



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

THE CALL

Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✦ October 2021

Reverently Speaking

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

1 Timothy 6:18-19

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

A Colorado pastor tells of being in a grocery store one day and encountering a woman she hadn't seen in a long time. "It was awkward for both of us," the pastor said, "as she had suddenly stopped attending church and we never learned exactly why." After the two exchanged pleasantries, the pastor said, "We miss you. Is there anything that our church can do for you?" The woman replied, "Yes, there is. You could stop asking for money all the time."

The pastor doesn't indicate how she answered that woman. Perhaps the woman's response caught her by surprise and the pastor didn't have time to organize a reply. But she continued to think about it, and she eventually presented her response in the form of a sermon to her congregation. She started by acknowledging that the church is always asking for money, but she went on unapologetically to defend that practice by enumerating all the ministries and missions churches engage in.

The pastor acknowledged that some people grow weary of being asked to give but said that perhaps they would prefer the sort of church she'd read about recently where the members aren't asked for money. Instead, they take turns doing everything in the church, including cleaning the building, providing the music, preparing the bulletin, doing the preaching and teaching, and spending a year each on the mission field (because they have no money to give to missions). In winter, they dress very warmly for worship because they don't run the furnace. They offer no child care, no children's church and no youth ministry. The pastor concluded that example by saying, "A church that needs no money wouldn't be much of a church at all. I'm glad to be part of a church that always needs money. It means we're doing something, going somewhere, making a difference."

It was a good sermon and a good response to the complaint that the church is always asking for money. But that it isn't the whole response. The argument that the church should be asking for money because of all the good stuff it does has merit, but any worthy charity can make that case. The church isn't simply a charity with a religious sheen on it. Christians aren't simply do-gooders who also pray. In fact, doing good for others, often expressed biblically as "love your neighbor as yourself," is the second of the two great summary commandments Jesus spoke. The first of them is "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37). For Christians, giving out of what we have has as much to do with the first great commandment as with the second one.

To say it another way, we should give not only to do good for others but also because it's necessary for our own spiritual well-being. It's part of the way we love God with all our heart, soul and mind.

The apostle Paul gets at that in the first letter to Timothy, when he addresses the negative impact money can have on our souls. Paul speaks of the gain that comes to us "in godliness combined with contentment" and goes on to mention the basics — food and clothing — as sufficient. But then he warns about the dangers

that the desire to be rich can bring, stating, “For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains” (1 Timothy 6:10).

Paul next addresses Timothy specifically, calling him “man of God” (which is an ancient title for a prophet). Paul tells him to “shun all this.” In other words, some threats to our spiritual health — including the love of money — are so subtle and so powerful that the best way to deal with them is to stay away from them.

Obviously, we live in a world that runs on money. We cannot have a decent existence without money, and Paul is well aware of that. But he also recognizes that the lure of money and the acquisition of possessions it makes possible are so dangerous to our souls that we have to defang them. And one of the best ways to do that is by opening our hands and giving some of it away.

Further on in the same chapter, Paul addresses Christians “who in the present age are rich.” He tells them not to allow their wealth to make them “haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches.” Rather, Paul says, they should set their hope “on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.” And lest they miss the point, he spells it out: “They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.”

Notice he doesn’t say they should be generous and ready to share because that’s good for others, though no doubt Paul would agree with that. No, he says they should be “rich in good works, generous, and ready to share” because by so doing they “take hold of the life that really is life.” They should be generous because it’s one of the things that makes them, the givers, spiritually healthy.

In the church, we often refer to certain practices as important for our growth in the Spirit. They include prayer, Bible study, worship and service, and we sometimes refer to them as “spiritual disciplines.” The disciplines help us avoid superficiality in our faith, which Richard J. Foster, who has written a book on the disciplines, calls “the curse of our age,” adding “the doctrine of instant satisfaction is a primary spiritual problem.” He explains that the spiritual disciplines “call us to move beyond surface living into the depths. They invite us to explore the inner caverns of the spiritual realm.”

Generosity is also a spiritual discipline, which means it’s one practice that helps us avoid superficiality in our faith. In fact, someone has said that when we present the offering plates at the altar after the collection has been taken, the gist of our offertory prayer should be, “No matter what else we say or do here this morning, O Lord, this tells you what we really think of you.”

So yes, the church is always asking for money. But it’s also always asking you to pray, read the Bible, do good deeds and attend worship. All those things are good for our souls and help us go deeper into our faith.

So one blessing of attending church is that it provides us with an opportunity to give generously, for our own good. With that in mind, please prayerfully consider what you will give back to God through St. Andrew’s in 2022.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Reese".

The Rev. John Reese

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30

Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today

What if the Ten Commandments were not just a set of ancient rules, but a guide to experiencing the good life today?

Nearly everyone has heard of the Ten Commandments, the list of “thou-shalt-nots” found in the Bible. Jesus saw these commandments not as onerous burdens, but as guideposts to help us experience a good and beautiful life.

In *Words of Life*, Pastor Adam Hamilton brings modern eyes to the most important set of ethics in history. He considers the commandments in their historical context, exploring the meaning of each commandment in Hebrew, unpacking how Jesus reinterpreted them, and showing how every thou-shalt-not was intended to point to a life-giving “thou shalt.” He also looks at how the latest research in science and psychology illuminates these commandments, rightly understood, as a way of ordering one’s life beautifully in the present day. In a culture marked by workaholism, materialism, and social media-driven envy, God has given us a time-tested path that leads to gratitude, confidence, and peace.

This ten-week DVD series features Adam Hamilton teaching from locations in Egypt. Here is the rest of the line-up:

10/17 – Do Not Kill
10/24 – Do Not Commit Adultery
10/31 – Do Not Steal
11/07 – Do Not Bear False Witness
11/14 – Do Not Covet

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

Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm
Adult Inquirers’ Class

New to St. Andrew’s and the Episcopal Church? Or just trying to brush up on the faith? Then join us for this seven week series exploring the Episcopal Church. We will use *Looking at the Episcopal Church*, a book by The Rev. William Sydnor. We will comprehensively cover the church’s symbols, customs, practices, history, creeds, sacraments, and mission. This class is required if you wish to be confirmed or received into the church during Bishop Garrison’s visitation on Sunday, November 21st at the 10:30 service.

Here is the rest of the line-up:

October 19 – History of the Church
October 26 – The Holy Scriptures and Creeds
November 2 – The Church Year and Sacraments
November 9 – The Ordained Ministry and the Mission of the Church
November 16- Ministry of the Laity

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

Youth News

Here is what's coming up at St. Andrew's over the next couple months for children, youth, and families.

Sundays at 9:30am

Sunday school classes for preschool and elementary and youth confirmation classes for middle and high schoolers on our third floor.

Sundays

Nursery care in the nursery from 9:30 a.m. - Noon

Nursery staff, who are fully vaccinated, will be taking all necessary precautions. Please call the church office with questions.

Sundays

Children's Chapel at 10:30 a.m.

Join us for chapel time just for kids! Sing songs in worship, hear cool Bible stories, and much more! Our time in chapel lasts for about 40 minutes, and kids are brought in to their parents during the service at the passing of the peace.

Halloween Extravaganza— THE Event!

Saturday, October 30th, in St. Andrew's Parking Lot and Courtyard

Event Team please attend from 5:30-9:30PM (set-up), Event takes place from 6:30-8:30PM

Invite friends, neighbors, everyone! This is going to be an awesome event and we will take ***all precautions*** to be safe and healthy!

Please email, call, or text Alicia Schmid at aliciaschmid@rocketmail.com anytime for questions, to volunteer or inquire about serving, or to RSVP. Thank you all for being part of St. Andrew's parish.

All Saints' Choral Evensong

We will celebrate **Choral Evensong** for All Saints' on **Sunday, November 7, at 5:00p.m.** Choral Evensong, a service of sung prayer, is one of the most meaningful and unique services in *The Book of Common Prayer*. This year we will commemorate the faithful departed, especially those whose lives have been lost to Covid-19. Members of the Louise Lykes Ferguson Memorial Choir will sing "And I Saw a New Heaven," by Edgar Bainton, and *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E-flat* by Charles Wood. The organ volunteers will be from *Sonata III in A* by Felix Mendelssohn.

Please save the date, plan to bring a friend, and join us via livestream or in person. A reception follows in the parish hall.



Parish Life

As we begin planning for our upcoming events, Parish Life would like to invite you to share your time and talents with us. We will be hosting the Evensong reception on 11/7, The Bishop's visitation & Confirmation brunch on 11/21, and the Christmas party after Lessons & Carols on 12/19.

Please contact Pam Curry: plcurry@hotmail.com if you would like to help with any of these events or to be added to our email list for future events. Thank

HOMELESS LUNCH VOLUNTEERS AND DRIVERS NEEDED



Our Homeless Lunch Program is in need of a few more helpers and drivers. We need people who can help pick up the sandwiches at Metropolitan Ministries on N. Florida Ave and a few volunteers that can help pass out the meals. If you have a mid size car, you should be able to fit 3 crates of sandwiches. The time in getting these sandwiches is minimal - 20 minutes. If you're able to stay and help pass out the lunches, we start at 9:45 and are completely finished by 10:15.

Please pray and consider volunteering your time.

Contact Sue MacIsaac at 813-382-8790 or email at:

suemmacisaac@gmail.com

Calling all Cooks!

We need your recipes, from breakfast to dessert and everything in between. Our chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King would like to include your favorites in the St. Andrew's 150th Anniversary Commemorative Cookbook we are publishing. A traditional format will be used and will include recipes for hors d'oeuvres, special family dinners, St. Andrew's potluck favorites, holiday recipes and even recipes from our youngest chefs, our St. Andrew's youth. Our deadline to submit your recipes is **November 20, 2021**.

The cookbook format will be in the upcoming newsletter and church service leaflet. Also, recipe collection boxes and writing cards will be in the parish hall. We will be responsible for arranging and printing.

Please email, text or call Paula Stewart with any comments and questions, renaissancepewhs@gmail.com.



From the Parish Register



Transfer In

Larry Klevin
*from St. John the Divine
Sun City Center, FL*



Transfers Out

Rick & Kathy Newton
*to St. James Episcopal,
Toas, NM*



Baptism

Clare Halloran Evans



Hospital Admissions

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, please notify the church office so that you may be prayed for and visited.



Columbarium niches available

The columbarium, located north of the Children's Chapel, is complete and arrangements can be made for eternal rest at St. Andrew's.

Each niche can hold two urns, and the cost per niche is \$2000.

For more information contact the Rector.

August Vestry Meeting Highlights

RECTOR'S REPORT

As of 8/2/21, there was \$198,719 in ops account and \$83,507 in the parish reserve account.

As of 8/12/21, there was \$33,220 in the Foundation's checking account – monies available to the vestry. After a 5K advance payment to Done Right Roofing for the new rectory roof, we still owe \$17,530 for the rest of that project (which is due upon completion of the work, which will happen sometime in September). Total cost for project is \$22,530.

We have another \$35,659 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.)

We have another \$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 another \$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 another \$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: \$253,667.

And there was \$3,143,596 in the Foundation principal as of 7/13/21, as opposed to \$2,929,677 on 12/31/20 (an increase of \$213,919 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, with \$4,371 in grant money available for 2021. This fund is designated for church maintenance purposes.

On Sundays, there is Adult Christian Education at 9:30AM in the third floor library. 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 off-site.

Confirmation Classes – Youth sessions will be during Sunday School at 9:30AM on Sunday mornings, beginning on 9/12 and running through 11/14. Adult Inquirers' Class will be on Tuesday evenings at 7PM, 10/5 through 11/16 (seven sessions). Confirmation is on 11/21 at 10:30 service.

Parish & Foundation Audits – Completed. Vestry must approve at Aug meeting, since audits are due in to diocese on 9/1.

Lynn moved to accept the Parish Audit, seconded by Gray.

Gary moved to accept the Foundation Audit, seconded by Gray.

Both motions were accepted unanimously.

Sesquicentennial Celebration – St. Andrew's has turned 150 in 2021. Here is a list of possible events for the rest of the year:

Dinner Banquet – Saturday evening, 9/25 at Palma Ceia, chaired by Kathy Lawless and Lynn Dorman (Should we move this to a later date?)

It was decided, after discussion, to postpone the Dinner Banquet to a later date.

Choral Evensong – Sunday, 10/24 at 5PM (with reception hosted by Parish Life)

August 2021 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
Revenues	\$46,093	\$46,754	\$324,630	\$374,038
Expenses	\$37,772	\$48,776	\$375,235	\$390,214
Net	\$8,320	(\$2,021)	(\$50,604)	(\$16,175)

Bishop's Visitation & Confirmation – Sunday, 11/21 at both services (w/ reception catered, overseen by Parish Life)

Christmas Lessons & Carols – Sunday, 12/19 at 5PM (reception hosted by Parish Life)

Anniversary Booklet – Hope to have it completed by the end of year.

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.

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

Columbarium Project – We have a proposal from Alvaro Cruz for \$3,200 to remove all pavers from columbarium grounds, cut back on tree roots, and re-install the pavers. Executive Committee recommends we accept the proposal and spruce up the columbarium area. We also have parishioners willing to donate shrubbery, benches, and a fountain for this beautification project.

New Laptop Computer – Pam needs to replace her office laptop computer. It is now almost 8 years old and cannot handle the workload. We have a quote from Responsive Technology Partners (a firm we have used for our office computers for many years) for \$1,447.50 for a Dell Latitude Notebook. Executive Committee recommends we accept this proposal.

Richard moved to approve the purchase of the laptop for Pam, and was seconded by Lynn. It passed unanimously.

Name Tags – The initial batch has arrived. More folks have signed up, so we will send out for round two. Please make it a point to wear your nametags on Sunday mornings!

New Sexton – Anguel Dimitrov started on 8/2. So far, so good. Things are clean and the work has been done in a timely manner. He is also performing minor repairs on various items.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Gray Sanders – Gray reported on the Columbarium project. Two parishioners are willing to donate a fountain, two benches and additional landscaping. Gray strongly recommended that the Vestry approve the project.

Gray also presented a change to the parish by-laws to allow for mail-in ballots for vestry elections at the annual meeting. Gray was assisted by George Bedell and Don Crawford on this project.

Kathy moved to adopt this change to the by-laws as presented by Gray. Jennifer S seconded. It passed unanimously.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – George Levy- Presented the project for the Columbarium. Nancy Turner is to be point person for the project, and Gray volunteered to be the back-up. George recommended we approve the project.

Gray moved to accept the proposal from Alvaro Cruz for \$3,200, to refurbish the Columbarium area, with funds to come from the Foundation. Seconded by Gary. It passed unanimously.

George reported on the Children's Chapel lobby leak. After much investigation, roofer has been unable to find source of the leak. He recommends that we contract with a source investigator called Red Hawk. Proposal is to hire the investigator.

Anita moved to accept the proposal to hire Red Hawk for \$3,600, funds to come from the Foundation. This was seconded by Richard. After much discussion, it passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Richard Ferlita - We are in very good shape for this time of the year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OUTREACH: Lori Taplow: Good amount collected for school supply drive, distributed to our two adopted elementary schools, Cleveland and Kimbell. Lori and Kathy will be attending a rally/conference hosted by LOVE INC, a community outreach organization.

Kathy Lawless: Reported on 150th Celebration Dinner. Will hold off on reporting details, considering the postponement, since the details (including the venue) may change. Kathy will be looking for new dates.

MEDIA COMMITTEE: Paul Scheuer has two volunteers who have been training in the video booth for the livestreaming.

STEWARDSHIP: Gary Cotter – with evangelism in mind, he sent out a piece for contemplation, looking for additional ideas and keeping this in the forefront.

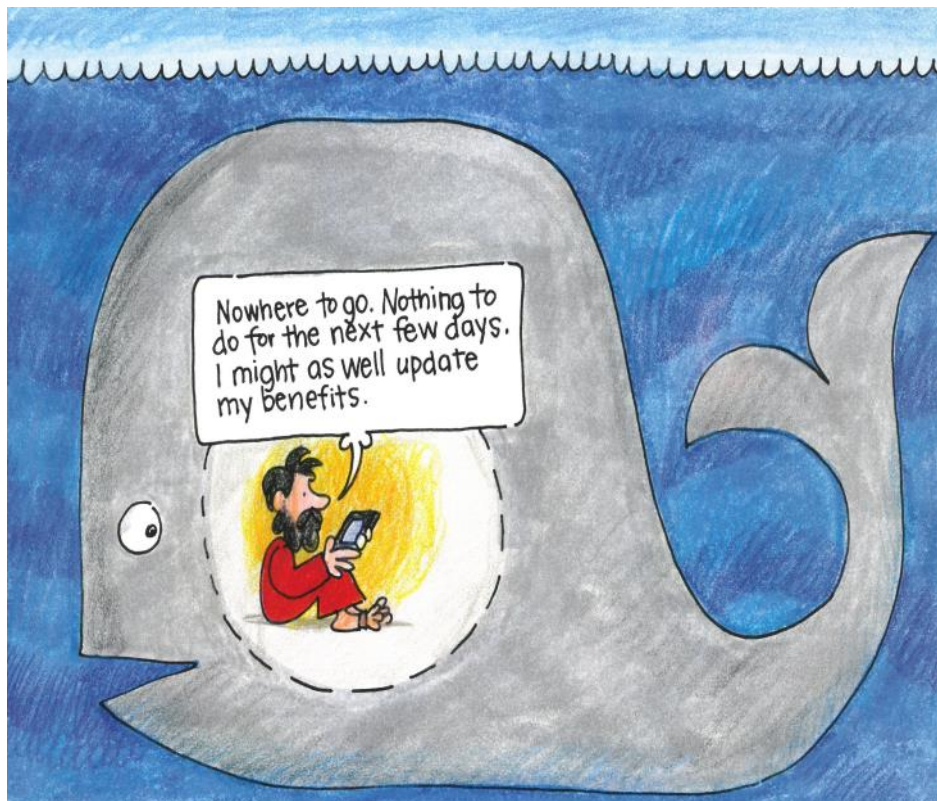
Next Vestry Meeting will be Monday, September 20th, at 5:30 pm.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

The Rev. John Reese, Rector

Sunday Services

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m. Children's Church

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

Church Location:

Marion & Madison Streets

Mailing Address:

509 E. Twiggs St.

Tampa, FL 33602

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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.