



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

THE CALL

Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✦ November 2023

Reverently Speaking

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Luke 12:34

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

Truit Gannon, pastor of a church in Georgia, tells of an incident in his boyhood. A man named Hugh, who worked for his father, owned a beautiful Harley Davidson motorcycle. Truit says it was his greatest thrill as a teenager to ride that motorcycle. One day he asked, "Hugh, can I ride your motorcycle again today?" Hugh's words have stuck with him ever since. "You can ride it anytime you want to," Hugh said, "anywhere you want to, and as often as you want to. Just remember to ride it like it was mine and not yours." Reflecting on that statement, Gannon says, "God has given us full and free use of this world. All He asks is that we use it like it was His and not ours. That's stewardship."

Each day we decide the question, "Shall I live for God or for myself?" This was the dilemma Adam and Eve faced in the garden and every person must face. Human beings must worship something. If we do not let God be God, then we will make something else into our God. It may be ourselves, our possessions, another person or some ideal or institution. Something will rule over our lives. Frank Sinatra sings, "I did it my way." It may be unrecognized by most folks, but this is the theme song of their lives. But our way is not God's way. Our way often leads into difficulty and heartbreak, but God's way leads into life and peace and joy. His way involves our letting Christ control and direct us in all things. He becomes the center of our lives and the One we worship.

Making Him Lord means using our possessions, our time, talents, influence and property for His glory. When He is Lord we recognize that we are stewards of everything, not just our possessions. We are stewards of life itself and all of life's experiences. The Christian steward makes Christ the Lord of all his life, for Christ must be Lord of all.

Leonard Sanderson, a Baptist pastor, tells how this was brought home to him by a layman that he came to know. They were visiting together during a revival meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma. As they passed a new office building, Sanderson said, "That's a magnificent building." The young man replied, "Yes, that belongs to my father." "Sure enough?" Sanderson said. "You have every reason to be proud of that." He referred to some other nice property during the afternoon and each time the young businessman said, "That belongs to my father, too." It was beginning to get to Pastor Sanderson, so he said, "You're not pulling my leg, are you?" The young man replied, "No, I'm not kidding you, preacher. God is my father, and He owns everything."

The key scripture for understanding the Christian view of material things is Colossians 1:16 where Paul says, "All things were created by Him and for Him." God made us for Himself and gives us material things to fulfill His purpose and plan for the world. His purpose is that all persons come to know Christ and find fullness of life through Him and in the church. Whatever we have should be spent ultimately to that purpose.

Christians must discover and follow God's purpose in getting and spending. We have let materialistic values squeeze us into their mold. When Clare Booth Luce was appointed U.S. ambassador to Italy, she

rented a 17th century Italian villa. Soon she noticed she was not feeling well. She was tired, lost weight and had little energy. She got worse and worse. After intense medical tests, doctors determined that she was being poisoned by arsenic. All the staff in the villa were found to be trustworthy. Where was the poison coming from? Finally, the cause was located. The ceiling of her bedroom had carvings of roses, and those carvings, it was discovered, were painted with arsenic-laced lead paint. A fine dust fell from the roses. Completely unaware of what was going on, Mrs. Luce was being poisoned in her bed by this fine dust falling from the roses.

We, too, completely unaware of it, are in danger of being poisoned by a materialistic outlook. We can be tainted by materialism all about us without being aware until it is too late.

Following God's purpose in material possessions involves giving through His church.

"Freely we have received, freely we are to give." We give out of love and thanksgiving to the glory of God, as Paul points out. God loves a cheerful giver, he says, and a cheerful giver loves God and his fellow men more and more.

Our giving and our lifestyle ought to reflect that Christ is Lord. Our lifestyle should reflect that we can tell the difference between necessities and luxuries. A Christian steward's lifestyle and giving will reflect the responsibility he feels for the blessings God has bestowed upon him. And his lifestyle will show that he seeks contentment in doing God's will and fulfilling His purpose for the world.

Whitney Yeaple has paraphrased a Biblical verse in two ways. Which applies to you?

"Mr. Blank of the blank congregation so loved the world that he gave up what was dear to him so that the work of the Lord in his church might go forward. This he did that men might know of eternal life and not perish."

Or "Mr. Blank of the blank congregation so loved himself that he withheld all but a trifling amount of his money that he might gratify his own whims, caring little whether his Lord or his church could carry on. This he did in spite of the fact that he knew men would perish without the word of eternal life."

Remember, where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. John Reese

All Saints' Evensong

Please join us for candlelight **Choral Evensong on Sunday, November 5th at 5:00p.m** Evensong is the quintessential prayer service of the Anglican tradition and is almost entirely sung. Since we do this service only once a year, I hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity. The music will commemorate the faithful departed and will honor the vast numbers of parishioners who have gone onto their heavenly rest, and whose lives and service helped shape our beloved church. The Louise Lykes Ferguson Memorial Choir will sing anthems by Ernest Bullock and Egil Hovland and a Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis setting by Charles Wood. The closing organ voluntary will be the great F Major Toccata by Johann Sebastian Bach.

We hope you will join us for this beautiful service on All Saints' Sunday. Please plan to attend and to invite a friend! A reception will follow in the parish hall.



Our Annual *St. Andrew's Fish Fry* will be on **Sunday, November 12th** after the **10:30 am service**. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children with proceeds benefitting "*Gabriel's Giving Tree*", supporting needy children from Cleveland and Kimbell Elementary Schools. We will again be pre-selling tickets each Sunday prior to the lunch.

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Choral Eucharist

Wednesday, November 22~ 7:00 p.m.

A wonderful day of the year to give thanks to our God!

Outreach News

The Outreach Committee is kicking off our annual *Metropolitan Ministries Thanksgiving Boxes of Hope*. We are asking that you purchase and bring to church the following items based on the first letter of your last name:

A-E: gravy packets, soup, cereal, canned fruit, canned yams

F-M: bagged or canned beans (black, pinto, refried), cranberry sauce, boxed macaroni and cheese, canned vegetables

N-Z: bagged or boxed stuffing, bagged rice (yellow or white), canned or boxed potatoes, dessert mix, cookies

Labeled boxes are provided in the Parish Hall for your food donations. Gift cards for turkeys are also welcome, as are check donations made out to St. Andrew's with "Turkey Pack" in the memo line. Metropolitan Ministries has a critical need this holiday season to serve Tampa's less fortunate population, so let's make this our best year of giving ever!

Anchor Ball

Your Vestry has graciously agreed to add its name as a supporter of the 2023 Anchor Ball sponsored by Port Tampa Bay. The Ball is scheduled for **Saturday, December 2, 2023**, at the PEPIN HOSPITALITY CENTRE (4121 N 50th St. in Tampa 33610), beginning at 5:30 pm. Proceeds will benefit the Tampa Bay Maritime Scholarship Foundation and the Tampa Port Ministries. St. Andrew's will continue its annual support of the Seafarer's Ministry and has purchased 6 tickets to the 2023 Anchor Ball for use by parishioners at NO COST to our participants! In addition, Irene and Peter Baker will attend and act as hosts this year, so we look forward to having another St. Andrew's table with 8 parishioners. There will be plenty of parking at the Centre, complimentary drinks and hor d'oeuvres, silent auction, dinner, live auction and dancing. What we need are some volunteers to share in this outreach ministry, put on some dress clothes for the evening (black tie optional), and open their hearts, wallets or pocketbooks. If you are interested in attending, please contact Pam Frost or Lauri Harder in the office (813/221-2035) so they can add you to the guest list.

If you have any questions, please contact Peter Baker (813/230-0354; pbakerlaw@gmail.com). Remember, there is no cost to you – so please sign up and have a great time at the 2023 ANCHOR BALL.!!

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30

Jesus Revealed: The "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John

Light. Bread. Shepherd. Life. The Gospel of John uses these and other symbols to paint a picture of who Jesus is. Through the "I Am" statements Jesus describes himself with rich images, showing us that he is both fully human and fully divine and calling us as his followers.

In *Jesus Revealed: The I Am Statements in the Gospel of John*, author Matt Rawle explores the "I Am" statements in John as works of art that resonate throughout the Gospel and all of Scripture. He shows how these words point beyond themselves to the deep mystery of Jesus Christ. Join us on this journey and experience the profound truth at the heart of the I Am statements: that Jesus is light and life, and he calls us to himself and offers us the hope of resurrection. Matt Rawle is lead pastor at Asbury United Methodist Church in Bossier City, Louisiana.

Here is the rest of the line-up:

11/05 - I am the good shepherd (John 10:11)

11/12 - I am the true vine (John 15:1)

11/19 - I am the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6)

11/26 - I am the resurrection and the life (John 11:25)

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

Youth News

There will be a **confirmation meet & greet** on **Sunday, November 5th at 9:30am** in the youth classroom on the 3rd floor for parents and confirmands. Please attend this meeting to learn more about 2024 confirmation! **Classes start November 5th**, break after Thanksgiving, and will **pick back up every Sunday** in the new year at **9:30am starting January 7, 2024**, with the date of confirmation being **Sunday, February 25, 2024 during the 10:30 service**.

We will be rehearsing for the **Christmas pageant** starting Sunday, November 26th at 9:30 and will be rehearsing Sunday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 10th from 9:30-11:15am in the Children's chapel with final dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 16th from 10-noon in the sanctuary. The pageant this year will take place on **Sunday, December 17th** during the **10:30am** service. Please reach out to Alicia to be part of this years pageant! We'd love to have you & yours be part of the festivities!

Blood Drive

We will be having a Blood Drive **on Sunday, November 12th from 7:30AM to 1:00PM**.

All donors will receive a \$20 eGift Card, OneBlood Blanket, Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening. Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use sponsor code 72440. ID Required. Please contact Derrick Brown at darbee45@gmail.com with questions.

Gabriel Tree Project

The Parish Outreach Committee is again sponsoring the 2023 Gabriel Tree Project. This supports students and families at two local elementary schools. Tags with children's names, sizes and wish gifts will be available starting November 5th. Gifts will need to be at the church on or before Sunday December 3rd.

Anyone can participate in one of several ways:

A. Select a child's name, purchase, and wrap the gifts, and drop them off at the Parish Hall by Sunday December 3rd or any time earlier. Prices have increased significantly and here are approximate costs for shopping. (young/\$80, elementary/\$100, mid-high/\$120). We appreciate any donations and will be happy to take your contributions with others to help support a child's Christmas.

B. Avail yourself of the ELF shopper's service. At the end of the program, you will receive a thank you note with photos of the gifts that were purchased for the child you selected.

- Select a child, indicate that you want the ELF to shop for this child when you sign up, and give a donation to the church office, either cash, check or on-line donation (please specify Gabriel Tree).

- Send a donation to the church and the Parish Elf can select a child and shop/wrap for you. Let Lin Busby know via text or phone call (813-486-1683) that you would like her to select a child for you. You can specify a boy or girl, and age range if you wish.



From the Parish Register

Deaths



Libby Dickinson
Roma Plimmer
Ian Snider
Patricia Maxfield
Jenette Kerr
Kay Rankin



Donations to Saint Andrew's Foundation

In Loving Memory of Libby Dickinson

Betsy & Steve Chambers
Betty Hall Wood
Ruthanne & William McLean
Barbara & Les Ryals
Patricia Wolfe
James Moore

In Loving Memory of Roma Plimmer

Jack Plimmer

In Loving Memory of Isabelle Ferrell

Gray & Catherine Sanders
Fran Kerr
Jack & Linda Sparn
David & Jan Dees

Make a Pledge for 2024

Please return your pledge card for 2024 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.

September Vestry Meeting Highlights

RECTOR'S REPORT

As of 9/11/23, there was \$177,169 in ops account and \$86,283 in the parish reserve account.

As of 8/31/23, there was \$16,656 in the Foundation's checking account – monies available to the vestry.

Total available funds from Foundation principal for years 2020 thru 2023: \$332,690.

There was \$2,987,179 in the Foundation principal as of 8/4/23, as opposed to \$2,757,202 on 12/31/22 (an increase of \$229,979 for the year).

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. We did not spend any of the 2022 allocation. Current amount available is \$8,981 (the allocations for 2022 and 2023).

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

Church roof leaks – in north transept and NW corner of church are being addressed by a water intrusion company.

First Floor Restroom Renovations – are complete.

Deanery Convocation – for Diocesan convention delegates was on Wednesday, 9/6 at St. Mary's, Tampa. Our delegates are Barbara, Derrick, and Brad. The diocese informed us that property insurance costs will rise 28%-35% in coming year. Health insurance will increase by 7%. Our diocesan assessment for 2024 will be 5K higher than in 2023. The diocese taxes us at 10% of our operating income, based on a three-year rolling average.

2023 Stewardship Campaign – will launch at the end of the month. Thanks, Brad, for heading this up! As has been our custom, we will be looking for folks willing to stand up and give a 2-3 minute stewardship oration/plug at Sunday services in October and November. Brad will write the letter for the first pledge card mailing (end of September), followed by Senior Warden (end of October), Treasurer (end of November), and Rector (early January).

Halloween House – for the kids in on Saturday, 10/28 from 6PM to 8PM at St. Andrew's. Planning meeting is after the 10:30 service on 9/24.

Episcopal Visitation – Bishop Scharf will visit St. Andrew's on Sunday, 2/25/24 (the Second Sunday in Lent). Confirmation class for youth will start in the fall (during Sunday school hour) and for adults in January and February (on Tuesday evenings).

Senior Warden: Richard Ferlita thanked Richard Chapman for the awesome restroom renovation. Richard reported that the Booker family would like to come to St. Andrew's and see the piano they donated for the parish hall in use. We could then acknowledge their donation.

(continued)

September 2023 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
Revenues	\$28,397	\$52,525	\$370,413	\$472,730
Expenses	\$68,259	\$52,525	\$473,475	\$472,730
Net	(\$39,861)	(\$0)	(\$103,061)	(\$0)

Junior Warden: Richard Chapman reported that the first-floor restroom renovations will come in under budget. Final cost will be around 33K, rather than the 43K budgeted. Richard met with a waterproofing contractor to get background on finding the source of the leaks in the north transept of the church (by the chapel). They will systematically test walls, roof, and other potential areas for leaks. The Dan Curtis Fund would be the likely source of funds. It is believed that this will be the definitive exercise needed to detect these pesky leaks.

Richard Ferlita made a motion to approve engaging the Shield Coatings and Weatherproofing Company and pay them \$3,500 to detect the roof leaks, cost to be paid from the Dan Curtis Fund. Kathy Lawless seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Richard discussed the renovation of the second-floor restrooms as discussed in previous meetings. This is an extensive undertaking involving all surfaces and fixtures in these rooms. These renovations would follow the décor found in the third and sixth floor restrooms. The work is estimated to cost up to \$48,000.

Richard Ferlita made a motion to approve the renovation of the second-floor restrooms, not to exceed \$48,000, to be paid for from Foundation funds. Brad Hall seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Treasurer: Eric Hargens stated that we have a small deficit in the expenses because the electric bill has more than doubled. Other savings in expenses basically kept us in line. On the revenue side, contributions are a little below the budget and there has been a positive bump in parking revenue.

Committee Reports:

Outreach: Chris Capsambelis reported that \$1,065 was raised at the Octoberfest celebration on Sunday, proceeds to benefit Metropolitan Ministries. We had a lot of food and it was much enjoyed by attendees. Thanksgiving Boxes of Hope is the next project. That is scheduled for the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Our annual Fish Fry is coming up on November 12th. It was requested that we host a blood drive here. The drive would be on a Sunday. If we do the Fish Fry during the Blood Drive, that might be a way to keep our folks occupied while they wait to donate blood. Martha Cobb mentioned that elf shopping for Gabriel Giving Tree project is going to cost more than in previous years. She will make an announcement that all donations are welcome, but will explain parameters around what it will take this year to provide the usual complement of gifts. The Gabriel Tree will go up on November 5th as it was suggested that we allow more time for participants to select their child(ren) and shop for the gifts. The Gabriel Tree party is scheduled for the 9th of December.

Outreach Homeless Program: Kathy Lawless thanked Holly Clemmons for handling the calendar this month. Kathy reported that there were some new people who signed up for the Homeless Program during Rally Day. Kathy will be reaching out to parishioners for more socks and other items. Richard will make another request of Bombas, but we are on a rota with them. Kathy will put something in the bulletin.

Media: Paul Scheuer reported that he has a revised quote for the two church recording microphones in the amount of \$3,427.34. This amount is consistent with the amount the Vestry voted to approve at a previous vestry meeting. They invoice in advance because the expense is primarily for the hardware. The vendor, A.J. Layton, is available to install in mid-October.

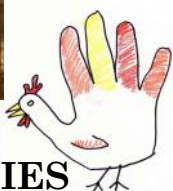
Christian Education: Allison Besselieu reported that they are looking for volunteers to assist Alicia. Allison will solicit volunteers via a sign-up genius.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



TURKEY DINNERS FOR METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES

(see page 3 for how you can help)



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@](mailto:secretary@saintandrewstampa.org)

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.