



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

THE CALL

Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✕ December 2017

Reverently Speaking



The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
—Romans 14:17

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

December is a time when we hear the word "joy" quite a bit. Joy to the world, right? I am hoping for some of that major joy. Not that my life is joyless. Sure, I managed to not fall off my bike this year. And yes, I seem to be taking more naps than President Reagan ever did. But they say that it's important to find joy in the little things. And I totally agree with that premise. Going out for breakfast, watching my son's hockey games, taking an evening walk, reading the newspaper, eating the occasional donut (or two or three), and cycling around the island are all joyful little things for me. But is there more to joy?

The Bible says that "the joy of the Lord is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:10). This Advent season, I would like to design a life that is strong with joy – that is, to have a joy that makes me strong. So what does God think is a well-designed life? And is such a life one that brings joy?

According to the Bible, a well-designed life is one that is "worthy of the Lord and pleases him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God" (Colossians 1:10). This is a life that is "filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy" (1 Peter 1:8). The apostle Paul says that "the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17).

Some of us, I believe, have problems living joy-filled lives because our lives are resistant to joy. For some reason, joy just doesn't seem to stick. Joy slides off us like water off a duck. We just can't seem to hang on to it.

Have you noticed this? You see people who seem to have everything – but joy. Sometimes, this inability to experience joy is an illness. I understand this. Yet others profess to be searching for joy, but look in all the wrong places – like career, mortgages, cars, boats, portfolios and expensive vacations. These things do not seem to provide the joy they hoped to find.

They seem to be condemned to live in the clouds of *Sturm und Drang* (storm and drive), struggling with *Weltschmerz und Angst* (world weariness and anxiety) – to use expressions from the Germans who have been stereotypically described as a joyless race. The French refer to the malaise of a joyless life as *ennui* - reflecting the utter boredom one experiences with one's banal and joyless existence.

The Chinese talk about joy in terms of *shuangxi*, or "double happiness." It is a very popular character that appears on cigarettes and matches, bottles of soy sauce, cans of evaporated milk, jewelry, fashionable clothing and so forth. The character *xi* means "happiness." Replicate the character, and it becomes *shuangxi*, that is, "double happiness" or joy. Two happys equal one joy. It's a (*continued*)

concept that refers to the ability to recognize and understand the natural rhythm of life and acquiesce to its flow.

The thing is, we're not going to experience joy until we find or make a connection with That Who Is Beyond Ourselves.

We were built for joy – designed by our Creator to be vessels that overflow with joy. We were made in God's image. Do you really think that the *imago Dei* represents joyless, woeful, doleful, baleful and unhappy existence? We were not made to be vessels of negativity and sourpuss attitudes.

When we recognize that we were made in God's image, and, *ipso facto*, as instruments to the glory of the Lord and the world the Lord has created for us, then perhaps we will choose joy. We will choose to accept joy as a gift from God who would not fail to give us that for which we are made.

Discover God and joy cannot be far behind. Drop your search for joy. Know God and you'll get joy thrown in for free.

Sometimes, we need to stop doing what's not working, and move on. In the words of E.M. Forster, we may need to let go of the life we planned in order to live the life that awaits us. Trying to have the life we plan can often be a joyless enterprise.

Seeking first God's kingdom is a key to discovering the life God has for us. I pray that you will have a joyful Advent & Christmas – and a joyful 2018 as well.

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 3th after the 10:30am service
\$10.00 per adult, \$5.00 per kid • Take-away service provided



Gabriel's Giving Tree

Gabriel's Giving Tree supports needy children from Cleveland and BC Graham Elementary Schools. Parishioners can select their child/children by picking tags that list the child's clothing and shoes sizes, plus a special "wish" gift. "Hand-tags" are available now (and are going fast!) on our "Giving Tree" in the Parish Hall. If your shopping time is limited, ask about our "Elf" option when you visit the tree. All gifts should be brought in to the church by Sunday, Dec. 10th. Donations are also greatly appreciated in either cash or checks made out to "St. Andrew's Episcopal Church" with "*Gabriel's Giving Tree*" in the memo line.



The Gabriel Giving Tree Party will be
Saturday, December 16 at 12noon-2pm

Volunteers are needed for games, treats and present delivery!



Christmas Lessons & Carols and the Annual Parish Christmas Party

Saint Andrew's to continue its tradition of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Every year more churches throughout the United States are discovering the beauty of the simple traditional English service of "Nine Lessons and Carols." The structure of the service is as simple as the title: nine passages of Scripture are followed by nine carols. But the content of those readings and the traditional way of conducting the service have become very meaningful to many congregations. The service has a profound dignity and simplicity. The lessons are each read by a different reader; the readers are representative of different age groups and roles within the church (child chorister, congregation member, Vestry person, priest, etc.) After each lesson, the congregation and/or choir sing a carol or anthem reflecting on that passage of Scripture. This service was first sung in 1880 in Truro, England, and has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world.

Come join the Louise Lykes Ferguson Memorial Choir in celebrating this centuries-old tradition of Christmas which is enjoying a Renaissance in North America, followed by a festive Christmas Party with food and drink for all. Music by William Mathias, Boris Ord, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Otto Goldschmidt, Franz Biebl, Tomas Luis de Victoria, Eric Whitacre, and Johann Sebastian Bach. **Sunday, December 17th at 5:00pm** with the annual Christmas Party immediately following in the Parish Hall.



FLORIDA PRO MUSICA Larry Kent, Director

"Renaissance Christmas" Concert Saturday, December 16, 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 7th annual *Renaissance Christmas* concert will include some familiar songs of the season plus rarely performed masterpieces of the Renaissance by Byrd, Victoria, Gallus, and Guerrero. Join us for an exceptional one-hour concert, followed by a reception to meet the musicians. **Tickets are \$20**, and seating is very limited. Visit www.FloridaProMusica.com and click on "Buy Tickets."

Master Chorale at St. Andrew's

St. Andrew's is honored to host the Master Chorale of Tampa Bay's Morning Star Festival concert on **Sunday, December 3rd at 3:00 pm**. The Master Chorale Ensemble Singers will perform the music of J. S. Bach, Felix Mendelssohn, Arvo Pärt, Ola Gjeilo, and Roberto Sierra with music based on the well-known theme, *How brightly shines the morning star...* The Master Chorale Outreach Choir will join in with a "mini Messiah" sing-along to top both these spiritually inspired concerts conducted by Doreen Rao as a preview of the larger Messiah performances later in December with The Florida Orchestra.

Like the Morning Star traditions worldwide, the celebratory concerts represent many musical stars in multiple traditions and cultures, from Bach to the Baltic's. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students (with ID). Adult tickets may be purchased at the door or online at www.masterchorale.com. Student tickets are only available at the door.



SAINT ANDREW'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 16 — 12:00 p.m.

Gabriel Giving Tree Christmas Party



Sunday, December 17 — 10:30 a.m. service

Christmas Pageant



Sunday, December 17 — 11:45 a.m.

Greening of the Church



Sunday, December 17 — 5:00 p.m.

Christmas Lessons & Carols

followed by Parish Christmas Party



Sunday, 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.



Monday, 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.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, after the 10:30am service

All hands on deck to help load Christmas trees, poinsettias, lights and wreaths to decorate our beautiful church for the Christmas holidays!

Volunteers ages 8 to 80 needed! With many hands this task can be accomplished quickly!

Rectory Christmas Party

*You are invited to join the Reeses for a Christmas party
on Friday, December 22th • 6:00—10:00pm*

159 W. Davis Blvd

(NE corner of W. Davis and Barbados, on Davis Islands)



WHAT: Santa Fest 2017

WHEN: Saturday, December 2 from 8 a.m.—noon

WHO: Anyone who wants to have some fun and help us raise funds for children's & youth ministries!

WHERE: St. Andrew's Parking Lot

WHY: To raise funds for children's & youth ministries while we connect with the community and have a blast together!



WHAT: Christmas Pageant Rehearsals

WHEN: We will have practice every Sunday from 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. and a final dress rehearsal on **December 16** from 10:00am-noon. The Christmas Pageant Service will take place on **Sunday, December 17** during the 10:30 service.

WHO: Children & Youth Birth-12th Grade who want to participate in telling the Christmas Story this year

WHY: To tell the story of Christmas and share joy, hope & peace!



WHAT: Youth Tacky Christmas Sweater Party

WHEN: Sunday, December 10 after services

WHO: Youth in grades 5 & up! Please invite your friends! Children ages 3-4th grade can attend with a parent.

For more information please contact Alicia Schmid at
aschmid@saintandrewstampa.org or call 813-221-2035

Coffee Hour

That institution so dearly beloved of Anglicans around the world, coffee hour, is mentioned nowhere in any rubric, nor in the Constitution and Canons of any of our provinces, nor even in diocesan protocols or parish by-laws. It is nevertheless almost ubiquitous in whatever form or name it takes. There is something meet and right about the community who have gathered to fulfil the Lord's command of worship coming together for fellowship when the service has ended. The jokes about the Eighth Sacrament are only funny because of our seriousness about refreshment at church.



The diversity of accompaniments for this post-worship practice are as wide as the wideness of God's mercy. There was the West Indian parish where the scent of curry goat and rice crept into the sanctuary before the incense had dissipated. There was the church in New York where every week was a feast of cold ham, mustards, brie, cornichons, pâté, grapes, grissini, and salted almonds. There was the church in northern Saskatchewan where we worried about the drought while sipping tea from paper cups and eating Fig Newtons. There are the handful of churches in BosWash where one still gets the option of a Mimosa or a Bloody Mary after service. Coffee hour food becomes a way in which we nourish our bodies to serve the God we worship—whose body we have just received and prayed to become in the world.

For all of its goodness, the social hour can become a minefield of anxiety for some of us. Will that person remind me that I haven't returned an email he sent me yesterday? Is that one cross because of the way my children behaved during the service? Will we have to continue that subcommittee meeting again?

The Unitarian Universalist Association has worked up a simple chart (see next page) to open eyes about the awkwardness of post-worship social interactions, aimed specifically at addressing questions young adults may find off-putting, but really useful for persons of any age. We wonder if it might be adapted widely and well for use by Anglican Christians in order to help us think about the truly evangelical moment of coffee hour. It is the time when a newcomer will gain some sense of how the people of a community welcome her; the sense of being categorized, evaluated, sorted, put on the spot, is not the fruit of a caring welcome. All of the demographic details come out over time in healthy communication in any case. One simply doesn't have to lead with them.

There are a myriad of things to say to someone at coffee hour that may contribute to more organic conversational welcomes. How did you find us? Where's home for you? I'm Richard. Wasn't the choir amazing? What did you think of the sermon? Here's someone you should meet. Did you walk or drive this morning? Here's my card; fire me a note if you'd like to have coffee some time. I'm sure I've seen you before, but I'm terrible with names. What does this week look like for you? Do you have any plans for Christmas?

The conversation that opens for a newcomer—rather than commodifying or classifying him or her—is the conversation that allows new persons to reveal or ask as much as *they* wish. It becomes an invitation to learn about one another, to begin to have Christian concern about one another's lives and well-being, to create an opening for the beginning of the beloved community to which Christ himself calls us. Even at coffee hour.

—Richard Mammana, *Anglicans Online*

Coffee Hour Caution

...advice for *greeting young adults at church*

X - Avoid saying:

“How old are you?”

Why: Is age so important? There's no good answer. Avoid this one altogether.

✓ - Say instead:

“What did you think of the service today?”

X - Avoid saying:

“Are you new here?”

Why: A young adult may have been attending for years, you just haven't met them. This implies you think they don't belong in the church.

✓ - Say instead:

“I don't think we've met, my name is...”

X - Avoid saying:

“When are you planning to have kids?”

Why: Having or not having kids is a private matter and not one people may want to discuss. This implies you only value young adults for their future children, not as a peer adult, here and now.

✓ - Say instead:

“What brought you here today?”

X - Avoid saying:

“What do you do?” or “What year are you in school?”

Why: For those who are un- or under-employed, work is a tricky question; assuming someone is a student implies you think they are of a certain age or life stage. Give them the chance to talk about whatever is meaningful, which might not be school or a job.

✓ - Say instead:

“So tell me about yourself...”

X - Avoid saying:

“We need more young people!”

Why: Like everyone else, young adults want to be seen for who they are, not as a token for their age.

✓ - Say instead:

“Great to meet you!”

X - Avoid saying:

“Have you met our other young adult?”

Why: Young adults enjoy friends of all ages. Welcome them into faith and fellowship.

✓ - Say instead:

“Can I introduce you to my friend?”



✓ DO: Introduce yourself • Make friends • Be interested • Reach out • Respect boundaries



Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Unitarian Universalist Association • uua.org/youngadults

JOURNEY TO GENEROSITY



"Put simply, life is a God-given opportunity
to become who we are, to affirm our own
true spiritual nature, claim our truth, appropriate
and integrate the reality of our being, but most of all,
to say 'Yes' to the One who calls us the Beloved."

Henri J.M. Nouwen

Dear Fellow Saint Andrew's Family Members,

As I write this, it is Christ the King Sunday with Advent fast approaching. Thanksgiving and Black Friday are over and the Christmas shopping season has begun in earnest. We are but a month from Christmas Eve. So, as we enter this most holy--and paradoxically most commercial--season I wish to speak to you again about Stewardship. I know that especially at this time of year money is tight and it is so very easy to overlook small things. Nevertheless, I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to take just a few minutes and fill out a pledge card.

There is so much going on this time of year. We have Santa Fest, and the Saint Andrew's Youth fundraiser, the Saint Andrew's Fish Fry, Gabriel's Giving Tree, and not one, but two Choral events. This is just at Saint Andrew's! There is a new Star Wars movie coming out, the Nutcracker, and Katy Perry in concert. Add to this we have holiday travel season where either someone is visiting you, or you are visiting them. Oh yes, work is in there somewhere too.

This is a crazy time of year for all of us, where we take "busy" to new heights. No one is immune. Here is the good news: it is all worth it when you see your loved one's face light up! Also good news is that it only takes a minute or two to fill out a pledge card and mail it back or place it in the offering plate.

I try to keep these missives light, because nobody enjoys being lectured. Many of you know me, so you know how much I love Saint Andrew's. The wonderful people in this place have helped me through difficult times in my life, and I would wager I am not alone. If you have already pledged I want to take this opportunity to thank you. If you have not yet pledged you still have time. Please help support this institution that we all love. Please pledge today.

Kind regards,

Brad Hall
Stewardship Chair
Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church

ST.ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

509 E. Twiggs Street Tampa, Florida 33609 (813)221-2035 saintandrewstampa.org

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30am

A Christmas Carol Bible Study

Around the world, two Christmas stories are most beloved. The first is the birth of Jesus Christ. And the second is Charles' Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Come join us for this four-week video series featuring scenes from the rarely seen 1935 film version. Each week we will watch about 15 minutes of the movie, then have Bible study and discussion.

Here is the line-up:

12/3 – Scrooge: Bah Humbug!

12/10 – Marley and the Ghost of Christmas Past: A Past of Regret

12/17 – The Ghost of Christmas Present: A Present Repentance

12/24 – The Ghost of Christmas Future: The Salvation of Scrooge

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

Thursday morning Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. began October 5, studying **Galatians**, and using N.T. Wright's guide which can be purchased in the office for \$7.00. "Paul's project, he often says, is building -- not building with bricks and mortar but rather with people. He lays the foundation with the shockingly good news of one true God who raised Jesus from the dead, in order to build a new family with no divisions, all of whom can call God Father. In a world of widespread ethnic rivalry and trenchant divisiveness, Paul's strong corrective message in Galatians demands to be heard and reheard. In these studies, we hear once again what remains shockingly good news." Join us! *This class, led by Alice Prucha, meets in the library.*

Make a Pledge for 2018

Please return your pledge card for 2018 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 **113** pledges for **\$316,915**. Please help us reach our goal of \$430,000 in pledges for 2018!

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Journey to Generosity 2018 Pledge


As part of my/our journey to generosity in 2018, I/we pledge
\$_____. I/we plan to fulfill this pledge _____ weekly,
_____ monthly, _____ semi-annually, _____ annually.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

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



October Vestry Meeting Highlights

RECTOR'S REPORT – Fr. Reese

- As of 10/9/17, there was \$112,837 in ops account. We have \$166,611 in the parish reserve account. There is \$13,223 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 \$2,054,648 in the Foundation principal as of 9/30/17 (up \$189K from 12/31/16). There is also \$95K in the Dan Curtis fund fbo St. Andrew's within the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, with \$3.2K in grant money available for the rest of 2017.
- Annual Stewardship Campaign – is in full swing. Brad spoke at services on Sunday, 10/1. Pledge cards were mailed out that week. Jeff will remind folks to return their pledge cards when he gets up to speak on Sunday, 10/15 (in conjunction with his announcement that 4th floor brainstorming session will happen after 10:30 service on Sunday, 10/29). Irene has also agreed to speak at Sunday services, perhaps on 10/22. Next round of pledge cards will go out first week of November. Third round of pledge cards will be sent first week of December. Postcard reminders will go out first week of January and again the first week of February.
- Pet Blessing – on Saturday, 10/7 at 10am in church courtyard. We had a friendly group of pooches that morning, in various shapes, sizes, and colors.
- Oktoberfest – was on Sonntag, 10/8 after the 10:30 service, hosted by our Outreachers. It was wunderbar! Great food (and plenty of it). Danke schon to all who helped out on this tasty project!
- Foundation Board Meeting – was on Tuesday, 10/10. Northern Trust reps briefed us on our portfolio and market situation. Board is keeping asset allocation the same. Our portfolio is enjoying the benefit of a great year on The Street. Principal was \$2,063,722 as of 10/4/17 (up \$198K for the past nine months – yowza).

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Jeff Coleman:

Jeff noted that the Mutual Ministry Report was lacking one page and would like everyone to download the link from his latest e-mail and complete. He met with Richard Chapman about advisability of removing walls on 4th floor and thought it would be better to see about this down the road. Asbestos removal has been finished, with no residual dust. Talked some about leasing arrangements. There will be a meeting after the October 29th, 10:30 A.M. service to discuss the 4th floor. All are welcome.

(continued)

October 2016 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
Revenues	\$77,832	\$46,840	\$419,506	\$468,400
Expenses	\$60,303	\$46,840	\$476,044	\$468,400
Net	\$17,531	(\$0)	(\$56,537)	(\$0)

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – George Levy:

George got a new bid on the treatment for termites of \$8,941.00. Will put this on hold as we monitor termite activity month to month. He said the landscaper will schedule an inspection on the tree problems at the Rectory and will do some trimming of the back yard and the trees. Roofer was contacted; it is thought the church roof leaks may be a result of high wind-driven rains as there are no leaks during regular rain. CGM repaired valve on the Trane dehumidifier in church. George will check on replacing the Sacristy stairs (the pull-down ladder).

TREASURER'S REPORT – Gary Cotter:

Gary reports revenues are running behind approximately \$74K, but still better than last year at the same time. We are ahead of budget in other areas. It was noted many parishioners turn in their pledges at the end of the year.

OUTREACH REPORT – Loueita Hargens and Holly Clemmons:

Octoberfest earned \$635 in revenue for Metropolitan Ministries. The Thanksgiving "Boxes of Hope" turkey pack will take place November 18th along with additional Klean Kit packing. Richard and James made enough purchases to make optimum use of what was on hand. Fish Fry December 3, 2017. Gabriel's Giving Tree party is scheduled for December 16, 2017.

Donations to Saint Andrew's Foundation

In Loving Memory of Barbara Faber

Peter & Irene Baker
Mr. & Mrs. John Wolfe

In Loving Memory of William Fowler

Mr. & Mrs. John Wolfe

In Loving Memory of Bronson Thayer

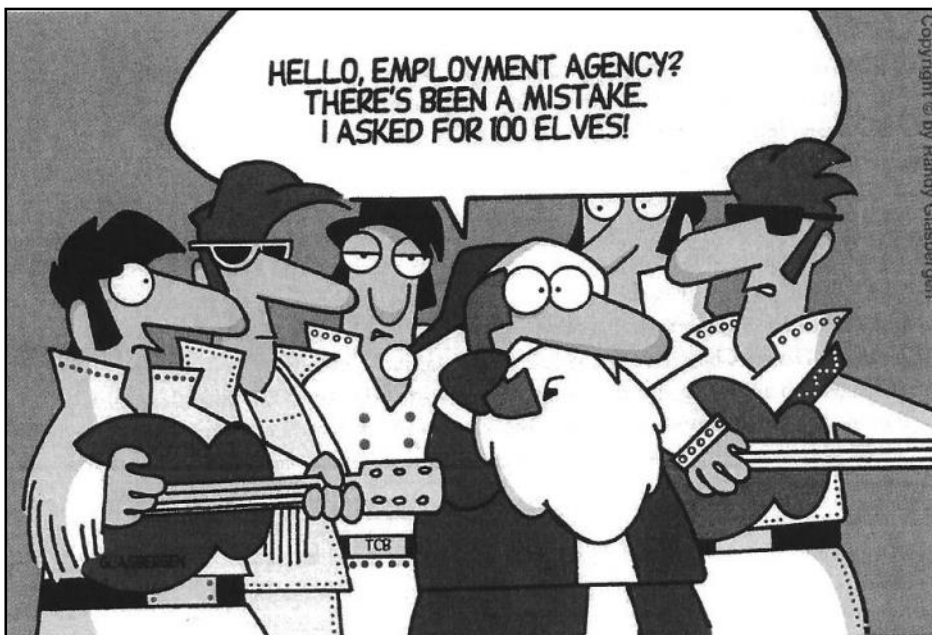
Rosann Creed

Remember:

Gifts to

*St. Andrew's Foundation
are a lovely way to
remember a birthday,
anniversary or any
special occasion*

When Spellchecker goes wrong:



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.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



ST. ANDREW'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

see page four

THE SERVICE IS ABOUT TO BEGIN...



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.

ALL SAINTS' EVENSONG AND TEA

After the All Saint's Evensong on Sunday, November 5, a lovely reception was held in the Parish Hall, where each tea table was decorated in a different theme.

Here is just a sampling of the creativity that was displayed:

