



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

THE CALL

Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✱ August 2018

Reverently Speaking

Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" Mark 4:40

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

Harvey. Irma. Maria. Sandy. Katrina. Andrew.

They sound like names you would hear at a cocktail party in the 1950s, but we know them in a very different context. These are the names of some of the most devastating hurricanes in history. Naming storms is something that humans have been doing for a long time. In a practical sense, storms are given these short and distinctive names as a way of reducing confusion when two or more of them occur at the same time. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) began the process of officially naming Atlantic storms in 1953, at first using female names and naming them in alphabetical order. Male names were added in 1979.

But people were naming storms long before the WMO. In the 19th century, for example, hurricanes were often named after saints of the Roman Catholic Church, like Hurricane Santa Ana that struck Puerto Rico in 1825. During World War II, a group of American soldiers named a series of tropical storms in Saipan after their wives, a practice I assume was an affectionate gesture. (My father was stationed there with the Army Air Corps, but was unmarried at the time and so cannot be held responsible.)

While reducing confusion may be the official reason these terrible storms get names, something psychological is in play when a name is assigned to a force that threatens us. In fact, the word "hurricane" is itself derived from the Spanish word *huracan*, which was likely inspired by the Mayan storm god Hurakan. Ancient peoples often put names to forces of nature that were mysterious and destructive as a way of attempting to control or manipulate them. Of course, you can't control a hurricane, but naming it at least gives us a way of identifying a common natural enemy.

Mark preserves the story of Jesus and his disciples on a boat being tossed by an unexpected and violent storm (4:35-41). The boat is swamped by waves and is starting to sink. Fear, panic and desperation come over these fishermen, who have clearly never experienced this type of storm.

Mark tells us that in the midst of all the chaos, Jesus is in the stern of the boat napping quietly on a cushion. The disciples, meanwhile, are in a panic. Jesus apparently doesn't sense the chaos, the evil that surrounds them, and so they are concerned. "Wake up!" they yell over the howling wind. "Don't you see that we're dying here? Don't you care?"

Jesus wakes up, and maybe looks at them for a long moment with one eye open. He doesn't answer their question. Instead he stands and addresses the wind and the waves. Mark says that he "rebuked" the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" The wind ceased and there was a dead calm. Then Jesus asks them a question: "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"

In their fear, the disciples had forgotten one important fact: Jesus was in the boat with them. They woke Jesus up so that he could share in their panic. Jesus, on the other hand, wants them to have faith - not fear. "Always remember, I'm in the boat with you."

The storms hit us, too, often with great fury. The next couple of months, are, of course, the prime months for hurricanes to hit Florida. But other devastating storms can hit our lives as well, hurricanes named Cancer, Divorce, Unemployment, Financial Crisis, Grade Point Average, and Child Illness, to name a few.

What's your hurricane? Where is Jesus in the midst of these storms? Where is Jesus when the typhoon of devastating illness hits? Where is Jesus when the lightning strike of a loved one's death leaves us in shock? Where is God when the waves of death, destruction, and doubt threaten to sink us? Where is Jesus?

In the boat, with us, and there he invites us to turn from fear to faith - the kind of faith that Jesus himself had in the God who brings order out of chaos and will one day still all our storms forever. Faith doesn't mean that we won't suffer. Jesus himself suffered and died while holding on to faith. Faith does mean, however, that we can trust him for our future - a future made possible by his faith in God's new creation, by an empty tomb and the defeat of death.

The WMO uses a rotating list of names to identify hurricanes, but some storms are so devastating that their names are retired to a sort of hurricane hall of fame. Harvey, Irma, and Maria are likely to make the list for that dubious honor.

Whatever storm we are facing, may we do so knowing that the One who is in the boat with us will one day retire all those named and unnamed maelstroms and memories for ever. Peace. Be still.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Reese". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

The Rev. John Reese

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30am

The Wired Word, facilitated by the Rector, examines a current event from the previous week and analyzes it through the use of Biblical references. Come and see how Scripture can help us make sense of what's happening in the world today.

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

Thursday morning Bible Study at 10:30am

Bible Study is studying the book of Exodus using the study guide *Exodus: Learning to Trust God* by James Reapsome. "Trust God. It sounds so simple. Yet it is often difficult to trust God with the important areas of our lives -- our money, our career, our marriage, our health. In the book of Exodus, Israel's struggles resemble our own. In this story of hardship and hope, we can learn along with Israel that God is worthy of our trust." Join us in the library at 10:30am on Thursday mornings!

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



Active Shooter Presentation

An unfortunate sign of our times is that churches, synagogues, and mosques have become the sight of mass shootings and other acts of violence. The Vestry at St. Andrew's wants parishioners to have some awareness of what we should do in case an armed person enters our church or parish building. On **August 21 at 6PM** in the Parish Hall, we will have an active shooter presentation offered by an officer from the Tampa Police Department. Along with Vestry members, we hope that parish ushers, Sunday school teachers, and choir members will attend. Any other parishioners who are interested are also welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.



From the Parish Register

Baptisms

Harper Evelyn Hillson

Deaths

Helen Martin

John McWhorter

Anne Clark

Roger Norwood Smith

Almeria Holmes Wright

Weddings

Sharon Gordon & Thomas
Zebold, Jr.

Outreach News

Many thanks to all of our parishioners for all donated items to operation StartSmart! Our final count came in at 104 backpacks and a variety of school supplies to distribute to children in need at B.C. Graham and Cleveland Elementary Schools.

Our next Outreach meeting is on Sunday, 8/19, after the 10:30 service.

All are welcome!

Lumina Youth Choirs



Lumina Youth Choirs are moving to St. Andrew's! Beginning on August 16th, 2018, Lumina will hold its weekly Thursday evening rehearsals in various classrooms and rehearsal spaces. They will also use the church for concerts from time to time. Their main office is now located on the third floor (Room 306) of the Parish Building.

Lumina Youth Choirs is a not-for-profit, choral arts organization for young people in the Tampa Bay and surrounding metropolitan area. Lumina offers students in grades K-12 a fun, interactive, weekly program where practice and participation in choral music helps them develop creativity, confidence, interpersonal communication, problem-solving skills, literacy and more. Lumina is a place where children are encouraged to develop their musical talents in a community of friends that share a love of music and singing. This diversified program of vocal arts sustains six choirs of boys and girls which perform locally, nationally and internationally in choral festival, concert and competition settings. These choirs include **Stele** (an advanced choir for high school women), **Voci de Lumina** (a chamber ensemble for high school singers), **Serata** (an intermediate to advanced choir for boys with changed voices grades 8 - 12), **Amiaza** (an intermediate choir for treble boys & girls grades 6 - 12), **Aurora** (Children's Choir - for students in grades 2 - 5), and **Prima** (Children's Choir - for singers in grades K-1). Currently some 140 students, representing five surrounding counties in the Tampa Bay area (Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Hernando), are enrolled in the program. Because Lumina is so thrilled to take up residence at St. Andrew's, they are offering a special discount to any children of members of St. Andrew's who wish to join one of their choirs. Check out their website for more information about registration: <http://www.luminayouthchoirs.com>

Maggie's Major Milestone



Maggie Coleman recently reached a major milestone: thirty years on staff here at St. Andrew's. Maggie arrived in Tampa in 1988 fresh out of grad school at Iowa State. She was invited to fill in for a soprano section leader at St. Andrew's one Sunday and the rest, as they say, is history. Currently, Maggie serves in a paid capacity as the Music Program Director, Cherub Choir Director, and Soprano Section Leader. But she also serves as a volunteer in many ministries as well, including lector, welcome table leader, and coffee hour host, to name but a few. Here is a compendium of Maggie's service over the years:

- # of times on the Vestry (including Executive Committee and Clerk) = one three-year term
- # of services she sang over the years = 3,300
- # of rehearsals = 1,200
- # of funerals = 100 plus
- # of weddings = 120 plus
- # of hours filing music = 1,000 plus
- # of Children's Choir rehearsals = 56
- # of Evensongs or special programs at St. Andrew's = 120
- # of times as lector = 100 plus
- # of times on Altar Guild = three years

Maggie was honored at the coffee hour on August 5 with a check from the church and a crystal bowl from the vestry. We are so very grateful for Maggie's ministry during the past thirty years and pray that the next thirty will be just as fruitful! *Thank you, Maggie!*



Sunday School News...

St. Andrew's Sunday School **Starts** back on **Sunday, September 9th at 9:30am** on the 3rd floor! We have nursery care on the 1st floor starting at 9am for children ages birth - 3 years old, and Sunday school classes on the 3rd floor for youth in middle & high school, elementary students in grades 1-5, and a preschool class for children age 3-Kindergarten. We are also still looking for Sunday school teachers to teach 1-2x per month for 45 min to an hour in our elementary and preschool age groups. It doesn't require a teaching degree, only a big heart and a reference & background check, followed by a safeguarding training you can receive right here at St. Andrew's or even online! Don't miss out, the kids will minister to you as much as you do to them—they are the ones who will inherit our legacy here at St. A's, so let's share what we can with them by teaching and creating connections that will show them Church is a fun, safe place to be, where they will have support and love!

Saturday, September 8th St. Andrew's youth (grades 6 & up) plan to travel to Orlando to attend Universal Studios "Rock the Universe" event! Ticket prices for this event are \$130 per person, which includes park entrance and rides, as well as an all-day Christian music concert. We recommend bringing around \$40 per person for food and drinks the day of the event. We plan to carpool and meet at the church around 9am. Please contact Alicia Schmid for more info at aschmid@saintandrewstampa.org



Donations to

In Loving Memory of John McWhirter

John & Lynda Boyet
A.G.Divers
Nathan B. Simpson
Glenn & Carole Hooper
Harriette Phillips
Nancy King

In Loving Memory of Norwood Smith

Rafetilis Financial
'Consultants
Pat & John Wolfe
Heeth & Susan Varnedoe IV
Marsha Otte

In Loving Memory of Almeria Holmes Wright

Kay & Tom Rankin

New Administrative Assistant

The Rector is pleased to announce that Lauri Harder has joined the office staff as the new administrative assistant, beginning on August 1st. Lauri has recently returned to Tampa after being away for almost 30 years. She is a lifelong Episcopalian who was raised, along with her six siblings, in Potomac, Maryland. After she completed high school, her family relocated to Altamonte Springs and she attended the University of South Florida, graduating with a BA in Communications/Advertising. Lauri held several advertising positions before leaving the workforce to marry a navy pilot and raise her two sons. Lauri and her family have lived all across the USA; from California to Texas to Mississippi, as well as living in England and Australia. She has visited over 20 countries and loves to travel. Lauri also enjoys theater, biking, swimming, and spending time with her two adult sons. She is looking forward to becoming part of the team at St. Andrew's and to re-exploring Tampa. Lauri's office hours will be 9AM – 2PM, Monday thru Thursday. (The office will be closed on Fridays.)

May Vestry Meeting Highlights

RECTOR'S REPORT – Fr. Reese

As of 5/14, there was \$170,832 in ops account and \$136,004 in the parish reserve account. As of 4/30/18, there is \$19,729 in the Foundation's checking account – monies available to the vestry. 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. We have another \$75,659 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. And there was \$2,150,326 in the Foundation principal as of 3/31/18 (which includes an 82K bequest from the estate of Sylvia Frazier).

On 4/13, the Foundation finally received the charitable remainder trust (CRUT) gift from the late Barbara Faber's estate. The amount was \$398,013 and is safely in the hands of Northern Trust, who will invest it in the principal. There is also \$101,574 in the Dan Curtis fund fbo St. Andrew's within the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, with \$7,237 in grant money currently available (a combination of unused past distributions and the distribution for 2018).

CGM Declares Bankruptcy – as of the end of April. Since we had to pay our yearly maintenance contract of \$3,800 up front back in January, that means we are out the balance of \$2,500 for the last eight months of the year. Al is researching other companies, to include Caldecott, Gulf Coast Air, French's, and Griffin. We will need to sign up with someone. Also, Peter is pursuing the possibility of whether we might be able to recover a few pennies from CGM's bankruptcy.

Restroom Restoration – began on 5/14. The work is estimated to take up to two weeks (meaning no first floor restrooms available on 5/20).

Sixth Floor – we now have a leasing agreement with The Dohring Group, seeking a possible tenant for the sixth floor. No activity.

Annual audits – Committee consists of Barbara (chair), Richard, and Piers. Need to conduct internal audits of both the parish financials and the Foundation financials.

Cinco de Mayo – after 10:30 service on Sunday, 5/6, Mexican luncheon sponsored by Outreach, proceeds go to helping Cornerstone Kids attend our VBS in June. Good crowd and great food! Thanks, Outreachers, great job!

Ordination Service – The Rev. Adrienne Hymes was ordained to the priesthood on Tuesday, 5/8 at 7PM by Bishop Smith here at St. Andrew's. Wonderful service and big crowd (over 200) – we received many compliments from visitors that evening.

Mother's Day Brunch – followed both services on Sunday, 5/13, sponsored by the men of the parish. The men, led by Winston Blake, did a fine job. We filled the parish hall! Thanks, guys!

Youth Sunday – on 5/20 (which is also the last day of Sunday School for the season). We will honor our Sunday School teachers and recognize our high school and college graduates that morning.

June 2018 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
Revenues	\$28,802.45	\$48,210.18	\$204,853.11	\$289,261.08
Expenses	\$41,135.33	\$48,210.19	\$283,182.87	\$289,261.14
Net	(\$12,332.88)	\$0	(\$78,329.76)	\$0

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Peter Baker St. Andrew's has been approached by a competitor of 717 to explore the possibility of replacing 717 as our parking lot management group. Our lease with 717 expires next month. While we are pleased with the work of 717, we will take a look at what is being offered.

The Lumina Youth choir is looking for space. They are currently using space at USF but are looking for an alternative with the hopes of reducing their rent payments. Maggie Coleman is the liaison with Lumina. Their payment (donation) to St. Andrew's would likely just cover the expense of having them here. Our benefit would be the exposure this would provide St Andrew's. A response is required by July 1st.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Al Getz Al is reviewing a new method to solve the leaks in the church roof. This will not be inexpensive but is expected to solve the issue once and for all. Renovations of the Parish Hall restrooms should be complete by the end of the week. The playground boat has been pressure washed and sealed. It looks great and ready to take on another year of fun. There are 2 gallons of sealant remaining. This will be applied next summer. Pressure washing is not expected to be necessary at that time; just minimal cleanup prior to application of sealant.

Since our AC vendor has declared bankruptcy, Al is looking for a replacement. 4 vendors are currently quoting on this service contract:

Caldeco	\$5,760/year	French's	\$3,275/year
Gulf Coast	Pending	Griffin	Pending

Peter suggested that we ensure there is a sufficient fleet associated with the AC vendor so response time isn't compromised, particularly with summer upon us.

Diocesan feedback on Adrienne Hymes' ordination was extremely favorable. The church, the music; we rock! Lighting panel in church was acting up on Sunday. Jolamar Electric will be coming out to investigate. Gideon's is coming out to replace our kitchen faucets just when we were getting used to their quirks!

TREASURER'S REPORT – Piers Curry

Pledges are moving closer to "on budget" following mailing of the quarterly notices. Other income is pretty even as we will receive the Ferguson money later in the year. Budgets, reserves are strong.

COMMITTIES:

Outreach – Richard Ferlita for Holly Clemmons \$785 was raised on our Cinco de Mayo luncheon for Cornerstone Kids VBS. Upcoming CleanKit collection will be toothpaste and toothbrushes.

Christian Ed – Brad Hall for Jim Morgan Sunday evening Youth Night program, dealing with violence in the schools and supporting kids, was offered to children and parents and was deemed a success. Children attended from other churches, not just St. Andrew's.

Stewardship – Brad Hall Brad circulated a flyer he has prepared touting St. Andrew's Christian Ed program and other services. The flyer was well received by the vestry. Brad intends to distribute this downtown to promote the church.

Old Business Chris Capsambellis updated the vestry on upcoming Active Shooter training. The date will be Tuesday, August 21st. The vestry will meet on a Tuesday night that month. The presenter, a TPD officer, requires a minimum number of participants of 30. Ushers, Christian Ed teachers, and parishioners will be invited to attend.

New Business

Richard Ferlita offered additional information on the Lumina Youth Choir that has approached us about space. It is comprised of approximately 140 children and led by Van Howard. They are a great group to work with. Dr. Rodney Shores will be assisting this choir as well. The vestry was invited to visit their website at Luminayouthchoirs.com.

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:

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**Deadline for articles for
The Call:** 15th of each month

for the following month's
newsletter. Submit articles to
Kathy in the church office.