

# THE FISHERMAN

A publication of St. Andrew By-The-Sea United Methodist Church

And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." MATTHEW 4:19

## CHRISTMAS



CELEBRATE JESUS WITH US!

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

at our Hilton Head Campus

- 4:30 pm Family Candlelight Service and Christmas Pageant  
 7:00 pm Candlelight Communion Service  
 9:30 pm Traditional Candlelight Service

### CHRISTMAS EVE UNDER THE STARS

at the Oyster Factory Park, Bluffton

6:30 pm

Outdoor worship filled with wonder and joy!

Christmas messages, carols, refreshments, and lighting of candles to Silent Night, all under a Christmas night sky on the banks of the May River

Presented in cooperation with First Zion Missionary Baptist Church

### JOIN US THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

Every Sunday in December, come to our **HILTON HEAD CAMPUS** for beautiful music, lighting of candles to recall Faith, Hope, Love and Joy, and messages to inspire you during the bustle of the season

**Sundays at 9:00 or 11:15 am**

**Sunday, December 26 at 10:00 am**

*One service of Lessons and Carols*

Or, join us any time at our **BLUFFTON CAMPUS** where you'll find non-traditional worship, encouraging messages, and plenty of southern hospitality...all in a unique location

**Sundays at 9:00 or 10:30 am**

IT'S ABOUT THE MIRACLE IN THE MANGER

## O Come, O Come, EMMANUEL

One of my favorite hymns of the Advent season is *O, Come, O, come, Emmanuel*. The first verse says,

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel,  
 That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear...*

Advent takes us back to our Old Testament roots. Israel was taught by God through the prophets to expect a Messiah from God who would set them free from sin and injustice. We are called to make these stories our own as sin and injustice continue to plague the world today. In a world held captive by pandemics, poverty, pain, peril, and fear about the future, in the words of the late Eugene Peterson, "*The Word became flesh and moved into the neighborhood...*" (John 1:14)

The theme for this Advent season by Discipleship Ministries is "Come Home for Christmas." After a year of social distancing from one another, being with those we love this Advent season has significant meaning beyond our materialistic self-absorbed culture. We must be about bringing "joy and love that tie and bind us together beyond the tangible. That's the home for which so many long."

In the mix of the bright lights, trimming the tree, singing Christmas carols and all the excitement the holiday season has to bring, we have a big teaching opportunity to share with those who are dear to us; Jesus is the true light of the world, the light that shines in the darkness. I don't think we can take this for granted any longer.

The Advent season is about new beginnings: newness and promise; expectations spoken and fulfilled. The time is now to prepare for the coming of Christ.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee O, Israel.*

*Pastor Robin*

## Final Notes From Tim

by Tim Reynolds, Music Director

Seventeen years ago last month I became director of music at St. Andrew By-The-Sea United Methodist Church. On December 26 of this month I will serve my last Sunday and retire, not only here at St. Andrew, but from music ministry after more than 45 years.

When Edith Young Rhomberg approached me in 2005 about a position available at St. Andrew it was in hopes that I could offer her a suggestion or two of persons who might be interested. I told her we "should talk" and the rest is history. I have been fortunate to have worked with Clark Jenkins, Neil Yongue and now Pastor Robin as Sr. Ministers, and Jim Morrison, Daniel Burbage and Frank Lybrand have been wonderful colleagues as well. Special friendships have been formed with both staff and church members throughout my tenure.

Debby Graves and all the folks who make up the music ministry, from singers to ringers, have added greatly to my personal and professional time here. However, it is the worship experience each and every Sunday, whether live or "virtual" as we now say, that has been the biggest blessing as we sing, pray and preach together worshipping God. St. Andrew is a great singing congregation in the true Wesleyan hymn tradition.

When I originally came to church music leadership it was because I felt I had been given a talent that I should share. Over the decades I have reaped far more than I have sown through watching and learning from some remarkable servants of the Lord. In a career discussion with my mother many years ago, she said, "You always seemed to know it was going to be music that was your calling. It's rare that someone knows that from such an early age." As I said in response to her, "It was more like music found me." and my life has been fuller, richer, and blessed because of the folks with whom I have been able to make and share music.

And finally, a word of thanks for the dedication and commitment of all those who participate in the St. Andrew music ministry, and to all of you who have supported our efforts and me personally throughout the years. St. Andrew By-The-Sea has been a special place to be together in ministry and I hope and pray only the best for her in the future.



The Staff/ Pastor Parish Relations Committee announces the retirement of

### **TIM REYNOLDS** **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Tim has been the director of music for our church since 2004, and is retiring December 31, 2021.

He has led all aspects of the church's music ministry with distinction, with innovation and excellence. He has inspired many members to sing in the Chancel Choir, Men's' and Women's' Ensembles, handbell choir and other creative music expressions, all to the betterment of everyone involved.

In order to recognize his achievements and thank him for his years of service, there will be

### **A RECEPTION TO CELEBRATE THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF** **TIM REYNOLDS** **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12**

between services in the Celebration Center  
of the Hilton Head Campus  
with an appreciation presentation starting at **10:15 am**



**Beginning January 2, 2022**

### **NEW MEMBERS CLASS**

**Sundays, January 23, 30 + February 6**

**3:00-4:00 pm / In-person and via Zoom**

*Discover what we believe, how we govern ourselves, expectations of members, and much more! Even if you are a current member and want to learn more about the Methodist Church, you are welcome to attend.*

To RSVP for the classes email to  
[standrewbythesea@gmail.com](mailto:standrewbythesea@gmail.com)

# **NEW MEMBERS CLASS**

**Discover your church**



**ChristmasGrace**  
**December 11, 2021**  
*Not your typical  
 toy giving event*

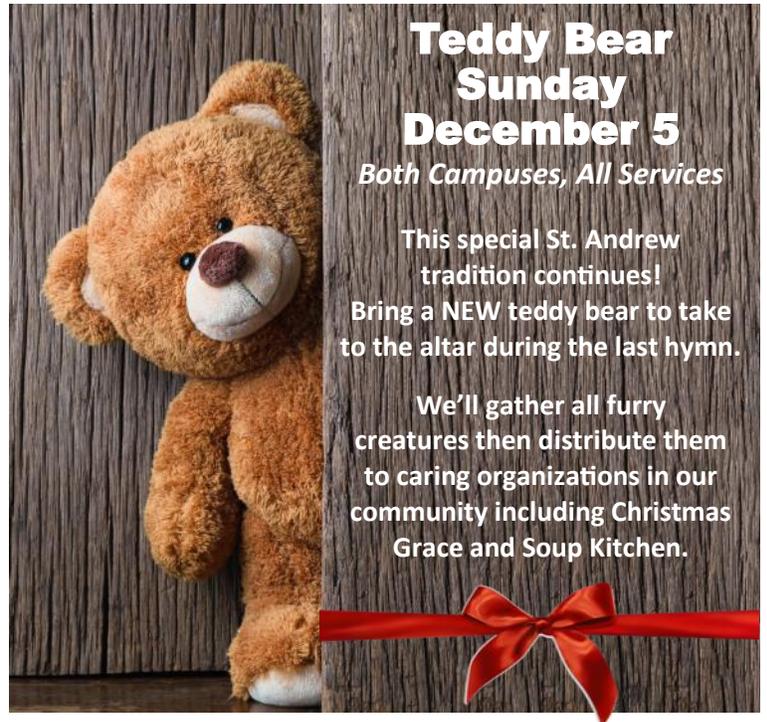
Christmas Grace is a very special St. Andrew ministry that allows parents to choose Christmas gifts for their children. In 2020, the Christmas Grace team led by Sue Yearwood and Donna Beaver had a daunting task. How do you provide Christmas for disadvantaged children when you can't have an in-person Christmas Toy Shoppe? The answer was to develop a catalog of toys which allowed parents to choose gifts for their children and receive them pre-packaged in a "drive by" format. Last year they were able to provide Christmas for 208 children in 70 families.

While our plan for this year was to go back to the more traditional Toy Shoppe where our families can shop in person, our concerns for the safety of all involved in the program have led us to choose the drive by option again. With your support, we are anticipating providing Christmas for 70+ families with 250 children. In addition to two toys, teddy bears and a family game, we will again provide \$40 gift certificates for a Christmas dinner. Also, Fellowship Friends will assemble fun gifts for our moms and we'll provide wrapping paper and tape.

At both the Hilton Head and Bluffton campuses, there will be baskets to receive small-sized toiletry items for the moms' gifts and rolls of new wrapping paper and tape. Please buy a little extra paper and tape when you shop for your own, and a trip to Bath and Body Works is always fun. Unused toiletries that you have left from hotel stays are also very welcome.

Please keep Christmas Grace in your prayers and help us to make it a very special time for these families.

If you have any questions or for more information contact:  
 Sue Yearwood, 843.705.3918    Laurie Jones, 843-368.2678  
 Sue Kroupa, 843-505-0636



**Teddy Bear  
 Sunday  
 December 5**

*Both Campuses, All Services*

This special St. Andrew tradition continues! Bring a NEW teddy bear to take to the altar during the last hymn.

We'll gather all furry creatures then distribute them to caring organizations in our community including Christmas Grace and Soup Kitchen.



The Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee congratulates

*Connie Borgianini*

Director of Christian Education  
 St. Andrew By-The-Sea UMC  
 on the occasion of her  
 25<sup>th</sup> work anniversary

Connie has been deeply involved in the ministries of the church for a quarter century, from adult Christian Education programs to children's events, including Vacation Bible School, Easter Egg Hunt, Trunk or Treat, and a host of other activities. She has been a vital part of the St. Andrew Team through many challenging situations, including the Covid-restricted atmosphere of the past 20 months.

There will be a reception in January to honor Connie for her work over these many years. Check the January edition of the *Fisherman* for details and plan to join us at that time.





The Lowcountry Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is sponsoring a free organ concert featuring

**Dr. Carol Williams**  
**Friday, February 11**  
**7:00 pm**

**In the sanctuary of St. Andrew By-the-Sea UMC**

Dr. Williams is originally from England and then moved to San Diego, CA, where she was the organist at Balboa Park for 15 years. She plays *The Flight of the Bumblebee* with her feet. This will be a concert you will not want to miss. Carol is the ultimate entertainer.



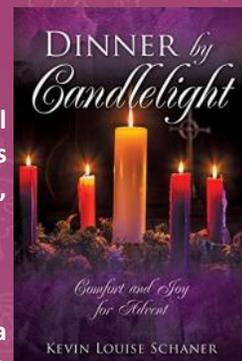
## Fellowship Friends

**Tuesdays at 10:00 am**  
**via Zoom**

During the Advent season, we will continue to discuss some of the themes in Kevin Schaner's delightful book, *Dinner by Candlelight*.

*Everyone is invited to join in!*

Email [jaygraves@hotmail.com](mailto:jaygraves@hotmail.com) for a Zoom invitation. If you do not have access to the internet, you can still participate via telephone. Fellowship Friends Co-Chairperson Jay Graves will be glad to send you directions for how to do this.



# CHARGE

## CONFERENCE

*Chair's Report*  
*Sarah Coffin*

I was privileged to share an update on the past year at our annual charge conference on November 7. The full extent of my report is included in the Charge Conference packet and it reflects the fulsome and thoughtful reports of our dedicated staff and leaders. I would like to highlight a few items:

*Technology – with God's help – saved us this year at both campuses. It was our linchpin. I'm not sure if we can compare it to the burning bush or the miracle of Lazarus returning to life, but it's truly miraculous to find a way to record and broadcast services and then live-stream. And of course, learning how to Zoom in 2020 was the miracle way of communicating and having meetings.*

After nearly a year of virtual and livestream services, we finally had an outdoor Christmas event, A Festival of Light and Sound, at the Hilton Head campus in mid December thanks to our music, education, other staff and youth. It was a wonderful way to celebrate Advent and we topped that with Christmas Eve Under the Stars followed by Easter Sunrise in-person services at the beach for Hilton Head and on the May River for Bluffton.

In June we took it up another notch when we began congregational singing. Then we hosted a large, in-person picnic to celebrate Neil and Imogene's 14 years with us and followed that with in-person services to welcome Robin in July. She then kicked off an ambitious schedule of meet and greets that led to the construction of her first year ministry plan on which we are currently embarking. And now, with the recent passing of the offering plates, we are almost back to normal!

A word about our bricks and mortar...The trustees faithfully manage our properties. Fortunately this past year there were regular maintenance items but minimal large expensive repairs.

As it relates to membership, we are declining. There were many deaths and many, many members moved away in the past year. Not unsurprising given the pandemic, but a reality we must face. Many people are moving to our island. How can we reach them for Christ and invite them to St. Andrew? How can YOU touch them in your neighborhoods? We all must own this challenge.

Finally, some words about our financial status. With the PPP loan that we received – and which was forgiven – we were able to maintain our entire staff over the past two years...a true blessing!

We paid our apportionment in full this year and we are thankful for God's provision.

Because we had to cancel Fall Festival, we turned towards a missions "ask" in 2020 which helped us maintain our commitments to missional giving in 2021. We asked again in November this year, and it remains to be seen if we can support all that we would like to do in 2022, but we are hopeful.

Our capital campaign a few years ago raised \$731,000 towards the new Bluffton campus. Recently we formed a Building Committee to address the opportunity in Bluffton and formulate detailed plans. In October the Church Council approved granting the funds raised in the campaign towards preparing the Bluffton site for a building.

This fall we transitioned from our traditional pledging process to one that embraces stewardship, and giving to the fullness of our hearts as we are able...to support our church. Soon you will see a narrative budget which describes in pictures and words how our contributions are used to support our ministry. We hope that will guide your giving.

In short, like so many institutions that were struggling with the impact of the pandemic in 2020, we had to find our footing as we headed in to 2021. It will take a long time, if ever, for us to return to what we considered normal in 2019. Meanwhile, we as a church are going to have to adapt to this new hybrid world and make it work for us. We are going to have to DO what makes sense to live in this new world AND grow our church.



BE ACTIVE.  
LIVE HEALTHY.

St. Andrew By-The Sea United Methodist Church

## W.E.L.L. FITNESS CLUB

*We Enjoy Life and Living*

Light cardio, stretches, and chair exercises  
to music and song

Led by a trained leader and Pastor Robin  
Signed waiver required  
No Cost

Wednesdays at 9:00 am  
Beginning January 12, 2022  
Celebration Center

Starts  
January 12  
Everyone welcome

St. Andrew  
By-The-Sea

United Methodist Church  
20 Pope Ave., Hilton Head, SC 29928  
843.785.4711 • hhiumc.com  
standrewbythesea@gmail.com

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO FEEL GREAT!



This Advent season in order to assist with the greening of the church at both the Hilton Head and Bluffton campuses, we are accepting donations in memory of or in honor of those close to our hearts.

If you would like to participate in the annual greening, please use the special envelopes provided on November 28 and December 5. Forms for additional gifts may also be found in the church offices during the week. The cost is \$15.00 per request or more as you choose.

Place your check made out to St. Andrew using the special envelope in the offering plate or return it to the church office to Paula's attention by **December 8**. The names will be published on Sunday, December 12.



The Buckwalter Site Building Committee has been very active this month! Steve Cruze, project manager from Aspen, received and analyzed bids for the first phase of the project. His effort resulted in two outstanding bids. Ryan Lyle from Andrews Engineering has managed the construction permit process. These permits have passed the critical public notice period and are now under evaluation by the appropriate government offices.

Our own Josh Tiller from J.K. Tiller Associates completed the site drawing shown below. When the permits are approved, the site map and permits will be submitted for final



Meeting with parishioners at the Hilton Head Campus

review by the Bluffton Development Review Committee. Following approval from this committee, construction on the site



Buckwalter Parkway Site Concept

will begin immediately. Watch for an announcement about a ground-breaking ceremony in December!

The Building Committee has also been working hard to address other project needs. Sub-teams have been formed to evaluate the financial strategy and the design of the athletic field. Two grant applications are being completed to hopefully obtain additional funding to augment development of the site.

Communication with church members about this project continues to be a priority through e-blasts, *Fisherman* articles, and coffee hour discussions. The committee has also added a youth representative, David Manning, to improve the communication about this project with St. Andrew's youth groups and to provide insight that will help us better meet the needs of our children and young adults at every stage of the building process.

Share your vision for the site with us!

Email the church at  
standrewbythesea@gmail.com  
with "Buckwalter Parkway Site"  
as the subject line.

We want to hear from you!

St. Andrew  
BUILDING  
COMMITTEE  
UPDATE



The deadline for the  
JANUARY edition of *The Fisherman* is

**Wednesday, December 15**

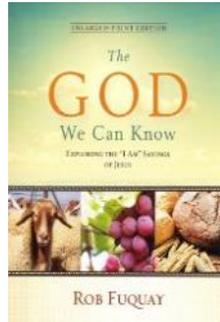
Please submit your articles and photos to:  
standrewbytheseaNEWS@gmail.com



## New Women's Group

Start date: Wednesday, January 19  
10:30-11:45 am

Led by Karen Kirby and Christine Eagle  
*The God We Can Know: Exploring the "I AM" Sayings of Jesus* by Rob Fuquay  
Hilton Head Campus (Rm C-111) + via Zoom

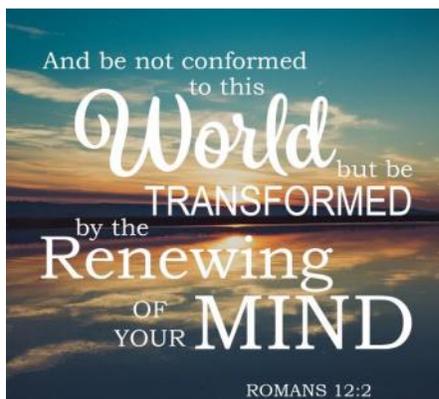


We invite **single women of all ages** to become part of a newly forming group. It's for women who have recently become "on their own," or women who have been on their own for a good while, or women who have always been on their own. The goal of the group is to build relationships, support one another, and help to nurture one another's faith. Initially, the group will meet weekly.

The group will start with the book, *The God We Can Know*. Here is a brief synopsis:

*Getting to know God means getting to know ourselves. The more we know who God is, the more we know who we are. The Gospel of John records several declarations of Jesus known as the "I Am" sayings. This 7-week study is designed to help participants explore each of those sayings and will help you find and form an answer to the most essential question in the Christian faith, "Who do you say I am?"*

Participants are asked to obtain their own copy of the book through their favorite vendor. Accompanying video segments are available via Amplify Media (streaming service). If you would like to sign-up to become part of the group and/or need instructions to use Amplify, please email our Director of Christian Education, Connie Borgianini at [conniebhhiumc@gmail.com](mailto:conniebhhiumc@gmail.com).



## Adult Studies on Sunday Morning

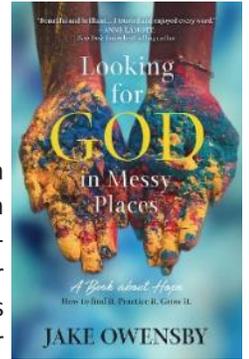
Looking for an opportunity to connect with others and grow in your faith? We have two Sunday morning options for you. Both classes meet at 10:15 in the Celebration Center (and virtually). Feel free to join either class at any time!

### Seekers Class

new study starting on January 2

#### *Looking for God in Messy Places: A Book About Hope*

When something breaks, it usually leaves a mess. The same is true with our broken lives. When we compare ourselves to others, stress becomes too much to handle, or when life in general overwhelms us, it's hard to find hope inside the mess of our brokenness. Without hope we lack the courage to face adversity, the strength to tackle everyday problems, and sometimes, the will just to get out of bed in the morning. *Looking for God in Messy Places* by Jake Owensby is a book for anyone who has ever been frozen in place by loss or regret or endured suffering, cruelty, or rejection. Quite simply, it is a book about hope. How to find it. How to practice it. How to grow in it. How it makes life worth living. Because when we look for God in the middle of the mess, we find hope.



### Joy Class

#### *The History and Development of Early Christianity*

This class will continue the compelling study of *The History and Development of Early Christianity*. Specifically, this class will consider the books written in the first and second centuries which were not included in the Bible. No study book is required; resources will be provided by class leaders Wes Warren and Mike Howell.



## Parents Night Out - Kids' Pajama Party

Friday, December 10, 2021

6:00-8:00 pm / OPTIONAL 6:00-6:30 - Parents' conversation with Pastor Robin

Children's Gathering Room – Hilton Head Campus

*Masks please*

**RSVP needed by December 8** ([conniebhhiumc@gmail.com](mailto:conniebhhiumc@gmail.com))

Wear your jammies and slippers and join us for an evening of Advent fun. Snacks, games, crafts, and a special holiday story will be part of our time together.

Children age 4 to grade 5 are welcome to attend.

Older siblings are encouraged to come along and help.

# Happening in Bluffton

by Daniel Burbage, Bluffton Campus Pastor

Over the past couple of months we have been very busy in Bluffton. We have had ministry opportunities like Trunk or Treat, First Friday, an inaugural youth group meeting combined with First Zion, All Saints Sunday, and a Saturday Community Fish Fry.

Currently we are getting ready for Advent and the many ministry opportunities and events like Christmas Grace, another combined youth event with First Zion, "Worship at the Sign," Christmas Eve Under The Stars, and our official groundbreaking at our Buckwalter property.

It is very easy to only focus on the past or just the present or solely the future. However, it is very important to be reminded of the words from the author of the new Testament book of Hebrews, when he reminded the church that "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." God is with us always.



JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAME  
yesterday, today,  
AND FOREVER

HEBREWS 13:8

Always! God is also always moving us and forming us to serve all of God's creation.

May we all be super excited about the past, present and the future. Let's all get on board with what our Lord is doing in our lives and in the life of our community.

Here is a Advent prayer from the UMC Book of Worship I encourage us all to pray as we enter into this Advent season:

*Merciful God, you sent your messengers  
the prophets to preach repentance and  
prepare the way for our salvation.  
Give us grace to heed their warnings and  
forsake our sins, that we may greet with  
joy the coming of Jesus Christ,  
our Redeemer;  
who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, U.S.A., 20TH CENT., ALT.



Christmas Eve Under the Stars  
6:30 pm, Oyster Factory Park, Bluffton



Giving At A Glance (January-October 2021)			
	<u>Pledge Contributions</u>	<u>Non-Pledge &amp; Loose Plate Contributions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Actual thru 10/31/21	\$622,297	\$296,065	\$918,362
Budget thru 10/31/21	\$688,612	\$352,167	\$1,042,779
Variance	(\$66,315)	(\$58,102)	(\$124,417)
	=Below Budget	=Below Budget	=Below Budget
Income and Expenses (January-October 2021)			
	<u>For The Year Actual</u>	<u>For The Year Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Income	\$1,174,268	\$1,192,920	(\$18,652)
Expenses	\$1,247,061	\$1,251,253	(\$4,192)
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$72,793)	(\$58,333)	(\$14,460)



stephen  
MINISTRY.

St. Andrew is a

Stephen Ministry congregation

Our trained Stephen Ministers are ready to come along side and provide spiritually based comfort and support when needed.

To connect with a Stephen Minister, please email to [stephenministryhhiumc@gmail.com](mailto:stephenministryhhiumc@gmail.com) or call Bill Putnam at 843-683-7800.

All contact is confidential.



Our Stephen Ministry is looking for caring persons to join us as we care for those in our congregation in need. If you are interested in exploring what it means to be a Stephen Minister, please reach out to Bill at the contact info above.



United Methodist Church  
20 Pope Avenue  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

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*Connect with us!*

**HILTON HEAD CAMPUS**

20 Pope Avenue  
Hilton Head, SC 29928  
843.785.4711  
[www.hhiumc.com](http://www.hhiumc.com)  
[standrewbythesea@gmail.com](mailto:standrewbythesea@gmail.com)

Church Office Hours  
M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Sunday Worship  
9:00 am + 11:15 am IN-PERSON SERVICES  
LIVESTREAM at 11:15 am

**BLUFFTON CAMPUS**

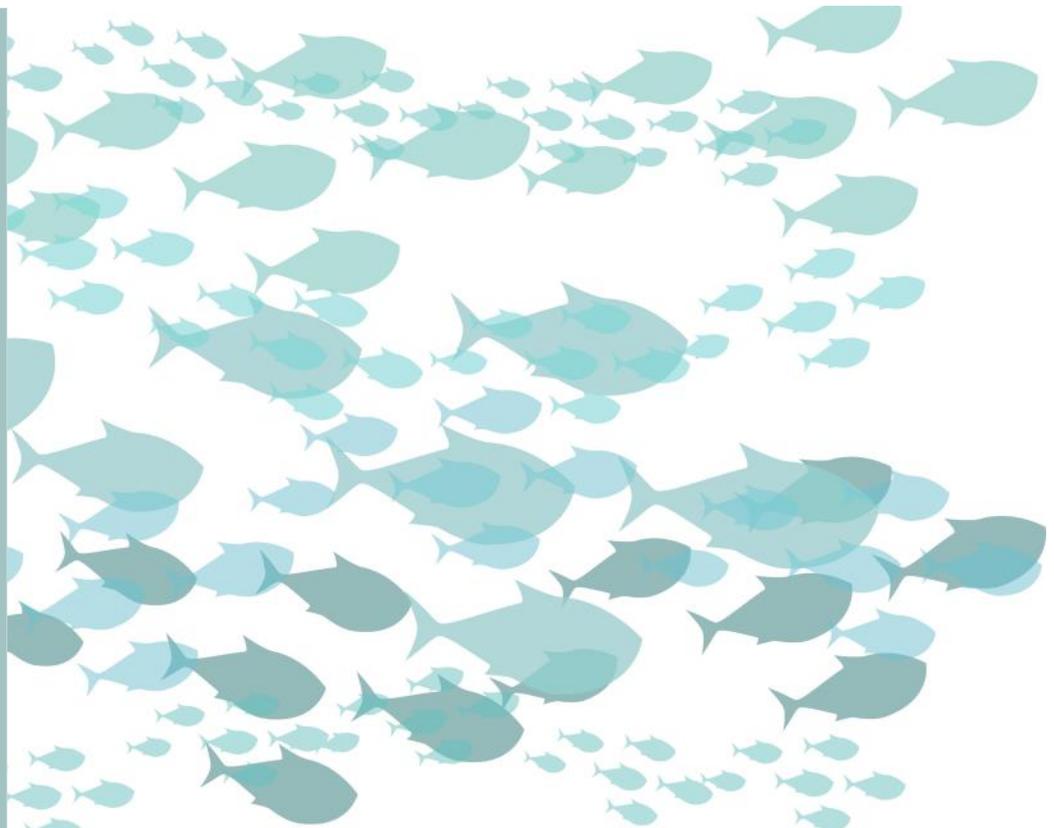
39 Persimmon Street, Ste. 203  
Bluffton, SC 29910

Sunday Worship  
9:00 am + 10:30 am  
LIVESTREAM + IN-PERSON SERVICES

[www.blufftonworship.com](http://www.blufftonworship.com)  
#forbluffton  
#blufftonworship

Rev. Robin Dease, Lead Pastor  
Rev. Daniel S. Burbage, BLF Campus Pastor  
Rev. Frank E. Lybrand, Assoc. Pastor

Find us on our websites, Facebook  
and YouTube



*St. Andrew By-The-Sea is an open, nurturing body of Christian believers  
seeking God's guidance as we minister to others.*