

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

Confirmation Vows Made and Reaffirmed by Rev. Jonathan Tompkins, Senior Pastor

Sunday, April 7 is Confirmation Sunday. We will worship together at one, 10:00 am service that day as we welcome our large group of young people into full membership of Saint Andrew By-The-Sea United Methodist Church.

Our Confirmands, along with several adult mentors, our Director of Christian Education Connie Borgianini, Pastor Frank, and me, have been journeying together these last two months in connecting with God, with Self, with Church, with Neighbor, with Heritage, and with Creation. They are now ready to take the next step on their discipleship journey, confirming the vows made at their baptisms, and becoming full members of our church.

The vows made at their baptisms are not just between them and God, or their parents and God, but are also made by us, the church. Whenever we baptize someone, we as the church are vowing to help raise and nurture them in the faith as part of their new family in Christ. Every baptism is a chance for us to reaffirm our vows, and Confirmation Sunday will offer us that chance.

I'd like to encourage you to reflect on and reaffirm your commitment to following Christ as a disciple along with our young people as they take these vows:

- On behalf of the whole church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

Confirmands: I do.

- Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

Confirmands: I do.

- Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

Confirmands: I do.

- According to the grace given to you, will you remain a faithful member of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representative in the world?

Confirmands: I will.

- As a member of Christ's universal church, will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church, and do all in your power to

strengthen its ministries?

Confirmands: I will.

- As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?

Confirmands: We will.

Grace and peace,
Jonathan



The United Methodist General Conference will be held April 23 – May 3 in Charlotte, NC. Among many other items of denominational business it is anticipated that a key topic of conversation will be issues of sexuality as the church continues to deal with the schism that has resulted in one fourth of U.S. Methodist congregations choosing to leave the UMC.

We would like to invite you to attend an information session Monday April 8 at 6:00 pm to learn more about what United Methodist leaders are thinking and saying regarding the upcoming conference. Your Church Council took this up at a retreat in February and after watching a video by Rev. Adam Hamilton and having small group discussions those present felt we should remain with the United Methodist Church. The April 8 session will give us the opportunity to share with each other and discuss more in depth how the United Methodist Church got to this point and what the future holds for the UMC.

As Pastor Jonathan has reminded us, John Wesley said that "if we cannot think alike, at least we may love alike; and can anything but love beget love?" Wise words in John Wesley's day and to this day still.

INFORMATION SESSION

**Monday
April 8, 2024**

**6:00 pm
Celebration Center**



Seekers Adult Sunday Class to Begin New 4-Week Study
 General Conference Legislation
 April 14, 28 and May 5, 12
 10:15 am / Celebration Center

Explore current topics relevant the UMC in this 4-week class. What exactly is the United Methodist Church General Conference? What are the UMC Social Principles? What legislation is being proposed at General Conference in Charlotte April 23-May 3? How will it affect the location church?

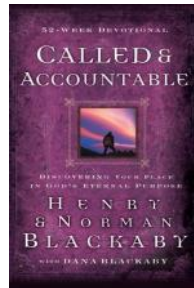
The first class will answer many of these questions. The subsequent three classes will be a presentation and discussion of the proposed legislation on three topics: regionalization, the environment, and the LGBTQ+ issues. The only readings for the classes will be links to the Social Principles and the proposed legislation.

No RSVPs required. Questions? Contact Kerry at 973.903.8989 or kerry@lovetheocean.com

NEW WOMEN'S STUDY

Tuesdays, began March 26
 1:00 - 2:00 pm, Church Library
 Kerry Tilden, Leader

JOIN ANYTIME, each week stands alone



Beach Combers is a group of women who meet to discuss the topics and questions posed in a spiritual formation format. Starting this new book is a great opportunity to join us.

The book is an easy-to-read devotional that will keep you grounded in your accountability to God's call. Participants are asked to purchase their own copy of the book prior to the first meeting.

Contact Kerry at 973.903.8989 or kerry@lovetheocean.com with your interest.

Fellowship Friends

Tuesdays at 10:00 am via Zoom

Different Focused-Sharing Topic each week

Everyone is invited to join in!

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



It All Starts with Pluff Mud – A Nature Walk on Pinkney Island

Saturday, April 20 @ 9:00 – 10:30 am

Guide: Steve Borgianini, Associate Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at USCB

Pinkney Island National Wildlife Refuge includes several islands and numerous small hammocks, comprising 4053 acres. Pinkney is the largest of the islands and the only one open to the public. A wide variety of land types and unique plants are found on the island which support many species animals, including crustaceans, fish, waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, raptors, neo-tropical migrants, white-tailed deer and American alligators - all of which are dependent directly or indirectly on pluff mud.

It is recommended that participants dress for the weather and bring along sunscreen, bug spray, and a water bottle. Be advised that there are no restrooms on the island. A moderate amount of walking is required. Folks that would like to explore more of the island are invited to bring along their bikes. Birders – bring your binoculars!

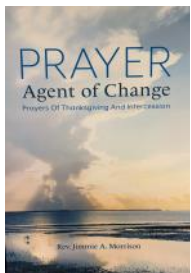
Please email Connie to let us know to look for you and to allow us to provide you with any additional information or changes –

conniebhhiumc@gmail.com



GIVING AT A GLANCE (January-February)			
	2024 Year-to-Date Actual	2023 Year-to-Date Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Contributions	\$189,833	\$187,675	\$2,158
OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES (January-February)			
	2024 Year-to-Date Actual	2023 Year-to-Date Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Revenue	\$195,182	\$199,182	(\$4,000)
Expenses	\$182,162	\$151,390	(\$30,772)
Net Surplus/ (Deficit)	\$13,020	\$47,792	(\$24,772)

Please note that this month the column headers have changed and we are comparing YTD Actual 2024 to YTD Actual 2023. In prior months we have compared YTD Actual to YTD Budget.



Christ is Living!

John 20:1-18, I Corinthians 15:1-11

Every day something seems to tell us that the presence of a living Christ cannot be seen. Sometimes it is personal, sometimes it is events swirling around us over which we think we have no control, sometimes it is the world situation which appears to be out of control and disaster looms. So we look where we think You should be and we see nothing. Or worse, that there is absence.

However, You, God will not have it that way. And even in the worst of times, when we cry out, when we have that sinking feeling that all we longed for is gone, when what we worked for or thought we had accomplished only to find another obstacle, when we didn't have a clear vision of right or wrong, or when we were so certain we were right and the other wrong, there comes a signal: "Here I am!" Instead of a sense of loss, our hearts are suddenly filled with the hope of this "God event" which assures and makes us new. We have come to accept and celebrate that not even death has power to stop us. To paraphrase St. Paul, Scripture tells us that Jesus was buried, He was raised from death on the third day, and He presented Himself alive to those around Him. We are not left out!

Yet, we either seal You off or see an empty space where we thought You should be. But You, God, will have none of it for in this Risen Christ we have learned these things.

We can hear the Risen Christ say to us in the midst of our fear, "Do not be afraid." We shiver and shake and do not believe You could speak to our fright, but You do.

We are riddled with unbelief, but you come to meet us renewing our confidence in Your abiding Presence. Too often we believe that we are powerless to bring justice, mercy and peace to our world, but You will not have it. In the presence of overwhelming odds, thinking we are ineffective, You still call us and empower us to proclaim and effect the Good News—helping the poor and providing healing of mind and body.

When our own sense of self-worth runs away with us, You remove our overly-elaborate sense of self-importance.

When we think we have all the answers, You give us better and deeper insight. In truth, it amounts to this: You face our inept faith and give us the Resurrection, renewing all our living to be one of joy and peace.

Therefore, with great confidence, we offer prayers for all those who need the same trust as those who experienced the Risen Christ on that first resurrection morning:

- ...those who have no hope because of circumstance;
- ...those who believe that illness is not within your compassion;
- ...those who have suffered the death of loved ones and think they will never see them again;
- ...those who do not understand You want peace instead of war;
- ...those who think dominance will solve all problems;
- those who need comfort in the suffering.

We joyfully acknowledge that Jesus broke all layers of the attempted confinement to welcome us with a great joyful hope in the certainty of Your Presence. With the abiding Presence of the Risen Lord, we pray the Lord's prayer, "Our Father..."

This excerpt is taken from the book *Prayer: Agent of Change* by Rev. Jim Morrison, former St. Andrew Assoc. Pastor

'Helping From the Sidelines'

Understanding your loved one's substance use disorder from afar

Is someone you care about facing the challenges of addiction? This FREE 4-week series covers a range of essential topics from understanding addiction and its effects to building healthier relationships and finding emotional balance. This series is for families, friends, and loved ones who want to understand, support and heal together.



Dr. Gerard Love
FACILITATOR

Dr. Gerard Love is an addiction science and recovery specialist who has worked in the field for more than 35 years. His areas of expertise include substance use disorder treatment and recovery, collegiate recovery, and diversity training. Love is currently a faculty member at Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation's Graduate School of Addiction Studies where he teaches Family Counseling and supervises graduate level interns.

Week 1: Welcome and Introduction

Thursday, April 25

"Where does addiction come from?"

Week 2: Understanding Stages of Addiction

Thursday, May 2

"Why does my loved one keep returning to use?"

Week 3: Issues and Concerns of the Family

Thursday, May 9

Boundary setting and detaching yet still loving

Week 4: Does my loved one need treatment?

Thursday, May 16

"How should I participate and support?"

4 Thursdays at 7:00 pm

St. Andrew By-The-Sea UMC
20 Pope Avenue, Hilton Head 29928
standrewbythesea@gmail.com
843.785.4711
hhiumc.com
No registration required



Start your journey towards understanding...



REMINDER

ONE

Worship Service Sunday, April 7 @ 10:00 am

Followed by lunch in the
Celebration Center to
celebrate our confirmands

No RSVPs required
All are welcome

St. Andrew By-The-Sea United Methodist Church

Safety and Security Team

Supporting a Safe Worship Environment

The Safety & Security Team still needs a few more individuals to complete their team rosters. Contact Michael Tucker with your interest. mtucker@mtapartners.com

Interested in participating as a
Reader for Sunday Worship?
Readers middle school age+ welcome

Contact Kerry with your interest
973.903.8989
kerry@lovethesea.com

SALE OF THE BUCKWALTER PROPERTY

Trustee Chair Floyd McKeag announced during worship services on March 24, 2024, that the final paperwork to sell the Buckwalter property in Bluffton to Beaufort County has been signed. The sale is to be completed by May 10, 2024.

Beaufort County intends to develop the property for workforce housing. St. Andrew By-the-Sea completely supports this initiative and was pleased to negotiate a sale price that benefited both parties regarding this endeavor. Additional public communications will be forthcoming.

According to the Book of Discipline, any proceeds derived from the sale of a capital asset may only be used for capital expenditures and not day-to-day operational activities of the church. The Board of Trustees has developed a list of significant capital needs that will greatly benefit from these funds. These include, but are not limited to, the establishment of a Major Disaster Recovery Fund to cover the named storm deductible in our insurance policy, funding a Capital Reserve to cover long-term repair and replacements needs on our property, and the retirement of the parsonage mortgage.

We are grateful for the committee that worked over the past year to complete this objective: Bob Dietz, Finance Chair; Graham Silcox, Trustee; Chris McKeag, Lay Member; and especially committee Chair Michael Tucker, Trustee, who was the primary St. Andrew By-the-Sea contact and negotiator with the County.

OUR PURPOSE

To grow a welcoming community where people of all ages and stages on their faith journey can come to experience the love, grace and compassion of Jesus Christ. Provide various worship and other spiritual growth opportunities communicating the Gospel to inspire and encourage a deeper understanding of God while developing relationships with each other, leading to service locally and beyond.

Confirmation Sunday

❖ Save the Date ❖

APRIL 7, 2024

The whole church family is invited to this joyful celebration as we receive and give thanks for our 2024 Confirmation Class

ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM

ST. ANDREW SANCTUARY

A special lunch will follow in the Celebration Center
All are welcome, no RSVPs required



Visit www.earthday.org/earth-day-2024
to see how you might participate.



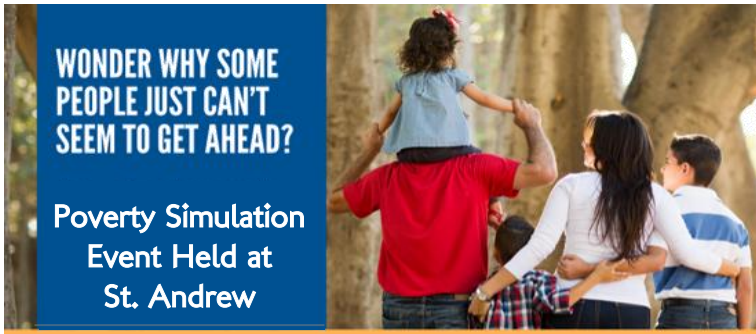
"Pray for one another that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective" James 5:16

These words guide the weekly gathering of folks for our Healing and Wholeness Service. Persons for whom we have received prayer requests are prayed for by name. Our lives are woven together with them through our prayers, holy communion, and being anointed with oil and receiving a blessing. We pray for their healing and discover together, we are being healed. Feel free to join us as we offer ourselves and others to God's healing grace.

Wednesdays, 12:00 noon

Christ Chapel of St. Andrew's sanctuary
Led by Pastors Jonathan and Frank

All are welcome



The Outreach Team of St. Andrew By-The-Sea hosted a Poverty Simulation Event, in conjunction with United Way of the Lowcountry and Beaufort-Jasper Economic Opportunity Commission. The free community Poverty Simulation event was held at the church on Saturday, February 24 with over 60 people registered from the community.

“We were honored to host such an important event with two wonderful Lowcountry organizations,” said Rebecca Jones, Outreach chairperson at SABTS. “Our work here is not done. Now we go out into the community - and the world - and take what we learned to partner with those in need.”

Sally Rumer, a volunteer with Hopeful Horizons-Furnish a Future, was one of the attendees. “Participating in the Poverty Simulation was truly enlightening. Despite considering myself socially aware and empathetic to the needs of the economically challenged, the simulation depicted a much harsher reality than I had envisioned,” said Sally. “The roleplay experience left me feeling utterly overwhelmed as I struggled to navigate the complex system and seek necessary assistance. It became apparent that a single-family issue could trigger a chain reaction, pushing families and individuals into a downward spiral. I believe it would be beneficial for all employers, community leaders, elected officials, and the general public to engage in this simulation. By collectively experiencing and understanding the challenges, we can work together to develop effective solutions for these overwhelming issues.”

The Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) is a learning tool created to help people understand the realities of poverty and bridge gaps from misconception to understanding with an interactive experience. During the three-hour simulation, participants role-played a month in the life of a low-income family to help understand their real-life daily challenges, including banking, schools, grocery shopping, and other day-to-day activities. The ultimate mission of each of these families is to provide food, shelter and other basic needs with a limited income. From this simulation event, we learn to promote poverty awareness, increase understanding, inspire local changes, and transform perspectives.



To find out more about CAPS, please visit www.povertysimulation.net/about



The following email was sent by one of our volunteers reporting a most wonderful and interesting Soup Kitchen guest experience.



“I meant to tell you all in the weekly letter, but I forgot. Tomorrow, Tuesday, Jan and Michael are taking Ellen back to Charleston to have her second cataract surgery done. She will be in surgery while you will be having our Tuesday soup kitchen. She is just ecstatic about her new vision. Apparently, she used to be an avid reader and has not been able to read for quite some time. What a great joy to be able to behold someone so happy.

And just know that all of you had a part in that. If it wasn't for the SABTS SOUP KITCHEN and if it wasn't for the people that make up the SABTS SOUP KITCHEN, Ellen never would've come to us. We never would've noticed she'd gone blind. (Thank you, Jan for your observation) and she would've slipped through the cracks and gone through life blind needlessly.

Our SABTS Soup Kitchen offers more than just meals and groceries. As you see, it is a community of friends working together to help one another. For another example, the Soup Kitchen DIAPER PROGRAM is moving along. The whole idea is to reduce a family's diaper financial cost so that they can redirect those funds to pay for rent and transportation as an example. It is estimated that diapers cost \$700 per child per year. Currently, we have 10 families with 21 children. Supplying these children with diapers will save their parents \$14,700 a year! If you would like to join the “Diaper Team” Please contact Tom Sharp.

Mary Reid Carter is our Soup Kitchen Clothing coordinator. This program collects and organizes donated women's, men's, and children's clothing year-round. It is very popular with our guests and again provides financial relief as noted above with our diaper program. We have a partnership with St. Francis Thrift Shop where they supply a new clothing selection each month for our guests on Tuesdays and Fridays. Mary Reid is looking for additional volunteers to join her team. Clothing donations are always welcomed and can be dropped off in the church office or Celebration Center indicating they are a Soup Kitchen donation. Thank you gratefully.



And finally, organized by our partner, Second Helpings, the Soup Kitchen team distributed 5,000 pounds of produce supplied by the Lowcountry Food Bank. There will be six distributions

on the island in 2024, and our Soup Kitchen has been selected to distribute twice - February and May. The distribution lasted two hours with 48 families receiving carrots, cabbage, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and apples. The photos attest to this wonderful service for our South Island neighbors.



20 Pope Avenue
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

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U.S. POSTAGE

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Connect with us!

20 Pope Avenue
Hilton Head, SC 29928
843.785.4711
hhiumc.com
standrewbythesea@gmail.com

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

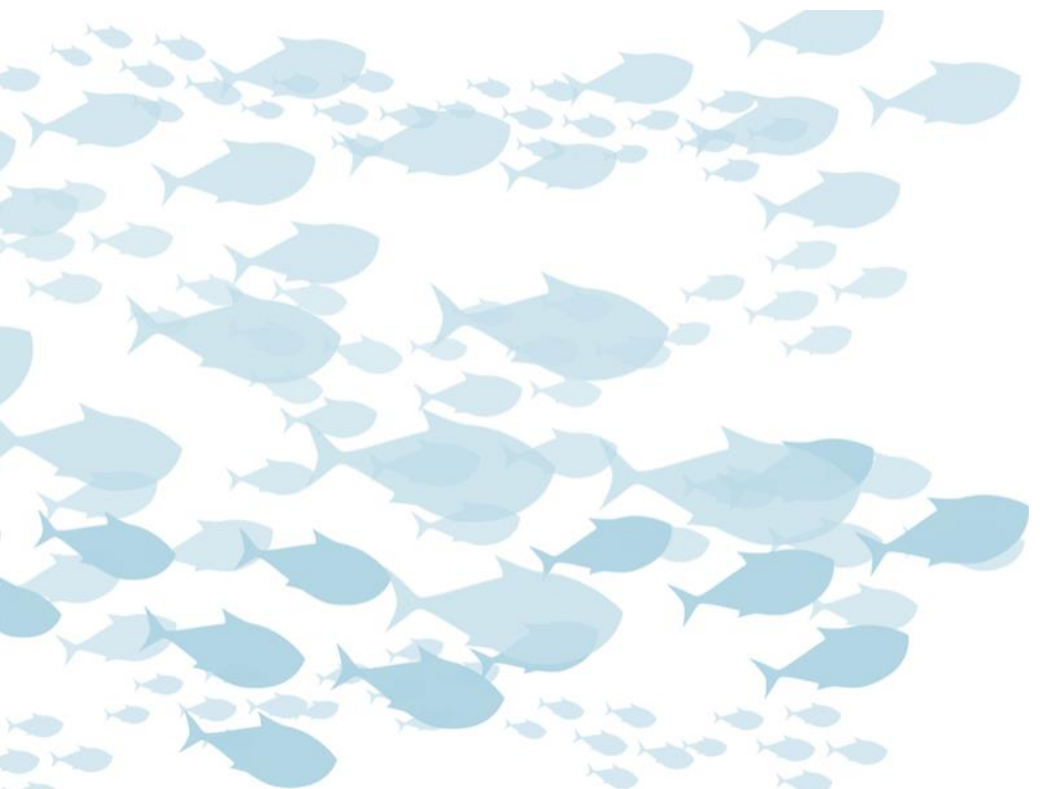
SUNDAY WORSHIP

In-person + Livestream
9:00 am Traditional Worship
10:15 am Classes for all ages
11:09 am Modern Worship

Rev. Jonathan Tompkins
Senior Pastor

Rev. Frank E. Lybrand
Associate Pastor

Find us on all your
favorite platforms



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