

# **Reverendly Speaking**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

Ephesians 1:3-4

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

Grady was a devout Baptist who loved to sneak away to the racetrack. One day, while betting on the ponies and nearly losing his shirt, he noticed a priest step out onto the track and bless the forehead of one of the horses lining up for the fourth race. Lo and behold, this horse - a very long shot - won the race. Grady was very anxious to see what the priest did in the next race.

Sure enough, he watched the priest step out onto the track as the fifth race got underway. The horses lined up, and the priest placed a blessing on the forehead of one of the horses. Grady made a beeline for the window and placed a small bet on the horse. Again, even though another long shot, the horse the priest had blessed won the race. Grady collected his winnings and again anxiously waited to see which horse the priest bestowed his blessing on for the sixth race.

The priest showed, blessed a horse, Grady bet on it, and it won! Grady was elated. As the day went on, the priest continued blessing one of the horses, and it always came in first. Grady began to pull in some serious money, and by the last race, he knew his wildest dreams were going to come true.

He made a quick stop at the ATM, withdrew big money and awaited the priest's blessing that would tell him which horse to bet on. True to his pattern, the priest stepped out onto the track before the last race and blessed the forehead, eyes, ears, and hooves of one of the horses. Grady bet every cent, and watched the horse come in dead last. He was dumbfounded.

He made his way to the track and when he found the priest, he demanded, "What happened, Father? All day you blessed horses and they won. The last race, you blessed a horse and he lost. Now, thanks to you, I've lost all my savings!"

The priest was unimpressed and unmoved by this outburst. He said, "That's the problem with you Protestants ... you can't tell the difference between a simple blessing and Last Rites."

(continued)

As we begin a new year, there are plenty of simple blessings for us to be thankful for, even in the midst of this seemingly never-ending pandemic.

There are many times in our lives where things that are most common to us are also those that we take for granted. Things that are served on a silver platter every day are those we forget to thank God for. Here's a list of just some of those things:

1. Got clean water?

2. Do you have a bathroom?

3. Do you have electricity?

4. Do you have a roof over your head?

5. Is there food on your table?

6. Got a stove?

7. Got regular income?

8. Did you go to school?

9. Do you have health care?

10. Are you free to worship God?

Speaking of blessings, in his letter to the Ephesians Paul gives us the good news that God has already blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" (1:3). Interestingly, the Greek word for "blessing" is "eulogatos," the root word of which is "eulogy." We often think of a eulogy as a blessing or praise of people at the end of their lives. Paul begins by inviting us to bless (euologize) God because God has been blessed (eulogized) and has blessed us from the very beginning. God blesses as God is blessed. So often we think of blessings as something we have accumulated -- family, home, prosperity -- but receiving a blessing is really a form of receiving God himself! God is there with us in the midst of our stories and memories. He is with us in the present. And He will be with us in the future.

So, in 2022, be thankful for all the little blessings. And be grateful for the big blessing: God with us.

Yours in Christ,

yohn+

The Rev. John Reese

# Adult Christian Education

#### Sunday mornings at 9:30

#### **Proverbs:** Pathways to Wisdom

The Book of Proverbs invites people to grow in wisdom—biblical wisdom in order to journey down the right path.

There is a lot of talk these days about "the good life." It's not a new topic—the Book of Proverbs talked about just that. Its sayings and bits of wisdom were collected to make the lives of people just like us run a little more smoothly. *Proverbs: Pathways to Wisdom* explores the biblical book's well-known verses and prevalent themes in a manner that offers various interpretations, opening the way for us to see how they apply to our modern world. You'll learn about the authorship, genre, and historical setting for each of these verses, which will broaden your understanding and bring more meaning to familiar passages.

The 4-session DVD features Dominick Hernández, a Professor of Old Testament at Talbot School of Theology in La Mirada, CA.

Here is the rest of the line-up:

1/16 – Presenting the Pathways

- 1/23 Practical and Personal Pathways
- 1/30 Wisdom in Practice: Proverbs 31

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

## **Youth News**

I did have one more Saint volunteer to help out one Sunday a month (thank you so much Paul! So excited to have you!), but we still *need at least 4-5 additional people who are willing to serve at least once a month in order to have Sunday school and remain within our safeguarding guidelines—abiding by these guidelines is of the upmost importance, which is why we still need more teachers.* 

Youth over age 15 are also welcome to serve with elementary and pre k with an adult. Please contact me if you are willing to take this opportunity to serve. I can assure you the kids will bless you just as much, or maybe even more in the time you share.

I do have dates for plans for youth and children's events in the works for 2022, so please get your new 2022 calendars out when you receive my next email! Thank you for all you do to make St. Andrew's such an amazing church family. We are a place of hope, healing, hospitality, and abundant love because of you. As always, my door is open to each of you, should any of you need me.

Grace & Peace,

Alicia Schmid 703.470.4447

### Thanks to those who have pledged for 2022!

Thomas & Elise Akins Patrick & Alison Allman DeHart & Patty Ayala Irene & Peter Baker Mr. & Mrs. Alston Barrow Siegfried & Linda Barry George Bedell David Belcher & Mallory Lykes Paul Bentschner **Besselieu** Family Mike & Pam Billings Benjamin & Jeannie Borsch Victoria Boswell Edwin & Judith Bourdeau Thomas & Juanita Boyd William & Kathryn Boyd Mr. & Mrs. John H. Boyet Barbara Brotherton Derrick & Beverley Brown Donreece H. Brown Norton & Linda Busby Mr. Julian H. Byrd C. Jane Cantler Steve & Debbie Cantler Dr. & Mrs. Christopher Capsambelis J. Frazier Carraway & Claire B. Carraway Dr. & Mrs. Stephen F. Chambers **Richard Chapman** Mr. & Mrs. Samuel E. Childs Charlotte Churchill Holly Clemmons & Katie Pastorius **Cline Family** Jane Collins Chris & Martha Cobb Sharon Colucci The Rev. Charles E. Connelly Peter Connors Gary Cotter Mark Crofoot William & Ann Crowder Piers & Pamela Curry William & Stacy Curtis Wayne A. Daley Robin DeLavernge Michael & MaryBeth Dickinson A.G. Divers Wallace A. Dixon Edward and Lynn Dorman Dennis & Melinda Dundore

Doug Dusini & Rachel May Lindell Dye Dr. James & Sunny Endicott David Epp, Esq. Susanna Fenhagen & **Tony Morrison** Richard Ferlita & James Carmichael Carole R. Fields Pat Frank Mr. & Mrs. William A. Gillen Jr. Bradley & Alicia Hall Wynnette & Hiram Hampton Eric & Loueita Hargens Mary Beth Harris Mary & Carlton N. Hart, III Vernon & Charlotte Henderson Paul Henley & Joanne Byars Staige & Tricia Hoffman **Bill Hudson** Christopher Hunt Michael & Christean Hursey T. Michael & Jana D. Kaney Larry & Judy Kent Fran Kerr Helen T. Kerr James E. Kev Robert & Elaine Kimble Carole T. King Susan Kiniry Larry Kleven Victoria & Charles Klug Jack & Anne Kutchmire Katherine Lawless **Richard Lawson** George Levy Adrienne Love Sue MacIsaac Sheridan & Guy Marr Analee & Matthew Mayes Rosemary S. McAteer Barbara & Robert McGhee Michael & Linda McGhee Warren L. Miller James M. Moore Michael & Michele Morris John & Susan Mueller Charles Mullen Jan Newhoff & Mike Keracher Michael & Janet Norona Simon Ottewell Anne T. Paige

Robert E. Parr **Bill Peterson** Ingrid Peterson Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Putney David & Amy Ramirez Tom & Kay Rankin Larry & Joan Rayburn The Rev. & Mrs. John Reese Janis Temple Riasanovsky Jennifer & Charlie Richardson Kristi Roberts Nell Rorebeck **Douglas Rubottom** Karon Rzad Catherine & L. Gray Sanders Paul & Elisabeth Scheuer Phyllis Sheaffer Chris Sherman Jane & Nathan Simpson Donald & Virginia Sink Earl & Jan Smith Gregg & CJ Smith Ian Snider Maxwell & Teri Sobel Linda Sparn Carol Jean Spoto The Rev. & Mrs. Jerold Stadel Linda K. Stevens Paula Stewart Kathleen Stoy Catharyn Szuba Matt & Carolyn Tapie Lori & Doug Taplow Arlene & Steve Tonnesen Thomas & Susan Torge Betty Trueblood Jean N. Turner Nancy Turner Georgia & Milton Vahue Leigh & Russ Versaggi Maureen & Christopher Watson George Western Jack Wheat Pat Wolfe Betty Wood

### Make a Pledge for 2022

Please return your pledge card for 2022 as soon as possible. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, cards are available at the back of the church, in the Parish Hall, or through the parish office (813-221-2035). Make a commitment and support St. Andrew's in the coming year!

We have currently received 144 pledges for \$406,630.

	2022 Pledge Ro	eport
Pledges received	Total Amount Pledged for 2022	Total Amount Pledged for 2021
144	\$406,630.00	\$426,896.00
	<ul><li>17 New pledges for 2022</li><li>47 Increased their pledge for</li></ul>	
	11 Decreased their pledge f	for 2022
	<u>69 Made the same pledge i</u>	n 2022 as in 2021
	144 Total number of pledge	s received for 2022
Donations of Saint Andrew Foundatio & In Loving Memory Bill Dye Deborah K. Skyr In Loving Memory Joy Bell M. Karen Clar	w's n From the Parish Reg From the Parish Reg Marriage ms Gregory Gleasor & Courtney Morri	n Sunday, February 6th

### **VESTRY CLASS OF 2025 NOMINEES**

Five new vestry members to be elected

#### Irene Baker



I was received into the Episcopal Church (from the Roman Rite) in 2004 at St John's Lafayette Square and was an active leader in their Capital Campaign. Upon moving to Tampa, I found St Andrew's in the summer of 2012 and transferred my membership from St Augustine's in Southwest Washington, DC, soon thereafter. One of the many reasons St Andrew's is so special to me is that it is here I met & later married the wonderful Peter Baker!

I recently took the plunge to return to the Lector Rotation. I enjoy supporting our Out-

reach and Youth Ministry efforts and stepping up wherever there is a need to be filled (e.g., Mrs Claus, The Great Pumpkin, and choir cheerleader/host). I have served on St Andrew's Vestry as an appointee and then in a full elected term, during which time I was Chair of the Helping Hands Committee. Currently I am also an active member of The Chiselers, Inc, dedicated to the restoration and preservation of Henry B. Plant Hall on the University of Tampa's campus.

Professionally, I have widely diverse experiences at international, national, state and local government levels and as a seasoned member of the Intelligence Community. I bring to the table passion for support of our music program, our children/youth programs, and a desire to expand our community involvement. With Tampa growing exponentially, there are so many opportunities to embrace newcomers and expand our parish family.

As we cautiously navigate our return to a "new normal," I would be privileged to share my eclectic talents for the good of our St Andrew's Family!

#### **Barbara Brotherton**



Barbara Ann Brotherton was born and raised in Chicago. Upon graduating from high school, she and her mother moved to San Francisco, where she attended San Francisco College for Women. They needed to return to Chicago 3 years later, so she completed her degree work at Loyola University and graduated with a BS in Sociology. She then joined the United States Air Force, where she served for over 25 years. Her last duty station was at Patrick AFB from where she retired. Upon retirement, she devoted herself to being a full-time housewife and mother and serving her local and church communities as a volunteer. While at Holy Trinity in Mel-

bourne, she served on the vestry 9 months prior to leaving the area. She relocated to Tampa in September 2016. She became active in the music program at St Andrew's (choir and bell choirs) as well as the Outreach, Parish Life, Feeding the Homeless and Helping Hands programs. She also served, and continues to serve, as a LEM and usher at the 8 AM Sunday service. Post-Covid and a little of getting back to some normalcy, she is back as a volunteer member of the choir. She is also active with the Military Officers Association of America and is a volunteer caseworker with the American Red Cross. She feels she has found a church home at St. Andrew's and wants to do all she can to help this church be a strong support to the Tampa community.

#### **Derrick Brown**



Originally from Jamaica, Derrick Brown was baptized and raised in the Anglican faith at St. James Cathedral. At The University of the West Indies, he earned a teacher's diploma and a baccalaureate degree in social sciences. While in Miami, Florida, he attended Florida International University (FIU) and graduated with a master's degree in Public Administration and two post graduate diplomas in Public Personnel Management and Labor Relations, and Dispute Resolution Techniques Alternative to Litigation, respectively.

Throughout Derrick's professional career, he has served in many supervisory and administrative capacities as a coordinator, manager, officer, director and administrator at Florida Me-

morial College and Hillsborough Community College, respectively. In his various roles he took a keen interest in serving low-income, disadvantaged first-generation college students by motivating, mentoring, and helping them to persist academically and to graduate to the next level of higher education. In many instances, several of these students have joined the job market and are now productive citizens.

Over the years, he has had tremendous success in administering a multimillion dollar federal grant at HCC. For his diligent work he has received numerous awards and recognitions from the US Department of Education, professional educational associations, and HCC.

Derrick and his wife Beverley have two adult sons, Donreece and Warren. Since 1995, St. Andrew's has been the spiritual home for his family. Parishioners elected him twice in prior years to serve on the vestry and vestry committees. Beverley and Donreece have also served on the vestry at St. Andrew's. Derrick, Beverley and Donreece are lay eucharistic ministers while he and his two sons serve as ushers on different Sundays.

Attending church services on a regular basis is paramount for Derrick and his family. In addition, support and participation in the extra-curricular activities of the church is not only interesting but also fun. One of Derrick's fondest memories was going with Saint Andrew's Choir in 2014 to Winchester, England, on a musical tour.

If elected, he plans to work collaboratively with his vestry colleagues and the rector to conduct the vision, mission and stated goals of the parish.

#### Chris Capsambelis



Chris Capsambelis has been a member of the Episcopalian faith for nearly fifty years. Ironically, his first parish was also named St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in New Kensington, Pennsylvania, where he was born and raised. When he moved to Florida in 1989, he became a member of St. Anne of Grace Episcopal Church in Seminole, where his wife, Julie, and he were married thirty years ago. When they moved their family to the gulf beaches, where they lived for ten years, they made Calvary Episcopal Church in Indian Rocks Beach their home. In 2008, Julie and Chris moved to Tampa and once

again Chris was a member of a parish named for St. Andrew. Chris and Julie regularly attend the 8AM service. Chris has served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister at the 8AM service and is currently a member of the Altar Guild. He also served on your vestry from 2013-2015 and again from 2017-2018. Chris has been a Co-Chairperson of both the Outreach Committee and the Parish Life Committee while serving on the vestry.

Professionally, Chris was a police sergeant for ten years and spent another ten years training police officers in both Pennsylvania and Florida. Currently, he is an Associate Professor of Criminology at The University of Tampa, where he has been employed for the past twenty-six years. Chris has a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, a Master of Arts degree in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Measurement and Statistics from the University of South Florida.

Chris and Julie have three sons. Matthew, a member of the United States Air Force, resides in New Jersey; Christopher, who resides in St. Petersburg and is employed at a cyber security firm; and Billy, who is a disabled veteran injured serving our country in Iraq in 2008, resides in the NeuroRestorative Assisted Living Facility in Avalon Park, FL.

Chris would be honored to once again serve you on our vestry.

#### **Richard Chapman**



Richard is a lifelong member of St. Andrew's. He served on the Vestry previously from 1997-1999, including one year as Junior Warden.

Richard also oversaw the construction of the Children's Chapel and Sanctuary renovation in 2008. He has served as an usher since 1996.

Richard has been married to wife Ginger for over 25 years. Their two grown daughters – Catie and McKinley – grew up at St. Andrew's.

Away from St. Andrew's he is the vice president of Trimar Construction, a general contractor building commercial projects throughout the state of Florida.

#### Brad Hall



Bradley A. Hall, PhD, is a compliance analyst at Citigroup in Tampa. Bradley has been a credit analyst at GE Capital, a senior associate at Franklin Templeton Investments, and a branch manager at Amscot Financial. He also was co-owner and travel consultant at Pampered Pirate Travel in Tampa. Bradley graduated from Landmark Christian High School in 1988. He has a BBA from Baylor University (1992) with a double major in Entrepreneurship and Management. His MBA is from the University of Tampa (1999). Bradley has a PhD in Management from Walden University (2015). His dissertation was entitled "Independent Retail Business Owners' Perceptions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act."

Bradley's family was relocated several times during his childhood, beginning in Altadena, California, and moving to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at age four. At age eight, they moved to Dallas, Texas, and then they moved one last time at age 10--this time to Cincinnati, Ohio. In the fourth grade, Bradley began attending Landmark Christian School and continued there through high school graduation. At Landmark, Bradley played varsity football, was the senior class president, and was involved in drama and music projects. He was also a member at Landmark Baptist Temple.

Bradley is a committed member of the Saint Andrew's family. He has been attending since April of 2015, and has come to love this wonderful place with its friendly people. He was confirmed as a member of the Episcopal Church on June 4, 2017. Bradley was a member of the Vestry at St. Andrew's from 2017-2020, and sat on the Christian Education Committee, the Welcoming Committee, and was Chair of the Stewardship Committee.

#### Victoria Klug



Hello, my name is Victoria Brown Blake Klug. I am running for a Vestry position in the 2022 year. I am a lifelong Episcopalian and have attended St. Andrew's on and off since I was a little girl. As a member of a military family, we moved a lot and often found ourselves back in Tampa and worshiping at St. Andrew's. My mother, Audrey, was active in the Women and Beth-El ministry projects at St. Andrew's. In my youth, I was a member of the children's choir here at St. Andrew's and as a young mother, a member of the altar guild at Ascension Episcopal Church in Clearwater. When living in New Orleans, we were members at Christ Church Cathedral. My four children were baptized at St. Andrew's and my husband, Charles, and I were married here in 2012. I am a current at large member of the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory

Committee with Hillsborough County.

What I can bring to the vestry are strong organizational skills, the ability to communicate effectively during delicate discussions, and the flexibility to understand another person's point of view.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING 2022 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND VESTRY ELECTIONS

Each year St. Andrew's conducts an annual parish meeting at the end of January or beginning of February, which includes vestry elections. Your current vestry has been anticipating the 2022 parish meeting and established procedures to allow voting either by mail or in person.

The 2022 Annual Parish Meeting will occur on Sunday, February 6, 2022 following the 10:30 AM service. The parish meeting will be conducted in person *and also* will be virtual. The vote for vestry elections will be conducted both in person and via US mail. The vestry voted unanimously to establish permanent procedures allowing parishioners to vote either by mail or in person going forward at all annual meetings.

As everyone is aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed many, many aspects of our lives. We are hopeful about the promise of the vaccines on the horizon. However, the risks presented by the pandemic are still very real and very present. The vestry determined it simply makes sense and serves the best interest of the parish to allow voting by mail or in person.

Since the vestry election will be conducted both through the mail and live, **no nominations for vestry will be able to be made during the meeting.** Therefore, we have established the following procedures:

\*<u>Vestry nominations will cut-off on Sunday, January 16, 2022</u>. We welcome any eligible parish member wishing to run for vestry to nominate himself or herself. If someone does wish to run for vestry they must be nominated by the deadline on Sunday, January 16, 2022.

\*Ballots then will be issued via US mail to all parishioners beginning on Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

\*Ballots must be returned via US mail and <u>received in the parish office no later than close of busi-</u><u>ness on Wednesday, February 2, 2022.</u>

\*The ballots will be formatted and printed in such a manner as to allow parishioners to identify themselves on an outer envelope, and then to vote on a separate page. The certification and ballot then will be returned in a special envelope. Parish staff will open the envelopes, verify the eligibility of the voter, and then separate the ballots (which will remain unopened). The unopened ballots will be collected and presented to the tellers who will count them during the annual meeting election.

# \*<u>Parish staff will create and circulate a list of who has submitted a ballot by mail. Those parishioners who have done so are not eligible to vote at the annual meeting.</u>

\* The new vestry members will be announced during the Annual Parish Meeting and immediately following the tally by the tellers.

The vestry unanimously and sincerely believes these new procedures will lead to greater participation for all parishioners. Of note, with the 2021 vestry elections by mail, we had the greatest participation in recent memory. Of course, if any parishioners have concerns or wish to discuss this matter, feel free to contact me (cell: 813-857-7931) or any member of the vestry.

L. Gray Sanders Senior Warden

## **November 2021 Vestry Meeting Highlights**

#### **RECTOR'S REPORT – Fr. Reese**

As of 11/8/21, there was \$161,803 in ops account and \$83,507 in the parish reserve account.

As of 11/8/21, there was \$24,382 in the Foundation's checking account – monies available to the vestry.

We have \$20,659 available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 4% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2018 at their meeting on 2/21/18. (On 1/27/21, \$20,000 of the \$75,659 allocated for 2018 was transferred from the principal to the checking account. On 7/21/21, another \$20,000 from the 2018 allocation was transferred from the principal to the checking account. On 10/5/21, another \$15,000 was transferred from the principal to the checking account.)

We have \$63,718 available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 3% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2019 at their meeting on 2/27/19.

We have \$72,918 available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 3% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2020 at their meeting on 2/4/20.

We have \$81,371 available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 3% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2021 at their meeting on 3/3/21.

Total available funds from principal for years 2018 thru 2021: \$238,667.

There was 3,217,463 in the Foundation principal as of 11/3/21, as opposed to 2,929,677 on 12/31/20 (an increase of 287,786 for the year to date).

There is also approximately \$99,000 in the Dan Curtis fund fbo St. Andrew's within the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay. This fund is designated for church maintenance purposes. We spent the 2021 allocation of \$4,250 to pay TNT Roofing for repairs to the NW corner of church roof.

On Sundays, there is Christian Education for children and adults at 9:30AM on the third floor. There is nursery care from 9:30AM until noon. Alicia has in-person Children's Chapel at 10:30AM. She is also doing a monthly youth activity.

Confirmation Class – Youth sessions are during Sunday School at 9:30AM on Sunday mornings, beginning on 9/12 and running through 11/14. Confirmation is on 11/21 at 10:30 service. Bishop Michael Garrison (one of the diocese's assisting bishops) will preside. Unfortunately, Bishop Smith will be at Moffitt for a medical procedure at that time and therefore cannot be with us. We have two youth and eight adults to be confirmed/received.

Adult Inquirers' Class is Tuesday evenings at 7PM, 10/5 through 11/16 (seven sessions). We have 19 folks attending.

Choral Evensong – All Saints' Sunday, 11/7 at 5PM had 74 folks attend in person. Terrific music! And many thanks to Parish Life for a wonderful reception afterward!

Pictorial Directory – Pam and Lauri in office are working on this, it will be an online directory that can be continuously updated and shared electronically with parishioners. Hope to have this published by end of the year.

Newcomers' Dinner – Perhaps sometime early next year, depending on the Covid (hosted by the vestry at the rectory).

Columbarium Project – We paid Alvaro Cruz \$3,200 to remove all pavers from columbarium grounds, cut back on tree roots, and re-install the pavers. This was done on 9/20. Shrubbery has been planted. (continued)

November 2021 Operating Summary					
	MTD Actual	MTD Budgeted	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted	
Revenues	\$42,683	\$46,754	\$425,490	\$514,303	
Expenses	\$48,396	\$48,776	\$519,479	\$536,545	
Net	(\$5,713)	(\$2,021)	(\$93,988)	(\$22,241)	

Fountain has arrived, needs to be installed. Nancy Turner is arranging for this. Benches (two for columbarium area and one for south garden next to church) are on order.

Annual Stewardship Campaign – launched on 10/14. Many thanks to Gary, Richard, Jennifer S., and Lynn for speaking at Sunday services. First mailer (with a letter from Gary) went out on 10/14. Second mailer (with a letter from Gray) was sent out on 11/10. Next mailer (with a letter from Richard) will go out in early December. As of 11/8, we have 64 pledges for 207K (compared to 66 pledges for 192K as of this time last year).

Foundation Meeting – was on 11/9.

Gabriel's Giving Tree – is now available.

Bishop's Visitation - Sunday, 11/21, w/confirmation at 10:30 service & reception after, hosted by Parish Life.

Thanksgiving Day Service – Thursday, 11/25 at 10AM.

Anchor Ball – is on 12/11 at the Jewish Community Center. We are looking for six parishioners to join Peter & Irene Baker at this fundraiser for Seafarers' Ministry. Those who attend are then urged to participate (at their own expense) in the auction that occurs during the event.

Christmas Pageant – Alicia is contacting families to see if we can pull this off on Sunday, 12/12, during the 10:30 service.

Hanging of the Greens – will be on Sunday, 12/19, after the 10:30 service. Help decorate the church for Christmas!

Christmas Lessons & Carols – is on Sunday, 12/19 at 5PM in the church. Reception after hosted by Parish Life.

Christmas Eve services will be on 12/24 at 5:30PM and 11PM, with pre-service music beginning 30 minutes prior to each service.

Christmas Day service will be on 12/25 at 10AM.

Sunday services as usual on 12/26 (but choir will have off for 10:30 service that day)

Vestry Nominations - time to start recruiting folks to stand for election in February.

New Sexton – Anguel is doing a terrific job as our new sexton.

Mask Protocol – Covid-19 positivity test levels continue to be below 3% each week for Hillsborough County. With that in mind, we could opt to make the wearing of masks in church optional for those who are vaccinated. We could also opt to bring the kneelers back for the communion rails. (However, the Bishop has not given clergy permission to administer the wine to communicants – still a bread-only policy.)

Vestry agreed to making masks optional during Sunday services. Altar rail kneelers can be used after Confirmation Sunday.

**JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT: George Levy** -The new leak in the Children's Chapel lobby roof has been addressed. The roofer executed against the leak consultant's report but did not follow the recommendations. Roof drain was to be reinstalled but wasn't installed correctly. This repair has been made. Church leaks have been addressed.

**TREASURER: Richard Ferlita** - Year-to-date contributions are down \$12,000 but picked up in November. Evensong brought in additional donations. October and November 717 parking lot funds have not yet been received. We should end the year in good shape.

**HOMELESS PROGRAM: Sue McIsaac** - New parishioners have signed up to volunteer. Saint Andrew's is hosting Thanksgiving for the homeless at the church again this year.

**OUTREACH: Lori Taplow -** Thanksgiving Boxes of Hope will be packed up on Saturday. Donated funds and food will be delivered to Metropolitan Ministries. Gabriel tree project is underway. We are expecting additional children's names in the coming week

**PARISH LIFE: Pam Curry** - Committee is planning to set up for the Confirmation brunch on Saturday. New members pitched in to help with a successful Evensong reception.

**MEDIA:** Paul Scheuer - Discussion of adding additional volunteers in the future. A microphone was tested last Sunday and, while the quality was improved, they will continue to explore options.

**STEWARDSHIP: Gary Cotter -** Campaign is going well. Gary suggested that parishioners bring in potential members; invite people to our church. He suggested that we might send The Daily Devotion to those outside of St Andrew's and introduce coaching for young couples.

HANDS: Lynn Dorman - Helping Hands were involved in one funeral.

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church** 509 East Twiggs Street Tampa, Florida 33602

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED** 

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

Sunday, February 6th

at noon



## 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

**Deadline for articles for The Call:** 15th of each month for the following month's newsletter. Submit articles to Lauri in the church office.