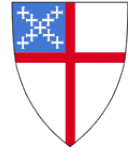


St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Parish Chimes



An Ancient Faith for a Modern World

November 2020



From the Rector

Dear Friends,

In March of this year we began to wear masks and social distance and stay at home. At that time there was a lot of fear and people began to buy up toilet paper and frozen pizzas. Do you remember going into the stores and seeing whole aisles that were empty? Everything in our society was feeling very strange. We have come back to somewhat a sense of normalcy even though we are still wearing masks and trying to keep socially distant from each other. We are able to meet again at church and even though things are a bit different it is still church and we can worship our Lord together. And that's good and it is a good reason to be thankful.

According to our church calendar, November is the last month of the church year. The first Sunday of Advent occurs on November 29th and on that day we begin a new church year. As the last month of the year, it is very appropriate that November be a month known for giving thanks. We start this thankfulness on November 2nd when we observe the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed; this is also known as All Souls' Day. It is on this day we make a point of remembering those who have passed into the nearer presence of the Lord. This service will be held at 10 A.M. in the Memorial Garden. And although we simply say their names in the service, it is a time for us to remember and be thankful for their lives and for the blessing their lives have been to us. Typically we remember things about the lives of our loved ones when we have the funeral services, but it is over the days and weeks and months and even the years that pass that things come to mind about those dearly departed that come to mind. Those memories may make us smile, even laugh, or they may tug at our hearts. On All Souls' Day we gather those memories up again and thank God for letting us have the time with our departed loved ones that we did.

And then there is the grand Thanksgiving Day itself towards the end of the month. This year things will probably be different than in other years. We may not be getting together with family and friends as usual. But no matter how it is observed Thanksgiving Day should be understood as a gift for us. It is a day that we have been given to be thankful to God for his blessings to us. Do you know that in the Bible one of the main faults God found with his people the Israelites was that they were not thankful? We are told over and over again to be thankful both in the Old Testament and in the New Tes-

tament. Is this command given to us because somehow God needs our thanks? No, God wants us to have thankful hearts because being thankful is the primary source of joy and contentment. If you and I want to feel joy and contentment, then we need to learn to be thankful. Thankfulness is not an automatic response for most of us. We need to make a conscious effort to notice things around us and consciously be appreciative to others and to God. Perhaps Daniel Defoe gave us some good advice through his fictitious character Robinson Crusoe. The first thing that Crusoe did when he found himself on a deserted island was to make out a list. On one side of the list he wrote down all his problems. On the other side of the list he wrote down all of his blessings. On one side he wrote: I do not have any clothes. On the other side he wrote: But it's warm and I don't really need any. On one side he wrote: All of the provisions were lost. On the other side he wrote: But there's plenty of fresh fruit and water on the island. And on down the list he went. In this fashion he discovered that for every negative aspect about his situation, there was a positive aspect, something to be thankful for. It is easy to find ourselves on an island of despair especially during this pandemic.

On Thanksgiving Day at 10 AM we will have a Rite I Eucharist. If you are able to come a bit early you will have a perfect place and opportunity to be able to quietly give thanks to God for his blessings to you this past year. God is so good to us; he is good to us because he loves us. In Ephesians chapter 3 we are taught to pray for the strength to be able to comprehend the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge. My prayer for all of us this November is that we will learn to be more and more thankful to our loving Heavenly Father.

Warmly in Christ,

Fr. Lance

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Sr. Warden's Remarks

Mike Ludwell, Sr. Warden



Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices, Who wondrous things hath done, In whom His earth rejoices Martin Rinkart 1586-1649 This is the first stanza of a truly wonderful hymn of thanksgiving. It was written c.1636 by a Lutheran minister by the name of Martin Rinkart as a blessing before meals. However, there is much more to this story. During this time a young America was busy in the founding of the Connecticut, Rhode Island and Maryland colonies. Unfortunately, things were much different in Europe. Reverend Rinkart lived in Eilenburg, Saxony, which was enduring the effects of the Thirty Years' War. The city was enduring great famine and the plague. At one point Rinkart was the only surviving pastor in the town and officiating over as many as 50 funerals a day. I have often wondered how this man was able to pen such words of praise and thanksgiving while dealing with the horrors he faced everyday. Would that I had but a fraction of the love and faith he exhibited. Despite all that our society has been forced to endure these last several months, each of us has so very much to be thankful for this season. God has given us so many blessings. Perhaps we can pause this season and thank God for, as Pastor Rinkart wrote, "His countless gifts of love." "We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side." BCP p.836 On another note, the diocesan convention was held on October 17. Fr. Lance, Janie Frisk, Maureen Follansbee and I represented St. Andrews. Despite being held digitally, all agreed that it was successful and meaningful. Perhaps the most important news was that Bishop Smith announced his retirement. The overall selection process will take some time so do not anticipate a successor to be named in the immediate future. Wishing you a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

Treasurer's Tidbits

Connie Mehr



Dear Parishioners, Have you turned in your 2021 Pledge Card? It's not too late! As you know, the church's budget is based on the pledges we receive. I want to especially encourage those of you who give consistently but do not pledge to considering doing so for next year. Because most people are still not attending services in church, it will be difficult to count on the loose plate offerings and other non-pledge offerings we normally receive. If you make a

pledge, we will have a better foundation on which to build a more accurate budget.

As a reminder, there is no need to make separate contributions for missed weeks/months. Income is recorded for the week it was received. Once the books for the month are closed, we cannot go back and report income that we may receive in future months. We truly appreciate that you want to make up for missed contributions; however, giving a separate check (or cash) for each week/month missed only creates more work for you and the counters and the Treasurer, especially if each contribution is in a separate envelope. Frankly, the dates on the pledge envelopes are not important; it's the envelope number that's most important. Please offer one check or total cash for the time missed in the current week's envelope. If you need a record of the weeks/months you are paying for, simply make a note on the memo line.

Thank you again for keeping up with your pledges and other offerings during these extraordinary times! The church is very appreciative!

Buildings & Grounds

Hal Smith/Bob Meissner



Welcome to the fall season. Our grounds look great, thanks to our head grounds keeper, Steve Smith. As you have learned from talking with Steve, he is always looking for ways to beautify our grounds and always coming up with projects to keep our campus standing out in our community. He is constantly picking up twigs, brush, and limbs. He cleans the gutters once a week to keep water out of the buildings. He is continually power washing sidewalks and buildings to keep our buildings and grounds looking spotless. He always has a paint brush in his hand to spot paint around the grounds. He has now been undertaking the maintenance of our beloved Memorial Gardens. Father Lance, our Rector, has established a committee to overlook the reconstruction of our Gardens: Craig Gates heads up the committee, along with Diane Wallace, Debbie Smith, Glee Gates, and Steve Smith.

We have had some minor expenses over the last two months, such as fixing the air conditioner in the Thrift Store, minor leak repairs on the Sanctuary roof, some basic tree repair and fixing the golf cart. Also, you will see a new audio unit in the back of the

sanctuary that updates our audio and video capability. God bless our Church.

Ministry News

Altar Guild

Glee Gates,
Director



Welcome to the lovely fall season! We will soon be welcoming our snow birds back from their summer "nests".

Your Altar Guild continues to work behind the scenes to prepare communion and set up the altar each week. There are only a few of us currently serving but each of us must decide when the time is right to return to service.

As hard as it is to believe, we are approaching the holiday season. Advent begins the last weekend in November and we will be changing our altar colors from the "regular" green to the deep indigo to represent penitence. We only see this beautiful deep blue during this time and it is only used until Christmas. It is a visible reminder of the Advent season. In addition, the Advent wreath and candles will be a weekly reminder of the season.

The Advent wreath is made of evergreen boughs, symbolizing everlasting life. The circle represents the continuous love of God, with no beginning and no end, as well as the soul's immortality.

Each of the four colored candles in the Advent wreath represents a week leading to Christmas. Traditionally, three of the candles are purple or blue, (Hope, Preparation, Love) and one is pink (Joy). We light one candle each week until Christmas when the white candle in the middle is lit which is the Christ Candle. We prepare during Advent for the coming of Christ.

Throughout November, we will continue to be reminded about the importance of giving back during our stewardship campaign. Even if you are unable to attend church in person, your church is still providing assistance to the community, worship services and adult formation classes online each week. Many efforts have been made to keep you connected during this unprecedented time and maintenance, cleaning and upkeep of our campus continue. We urge you to look into your heart and pray about the many gifts and blessings God has given so abundantly and give back joyfully and generously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Connie Mehr, Treasurer
As of **September 30, 2020**

	This Month	Year to Date	2018 Budget
Revenues			
Core Church	22,970.36	253,389.35	351,900.00
Thrift Shop		18,371.69	45,350.00
Total Revenues	22,970.36	271,761.04	397,250.00
Expenses			
Core Church	30,963.10	245,593.89	376,834.45
Thrift Shop		12,660.08	20,415.55
Total Expenses	30,963.10	258,253.97	397,250.00
Net Gain/Loss			
Core Church	(7,992.74)	7,795.46	(24,934.45)
Thrift Shop		5,711.61	24,94.45
Total	(7,992.74)	13,507.07	
Investments		Bank Accounts	
SSGA	100,124.90	Sun Trust	
Alliance Bernstein	38,190.14	Unrestricted	(2,263.18)
		Restricted	165,999.14
		Discretionary	240.51
Total	138,315.04	Total	163,976.47

(continued from page 2)

The Altar Guild will once again be surrounding the altar with poinsettias this holiday season. The envelopes to sponsor the plants (\$15.00) will be available in the pew pockets and the Narthex after our Thanksgiving season offerings. If you are mailing in your donation please make your check payable to the church and either include a note or write poinsettia on the memo. A list of donors will be printed and available for the holiday services.

We continue to pray for our church family to be safe, well and in God's care. Blessings to you all.

October 2020

Transfers in: 0
Transfers out: 0
Deaths: 0
Funerals: 0
Baptisms: 0
Weddings: 0
Anointings: 0

A Note From the Office:

Since 2021 will be our
50th anniversary,
we will be coming out with a new Spring 2021 directory and we need your help. Please send us updates on your contact information so that we will be able to have it in the directory. You may either call or email Lisa at the church office with your updated information.

Thank you!

October Attendance

Week Ending Sat./Sun day	O th er	Sat. 4 pm	Sun 8 am	Sun 10:30 am	To- tal
Oct 3 & 4		30	25	51	106
Oct10 & 11		22	23	57	102
Oct17 & 18		35	25	57	117
Oct 24 & 25		35	25	57	116
TOTAL		125	104	212	441
AVERAGE		31	26	53	110

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St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5026
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The Rev. Lance Wallace, Rector
Cell 352-515-8657
Email: Fr.Lwallace@gmail.com

Sunday Services

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

Saturday Services

4 pm Service

Parish Office Hours

Mon. & Thurs. 9 am – 12 pm
(Closed Friday)

Diocese Website

www.episcopalswfl.org

The Parish Chimes Editors

Lisa Jackson & Debbie Smith
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1 Tom Hubbell
2 Linda Magee
3 Maurice Stewart
4 Carol Fuller
4 Adele Ruggiero
6 Pete Jackson
8 Howard Benson
12 Fred Lewis
13 Geddy Jackson
13 Trish Gardner

14 Marjorie Convey
15 Harry Calderbank
15 Raigan Ratley
15 Michelle Traudt
17 Brandon Bethoney
19 Heidi Stymiest
21 Donna DeCosa
21 Vera Scharf
23 Ralph Guyadeen
24 Karen McGrath

25 Cameron Hutchinson
25 Nancy Koehle
25 John Nabil
26 Gabriel Lewis
26 Marty Monahan
27 Gayl Rische
27 Rosamund Stewart
29 Veronica Smith



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN SERVING



IN THE ARMED FORCES AT HOME & OVERSEAS:

*Keith Barroncini, Julian Barry, Joseph Beatty, Martin Clausen,
Krista Crosetto, Jason Daniels, Olivia Clair, Warren Fedoryk, Daniel Fitch,
Shawn Fitch, Howard Gidden, Sean Gilbert, Dwayne Hamblin, Roger Handy,
Doug Henderson, Joseph Kee, Amy Kelly, Kristina Langley, Skip LaPointe,
Karen Monday-Gresham, Rhett Roy, Tracy Thomas,
Courtney Foster McCorvey, Peter Turner, & Mary Turner.*



6 Sharon & Tyrone Ricks
8 Nancy & James Skinner
14 Carmen & Arthur Milbuta

20 Carla & Dave Newman
25 Paula & Larry Harrelson
30 Lauren & Roger Roy

A Different Kind of Angel Tree



The Belles along with the back pack ministry have decided to change the way we do Angel Tree this year. Due to the covid virus, we are unable to shop for the kids like last year. Instead we are going to do a holiday bag for each family filled with all kinds of goodies. We will set up a sample in the narthex so you have an idea of what to contribute. If you don't want to shop, we will take monetary donations and shop for you. Please attach money to an angel and put in the angel box. Each family bag will contain the following:

--Popcorn --Puzzles
--Hot chocolate --Cookies

--Jello and pudding
--Candy --family games
--playing cards (2-3)
--Puzzle books (3-5)
--activity books (2-3)
--Crayons --colored pencils

The last day for donations will be December 6th. Please bring donations to the church during services or at the office on Monday or Thursday 9-12.



The Belles of St. Andrew's



The Belles of St. Andrew's will decorate their 2nd annual Christmas tree in the Spring Hill Botanical Gardens. Our decorations will be white doves that we are making. Last years' decorated angels were beautiful and I'm sure this years' doves will be also. We got together in Krysher Hall, with masks and social distancing, on Oct. 22 to begin the creation of the doves. We will be getting together again during the month of November to continue, so watch for announcements.

The Belles of St. Andrew's is our single women's social group. If

you have not participated in the past year, please consider joining us and make some great friends. If your phone number and or email has changed since the member list that was created and passed out last year, please contact me to correct the information, my number is in the Directory but the last number is 4, not 2.

I want to be sure that everyone that would like to be contacted is notified of our events. We hope to be able to have more events beginning in January and continue through the next year.

Hope to see you soon,
Patti Werner
pwerner9242@att.net