



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

# THE CALL

*Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future!*

Downtown Tampa, Florida ✕ May 2019

## *Reverently Speaking*

*Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."*

John 20:29

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

Thomas missed Jesus' initial resurrection appearance to the apostles on Easter evening. But then, a week later, Thomas finds himself face to face with Jesus and invited to touch the nail prints in his hands and the wound in his side. As we know, Thomas blurts out, "My Lord and my God!" and Jesus' response almost sounds like a scolding: "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

It's like he's saying, "You should have believed the eyewitness testimony, Thomas. Shame on you."

Isn't that odd? Thomas' reservations were completely understandable, and in terms of today's forensic and legal processes, not only understandable, but necessary. And Jesus must have known that.

Seeing is believing, we sometimes say, but Jesus seems to want it the other way around: *Believing is seeing*. *Credo ut intelligam*, Anselm of Canterbury puts it centuries later. And certainly that's how it has to be for the rest of us who follow Jesus. Although the New Testament does speak of eyewitnesses, our conviction that Jesus is a living Lord doesn't start there, but in faith.

In calling Jesus' statement to Thomas a scolding, we have perhaps misread it. Maybe it's more of an observation wherein he pronounces a special blessing on those who believe without the eyewitness testimony: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." In fact, it reads like a beatitude.

In other words, "If you need to have evidence, fine, but you are really blessed if you can believe without it."

Certainly, Jesus' statement tells us that what's required in this earthbound world in terms of evidence, testimony and proof is not currency in the kingdom of God. What's required for our spiritual lives is faith, which the writer of Hebrews describes as the "evidence of things not seen" (11:1, KJV).

C.S. Lewis once famously remarked that he believed in Christianity just like he believed in the sun: "Not only because I see it," he said, "but because by it I see everything else."

Picking up on Lewis' comment, Brandon Ambrosino, who covers culture and religion for Vox.com, wrote, "That's how I see Jesus' resurrection; not so much an event I look at, as an event I look through. For me, it remains the interpretive key to the entire universe. And though it might seem improbable and primitive, we're all aware that the idea is writ large across both our imaginations and even the cosmos. Each morning, the sun is reborn; each spring, harvests come back to life; after each disappointment, our dashed hopes are reanimated, and soar to even newer heights. For all the death and evil and greed and ugliness of our world, I

can't shake the fact that every last atom of this place is pulsing in time with the rhythm of resurrection."

As faithful Christians, it's not our task to look for more evidence to confirm that the resurrection of Jesus happened, but to celebrate how it helps us interpret the world, and to receive from it both our daily hope and our long-term optimism.

Think of the people who first taught you the faith. Did they have a novelist's gift for vividly retelling stories from the Bible, a journalist's precision in relating all the details, a detective's persistence in assembling pieces of corroborating evidence?

They may have demonstrated some of those talents, but it's not likely this was what made the difference for you; not likely that this convinced you Jesus Christ is a Lord worth following.

No, it was something else. Something very personal. Something about the way their Christian faith had become integrated with who they were.

That something was relationship — the living relationship they had with the risen Lord. Whether in word or deed, or some combination of both, they opened up to you the deep and abiding joy of that relationship and let it be known that you could have that sort of relationship too. There was something about their lives that made them witnesses to Jesus: simply by knowing them, you could come to know something of him.

Do people who know you know the risen Jesus?

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. John Reese





**KleanKits:** We are collecting for the Klean Kits for the homeless. For May we welcome your donations of stick deodorants. Going forward we will be collecting socks, washcloths, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Your giving is so appreciated!



### **Cinco de Mayo Outreach Mexican Buffet**

**Sunday, May 5** 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

### *Mother's Day Brunch*

Prepared by the men of St. Andrew's  
**Sunday, May 12**  
after the 8:00am and 10:30am services



**Calling all Graduates!** If you have a soon-to-be graduate in your family, we want to honor them on **Sunday, May 19** during the 10:30am service!!

Please provide the following info:

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

***All information needs to be in to Victor by Sunday, May 12 to make it in to the church bulletin! Email [christianed@saintandrewstampa.org](mailto:christianed@saintandrewstampa.org)***

# ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## 2019 IS FULL OF FUN & FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

**Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup>** we will have a meeting for all those interested in volunteering for our VBS program this year. The meeting will be held approximately 15-20 minutes after the conclusion of the 10:30 service so everyone has a chance to grab a snack at fellowship. We will meet on the sixth floor.



We are running our own summer program at St. Andrew's. **Vacation Bible School** this year is June 10th to June 14th. The hours are 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Our kids will be joined by the Cornerstone Kids from St. James House of Prayer. Please fill out the Registration Form on the next page and return it to Victor in the office or at church on Sunday.

The ages for VBS are PK through Grade 5. Older youth can help with the little ones, and the activities. There will be a youth activity for our older helpers every afternoon.

**Escape School June 15:** This is a unique and needed program open to anyone. It will teach kids what to do should someone try to "take" them from off the street, a store, etc.. There will be Law Enforcement there, A Karate Instructor demonstrating self-defense techniques and situations, and the Masons Lodge will be offering free child I.D. cards and fingerprinting for all who attend. All this will take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor youth area.

Announcements coming soon on when training will occur.



### **Camp dates for this year:**

Elementary School July 7-12

Middle School June 16-21

High School June 23-28

Register at [www.dayspringfla.org](http://www.dayspringfla.org)

**Please contact Victor at [christianed@saintandrewstampa.org](mailto:christianed@saintandrewstampa.org)  
for any information on upcoming youth activities**



## St. Andrew's Episcopal VBS 2019 Registration Form

Fill out this form to register children, youth volunteers, and/or adult volunteers for VBS 2019, June 10-14, 2019

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 3 years old and fully potty trained by June 9, 2019)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Child/ Youth School Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Grade Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or Special Needs? \_\_\_\_\_

Buddy Request? \_\_\_\_\_

Child/ Youth #2 Name \_\_\_\_\_ (must be 3 years old and fully potty trained by June 9, 2019)

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

Child's Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

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 3 years old and fully potty trained by June 9, 2019)

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 9:30

#### *The Case for Easter: A Journalist Investigates Evidence for the Resurrection*

In his bestselling book *The Case for Christ*, Lee Strobel retraced his spiritual journey from atheism to faith by showing how the evidence he obtained from experts in the field of history, archaeology, and ancient manuscripts led him to the verdict that Jesus truly was the Son of God. Now, in this four-week video study for Easter, Lee investigates the story surrounding the resurrection of Jesus - and how we can know that it is true.

In each session, he will explore the following aspects of the Easter story:

- What the Gospel accounts actually say about Jesus' death and resurrection, how we can reconcile the discrepancies between the accounts, and how we can know the biblical accounts are accurate.
- How we can use a technique known as "five minimal facts" - facts on which even skeptical scholars agree are true - and medical evidence to build a strong case for Jesus' resurrection.
- What the evidence in the Gospels reveals about Jesus' tomb being empty, why the Gospel writers are credible when they make this claim, and what this evidence leads us to conclude.

Who the Bible states witnessed Jesus being alive after the crucifixion, how early creeds emerged that stated Jesus was alive, and how it's clear the early church carried on this teaching.

Here is the line-up:

5/5 - An Excruciating Execution

5/12 - The Case for the Empty Tomb

5/19 - Eyewitnesses to the Resurrection

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

**Thursday morning Bible Study** began a new study on Jan. 10 at 10:30am in the library, The Gospel of John using N.T. Wright's study guide. "Nothing in John's Gospel is there by accident... And all the details in John are designed ultimately to come together. In these studies we discover the clues John gives that we might see even more clearly the reality of who Jesus is, the new creation He inaugurates and the difference that all makes."

Please join us for this exciting study of Jesus through John's eyes!

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

## Organist/Choirmaster Search

The Search Committee, which consists of Peter Baker, Ben Borsch, Don Crawford, Richard Ferlita (Chairman), and the Rector, have selected three finalists for the position.

Each candidate will conduct the choir and play for the 10:30 service on a Sunday morning.

Here is the schedule:

5/5 - Ryan Hebert

5/12 - Paul Erickson

5/26 - Matthew Gender

We anticipate that the new Organist/Choirmaster will start work in mid-June.

## *Mother's Day Gifts*

Johnny was complaining to a friend about how hectic his days were since he got his first job. "I get up at 6:00 each morning and eat my breakfast," he said. The friend asked, "You mean you get up and fix your own meal?" "No," said Johnny. "My mother prepares it for me. She has to cook Dad's breakfast by 6:30 anyway."

The friend replied, "Gosh, your mom gets up that early just to fix breakfast?" "Oh, no," said the young man. "She likes to get up early. It gives her more time to do the things she enjoys - like mopping the floors, dusting furniture, shopping for groceries, and preparing lunch for me and Dad."

"I see," said the friend, "but she does have the afternoon for herself?" "Oh, yes," was the reply. "She spends that time playing with my little sister, sewing, and preparing supper, 'cause my dad and I like to have supper on the table when we come home after a hard day's work. We think that's fair; after all, Mother doesn't work!"

Such an attitude brings chuckles and groans because it is so ridiculous. Just because a mother or wife is not employed outside the home, it doesn't mean that she doesn't work. Mothers, we know that you have a twenty-four-hour-a-day job, one which demands not only all your time, but also all of your attention and energy. Because of that realization, we salute you on Mother's Day (May 12<sup>th</sup> this year), in the fashion that we should honor you every day - for all you do for us and for all you give to your family.

Few of us show our mothers the depth of love, honor, and respect that we should. We know we don't, and we feel guilty about it. So on Mother's Day, we try to make up for our failure by giving Mom gifts to symbolize our true feelings of affection and appreciation. But there are also some gifts of a non-materialistic nature, that are necessary in the Christian family and should be given each day.

We ought to give mom honor in the way we live. Whether we want it to be this way or not, the way we live is a reflection upon our parents. So, if we really want to honor our mothers, we should live in a way that they will be proud of. So we should live an honorable life.

Another gift that God says we must give to our parents is obedience. As long as we live in the household of our parents, we have an obligation to obey them - provided they don't demand that we act contrary to God's word and will. For the Bible says in Ephesians 6:11 (and Colossians 3:20), "Children, it is your Christian duty to obey your parents, for that is the right thing to do."

When I was sixteen, I thought my mother knew very little about life and the way things are supposed to be done. But by the time I reached the age of twenty-five, I was amazed at how much my mother had learned in nine short years. Actually, mother had not changed that much; I was the one who had changed. I finally realized that mother always had the kind of natural wisdom that comes from the school of life.

Mother's Day demands special gifts. All of us children should give honor to our mothers in what we say and do. Children who are living at home should give obedience to their mothers. These are the most precious gifts of Mother's Day.

*Mothers, we thank God for you, for all that you do, for the kindness you show, for the love you give, and for the example you are. May God bless you on your special day!*

*The Rector*





## **From the Parish Register**



### **Baptisms**

Tessa Rose Palles  
Pippa Anne Palles



### **Transfer In**

Zachary Kinchloe  
Elizabeth Kinchloe  
Cora Kinchloe  
Daniel Kinchloe  
Isaac Kinchloe  
*from Christ Episcopal  
Alameda, Ca*

Craig Heseltine  
Joanne Heseltine  
Brogan Heseltine  
Jack Heseltine  
*from San Jose Episcopal  
Jacksonville, FL*



### **Hospital Admissions**

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

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

### ***In Loving Memory of Henry Brown***

Edmund & Karla Grant



### ***In Loving Memory of Jack Levy***

John & Jennifer Levy  
Boston Properties  
Marsha Otte



### ***In Loving Memory of Dan Fields***

Donald & Mary Gould  
Daniel & Angela Rodriguez  
Manuel & Linda Menendez  
Rosanne Creed

A.G. Divers

Stewart & Tammy Bertron

James & Kim Bertron

Jane & Larry Rothschild

John & Pat Wolfe

Adajean Samson

Michael & Jana Kaney

Leigh Ennis

Harriett Phillips

Lynn & Bill Smalley

Mary Lee Farrior

Solon O'Neal

John & Jennie Hampton

Nell Ward



### ***In Loving Memory of Marilyn Cowell***

Craig & Katherine James



# March Vestry Meeting Highlights

## RECTOR'S REPORT – Fr. Reese

As of 3/25/19, there was \$165,817 in ops account and \$108,127 in the parish reserve account. As of 3/25/19, there was about \$30,430 in the Foundation's checking account – monies available to the vestry. We have another \$13,324 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. (\$30,000 has already been transferred to the Foundation checking account from the 2016 allocation, which totaled \$43,324). 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. We have another \$63,718 available from the Foundation principal as a result of the 3% spending allocation designated by the Foundation Board for 2019 at their meeting on 2/27/19. And there was \$2,547,328 in the Foundation principal as of 2/21/19. There is also \$103,437 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). At our 2/25/19 meeting, Vestry authorized a 6.5K draw on this fund to pay for church roof repairs of tiles broken during January termite tenting. This work is currently in progress.

Organist/Choirmaster Search – Richard will report. It appears that we have a couple of very viable candidates.

Confirmation – took place at the 10:30 service on 3/3. We had 13 youth and 7 adults confirmed that day. Great attendance at both services (over 300 in total). Bishop thought it was a great morning.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – 3/5 at 6PM, put on by the young'ins. They did a great job. We had about 60 in attendance.

Lenten Series - Our annual Lenten series began on Shrove Tuesday, **March 5**, and continues weekly **through April 9**. **Each evening** begins at **5:30PM** with **Holy Eucharist** in the **Children's Chapel**. A **potluck supper** follows at **6PM** in the Parish Hall and the **program** begins at **6:45PM**. The presenter this year is The Rev. Canon Dr. Thomas Williams. Thomas was our speaker a few years ago and was very well received. A different parish group (Youth, Vestry/Parish Life, DOK, Altar Guild, Outreach, Choir) will host the potluck supper each week and provide a main course or two and perform set-up and clean-up. *Vestry/Parish Life hosts on April 9*. We have had about 25-30 folks each week.

Stations of the Cross – Fridays in Lent (3/8 through 4/19) at 12:10PM in the church. Come and join us each week for this simple, yet moving, service. It only lasts about 25 minutes.

Parish & Foundation Audits – Ben is chairing parish audit and Peter is chairing the Foundation audit.

Sesquicentennial Celebration – St. Andrew's turns 150 in 2021 (the parish was founded in 1871). We had about 30 folks turn out for our initial planning meeting on 3/9/19. Many thanks to Richard for starting up this process.

Monthly Vestry Meeting Reporter – Need a volunteer to speak on **Sunday morning, 4/7**, at

both services, giving parishioners highlights of 3/30 vestry meeting. (Thanks, Ben, for reporting this past month!)

**Anita Ramirez volunteered to speak at both services on 4/7**

#### **SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Richard Ferlita**

St. Andrew's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration planning resulted in a good turnout with volunteers coming forward to offer assistance. Richard is still waiting to hear from the Bishop Curry on availability so we can begin to solidify the plan. The bishop's office does not schedule time this far in advance so we are waiting.

#### **JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – George Levy**

Roof repair began 2 weeks ago. The work is slow and tedious. This week they ran out of the roof tiles we had on hand. The contractor had some extra that we have used as well. We will need another pallet to complete the job. George is negotiating to get a good price.

**Peter made a motion to approve purchase of pallet of roofing tiles. Don Crawford seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.**

The sills on the plate glass windows in the Parish Hall are rotten. It was repaired and painted but it is rotten and peeling once again. George is going to arrange a meeting with a contractor to get a price on repairing this. We don't know the scope at this time.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT – Piers Curry**

We appear to be \$20,000 in the red. In reality, we can adjust this to reflect a healthier forecast with adjustments done to reflect a pro rata basis.

Pledge line item is just a hair under budget which is normal for this time of year. Plate offering is on track. We're in good shape. Confirmation plate will show up on the March report.

#### **HELPING HANDS – Barbara Brotherton**

Barbara reported that Helping Hands handled the reception for three funerals over the past few weeks. Fr. Reese expressed appreciation for their work.

#### **CHRISTIAN ED – Brad Hall**

Meeting for Christian Ed committee to get volunteers for Sunday school and VBS will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April.

Indications are that we need improved reporting and communication to parents.

There is potential to use the parking lot to earn income during the Lightning games and Women's Final Four. Vic should coordinate this for fund raising for Christian Education.

#### **OUTREACH – Ingrid Muellerleile**

We met briefly Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, to discuss some upcoming dates. Firstly, we discussed

<b>March 2019 Operating Summary</b>				
	<u><b>MTD Actual</b></u>	<u><b>MTD Budgeted</b></u>	<u><b>YTD Actual</b></u>	<u><b>YTD Budgeted</b></u>
<b>Revenues</b>	\$50,761	\$47,095	\$128,738	\$141,286
<b>Expenses</b>	\$36,462	\$47,095	\$135,103	\$141,286
<b>Net</b>	\$14,299	\$0	(\$6,364)	\$0

hosting the Lenten supper on Tuesday, March 26th. We came up with a great menu, with many volunteers for food. We had great participation, and the dinner seemed appreciated by all. I particularly want to thank Richard Ferlita for setting up and all the extra work for the dinner.

We also discussed that we would be collecting for Klean Kits for March and April. We will collect stick deodorants, and going forward, collecting washcloths, toothbrushes and toothpaste. A message was sent to Lauri to please include this in Sundays' announcements, along with the message for Easter Boxes of Hope for Metropolitan Ministries.

Martha Cobb reminded us that any items for children would be hugely appreciated for our adopted Elementary Schools. We have asked her to speak on our behalf at the service on March 31<sup>st</sup>, with her first-hand experience of the students' needs, so all of us can better understand how we can help.

Chris Sherman reminded us that he collects eyeglasses and old cell phones.

Since we have Palm Sunday and Easter coming up mid-April, it was decided that we would meet again on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, after the 10:30 service, on the third floor of the Parish Hall.

We confirmed with Lauri that we would again host the Cinco de Mayo (which actually falls on May 5<sup>th</sup> this year), and she will be including it in the announcements going forward.

We are gathering, names, email addresses, and cell phone numbers, to update our communication list.

I thanked everyone for giving so generously of their time and talents (and cooking!).

#### **WELCOMING COMMITTEE – Lori Taplow**

Lori will follow up with Wallace Dixon to see that we have sufficient mugs for our giveaway bags for Sunday visitors.

#### **PARISH LIFE – Don Crawford**

Coffee hour will be handled in the future for upcoming Lenten series and Easter Sunday. Someone has signed up for Coffee Hour on Easter. We need to follow up with them to let them know that Parish Life will be contributing due to the large volume of attendees on this day.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER SEARCH – Richard Ferlita**

13 applicants for the Choirmaster role have been narrowed down to 2. Fr. Reese will interview them. They have also been asked to rehearse the choir on a Sunday. This will happen in May. We hope to make a selection following these rehearsals.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Brad Hall suggested the possibility of selling t-shirts to raise money for the sesquicentennial celebration. This idea was enthusiastically received.

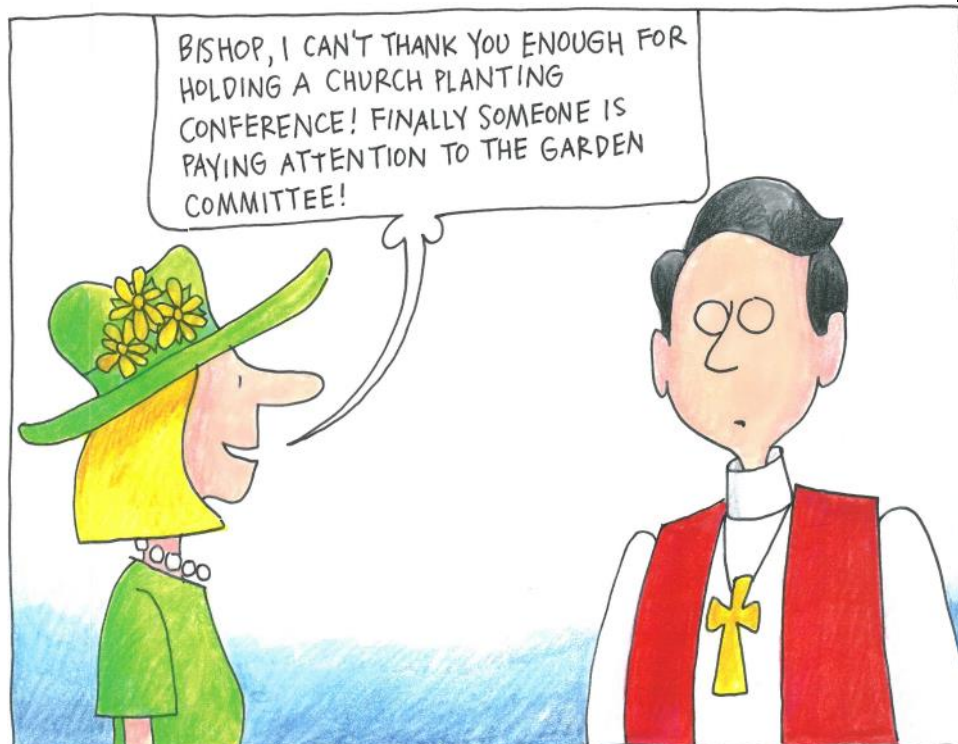
Meeting adjourned at 9:43a.m with vestry retreat led by Canon Michael Durning to follow starting at 10AM. One session is titled "Lining the Field: Setting the Norms for the Vestry" and the other is "The Congregational Life Cycle".

## 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:

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  
Lauri in the church office.