

CROSS CURRENTS

OCTOBER | VOLUME 2025 | ISSUE 08



IN THIS ISSUE

DISCOVER SAPC: NEW MEMBERS CLASS

PAGE 4

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

PAGE 3

CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES

PAGE 4

FROM PASTOR JOHN

Greetings St. Andrew's Family and Friends! Fall equinox was September 22, so the fall season is officially here! We trust and pray our thermometers will reflect this new reality as well! We want to highlight some important events in the life of the congregation.

Worship +2 was a great time of learning more about the ministry and mission of SAPC. I'd like to encourage you to continue praying and reflecting on deepening your worship, cultivating connection opportunities through participation in small groups or classes (+1) and then finding an avenue of service within the church or out in the community (+2). You all are in my prayers for spiritual renewal, deeper relationships, and outlets to be a blessing to others as we continue to take up our cross and follow Christ together. You can learn more about these opportunities online at sapctucson.org.

The Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 12, at 10:00 am will provide an opportunity to vote upon the slate of new church officers (Deacons, Elders, and Trustees) that the Nominating

Committee has been praying over and assembling. Another vitally important matter will be the congregation's vote to approve the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee slate put together by our Nominating Committee. Presbytery has given the Session the go ahead for the APNC to begin their work of discerning and presenting the eventual called Associate Pastor to our church. In the meantime, the session continues to search for an Interim Associate. We'll provide pertinent details to you as they emerge.

On October 19, a Discover SAPC New Member's Class will be offered at my home. It will be a great way to get to know one another more, learn about St. Andrew's in relaxed environment, and have an opportunity to join the SAPC family. We also are excited about **Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 26**, with lots of candy, costumes, food trucks, and other fun activities for kids and adults alike. This is the perfect event to bring friends and showcase our Halloween costumes!

Grace and Peace,
John



UPCOMING SERMON SERIES



Don't forget that each week Pastor John creates discussion questions on that week's questions for you to use on your own or with your small group. You can find them each week at linktr.ee/sapctucson.

October 5 | *Climates: Hospitable Environment*

October 12 | *Climates: Healing Environment*

October 19 | *Climates: Liberating Environment*

October 26 | *Climates: Playful Environment*



**ENGAGE IN
WORSHIP**



**CONNECT
WITH A GROUP**



**COMMIT
TO SERVE**

**= Worship
+2**



WORSHIP +2

On Sunday, September 28, we invited the congregation to participate in Worship +2. At SAPC, we are seeking to intentionally follow in the footsteps of Jesus by **engaging in worship, connecting with community, and committing to service.**

We had a great time at the event and over 100 sign ups to learn more! Thank you to everyone who said yes to getting involved in new ways!

If you were unable to be there in person, you can still find your "+2!" We have serve and connect opportunities available at sapctucon.org/worship2. Take a moment to look through and see where God might be calling you!



LEARN MORE

SERVING OPPORTUNITY: THANKSGIVING DINNER



Tucson Refugee Ministry hosts a warm, joy-filled Thanksgiving Dinner for refugee neighbors where they show our neighbors they are welcome, loved and not alone in this season. **Please consider joining this special event.**

WHERE:

Tucson Refugee Ministry, 3355 N Fontana Ave

WHEN:

Saturday, November 22, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

HOW:

Volunteer as a food server, activity helper or setup/cleanup, donate cooked turkeys, pies or mashed potatoes, or give a financial gift toward food and supplies.

SIGN-UP:

Visit sapctucson.org/events.

CONTACT:

Jesus Sandoval
jesus@tucsonrefugeeministry.com

Marianne Hadden
mariannehadden@gmail.com

MOMENT FOR MISSION: ALBERT & ANITA BICKFORD

Albert and Anita Bickford have been serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators for 47 years. The Bickfords spent over 30 years supporting Bible translation in Mexico as consultants. Currently they are involved in two main areas:

1. *Working among the 300+ sign languages used by Deaf people around the world.*
2. *Training young people who are planning careers in Bible translation and other language-related ministries.*



Albert now serves as an associate director of the Global Sign Languages Team, where his responsibilities include tracking Bible translation needs in sign languages worldwide, coordinating and training sign language consultants, consulting with Deaf communities on linguistic analysis of their sign languages, and developing software for creating sign language dictionaries. Both of them also teach occasionally online for Dallas International University. Albert and Anita are St. Andrew's members, active in the choir and orchestra. **Albert will be presenting the Moment for Missions on Sunday, October 12.**

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Ride to Worship

The Deacons are in discussion on bringing back the Ride to Worship ministry. This ministry provides transportation, in the church van, to the 10:45 am service for those in nearby zip codes who don't have any other means to get to St. Andrew's on Sunday. The first step to make this ministry successful is having **drivers** to provide this ministry. If you are interested in this ministry and/or want more information, please contact Bill Boltz at 520-370-8553 or billboltz@q.com. Thank you for considering serving in this way!

Kitchen Committee

The St. Andrew's kitchens on the SW and NE campuses can use some help. We would like to form a Kitchen Committee to oversee the kitchens, to help create some good policies, and to help make sure the kitchens stay ready for use. The Kitchen Committee will continue to ask the ministries and individuals that use the kitchens to keep the kitchens clean and ready to use for the next ministry. If you would like to help by being a member of the Kitchen Committee, please email to let me know.

Don Spiece, Physical & Technical Resources Committee
dspiece@gmail.com

"Many hands make light work, and loving hearts make it holy."





FAITH ON TAP

Inspired by Pastor Mat, who was its founder, Faith on Tap is an amazing opportunity for men to build fellowship, hang out, eat some great food, partake in a fantastic beverage, and chat about life and God. Co-hosts Stewart Cooper and Robert Holden invite you to join other men **Friday, October 3, at 6:00 pm**. This is a casual, no stress environment. We'll supply the food. It's bring the beverage of your choice. The suggested donation is \$10. We will be meeting at Stewart Cooper's house. Please text or email Stewart at stewart.cooper@valpo.edu to get the address and RSVP. Please RSVP so we know how much food to cook! See you on October 3!

SAPC LIBRARY

Lost and Found, and Well Read? The SAPC Library Team has just conducted a full inventory audit of our Church Library. Along the way, we learned that since 2010, over **1,200** books have been checked out and returned! However, the audit also identified over 140 books that are missing from the shelves; not checked out, missing. So please, look around your homes; check your bookcases, end tables, maybe a storage box of books, even under the bed! And if you happen to find an SAPC Library book, kindly return it to the Library. If you have an overdue book, and are still reading it, stop by and we would be glad to renew the book for you. We are also considering creating a barcode database for the children's section. If you are a parent of young children, we'd appreciate your input on this idea. Contact Jean Badeau at jlbadreau@gmail.com to learn more.

SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM & RESOURCES

This fall, Pastor John has chosen two resource opportunities for your small group. Whether your group has been meeting for 30 years or starting new, these can be great study resources. If you would like a leader guide and group resources, they can be provided. Please email Ed at ecoates@sapctucson.org.

Practicing the Way

Be with Jesus
Become like him
Do as he did

John Mark
Comer

Practicing the Way by John Mark Comer

The Practicing the Way Course features eight sessions of teaching, guided conversation, and spiritual exercises designed to lay a foundation for lifelong apprenticeship to Jesus.

UNAFRAID

LIVING WITH
COURAGE AND HOPE IN
UNCERTAIN TIMES

ADAM HAMILTON

Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times by Adam Hamilton

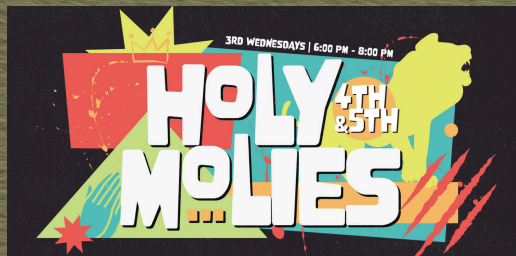
In this study based on his book *Unafraid*, Adam Hamilton explores the most common worries and fears experienced by Americans today.

Learn more at sapctucson.org/adm.



DISCOVER SAPC: NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Are you new (or newish) to SAPC and want to get to know others better and learn more about the heart and soul of SAPC? Our Discover SAPC: New Member Class is designed just for you! This learning opportunity will help you get connected on a deeper level to our life, community, ministry, and mission here. We invite you to RSVP for **Sunday, October 19, from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**, by emailing Cathi at ckentera@sapctucson.org. We'll be enjoying a delicious free lunch together at the Tittle home. Pastor John will be your facilitator for the fun, interactive, and informative time together. We look forward to seeing you there!



Holy Molies

Our 4th and 5th graders will meet this month on October 15 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in Room F. We will eat pizza, play games, and talk about being Strong in the Lord. Please bring a Bible, a filled water bottle, and \$5 to offset the cost of dinner.



Super Friends

A Special Needs Ministry - Everyone Belongs!

Our special needs ministry provides a welcoming, supportive, and inclusive space for individuals of all abilities to grow in faith and community. Whether you have a child, teen, or adult with unique needs, we offer a sensory friendly Sunday School class for our Super Friends and a parent support group. Our next meeting of Super Friends and parents will be on October 5 at 10:30 am in the Sunday School Rooms.

Let us walk alongside your family in faith. For more information or to volunteer, contact Heather at hbrannock@sapctucson.org. Because everyone deserves a place to belong!

SAPC KIDS



Trunk or Treat 2025

VOLUNTEERS & CANDY NEEDED!

Join us Sunday, October 26, from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm in the SW Parking Lot for our annual **Trunk or Treat**, an exciting community outreach event for our church, school and community! This year, Trunk or Treat is even more than decorated trunks and candy; it's a chance to come together for **fellowship, food trucks, games, bounce houses, and even a petting zoo!**

We need your help to make it happen! You can:

- **Host a Trunk:** Decorate your car and hand out candy or small prizes.
- **Donate Candy/Toys:** Drop off donations at the Church Office or collection bins near the Sunday School office.
- **Volunteer:** Help with setup, cleanup, games, or greeting families.

This is a wonderful opportunity to **shine God's light**, connect with our congregation, preschool and neighborhood families, and create joyful memories for children.

Please also invite your **friends, family, and neighbors** to join us—it's a celebration for the whole community! To volunteer or sign up, contact Heather Brannock at hbrannock@sapctucson.org.



PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

Our Preschool and Kindergarten are hosting a Scholastic Book Fair on Monday, October 20 - Wednesday, October 22, from 8:15 am - 2:45 pm in Alpha on the NE Campus.

The book fair provides a wonderful opportunity for church members to come and shop for books, whether it's for upcoming birthdays or Christmas presents. You'll find a wide variety of books, including faith based books, that are perfect for young readers, as well as an adult selection of books! You can make a difference contributing to our classroom teachers' libraries by purchasing books directly for their classrooms. Your support not only helps fill our shelves with wonderful stories, but also sparks a lifelong love of reading in our students!

In addition, we are in need of volunteers to help run this event! If you're able to donate your time, we'd love to have you join us! As a fun bonus, volunteers are encouraged to dress up as their favorite storybook character to make the event even more magical for the children! **Please sign up to volunteer at [sapcschool.org](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4CA9A822A5F49-58273120-book) or the link below:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4CA9A822A5F49-58273120-book>

Reading to a child is one of the most powerful ways to build a strong bond while also developing their language and literacy skills. From sharing a favorite bedtime story to helping children discover new worlds through books, your participation can make a lasting impact! We encourage you to visit, volunteer, and shop for the children or adults in your life while supporting our classrooms and promoting the gift of reading!



SAPC YOUTH

We're excited to announce that SAPC will be sending a mission team to the Yucatán Peninsula in Mexico with Acción Ministries, May 30 - June 6, 2026. This trip is open to high school students (freshmen and older), college students, and young adults. We'll be working alongside local churches to build roofs and floors, building sweat equity, and serving beside the community in a different culture.

If you'd like more information, there's an info packet and registration form available. Talk to Tim, tchristian@sapctucson.org. Deposits are due October 18, 2025. We'd love for you to prayerfully consider joining us on this life changing trip. Learn more at sapcyouth.com.





FINANCIAL UPDATE

| As of August 31, 2025 | YTD Offering | YTD Expenses |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Actual | \$1,089,730 | \$1,373,499 |
| Planned | \$1,083,564 | \$1,423,462 |
| Difference | \$6,166 | (\$49,963) |

Thank you for your support of our ministries. Please contact Brad in the business office at (520)297-7201 if you have questions.

IN MEMORIAM

Charles 'Skip' Chase
September 1

Doug Jewell
September 25



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES

Travel Tips for Folks Over 50!

Today's seniors are healthier, more active, and more adventurous than ever before. But even if you're in-tip top shape, the physical changes that come with age presents new challenges and obstacles. So here are some tips to make travel easier, more fun and safer after 50.

- If you're going to sunny locale, ask if your prescription medications increased sensitivity to the sun.
- Carry a simple "medical information form" with you in your wallet or with your passport.
- Don't trust over-the counter drugs overseas.
- Take more prescription medications than you think you'll need.
- Put your pills in your carry-on.
- Adjust your schedule of prescription medication to account for time zones.
- If you're susceptible to motion sickness, the best location in a boat is amidship; in an airplane it's over the wing.
- Never wear new shoes.

Please contact St. Andrew's Faith Community if you seek further information. Happy safe travels.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

One of the blessings that comes from belonging to a community of believers is that we don't have to go through our trials alone. In fact, we are called to *'Bear one another's burdens.'*

Stephen Ministry training fully equips you to come alongside people during a tough time. Through 50 hours of training spread out over several months, you will learn step-by-step how to listen, pray, encourage, and clearly communicate God's love and hope.

For more information visit sapctucson.org/care or call the Church Office, 520-297-7201, or Cheryl Smith at clsmith1000@hotmail.com or 520-271-6591.



2025 LABOR DAY CAMPOUT SEPTEMBER AT SAPC

September was filled with good food, the outdoors, and great times of fellowship with friends! Here are just a few pictures out of many from the Labor Day Campout (8/29-9/1) and our Potluck in the Park (9/20).

POTLUCK IN THE PARK

