

THE FISHERMAN



News from St. Andrew By-The-Sea United Methodist Church

December 2011



NOTES FROM TIM

Tim Reynolds, Director of Music



December 11 is the third Sunday of Advent and we have lots of special things going on musically. At the 9:00 service the *St. Andrew Men's Ensemble*, directed by Debby Graves will sing a beautiful setting of the German carol *The First Nowell*. At the 11:15 service the Chancel Choir will bring a swinging setting of the West Indian Carol *The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy* with four hand piano accompaniment. And both services will be treated to a handbell duet by Gloria LaCoe and Christie Leninger at the offertory. Then between services you'll certainly want to attend the holiday coffee in the Celebration Center followed by the children's Christmas Pageant at 10:30.

December 18 is the final Sunday of Advent and the Sunday we especially note Mary's role in the Christmas story. The Chancel choir and strings will have musical offerings at both worship services including a sprightly *Sing to the Child* by Alabama church composer K. Lee Scott and a rocking anthem *Glorious Light* by Irish contemporary Christian song writer Keith Getty.

All-Church Caroling - Mark your calendars for our All-Church Caroling event on Wednesday evening December 21. This year we are going to carol at The Seabrook from 6:00-6:45pm. We'll meet at the church at 5:45 and walk over to The Seabrook together. Family Ministries and the Wednesday night youth group will be joining members of the Chancel Choir as we share some St. Andrew By-The-Sea Christmas cheer with our neighbors.

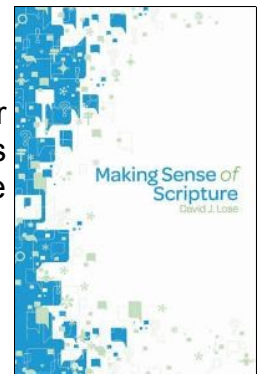
See you Sunday, *Tim*

Making Sense of Scripture

Participants of this 7-week study will be involved in conversation about ways we can encounter scripture and realize the benefits of what the Bible seeks to do in our lives as believers. This study is based on the book of the same title by Rev. David J. Lose.

From the book's introduction:

Making Sense of Scripture is a dialogue that encourages readers to bring their questions or doubts to the table when reading Scripture. During this conversation, there are different opportunities for the reader to interact with the Bible, ultimately leaving room for personal transformation of the heart and mind.



Some of the questions that will be considered are:

- What is the Bible?
- Is the Bible true?
- How is the Bible the word of God?
- Where did the Bible come from?
- How can I read the Bible with greater understanding?
- Is there a "center" to scripture?
- What kind of authority does the Bible hold?

Leader: Rev. Neil Yongue
Dates: January 10 to February 21 (Tuesdays)
Time: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. - following Fellowship Dinner
Location: Celebration Center
Cost: \$12/study book

A limited number of books have been pre-ordered. To reserve your copy and sign-up for this study, call or email the church office.



Sympathy: To Elizabeth Baumler on death of her mother on Sunday, Nov. 27; To the family of Susanne McMichael upon her death on Nov 15 and to Larry Priddy upon the death of his sister Carolyn who passed away Dec. 3 in Cranford, NJ.

Hospital: Wayne Carbiener

Convalescing: Bill Hulme, Bill Sims, Shirley Stegeman, Ann Hoff, Larry Priddy, Betty Krikorian

NEWS & Notes

There are many wonderful people in the world and some of them sit right beside you at St. Andrew on Sunday morning. Two members of St. Andrew have just made a wonderful anonymous contribution to the Endowment Fund of \$30,000. On behalf of all the members of the Endowment Fund and our St. Andrew Church family, we would like to thank this couple for their extremely generous contribution. The Endowment Committee will make every effort to make grants from the earnings on this gift to worthwhile Christian projects.

Jim Sims, Endowment Chairman

Teddy Bear Sunday



The Missions Committee wishes to thank all those who brought a Teddy Bear on "Teddy Bear Sunday." What a wonderful sight and response. We collected over 235 bears and they will go to agencies such as Deep Well, Bluffton Self Help, the Children's Center, Hope Haven and other area agencies, as well as some

for the guests at our Soup Kitchen.

Bridge Group Plans

The Bridge Group will meet for lunch on Dec. 15 at noon at the Main Street Cafe. They will NOT meet Dec. 22 or 29, but will resume bidding on January 5 in the Celebration Center - room TBA. New players, including snowbirds, are gladly welcome! Questions? Call Kathy at 686-3556.

Charge Conference Called

A Charge Conference has been called for December 18 at 3pm to approve Daniel R. Griswold as a candidate for ordination in the United Methodist Church.



SUNDAY, December 11

9:00 Worship
10:00 Women's Ensemble Rehearsal
10:00 Coffee and Fellowship
10:05 Men's Ensemble Rehearsal
10:30 Children's Christmas Pageant
11:15 Worship

MONDAY, December 12

4:00 Upward Practice - Gym
5:00 Couples Small Group - C111
5:30 Upward Cheerleading
6:30 Finance - C111
8:00 Men's Basketball - Gym

TUESDAY, December 13

8:00 Bluffton Men's Fellowship at Stooges
10:00 Women's Fellowship Friends
12:15 UMM Lunch & Study - C111
7:00 AA - B105
7:00 Living the Questions

WEDNESDAY, December 14

10:00 Piece Makers
12:15 Healing & Wholeness - Chapel
4:00 Upward Practice
6:00 Middle School Youth @ HH Middle
7:00 Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, December 15

8:00 Men's Devotional group - C111
1:00 Bridge - Main Street Cafe
1:30 Dementia Caregiver Support Grp
4:30 Upward Practice

FRIDAY, December 16

12:00 By-The-Sea Soup Kitchen
4:15 Upward Practice
4:30 Upward Cheerleading

SUNDAY, December 18

9:00 Worship
10:00 Women's Ensemble Rehearsal
10:00 Coffee and Fellowship
10:00 BP Checks
10:05 Men's Ensemble Rehearsal
11:15 Worship
3:00 Charge Conference

MONDAY, December 19

10:00 Upward Clinic
12:00 Cooking Demo & Dining
4:00 Sandbox Board Meeting - B105
4:00 Upward Practice
5:00 Couples Small Group - C111
5:30 Upward Cheerleading
8:00 Men's Basketball

Fall Festival a Huge Success!



We would like to thank our church community for supporting this year's 33rd Fall Festival. God blessed us with wonderful weather, lots of merchandise at great prices, and a huge crowd. As a result, we generated sales that will contribute more than \$25,000 to our mission programs, much of which will stay within the local community.

Because of so many and such generous donations from you, we surpassed our monetary goal and were even able to "stock" many items that did not sell after the Festival for the Bargain Box and the Litter Box.

Thank you to all our church members for taking time out of their busy lives to volunteer their time, pick up donations, solicit donations, cook and serve wonderful food and goodies, and to set up and clean up – a major task.

A special thank you from us goes to the committee chairs and their volunteers for their hard work, dedication, and outstanding teamwork, and to the church staff for their support and help and to Bret, our custodian, who did a Herculean job despite many other responsibilities.

We leave this special event with one thought in mind – service is the key to fill your heart with gratitude, love and selflessness. Long may it live in the Fall Festival!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Jane and Kerry Alexander, 2011 Fall Festival Co-chairs

Self Help Opening

Rev. Jim Morrison (left) and Jim Sims, chairman of the St. Andrew By-The-Sea Endowment Fund attended the Nov. 10 grand opening and ribbon cutting for the new Bluffton Self Help facility at Sheridan Park. The Endowment Fund provided \$8000 in funding for the effort and in turn, Bluffton Self Help named an interview room in the St. Andrew Endowment Fund's honor.



Rev. Jim Morrison also provided the prayer for the event:

"Our community is far better because of visionaries such as Ms. Ida Martin. Today, as we consecrate this building, we pray for continued blessings. In truth, this building is sacred space for it provides a means to serve members of the Bluffton Community. Bless the staff, the leaders, volunteers and endow them with the ability to serve and a sense of accomplishment through their work. For the many who contribute goods and finances, we are thankful. Let us be reminded that we are all a part of providing essential needs. We pray for growing numbers of donors and supporters. Bless those who are assisted by the mission of Bluffton Self Help. May they know that we are for one another and together we enrich each other. Let your blessings continue to grow and prosper this mission. Amen."

St. Andrew is Debt Free!



Can you imagine St. Andrew By-The-Sea without having our Celebration Center? It is where children play Upward, Stephen Ministers meet, and pageants are produced. It's where we enjoy dinners and soup kitchen lunches. It hosts the Fall Festival, Heritage uniform distributions, and quilt shows. It is a center for learning and acts as conference rooms for meetings.

Thanks to the stewardship of our congregation, St. Andrew was able to pay off our mortgage loan on our property for the construction of the Celebration Center recently. We are grateful to all those who pledged to the building campaign in 2001, who continued to give after the building was completed in 2003, and those who donated right up until our payoff. The ability to continue to put special monies against the balance means that we will have save thousands and thousands of dollars in interest.

Bless each of you who contributed to the building fund as well as those who regularly give to the operating budget which not only made the regular loan payments, but is the source for the utilities, maintenance and programming for the Celebration Center. Watch for a mortgage burning gathering in January.

Surf Middle School Youth

The Middle School Youth Christmas Party, scheduled for December 14th, has been **rescheduled to Wednesday December 21st from 6 pm – 8 pm**. We will have caroling, games, Christmas food, and we will do a gift exchange (bring a gift \$5 and under). Bring your friends for a great time together.

On Wednesday, December 14th, we invite all Middle School students and their families to join us at the Hilton Head Public Middle School for their Christmas Concert from 6 – 8 pm. Let Dan know you are coming so we know who to expect. Youth will not take place at the church.



Confirmation is Coming! – There will be a parent informational lunch after the second service at **12:30 pm on Sunday January 8th** in the Youth Gathering Room. At this lunch, we will discuss the overall structure and plan for Confirmation and get to know each other as we go on this journey together. This meeting is for parents only. Confirmation will officially begin the following Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour.

High School Youth

Salkehatchie Summer Missions – Very shortly we will be doing the applications for this summer's Salkehatchie trip. **The date to reserve this year is July 7th – 14th**. This is an exciting opportunity to spend a week with youth from around South Carolina, and to have a huge impact on the community of Dillon, SC. We work hard, have great times of laughter and experience the joy of lending a helping hand to people in need.

Re-Imagining High School Youth Group – Over the last year the High School Ministry at St. Andrew By-The-Sea has taken on different forms. We are excited to be moving in a new direction with the High School Ministry. This will likely involve a new name, a new look and some new ways to engage our faith while creating opportunities to have fun with all your friends. We want to invite all High School youth in our congregation to be involved in this process. More information will be coming, but youth and their parents who would like to be involved and have a stake in this project, please *call, text, Facebook or email Dan* (danielghhiunc@gmail.com). We want everyone to give their thoughts, prayers and talents to the successful launch that has the potential to transform our own lives and a bigger impact as we reach out to those around us.

Cooking Demonstration and Dining with Chef Brooks

Looking for something new to serve over the holidays? Do you want to learn some new cooking techniques? Would you like an hour or so of fun combined with a great meal??

Chef Brooks Rinehart is offering two special interactive cooking demos just before the holidays for St. Andrew members and friends. He'll show you just how to prepare a full meal including an interesting salad, a chicken dish that is sure to please all your guests, a wonderful side, and a dessert that is super-easy but with a secret ingredient that makes it amazing! You'll get to enjoy the meal....and leave with all the recipes. **Choose from one of two sessions in the Celebration Center:**

Monday, Dec. 19 at 12 noon

Tuesday, Dec. 20 at 5:15pm

RSVP by Friday, Dec. 16 at noon. (Call the church office at 785-4711 or email: chefbrookshhi@yahoo.com with your name, the number attending and contact phone number)

The cost is \$15 per person, and should be payable at the demo to Chef Brooks Rinehart (Due to food costs, all spaces reserved for must be paid for if not cancelled by the 16h.)

A minimum of 5 is needed to conduct each class, so bring your spouse, a friend or visiting relatives for this opportunity!



Welcome to the World, Finn Jennings



Our sexton Bret Jennings and his wife, Kinga, welcomed their second son when he was born on Monday, Nov. 28. Baby Finn Jennings joined his brother Brody in the Jennings family. As is our tradition when welcoming new babies into the families of staff, we will collect your gifts of diapers, wipes or grocery store or other box store gift cards to assist with the purchase of these items and formula. Finn's maternal grandparents live in Romania, while his paternal grandparents live in Bluffton. There is a basket in the reception area of the Admin building for large items and cards may be placed in the offering plate.

Are you receiving our weekly email updates & email *Fisherman*?

If you are reading a paper copy of *The Fisherman*, and have not been receiving our email blast, we encourage you to email us to sign up to get the weekly updates (with information between *Fisherman* editions) and to get a link to read *The Fisherman* on-line. Email phyllisbhhiuic@gmail.com and let our Director of Administration Phyllis Brodie know you want to be added to our email contact list. NOTE: If you were previously getting *The Fisherman* and are a Hargray subscriber and are no longer receiving it, please email or call Phyllis. Some Hargray customers need to re-subscribe.

Office Volunteers Have a Danish Treat



On Wednesday, December 7th, our many office volunteers were treated to a virtual visit to Denmark. In honor of the work they do for St. Andrew, they are honored each year at a luncheon put on by the staff. This year the event was held in the Celebration Center. Our Danish holiday meal of roast pork loin, red cabbage, caramelized potatoes and rice pudding was prepared by Chef Brooks to the delight of all present.

Our office volunteers complete a variety of jobs for the staff. From manning the front desk and phones, re-stocking pew racks, stuffing bulletin inserts, data entry, mailing of *The Fisherman* and writing thank you notes to visitors, they are an important part of our staff team.

Several of our long time volunteers have retired in the past few weeks. We are always looking for anyone interested in helping in the office and would love to see some new faces. If you would like to volunteer your time or ask questions about volunteering in the office, call either Nadine or Phyllis at 785-4711. We look forward to treating YOU to lunch next year!

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Special Communion Set Donated

A lovely new pewter communion set has been donated to St. Andrew by Rick and Lynda Castle. The set will be used by Stephen Ministers when serving communion to shut-ins and for other off-site events such as retreats. If you or someone you know has been unable to be in worship for communion and would like someone to serve them the elements, contact Jeanne Seavers at 837-3034 or the church office at 785-4711.



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Address Service Requested

Rev. Neil M. Yongue, Jr.

- Senior Pastor

Rev. Jim Morrison

- Associate Pastor

Christmas Schedule

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:30 Family Candlelight Service
(nursery provided)

6:30 Communion Service of Music & Meditation in the glow of candlelight

9:00 Traditional Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 Worship Service

Sunday, January 1 - New Years Day

10:00 Worship Service

(Note: The office will be closed on December 26, 27 and January 2)

Make your preparations 'Advent'-urous

Advent - the first season of the liturgical year - includes the four Sundays and weeks prior to December 25. Advent dates from the fourth century, when it lasted 40 days and included fasting and solemnity, much like Lent.

Advent is from *Adventus*, Latin for "coming," referring to Jesus' birth in Bethlehem and also his second coming. The traditional colors of Advent are purple for penitence or blue for hope.

Observing Advent is a meaningful, adventurous way to prepare for Christmas. Buy or make an Advent wreath and use candles of your choice: four blue, four purple, or three blue or purple and one pink. If you have a fifth spot, add one white Christ candle. During meals or devotions, light only one candle the first week. Add another for each new week (the pink candle traditionally marks the third week), concluding with the white candle (if you have one) on Christmas. The increasing light reminds us we're getting closer to celebrating Christ's light coming into the world.

