



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30

Rev. Dr. Jim Black, Pastor

Church Office: (904) 771-1596

COME HOME TO THE "REAL" CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

What do I mean by THAT...the REAL community? Well, too many members these days seem to want to be in the IDEAL Christian community. The fact is, there isn't one! Even if I were to find it, I would not join! Why?" Because it would have me as a member then it would no longer be ideal!

No one congregation has members who have it "all together". If they appear to have it "all together" they would be judgmental and spiritually be so arrogant that they would soon be intolerable to other mere mortals around them. Dietrich Bonhoeffer (a martyred German pastor during WWII) once wrote in his Life Together book....pages 35-36 "...Those who love their dream of Christian Community more than the Christian community, itself become destroyers of that Christian community even through their personal intentions may be ever so honest, earnest, and sacrificial....Those who dream of this idealized community demand that it be fulfilled by God, by other and by themselves. They enter the community of Christians with their demands, set up their own law, and judge one another and even God accordingly. They stand adamant, a living reproach to all others in the Christian community, as if their visionary ideal binds the people together. Whatever does not go their way, they call a failure. When their idealized image is shattered, they see the community breaking to pieces. So they first become accusers of other Christians in the community then accusers of God, and finally the desperate accusers of themselves."

Most, however, are not that idealistic at all. They have lived so long that they know what the world and people are like. On the whole, we....few of us....are all THAT good in the first place. Most of us would feel more at home in a community of people who are like ourselves....frail, even less than human at times and needing Grace, Mercy and gentle understanding.

How blessed you are! This is exactly what St. Andrews is like! We are not a "weekly meeting of Saints trying to keep in touch with antiquity". We are a hospital for sinners. Each of us has some, dare I say it, pooh-pooh in our lives in one way or to some degree or another. It stinks. But, with God here at St. Andrews in and through us, He can spread it out and let it dry. Then, with His Love and Grace, He can and does grow "flowers" out of it! And, are we ever glad and grateful!

The point of this is that, to any of you who have not been attending for either of the above two reasons: that the members here are not "good enough" to deserve you joining with us or feel you will be judged in some way by us if you do come back, forget it. We love you and have missed you. If you need us to stand with you or by you in times of stress, we are still here for you.

Come and join us as we try to be a "provisional demonstration" of the love of God for you and others through our fellowship together. Hope, meaningful help, healing and a great community of Love is still here for you.

Pastor Jim



JULY

- 2 WSCO Food Collection, Good Samaritan Offering & Communion
- 4 Independence Day
- 18 JULIETS
- 19 Community Dinner

No Choir Practice



AUGUST

- 1 Lovables
- 7 WSCO Food Collection, Good Samaritan Offering & Communion
- 16 Community Dinner
- 22 JULIETS

No Choir Practice



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

6317 103rd Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32210

*Being the Face of Christ
In our Community.*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

JULY/AUGUST 2017

Secretaries

*Donna Kirksey
Judy Medearis
Judith Yeaton*

Active Elders

*Roger Barr – CCN and M&E
Summer Hackney – CE
Frankie Hawkins - CCN
Phyllis Herpy – BFS&P
Donna Kirksey - Fellowship
Mary McNair – BFS&P
Elaine Mechelke – B&G
Linda Miller – Fellowship
Janet St. Jacques - Worship
JR Wood – B&G
Judith Yeaton - Worship*

WHY DON'T FOLKS LIKE THE CHURCH ANYMORE?

These are some of the comments I hear: "Folks there are too quick to judge" or "I don't understand the service and the hymns can be boring" or "Who believes stories like that anymore? This is an age of science and I would feel bad if some of my college friends would see me come out of some churches."

Others say people there are too opinionated, too stuck on themselves, hypocritical, too prejudices, etc.

Frankly, it is a hard world now. Ours is a "post modern age". People used to look to science for the answer to almost all of the world's problems. Not anymore....since the nuclear age. Most folks realize that life can be scary! This is because we may have nuclear bombs but the same old kind of people are still running politics and have other values than the ones the Christian Church holds. Mix in materialism, sexism, ageism, militarism, secularism and even individualism (where I know what is best for me and I know more than others do and I am "free" and can pretty much say and do as I wish in America). We don't compete just with other churches. We compete with all this other "isms" and "gods" I just mentioned. In fact, churches need to start making better testimonies in better unison ways if they hope to offer this Gospel "Treasure" we have in this clay pot religion of ours.

What has the Church got to offer to all of this and how can it offer it?

- We can offer challenges. For example, we are asked by Christ not just to offer membership to people but discipleship! Do they know enough personally to be able to do it?
- We still have an almost unbelievable message: that a man has come back from the dead and dares to call Himself the Way, The Truth and The Life. This challenges some to have to wonder if they really do understand what the "Truth" is. What is meant by the "Way"? What does a better "Life" look and be like? We had better know what these terms mean, personally.
- What are the meaning and purpose and direction of life that the Church has to offer others who may or may not be open even to raise such questions until age or tragedy strikes? We had better be equipped to offer something!
- Where is the remnant of what is "human" in a world fast growing into technology, genetic manipulation and robotic mechanics where people are becoming obsolete or no longer needed in the labor force....except to get training to fix robots? It's a big, demanding world out there.
- Do we have anything to offer what is Triumphant to a world full of the tragic?
- Can we help balance the temptations to retreat to what is "local" for safety vs. the demand on all of us as to what has to be global with the challenges and threats to these?
- How can we offer the comfort and courage of God to a world that needs an "Alpha and an Omega" when it hardly recognizes that it is in need of one?
- We say we know our future and our identity and our calling because have been invited into Life. Are we willing to share our understanding? How? Where? And When?

Here the Church sits, a Bridge between the world as it is and the Hope we claim we have to offer. How will we live out our FAITH in our day and time so that when our life ends we will abide with and in "God's Ages to come"?

Pastor Jim

OUR PRAYER LIST



*Eula Rae Alban, Bill Allen,
Clara Jean Anderson,
Diane Baylor,
Martha & Betty Best,
Barbara Bradshaw,
Diane Breitsprecher,
Pat Bukovac, Barbara Canipe,
Elouise Collins, Kim Cope,
Kathy Dahl, Diane Davis,
Joyce Doty, Andy Eberhardt,
Lynda Edwards, Terry Fountain,
Skylar Gray, Theresa Gray,
Brian Hackney,
Paul & Barb Hansel,
Shirley Haynes,
Martha Ann Hockett,
Melissa Jackson, Carol Jepsen,
Dibby Johnson, Virginia Johnson,
Stacie K., Redick Loring,
Guy Madrid, Ray Massey,
Sue Massey, Lilly Moore,
Dale Kerup, Rod Morris,
Merri Kay Nelson, Julie Normal,
Bart Parramore,
Charleen Pavlakovich,
Tim Pierson,
Vicki Roberts, Lou Rysza,
Charles Severance, Vivian Sims,
Butch Stafflenio, Ralph Story,
Linda Strickland, Bill Strubbe, Jr.,
Phyllis Stubbs, Pat Sundt,
Clarence Sweat,
Betty Tanner, Sam Taylor,
Caroline VanKouwenberg,
Roselle Wade, Jan Westmoreland,
Don Wight, Russell Wright and
Judy A. Yeaton*

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 – Thursdays @ 11:00am in the Youth Room led by Rev. Jim Black.



Buildings & Grounds

The crew has been busy at usual with lots of yard work etc., etc. As well as dealing with vandalism - air conditioners and the like. New LED lighting was installed overhead in the Thrift Store. Thank God for the B&G Committee and its work!!!!

Thanks be to God, JR Wood

New Member

Please welcome Margot Madrid as the newest member of St. Andrews. Margot has lived in Jacksonville for the past 11 years, except for the months she was away as a traveling nurse. She was born in New York, NY and moved to Littleton, MA when she was 3 weeks old. She went to 1st – 12th grades in a small rural school in Littleton – yes small – only 30 in her graduating class. She graduated from the New Mexico School of Natural Therapeutics. She enjoys reading, swimming and learning. She loves to live and learn something new every day. She is loving life and thrilled with God coming into her life.

Thrift Shop Alert

The Thrift Shop will be closing for a few weeks this summer.

CLOSED: July 5, 19, and August 2

OPEN: July 12, 26 and after August 2, 2017

Game Day

Caroline VanKouwenberg has arranged to host 6 participants on the 4th Tuesday. If you would like to join the list (rotating) of people Caroline can invite on these Tuesdays, please call her at 562-1943. Caroline would love to enjoy your company again in a fun way!!!



July

5 Adam Morris	14 Carlos Villa
5 Linda Stickland	15 Sam Taylor
8 Kristen Brightwell	19 Bryce Parramore
9 Miriam Story	22 Alan Brightwell
10 Virginia Black	26 Kathy Vynanek
10 Nancy McCall	28 Aaron Creel
10 Suzi Starkey	28 Walter McNair
12 Dick Massey	28 Jeremy Morris

August

4 Ellen Meacham	15 Jeff Leverett
4 Jim Miller	17 Michele Banks
5 Cheryl Parramore	17 Brent Hume
6 Shirley Haynes	18 Joe Fowler
6 Helen Starks	26 Betty Tanner
7 Colin Jones	27 Ashley Licari
9 Jim Cunningham	29 Charleen
Pavlovich	
13 Connie Davis	30 Susan Jones
13 Mary McNair	30 Judy Medearis
14 Aaron Simms	31 Marie Jean

BFS&P

Church Finances

As of May 2017, our Year-To-Date totals show a positive of \$157.17. YTD Income (\$48,885.27) is slightly above YTD Expenses (\$48,728.10). Is your financial pledge for 2017 current?? Summer doldrums are here!!! Our monthly expenses do not decrease. Don't forget SAPC

The Condo

We sold the condo May 8, 2017!!! After paying the mortgage, HOA fees, etc. since July 2016, we received a total benefit of \$18,918.10. These funds were placed in our Savings Account. We are thankful Ben Gundlach thought of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in his will.

Have You Named St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Your Will?

A properly executed will permits you to accomplish goals even after your passing. One of those goals may be to create a legacy for St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. A bequest in your will might be a specified amount, a percentage of your estate, or a residual amount (after expenses and other bequests have been deducted).

Speak with your attorney about how best to include St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in your will given your special circumstances. Although your attorney can assist you with specific language here is some typical language that might help you get the conversation started with your attorney.

General Bequest:

A general bequest is among the most popular ways to make a planned gift. In a general bequest, you leave a specified dollar amount: "I give _____ (insert dollar amount) to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 6317 103rd Street, Jacksonville, FL 32210 as an unrestricted gift."

Percentage of Estate:

You can also designate some portion of percentage of your estate: "I give _____ % (insert specific percentage) of my estate to St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 6317 103rd Street, Jacksonville, FL 32210, after all debts, taxes, expenses, and all other requests have been paid as an unrestricted gift."

Residuary Request:

You can also designate what some describe as a residuary bequest: "I give the remainder of the property I own at death to the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 6317 103rd Street, Jacksonville, FL 32210, after all debts, taxes, expenses and all other bequests have been paid as an unrestricted gift."

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church has a proud heritage, and your gifts and bequests can assure its continuance into the future. The Session would determine if St. Andrews can accept any bequest. Thank you for keeping the promise of that future in your prayers.

Mary McNair



July

26 Bart & Cheryl Parramore

August

4 Walter & Jan Poley 17 Bill & Michele Banks
6 John & Kathy Vynanek 22 Anthony & Ashley Licari
7 Dick & Sue Massey 22 Ralph & Sue Ramsey
14 Bill & Helen Starks

Directory Updates

Address/Telephone Numbers

Joyce Doty
269 Meadowview Dr. #23
Peru, IN 45979

Steve Hulsey
Part-time Pastor
352-408-4591 (C)

Chuck & Rachel Kersten
9860 Sherbrook Lane
Jacksonville, FL 32221

New Member
Margot Madrid
5165 Dee Gee Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32210
904-386-3283 (C)
Birthday – January 11th

Worship Committee

The following is about the new Prayer Table.

On June 4th the Worship Committee implemented a new Prayer Table with the help of Marie Jean and 2 small lamps from the Thrift Store. Instead of candles which are expensive, hard to keep up, and smelly, the new table will use Prayer Cards to be deposited into a beautiful new Prayer Bowl. Just write the name of the person you wish the Lord to bless, place the card in the Prayer Bowl and, of course, you may say a prayer. The cards will be collected following the Sunday morning service and taken to the office for possible addition to the prayer list in the bulletin and brought to the attention of Pastor Jim. The cards are printed on business card stock and, except for the cost of the cards, this is an economical yet meaningful way to pray for that special person in your life.

The idea of the Prayer Bowl came from an advertisement in the Reader's Digest. "A few years ago, I was extremely sick. One day a woman named Angie, whom I never met before, told me that she had prayed for me daily for over a year. She went on to say that she kept a prayer bowl, and each day, she'd ask the Lord's blessing on the people who were in need at that time. Shortly after, Prayer Bowls were born." Signed by Karen, the founder of Prayer Bowls.

If you have any suggestions for the Worship Committee concerning the Prayer Table, please let Diane Parker, Lynda Edwards, Janet St. Jacques or me know.

Yours in the power of prayer,
Judith Yeaton

July 4th Concert

The Big Orange Choir held a Patriotic Concert on July 1st at Murray Hill Baptist Church.

Monthly Wednesday Night Dinners

Yes, you are reading the above headline correctly. The Monthly Community Dinners will be on the 3rd Wednesday not Thursday.

The switch was made in an effort to allow choir members to attend the Monthly Community Dinners.

*A Note from
the Clerk*



St. Andrews has numerous activities in July and August. Please bring your family and friends and participate.

~ Summer

Mission & Evangelism Committee

Typically during June and July we collect towels and pillow cases for the talented St. Andrews' seamstresses to sew into clothing protectors and sun dresses. However, the dresses are not needed until next April so we are postponing for several months the collection of towels and pillow cases. Stay tuned.

Pastor Jim

You may have heard that Pastor Jim's contract ends as of July 19th. However, he has agreed to stay on without a contract until St. Andrews hires another Pastor. Pastor Jim has been an outstanding Pastor!! We are very fortunate to have him in our pulpit for the past several years. We look forward to his inspiring Sunday messages, leadership and educational weekly Thursday Bible Studies.

Christian Education Committee

We want to thank Ashley for the time she has given to lead and guide our teens.

July 2nd is her last day at St. Andrews and she will be missed very much.

Please join us after church on July 2nd to celebrate the time Ashley has been here, and wish her the best on her next journey.

Upcoming evening Bible Study on the books of the Bible... Date to be announced.

Summer Hackney

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

*** AUGUST 24th ***

Articles can be e-mailed to
Terry Hallihan

99gwhfth@comcast.net

Or placed in the Newsletter box
in the office
