



## Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

## Beggars Can't Be Choosy

By the Rev. George Greer

Sometimes you can't be choosy.

There is an old story about a woman who goes to a pet store and asks for a singing bird. The store owner recommends a particular type of canary that he assures her, has a melodious warble.

When the woman agrees to purchase the canary, the owner goes into a back room and several minutes later emerges with a small carrying box, complete with air holes. The woman can hear the bird chirping away as she carries it out the store.

After getting the bird home and out of the box, the woman notices that it has only one leg, so she rushes back to the store and complains bitterly to the owner.

"So what do you want," the store owner snaps, "a singer or a dancer?"

One might think that the king in Jesus' story would fall into the category of someone who cannot afford to be choosy. Once the invited guests have stood him up, he resorts to the desperate measure of inviting people in off the streets, everyone, the respectable along with the drunks and criminals.

Strange, then, is the king's picky behavior toward the fellow without a proper garment. The poor guy remains silent, but we would understand if he came back at the king with the proverb, "Beggars can't be choosers."

St. Matthew's point, however is that the invitation is one thing and the way one responds to it is another.

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# October 2022

## Sundays

8:00a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rt. I
9:15a.m.	Adult Christian Ed.
10:30a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rt. II
10:30a.m.	Children's Chapel

On Sunday, October 16, 2022

we will celebrate Morning Prayer

## Wednesdays

10:30a.m.	Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer
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## Mark your calendars

Oct. 1	Pet Blessing	10:00a.m.
Oct. 3	St. Eliz. Guild	12:15p.m.
Oct. 8	Lifeline Screening	8a.m.-5p.m.
Oct. 11	Book Club	10:00a.m.
Oct. 11	Finance Committee	6:00p.m.
Oct. 19	Vestry	6:15p.m.
Oct. 20	Meals on Wheels	10:00a.m.
Oct. 20	Clericus	Noon
Oct. 21	Octoberfest	6:00p.m.

## Beggars Can't Be Choosy

*Continued from page 1*

To put it differently, being invited is not the same thing as being chosen. Several of the Gospel parables speak about how the world, even though touched by the message of Jesus, will remain a mixture of good and bad, but not forever.

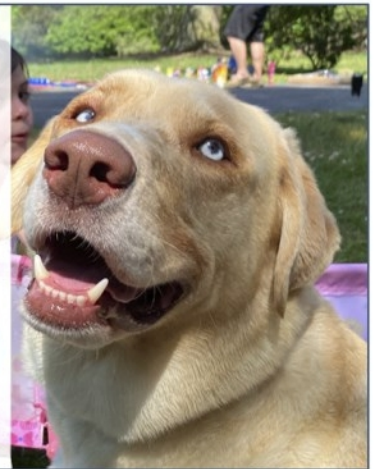
There will be a sorting out at the end of time, and not everyone who was invited will be chosen.

That's the warning against complacency, against thinking that because we bear the name "Christian" everything will go well for us. Jesus makes it clear that even though he wants, even begs, us to accept the invitation, that alone isn't enough. He can still be choosy, and what we bring to the table counts more than just the invitation.

May we through the grace of God, see the importance of responding fully to God's call and realize that it is not too late to accept God's loving invitation. Amen.

## Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, Oct. 1  
at 10a.m.  
Front Patio  
of the church.



### St. Andrew's Book Club Sept. 13

At the September meeting, the book club read, *The Wicked City Series* by Beatriz Williams. For October, they are reading *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks.



On Sept. 9, Fr. George, Helen Galligan, and Tony Inscore delivered approx. \$3700.00 worth of school supplies, clothing, and shoes to The Episcopal Farmworker Ministry in Newton Grove, NC



# 2022

## OCTOBER

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

2

8:00 a.m. HE Rite I  
Pack backpack food bags  
9:15 a.m. Adult Ed  
10:30 a.m. HE Rite II

3

St. Elizabeth's Guild  
12-1 p.m.  
TRAC 7:00-9:00 p.m.

4

Food Pantry 9-11 a.m.  
Lion's Club 6:30 p.m.

5

Food Pantry 9-10:30 a.m.  
10:00 a.m. OE  
Healing Service 10:30 a.m.

6

Food Pantry 9-11 a.m.  
Tar River Children Chorus  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

7

8

8 a.m.—5 p.m.  
Life Line Screening

9

8:00 a.m. HE Rite I  
Pack backpack food bags  
9:15 a.m. Adult Ed  
10:30 a.m. HE Rite II

10

TTRAC 7:00-9:00 p.m.

11

Food Pantry 9-11 a.m.  
Book Club 10:00 a.m.  
Finance Committee  
6:00 p.m.

12

Food Pantry 9-10:30 a.m.  
Healing Service 10:30 a.m.

13

Food Pantry 9-11 a.m.  
Tar River Children Chorus  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

14

15

TRCC 3-5:30 p.m.

16

8:00 a.m. HE Rite I  
Pack backpack food bags  
9:15 a.m. Adult Ed  
10:30 a.m. HE Rite II  
Pack food pantry bags

17

Gamma Tau meeting  
TRAC 7:00-9:00 p.m.

18

Food Pantry 9-11 a.m.  
Lion's Club 6:30 p.m.

19

Food Pantry 9-10:30 a.m.  
Healing Service 10:30 a.m.  
Vestry 6:00 p.m.

20

Food Pantry 9-11 a.m.  
Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m.  
Clericus 12:00 p.m.  
Tar River Children Chorus  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

21

Octoberfest 6:00 p.m.

22

23/30

8:00 a.m. HE Rite I  
Pack backpack food bags  
9:15 a.m. Adult Ed  
10:30 a.m. HE Rite II

24/31

TRAC 7:00-9:00 p.m.

25

Food Pantry 9-11 a.m.

26

Food Pantry 9-10:30 a.m.  
Healing Service 10:30 a.m.

27

Food Pantry 9-11 a.m.  
Tar River Children Chorus  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

28



29



# Sacrament of Confirmation

Sunday, September 11

“Strengthen, O Lord, your servants with your Holy Spirit; empower them for your service; and sustain them all the days of their lives.” Amen. BCP418



**Receiving the sacrament of Confirmation:** Wyatt and Walker Wells; Liam, Sydney and Maddison Mericle; Landon Newcomb; Lauren Renck; Bradford and Briley Futrell.

**Reaffirmation her faith:** Rita Coggins





# Message to the Confirmands:

## Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation

### Confirmands:

Liam Mericle  
Madison Mericle  
Sydney Mericle  
Lauren Renck  
Wyatt Wells  
Walker Wells  
Landon Newcomb  
Briley Futrell  
Bradford Futrell

### Sponsors:

Forrest Mericle  
Forrest Mericle  
Forrest Mericle  
Sissy Duntun  
Mary Ruth Anderson  
Mary Ruth Anderson  
Rita Coggins  
Mary Ruth Anderson  
Rita Coggins

### Reaffirmation:

Rita Coggins

### Sponsor:

Martha Lamm



Every day begins with us making decisions. Do I get out of bed, or do I sleep an extra 5 minutes? Do I eat cereal for breakfast, or do I skip breakfast altogether? Do I exercise or do I sit back and watch some video? Do I take time for prayer, or do I postpone prayer until another time?

A former U.S. President made the decision to limit his wardrobe. He wore only blue or gray suits, this to cut down on the number of decisions he had to make each day. His rationale was to reduce decision fatigue and to use those decision-making skills for the things that mattered.

As Christians, we are faced with choices that are far more profound than daily morning routines or clothing choices. Every day, we get to choose whether we want to live in God's will or our own will. We get to choose to participate in God's active presence in the world or we live out our own desires. We get to choose God or choose another god of our own making.

We have the gift of free will; to choose to live to love our God and our neighbor as Christ taught us, or we can select a very different path. The decision is ours, and we must put it into practice with prayer and humility every day.

So, go ahead wear the same color clothes every day, enjoy the same cereal every morning. But make it a point to decide each and every day to choose Jesus and practice love with your life. Our collective prayer is that you will live your Christian faith intentionally.

Your parish community of St. Andrew's







2022



## LAY/LEM READERS

### October 2

8:00 Tim Knapp  
Albert Corinrh

### 10:30

Gene Arnold  
Sandy Suggs  
Jamie Pollard

### October 9

8:00 Lee Dawson  
Ramona Orzell

### 10:30

Tom Drew  
Martha Lamm  
Jamie Pollard

### October 16

8:00 George Earp  
Tim Knapp

### 10:30

Linda Hutcheson  
Leslie Hall  
Jamie Pollard

### October 23

8:00 Ramona Orzell  
George Earp

### 10:30

Martha Lamm  
Tom Drew  
Jamie Pollard

### October 30

8:00 Tim Knapp  
Ramona Orzell

### 10:30

Leslie Hall  
Linda Hutcheson  
Jeanie Armstrong

## Acolytes

### October 2

10:30 Jamie Pollard

### October 9

10:30 Linda Hutcheson

### October 16

10:30 Mericle Family

### October 23

10:30 Kate Hudgins

### October 30

10:30 Landon Newcomb

## Pantry Distributors

Tuesday—Patty Kennedy  
Wednesday—Tommy Parker  
Thursday—Elizabeth Hunter

## Pantry Volunteers

Mary Ann Crawford  
Diane Dunstan  
Marie Inscore

## Lay Eucharistic Ministry

Ramona Orzell  
Marie Inscore



*Now faith is the assurance of  
things hoped for, the  
conviction of things not seen.  
For by it the people of old  
received their commendation. By  
faith we understand that the  
universe was created by the word  
of God, so that what is seen was  
not made out of things that are  
visible.*

~ Hebrews 11:1-3

## USHERS

### October 2

Angela Reid  
Jim Royal

### October 9

Billy Suggs  
Steve Thurkill

### October 16

Tom Drew  
Linda Hutcheson

### October 23

Dan Melnyk  
Don Mucci

### October 30

Jim Royal  
Angela Reid



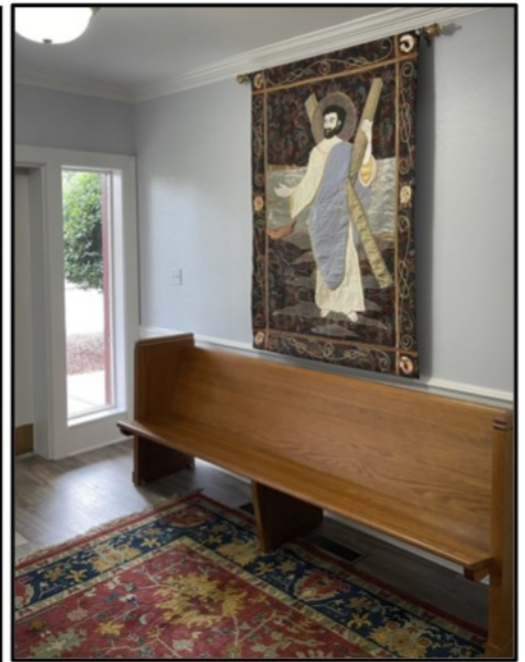
## Kitchen Clean Up

Diana and MH Pridgen

## Greeters

Dan Melnyk  
Ramona Orzell





Recently I was asked where our St. Andrew's banner went that formally hung in the Commons.

His new home in the vestibule located next to our parish hall. Once again, St. Andrew is busy welcoming guests to our parish.



A few images during the month of September.

Days before the Nash/Rocky Mount Schools opened, a few of our youth headed to local schools and prayed for the coming year and for the safety their fellow students.





**ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
301 Circle Drive • Rocky Mount, NC 27804

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Rocky Mount, NC

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## Our Parish Family

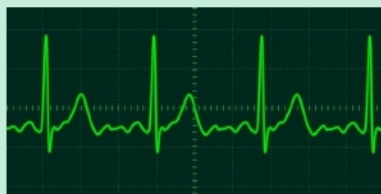


*Those Whom God Has Joined  
Together Let No Man Put Asunder.*

*Steven and Victoria James  
September 16, 2022*



*Upcoming Marriage:  
Josephine Strandberg and James Desmond  
October 1, 2022*



**Life Line Screening**  
will be at  
**St. Andrew's October 8th!**  
Call 888-814-0416  
to register.

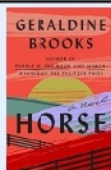


The Men's Club is meeting Saturday,  
October 1st at 8am.



Every Sunday after the 8am  
service, we will be packing  
food bags for the students at  
Winstead Elementary.

On October 16, we will pack  
bags for the food pantry after  
the 10:30am service.



St Andrew's Book Club will meet on  
Tuesday, October 11th, at 10:00 o'clock  
at the church. We will be discussing,  
**HORSE**, by Geraldine Brooks.  
Everyone is welcome!

St. Elizabeth's Guild meets Oct. 3rd from 12-1pm  
in the Parish Hall. Our theme this year is  
"Women in the Bible". Please bring your bag  
lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided.  
Note: the desserts will be individually wrapped.  
Come Join the fellowship!