



The Fishing Line

*St Andrews Presbyterian Church
Services on Sunday Mornings at 10:30
Rev. Dr. Jim Black, Pastor
September/October 2017
Church Office: (904) 771-1596*

Back in 1976 I was in East and West Berlin. My six clergy companions and I had to go through "Checkpoint Charlie". It was not an easy or comfortable thing to do! But we were on our way through Poland and Russia and then on to present day Turkey to visit sites of the Seven Churches written of in the Book of the Revelation. We wanted to know how the church was doing in the Soviet Union for ourselves. We were given both passports and visas by the Russians so that we, a group of "teachers" from America, could learn some things for the work we were about back in the States.

Back in the divided Germany, we went to the Reichstag in Berlin...the seat of the government for Adolf Hitler. If you go there today you will still see thousands and thousands of patched over walls which were bullet holes and bomb shrapnel from allied bombs at the end of 1945. That famous building looks like it is filled with scabs, scabs that will, for all the world, never erase the memories of what the Nazis did to so many others. Yet, everywhere I looked, the five days I was there, I never saw a single swastika or a bronze eagle symbol on any staff or pole. I wonder why so many Germans don't insist on such moments and memorials. They lost thousands of fathers, brothers and sons in a cause they felt was just....making Germany great again after World War I. Citizens felt so vulnerable and in need of some degree of hope from someone somewhere. Their economy was a part of the world wide depression. They needed scapegoats to put the blame on: gypsies who were taking jobs, Jews were making money when so many others were not able to (or so it seemed to the average citizen), foreigners who were settling there. They had their share of the lazy, the crazy, the old; the poor who were in the way of having a great Germany again...pride again....economic security again. Such people were holding Germany down and back. The answer was simple. Get rid of such people and Germany, the "Master Race" could be what Providence was calling it to be. Hitler wanted to unify Europe and make it a great nation where all spoke German and had German currency. Well, you know the rest of the story. As I say, so many innocent and well-meaning Germans fought bravely and gloriously and died as heroes. Yet, when I was there, all signs of 1940 thru 1945 were gone....except for scars on a few buildings and churches and on the seat of government in present day Germany; the Reichstag. It must be hard for so many there. I wonder how they have dealt with it and with the sense of shame and anger the rest of the world has held against that generation?

Scripture (Psalms and Proverbs) reminds us never to put our deepest faith in "kings and princes". We know as Presbyterians (our Book of Order) that all councils, parliaments and Congresses err at times. Even the wisest or most well-intentioned among us have mixed motives and cannot see the future as can our Lord.

What is the answer to all of this you ask? Let's go back to what Bill says, "Bible: Basic Information Before Leaving Earth". When we keep our eyes on this Book, God's will gives us Hope and Humility. Unlike Germany at that time, we don't need to let the fear of being nobody rule us. After all, we have a name; "Sons and daughters of the most high God!" We don't have to fear poverty or insecurity or being cast aside when we truly love each other as Jesus loved and loves us. When will we start following His gracious orders? When we do, America will be great and we will have "Peace in our time".

Pastor Jim



SEPTEMBER

- 7, 14, 21 & 28 Weekly Bible Study
- 3 WSCO Food Collection & Congregational Meeting
- 4 Labor Day
- 18 Session
- 20 Community Dinner – Topic - Hospice



OCTOBER

- 1 WSCO Food Collection & World Communion Sunday
- 5, 12, 19 & 26 Weekly Bible Study
- 12 Stewardship Dinner
- 16 Session
- 28 Yard Sale



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

6317 103rd Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32210

*Being the face of Christ
In our Community.*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 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*

BFS&P Committee

Church Finances

Financial Report

June- Income:\$8,589.23 Expenses:\$8,954.99 = Negative (\$365.76)

July-Income:\$8,483.35 Expenses:\$9,454.82 = Negative (\$971.47)

YTD- Income:\$65,957.85 Expenses:\$67,137.91 = Negative (\$1,180.06)



Do you know what the committees of the Session actually do??

Join us for a Fellowship Dinner, Thursday, October 12. Our committees are looking at what they have accomplished and what they wish to accomplish next year. Each committee will give a 5 minute overview on how their committee supports the works/mission of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. This is the beginning of our stewardship awareness month. The leadership is placing their trust in God and believing in our members and friends to support the church's ministry. Let us all show our faithfulness with good stewardship through our time, talents and treasures.

Mary McNair

St. Andrews Church's Flea/ Thrift Shop – "Hope Chest"

October

We will be having a Thrift Store Yard Sale on October 28th from 8 am - 2 pm. We are not accepting any donations at this time. Please give us 2 weeks to get the Mirage Room better organized. Tables will be \$15 each and we will need volunteers to stand behind our tables. We may have hot dogs or sandwiches if we get enough volunteers.

Thank you, Donna Kirksey

OUR PRAYER LIST



*Eula Rae Alban, Bill Allen,
Bryce Bagley, Diane Baylor,
Marsha Best, Barbara Bradshaw,
Diane Breitsprecher, Betty Bryd,
Pat Bukovac, Barbara Canipe,
Elouise Collins, Kim Cope,
David Carmack, Kathy Dahl,
Diane Davis, Joyce Doty,
Andy Eberhardt, Lynda Edwards,
Terry Fountain,
David Henry's brother,
Carol Jepsen, Dibby Johnson,
Melissa Johnson, Dale Kerup,
Ellen Lee, Redick Loring,
Guy Madrid,
Mike, Robin & Craig Marshall,
Ray Massey, Sue Massey,
Johnny McNally, Phillip Nader,
Merri Kay Nelson,
Julie Normal, Bart Parramore,
Charleen Pavlakovich,
Vickie Roberts, Lou Rysza,
Larry Scronce, Charles Severance,
Vivian Sims, Flo Six,
Butch Stafflenio, Ralph Story,
Linda Strickland, Bill Strubbe, Jr.,
Phyllis Stubbs, Pat Sundt,
Clarence Sweat, Betty Tanner,
Robert Tarkinson, Sam Taylor,
Caroline VanKouwenberg,
Roselle Wade, Don Wight,
Russell Wright &
Bert Yeaton*

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

Adult Bible Study 11:00 Thursdays is very active. Please join us.



VISITS TO OUR SHUT-INS



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



Buildings & Grounds

Building & Grounds has kept busy replaced lights in Thrift Store with LED lights (major project). Fixed several problems on lawn mower, fire inspection has been done, a very special member donated 2 rugs to the church.

Fall clean-up will be Saturday, November 18th so please put this on your calendar to come and help us spiff up the church and church grounds.

There's a discussion going on to have the sanctuary, narthex, and bathrooms painted. Also replacement of 2 exterior doors, thanks to another generous church member.

Herman and Flo have decided after many years they can no longer maintain the beautiful flower garden. Looking for someone to take over this very special project.

B & G meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 11:30 at the church in the Yellow Classroom if anyone would like to join us.

God Bless Everyone!

J R Wood & Elaine Mechelke



September

5 Kathleen Creel	16 Kristie Christiansen
7 Dadrian Perkins	16 Judith Yeaton
11 Loriane Nelson	18 Jody Wood
13 Hunter Jones	22 Bonnie McNally
14 JR Wood	26 Summer Hackney
16 Diane Baylor	

October

1 Justyce Leverett	12 Sue Massey
1 Phyllis Stubbs	17 Teresa Sweat
2 JP McCall	20 Joyce Miller
5 Tessa Roberts	22 John Vynanek
6 Frank Edwards	29 Ezekiel Grusenmeyer
8 Michael Banks	31 Wesley Perkins



September

10 Walter & Mary McNair
 19 Jeff & Jennie Leverett
 25 Jim & Linda Miller.

October

4 John & Suzi Starkey
 6 John & Pat Eubanks
 8 Michael & Velvet Whitaker
 19 Brian & Summer Hackney
 29 Jimmy & Ellen Meacham

Directory Updates

New Address & Telephone Number:

New Member:

Bonnie McNally
 5441 Moret Dr. E.
 Jacksonville, FL 32244
 327-2343 (Cell)
 Birthday: 9/22

Bonnie moved to Jacksonville 7 months ago from Tampa to be closer to one of her daughters. She has 5 children, 9 grand children and 5 great-grand children – soon to be 7 as of November. She likes boating and deep sea fishing. Bonnie is an excellent baker – sweet breads such as nut breads and poppy seed cakes. She makes great pecan tarts at Christmas. Bonnie enjoys reading, working puzzles, watching National Geographic and shopping for antiques. She does not like yard work. One of her sons is a missionary in Africa, another recently moved from MO to Bradenton where he is an Associate Pastor and Music Director, and another lives with her. One daughter lives in Miami and is a nurse practitioner and the one who lives in Jacksonville works in HR at Baptist. Please welcome Bonnie to St. Andrews even though she is a Tampa Bay Bucs fan.

November/December

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

***** OCTOBER 23rd *****

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

99gwhfth@comcast.net

*Or placed in the Newsletter box in the
 office*

THIRD WEDNESDAY NIGHT
COMMUNITY DINNERS &
PROGRAMS



The topic of the August Dinner, “Reverse Mortgages” was interesting. The next Dinner is scheduled for September 20th and the meal will be lasagna. The speaker will discuss Hospice. There will be no Community Dinner in October. Come share a delicious meal and learn more something at the same time.

Fellowship Committee

September

We will have a meeting on the 17th of September after Worship. We will have a community dinner on Wednesday the 20th, co-sponsored by Fellowship and the M & E committees, speaker to be announced. Please bring family members, friends and neighbors. We will have lasagna; we need someone to cook 3 pans of lasagna. Please contact one of our committee members as to whether or not you would like us to purchase the lasagna and leave it at the church. Bring deserts too if you would like.

October

There will be a stewardship dinner on October 12th. The community dinner will be canceled for that month. We will discuss the menu at the Fellowship Committee Meeting in September. At this time, no Committee meeting is planned for October.

In The Lord’s Name,

Donna Kirksey

EVANGELISM: HOW TO RELATE WITH ATHEISTS

Author and speaker Larry Alex Taunton surveyed college students who considered themselves as “Atheists”. He found that their desire to embrace unbelief was based far more on emotions than on cool, calculated reasoning or science. In fact, their stories were similar to mine when my emotional side took to being a believer. We both had a “transformative” moment. Mine seemed to expand my world and their seemed to contract theirs. Mine caused me to feel very small, humble but I, I am sad to admit, made me a bit obnoxious as I marched forward with a kind of arrogant “something special about myself” appearance to others. Their discovery also caused them feel somewhat superior to others but it still gave them a sense of their specialness and some degree of superiority, too. We both seem to be eager about our new found positions...even preoccupied with our new-found information. Each of us had to come to some kind of terms with our own particular form of spiritual ostentation-est that others could either be glad to see in us or suspicious of us with because of our newly discovered understanding of the way things “really are” or “really out to be”.

As a Christian who is supposed to be in the “reaching out” business for Christ, I wondered just how do I (or anyone) reach out (dare I say ‘try and evangelize’?) a self-affirming Atheist? Well, Taunton suggested an approach that I think is pretty good. You have to be pretty wise to do it well because many Atheists do not take to people of faith in God, etc. They may even have a visceral hatred of us-type folks. He suggests listening. The next question is, “what kind of listening?” He suggests it be a kind of deep listening that gets beneath the surface of things; a kind that dislodges a human story and teases it into coming out....that gets beneath the anger to where the pain resides. I realize that this takes a lot of patience, getting out of your own self with your own agendas, etc. You might begin with an open-ended question like, “What led you to become an Atheist?” Now, you have to do this with absolute curiosity and true concern on your part. If you don’t, you are lost right out of the gate. You are NOT out to correct or convince them to become otherwise! Call this your “ministry of Presence”just don’t call it this in their presence!

You see, part of our calling is to hear and bear the pain or hurt or anger of other human beings who, like us, are doing the best they can to play the cards life has dealt them to try and make sense of the world that, at times, does not make much sense at all. If you listen deeply and with true care, “Something” of what we Christians call the work of the Holy Spirit begins to work His own way in their lives....just because you are truly interested, care and want to understand. Sure, you may find yourself even feeling what they feel and think about the church and Christians, yourself! God may come to them incognito, whether to them or to us.

Taunton’s interviews brought a few surprises. One such was that they came to being an Atheist because they went to church! Not just going to church but how the churches mission and message were vague. It avoided the big questions of life and only offered glib, almost “canned”, superficial comments rather than allow them to feel that it really took human life with all of its daily needs and hopes for betterment seriously. It avoided facing up to the other gods around the Church that beacons for real and not simplistic answers. They wanted to feel the Church to be genuine, real, open, honest, etc. Let us pray that St. Andrews will be that kind of Church.....

Pastor Jim

M & E Committee

Our Food Pantry is in need of crackers and easy to open canned food. Those seeking food during the past few weeks have depleted our supply which now needs replenishing.

Summer Hackney

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee will meet after Worship on September 10th and October 8th (the second Sunday of the month) and we would LOVE to welcome new members. Lydia Windham will be helping us with Communion preparation as Suzi Starkey has work commitments on Sundays starting in October.

Judith Yeaton

*A Note from
the Clerk*



St. Andrews has numerous activities in September and October. Please bring your family and friends and participate.

~ Summer

CHRISTMAS
BAZAAR



We are not having a 2017 Christmas Bazaar; instead we are having a Yard Sale and a Bake Sale on Saturday, October 28th. Please advise Michele Banks of the bake sale goodies-cookies, brownies, etc. you will be donating. We really need help from all of you. People are needed to tend tables. We also are selling spaces at \$15.00 each to vendors and anyone who wants to sell their own items. We are limited on tables, so if you rent a space you should bring your own table(s) (BYOT).

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Donna or Judith.

THANK YOU in advance for your support. We will work in the name of the Lord.

Donna Kirksey & Judith Yeaton