

October 2016

THE VOICE

ST. ANDREW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



One of my stand-out experiences in the life of St. Andrew Church was participating in "The Living Last Supper." The leadership of Mary Lee and Angela moved the actors and singers into a deeper consideration of Christ's life and what it means to be Christian. People I meet in the community remember their experience of this touching performance.

"They call me Andrew, the Bringer, since I am always bringing people to Jesus," states the apostle Andrew, played by Noel. I can't shake the importance of this message from our church's namesake.

Because of Andrew, people encountered Jesus. He gave them the opportunity for a relationship. Andrew, "The Bringer," could converse in a variety of languages to people of diverse cultures, ages, and incomes, building trust and impacting acquaintances. That spirit of listening and connecting with God and one another is sorely needed today.

I've watched the culture shift in America related to membership in organizations and relationships. Olu Brown says, "...in our present-day culture, 'a sense of belonging' trumps or surpasses 'a habit of joining.'" Relationships first, membership later. I believe that forming significant relationships should be the work of our membership, our "Bringers" of people to Jesus.

I'll be performing a wedding this week for a family that calls me "their pastor." They've not joined any church, as members, but they have a deep regard for how I minister in Jesus' name. We've had enough of a relationship for them to consider me their pastor. We need to realize that commitment only comes after nurturing and cultivating the sense of belonging.

What's the difference between joining our church and participating in our church? The people of Impact Church, Atlanta's fastest-growing United Methodist Church, call themselves "impactors" whose job it is to bring the community into significant relationships that impact the world around them.

What if we stopped calling ourselves "church members" and thought of ourselves as "St. Andrew Bringers" instead? Bringing people to Jesus is as easy as it was for the apostle Andrew. Telling your story, how good Jesus has been to you, is all there is to it.

Your relationships have the power to transform.

Deep Blessings,
Pastor Biel



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1	PRHeSS Fundraising Dinner	5:00—8:00 p.m.
October 2	Scouts Popcorn Sales	after Worship
October 14	Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser	4:30—7:00 p.m.
November 5	CPR Training at St. Andrew	10:00 a.m.
November 14	Munch & Help (Lap Robes for Veterans)	6:30 p.m.
December 8	Christmas Program & Breakfast <i>Featuring James Hart Panther Choir</i>	9:15 a.m.





CPR Training at St. Andrew



A class in cardiopulmonary resuscitation will be offered at St. Andrew on Saturday, November 5, at 10:00 a.m. The cost is \$25.00 per person. At the end of the class you will get a certification card from the American Heart Association that will be valid for two years.

This valuable training is open to everyone, so let your friends and neighbors know about it, too. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. If we have more than 12 attendees, a second (and third?) class will be formed. The deadline for signing up is October 22.

Munch and Help

Hold the date: on Monday, November 14, at 6:30 pm., we will hold a Munch and Help to make lap blankets for veterans living at the Veterans' Home in Manteno. This year we will be making four instead of the usual three. Soup, including a vegan one, will be served.

Christmas Breakfast and Program

Mark your calendar now—the entire congregation is invited!

On Thursday morning, December 8, The United Methodist Women are sponsoring a Christmas breakfast and program--a 9:15 breakfast followed by a 10:00 program in the sanctuary to which the public is invited. The 85-member Panther Choir from James Hart Middle School will present their not-to-be-missed 40-minute holiday repertoire. A Christmas story will follow, then fellowship time in the narthex with hot spiced cider—A great chance to meet and greet any visitors and welcome them to our church.



From the Finance Committee

As we begin planning St. Andrew's 2017 budget, we are still dealing with a shortfall in the 2016 budget. In order to fully fund the budget, we should realize an average weekly income of \$4,300. Currently that amount is just over \$2,800. As of the beginning of September, we have raised just over \$108,000 toward our 2016 budget of \$224,289. At this point to fully meet the budgeted figure, our income should be at the \$155,277 mark.

The good news/bad news is that most committees are staying well under the amounts requested at the beginning of 2016. That's good in that we do not have enough cash in our bank account to fully fund the amounts originally requested. The bad news is the committee chairs, particularly the Education Committee, know funds are limited and may feel constrained in their activities calling for funding.

As Church Financial Secretary Ric has often pointed out, churchgoers have been faithful to their pledges. We have benefited from generous contributions over and above a pledged amount by some members. Some church officers and members have personally paid for items or services without expecting compensation. But we cannot depend on these selfless and most welcome gifts to help meet our budget.

Jessie, church treasurer, faces challenges daily in paying our ever-increasing expenses, but to date is managing to do so. Often when things appear bleak, God, through our members, has come to the rescue.

Plans are underway for our spaghetti dinner fundraiser in a few weeks. We hope our members and friends will support it.

An announcement will be made on October 16 about a "13th Month" giving program that has been successful in the past, and we hope it will strengthen our Current Expense Fund now. The 2017 pledge drive will begin that week.

It is our hope that you will give these efforts thoughtful and prayerful consideration and do your best to support them. It is important to maintain St. Andrew UMC as a viable and welcoming part of the community.



Wanted: Communications Committee Members

The Church Council has been prioritizing action items which were identified last spring in our visioning gatherings. Among the top items is to find individuals who are interested and willing to add to the membership of the Communications Committee. Already we have members who maintain our website and Facebook page. But we would like to reach out to the community through other channels and media on a more regular basis. If you would be willing to be a part of this essential effort that can let our neighbors know all of the wonderful things happening at St. Andrew, this committee is for you! Email your interest to Mary Lee at maryleeruss@aol.com.

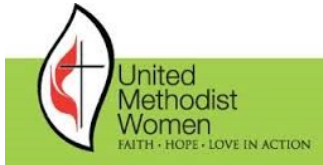
From the Youth Group

Our regular meetings start promptly at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday evenings (no First Sundays). We look forward to a year of fun, faith, and growth together!

If you know anyone in grades 6-12 who would like to join us, tell Pastor Biel.

United Methodist Women in October

Our Deb-Est Circle will meet at the church on October 18 at 1:30 p.m. Karlene will be our hostess. We will assemble bean soup jars for sale at church. Devotions by Jenny.



Golden Opportunity Books

Golden Opportunity Books are now available for sale. The price remains at \$25. Take a look at the books on the table by the refreshments. Even if you never use a coupon for a restaurant, you can find plenty of coupons to more than cover the cost of the book. Each book that you buy earns the United Methodist Women \$7.00 to support missions for women and children.



Recycling

For those of us who have Homewood Disposal as our provider, here's a recycling update. Most paper is accepted. Plastics numbered 1 to 7 are mostly accepted except for 6 but should be rinsed. Medicine bottles are not accepted because of their small size. Small bottle lids are okay as long as they are on the container. No plastic bags (note that you can recycle bags at Jewel, Target, Meijer). Shredded paper is not accepted either. (Small objects are a problem because of the conveyor belts.) No used paper plates or cups or greasy pizza boxes. Milk, juice, broth, soup, etc., containers are accepted but need to be gently rinsed.

Go to www.mydisposal.com for further information on the kinds of paper accepted as well as bottles, cans, etc. Also, you can find a list on the site for locations where you can recycle things that Homewood Disposal does not accept. For example, did you know that Package Express and We Ship for You, both in Homewood, take styrofoam Packaging? A list from the website is on the kiosk in the narthex.

Clarification about fundraisers at St Andrew

United Methodist Women sponsors only one fundraiser, the salad luncheon and style show in April, with all profits beyond their pledge to missions for women and children going to St. Andrew as a thank you for help from the congregation. (UMW also sells the Golden Entertainment Books and the popular bean soup mixture.) All other fundraisers, such as the spaghetti dinner and cookie walk, are approved by the Church Council; proceeds go directly to St. Andrew. Often chairs of these events are UMW leaders and members because of their willingness to help with all church activities.

Respond Now Food Collection

As always, any non-perishable food items are accepted and appreciated at *Respond Now*. Possibilities: potato products in a box (scaloped, instant mashed, etc.), spaghetti sauce (can or jar), canned fruit (especially pears and peaches), canned tuna, canned chicken. The food wagon collection is the first Sunday of the month, but you can place your donations in the shopping cart by the front door at any time.



PADS Ministry—Shelter for Women and Children

We have enough volunteers to open on Oct. 5, but we cannot continue unless we get two people to work the 3 a.m. shift: we need one volunteer for that shift for the second Wednesday of October and of November, and another volunteer for that shift for the third Wednesday of October and of November.

We have a lot of retired people in the congregation. Can someone get up in the night so that we can offer our shelter site for those with no place else to sleep? Lucy works that shift each Wednesday, but she is not supposed to be the only volunteer. Two volunteers are required. We also need someone for the 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. shift on the second Wednesday. Call Lucy at 799-7953 if you are willing to volunteer.

Update: For the time being, it looks as though we have enough volunteers through the month of November. However, we could still use substitutes who would be available to step in just in case any plans go awry.



Outdoor Worship and Pet Blessing

On September 18, St. Andrew's parking lot was the site of a special worship service which included a pet blessing afterwards. The weather was beautiful and so was the behavior of *all* attendees!



Caring Crafters



Crocheters and knitters are welcome, and so are other crafters. We'd love to have you come and share your projects and ideas with the group. We are making prayer shawls as well as other hand-crafted items. Caring Crafters meets in the narthex on Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Come, join us!

Chair Yoga Classes



Yoga is a great way to reduce stress, increase endurance, and feel better overall. Even better, participating in yoga can help you burn calories, increase core strength, and improve posture and balance.

A gentle form of yoga in which students do not get onto the floor is offered in Fellowship Hall on Monday and Wednesday afternoons at 2:30. The class is taught by Jeffrey Lippert, certified instructor. It is free for Silver Sneakers members and available at a nominal fee to others. So come, join the fun!

TOPS



TOPS invites you to check out the local chapter that meets here in the Wesley Room every Thursday morning between 9:30 and 11:00. Take Off Pounds Sensibly!

October 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 10:00 am-Choir 10:30 am-Worship Holy Communion Food Wagon 5:00 pm-Youth Group	3 1:00 pm- Nominations NO Chair Yoga 7:00 pm-SPRC	4 10:00 am- Waterford Study 1:30 pm-Worship 3:30 pm- <i>Half</i> <i>Truths</i> study, St. Andrew	5 9:00 am-Men's Coffee 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 2:30 pm-Chair Yoga, FH	6 9:30 am-TOPS 10:00 am- Brookdale Study 6:00 pm-Cub Scouts 6:30 pm-Bell Choir 7:30 pm-Choir	7 6:00 pm- <i>Half</i> <i>Truths</i> study, home of Toni Arnold	8 / 1 PRHeSS Banquet
9 10:00 am-Choir 10:30 am-Worship Children's Sunday School 5:00 pm-Youth Group	10 2:30 pm-Chair Yoga, FH 7:30 pm-Boy Scouts, FH 7:30 pm-Int'l Folk Dance. LF	11 3:00 pm- Nominations 3:30 pm- <i>Half</i> <i>Truths</i> study, St. Andrew	12 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 2:30 pm-Chair Yoga, FH	13 9:30 am-TOPS 10:00 am- Brookdale Study 2:00 pm-Finance 6:00 pm-Cub Scouts 6:30 pm-Bell Choir 7:30 pm-Choir	14 4:30-7:00 pm- SPAGHETTI DINNER	15 10:00 am-Women's Book Club (Wesley Room)
16 10:00 am-Choir 10:30 am-Worship Loose Change Children's Sunday School 5:00 pm-Youth Group	17 2:30 pm-Chair Yoga, FH 7:30 pm-Boy Scouts, FH 7:30 pm-Int'l Folk Dance. LF	18 7:00 pm-Church Council	19 9:00 am-Men's Coffee 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 2:30 pm-Chair Yoga, FH	20 9:30 am-TOPS 6:30 pm-Bell Choir 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir	21	22
23 10:00 am-Choir 10:30 am-Worship Children's Sunday School 5:00 pm-Youth Group	24 2:30 pm-Chair Yoga, FH 7:30 pm-Boy Scouts, FH 7:30 pm-Int'l Folk Dance. LF	25	26 1:30 pm-Caring Crafters 2:30 pm-Chair Yoga, FH	27 9:30 am-TOPS 6:30 pm-Bell Choir 7:30 pm-Chancel Choir	28	29
30 10:00 am-Choir 10:30 am-Worship Children's Sunday School 5:00 pm-Youth Group	31 2:30 pm-Chair Yoga, FH 7:30 pm-Boy Scouts, FH 7:30 pm-Int'l Folk Dance. LF	FH = Fellowship Hall LF = Lower Fellowship SC = South Classroom				



the Voice

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St. Andrew United

Methodist Church

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Mission Statement

St. Andrew seeks to be
a community of faith
that is

Christ-centered
compassionate
and inclusive,
sharing gifts and resources
while spreading the gospel
and serving others
locally and globally

Worship with us at 10:30 am

Child care provided

Welcoming Statement

***Jesus said, “This is My commandment,
that you love one another, just as I
have loved you.” John 15:12***

St Andrew UMC prayerfully strives to be a faith community of open hearts, open minds and open doors. We believe all people are of sacred worth and dignity as part of God’s creation and as demonstrated by the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. As God’s love extends to all, we therefore welcome everyone into participation and membership regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, family structure, socio-economic status, marital status, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, faith history, or life experience. We acknowledge that no two of us are alike, except in God’s love for us. We believe that our differences make us a stronger community of faith as we worship together and as we grow in our relationship with God and one another.

***Jesus said, “Whoever welcomes you
welcomes me, and whoever welcomes
me welcomes the one who sent me.”***

—Matthew 10:40

