

# St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Parish Chimes

An Ancient Faith for a Modern World

# **NOVEMBER 2023**

# From the Rector



Dear Friends,

November is always a great month

because in it we have an entire day dedicated to being thankful. Lately I have been using St. Ignatius's Daily Examen for a daily prayer guide. One of the primary components of this prayer is looking back over one's day, seeing God at work in and through all the day's events; then being thankful for His presence and help. Being thankful changes a negative attitude to a positive one. It changes a complaint into praise. Being thankful is an attractive and emboldening sort of feeling because when one is thankful one feels free to tell others what good thing has happened and joy is spread. God is pleased with a thankful spirit and blesses such a person with joy and contentment. So I encourage us all consciously to choose to be thankful. Spend time remembering the different ways God has blessed your life, not only on Thanksgiving, although certainly then too, but throughout the month and into next year. Let us all try to be more thankful for all that God has done for us.

In particular it is appropriate for us to be thankful for all God has done for us here at St. Andrew's. As I have said, I am retiring at the end of December. God has blessed our church so that we are in a very good position right now. Our church grounds and buildings are in great shape. Our finances are very healthy. Many of our church members have a strong desire to grow spiritually. We have a church full of volunteers. I have often bragged about you as a church to other priests about your willingness to serve. In most churches it is 20% percent of the people who do 80% percent of the work, but not here! Here we have 80% of our church people involved in one way or another. Many of you are involved in multiple ways. It is just as Jesus wants us to be as a church body. So even though I am leaving, you as the church are doing great! Our Lord Jesus will remain the Good Shepherd of this church and He will send you another under-shepherd soon.

We will have our traditional All Souls Day service in the Memorial Garden on November 2 at 10 am. In the service we pray for all the faithful departed souls and mention by name those who have died this past year from our church family. Then we pray for by name those who parishioners have listed on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please feel free to list any loved one you would like mentioned in our service.

Several years ago Diane and I began a tradition of sharing a Thanksgiving Dinner for those who would like to join the church family on Thanksgiving Day. The tradition continues and you are invited to attend our Thanksgiving church service and then to stay afterwards for a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner of turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy. You are invited to bring a vegetable, salad, rolls and butter, or a dessert. There will be a sign-up in the narthex so we will know how many are coming and have enough food for everyone.

Warmly in Christ,

Fr. Lance+

Please keep us informed if you, a family member, or church member you know goes into the hospital. Hospitals no longer keep lists that can be checked at the front desk. If you do not let the office or Fr. Lance know, we are not able to visit.

You can call the office at 352-683-2010 or Fr. Lance's cell phone 352-515-8657.

#### **Senior Warden**

Craig Gates

Happy November everyone! This month offers us the chance to spend time with family, friends and loved ones. May God's blessing be upon you.

Our rector search is about to begin. I have met with Bishop Scharf and Canon Norman to go over what the Diocese search plan requires of us. Canon Norman will meet with the Vestry in a special meeting on November 12, 2023, to commission the Vestry and to start our work.

Our Vestry committee work needs to be completely transparent to all church members. Therefore I will be keeping you up to date and informed about our progress in this extensive process. Our Parish Chimes will give you most of the information, and Vestry members will be available at all services for any further questions. I ask you to pray for our church during our search process and also pray that available priests will feel called to serve St. Andrew's.

# **Junior Warden**

#### Roger Roy

Fellow parishioners, I would like to inform you of some of the things that have been going on around this beautiful campus of ours. As many of you know, the buildings are somewhat old and some things are in need of some TLC and possible replacement. We have had a few leaks in our sprinkler system due to invasion of tree roots, which was repaired by our Senior Warden, Craig Gates, and a few by our sexton, Steve Smith. The campus lights were all repaired and working now. There have been some repairs to the Thrift Shop. The counter in the back room was replaced due to a leak in the sink, the floors in the backroom work area were also replaced. The campus lights in the parking lots have all been repaired and are working now. There was a termite invasion in one window

care building was recently replaced. These are a few examples as to what goes on with 5 acres of land and seven buildings. There is something that needs to be done at all times.

## Altar Guild,

Glee Gates, Director

Yes it is an old saying but time really does fly. Here we are on the brink of the holidays! We have had some beautiful cool nights and lovely days. We hope you are all enjoying the gifts God has given us.

Thanksgiving, just the word reminds us what a wonderful time to give thanks for those many blessings God has given us. As we all face adversity from time to time, we must remember "Nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God." (Romans 8:39)

If you would like to honor a loved one, give thanks for a special event or God's precious gifts, sponsoring the flowers or presence light is a great way to do this. You can put your offering in one of the envelopes found in the pew pockets. Select your preferred date, enter your information and drop it in the offering plate. Be sure to indicate what the money is for (flowers or presence light). Donations for flowers is \$40 and the presence light \$15.

In December, we will soon begin collecting for the holiday flowers that adorn the Chancel area. Please watch for the red poinsettia envelopes as they will be coming soon!

Happy Thanksgiving to all our church family!

# **Pastoral Care**

Janet Crisfield

Happy Thanksgiving to all. We have much to be thankful for. Thank God for Fr. Lance's service and thankful for him and Diane being able to enjoy the fruits of all their sacrifices and labors. St. Andrew's is entering a period of transition and change. Thank God we all have a wonderful church family and now is the time to

take advantage of change with all it's aches and pains but with an attitude of thankfulness for what we are and who we are about to become.

# Congregational Administrators

Glee Gates

As I mentioned last month, we need to begin getting our volunteers for the Holiday services. Christmas Eve falls on Sunday this year so in addition to the regular Sunday services (8:00AM & 10:30AM) we will also be having our 6:00PM and 8:30PM Christmas Eve services and of course Mondav Christmas Day at 10:00AM. We need many volun-(greeter/usher/LEM/reader/ teers computer/sound board etc.). Once again, if you would like to serve at any of our holiday services, please notify Congregational Administrator vour (below) or the church office. Let us know your availability for any of these services celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Sharon Dunham8:00AMPatti Werner10:30AMGlee Gates4:00PM

Blessings and thanks to all our volunteers for their service to St. Andrew's.



# **SEARCHING FOR OUR NEW RECTOR**

# Dear St. Andrew's family,

As a parishioner of St. Andrew's, you are being asked to participate in the first step of our search for a new Rector, which is to conduct a congregational assessment. This assessment will provide a clear picture of who we are as a church and what directions are most important for our future. The tool we'll use is the Congregation Assessment Tool (CAT). This assessment is required by the Diocese and will provide key indicators of our congregational health along with areas of challenge and potential growth. It will help us to collect and understand the range of views that exist at St. Andrew's and the possibilities, will-ingness, capacity and energy for moving our ministry into the future.

If you have provided us with a current email address, you will be notified when your unique web link is available to complete the assessment online. If you need to update your contact information please contact the church office. Electronic completion of the survey is the preferred method due to cost and ease of compiling the information. If you need to take the assessment using a paper copy, when they become available, please stop by the office to get one or we will have them available at our weekly services. Please keep in mind, these assessments **ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE** to access in any form.

NOTE: If there is only one email address for all members of your household, it may be tempting to have one person take the survey on behalf of the family. However, please be sure adults and young adults living in your home have an opportunity to complete the survey. **INDIVIDUAL INPUT** is important to gain insight into overall perceptions and experiences.

Please set aside enough time to answer all the questions. This will take about 15-20 minutes. All survey responses are strictly anonymous and confidential.

Thank you for your willingness to be a part of this congregational assessment and for helping to build the future of St. Andrew's.

Thank you,

Your church survey committee



Please join us following the 11:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Service for a **Church Family Thanksgiving Dinner** November 23, 2023 12 NOON



# **Treasurer's Tidbits**

In my stewardship talk last month, I said I wasn't going to talk about money at that time. Well, now is the time! As I indicated, the gifts you give back to God are used to support St. Andrew's and its ministries. The church depends on the congregation's financial support to pay for operating expenses such as utilities, supplies, postage, computer and payroll support, to name a few, as well as expenses associated with church ministries such as bible studies, food pantry, altar guild, music, women's and men's groups and more.

Monthly operating expenses continue to rise. The insurance premium for next year alone has increased \$19,700 over this year. The church will be going through a transition next year but that does not mean that the church will not continue to operate as normal. We will still have bills to pay and ministries to support. So please do not let the unknown influence your decision to support the church.

In order to formulate the most accurate budget we can, I urge anyone who has not pledged in the past but has consistently given to the church, to consider pledging this year. Your intention of giving to God in thanksgiving and gratitude for all He has given you can also be a commitment to the church.

# Angel Tree

It is hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner! And so we are gearing up for this year's Angel Tree Program. The tree with angels will be available in the narthex beginning November 11. As in the past,



you may choose an angel from the tree and purchase the gift yourself or make a monetary donation and the purchase will be done for you by the Angel Tree Committee. This year we are limiting each child to two gifts (max. \$25 each) that have been requested by the parents. We are also going to provide a bag of "goodies" for each family so you may purchase those types of items as well (suggested items will be on or near the tree). You are asked to return your gift with angel attached no later than Sunday, December 3; this will be the absolute last day to bring in your gift. If you have any questions or would like to participate on the Angel Tree Committee, please contact Connie Mehr.



# BINGO!!

On Saturday September 23, 2023 parishioners gathered in Krysher Hall for Bingo. They enjoyed snacks and drinks and all had a great time!







	00	CTOBE	CR 2023 A	TTE	NDANC	Е	
Week Ending Sat./Sun	Wed	Sat	Sat ONLINE	Sun 8 am	Sun 10:30 am	Sun ONLINE	Total
7/8	9	44	9	30	84	51	227
14/15	7	50	18	42	92	42	251
21/22	9	51	18	37	66	36	217
28/29	10	61	14	34	70	25	214
TOTAL	35	206	59	143	312	154	
AVERAGE	9	52	15	36	78	39	

# OCTOBER 2023

- Transfers in: 0
- Weddings: 0
- Transfers out: 0
- Baptisms: 0
- Anointing: 39
- Deaths: 0
- Funerals: 0

# TREASURER'S REPORT as of September 30, 2023 Connie Mehr, Treasurer

	This Month	Year to Date	2023 Budget
Revenues			
Core Church	33,518.14	309,430.93	364,626.00
Thrift Shop	1,812.60	31,126.84	35,250.00
Total Revenues	35,330.74	340,557.77	399,876.00
Expenses			
Core Church	24,277.51	268,491.45	377,352.00
Thrift Shop	1,507.28	15,777.94	22,524.00
Total Expenses	25,784.79	284,269.39	399,876.00
Net Gain/Loss			
Core Church	9,240.63	40,939.48	(12,726.00)
Thrift Shop	305.32	15,348.90	12,726.00
Total	9,545.95	56,288.38	
Investments		Bank Accounts	
SSGA	98,143.98	Bank of America	
Alliance Bernstein	26,997.74	Unrestricted	63,623.94
Commonwealth	30,170.56	Restricted	415,354.02
		Discretionary	1,267.92
Total	155,312.28	Total	480,245.88



# NOVEMBER LECTIONARY

#### Nov 5 - Pentecost 23

Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 Matthew 23:1-12

#### Nov 12 - Pentecost 24

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78:1-7 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13

## Nov 19 - Pentecost 25

Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30

#### Nov 26 - Last Sunday after Pentecost CHRIST THE KING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 100 Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46





#### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES AT HOME & OVERSEAS:

Julian Barry Jason Hobson Joseph Edmonds Bradley Meissner, Michael Perry, USMC Brigadier General Karen Monday-Gresham

Please call the office with updates to this list.





11/01 Thomas Hubbell
11/02 Linda Magee
11/03 Maurice Stewart
11/04 Carol Fuller
11/04 Adele Ruggerio
11/05 Jenell Burleson
11/06 Pete Jackson
11/08 Howard Benson
11/12 Fred Lewis
11/13 Trish Gardner

11/14 Marjorie Convery 11/14 Richard Hanel 11/15 Harry Calderbank 11/21 Vera Scharf 11/24 Karen McGrath 11/25 Nancy Koehle 11/25 John Nabil 11/26 Marty Monahan 11/27 Gayl Rische 11/29 Veronica Smith 2301 Deltona Blvd. Spring Hill, FL 34606 Phone: 352-683-2010 E-mail: schurch22@tampabay.rr.com Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5026 Spring Hill, FL 34611

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, 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



6 Sharon & Tyrone Ricks 14 Carmen & Arthur Milbuta 17 Cecilia & David Soch 20 Carla & Dave Newman 25 Paula & Larry Harrelson 30 Lauren & Roger Roy

Mon	3		Wed	, Thu	Ë "	Sat
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