



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Parish Chimes

An Ancient Faith for a Modern World

JANUARY 2025

Dear People of St. Andrew's,

When I was in 7th Grade, my pre-algebra teacher kept an "Oh!" meter on one of her bulletin boards for the duration of the year. It looked like one of those old-school thermometers with blocks that could be shaded. The idea was that the "Oh!" meter would be a testament to our learning throughout the year.

As anyone who has been subjected to taking pre-algebra knows, attempting to solve quadratic equations is like uncovering a mystery wrapped in a conundrum! Every time someone asked our teacher a question, she would patiently endeavor to help us understand the problem. Eventually, there was usually a breakthrough moment when a student would understand how to answer the question. This was usually accompanied by the student exclaiming, "Oh!" in the classroom. My teacher would then invite the student to go shade in the next block on that section's "Oh!" meter. By the end of the year, the meters for each of the sections of her class were shaded nearly to the top. It was clear that we had learned a lot during the year.

Epiphany, and the season which follows, are a celebration of "Oh!" moments. This is a time of year, we hear accounts of breakthroughs in which people recognize Jesus as being more than an ordinary human being. The principal Epiphany moments include:

- The Manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the visit of the Magi: The Wise Men come to visit Jesus from the East. Theirs is an encounter of people from another culture embracing Jesus for the special person he is. They bring gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, each representing aspects of Jesus' kingship, divinity, and passion.
- The Baptism of Jesus: In the Eastern Church, this is the emphasis of Epiphany, which we celebrate on the



Sunday following January 6 in the modern Western liturgical calendar. This is one of the moments when the divinity of Jesus is recognized with a voice from the heavens. The baptism marks Jesus' acceptance of his calling and the beginning of his ministry of teaching, healing, and sacrifice.

- The Transfiguration: We actually observe this event twice over the course of the year. There is the traditional Feast of the Transfiguration which occurs in the summertime on August 6. We will also hear the account of the Transfiguration in a few weeks on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany. When we hear it this time of year, it acts as a transition from Epiphany into Lent, along with the promise of Easter to come. Like the Baptism of Jesus, this is another moment where a voice comes from the heavens to mark that Jesus is set apart, different.

While these are the principal Epiphany events, it is possible to see this theme play out to a lesser extent in the readings which will occur on the other Sundays of this season. They all serve as a reminder that Jesus, fully human and fully divine, has a special place and purpose in the world. These are accounts of the People of God having "Oh!" moments where they recognize this truth, laid down in the foundation of the world.

Where have you experienced an "Oh!" moment? Where has God made a breakthrough in your life? I believe each of us has the momentary glimpses where God inspires us and confirms us in our various callings as his disciples. These too are Epiphanies. These are the moments we recognize God is present and real to us. The task for us is to pay attention so these times do not pass us without our notice. Each of us has the opportunities to exclaim "Oh! God is here!" and to shade another block on our own personal "Oh!" meter.

With thanksgiving for your partnership in the Gospel,
Matthew+

MINISTRY NEWS

Senior Warden

Craig Gates

*Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,
For his compassions never fail.
They are new every morning,
Great is your faithfulness.*

Lamentations 3:22-23

Welcome to 2025 everyone. "Don't you love New Years? You can start all over. Everybody gets a second chance." (From Forrest Gump)

Many of us cannot wait a few years, or even a year for a fresh start. And we do not have to. God offers us the opportunity for a new beginning every morning as Chris Rice reminds us in his song "Life means so much".

In the first verse he compares today to the latest page in our journal. Will we compose a curse or receive a blessing? In the second verse he compares today to the latest deposit of time as currency in your bank account. Everyone is paid the same twenty-four hours each day. How will you spend what you are paid? Will you help someone else, be kind to a stranger, volunteer at church, or just look out for yourself?

After each verse comes the chorus as a prayer. Teach us how to make each day count God, because life means so much. One man understood and demonstrated the value of life. That man gave His life for us to show how we should use our time each day. Each new day of your life is a gift from God and a chance to start over. Make the most of it, starting today. "Every day is a gift you've been given, make the most of the time, every

minute you're living"

As seen in a Post for Positivity: "Don't start your day with the broken pieces of yesterday. Every day is a fresh start. Each day is a new beginning. Every morning we wake up is the first day of our new life."

May the Lord's blessing be upon you and St. Andrew's Church. I look forward to worshipping with you soon.

Junior Warden

Roger Roy

Happy New Year everyone. With the holidays behind us let's hope the new year is a little kinder and maybe a little less stressful. In December of this year the heating element for the chapel needed to be replaced. The irrigation monitor that was struck by lightning was replaced. There were two streetlights on the campus that were damaged during the hurricanes and were finally repaired. Overall the campus and buildings are in good shape.

Altar Guild

Glee Gates

Here we are in January, 2025, another new year to make changes in our lives. Most of the time, I share about the altar color changes or the liturgical season to come or the duties of the Altar Guild but this month of new beginnings, I would like to just give thanks to God:

For food, that we may remember the hungry

For health, that we may remember the sick and dying

For our home and family, that we may remember the homeless and alone

For our resources, that we may remember the needy and help provide for them

For freedom to worship our God without persecution

Do you give thanks to God every day for everything including the new day? Do you give thanks for your church, your church family, your resources and the blessings that we sometimes overlook and just take for granted? Do we ask but then often forget to be thankful?

As we begin this New Year, let us all be more aware of our blessings and the gifts from God and share these gifts. Let us love one another. Be kind, be thoughtful, be considerate and remember to thank God every day for all of life's blessings.

Happy New Year & Thanks be to God!

Pastoral Care

Janet Crisfield

The Pastoral Team wishes you a blessed and Happy New Year. The Pastoral Care Team will continue to offer and provide prayer and visits to our St. Andrews brothers and sisters in Christ.

We provide visits to the homebound, hospitalized, those in rehab or extended care facilities. We meet bi-monthly during the regular church year. Training and screening is required of anyone wishing to join this ministry.

Many of our members are licensed

Lay Eucharistic visitors and bring communion. Some of our members also belong to the Order of Saint Luke and are also able to anoint for healing. That being said, it is not necessary to be or do either. There is always giving the gift of your presence.

Parishioners who are interested in learning more please call Janet Crisfield at 352-796-9389 or Father Matthew at the church 352 683-2010.

If you need or know of a fellow parishioner that could benefit from this ministry please call the church at 352 683-2010.



The Daughters of the King are continuing the stamp project for Right Sharing of World Resources into this new year. As a reminder, all stamps are accepted. Please be sure to trim stamps leaving a ¼ inch border around the stamp. Stamps on old or very unique correspondence should be left on the envelope. The small stamps that may have accumulated in a drawer should be submitted as they are - no need to separate them. This small gesture of caring and sharing makes a big difference for women in third world situations. Thank you for your support. For further information, please contact Sherry Cortier at 941-216-9195 or at chermonday@msn.com.



The Prayer Chain is available to all who wish to have us lift up their petitions to the Lord. Contact Sherry Cortier at chermonday@msn.com or phone 941-216-9195. Also, anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain, please contact me.



Mark your calendars!

A Ladies Luncheon in a local restaurant is coming February 7th. Time and location to be announced closer to the date.



Biographical information of the 2025 Vestry Candidates will be available soon in the eChimes. The candidates are: **Nancy Kesselring, Roger Roy, Michael Szubinski** and **Robbie Noel**. Please make sure the office has your email. Thank you!

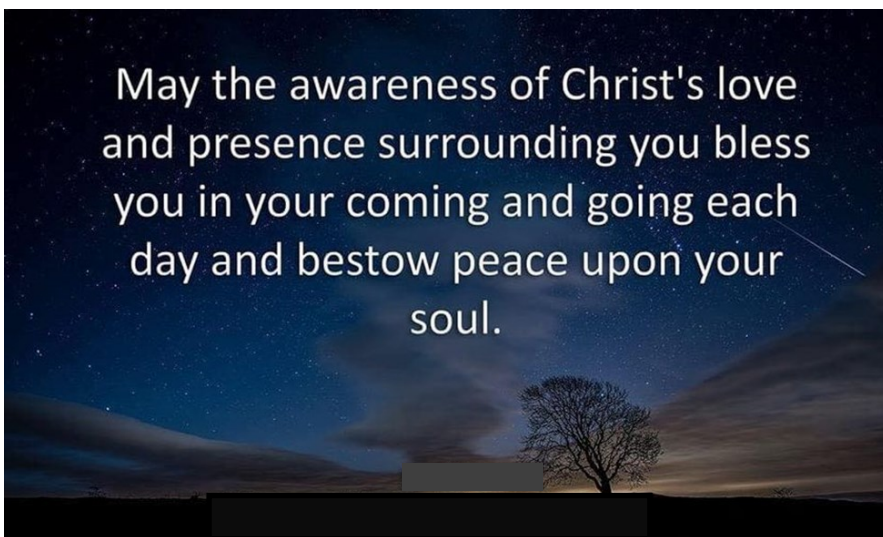
PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES AT HOME & OVERSEAS, AND THEIR FAMILIES:



- Julian Barry
- Bradley Meissner
- Michael Perry, USMC
- Brigadier General Karen Monday-Gresham

Please call the office with updates to this list.

May the awareness of Christ's love and presence surrounding you bless you in your coming and going each day and bestow peace upon your soul.



Snowball Gala

12/6/2025



Happy New Year! Giving envelopes for 2025 should be available in the narthex by the third weekend in January. In the meantime, there will be plain envelopes for you to use. Please remember to put your name on the envelope especially if you are giving cash and want credit for your contribution. If you had offering envelopes last year, you will receive them again this year. If you no longer want envelopes, please let me know as soon as possible. Also, if you are new to the church or did not have envelopes last year, but want them this year, please let

me know that as well.

In the book of envelopes, there is an Initial Offering envelope. Please consider using this envelope to pay for the book of envelopes you receive. The cost of printing these books is \$4.00. This is necessary this year since we will be operating under a deficit budget for 2025.

In addition, here are some reminders about envelopes:

1. Do not seal your envelope with tape or stickers. This slows down the counting process.

Seal only with the adhesive on the envelope. Your contribution is perfectly safe by just doing that.

2. If you miss a week or month, you do not have to give your contribution in those missed weeks' envelopes. One check or cash to cover your missed time is sufficient.

3. Before putting your check in the envelope, please make sure it is made out to St. Andrew's, the written line is legible and matches the number amount of the check and that your check is signed. I'm sorry to say that we had some trouble with this during 2024.

4. What you give to the church is only known by me as the Treasurer and the person who helps me with inputting your contribution into the database. Once we finish with the offerings for the week, what we may have seen is forgotten. And the counters are only concerned with balancing out what they've counted.

The 2025 Budget will be presented during the Annual Meeting at the end of January. Copies of the budget (which will have been approved by the vestry) will be available to you the weekend before the Annual Meeting. If you have seen the Status of the 2025 Budget thermometer in the narthex, you know that the budget presented will most likely not be a balanced budget. If you have not yet turned in a pledge card and plan to make a pledge, please do so at your earliest convenience.

If you wish to receive an annual giving statement for 2024, please let me or the church know.

TREASURER'S REPORT
as of November 30, 2024
Connie Mehr, Treasurer

	This Month	Year to Date	2024 Budget
Revenues			
Core Church	29,781.53	311,156.77	325,853.02
Thrift Shop	4,115.07	39,938.11	41,150.00
Total Revenues	33,896.60	351,094.88	367,003.02
Expenses			
Core Church	36,408.59	315,325.58	371,973.00
Thrift Shop	1,884.31	21,901.11	24,468.00
Total Expenses	38,292.90	337,226.69	396,441.00
Net Gain/Loss			
Core Church	(6,627.06)	(4,168.81)	(46,119.98)
Thrift Shop	2,230.76	18,037.00	16,682.00
Total	(4,396.30)	13,868.19	(29,437.98)
Investments		Bank Accounts	
SSGA	121,800.56	Bank of America	
Alliance Bernstein	29,230.05	Unrestricted	89,671.51
		Restricted	313,124.85
		Truist	
		Unrestricted	110,680.15
Total	151,030.61	Total	513,476.51

Epiphany

Z L I Y Z N R T W W Y M Z C I R Q
 Q S V V B E T H L E H E M A T D M
 V T V Z F G M A G I C F A M P N J
 N A G I F T S F B H T H R E E F T
 H R Y G A S P A R N D C X L J T N
 H J E P I P H A N Y R N S S V K B
 O F R B A L T H A S A R Y G K I J
 M E T W E L F T H L I G H T I N C
 A A M A N G E R Q E H N A N K G L
 G S T G M U R U G H B H M I I K W
 E T O F F E R I N G U Y J G N Y W
 Y W C P G K K G O L D E E H G X I
 E O X R A M Y R R H V I S T H M S
 F R A N K I N C E N S E U S E M E
 K N K O D C H I L D D I S F R A M
 Z Z E J Z O M E L C H I O R O R E
 K I T R E A S U R E B Q Z O D Y N



Frankincense
Melchior
Camels
Feast
Night
Mary

Balthasar
Offering
Gaspar
Gifts
Three
Star

Bethlehem
Treasure
Homage
Jesus
Gold

King Herod
Twelfth
Manger
Light
King

Epiphany
Wisemen
Child
Myrrh
Magi



BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Brian Parks
- 11 Charles Allen
- 12 Pina Krizan
- 14 Aneita Porter
- 16 Bob Dunham
- 17 Calvin Ingram
- 18 Brandon Meissner
- 19 Katherine Ward
- 20 Barbara Schulwitz
- 24 Marisa Hamblin
- 24 Carolyn Melber
- 25 Dee Lutsky
- 25 Diana Seminerio
- 26 Jan Nash
- 26 James Smart
- 28 Patricia McNeil
- 29 Ariel Bethoney
- 30 Anita Curtis

ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Maureen & John Follansbee
- 11 Fred & Milia Julian

DECEMBER 2024 ATTENDANCE							
Week Ending Sat./Sun	Wed	Sat	Sat ONLIN E	Sun 8 am	Sun 10:30 am	Sun ONLI NE	Total
7/8	5	41	10	31	78	38	203
14/15	9	41	13	24	59	5	151
21/22	7	42	13	28	69	40	
Christmas Eve	-	-	-	-	-	-	146
Christmas Day	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
28/29	12	26	21	33	65	35	192
TOTAL	33	150	57	116	271	118	
AVERAGE	8	38	14	29	68	30	



**JANUARY
LECTIONARY**

Christmas 2
 Jeremiah 31:7-14
 Psalm 84 or 84:1-8
 Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a
 Luke 2:41-52

Epiphany 1
 Isaiah 43:1-7
 Psalm 29
 Acts 8:14-17
 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Epiphany 2
 Isaiah 62:1-5
 Psalm 36:5-10
 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
 John 2:1-11

Epiphany 3
 Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
 Psalm 19
 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
 Luke 4:14-21

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Mailing Address:
 P.O. Box 5026
 Spring Hill, FL 34611

Sunday Services
 8 am Service (no music)
 10:30 am Service (music)

Saturday Services
 4 pm Service

Parish Office Hours
 Mon, Tues, and Thurs.
 9 am – 12 pm
 (Closed Friday)

Diocese Website
 www.episcopalswfl.org

The Parish Chimes Editor
 Lisa Collier
 Email:
 schurch22@tampabay.rr.com

<u>DECEMBER 2024</u>
Transfers in: 0
Weddings: 0
Transfers out:
Baptisms: 0
Anointing: 42
Deaths: 1
Stephen Bolchazy
Funerals: 1
Fred Lewis 12/21/24

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 8 am Holy Eucharist II 10:30 am Holy Eucharist II	6 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop Open	7 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop Open	8 10 am Healing Service 10 am - 2pm Thrift Shop Open	9 9 am Backpacks 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study 10 am - 2pm Thrift Shop 6 pm Sanctuary Choir Open	10 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am Men's Group Meeting (Chapel)	11 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop 10 am Daughters of the King Meeting 4 pm Holy Eucharist II
12 8 am Holy Eucharist II 10:30 am Holy Eucharist II	13 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop Open	14 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop Open	15 10 am Healing Service 10 am - 2pm Thrift Shop Open	16 9 am Backpacks 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study 10 am - 2pm Thrift Shop Open 6 pm Sanctuary Choir	17 OFFICE CLOSED	18 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop 1 pm BINGO! 4 pm Holy Eucharist II
19 8 am Holy Eucharist II 10:30 am Holy Eucharist II	20 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop Open	21 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop Open	22 10 am Healing Service 11 a.m. Pastoral Care Meeting (Chapel) 10 am - 2pm	23 9 am Backpacks 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study 10 am - 2pm Thrift Shop Open 6 pm Sanctuary Choir	24 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am Men's Group Meeting (Chapel)	25 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop 4 pm Holy Eucharist II
26 8 am Holy Eucharist II 10:30 am Holy Eucharist II	27 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop Open	28 10 am - 2 pm Thrift Shop Open	29 10 am Healing Service 10 am - 2pm Thrift Shop Open	30 9 am Backpacks 10 a.m. Women's Bible Study 10 am - 2pm Thrift Shop Open 6 pm Sanctuary Choir	31 OFFICE CLOSED	