



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

# THE CALL

*Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!*

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✦ January 2023

## *Reverently Speaking*

*Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod.*

Matthew 2:14

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

This is the season for returns, is it not? Costco has one of the most generous return policies in the retail world. They will allow customers to return just about anything they buy there for a full refund. As you might guess, that kind of generosity is easily abused.

The website Reddit has a thread where they ask current and former Costco employees to share the most outrageous returns they've received. Among the items listed on the thread are a used chicken coop, a selection of dead plants, a 10-year-old ping pong table that was falling apart, and a dead Christmas tree that was returned the first week of January. Believe it or not, each of these customers got a full refund for their returned items. One lady returned an empty bottle of wine because, she said, "it gave her a headache."

But Costco isn't the only store with a generous return policy. A former manager for a Dollar General Store wrote on Reddit that she had a customer return some two-year-old batteries that had completely run out of power. I know what that's like—to run out of power, don't you? Maybe ten days after Christmas you feel like those batteries, too.

People are funny. Neil Davey, managing editor of a customer service training website, tells about a pet shop that refunded a customer after they complained that the hamster they had recently purchased was "neither friendly nor cuddly." Who wants a hamster that is "neither friendly nor cuddly"?

Christmas is supposed to be warm and soft, a story that would look good on Instagram. Cute baby Jesus flanked by Mary and Joseph and donkeys and sheep. The Magi bringing gifts and following a star. The angels singing in the heavens and the shepherds rejoicing in the fields. It's a story that is almost made for social media.

But that's not the end of the story. Before Jesus' birth, the angel of the Lord told Mary and Joseph that Jesus came to save us from our sins. And sin is ugly. It's evil. It's a rebellion against God and sets us on a collision course with death. The warm and fuzzy Christmas baby came to save us from every form of evil. That's a heavy calling and a huge burden.

The Magi, astrologers from Persia or Arabia, had been searching for the new king of the Jews. While following the super-bright star that marked the presence of the new king, the Magi stopped to ask Herod, King of Judea, for directions. Big mistake!

Be very careful who you get directions from. King Herod practically licked his chops when asked to direct the Magi to the birthplace of the newborn king. "Sure, I'll help you find the newborn king of the Jews," he said. "And once you find him, be sure to come back here and let me know where he is, so I can worship him too." Evidently "worship" and "murder" meant the same thing to Herod.

So the Magi found baby Jesus and worshipped him, but they returned home by another route, for they had been warned in a dream of Herod's intent. An angel also appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take Jesus and Mary and escape to Egypt and to stay there until further notice because Herod planned to kill the Christ child. Joseph, true to his character, obeyed. He bundled up Jesus and Mary and escaped to Egypt.

(continued)

In the meantime, King Herod orders his soldiers to kill all baby boys in Bethlehem two years old and younger, to eliminate the chance of a king rising up to challenge Herod's rule. After Herod's death, Joseph brings his family back to Judea, but out of fear of Herod's son, Archelaus, they settle in an obscure little backwater town called Nazareth, which fulfilled a prophecy that the Messiah would be called a Nazarene.

We get all inspired by the Christmas story because we forget what a huge burden it is to be human. To be human is to experience all kinds of hurts and pain. Christ came both to experience that pain and ultimately to deliver humanity from that pain. Jesus was barely able to walk before his family was on the run to Egypt. And he experienced hardship all his life, including a horrible death.

Incarnation, God in the human flesh, means God did not just take on human characteristics; God took on the human condition. Aches and pains. Hunger and thirst. Poverty and powerlessness. Jesus didn't just look like us; he lived like us.

Incarnation, God in human flesh, tells us that God can work in the toughest circumstances and the strangest places. Jesus didn't have to come in the form of a tiny baby. Jesus didn't have to be born to a poor family. If you were to rank the least powerful people on earth, you'd probably rank them in this order: newborn baby, refugee, person living in poverty. Jesus fit all three of these categories. He chose to take on the human condition in its toughest state to show us that "God with us" means "God with us in every circumstance."

The Incarnation, God in human flesh, tells us that God's ways can be trusted because God's love has been tested.

Just because you're in a place of confusion or loss or suffering doesn't mean that God is not working. The ending to the story of the first Christmas is neither friendly nor cuddly. Jesus took on weakness and frailty and poverty and persecution and living as a refugee. He took on suffering. He gave up his power and let the power structures of the world oppress and constrain his life to prove that the message and power of God cannot be constrained.

Life is sometimes hard and it's unfair. And Jesus came to show us how to trust God in the present, no matter how it hurts, and to trust God for a future when God will wipe away every tear from our eyes, and there will be no more death, or crying or pain.

As we leave the warm and fuzzy Christmas season and enter into a new year, as we stand in line in department stores and return Christmas gifts that did not quite turn out, I pray we will remember that the greatest gift of all worked out in a world of hardship and injustice. Immanuel, "God with us," reminds us that God will be with us in every circumstance no matter how difficult that circumstance may be.

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. John Reese

### **Birthday Concert Celebration Fundraiser**

On **Sunday, February 5 at 4p.m.** you're invited to Ryan Hebert's Birthday Concert! St. Andrew's organist and music director turns almost 50 (48 actually), and to celebrate his 50-ish birthday, we're celebrating two years early with a fun concert. Dr. Hebert and his best friend and fellow organist from Charlotte, NC will play some organ music on the Fisk, and members of the choir will sing "surprise" solos - pieces from operas, musicals, or who knows what else? We're going to put the fun in fundraising. The event will raise money for new recording microphones for St. Andrew's livestream, and the suggested donation is \$48, or however old you think he should be! Please plan to join us for an afternoon of celebration for Dr. Hebert's 50-ish birthday! Birthday cake will follow in the parish hall.

## Adult Christian Education

**Sunday mornings at 9:30 on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

***The Wired Word***, facilitated by the Rector, examines a current event from the previous week and analyzes it through the use of Biblical references. Come and see how Scripture can help us make sense of what's happening in the world today.

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

**Sunday mornings at 9:30**

***Why? Making Sense of God's Will***

Where is God when tragedy and suffering strike?

When the ground shakes, and a poor nation's economy is destroyed; when the waters rise, washing away a community's hopes and dreams; when a child suffers neglect and abuse; when violence tears apart nations, where is God? If God is all powerful, and if each one of us is a beloved child of God, then how can God allow tragedy and suffering to mar his creation?

In the DVD series *Why?*, Pastor Adam Hamilton brings fresh insight to the age-old question of how to understand the will of God. Rejecting simplistic answers and unexamined assumptions, he lays out core ideas for comprehending God's plan for the world, including:

God will not take away our free will, even when we use it to grieve him.

God will never abandon us, especially in the midst of our suffering.

While God is not the author of suffering, God will bring blessing out of tragedy.

Here is the line-up:

1/29 – Why Do the Innocent Suffer?

2/5 – Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?

2/12 – Why Can't I See God's Will for My Life?

2/19 – Why God's Love Prevails

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

## Youth News

St. Andrew's children & youth would love to bring your child or teen who attends youth group (grades 6 & up) to Universal Studios in Orlando for a day of fun and fellowship at Rock the Universe 2023 on Saturday, January 28, 2023!!!

We want this to be an amazing memory for all who attend, so we are covering the cost of tickets for the first 10 youth who RSVP, as well as adult volunteers who are willing to carpool and help Alicia for the day.

Please contact Alicia Schmid for more information or to RSVP today at [aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com](mailto:aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com)

## *Thanks to those who have pledged for 2023!*

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  
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  
Mary Judy Brown  
Norton & Linda Busby  
C. Jane Cantler  
Steve & Debbie Cantler  
Dr. & Mrs. Christopher  
Capsambelis  
Nicole Carr  
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  
Chris & Martha Cobb  
Gary Cotter & Sharon Colucci  
Peter Connors  
Mark Crofoot  
William Crowder  
Piers & Pamela Curry  
William & Stacy Curtis  
Wayne A. Daley  
William DeBrine  
Robin DeLavergne  
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.  
Rodrick & Lucinda Evans  
Susanna Fenhagen  
& Tony Morrison  
Richard Ferlita & James Carmi-  
chael  
Carole R. Fields  
Mr. & Mrs. William A. Gillen Jr.  
Crystal Green  
Bradley & Alicia Hall  
Eric & Loueita Hargens  
Mary Beth Harris  
Scott & Conchita Harris  
Mary & Carlton N. Hart, III  
Dawn Headland  
Vernon & Charlotte Henderson  
Paul Henley & Joanne Byars  
Staige & Tricia Hoffman  
Bill Hudson  
Christopher Hunt  
T. Michael & Jana D. Kaney  
Margo & Larry Kemm  
Judy Kent  
Fran Kerr  
Helen T. Kerr  
James E. Key  
Robert & Elaine Kimble  
Carole T. King  
Susan Kiniry  
Larry Kleven  
Victoria & Charles Klug  
Jack & Anne Kutchmire  
Katherine Lawless  
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  
Michael & Janet Norona  
Anne T. Paige  
Craig & Louise Polley  
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Putney  
Tom & Kay Rankin  
Larry & Joan Rayburn  
The Rev. & Mrs. John Reese  
Janis Temple Riasanovsky  
Jennifer & Charlie Richardson  
Kristi Roberts  
Douglas Rubottom  
Catherine & L. Gray Sanders  
Ron Simmons  
Jane & Nathan Simpson  
Donald & Virginia Sink  
Earl & Jan Smith  
Gregg & CJ Smith  
Maxwell & Teri Sobel  
Carol Jean Spoto  
The Rev. & Mrs. Jerold Stadel  
Linda K. Stevens  
Paula Stewart  
Kathleen Stoy  
Catharyn Szuba  
Matt & Carolyn Tapie  
Lori & Doug Taplow  
Matthew & Keri Thatcher  
Arlene & Steve Tonnesen  
Thomas & Susan Torge  
Betty Trueblood  
Jean N. Turner  
Georgia & Milton Vahue  
Leigh & Russ Versaggi  
Ray & Jeanne Vince  
George Western  
Pat Wolfe  
Betty Wood

### Make a Pledge for 2023

Please return your pledge card for 2023 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 126 pledges for \$391,819.00**

### 2023 Pledge Report

<i>Pledges received</i>	<i>Total Amount Pledged for 2023</i>	<i>Total Amount Pledged for 2022</i>
126	\$391,819.00	\$421,420.00
10 New pledges for 2023		
42 Increased their pledge for 2023		
17 Decreased their pledge for 2023		
57 Made the same pledge in 2023 as in 2022		
126 Total number of pledges received for 2023		

#### Donations to Saint Andrew's **Foundation**



*In Loving Memory of*  
**Barbara Jones**  
**Richard Ferlita**  
**& James Carmichael**



#### **From the Parish Register**



#### **Marriage**

**Lane Rogers**  
**&**  
**Lanny Meyer**



#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

**Sunday, February 5th**

after the 10:30 service  
The meeting will be live-streamed

## VESTRY CLASS OF 2026 NOMINEES

Five new vestry members to be elected

### Allison Besselieu



Allison Besselieu was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and moved to Charlottesville, Virginia, at age seven. While growing up in Charlottesville, she attended St. Paul's Episcopal Church, where she sang in the children's choir, participated in the handbell choir, and served as an acolyte. She attended college at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, to study viola performance, and completed this degree in 2005. Shortly thereafter, she shifted her focus to nursing, and attended the University of Virginia to obtain a nursing degree. She then moved to Tampa to work as an RN at University Community Hospital and as a research coordinator at the Rothman Center at USF, and raise her daughter, Maren, now 17 years old. She went on to obtain a pediatric nurse practitioner degree from University of South Florida, and a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner degree at Florida State University.

She met her husband, Bill, in 2013, and they were married in 2014. They have had four children, Ben, age six, Brynn, age five, Jack, age three, and Maggie, age six months. They joined Saint Andrew's in early 2018 and have been active members since. Bill serves as an usher, and Allison serves as verger, and assists with the youth ministry as needed. She continues to play with various music ensembles in the area, with her quartet, serving as principal viola of the Tampa Bay Symphony from 2008-2018, and as a substitute violist for the Florida Orchestra. She is working part time as a psychiatric nurse practitioner with Dr. Megan Toufexis, and in her free time, enjoys spending time with her family, traveling to the beach and the mountains, and playing music. Saint Andrew's has provided Allison and her family with a spiritual home, and she is eager to give back to a community that has so enriched her life.

### Holly Clemmons



Holly is a native Floridian, born in Sarasota and raised in Tampa from the age of one. Holly attended the University of South Florida in Tampa, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. During her 32 year career as an educator, she served as a substitute teacher, taught adult basic education courses, served as a choral director for 12 years, and as an Assistant Principal in 4 different high schools (her most recent tenure at George M. Steinbrenner High School for over 10 years!). Holly retired on October 1, 2022 from the Hillsborough County Public School system.

Holly has attended Saint Andrew's since 2014. She was confirmed in April 2015, alongside Katie Pastorius, her spouse and life-partner of 30 years. Holly served on the vestry from 2016-2018, co-chairing the Outreach Committee all three years. She has enjoyed organizing and participating in all of the Outreach initiatives throughout the year, including "*Klean Kits*," "Easter Boxes of Hope," the "Cinco de Mayo" and "Oktoberfest" luncheons, Operation "*Smart Start*," collections for "Thanksgiving Boxes of Hope," the Saint Andrew's Fish Fry, and the "Gabriel's Giving Tree" parties for elementary school children and their families in need.

In addition to continuing her service on the Outreach committee, Holly looks forward to serving St. Andrew's in new capacities, including our Homeless Lunch ministry and singing with our amazing choir whenever possible! Holly and Katie are grateful to God for leading them to such a welcoming church home and Holly would be honored to serve again as a member of our vestry.

## VESTRY CLASS OF 2026 NOMINEES

Five new vestry members to be elected

### Martha Cobb



I have been a member of St Andrew's for more than twenty five years. I have previously served on the Vestry and supported Outreach, Youth Programs, Parish Life, and Altar Guild. I remain involved with the church where ever there is a need. If given the opportunity, I would enjoy supporting the church in any capacity.

### Wallace Dixon



Wallace A. Dixon, a native of Liberia, West Africa, was born August 12. He attended Lincoln University of Missouri, from which he graduated with a BS Degree in Accounting and Economics. He obtained his MBA Degree from Nova Southeastern University with a major in Financial Management. He is blessed with one daughter, Wanneh Dixon, from a previous marriage.

Currently, he is President and CEO of Atram Financial Group, LLC, a financial consultant firm. In addition, he serves as Treasurer on the Home Owner Association Board of Directors of Naussau Pointe, in New Tampa, where he resides.

Wallace retired 8 years ago after 45 years of professional experience in the areas of finance and accounting. Wallace enjoys interior design & decorating, as well as sports, reading, writing and keeping up with politics.

He has been an active member of St. Andrew's for more than 15 years, serving on the Outreach Committee and Parish Life Committee, respectively. Additionally, he currently serves as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. Prior to attending St. Andrew's, he was an active member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Carrollwood, where he served as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. Prior to St. Mark's, he worshipped at St. James' Episcopal Church, where he served on the Vestry as Treasurer.

Wallace looks forward to being elected to St. Andrew's Vestry, where he hopes to utilize his Management experience and financial skills for crafting strategic plans to assist St. Andrew's in achieving its mission.

### Eric Hargens



My wife and I first came to St. Andrew's almost ten years ago. I was very impressed with the beautifully lit marble altar area and the many stained-glass windows. I thought it all looked so majestic. That first day we wandered over to coffee hour and were pleasantly surprised to see many old friends there, including one friend we made while serving on Dominican Republic mission trips. Loueita and I became members of St. Andrew's soon thereafter and have very much enjoyed being part of our church. I recently retired after spending more than forty years advising analysts on investment portfolio construction at brokerage firms, labor unions,

insurance companies, and registered investment advisories. I earned a B.S. in Finance with an Economics minor from Purdue University and an MBA from the University of Miami. Now that I am retired, I will be happy to devote my time and skills to St. Andrew's.



## Christmas at St. Andrew's





## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING 2023 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 2023 parish meeting and established procedures to allow voting either by mail or in person.

The 2023 Annual Parish Meeting will occur on **Sunday, February 5, 2023 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.

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:

**\*Vestry nominations will cut-off on Sunday, January 15, 2023.** 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 15, 2023.

\*Ballots then will be issued via US mail to all parishioners beginning on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

\*Ballots must be returned via US mail and **received in the parish office no later than close of business on Wednesday, February 1, 2023.**

\*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.

**\*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.**

\* 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 2022 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: 813-431-3039) or any member of the Vestry.

Richard A. Ferlita  
*Senior Warden*

# November 2022 Vestry Meeting Highlights

The meeting was opened with prayer at 5:30 PM by Father John Reese. Barbara B recommended that we offer a round of applause for the outstanding work done by both Richard F and Pam C. in the planning and conducting of the Mural Celebration held on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**The minutes of the October 17th, 2022, vestry meeting were presented. The motion was made by Derrick B to accept the minutes as presented and Barbara B seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted by a unanimous vote of the vestry.**

As of 11/14/22, there was \$156,389 in ops account and \$86,283 in the parish reserve account.

As of 11/14/22, there was \$25,038 in the Foundation's checking account – monies available to the vestry.

Total available funds from principal for years 2018 thru 2022: \$308,011.

There was \$2,569,485 in the Foundation principal as of 9/30/22, as opposed to \$3,218,925 on 12/31/21 (a decrease of \$649,440 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.

2023 Stewardship Campaign – launched the first week of October (pledge cards were mailed out on 10/5.) Thanks, Gary, for heading this up! Gary lined up eight speakers to advocate for stewardship at Sunday services this autumn. Gary wrote the letter for the first pledge card mailing, which was followed by Senior Warden letter (mailed out first week of November), then Treasurer (early December), and Rector (early January). As of 11/14, we have 97 pledges for 300K (compared to 64 pledges for 207K as of this time last year). Thus, we have had a much quicker response this year than last year.

Columbarium Mosaic Project – As of 11/14, 79 donors have given \$22,361 for this project. Dedication will take place after the 10:30 service on Sunday, 11/20, along with a catered luncheon. Overall cost for mosaic and luncheon is about 24K. About 147 people have indicated they will attend the luncheon. A plaque (to be installed next to mosaic) has been ordered.

Oktoberfest – was Sunday, 10/16 in the Parish Hall after the 10:30 service, hosted by the Outreach Committee. Great food and great turnout. Many thanks, Outreachers!

Choir Concert – for All Saints' Sunday, 11/6 at 5PM, with reception hosted by Parish Life afterward in Parish Hall. We had 129 in the audience, plus 29 performers. Reception was actually a dinner. We filled the parish hall! Many thanks to all those who brought the food and ran the shindig!

Mosaic Dedication & Parish Luncheon – Sunday, 11/20, after the 10:30 service.

Thanksgiving Eve Service – on Wednesday, 11/23 at 7PM. In an effort to increase attendance, I thought we might try the service the night before Thanksgiving, rather than Thanksgiving Day.

Foundation Meeting – is Wednesday, 11/30 at 5PM.

## November 2022 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
<b>Revenues</b>	\$59,323	\$50,564	\$470,200	\$556,204
<b>Expenses</b>	\$47,466	\$50,564	\$542,525	\$556,204
<b>Net</b>	(\$11,587)	0	(\$72,324)	0

Anchor Ball – is Saturday, 12/3 at 5:30PM at the Pepin Center. Proceeds benefit Seafarers' Ministry at the Port of Tampa. All 8 seats at the St. Andrew's table are filled.

St. Andrew's Fish Fry – is Sunday, 12/4 after the 10:30 service. Proceeds from this outreach event will go to support the Giving Tree Party on Saturday, 12/10.

Diocesan Convention – originally scheduled for Saturday, 10/15 at the Punta Gorda Convention Center but postponed due to Hurricane Ian. Convention has now been re-scheduled for 9:30AM on Saturday, 12/10, at the Cathedral in St. Petersburg. Our delegates are now Derrick, Loueita, Brad, and yours truly.

Bishop Co-adjutor Situation – The Rt. Rev. Doug Scharf began work with the Diocese on 7/1. He was consecrated/ordained as a bishop on Saturday, 9/24 at 11AM at the Van Wezel in Sarasota. Bishop Smith will retire at the end of this calendar year. Thus, the Diocese will be paying two salaries for a six-month time period. Seating of the new bishop will be on Saturday, 12/10 at 1:30PM at the cathedral in St. Petersburg (right after the conclusion of the diocesan convention).

Rectory Christmas Party – on Friday, 12/16, beginning at 6PM.

**SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:** Richard Ferlita. He shared an update that the luncheon and mural celebration was well attended and enjoyed by all; there were 150 guests fed and bagpipes performed well. He shared that the parish hall piano is being tuned this week by Mr. Ferdinand Pointer. He shared that the old piano would be taken by Mr. Pointer. Later in the meeting as a second part of his report, he shared that \$22,361 was donated for the mural celebration. According to his presentation, approximately \$538 dollars remains after all bills were paid.

**JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:** Richard Chapman. Richard reports that there has been progress on the second-floor project; currently, he is taking measurements and waiting for choices on tiles and divider color and type choices. He shared that the threshold cost for tile is approximately \$9 per square foot. He reported that he will price any laminate and color choices at a later date. He reported that he has still not received a quote for a replacement door for the kitchen.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lori Taplow stated that we are doing ok.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**HOMELESS MINISTRY:** Kathy Lawless. She shared that all is going well. She reported that 100 hats and scarves have been knitted to be given out to the homeless. She shared that we have not received the support for blankets that was hoped for. She shared that we need twin sized blankets, and we need at least 50 for the ministry. She shared that the homeless ministry is considering the potential of having a fundraiser. She shared that we are feeding approximately 70-80 homeless guests a day; other estimates are approximately 90 guests a day.

**PARISH LIFE.** Pam Curry and Loueita Hargens. The November 6<sup>th</sup> reception after the church concert was a success and the event hosted about 100 guests, many of whom were U of Tampa students. Pam shared that the mural celebration was a success and shared her lessons learned, including the value of flexibility and being able to adapt to unforeseen circumstances (weather) and challenges with table size and shape and buffet/serving line location. She and Loueita shared significant challenges with amounts of flatware/serving ware in the kitchen and its impact on being able to host a top tier event at the church. Both recommended replacing kitchen flatware. **The motion was made by Pam C to spend \$150 on the purchase of new flatware/serving ware. Loueita H seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of the vestry.**

**MEDIA MINISTRY:** Paul Scheuer. Paul S. reminded us how most of our parishioners are connected to us through Facebook and not through You Tube. He will look into the "popping" sound by the back the church speakers

**OUTREACH:** Chris Capsambelis. He reported that 25 boxes of food were provided for thanksgiving Boxes of Hope. He reported that a check for \$1,420 was provided to Metropolitan Ministries. On December 4<sup>th</sup> the Fish Fry will be held at the church after the 10:30 service. Proceeds will support the Gabriel's Giving Tree party on December 10<sup>th</sup>. We project that 30 families and 100 children will be supported by the Gabriel's Giving Tree project. Next Sunday there will be a meeting of the committee to finalize plans.

## St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, February 5th

*at noon*

### NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS



### 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](http://saintandrewstampa.org)

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

[saintandrewstampa.org](http://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.