Robert

OUR VISION:

Our vision is to be a worshipping, loving and witnessing church in Cullman County where disciples of Jesus Christ live out their call to ministry and are nurtured in small groups.

Our Mission:
Reach the lost,
nurture the
faithful.

WE COVENANT WITH GOD THROUGH . . . OUR PRAYERS

Health and Healing: Margaret Ann Adderhold, Rhonda Brown, Henry Burns, Maranda Callan, Don Cole, Carolyn Eller, David Fisher, Joe Gamble, Carol Gardner, Carol Garrett, Kym Grant, Betty Harbin, Jack Hershiser, Jr., Elaine Key, James and Clara Laminack, Elaine Mills, Don Wilbanks, Dale Woodard, Terri Wrenn

Homebound, Nursing Home or Assisted Living
Marilyn Bell, Larry Britton, Mary Clark, Margaret Gill, Gary Lasdon, John & Connie New, Rhonda Oakley, Joyce Rowe, Dalton Sharpton, Polly Stone, Norma Wrenn

Active Military
Tim Anderson, Justin Bloom, Thomas Brown, Michael Cavanaugh, Sam Cretser, Landon Elliott, James Heard, Austin Hubbard, Alan Kilgore, Josh Laspin, Chris Leon, Grant Pinkley, Malcolm Riker, Jonathan Ryan, Josh Ryan, Mark Smith, Matthew Steele, Nick White, Doreann Wiley

(Please check prayer lists and contact Lori if any updates need to be made.)

FEBRUARY SERVANTS

8:30 a.m. Worship

Take Up Offering: Charlie Herfurth
Hand out Bulletins & Greet: James Laminack and Mickey Phillips

Attendance Sheets: Peggy Burgess and Pat Harrison

Make Coffee: Kay Phillips

Sunday, February 1

Communion Servers: Connie Butler, Peggy Burgess and Anna Calvert

Set up Chairs: Mickey Phillips

Security: Charles Harrison

11:00 a.m. Worship

Altar: Hilda Aldridge

Attendance Sheets: Mary Ann Lee and Carol Griffin

Straighten Pew Racks: Judy Stowe

Greeter: Susan Copeland

Head Usher: Bill Ruehl

Ushers: Frances Cooper, Greg Wrenn and Fred Turnipseed

Sunday, February 1

Communion Servers: Frances Cooper, Margie Belleson and Sandra Weatherly

Security: John Mills

Prayer Chain Contact:

Lori Tafazoli: 256-509-4985 (cell)

tafazoli@juno.com

256-734-0340 (church office)

*You can leave a message on the church office phone and it will be emailed to me.

Guest Internet Password: OrangE-71

| <u>OUR ATTENDANCE</u> | |
|-----------------------|----|
| January 4 | |
| 8:30 a.m. Worship | 60 |
| 11:00 a.m. Worship | 93 |
| On-line Worship | 27 |
| Sunday School | 89 |
| January 11 | |
| 8:30 a.m. Worship | 53 |
| 11:00 a.m. Worship | 92 |
| On-line Worship | 32 |
| Sunday School | 71 |
| January 18 | |
| 8:30 a.m. Worship | 52 |
| 11:00 a.m. Worship | 94 |
| On-line Worship | 27 |
| Sunday School | 92 |

Save the Date
Swamp John's Fundraiser
Saturday, January 31
(Note this is a lunch fundraiser)
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
\$15/plate (eat in or take out)



Used Church Literature and Devotionals Needed...
A big shoutout to our congregation to bring your used church literature, devotionals, Upper Rooms and Christian based books and leave outside church office in the recycle boxes! Items will be taken to Love Packages warehouse in Trinity, Alabama! They also welcome church groups to come volunteer in sorting church literature for shipment all over the world! St Andrews has taken their used literature to be recycled for several years now!

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Missions Meeting

Monday, February 2 at 5:00 p.m.

Charity Circle Meeting

Monday, February 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Finance Meeting

Monday, February 9 at 12:00 p.m.

Friendship Circle

Tuesday, February 10 at 1:00 p.m.

Trustees

Tuesday, February 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Quilt Guild

Thursday, February 11 at 9:00 a.m.

Community Meal

Thursday, February 11 at 4:30 p.m.

Youth Spaghetti Fundraiser

Sunday, February 15 at 12:00 p.m.

Winter Jam 2026

Sunday, February 15 at 2:30 p.m.

Newsletter Folding

Wednesday, February 18 at 9:00 a.m.

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m.

Traveling Saints

Thursday, February 19 at 8:00 a.m.

Emmaus

Monday, February 23 at 6:00 p.m.

Bunco

Tuesday, February 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Ways to Give

Text to Give

Text STANDREWS35055 to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483) in order to receive a reply with the link to the giving interface.

Give on the Website

Go to standrewscullman.org and under the about drop down select give or go directly to standrewscullman.org/give

2025 Giving Statements are available in the alphabetic boxes outside the library.



Winter Jam 2026 Youth Outing **February 15th**

We will meet in the church parking lot at 2:30 p.m. for carpool. Bring money for concessions and desired merchandise. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a jacket. The church will cover admission and dinner cost. Each student is allowed up to two guests. See Michael for more information or to sign

2026 St. Andrew's Committee Members

Finance: Gary Turner, Chair; Robert Lancaster, Brian Bradley, Robin Parson, Gerald Weatherly, Mickey Phillips, Lori Tafazoli, Miriam Adams, Bob Burgess, Frances Cooper, Rick Bryant and John Mills

SPRC: Jim Ryan, Chair; Marlin Raney, Vice-Chair; Bill Griffin, Bob Burgess, Rick Bryant, Rita Speegle, Marlin Raney, Connie Butler, Larry Moore and Joan von Lehe

Trustees: Frances Cooper, Chair; Mike Burleson, David Speegle, Shirley Hays, Carol Griffin, Charles Harrison, Harold Trevarthen, Tammy Kirk and Alan Kilgore

Nominations: Robert Lancaster, Chair; Glenda Rainey, Denise Nails, Carol Trevarthen, Doyle Jones, Johnny Kirk, Mary Ann Lee, Carol Tekulve and Byron Martin

Missions: Ernie Parson, Chair; Miriam Adams, Hilda Aldridge, Peggy Burgess, Carol Griffin, Kay Phillips, Margie Belleson, Rita Speegle, Harold & Carol Trevarthen and Gary Turner

Preschool Board: Wendy Ryan, Kellie Britton, Robert Lancaster, Gary Turner, Frances Cooper, Rita Speegle and Kay Phillips

Church Council

Chairperson - Miriam Adams

Council Secretary - Lisa Harbin

Church Treasurer - Robin Parson

Pastor - Robert Lancaster

Assoc. Pastor - Brian Bradley

Lay Leader - Gerald Weatherly

Finance Rep - Gary Turner

SPRC Rep - Jim Ryan

Trustee Rep - Frances Cooper

Mission Rep - Ernie Parson

Lay Member to Conference - Mickey Phillips, Denise Nails (reserve)

2026 Flower Calendar

If you wish to put flowers in the sanctuary please contact the church office or sign up on the flower calendar in the sanctuary. Cost of the flowers has gone up to \$60.00.