



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30

Rev. Dr. Jim Black, Pastor

Church Office: (904) 771-1596

WHY AND HOW ST. ANDREWS CAN GROW

Why should we grow?

- Because Christ has given us a why and a how to live out our lives...to know Him and make Him known.
- Because we have been blessed and hope to be a blessing to others.
- Because we can serve as Lights in a dark world....a Rock to rest upon amid all the swirling doubts and issues that we have to confront in life.
- Because we are, as the old hymn states, "standing on the promises of God, our Savior".
- Because we use our lives and how we live them as one, big "THANK YOU" for coming into our world, so that we might have Life abundantly now and MORE life after our death.
- Because we like being a part of a great group of people who can work to make this a better, saner, safer world with what God has given us in the Gospel.

How can we grow?

- By sincerely having a passion for the welfare of people! When anyone actually believes that you are sincerely interested in them and not out to "hook them", they will open up to us.
- By being on the lookout for where people have various needs the church can help meetor have hurts that we can help ease...or need hope amid a sense of despair or hopelessness, we, in how the Holy Spirit working through us can be channels of genuine help to them.
- By meeting visitors in the parking lot, walking in with them, learning about their interests and connecting them with someone you know who would share a common interest.
- By having the kind of music and programs and worship services that fills and feeds them.
- By "Being the Face of Christ" in as many creative ways we are led to come up with to those we suspect need our considered ministries...AND GETTING THE INFO. OUT TO THEM FAITHFULLY.

Design all we offer here, first, by being open to seek God's will through us and, secondly, being creative and flexible enough to make some needed and manageable changes. What other creative thoughts do you have? We are open to hear and attempt to listen to you....and even outsiders....and try these ideas.

Pastor Jim Black



MARCH

- 2 Lenten Dinner & Service – Lake Shore
- 9 Lenten Dinner & Service – St. Andrews
- 12 Spring Clean-up
- 16 Lenten Dinner & Service – Lake Shore
- 18 Speaker & Dinner
- 20 Palm Sunday
- 24 Maundy Thursday & Service – St. Andrews
- Good Friday Service – St. Paul's on Edgewood
- 26 Easter Egg Party 11:00am
- 27 Easter – 7:15 Sunrise & Breakfast; 10:30 Regular Service



APRIL

- 21 Speaker (Sulzbacher Center) & Dinner



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

6317 103rd Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32210

*Being the Face of Christ
In our Community.*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MARCH/APRIL 2016

Secretaries

Donna Kirksey

Judy Medearis

Jan Poley

Velvet Whitaker

Judith Yeaton

Active Elders

Michele Banks – M&E

Roger Barr – M&E

Lynda Edwards – Worship

Summer Hackney – Fellowship

Donna Kirksey - Fellowship

Mary McNair – BFS&P

Judy Medearis - CCN

Elaine Mechelke - CCN

Joyce Miller – BFS&P

Ralph Ramsey – BFS&P

JR Woods – B&G

Judith Yeaton - Worship

Christian Education Committee

We will be having the annual Easter Egg Hunt and lunch for the kids on March 26th starting at 11:00 am, the Saturday before Easter.

We need filled Easter eggs with wrapped candy that doesn't melt. Please remember to bring your filled eggs to Church and leave them in the Narthex.

Thank you so much.

Keep on learning,

Pastor Jim
Ashley Zeilic

THANK YOU, BEN GUNDLACH!

Now Ben will always be among us continuing to serve Christ through the church he loved so much. In his Will, Ben donated his Villa to all of us....to show that he is still here and wants to go on sharing in the work of God through St. Andrews along with us. Ben knew that God made possible the many blessings he did have and he wanted to say "thank you, Father" for all you have done for me. His discipleship invites any of us who may be willing to remember your church in some way, to some degree, when our days here on earth have ended. Truly, "heaven grows richer while earth grows poorer" but some of heaven is very much around us through Ben's thoughtfulness and consideration.

OUR PRAYER LIST



*Cheryl Bogacki,
Carroll Boyles,
Pat Bukovac,
Kim Cope,
Joyce Doty,
Dalton Edwards,
Pat Edwards,
Dennis & Pam Freitag,
Barbara Gobbel,
Johnny Gwines,
Robert Hackney,
Sheryl Harmon,
Carol Jepsen,
Christopher Jordan,
Kathy Kouneh,
Redick Loring,
Ray Massey,
Joanne Moats,
Charleen Pavlakovich,
Tim Pierson,
Jiles Pinkston,
Madison Six,
Bill Strubbe, Jr.,
Bill Strubbe, Sr.,
Clarence M. Sweat,
Betty Tanner,
Sam Taylor,
Caroline VanKouwenberg,
Susie Volpe,
Bert Yeaton
&
The Families of
Ben Gundlach,
Emily Kehler and
Joyce Witt*



BFS&P Committee

January started the year off with our income for the month of \$9,935.22. The expenses for the month were \$11,304.80, which leaves a deficit of \$1,369.50. The quarterly insurance payment came due and accounts for a large portion of that deficit. WE RECYCLE!!!! Not everyone is recycling.

We received a check for \$56.90 from the recycling of our newspaper. This represents the time period from October 20, 2014 – December 20, 2015. The recycle company will come and empty our bin as frequently as necessary so let's keep it full. Please bring all your newspapers and add them to the bin.

In the front of your envelope box is/was an envelope for each member to give \$2.00 to cover the cost of your envelopes. If you have not done so, please consider contributing the \$2.00.

We welcome anyone interested in joining our committee to attend any of our meetings. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 8th and again on April 5th in the Media Room. The time of our meetings has changed to 10:00am.

God Bless - Joyce Miller

Congregational Care & Nurture

The committee will be publicizing Church activities to the community by inclusion of announcements in the Westside Section insert in the Times Union. If you have items to include please contact me.

Thank you - Judy Medearis

VISITS TO OUR SHUT-INS



Anyone interested in visiting and/or taking Communion to our shut-ins, contact Pastor Jim Black.

JULIET (Join Us Ladies Into Eating Together) Fourth Tuesday each month @ 6:00pm location TBD.

Adult Bible Study in Lieu of Sunday School – Each Thursday at 11:00AM

Worship Committee

Ash Wednesday dinner and service was exceptional and had more than 50 in attendance.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter Schedule

- Wednesday, March 2, dinner (6:00) and service (6:30) at Lake Shore
- Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 6 (10:30)
- Wednesday, March 9, dinner (6:00) and service (6:40) at St. Andrews
- Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday), March 13, (10:30) at both churches
- Wednesday, March 16, dinner (6:00) and service (6:30) at Lake Shore
- Palm Sunday, March 20, (10:30) at both Churches
- Maundy/Holy Thursday, March 24, dinner (6:00) and service (7:00) at St. Andrews
- Good Friday Service, March 25, at Lutheran Church on 2730 Edgewood Ave., (7:00)
- Holy Saturday, March 26
- Easter Sunday, March 27, Sunrise (7:15) with Communion & Breakfast (8:00) at St. Andrews
- Easter Sunday, March 27, (10:30) with Communion at both Churches

We wish you all a Blessed Lent, Holy Week and Easter! Hope you can make as many services as possible.

The Worship Committee



March

2 Walter Poley
2 Joan Strubbe
3 Viva McCall
5 Jim Black
5 Bailey Jones
9 Annesley Brightwell
12 Pat Bukovac
13 Katelynn Baylor

14 Trevor Moulton
15 Barbara Gobbel
19 Sherrie Smith
20 Glenda Gibbs
21 Clarence Sweat
24 Wendy Villa
28 Matt Merrill
29 Lindsey McCall
29 Kourtney Starkey

April

1 Roger Smith
5 Brian Hackney
5 Mike Whitaker
8 Sheryl Harmon
8 Velvet Whitaker
12 Julia Mago
15 Catherine Edwards
15 Rebecca Edwards

15 Caroline VanKouwenberg
20 Ralph Ramsey
25 Janet St. Jacques
28 Debby Macdonald
29 Sue Ramsey
30 Elaine Mechelke
30 Suzanne Brooks-Cope



March

18 Roger & Cathy Barr

April

14 David & Loraine Nelson
18 Jerry & Terry Hallihan
25 JP & Viva McCall
27 Denny & Vicki Roberts



Buildings & Grounds

Hi everyone,

Mark your calendars for Saturday March 12th for Spring Workday! We will start at 8 AM till? A light lunch will be provided by Fellowship . Bring your work clothes and let's spruce up the grounds for Easter.

We have been busy as usual with maintenance and upkeep. An electrical box was added at the fire circle (Thanks Gregg). Work on the water fountain in breeze way was postponed due to a problem with the fountain. Other works in progress - painting conex , etc.

Look forward to seeing all on March 12th!

JR

Building and Grounds

THIRD THURSDAY NIGHT DINNERS

The past months' dinners and speakers have provided valuable information for St. Andrews members and their guests. With the dinners scheduled on Wednesdays during Lent and with Spring and Summer just around the corner, the Third Thursday Night Dinners and Programs after April & May will be suspended until the Fall. Please attend the programs on April 21st and May 19th and plan to attend again in the Fall.

Pastor Jim Black

Sunday Coffee After Worship

To provide for additional fellowship on Sunday mornings the Worship Committee is reinstituting coffee after Worship. Please join us outside the Narthex for a cup of coffee immediately after Worship to socialize with your fellow parishioners.



*A Note from
the Clerk*



St. Andrews has numerous activities in March and April as we celebrate Lent and Holy Week. Please bring your family and friends and participate.

Summer

**MAY/JUNE
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
DUE**

***** APRIL 19th *****

*Articles can be e-mailed to
Terry Hallihan:*

99gwhfth@comcast.net

*Or placed in the Newsletter box
in the office*

Mission & Evangelism Committee

Please accept this gift!

Free access to 100's of faith base online resources

From the onset of our planning together, M&E felt it important that the mission statement of St. Andrews which is, "To be the face of Christ in our community", be more than a mere motto. With this in mind, we would like you to consider our primary goal and how it satisfies the desire, "To be the face of Christ in our community." We have partnered with a faith based online media resource in Dallas, Texas to provide us the tools and resources to more effectively communicate our mission and services to our community. It moves us from doing things the way we always have to a more state of the art methodology of doing church. We feel this partnership is advantageous to St. Andrews and the larger Church as a whole.

M&E feels strongly that this is the direction we need to move, but not as the Mission & Evangelism committee in isolation. As the resources and workshops are for the whole Church from Worship and Christian Education to Fellowship and Congregational Care and Nurture. These resources are available to all members and anyone with internet can access the resource 24/7. We encourage you to browse these online resources and glean the blessings of bible study videos and informative Christian discussions about issues affecting you, your family and friends and so much more. We feel this is a very Presbyterian way of responding to the great commission by sharing the Good News with others. To access these resources, just write your email address on your offering envelope or one of the envelopes in the pews and put it in the offering plate for collection. You will then receive an invitation and a link to the site. That's all there is. May the peace of Christ be with you through this gift.

In Christ - Michele Banks & Roger Barr

Updates

Addresses & Phone Numbers:

All address and phone changes are in the **new** directory which is available on a table in the Narthex, if you did not receive one from an usher or greeter at Worship in February.

Barbara Canipe –
5400 Collins Lake Drive Apt.3203
Jacksonville, FL 32244

Congratulations

Ralph & Miriam Story Great-Grand Twins
February 11, 2016
Luke & Lahna

Jim Dennison & Liezl Falonga
Marriage February 12, 2016

Passing Of:

Ben Gundlach February 27, 2016

Bono's on Jammes

The Bono's next door is offering 10% off on Sunday with the Church bulletin and will also give special pricing for catering events for the Church.

VA Benefit Questions & Health Care

JR Wood is available for questions and assistance with VA benefits for veterans and their families as well as health care and compensation, etc. Please give JR a call if you have questions.

Volunteer Assistance Needed

WSCO is in desperate need for volunteers to answer the telephone from time to time. It would be a tremendous help for the poor. Please call Gene @786-7494 to see if you both can win at doing so.

Pastor Jim

BECOMING A BLESSED CHURCH, BY GRAHAM STANDISH
(CHAPTER 4, "ALIVE TO GOD'S PRESENCE" **A MUST READ!!**)

So far we learned that too many churches focus too much on "function" and "activities" and not enough on the fact that churches are MEANT to be spiritual communities in which people may form a relationship with, and actually experience, the Presence of God. Blessed churches are places that have discovered this wonderful spiritual fact: God wants to bless us, God wants our churches to thrive in their own way, and all we have to do is create the conditions for God to be welcome as we ask the right questions (What would God want us to be and do in this place at this time?).

If we know God's Purpose (a genuine relationship with Him and also one another), then we find our identity and direction. To do this, we need to tap into Living Water by faithful, meaningful prayer and study of the Bible and speak of this, together. In this way, we experience Grace. When lives are transformed and deepened, wonderful things happen. NOTE: this takes time...it is a "style" of living and being. Too many want a "quick fix" religion. As we practice our faith together and share Christ-like lifestyles, we focus on depth and quality. Watch out when people want only stimulation or entertainment! This means that a "contemporary service" is not always the answer to all our needs. Would you believe that more and more young people are picking up on some of the ancient ways of worshiping!! They want some of the best of the past from many time-tested traditions! They want substance in worship over style! When the sheep look up, they want and need to feel fed....substance! This, too, is where Christ is Present.

Remember, churches don't die because the members got old or because there was a scandal or the area stopped growing or changed. They die because the leaders (and more will be shared about "leaders" in the next newsletter) and members were not willing intentionally to seek the Presence of Christ....or notice that Christ was all around them all the time or felt concerned for them and about them. Churches need to become awake, aware and alive! Who in our church is THE Church within this church? You know them. They seem to radiate God's love, patience, Grace, Hope and Presence. They seem to embody Christ. These present day "saints" allow us to know Christ and His blessings. They exude the "fruit of the Spirit" as a sign of the Holy Spirit within them through them. They have right beliefs and practices, overall. In Romans 13:11, Paul tells the readers to "wake"....be expecting evidence of God in their midst with sermons, worship, music, connection with one another, by helping....to feel "aha!", that God IS around and working. Members see Jesus as their "North Star", to intentionally follow.

It is from such events that we experience the presence and reality of Christ, with us. We are "alive" as we also KNOW that we are the branches that do bear fruit...all of this reveals a kind of dynamism at work. Church is now a way of BEING! Members are aware of faith, hope and love, emotionally. They KNOW Grace and blessings are at work....these are living, experienced events. Visitors know something wonderful is in such a congregation and they hunger for more. As each of us is aware of God, joy and excitement and even more of a sense of deep fulfillment occurs.

How do WE help people become alive to Christ's presence? Your author suggests preaching Christ's presence, teaching and healing. He also insists the need for Alive Leaders that have meetings that come alive, being alive to worship and alive to service and mission in the Name of Christ. He details these and they are available to any who may wish the details. One example is to remind us that Christian Education is more for formation and transformation than merely information. He adds that it is through loving relationships that persons are healed. He challenges nominating committees to try, after serious prayer and reflection, to find the very best leaders and committee members, as you might imagine. He wants meetings to come alive, intentionally. He reminds us that every church exists for others even more than for the members....if the church is intentional about outreach. Good members continuously look for those around them who need help or hope or are hurting and invite them to become a part of a church's life that may address their need. He does not go into as much information about how to do this but leaves it to us to deal with the particulars. He asks us if we believe we are alive? I.E.....do we reveal and experience Christ's presence in all we do or are about?

Standish wonders to what extent do we sense Christ's presence here? Do our worship, preaching, teaching and healing work here allow others to sense His presence? Where might we close the door to the presence of Christ?

Finally...and this can be for our pastor search committee or Session....what might we do with a new pastor to help us become more alive to Christ in the leadership, ministry and mission here?

Pastor Jim Black