



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

# THE CALL

*Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!*

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✱ July 2022

## *Reverently Speaking*

*Jesus said, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God.”*

Luke 9:62

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

People are not very good at predicting the future. When the Covid-19 pandemic hit the United States in March 2020, many of us thought we'd be home for a few weeks. The virus would pass through the country, and then we'd all be back to school, work and church. We thought we'd surely be able to gather for Easter Sunday in April! Well, it didn't exactly turn out that way. Many of us *did* make it back for Easter ... in April of *this* year.

But our vision of a quick end to the pandemic was not the most boneheaded prediction of all time. All through history, people have made terrible assessments of what a good next step would be.

In the year 1486, a royal committee was gathered in Spain. They said it would be wrong for the king and the queen to provide funding for an Italian explorer named Christopher Columbus. The committee members insisted that sailing west to Asia would take a ridiculously long three years. And why would anyone want to spend so much time at sea? They believed that there was nothing between Europe and Asia but a vast and featureless ocean.

“Don't do it!” they advised. But the king and queen decided to fund Columbus anyway. He landed in the Bahamas in October 1492, starting a movement of globalization that continues to this day.

The value of land has always been tough to predict. Nearly 400 years after the journey of Columbus, a congressman from New York named Orange Ferriss couldn't believe that the United States would be willing to pay Russia \$7 million for the Alaska Territories. That might have seemed like a lot of money, but it was still a good deal — just two cents per acre. Ferriss complained to his fellow congressmen, “Of what possible commercial importance can this territory be?”

In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus knows exactly where he needs to go — “he set his face to go to Jerusalem” (Luke 9:51). The importance of that city to his ministry and mission is very clear to Jesus. But confusion arises on his way to Jerusalem.

As Jesus and the disciples are going along the road, a person says to Jesus, “I will follow you wherever you go.” Jesus says to him, “Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head” (vv. 57-58). The man probably thinks to himself, “Gee, I really like to sleep in my own bed at night.” Don't we all? At this point, it seems that he slips away and heads home.

Then, Jesus says to another potential disciple, “Follow me.” But the man says, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father” (v. 59). That seems like a reasonable request, doesn't it? A good next step. After all, the Ten Commandments say, “Honor your father and your mother” (Exodus 20:12).

*(continued)*

But Jesus says, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God” (Luke 9:60). The grieving man doesn’t know how to respond, so he drops out of the crowd — probably to take care of the funeral arrangements.

Finally, another potential follower says, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home” (v. 61). Again, a reasonable and respectful request: A quick good-bye to the family, so they won’t think that their loved one has disappeared.

But Jesus says, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God” (v. 62).

The request of the final follower is immediately denied.

The first man envisions a place to rest. The second assumes he will be able to bury his father. The third is anticipating a chance to say good-bye to his family. They seem like reasonable expectations. So why does Jesus consider them to be problematic?

All three of these potential disciples fail to see that a future with Jesus is very different from the past. They cannot imagine a time in which they don’t have a bed to sleep in, or the opportunity to go to a funeral, or the chance to visit with their family.

They are like the man who wrote about airplanes in the March 1904 issue of *Popular Science Monthly*. He said, “The machines will eventually be fast, they will be used in sport, but they are not to be thought of as commercial carriers.”

Jesus is calling his followers to look towards a new way of life, one that is hard to predict with any accuracy. When Jesus looks into the future, he sees the kingdom of God coming near. He doesn’t see comfortable beds, respectful funeral services or satisfying family visits. Jesus envisions a future that is very difficult for us to predict, because it is a future being created by God.

But this does not mean there is nothing for the followers of Jesus to do. “We can’t build the kingdom by our own efforts,” writes biblical scholar and Anglican Bishop N.T Wright. “But we can build *for* the kingdom. Every act of justice, every word of truth, every creation of genuine beauty, every act of self-sacrificial love, will be reaffirmed [in the kingdom of God].” All are solid next steps.

These acts do not have to be shocking in order to be significant. The cup of coffee given with gentleness to a homeless person at a day shelter, “the piece of work done honestly and thoroughly; the prayer that comes from heart and mind together; all of these and many more,” says Wright, “are building blocks for the kingdom.”

Looking to the future, we followers of Jesus often fail to see what he desires for us. Like the three potential followers on the road, we cannot envision that discipleship will disrupt our normal routines.

The truth is that our assumptions and predictions will cause problems for us, unless they are in line with the coming of the kingdom. But if we act in ways that are in response to the words of Jesus, we will be adding important building blocks to the kingdom of God.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John +", with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Rev. John Reese

## Columbarium Wall Mosaic



All parishioners received in the mail recently the announcement of a 150th birthday gift to our beloved St. Andrew's. The 8'x5' mosaic of Jesus calling St. Andrew from his fishing boat is already under construction. We are confident that the people of St. Andrew's will support this venture. (This is why the design stage is already in progress.) Our goal is to publish photographs of the project from time to time to keep everyone informed.

So please circle Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, on your calendar, when we will celebrate the installation of the mosaic on the wall in the columbarium (which is located off the Children's Chapel lobby). And do not forget to send in your tax-deductible contributions to

the Foundation to support this worthy project. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any member of the Vestry.

## Outreach Update

School begins on August 10th 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 six items: Two (2) packages of wide-ruled loose leaf paper, Two (2) #2 pencils, Two (2) erasers (handheld or the ones that go on the end of pencils), One (1) box of tissues, One (1) small plastic bottle of hand sanitizer, and One (1) package of wet wipes. Monetary donations are also welcome. Please write "Operation Smart Start!" in the memo of your check. Your donations will benefit Kimbell Elementary and Cleveland Elementary Schools in Tampa.

Please make your donations by Sunday, August 7. There will be a designated collection area in the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Chris Capsambelis (727) 542-4547, Derrick Brown (813-270-2390) or any Outreach Committee member.



**From the Parish Register**



**Baptism**

Henry Storm Schultheis

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

*In Loving Memory of  
Nell Rorebeck*

Richard Ferlita



## Youth News

### ***WEIRD ANIMALS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!***

**Monday, August 1st - Friday, August 5th from 9 a.m. to Noon, followed by youth activities for students in grades 6 (rising middle school) & up from Noon-3pm**

We need youth and adult volunteers, participants, and YOU. Areas like music, arts/crafts, storytelling, snack making, group leaders, and more— where do you feel called to serve? This year is extraordinarily special as we return to “real life” and being able to be together, now in safer, healthier ways. Please, please, please join us!

I have done this particular VBS theme back in 2014, and it was my very favorite VBS theme of all time. This week of VBS will be a packed week of fun where we will have an awesome time sharing God’s love with our children and one another.

Join us for set construction and station leader prep days on Sunday, July 24th & Sunday July 31st from Noon to 2/3pm (lunch will be included for all who RSVP).

Here is what Group’s website has to say about Weird Animals: *Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind! God filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures...including you! When kids feel weird, different, or even lost in a crowd—nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus.*

Please email Alicia Schmid [aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com](mailto:aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com) to get involved.



## Adult Christian Education

**Sunday mornings at 9:30**

***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.*





**Weird Animals VBS 2022**  
**"Where Jesus' Love Is One-Of-A-Kind"**

**August 1-5, 2022 9:00 a.m. to Noon**  
*Youth Activities in grades 6 & up for youth volunteers*  
*From Noon-3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday*

Registration Fee: \$30.00 per participant (scholarships are available, please email Alicia Schmid)  
Mail/ drop off this form at: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 509 E. Twiggs St. or email [aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com](mailto:aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com)

First Participant's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child's age/ last grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_ (must be 4 years old by 8/4/2022 and potty trained OR have a parent volunteering at VBS)  
Pronouns: He/Him She/Her They/Them  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Parish: \_\_\_\_\_  
Second Participant's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pronouns: He/Him She/Her They/Them  
Third Participant's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pronouns: He/Him She/Her They/Them  
In case of emergency (when the parent/guardian cannot be reached) please contact: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to child (ren): \_\_\_\_\_  
Please list all allergies/medical needs the VBS staff should be aware of for EACH participant: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Person responsible for picking up child(ren) at the end of each VBS day: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
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***Please, indicate below if you or any family member would like to volunteer:***

Preschool Group Leader or Assistant \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade K-2 Group Leader or Assistant \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade 3-6 Group Leader or Assistant \_\_\_\_\_  
Make & Serve Snacks \_\_\_\_\_  
Help with Crafts/ Imagination Station \_\_\_\_\_  
Game Leader/Helper \_\_\_\_\_  
Bible Storyteller/ Actor/ Assistant \_\_\_\_\_  
Help the first day with Registration \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

# May Vestry Meeting Highlights

## RECTOR'S REPORT

As of 5/16/22, there was \$199,477 in ops account and \$83,507 in the parish reserve account.

As of 5/11/22, there was \$21,111 in the Foundation's checking acct– 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.

We have \$89,343 available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 3% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2022 at their meeting on 3/23/22.

Total available funds from principal for years 2018 thru 2022: \$328,011.

There was \$3,095,327 in the Foundation principal as of 3/31/22, as opposed to \$3,218,925 on 12/31/21 (a decrease of \$123,598 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.

Pictorial Directory – Pam & Lauri are working on this, it will be an online directory that can be continuously updated & shared electronically w/parishioners. Pam will take a training course through ACS to learn to operate Realm.

Columbarium Project – Mosaic is a work in progress (we recently paid \$2,500 from the Foundation to kick start the project). Richard F has more info about how we will advertise this giving opportunity parish-wide.

Parish Hall Floor – Proposal from E-ZEE Commercial Cleaning to strip, buff, and wax the parish hall floor for \$1,500 has been sent to vestry for consideration at the May meeting. They did a sample portion of floor in parish hall with positive results. Richard C will provide more information.

Children's Chapel Lobby Leak Grows – Richard C will report on this.

Bishop Co-adjutor Situation – The Rev. Doug Scharf will begin work with the Diocese on 7/1. He will be consecrated/ordained as a bishop on Saturday, 9/24. 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.

Parish Picnic – was Sunday, 5/1 at 1PM at the home of Earl & Jan Smith. We had a great turnout, and a good time was had by everyone. And many thanks to all those who worked it!

University of Tampa Concert at St. Andrew's – UT Chamber Singers (select mixed choir) and Camerata (select treble chorus) performed on Friday, 5/6 under the direction of Ryan Hebert. Great music and a good turnout.

St. Andrew's Choir Concert – on Pentecost Sunday, 6/5 has been cancelled. Ryan reported that several singers were unable to be there that evening. He thought it best to nix it.

Vestry Retreat – Saturday, 9/10 from 9AM until 3PM. This will also include our regular monthly meeting for Sept.

Parish Audit – Pam and Barbara are heading this up.

Foundation Audit – Jennifer and Kathy are heading this up.

**SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:** Richard Felita. Richard F stated that we are finally ready to go to the parishioners with the mosaic project. Pam and Lauri created a trifold for this so that we do not have to go to an outside printing source. Richard F noted that it will be disseminated this week. (continued)

## May 2022 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
<b>Revenues</b>	\$34,030	\$50,564	\$216,159	\$252,820
<b>Expenses</b>	\$45,111	\$50,564	\$250,490	\$252,820
<b>Net</b>	(\$11,081)	0	(\$34,330)	0

**JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:** Richard Chapman. Richard C shared that trees around our buildings will be trimmed on 5/24. We are still having trouble with our irrigation system. He shared that our \$300 work on the lobby to seal the crack was not successful and Richard C has arranged for a painter to come to the parish building to paint the wall above the lobby in order to seal the cracks. Richard C noted that we are planning to clean the floor in the parish hall. He recommended that the vestry vote to approve the funds to clean, strip and wax the floor.

Richard C made a motion to have the floor in the parish hall cleaned and polished by E-ZEE Commercial Cleaning for \$1,500, to be paid out of the parish reserve fund. Barbara seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lori Taplow was absent. Richard F reported in Lori's absence and noted that we received a \$5,437 check from 717 Parking for last month's parking lot revenue. Richard F shared we "are under expenses and have done well with our collections."

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**HOMELESS MINISTRY:** Sue MacIsaac. Sue stated that the daily lunch has gotten much busier, since we are now the only downtown feeding spot & we are using 5-6 trays (w/ 18 sandwiches per tray) from Metro Min for each daily lunch. We do not have the room to be storing stuff, making maintaining inventory much more difficult. We need on site supplies & toiletries, including wash cloths & underwear. The clean underwear will help tone things down a bit in terms of smell & personal hygiene issues. Sue desperately needs 2 volunteers to help lead and coordinate this ministry. There are also gaps in the volunteer schedule for the upcoming summer. Sue is hoping that, given she is rotating off vestry in February, a couple of new coordinators can be raised up soon so that she can show them how everything works. Sue will write up an article soliciting both volunteers for the daily lunch and new leaders/coordinators for the program. Sue will also speak at both Sunday services in the near future in an effort to recruit some new folks.

**PARISH LIFE:** Pam Curry. She shared that the Parish Picnic was a wonderful event and she received strong positive feedback. Estimated participation was about 80 guests. She thanked the grillers and was grateful for the hospitality of Earl & Jan Smith, who hosted the picnic at their home.

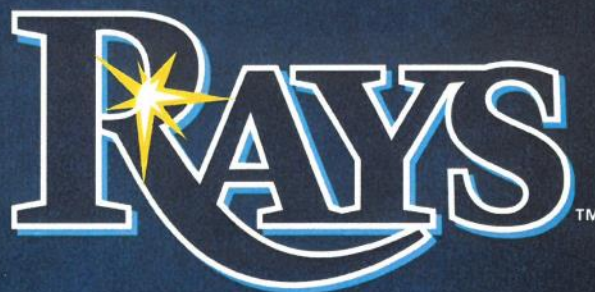
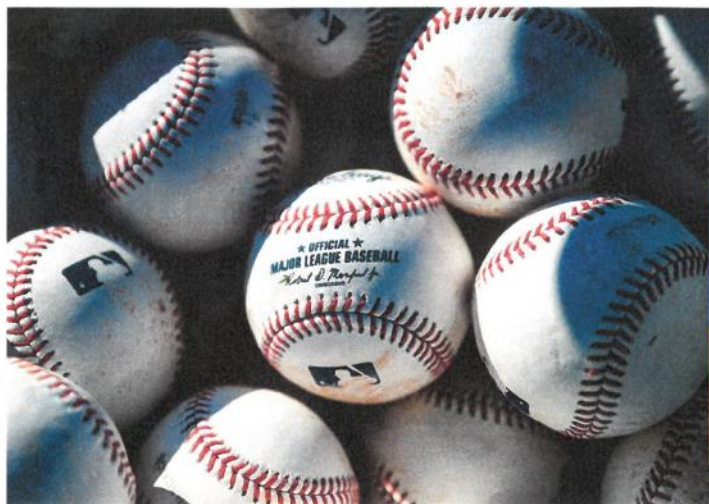
**OUTREACH:** Chris Capsambelis. Chris said that Outreach is going to find out if the Cornerstone Kids are going to return for Vacation Bible School; Alicia & Martha Cobb are looking into that. Sue stated that the DOK is prepared to give between \$300-\$500 for a bus for the Cornerstone Kids. Operation Smart Start is being organized for the summer. There will be an Oktoberfest lunch on Sun, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> that will benefit Met Ministry. The turkey packing date will be disseminated to the church in order to support Met Min; it will be held Sat, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. The Giving Tree will be put up the next day for parishioners to select names of children for whom they will purchase gifts. The fish fry will be held on Sunday, Dec 4<sup>th</sup> and that will pay for the Giving Tree party. Derrick Brown shared his thanks for Kathy for single handedly packing 15 bags to be delivered for the benefit of the homeless. The outreach schedule is as follows:

- Cornerstone Kids Donation Collection
  - Cornerstone Kids Attend VBS this summer (Martha Cobb will inquire)
- Operation Smart Start- Backpacks & other school supplies (add hand sanitizers and wet wipes to list of items)
  - o For Kimbell & Cleveland Elementary School students
  - o Begin announcements on Sunday, July 31
  - o Final collection on Sunday, August 7
- Oktoberfest Luncheon- Sunday, October 9
  - o Benefit Metropolitan Ministries
- Turkey Packing
  - o Benefit Metropolitan Ministries
  - o Begin announcements on Sunday, October 23
  - o Final collection & transportation at 10AM on Saturday, November 19
- Gabriel's Giving Tree Preparations
  - o Put up Giving Tree on Saturday, November 19
  - o Begin announcements; Giving Tree names are available on Sunday, November 20
  - o Ask that Gifts be returned by Sunday, December 4
- St. Andrew's Day Fish Fry- Sunday, December 4
  - o Benefits Gabriel's Giving Tree Party/Gifts
- Gabriel's Giving Tree Party- Saturday, December 10
  - o For Kimbell & Cleveland Elementary School students

**STEWARDSHIP.** Gary Cotter. Gary noted that it was time to start thinking about who might have the courage to get up & speak to the parishioners on Sunday mornings during the autumn stewardship season. Names will be solicited at next month's vestry meeting. Those who speak do not necessarily have to be vestry members. It is valuable experience for those who wish to polish their public speaking skills & the parishioners enjoy hearing personal stories.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Pam Curry. Pam stated that, in the last DOK meeting, the Daughters wanted to know if there was a way to do a banquet to celebrate St. Andrew's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, even though the date has passed. DOK members proposed having a party/banquet in the parish hall. Jennifer recommended we have a celebration for the unveiling of the mosaic on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Father agreed with that. Pam stated that it would be a catered event held both in the parish hall and the courtyard. The subcommittee planning this event will be chaired by Parish Life.





## "BASEBALL WITH THE BISHOP" NIGHT WITH THE RAYS



**FRIDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2**

**START TIME: 7:10 P.M.  
GATES OPEN: 5:40 P.M.**

### DON'T MISS.....

- \$5 beers on the Budweiser Porch
- 7th inning stretch with the Bishop
- Group leader rewards program for each participating church.

**Lower Corner Tickets are \$30 (\$45 Value)**

*A portion of this ticket offer will benefit the Episcopal Charities Fund!*

**\*Don't forget to invite your youth groups\***

Deadline to purchase is Friday, August 26, 2022.



To order tickets and  
for more information  
please contact:

Rafael Lazala at  
727-825-3445  
or [rlazala@raysbaseball.com](mailto:rlazala@raysbaseball.com)

Offer not available through Tropicana Field box offices. Tickets subject to availability. No refunds or exchanges. Prices subject to change.  
Any returned checks subject to \$40.00 charge



## St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION DIRECTOR GETS READY FOR THE SUMMER...



### 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.