



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

THE CALL

Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✦ August 2024

Reverently Speaking

The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.'

John 6:18-20

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

One of the oldest metaphors of the Church is a boat. You'll find the image throughout the early church. And where is a boat meant to be? On the land? No. In the harbor? No. The boat is meant to be out in the middle of the sea! Sailing, riding the waves, looking for new horizons, going on adventures, fishing for new people!

You know where the worst place is for a ship to be in the midst of a storm? Hugging the harbor. While a boat needs to harbor once in a while to refuel and stock up on supplies, during a storm if the ship remains in the harbor, it will crash against the rocks and the shore and be pulverized to bits. The place for a ship during a storm is riding the high seas.

To be a Jesus follower is to ride the waves of the Spirit in all kinds of weather, knowing that Jesus is there with you in the boat, that Jesus is near, whether walking on the water toward you, or sleeping there beside you.

One of the earliest metaphors for the tradition of the church is the anchor. But the anchor described in Hebrews 6 is not used to pull the boat back or keep it from moving. The anchor is used when the wind is high and the storm is raging to pull the boat forward. It's called kedging. You throw the anchor out in front of the boat, then pull the rope, so that the boat can move forward during the storm and escape crashing on the shore.

Jesus is like the anchor for us. Always steady and sure even when we are not, he pulls us forward during the storms of life, always leading us into peace even when around us the winds are roaring and the waves are threatening. Jesus pulls us toward the future.

You see, Jesus' peace is a peace within. On our own, we falter and fall. But with Jesus beside us and within us and among us, we are always sure to survive every turbulence.

We all waver when we believe we are doing life all alone. It's frightening, even for the best of us.

But faith is knowing that God has hold of your boat, even in the wildest of rides. Faith is knowing your life is always in the hands of Jesus, even when life blinds you and deafens you.

We, the Church, need to sail the seas too. Sometimes, the boat will rock. And that's okay. Because Jesus is here.

As long as the Church has Jesus at the helm, there is nothing to fear going out there in any kind of weather, in any kind of storm.

So the question is, do you know that Jesus is in the boat?

Because a church cannot "do" Jesus. You have to be in relationship with Jesus! You can't be the Church of Christ, if Christ is missing.

The good news is that Jesus is never missing. Sometimes we miss him. Sometimes, we fail to see him, or don't recognize him. Sometimes, we ignore him, or deny him, or discard him.

But look behind you, look around you. Jesus is right there, holding on to you.

The Coast Guard has an unofficial motto: "We have to go out. We don't have to come back." Why is that not the unofficial motto of every church in mission?

Put your hands into the waters and splash some onto your face, wipe your face with the towel. Cleanse away all of your fear. Cleanse away all of your doubt.

What remains when you emerge –that's faith.

Go - in faith - to sail the seas of the Spirit!

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. John Reese



Outreach—Operation Smart Start



School begins on August 12th and that means it's time for St. Andrew's annual *Operation Smart Start!* school supplies drive. This year we are asking for students' backpacks suitable for elementary students. The backpacks should have the following items inside: Two (2) packages of WIDE-RULED LOOSE LEAF PAPER, One (1) package of #2 pencils, Two (2) erasers (handheld or the ones that go on the end of pencils), One (1) box of tissues, and One (1) small plastic bottle of hand sanitizer. Monetary donations are also welcome.



Please write "Operation Smart Start!" in the memo of your check. Your donations will benefit Kimbell Elementary and Dunbar Elementary Schools in Tampa. Please make your donations by Sunday, August 11. There will be a designated collection area in the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Derrick Brown at (813) 270-2390 or Martha Cobb at 813-787-4020.

Gabriel Tree Project 🙏

On Sunday, August 18th after the 10:30 service, there will be a short pre planning meeting for those who would like to be a part of our Gabriel Tree Gift Giving Project this fall. We will review a timeline of events for the project, as well as presenting opportunities of ways you may want to support the project! Looking forward to seeing you!! 🙏❤️ If you have any questions, please contact Martha Cobb @ 813-787-4020. 🙏 Gabriel Tree Committee

From the Parish Register

Baptisms

Kipp Johnson
Jules McKinnon-Johnson

Transfer In

Victoria Rubel
from The Cathedral, Atlanta

Transfer Out

James Key
to Cathedral Church, Orlando

Funerals

Wayne Putney
Jean Turner
Bennie Kay O'Brien
Jack Plimmer

Donations to Saint Andrew's Foundation

✕

In Loving Memory of Jerry Divers

Nathan B. Simpson
The Burton Family
Stella Thayer

✕

Donations to Saint Andrew's Foundation

✕

In Loving Memory of Wayne Putney

Jan & Earl Smith

✕

In Loving Memory of Bennie Kay O'Brien

Pat Wolfe
Tom Rankin
Betty Wood

✕

The Parish Directory is going online!

We will be launching an online (member only access) parish directory. You have received Directory Information Cards that need to be completed for you and your family to be a part of the online directory.

The information will be accessed via our website and will be password protected by each participant. You choose what information will be available for other parishioners to see.

Once we have it up and running, you will be able to edit your own information directly and add your own picture. We will also provide printed copies upon request.

In the meantime, we need the information cards completed and sent back to us via mail, email (administrator@saintandrewstampa.org) and by dropping them in the collection plate.

Pictures can be sent or emailed in as well for us to upload for you.

If you have any questions, please email Pam Frost (administrator@saintandrewstampa.org) or Lauri Harder (secretary@saintandrewstampa.org) or call them at 813-221-2035.

St. Andrew's Online Directory Information Card 2024

Please write your name, and then mark the boxes that apply to you. Online password protected access is restricted to those who list their email addresses. Once set up you will be able to edit your information online yourself. We will provide printed copies upon request.

	I want to share the following information:	Also show my:
Do you want to be included?	<input type="checkbox"/> Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Birthday (month & day)
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, include me (us) in the directory	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone numbers	<input type="checkbox"/> Anniversary
<input type="checkbox"/> No, Leave my/our information out	<input type="checkbox"/> Email (this is required to view the directory)	<input type="checkbox"/> Childrens' Names
Which Picture will you use?		
<input type="checkbox"/> I will email administrator@saintandrewstampa.org or mail a picture to the office		
<input type="checkbox"/> I do not want to use a photo-list contact information only		

Name(s) _____ Children _____

Address _____

Email(s) _____

Phone (s) _____

Birthday (s) /Anniversary _____

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30

A Bible Study on the C.S. Lewis Book *The Screwtape Letters*

The Screwtape Letters provides unique insight into the battles that are being waged in the spiritual world. The story is told through a collection of letters from Screwtape, an undersecretary in the lower hierarchy of Hell, to his incompetent nephew, Wormwood. Wormwood is a junior devil who has just been given his first human, a young man, to corrupt and secure for eternity. The story takes place in England during the tumultuous years of World War II with the man contemplating Christianity.

As we walk through each letter, we will hear questions that bring out turns and twists in the thoughts and emotions that we each experience and that Lewis wanted us to recognize. Each session is self-contained, so you need not worry if you cannot attend all the sessions! If you do not already have a copy of the book, it can be purchased on-line for under \$10.

Here is the rest of the line-up:

8/11 - Letter 24: Ignorance and Arrogance / Letter 25: The Same Old Thing

8/18 - Letter 26: Unselfishness / Letter 27: Answers

8/25 - Letter 28: Perseverance / Letter 29: Cowardice

9/1 - Letter 30: Fatigue / Letter 31: The Other Side

This class, facilitated by the Rector, meets in room 302 (the Library) on the third floor of the Parish Building.

May Vestry Meeting Highlights

RECTOR'S REPORT

As of 5/13/24, there was \$206,012 in ops account and \$76,959 in the parish reserve account.

As of 4/30/24, there was \$26,826 in the Foundation's checking account – monies available to the vestry.

Total available funds from principal for years 2020 thru 2024: \$383,377.

There was \$3,143,296 in the Foundation principal as of 3/15/24 (as opposed to \$3,092,638 at the end of 2022, an increase of \$50,658 for the year).

There is also \$119,139 in the Dan Curtis fund fbo St. Andrew's within the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay. This fund is designated for church maintenance purposes. Current amount available is \$12,896. But we are spending \$9,582 of that to repair leaks in the church roof, leaving us with about 3K for the rest of this year.

Pictorial Directory – Pam is adding names to the new directory, which will be up and running very soon.

Planned Giving – The Foundation Board would like for the parish to begin a serious effort at promoting planned giving. They plan on putting out planned giving brochures to all parishioners and would like to have an estate attorney come and address the parish. A legacy society can then be established from the people who have named St. Andrew's in their wills.

Memorial Service – for Steve Rosser (former vestryman and choir section leader) was on Saturday, 4/27 at 2PM at St. Andrew's.

Parish Picnic – was Sunday, 4/28. Many thanks to Jan & Earl Smith for hosting once again and to Parish Life for set-up/take-down and to Martha Cobb and Bill Nipper for grilling! Great turnout!

Memorial Service – for Nancy Honeycutt (mother of Catherine Straz) was on Saturday, 5/4 at 11AM at St. Andrew's.

Cinco de Mayo - luncheon was on Cinco de Mayo, Sunday, May 5th after the 10:30 service. Many thanks to the Outreach Committee for hosting this event. We filled the parish hall with about 80 folks and raised around \$800 for Operation Smart Start!

Graduate/Sunday School Sunday – is during the 10:30 service on 5/19. We will recognize our high school and college graduates and thank our Sunday School teachers.

Scuba Vacation Bible School – will be the week of 8/5 through 8/9 from 9AM-Noon at St. Andrew's.

Vestry Retreat – is Saturday, 9/7 at DaySpring. Plan on meeting from 9AM until 3PM.

Parish Audit – Barbara and Allison are heading this up.

(continued)

June 2024 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
Revenues	\$29,499	\$55,061	\$255,425	\$330,371
Expenses	\$48,141	\$55,061	\$337,305	\$330,371
Net	(\$18,641)	0	(\$81,880)	0

Foundation Audit – Victoria and Don are heading this up.

New Nursery Attendant – Abby Lorren (a college student) is gone for the summer. We are using an agency in the meantime (same cost each week).

Sunday morning security guard – SentiTech has been hired to provide a guard on Sundays from 7:30AM until 12:30PM at the cost of \$31 per hour. They began on 3/24.

Sexton Away – Anguel is away for his annual trip to Bulgaria from 4/3 through 6/10. We will pay him the vacation time due him, but not pay him for the rest of the time away. Richard Connar, our former sexton, is filling in three days per week while Anguel is gone.

Senior Warden:

Piers is out of town.

Junior Warden:

- * Roof repairs are done. Under budget- total is \$9,500.
- * Set the parking lot repaving for June 10 and 11. Working on figuring out the best striping pattern. Martha asked about making the spots wider. Richard said we will lose a few to make the spots standard width.
- * Martha moved to have Executive Committee make the final decision on parking lot striping. Barbara seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- * Odor in second floor restrooms. Going to do a smoke test.
- * Arson damage on church steps under tower. Hoping to re-paint it soon.

Treasurer:

- * Revenue positives - non pledgers were up, parking is up.
- * Expenses – shows a \$26,000 deficit through April, but included prepaids including workers comp and property insurance.
- * Choir line item had 2 months of pay, so wasn't actually over budget.
- * Actually have a \$2,000 surplus as of end of April

Helping Hands Committee:

- * Funeral Thursday for Jerry Divers

Outreach:

- * Committee met. Discussed Cinco de Mayo. Want to have more vegetarian and vegan options.
- * Operation Smart Start. Tentatively identified Dunbar Elementary but still evaluating options. Martha said Dunbar already has a church supporting them.
- * Boxes of Hope- suggestion not to use cardboard boxes and use barrels instead. Kerry Thatcher from Metropolitan Ministries offered to do a tour of the big tent. Could also volunteer as a group for distribution.
- * Next meeting Sunday, June 23 after 10:30 service

Homeless Ministry:

- * Numbers might be a little higher than usual. Started keeping track of numbers on paper. 120 on Friday. Friday is the highest day.

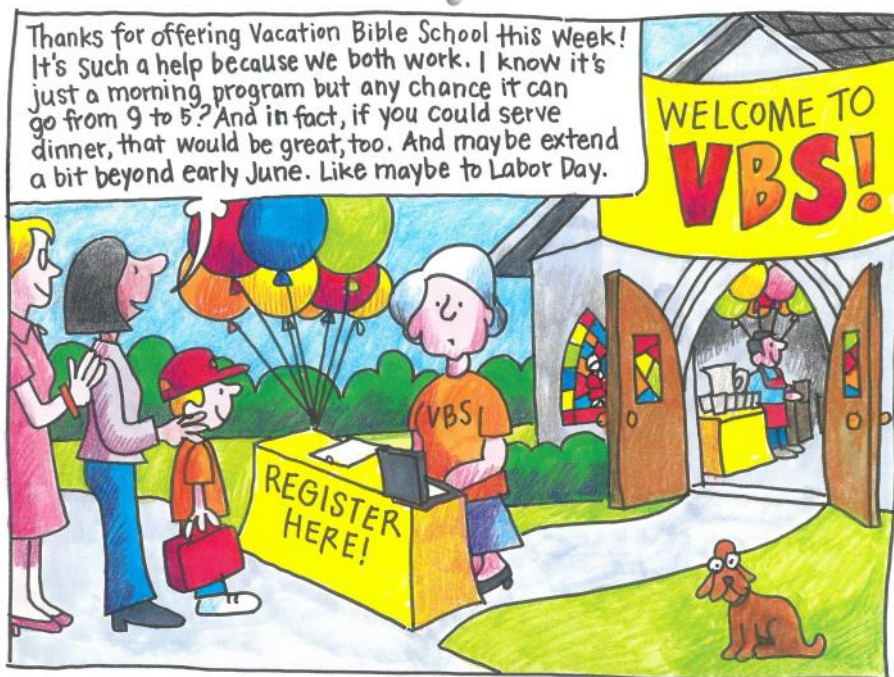
The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 pm.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

The Rev. John Reese, Rector

Sunday Services

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m. Children's Church

9:30 a.m. Christian Education
for all ages

Church Location:

Marion & Madison Streets

Mailing Address:

509 E. Twiggs St.

Tampa, FL 33602

Phone: (813) 221-2035

Fax: 224-0945

Web: saintandrewstampa.org

E-mail: [secretary@
saintandrewstampa.org](mailto:secretary@saintandrewstampa.org)

Deadline for articles for The Call:

15th of each month
for the following month's
newsletter. Submit articles to
Lauri in the church office.