



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

THE CALL

Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✕ May 2017

Reverently Speaking

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.
—James 1:26

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

Here's a funny thing about the religions of the world: They often don't resemble their founders. Islam and Muhammad. Buddhism and Buddha. Christianity and Jesus. The dots don't always connect.

Columnist Nicholas Kristof observes that "Muhammad raised the status of women in his time, yet today some Islamic clerics bar women from driving." Buddha would probably be horrified by the racial segregation that Buddhists in Myanmar impose on minority Muslims. And although Jesus was a radical who challenged the establishment, Christianity has been so successful that in many parts of the world it has actually *become* the establishment. Religions don't always resemble their founders.

In fact, would we really want Jesus as a member of our congregation? Would you want Jesus on the vestry? The Gospels seem to suggest that Jesus wasn't the easiest person in the world to get along with. He criticized how people prayed. He was critical of certain traditions. He often called people hypocrites. He once got violent in the church foyer. He indulged in occasional name-calling. During the week he was often seen with bookies, prostitutes and other lowlifes. And he seemed to love poking fun at and irritating the religious leaders. It would be tough to be Jesus' rector.

In his book, *The Great Spiritual Migration*, former pastor Brian McLaren writes that "our religions often stand for the very opposite of what their founders stood for."

Why is this? The founders of religions are usually bold and charismatic visionaries. They inspire people with their fresh insights and their moral imaginations. But over time, their teachings are preserved by religions that are run by risk-averse bureaucracies. Instead of being bold and visionary, religions become obsessed with money and power. That's why there was a popular video produced a few years ago called, "Why I Hate Religion, but Love Jesus."

Because Christianity has become disconnected from Jesus, many people are getting sick of the church. Before a recent worship service in Iowa, the pastor read aloud a note that had been handed to him a few moments earlier. "It says here that I should announce that there will be no B.S." He tucked the piece of paper in his pocket and added, "I'm hoping they mean 'Bible Study.'"

People want a church that is true to Jesus, aligned with his ministry and mission. So we have to ask ourselves, as McLaren does, "What would it mean for Christians to rediscover their faith?" What would it mean for us to rediscover Christianity as "a just and (continued)

generous way of life, rooted in contemplation and expressed in compassion?”

For this to happen, McLaren says that we need to migrate, moving from one way of life to another. In particular, he challenges us to move from expressing our faith only as a system of beliefs “to expressing it as a loving way of life.” This is a migration away from religious bureaucracy and back to the vision of our founder, Jesus Christ. It’s a move away from pointing fingers in condemnation to opening our hands to alleviate human suffering. It’s a migration from going in debt for a building program to spending time making disciples - that is, living like the first Christians did.

Jesus wants to be part of a church that is spiritually mature, rooted in prayer and contemplation. Jesus wants us to enjoy this kind of life - one marked by a lack of attachment to material things, by openness and receptivity to others and by spiritual maturity. He wants us to build a community of justice and generosity, one that is rooted in contemplation and committed to acts of compassion.

When we do, the Christian church won’t be hated by the world. Instead, it will receive the goodwill of the people. “It is not the bureaucracy that inspires me, or doctrine, or ancient rituals or even the most glorious cathedral,” writes Nicholas Kristof, “but rather a Catholic missionary doctor in Sudan treating bomb victims, [or] an evangelical physician achieving the impossible in rural Angola. ... They fill me with an almost holy sense of awe. Now, that’s religion.”

That’s a church that Jesus would be proud to join.

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. John Reese



Cinco de Mayo Outreach Mexican Buffet

Sunday, May 7 after the 10:30am service

Enjoy this grande Mexican buffet lunch knowing that proceeds will go to VBS scholarships for Cornerstone Kids!

Adults \$10, Kids \$5

Outreach team will sell tickets in advance.

Newcomers' Dinner

Are you new to St. Andrew's during the past year or two? Then you are invited to a newcomers' dinner on **Sunday, May 21st at 5:00pm** at the Rectory (159 W. Davis Blvd. on Davis Islands). The vestry will host this event and provide the food and drink. So come and meet your vestry (and other newcomers). This is strictly a fellowship event – no ulterior motives. (You won't have sit through a presentation urging you to buy in on a time-share or something else.) If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Kathy in the office (813-221-2035).



It's time again to begin our KleanKit Collection! Each month from March thru summer, we'll ask you to bring one toiletry item to church, which will go into the KleanKits that we distribute monthly through the Lunch Program.

May: Deodorant

Also, we still need (April) Toothpaste & Toothbrushes

Please put your gifts in the collection boxes in the Parish Hall. ***We also greatly appreciate donations!*** You can put your check in the collection plate, noting "KleanKits" in the memo!

Parish Building Task Force

We will have a meeting with Rob Glisson of ROJO Architects on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 5 PM at the church. This is the firm that designed the prior buildout (third and sixth floors) back in 2008. We will start out in the Parish Hall. The meeting will take about one hour. This is a first step in visioning how we might utilize the fourth and/or fifth floors in the future.

Parish Building Refurbishment

The plaques from the south wall of the parish building were removed on March 21 and taken away to AGG Restoration Specialists in Sarasota. The plaques will be cleaned, polished and restored to their original grandeur. Meanwhile, starting around April 19, the entire parish building will be repainted by Al Leach Painting & Restoration out of Clearwater. Also, all windows will be re-sealed to protect against water intrusion. Once the south wall portion of the project has been finished, AGG will re-install the plaques on the wall. (Over the years, the plaques had been damaged by the chalky residue from the old paint that would streak down the wall during/after rains. We decided not to restore the plaques until we were able to re-paint the parish building and eliminate the cause of the problem.) Leach estimates that the overall project will take no more than eight weeks. Thus, we anticipate completion sometime during the first part of June (hopefully, before the onset of the summer monsoon season).

Mother's Day Brunch

Prepared by the men of St. Andrew's
Sunday, May 14
 after the 8:00am and 10:30am services



Calling all Graduates!! If you have a soon-to-be graduate in your family, let us know so we can honor them on Sunday, May 21 during the 10:30am service!!

Please contact Alicia Schmid at

aschmid@saintandrewstampa.org with the following info:

- Graduate's name
- A picture of the grad
- The name of the high school they graduated from if a high school grad, and their future university or career goals
- OR university they are graduating from and future career goals
- The graduate's favorite Bible verse
- One fun fact about the graduate



St. Andrew's Episcopal VBS 2017 Registration Form

Fill out this form to register children, youth volunteers, and/or adult volunteers for VBS 2017, July 10-July 14, 2017

Child/ Youth #1 Name _____

Parent/ Guardian/ Volunteer (please circle one) _____ Cell Phone # _____

Email Address: _____

Is your child a VBS PARTICIPANT or YOUTH VOLUNTEER (rising 7th grade & up)? (Please circle one)

Child's Date of Birth _____ (must be 4 years old by July 10, 2017)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Child/ Youth School Name _____ Last Grade Completed _____

Allergies or Special Needs? _____

Buddy Request? _____

Child/ Youth #2 Name _____

Is your child a VBS participant or Youth Volunteer (rising 7th grade & up)? (Please circle one)

Child's Date of Birth _____ (must be 4 years old by July 10, 2017)

Child/ Youth School Name _____ Last Grade Completed _____

Allergies or Special Needs? _____

Buddy Request? _____

Child/ Youth #3 Name _____

Is your child a VBS participant or Youth Volunteer (rising 7th grade & up)? (Please circle one)

Child's Date of Birth _____ (must be 4 years old by July 10, 2017)

Child/ Youth School Name _____ Last Grade Completed _____

Allergies or Special Needs? _____

Buddy Request? _____

T-shirt size (please circle one per participant/ Volunteer and give a total #)

Child Sizes: YXS YS YM YL YXL # _____

Youth/ Adult Sizes: AS AM AL AXL A2XL A3XL # _____

Total # of T-shirts _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Phone # _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

CHURCH OFFICE USE ONLY

\$25 per child/ \$75 max per family

Paid Y N SCH Amount \$ _____ (check # _____) Check MO Cash

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30am

Creed: What Christians Believe and Why: Exploring the Apostles' Creed

We're used to answers popping up on a screen right in front of us. But when the questions examine the truths that give meaning and purpose to life, finding the answers takes more than simply typing a few words and pushing a button. Pastor Adam Hamilton believes that powerful answers to many of our complicated questions are contained in the Apostles' Creed, an early statement of foundational Christian beliefs. In *Creed*, he explores not only what Christians believe, but also why they believe, and why it matters, which in turn leads readers to confront and examine their own core beliefs and go beyond reciting the Creed's familiar words. Each week we will watch a video segment of 12-15 minutes, featuring Adam Hamilton in an informal setting with a group of seekers and believers. We will then discuss it among ourselves.

Sessions include:

- May 7 - The Holy Spirit
- May 14 - The Church and the Communion of Saints
- May 21 - The Forgiveness of Sins
- May 28 - The Resurrection of the Body

These classes, facilitated by the Rector, meet in Room 302 (the Library) on the third floor of the Parish Building.

Confirmation Class

Sundays, 9:30am, Room 304

For Youth age 12 years & up

We will have 11 weeks of fun & engaging confirmation classes, and will also experience an overnight retreat, and other exciting surprises along the way. This is such an important time in a person's life, and we want your child's experience to be one that brings them more understanding while also helping them become more rooted in their faith than ever before.

Thursday 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 are using *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 Smith's visitation on Sunday, June 4th at the 10:30 service. It is highly recommended that you also attend the 9:30am Sunday morning class, *Exploring the Apostles' Creed*, which meets April 23 through May 28.

Here is the rest of the line-up:

- May 4 – History of the Church
- May 11 – The Holy Scriptures and Creeds
- May 18 – The Church Year and Sacraments
- May 25 – The Ordained Ministry and the Mission of the Church
- June 1 – Ministry of the Laity

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

Thursday morning Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.: An examination of Genesis. No need to have been in the class during the fall (to study The Fall!), just feel free to jump right in! Join us for this exciting study!

This class, led by Alice Prucha, meets in the third floor library.

Easter Sunday at Saint Andrew's





March Vestry Meeting Highlights

RECTOR'S REPORT:

- As of 3/13/17, there was \$192,870 in ops account. We have \$131,467 in the parish reserve account. There is \$78,501 in the Foundation's checking/CDs – monies available to the vestry. We also have \$37,783 available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 2.25% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2015. We have another \$43,324 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. We have another \$53,473 available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 3% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2017 at their meeting on 2/21/17. And there was \$1,865,855 in the Foundation principal as of 12/31/16 (up 141K from 12/31/15). There is also \$94K in the Dan Curtis fund *fbo* St. Andrew's within the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, with \$8,070 in grant money available for 2017. (The Curtis fund is restricted to being spent on building maintenance).
- 2017 Stewardship Campaign – So far, 176 pledges for \$427K as of 3/15.
- Annual audits – Al and Brad have volunteered to chair (and form) the audit committee that will conduct internal audits of both the parish financials and the Foundation financials.
- Wednesday Evening Lenten Series – runs for five Wednesdays, 3/8 through 4/5. Starts with Eucharist in Children's Chapel at 5:30pm, followed by pot-luck supper in Parish Hall at 6pm, then a Lenten Program from 6:30 until 7:30. Fr. Rick is this year's presenter. We had about 30 or so at the first program, 24 at the second. We have had about 17-18 at the 5:30 Eucharist.
- Stations of the Cross – Fridays in Lent (3/3 through 4/14) at 12:10pm in the church. Come and join us each week for this simple, yet moving, service. It only lasts about 25 minutes.
- Bach Bash – is on for Tuesday, March 21 at 6:30pm, starting at Sacred Heart and moving to St. Andrew's.
- Adult Inquirers' Class – begins Thursday, 4/20 at 7pm and runs through 6/1 (seven sessions). This will prepare one for confirmation or reception into the church when the Bishop visits with us on Sunday, 6/4. It is also a good refresher course for veteran Episcopalians as well. In addition, it would be a good thing to also attend the Sunday morning adult class during Eastertide, where we will be examining the Apostles' Creed.
- Parish Picnic – is on Sunday, 4/23 at the home of Jan & Earl Smith. The Smiths are once again willing to host the parish picnic at their lovely home.
- Bishop's Visitation – Bishop. Smith will be with us for the Feast of Pentecost on Sunday, 6/4. We will conduct confirmation class for youth and inquirers' class for adults in the spring in order to prepare folks for Dabney's visit.
- 2017 Vestry Committee Assignments – Still in need of a Stewardship chairman.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Jeff Coleman:

Asked about updating website calendar. Vic may get to that later and update events. Newcomers' Dinner at the rectory on Sunday, May 21, 2017, at 5:00pm. Vestry to do all the planning, set-up, and clean-up. Putting notice in bulletin with RSVP request.

| March 2017 Operating Summary | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | MTD Actual | MTD Budgeted | YTD Actual | YTD Budgeted |
| Revenues | \$45,195 | \$46,840 | \$141,464 | \$140,520 |
| Expenses | \$42,698 | \$46,840 | \$139,680 | \$140,520 |
| Net | \$2,496 | \$0 | 1,783 | \$0 |

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – George Levy:

Contract has been executed with Al Leach Painting to paint Parish Building. There is an on-going issue with termites on south wing of church, south roof where all the problems and leaks have recurred, and with screws coming through the ceiling. Have had evidence of termites. Proposed a complete repair of south roof. George had a quote from Chapman, Specifty Roofing for \$4,800.00, and a six-month warranty to be paid for with the Dan Curtis Fund.

Al Getz made a motion to accept the Specifty Roofing bid for up to \$8,000.00 using the Dan Curtis Fund. Loueita 2nd and, after some discussion, the motion passed.

Al Getz made a motion to accept the plaque restoration work from AGG Restoration for the new amount of \$11,385.00 to be paid for by the Foundation. This includes removal and restoration of all plaques and re-installment on the wall in the courtyard. Irene 2nd and, after much discussion, the motion passed.

TREASURER – Gary Cotter: Signed documents to view financials.

OUTREACH – Loueita Hargens: Richard cleaned supply closet.

PARISH LIFE REPORT- Cate Hammer

Lenten dinner went well. Passed around sign-up sheet for Easter coffee hour. Parish picnic will be chaired by Martha and Chris Cobb. Needs volunteers for cooking. Amy Ramirez is still committed to a St. Andrew's cook-book and the "how-to" instruction book for duties for Vestry and committees.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Beverley Brown

Beverley and Lori discussed programs that would be of interest to high-schoolers. Brad discussed setting up a calendar of events for when parish teens are involved in events so people who wished to do so could attend/support, for example a play coming up that Stella Curry is in next month.

New business: Chris asked about having a projector and DVD player for parish hall. He will look into costs.

ST. ANDREW'S FOUNDATION

We are fortunate to have the St. Andrew's Foundation, where many families request gifts be made in memory of their loved ones. If you wish to make a memorial, the check must be made to **St. Andrew's Foundation**, (not St. Andrew's Church) and mailed to 509 E. Twiggs Street, Tampa, 33602. (If you have any questions, please call Pam Frost, our Administrator, at 813-221-2035.



Columbarium niches now available

The new columbarium, located north of the Children's Chapel, is now 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.



From the Parish Register

Transfer In

Pamela Fiske,
from All Saints, Winter Haven



Transfers Out

Fred & Phyllis Waters,
*to St. Peter's Cathedral,
St. Petersburg*



Baptism

Lillian Annabelle Kohlhaas



Hospital Admissions

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

Donations to Saint Andrew's Foundation

In Loving Memory of A. Lacy Baldy

Richard Reeves
John & Susan Touchton, Jr.

In Loving Memory of Elizabeth Connor

Richard Ferlita
Thomas & Irene Griggs
Luanne Schwarz
Mr. & Mrs. John Wolfe
Carolyn & Bob Yelverton



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE BISHOP MEETS WITH PROSPECTIVE CONFIRMANDS



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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

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
Kathy in the church office.