



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

# THE CALL

*Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!*

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✕ December 2016

## *Reverently Speaking*



*“Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”*

—Matthew 24:44

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

Imagine this: It's been a long, exhausting day filled with work, obligations, meetings, errands and responsibilities. You were up early and plowed through your “to do” list at work, then you got the kids to their activities and threw some sandwiches together to eat on the run. Eventually, you made it home only to find more chores to do. Finally, the day comes to an end, and what do you want to do? Fall into bed, relax as your eyes get heavy, and gently slip into a deep, refreshing sleep. It's Serta time!

But wait! Sound the alarm! Jesus says, “Keep awake!” (Matthew 24:42). Even as we struggle to keep our eyes open for one more moment, Jesus seems to scoff at sleep as he commands us to keep alert and to be ready. Jesus seems to be telling us to be “insomniac disciples.” He says, “But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour” (vv. 43-44).

Apparently, there is no rest for the weary. What is a sleep-deprived Christian supposed to do? How are we meant to stay awake when we already live in one of the most sleep-hungry nations in the world? Our 24/7 society with its endless supply of news, social media and entertainment on-demand allows us to stay up way past our bedtimes as we enjoy “Words with Friends” or watch endless cat videos on YouTube. The lack of sleep is taking a toll. Employers in the United States complain about workers who doze off in front of their computers or who even fall asleep while operating machinery, which endangers them and everyone around them. Job performance is suffering because workers show up overtired. And now Jesus wants us to “stay awake” even longer?! How are we supposed to do that?

Well, okay. We know that Jesus is not *literally* commanding a lack of pillow time. Instead, Jesus is saying, “Wake up! Look around! Be aware!” Don't go through life like a sleepwalker, without seeing or noticing what's going on all around us. It's time for us to open not only our eyes, but also our spirits so that we can be aware of how God is moving and guiding us through our lives. We need to stay awake so that we will be ready to respond to the needs around us. We need to stay alert so that we can notice God at work in our midst. Advent is a time to wake up our spirits so that we can be aware of God's presence in our lives.

Jesus commands us to be watchful and to expect the unexpected. Jesus talks about a God who will surprise us by coming when we're not looking or arriving in a guise that we do not expect. This Advent message reminds us to be aware that the God who came into the world as a baby so many years ago still wishes to enter our lives today. Too often we find ourselves with the innkeepers who turn

away the Christ with the words, "no room." Our minds are full, our calendars are packed, our expectations are low, so we're not actively looking and seeking for the living Christ in our midst. We're too busy and our minds are too occupied; without even noticing we push Jesus away. And Jesus cries, "Wake up!"

Advent comes with the invitation to open our hearts and minds to the arrival of the Christ. If Jesus knocks on the door of our lives, we want to be awake enough to invite him inside. Churches often get lulled into the complacency of "we've always done it that way." Are we going through life the same way? Are we actively looking for the Christ in the person that we greet at the store or on the street or even in our home? Will we be alert enough to recognize the surprising Christ who arrived not in a palace but in a tucked-away manger? How will the Christ come to us, and will we recognize him when he does? What can we do during Advent to be more intentional about welcoming the Christ into our lives?

What miracles are we missing simply because we are too distracted to notice? What blessings are we passing by because our minds are consumed with endless details? Are we blindly stumbling through our lives unaware of God's presence all around us?

Jesus is nudging our souls awake and asking us to open our eyes to what is true - God is breaking in to the world. Advent reminds us of the Emmanuel, the Good News that God is with us.

Here is a plan for Advent: Be ready, be awake and look for the God who promises to come to us.

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. John Reese

### St. Andrew's Day Fish 'n' Chips Dinner

The Outreach Committee is celebrating our Patron Saint with a good old fashioned Fish and Chips luncheon. (Chicken tenders will be available for Landlubbers!) Funds raised will go to support our Outreach Christmas projects. This will be a very authentic English/Scottish event.

**Sunday, December 4th after the 10:30am service**  
**\$10.00 per adult, \$5.00 per kid • Take-away service provided**



### Rectory Open House

*You are invited to join the Reeses for a Christmas party*  
*on Friday, December 16th • 6:30 pm*  
*159 W. Davis Blvd*  
*(NE corner of W. Davis and Barbados, on Davis Islands)*

### Gabriel's Giving Tree

A holiday Outreach favorite, Gabriel's Giving Tree, we will be buying Christmas presents for kids who are in need from two local elementary schools, Cleveland and BC Graham Elementary Schools. Please take a star from the tree, buy the specific gifts for each child, and returned the wrapped presents by **Sunday, December 11**. There will be an Outreach member at a table next to the Christmas tree. Please be sure to sign up giving your name, phone number, and the name/number of the hand that you have selected from the tree.

**The Gabriel Giving Tree Party will be**  
**Saturday, December 17 at 12noon**

Volunteers are needed for games, treats and present delivery!





## Christmas Lessons & Carols and the Annual Parish Christmas Party

In what has become a beloved and widespread tradition of the Christmas Season throughout English-speaking Christendom, we will commemorate in scripture and song the narrative of Christ's nativity in the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday afternoon, **December 18, at 5:00pm**. The St. Andrew's Choir will sing the service and will include colorful and enjoyable repertoire from Harold Darke, Peter Warlock, Leonhard Paminger, Otto Goldschmidt, Patrick Hadley and a new setting of the traditional text, "I saw three ships come sailing in" composed for this service by Haig Mardirosian. All will join in familiar hymns and carols. Both a heart-warming, deeply meaningful way to begin one's Christmas observance and an opportunity to invite friends and newcomers to St. Andrew's, Lessons and Carols is a service not to be missed. The annual parish Christmas party will follow in the Parish Hall.

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**FLORIDA PRO MUSICA**  
Larry Kent, Director

### ***6th Annual "Renaissance Christmas"***

**Saturday, December 10, 2016, 7:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, December 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**, Florida Pro Musica's 10-voice a cappella ensemble, directed by Larry Kent, will perform an intimate candlelight concert in the **Children's Chapel at St. Andrew's**. This exceptional one-hour concert will be followed by a reception to meet the musicians. **Tickets are \$20**, and seating is very limited, so advance purchase is suggested!

### ***Gregorian Chant XIV: Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Advent***

**Sunday, December 11, 2016, 4:00 p.m.**

14th annual Advent concert of Gregorian Chant at **Sacred Heart Catholic Church: Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent**. Presented in **concert form** and sung in Latin by a small men's *schola*, with appropriate lessons of the day read in English. Join us for this popular Tampa Bay tradition celebrating the Advent Season at beautiful **Sacred Heart Church**. The concert begins at **4:00 p.m.**, and seating begins at 3:30. Due to the meditative nature of this concert, attendance by pre-schoolers is not advised.

**Admission is FREE** (donations gratefully accepted).

Visit [FloridaProMusica.com](http://FloridaProMusica.com) and click "Buy Tickets." (813) 494-4709

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The December meeting of the Book Club will be on **December 13** at 7pm at JoAnn Sullivan's home. We will be celebrating Christmas joy and our friendship over delectable goodies. Our next book is *The Miniaturist* by Jessie Burton and we will meet at Analee Mayes' home on **January 10** at 7pm.

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### **The Rev. Dr. Stephen Ankudowich (1948-2016) *Requiescat in pace***

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Ankudowich, Rector of St. Andrew's from 1989-2003, died peacefully at Tampa General Hospital on November 28<sup>th</sup>. He had been battling throat cancer for the past three years. A memorial service will be held at St. Anne of Grace in Seminole sometime in either February or March. Fr. Steve served as Rector of St. Anne's for the past decade. Condolences can be conveyed to Steve's wife, Denise, at 197 Corsica St., Tampa, FL 33606. Please keep Denise and the family in your prayers.



# SAINT ANDREW'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 17 — 12:00 p.m.

## **Gabriel Giving Tree Christmas Party**



Sunday, December 18 — 10:30 a.m. service

## **Christmas Pageant**



Sunday, December 18 — 11:45 a.m.

## **Greening of the Church**



Sunday, December 18 — 5:00 p.m.

## **Christmas Lessons & Carols**

followed by Parish Christmas Party



Saturday, December 24

## **Christmas Eve services**

5:30 p.m. — Choral Eucharist (Rite II)

11:00 p.m. — Choral Eucharist

(Rite I with incense)

A string ensemble will play

at both services, with pre-service music at

5:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.



Sunday, December 25

## **Christmas Day service**

10:00 a.m. — Choral Eucharist (Rite I)

## *Gifts for Christmas Flowers & Music*

Please return this form by  
December 16 in order for your  
dedication to be printed in the  
bulletin.

☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ donation  
to Christmas Flowers:

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_ donation  
to Christmas Music:

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

This form may be mailed or  
placed in Sunday's collection  
plate. Proceeds beyond  
Christmas expenses will be  
used to fund other special  
music and flower needs  
throughout the year.



# Adult Christian Education

**Sunday mornings at 9:30am**

## **The Advent Experience: The End is the Beginning**

Advent means “coming” or “arrival.” Because it precedes Christmas, many have assumed Advent season is exclusively about getting prepared to celebrate the birth of the Child Jesus. Consequently, we scurry about frantically buying gifts, wrapping and mailing them, getting ready for Christmas morn, and the Christmas family dinner. By the time we reach Christmas, we can be physically and emotionally spent.

BUT, what if Advent (coming) is a time quite different? Would it not change our approach to Christmas: the birth of Christ, and His birth in our hearts.

In fact it is. The primary focus of Advent is “the end of time,” popularly called: “the Second Coming of Christ.” We proclaim in the Eucharist: “Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.” Thus, Advent concerns the future of the Risen One, who will come in glory to judge wickedness and prevail over every evil. Advent is God's Promise that Christ will bring an end to all that is contrary to the ways of God. Indeed, Christ the King brings life to all. Love will never end. This is our Advent Hope.

November 20 Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King: The Restorer

November 27 I Advent: Jesus proclaims The End; Watch lest you miss it

December 4 II Advent: Justice will be done; Count on God

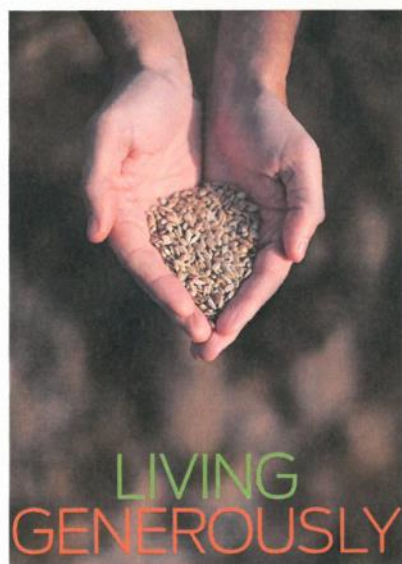
December 11 III Advent: The Joy of Repentance; Be Happy

December 18 IV Advent: Please God; Mary did. Wait; His history is Real

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

## ***Make a Pledge for 2017***

Please return your pledge card for 2017 as soon as possible. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, cards are available at the back of the church, in the Parish Hall, or through the parish office (813-221-2035). Make a commitment and support St. Andrew's in the coming year! We have currently received **129** pledges for **\$339,009**. Please help us reach our goal of \$490,000 in pledges for 2017!



### living generously pledge card

As part of my/our commitment to living generously in 2017, I/we pledge  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_ week \_\_\_\_ month \_\_\_\_ semiannually \_\_\_\_ annually.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Please contact me about including the church in my estate plans.

# October Vestry Meeting Highlights

## RECTOR'S REPORT – Fr. Reese:

- As of 10/11/16, there was \$139K in ops account (Pam just paid out \$14K in quarterly property insurance payment). We have \$57K in the parish reserve account. There is \$1K in the Foundation's checking/CDs – monies available to the vestry. We also have \$38K available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 2.25% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2015. We have another \$43K available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 2.5% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2016 at their meeting on 2/8/16. And there was \$1,847,093 in the Foundation principal as of 9/30 (up \$123K from 12/31/15). There is also \$88K in the Dan Curtis fund fbo St. Andrew's within the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, with \$4.4K in grant money available right now – we recently used \$2.8K from the fund to pay for the church gutter repair. (The Curtis fund is restricted to being spent on building maintenance).
- Organist/Choirmaster Situation Report – Dr. Haig Mardirosian is on target to become Interim Organist/Choirmaster effective with the liturgical New Year, the First Sunday of Advent, which is November 27th. In the meantime, Dr. Rodney Shores is directing the adult choir. He is also taking on the handbell choir on a permanent basis.
- Pet Blessing – was on Saturday, October 1 at 10am in the church courtyard. We had our biggest turnout ever and filled the courtyard with canines!
- 2017 Stewardship Campaign – We launched it the week of October 2, with Kristi writing the initial letter. Kristi is recruiting folks to give 2-3 minute stewardship plugs during Sunday services in October. Second mailer will go out the week of October 23, with Jeff writing the letter. A third mailer will be sent out the week of November 13, with yours truly penning the missive. Any outstanding names will be distributed at the Vestry meeting on December 19. A final postcard, will be mailed in early January. So far, 22 pledges for \$69K as of October 12.
- Mutual Ministry Review – thanks to the 13 vestry folks (out of a total of 14) who filled out at least one of the MMR forms!
- Outreach – Oktoberfest was Sunday, October 9 after the 10:30 service. Good food for a good cause! We raised \$730.
- Joy McCann Culverhouse Charitable Remainder Trust of 2009 – Peter notarized the letter as I signed it and it was returned to the legal beagle.

## SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Jeff Coleman:

Jeff stated we have at least 7 people willing to stand for the Vestry election.

A proposed amendment to the by-laws is as follows: "If at the time of the Annual Meeting there exists a Vestry seat unfilled for whatever reason, that seat shall be available to be filled by the candidates running for the Vestry. The elected candidate shall fill the remainder of the position's unexpired term. Unless the new Vestry decides otherwise, the Vestry candidate with the highest number of votes, (after the regularly expiring five seats are filled) shall be elected to the Vestry for the remainder of the unexpired term". *(continued)*

### October 2016 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
<b>Revenues</b>	\$49,116	\$47,607	\$394,146	\$476,076
<b>Expenses</b>	\$38,152	\$47,607	\$476,867	\$476,076
<b>Net</b>	\$10,964	(\$0)	(\$82,720)	(\$0)

**Irene Baker made a motion to accept the proposed amendment. Jim Morgan seconded the motion. Much discussion followed. Voting will take place during the next Vestry meeting.**

Task force for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> floor build-out will consist of an executive committee made up of Jeff Coleman, George Levy, Richard Chapman, Jan Smith, Chris Cobb, Peter Baker, Richard Ferlita and Amy Ramirez and possibly using sub-committees later in the process.

“Hospitality of the Heart” Conference at Day Spring will be November 18-19, 2016. Friday’s meeting will be from 5:30pm to 9:30pm. Saturday’s meeting will be from 9:00am to 4:30pm. The Mutual Ministry Review was discussed briefly.

#### **JUNIOR WARDEN’S REPORT – George Levy:**

George says the roofers have addressed the flat roof, breezeway and re-directed the A/C line. Plumber will re-adjust line. Wait and see if the leak at the entrance to the church at the chapel is now permanently repaired. Plumber will also see about the ongoing odor problem. Roofing tiles are presumably on their way from Miami.

#### **TREASURER’S REPORT – Peter Baker**

Normal pattern with quarterly insurance payment going out.

#### **OUTREACH REPORT – Loueita Hargens**

Oktoberfest was a success except for running out of food. A total of \$730.00 in tickets were purchased. Next project is the Turkey Pack, with parishioners donating food items.

#### **STEWARDSHIP REPORT- Kristi Roberts**

Cate Hammer gave an 8:00am talk on the campaign, Adrienne Love gave a 10:30am talk. Jeff Coleman will be the writer of the next letter to be sent out.

#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT- Jim Morgan**

Had a nice showing of parents and grandparents coming in for Youth Sunday. Would like more kids to become readers. Classes are showing low attendance, but growing slowly.

#### **PARISH LIFE – Amy Ramirez**

Much discussion on how to make this ministry grow. Coffee hour does seem to be growing. Brainstormed ideas for a “Coffee Hour” cookbook to sell to help fund items for Sundays when no one has signed up for coffee hour. Discussed new members handbook to include each committee’s purpose, budget, duties, goals, etc.

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

*In Loving Memory of  
Lucy Durham*  
Mr. & Mrs. A. G. Divers

*In Loving Memory of  
Louise Lykes Ferguson*  
Mr. & Mrs. G. Robert  
Blanchard, Sr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Preston Farrior  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Lux  
Mr. & Mrs. Roy McCraw  
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Rankin  
Mr. & Mrs. R. James  
Robbins  
Mr. & Mrs. John Wolfe  
The Melville Foundation

*In Loving Memory of  
Irmina White*  
Mr. & Mrs. John Wolfe



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

**Deaths**  
Lucy Durham  
Irmina White

**Transfer In**  
Barbara Brotherton  
James Carmichael  
Rosemary McAteer

## St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## ST. ANDREW'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

*see page four*

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS BY NIGHT...ON ANOTHER HILLSIDE.



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### 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  
Kathy in the church office.



## Children's & Youth Ministries News

Please check out these upcoming children's & youth events!

We have a lot going on here at St. Andrew's, and would love to have YOU join us!

**WHAT:** Santa Fest Youth & Children's Fundraiser

**WHEN:** Saturday, December 5, 2015 10 a.m.- Noon

**WHO:** Children & Youth grades 3-12

(Parents, we'd appreciate your help too as you are able!)

**WHERE:** St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Parking Lot

**WHY:** This is an opportunity for fun & fellowship as we raise funds for the children's & youth ministries.

There will be hot chocolate (with real marshmallows), which is always a plus!



**WHAT:** Tacky Christmas Sweater Party!

**WHEN:** Sunday, 12/13 from 12-2 p.m.

**WHO:** Youth (grades 5-12); Children in grades 4 & under when accompanied by a parent (invite your friends!)

**WHERE:** St. Andrew's Episcopal Church— 6th floor

**WHY:** Get into the Christmas spirit by playing games, eating delicious treats, and hearing what Christmas is really all about!

**WHAT:** St. Andrew's Christmas Pageant!

**WHEN:** Performance Service Sunday, 12/20 during 10:30 service (rehearsals Sunday 11/29, 12/6, 12/13 at 10:30 children's chapel & Sat. 12/19 @ 11 a.m. for full dress rehearsal in the sanctuary)

**WHO:** ALL Children & youth interested in helping to tell the Christmas story during this special service!

**WHERE:** St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Sanctuary

**WHY:** To tell the story of Christmas—we need 15-20 children & youth to help us with this important holiday tradition!



**WHAT:** St. Andrew's Blanket Drive

**WHEN:** Sunday, January 9, 2015

**WHO:** All of St. Andrew's Episcopal Parish!

**WHERE:** Boxes decorated by the children & youth will be located in the courtyard, Parish Hall, and beside the Children's Chapel to collect new blankets for the homeless population in downtown Tampa.

**WHY:** Tampa has one of the largest homeless populations in the country, and though Florida's winters might be pleasant for those of us with warm beds, many homeless neighbors are still outdoors during overnight lows around 40 degrees. How can we help? Let's bring in blankets! Please participate in this vital outreach project by bringing in a new blanket. Let's share the love of Christ by serving the "least of these" and helping to meet their needs this winter!

**Children's & Youth Ministries are both in need of volunteers! Want to serve God by having fun and using your gifts to help raise up the next generation? Well, we've got just the place for you! An education degree, teaching experience, or giving up all of your free time is NOT required— just have a heart for children & teens, be willing to give references, and complete a Safeguarding God's Children training. This is a very rewarding experience, that will also minister to you as you become a valued mentor to the children & teens!**

Please contact Alicia Schmid at [aschmid@saintandrewstampa.org](mailto:aschmid@saintandrewstampa.org) or call (813)221-2035