



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

THE CALL

Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✦ September 2018

Reverently Speaking

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. James 1:22

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

Remember when you learned how to drive a car? It was an arduous process involving swerving around a big, empty parking lot on weekends with dad, knocking over orange cones as you learned how to parallel park. Then, when you turned 17 (that was the minimum age to drive in my home state of New Jersey), you headed to the DMV to take the road test with some surly instructor who mumbled directions at you. I failed in my first attempt because I made an incorrect three-point turn. But the second time around I was rewarded with a driver's license and its accompanying sense of freedom.

But what if you could skip all that hassle and just "YouTube it" instead?

That's what an 8-year-old boy in Ohio did one Sunday night. The kid had a problem: mom and dad had fallen asleep early, and the boy and his 4-year-old sister were hankering for some McDonald's. The golden arches were a mile and a half away — too far for a walk in the dark. So the boy did what any self-respecting Gen-Z kid would do when confronted with a conundrum. He looked up "How to drive a car" on YouTube, emptied his piggy bank, then bundled his sister into the car and headed out for a cheeseburger.

Police said later that the boy obeyed all the traffic laws, didn't hit a single thing, and drove "effortlessly" through town as though he had been driving for years — all because he watched a few minutes of video instruction and then did precisely what it said to do.

The pint-sized adventurer seems to have grasped early on what many of us grasped much later in life. That is that, on the internet, someone somewhere has created a video to show you how to do what you're about to attempt. Whether it's a repair for your home or your car, how to put on makeup, learning self-defense or making dinner, all you need to do is look it up on the world's most popular video site and soon you'll be an expert yourself — even if it's expertise on the best way to massage your pet opossum (because, apparently, opossums need massages — something else you can only learn on YouTube!).

There are millions of these tutorial videos, most produced by average people who have learned a skill and simply want to share it. It's the crowd sourcing of expertise that makes it possible for the most mechanically inept person to fix a faucet, or a maker of microwave mac and cheese to become a gourmet chef. Of course, all this instruction depends on the viewer's willingness to experiment and put the information into practice. Without that, it's just another internet time-waster.

So how do we put our Christian faith into practice? Faithfulness is easier when we're in fellowship with a community. Some YouTube tutorials don't quite convey the information in a way that's easy to follow. Try tying a bow tie while watching a video or looking at a chart, for example. It's extremely

difficult because that mirror image forces you to do everything backwards. To tie that bow tie effectively you need someone standing beside you to show you how, guiding your fingers and helping you develop the internal memory of the process until it becomes second nature. It's one thing to conceptualize the process, and quite another to execute it.

The same is true for real "religion," says the Letter of James. It's not simply about running at the mouth and declaring one's faith as a matter of intellectual belief; nor is it about lashing out at those who might be challenging you (1:26). Religion that is "pure and undefiled before God," on the other hand, is religion that is demonstrated in practice — practice that comes as second nature to those who have internalized the word of truth. It's religion that cares for the most vulnerable people (widows and orphans) and keeps oneself "unstained by the world" (1:27).

It is religion, in other words, that uses the model of Jesus for both its belief and its practice. Like tying that bow tie, there are some things YouTube just can't teach. It can't teach you how to be a follower of Jesus. Oh, sure, it can teach you the *principles* of discipleship, but to really learn it you have to have someone live it out in front of you and guide you along the way. Information alone won't get it; it takes imitation as well.

That's why we need a community of faith to guide us and give us examples for putting the word into practice. In a culture where there is plenty of social upheaval, we must see the opportunity to be shining stars that reflect God's glory rather than lash out in fear or join in the culture's calamity. We shine most brightly when we are doing the Word of God in a way that causes others to see us and want to be instructed in how to do the same.

Summer is ending, vacations are over, and the kids are back in school. It's the perfect time to make your way back to church on Sundays, to become part of the community of faith at St. Andrew's. Be with us on Rally Day, September 9th, and see how you can become part of a ministry group in the parish. And put your faith into practice.

See you in church!

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. John Reese



Learn about all parish ministries on

Rally Day

Sunday, September 9

Fellowship and food after the 10:30am service
Discover new ways that you can share your time,
talent and treasure at Saint Andrew's!

Adult Christian Education

Sunday mornings at 9:30

Which Way, Lord? Exploring Your Life's Purpose in the Journeys of Paul

As Christians, we hunger to know and live out God's purposes for our lives. But how do we know for certain that our choices are moving us in the right direction? *Which Way, Lord?* is a 6-session video study that will help you understand God's desire for your life by unpacking your experiences alongside those of the apostle Paul.

Through many detours, adversity, and time spent thinking about his life, Paul completely re-oriented his understanding of faith and God's purpose for his life. God placed Paul in a community that shared God's love with him, and Paul underwent several years of training in preparation for his ministry.

Discover how to discern and follow God's leading, explore ways God can use you and your life experience, respond to God's signals, endure hardships and doubts, and persevere with hope and faith. Rediscover the truths that you are wonderfully made, created for purpose, and equipped to live a life of significance. Join us in traveling together to find your purpose.

In the six video sessions filmed in Turkey, Israel, and Greece, Methodist Pastor Rob Fuquay explains the significance of various locations in Paul's missionary journeys, enlightening viewers with tidbits about the history and culture of Paul's time. Here is the line-up:

- 9/9 - Consulting Your GPS
- 9/16 - Understanding Yourself
- 9/23 - Facing Adversity
- 9/30 - Dealing with Detours
- 10/7 - When You Doubt Yourself
- 10/14 - Tenacity

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

Thursday morning 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, led by Alice Prucha, meets in the library.



WHAT: The Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida's Annual Acolyte Festival

WHEN: Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 8 a.m.—2 p.m.

WHO: All Children & Teens who serve as acolytes, and their parents!

WHERE: The Cathedral Church of St. Peter in St. Petersburg

WHY: To come together and learn more about the vital role of acolytes within the church and have a blast while we learn, play games, participate in Eucharist with hundreds of fellow acolytes from around the diocese, make new friends, and spend the day together!

WHAT: New Beginnings for Middle School Students!

WHEN: Friday, October 5– Sunday, October 7, 2018

WHO: Middle School Students!

WHERE: Dayspring Episcopal Retreat Center in Parish, FL

WHY: To spend the weekend making friends, sharing our stories, growing in faith and having fun!



From the Parish Register

Deaths

Joan Fields

Joseph White

Almeria Holmes Wright

Norwood Smith

Anne Clark

John Mc Whirter

Baptisms

Maren Leigh Kennel

William Benjamin Besselieu

Brynn Devereux Besselieu

Harper Evelyn Hillson

Outreach Updates...

Join us for *Rally Day* Sept 9th, right after the 10:30 service & be sure to stop by the Outreach table to “get the scoop” on our upcoming events, next up being our annual *Oktoberfest Luncheon*. Traditional German fare will be served from brats to German Chocolate Cake! Oktoberfest will be held on Sunday, October 7th, in the Parish Hall following the 10:30 service. Tickets are \$10 for Adults and \$5 for children with proceeds benefiting Metropolitan Ministries. Our next Outreach meeting will be Sunday, September 16th, following the 10:30 service. If you’re looking for a way to serve the church and our community (and you don’t mind having a little fun while doing so!), come try Outreach on for size!

Bombas is a manufacturer that has been making socks since 2013. They were a big hit on "Shark Tank" and worked very hard re-engineering athletic socks. They surpassed their sales goals within a very short time. And they made a pledge to themselves that for every pair of socks they sell, they will donate another pair to charity. Your Outreach team heard about this offer and submitted a formal request to Bombas for socks. Our request was approved and to our surprise St. Andrew's received 250 pairs of socks. The donated socks will be added to the Klean Kits that are distributed to the homeless people involved in our daily lunch program. The moral of this story: *Please go online and buy Bombas socks!*

Anchor Ball

Once again St. Andrews' is supporting the Tampa Port Ministries by acquiring six seats at a table at the annual Anchor Ball sponsored by Port Tampa Bay. This black tie/evening dress event will be held **Saturday, September 29th** at the Bryan Glazer Family Jewish Community Center (formerly the Fort Homer Hesterly armory) at 522 N. Howard Avenue, beginning at **6 pm**. Proceeds from this event benefit Tampa Port Ministries and the Tampa Bay Maritime Scholarship Foundation equally.

If you would like to attend or would like more information on this event and these organizations, please contact Pam Frost in the office (813/221-2035) or Peter Baker (813/230-0354) for more details. As the tickets are without cost to you, please be generous in your participation in purchases of items in the silent and live auctions. We hope you will be able to join us!

Volunteers Needed at The Seafarers Center

Volunteer Van Drivers is the most pressing need at this time. Requirements: Age 25 with a clean driving record. The schedule for this service usually includes alternate Saturdays, and several Mondays or Thursdays. The time frame is 9:00 am to 3:00pm. They also can use drivers in the evenings usually from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. This need is every week night. Individuals can agree to drive once or multiple times a month. The POC is Seafarers' Chaplain Steve Finnesy at 813-247-5237 or 727-858-3476 (Cell).

Chaplain Finnesy is also reaching out to see if any potential volunteers from St. Andrew's would like to go for a ride along some day in the next week or two. What they would do is try to visit a couple of ships so volunteers can have a better idea of what they would be doing. It would probably be about a two hour time frame during the afternoon or evening hours.

June Vestry Meeting Highlights

RECTOR'S REPORT – Fr. Reese

As of 6/11/18, there was \$145,397 in ops account and \$117,404 in the parish reserve account.

As of 6/12/18, 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).

Admin Assistant Resigns – Kathy Jenkins resigned on 6/4/18. I have since advertised the position (24 hours per week, no benefits) via Craig's List, the Diocese, and the Sunday bulletin. There have been many responses.

Lumina Children's Choir – We have a tentative agreement to allow use of some rooms (Parish Hall, Children's Chapel, Choir Room, Rooms 305 and 306 on third floor) to Lumina on Thursdays (4PM-9PM) during the nine month program year to the tune (pun intended) of approximately 8K per year. Peter will have more details. We will need to approve (or disapprove) at vestry meeting, since Lumina would like to begin on 8/1.

CGM Declares Bankruptcy – Al has solicited four bids from vendors in an effort to secure a new HVAC company for us. I have sent those bids to you as email attachments. We need to choose a new company at the vestry meeting.

Restroom Restoration – is complete: Wallpaper gone and walls freshly painted, new ceiling tiles and lights, changing tables added, stall doors in women's restroom now open outward, partitions and stainless stuff all scrubbed, floors cleaned. Many thanks to Al for spearheading this effort.

Annual audits – Committee consists of Barbara (chair), Richard, and Piers. They are currently working on internal audits of both the parish financials and the Foundation financials.

CPR Training – occurs in the Parish Hall at 6:30PM on 6/18, right after conclusion of the vestry meeting. Thanks to Cate for arranging this.

July 2018 Operating Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budgeted</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budgeted</u>
Revenues	\$30,982	\$46,210	\$235,835	\$337,471
Expenses	\$38,193	\$48,210	\$321,376	\$337,471
Net	(\$7,211)	\$0	(\$85,541)	\$0

Next vestry meeting is Tuesday, 8/21 at 5:30PM, followed by active shooter training at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall. Chris Capsambelis stated he recently attended this training and it was excellent.

The Sunday parking lot security guard, Edwin, will no longer be able to staff that position because he moved and does not have transportation. The security company, Guardian, will assign a new security guard, but Edwin will be missed.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Peter Baker

In CGM's Chapter 7 bankruptcy, a proof of claim was filed for the approximately \$2,600 remaining on the contract. However, no recovery is expected given the nature of the bankruptcy.

Peter discussed the proposed lease with the Lumina Children's Choir, the areas that the organization would use, the times the organization would need facilities, and the other details of the contract.

Richard Ferlita moved to have lease with Lumina accepted. Al Getz seconded the Motion. After discussion of certain logistic issues, including the locations for Sunday School, tuning the piano, and ensuring the lease noted that Lumina's use of the facilities for concerts were not included in the rent, the motion passed unanimously.

Peter discussed the contract with 717 Parking, which expires at the end of June.

Peter discussing needing a floor plan of the 2nd floor, which would be needed for future expansion plans.

Jim Morgan moved to authorize an expenditure of up to \$500 to obtain the floorplan. Al Getz seconded the Motion. The motion passed unanimously.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Al Getz

Al noted that there were termites around the altar, which would need to be addressed.

Al discussed the completion of the remodeling of the bathrooms on the 1st floor of the Parish Hall.

Al noted that the roof leak in the Chapel had been repaired and the roofer thinks the problem is corrected.

Al discussed the various bids for a new HVAC contract. Al stated that Griffin appeared to have the best bid.

Al Getz moved to accept Griffin's bid. Jim Morgan seconded the Motion. Peter Baker proposed a friendly amendment to the motion to request Griffin provide a discount on parts and Al Getz proposed that Griffin recognize St. Andrew's tax-exempt status. The motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Piers Curry

Piers stated that revenue is down. However, it is on par with 2017 results. Piers is checking the pledge cards versus collections to confirm the situation will resolve itself over the year and will report back after his review.

Parking revenue is slower than 2017. Peter Baker stated he would review the projections with 717 and report back.

Outreach – Richard Ferlita

Operation Smart Start is beginning soon. There currently is a great response on CKean Kit collection. With Kathy Jenkins leaving, we need volunteers to help prepare meals for the daily lunch program. An announcement requesting volunteers will be put in the bulletin.

Education – Jim Morgan

VBS is starting soon and Jim and Alicia are making final preparations. It looks there will be good attendance and lots of new people will be helping. Confirmation class is being scheduled and Jim would like to try to have it coincide with the start of school.

Stewardship – Brad Hall

Brad will be delivering flyers about St. Andrew's to local apartments next week. He also will get business cards from Pamela Frost for distribution. Jim Morgan also suggested the notecards with the watercolor of St. Andrew's be distributed. The Rector said more notecards should be ordered if there are not enough.

New Business

Cate Hammer discussed the Citizen's CPR training being provided by the Red Cross after the meeting. There will be no mouth-to-mouth resuscitation training. After the Red Cross training, Cate will show everyone how the AED device in the Parish Hall functions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. and the Vestry members then participated in Citizen's CPR training and a review of the functioning of the AED device.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

509 East Twiggs Street

Tampa, Florida 33602

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY MORNING WITH THE SEXTON



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

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saintandrewstampa.org

Deadline for articles for The Call:

15th of each month
for the following month's
newsletter. Submit articles to
Kathy in the church office.