

Hilltalk

April 2010

News & Inspiration
for Members & Friends

Holy Week & Easter at St. Andrew's

After a celebratory and moving service on Palm Sunday with palms waving and children singing, St. Andrew's moves into Holy Week.

Wednesday, March 31, 2010 will be the last of the Lenten Prayer Series. This week's title is "Surrender as Prayer" and will be led by Pastor Paula. Come and reflect on this Lenten journey at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

On Good Friday, Director of Music, Stephanie Feder will conduct the Chancel Choir, Small Orchestra, organ, & soloists in selections from Bach's *Passion of St. Matthew* on Good Friday, April 2nd 2010. This inspiring service of music and recitation of God's word features one of Bach's most haunting works: the *Passion Hymn* "O Sacred Head Now Wounded". With this year's selections from Bach's *Passion of St. Matthew*, we continue a long-standing tradition of beautiful sacred music at St. Andrew's on

Good Friday which has included Bach's *Christ lag in todes banden* ('07), Faure's *Requiem* ('08), and the Mozart *Requiem* ('09). Please join us for this exceptional worship experience at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary on Good Friday.

On Easter Sunday, we will rejoice and celebrate together that Christ is Risen! The Light Reins Band will lead the 8:00 a.m. Celtic Fire service which begins on the patio and progresses into the Sanctuary with joyous song.

At 9:30 a.m., the St. Andrew's puppets will bring us the message and the Light Reins Band will lend their music to the celebration. This service is a treat for all ages!

The Chancel Choir will lead the congregation in the 11AM Victory Service accompanied by the Josh Friedman Brass Quartet, Nancy Rohr on organ, and the St. Andrew's Handbell Choir directed by Janet Prideaux. A powerful and rousing array of music has been prepared for this celebratory service not to be missed!



St. Andrew's
by-the-Sea

A United Methodist Community of Faith ~ www.sabts.org



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A full listing of staff, including email addresses, may be found on our website, www.sabts.org

Deadline for next Hilltalk is **noon on April 15, 2010**. Please submit articles via email attachment whenever possible. All submissions subject to editing.

Pastor Paula's Peace

Members and friends:

Here at St. Andrew's UMC, we believe God is calling us to reach more people with the Good News of God's love and grace than ever before. In September of 2009 our congregation embarked on an exciting adventure--we hired a Congregational Coach to help us discover how to do that better.

Our coach, David Bridgman, brings successful experience in the area of church growth and knowledge of regional best practices. Unlike a consultant, his primary task is to help us ask the right questions and take the right steps to achieve our strategic goal of reaching more people for Christ, especially families with

children. There is no "one-size-fits-all" way to be a healthy, vital community of Christ-followers. We're discovering the unique calling of this congregation in this season.

Dave Mauerman, one of our Assistant Lay Leaders, is the key point person on our Coaching Team (those working directly with our Coach.) For several months now, Dave has been providing articles in the Hilltalk and reports at our monthly Church Council meetings to keep you all informed of what we're learning.

This month, Dave's article is a bit long--that's because it has a lot of important information and some key learnings made by the

Team.

I encourage you to read his article carefully. Stay up to date with what we're learning! These are exciting times for our congregation. There is such joy as we move into God's future for us, built on a beautiful heritage as United Methodists here in San Clemente.

You will hear lots more in the months to come. Enjoy Dave's article.

Shalom,

Pastor Paula

Coaching Team Report

By Dave Mauerman

The coaching team is very busy brainstorming and gathering information to help ensure we have an accurate picture and perception of our mission field, and specifically, how we can most effectively implement a worship plan that is in line with our 2008 Strategic Plan.

Our Planning and Assessment Team put together the 2008 Strategic Plan that discerned the answers to four basic questions: 1) How big a church should we be?, 2) How far into the future should the Long Range Plan of the church be focused, 3) Who is our target audience?, and

4) Who are we called to serve? Answers to these questions are in the plan, and we as a coaching team are validating the answers as well as figuring out HOW we reach those in questions 3 & 4.

In order to effectively move forward, there must be a clearly understood focus of effort so that everyone is pulling in the same direction. Regarding FOCUS, the following questions provide a starting point and common ground: 1) What is our business? (or mission), 2) Who is our customer? (or mission field), and 3) What does our customer value?

Clearly, our team is not prescient enough to have these

answers without some help. The resources we are using to gather the information include the following:

- our internal survey of church members (completed in February – special thanks to Dee Padgett and Carter Clark),
- demographic information regarding our mission field (special thanks to Jenny Killinger), and
- reports from our invitation team on various other local churches worship experience.

(Continued on page 3)

Coaching Team Report, continued

Many of the results are what you might expect, but some may challenge current assumptions. We are still gathering information but will share with you some interesting points we have learned so far, without drawing conclusions now.

We started by identifying our mission field as the largest demographic in closest proximity. Looking at the closest 5 zip codes we constructed a list of the attributes of the majority. We found they are married with children (33% of the population is 35-54 yrs old, 20% is 5-19 yrs old), high income, high education, white collar employees that work for corporations and commute, lead active/healthy lifestyles, are tech/media savvy, and like trendy things. (Our team agreed that the demographic has a consumer mentality that is used to being catered to and values high quality.) Of extreme interest is when asked about religion, 50% said they were probably spiritual, but only 25% said they thought it was important for them to go to church. By doing the math, this means that 25% consider themselves spiritual but not “churched.” While this description generally fits the majority of the people in this area, there is a subset of this group – 11% considered America’s wealthiest, who fit the same description but have a higher propensity to support

causes (environmental, human rights, etc.) and to spend leisure time on more expensive endeavors.

Our Welcome/Invitation team visited several local churches meeting this criteria: healthy and thriving churches in our mission field, congregations largely composed of families with children, attendance levels that represent our next step. Observations were as follows: SABTS welcome experience is stronger (greeting, showing around, manned coffee table), other churches have more “involvement & capture” of attendees by having lots of church info, small group activities and sign up tables manned by people. Worship time included 20-40 minutes of contemporary music at the beginning of the service, including prayers and meditation by band leader, and the pastor’s message averaged 45 minutes.

These are some of our observations and findings. We are not drawing conclusions yet, but are opening our eyes to some of the answers to our FOCUS questions: What is our mission? Who is our customer? And What does our customer value? Use of those terms are not meant to offend, but describe the reality that our demographic and “target market” come from a consumer mentality.

Vision Sunday



Vision Sunday on June 6, 2010

We'll share in an afternoon of fun, food, fellowship to celebrate the **"Yea God!"** moments from this past year.

Watch your email for more information when our Annual Pledge Drive gets going in May.

Meanwhile, we need *many hands* to help get this big party off the ground!

We need people to:
Arrange entertainment for kids, and games for families,
Organize the food,
Set up &
Take down

Call Karen Muscariello *now* (949) 369-1645 or KMuscariello@yahoo.com to be a part of something big at St. Andrew's!

VBS: July 26-30

Avast!! Hoist the mainsail and head for the high seas! Mark 'yer calendars for July 26-30, 2010 for a week of *High Seas*



Expedition for our Vacation Bible School (VBS) this year! The compass is set for God's Word to discover how it is true, comforting, surprising, life-changing and available for everyone! It'll be great week of expedition together that you don't want to miss!

This week is always a highlight of the summer and it would not happen without amazing servants like you! Contact Emily (emily@sabts.org) and let her know where you would like to serve in this summer's VBS.

POLO & KPG

Our usual Friday evening together for Parents of Little Ones (POLO) and Kids, Parents, God (KPG) happens to fall on Good Friday this month.

Join in a lasagna dinner at 6:15 p.m. with the whole family. After dinner, children will head to child care and adults can enjoy the Good Friday service together at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Contact Emily Bredthauer (emily@sabts.org) to RSVP and let her know if you'd like to bring some food to share.

Youth News

The Youth have enjoyed this Lenten time learning about Jesus and who he was as a person.

There will be NO Refuge meeting on Easter Sunday to give families the opportunity to have a holiday together. Regular Sunday night meetings resume on April 11 at 6 p.m.

Due to other obligations, Andrew Haslett has resigned as our Youth Director effective April 18, 2010. We wish Andrew and his wife Hayley all the best in their future endeavors.

With Andrew's departure, Staff Parish Relations Committee has undertaken the search for a new Youth Director.

Please continue to pray for this search committee and for our youth and their desire to know and love God.

Women's Retreat—Just for Moms!

You are a busy mom, trying to keep the family life moving along. Take time out for one day to rediscover who you were before children, who you are now, and who you would like to be. *Take time to remember yourself!*

During this one day retreat you will be guided through 6 unique sessions – some individual and some as a group. You will be encouraged to work at your own pace and focus on the areas you are most interested in on that day. Ann Friedman, a

warm and wonderful Marriage and Family Therapist will be available to do private mini-counseling sessions with anyone who is interested.

Take the passenger seat through a guided day of self reflection ranging from creative art projects, moving your body to yoga, to more introspective letter writing.

The cost is \$40 and covers all retreat materials, a boxed lunch and snacks as well as your mini

session with counselor, Ann Friedman. The optional group dinner is an additional charge and will be paid for individually.

Limited child care is available for a nominal fee.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Liz Houston (#949.244.8680 or carsonhouston@yahoo.com).

Farewell from Lucy

Dear Friends at St. Andrew's,

I can't begin to thank you enough for the amazing farewell party and send-off you gave in my honor. From the corsage to the cuisine, the friendship and the festivities, the prayers and the praise, it was a perfectly lovely day.

My deepest thanks to those who worked so hard to bring the day together, and to everyone who offered gifts, wrote special notes, and contributed to the *incredibly* generous "money tree." I am so grateful to have been able to serve among you these last 10 years, and I wish

you all grace and Godspeed.

Peace, joy, and love to you all,

Lucy Stafford-Lewis

Leaving with a Note of Thanks

My Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I share with you the news that my last Sunday of leading music in worship will be May 2nd. My years in music ministry at St. Andrew's have been among the best in my life and I feel so blessed to have been able to work with such talented and devoted singers and musicians during my time here. It is rare that one can say they truly love their job and everyone they work with and I am so thankful that God led me to St. Andrew's four years ago and brought this joyful, loving family into my life.

But life has its way of moving forward whether we are aware of it or not and as much as I've loved and appreciated my church family at St. Andrew's over these last four years, it's time to begin to focus on building a life and family of my own. This will not be an easy transition for me but it is an inevitable one and I appreciate the continued love, support, and encouragement from all of you that have been such a significant part of my life thus far.

So "what's next" you might ask? Well, for those of you who were not already aware, I relocated from Huntington Beach to West Hills in the San Fernando Valley early in the winter to finally be nearer to my fiance David Streja (we are planning a small family wedding in Malibu on May 1st of 2011) and have been commuting (some 95 miles each way) down to San Clemente three days a week for rehearsals, worship, and other performances ever since. The driving has certainly been taking its toll, and though I have still delighted in every opportunity I've had to continue to share in worship and music ministry with my family at St. Andrew's I am now very anxious to begin this exciting new chapter of my life. I have fortunately arranged to be able to maintain an affiliation as a UC instructor by relocating my teaching and grant work from UCI to the UCLA campus and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to invest myself in my new local Jewish community by creating the first ever Arts

Academy for youth at the JCC at Milken campus which is right around the corner from our new home in West Hills! I also will establish a Jewish Community Chorus of the Valley there in the fall and already have concerts on the calendar for December and April. These are just a few of the exciting endeavors which I know will keep me more than busy as David and I continue to settle into our new home and plan for our wedding.

I hope that during Holy Week and through the end of April I will have an opportunity to express my gratitude to each and every one of you that has so touched my heart and shared in all the successes of Music Ministry at St. Andrew's during my four years. I will depart this special place holding each of you in my heart and will remember my time fondly.

Forever singing your praises,
Stephanie Feder

A (very) Short History of the Pascal Lamb

By Ann Small,
Director of Spiritual Formation

The word “pascal” comes from a Latin word that means “belonging to Passover or to Easter,” when centuries ago both holy days were closely associated and often celebrated together.

Passover, one of the three great annual festivals of the Israelites, commemorates their deliverance from Egyptian bondage. It also celebrates their being spared “the Tenth Plague,” where God’s avenging angel took the firstborn of their captors but not their own. How did the angel know an Egyptian household from an Israelite household? Because God directed the Israelites to sprinkle the blood of a slain lamb on their doorposts, thus signaling the angel to literally “pass over.” (Doesn’t God always have a plan and provide for us?!) Additionally, after roasting the lamb, all of the parts of the lamb were to be eaten hurriedly that night, only by the Israelites and their circumcised slaves, in preparation for their flight from Egypt the following day. This day would be a memorial feast celebrated in perpetuity.

Not only does “the lamb” have significant and sacred Hebrew

underpinnings, it remains a particularly important Easter symbol in the Christian world. It represents Jesus, and relates His death to that of the lamb sacrificed on the first Passover. Christians traditionally refer to Jesus as “the Lamb of God,” and many well-known works of art, including numerous stained glass pieces in the world’s great cathedrals, have represented Jesus in this form. Many people still serve lamb as part of their Easter feast, and in many homes, a lamb-shaped cake still decorates the table.

Not surprisingly, our secular world has also adopted the lamb as an Easter symbol and harbinger of springtime, along with chickadees and bunny rabbits. We see cuddly lambs on Easter cards, represented in sugarcoated candy, and as stuffed animals in children’s Easter baskets. Is this “bad”? Not necessarily. However, this spring when you’re at Wal-Mart or Hallmark and you’re surrounded by lambs in all forms and representations, be mindful that Jesus is our symbolic Lamb, one who sacrificed His life to wipe away all sin forever. By doing so, He continues to give a weary, heart broken world new life and constant renewal.

Financial Update

A message from St. Andrew’s Finance Committee

Effective year-to-date through
February 28, 2010

YTD Income: \$75,142.26

YTD Expense: \$78,186.85

Surplus/(Deficit): (\$3,044.59)

Prayer Corner

Please continue to be
in prayer for:

Arliss & Betty Berenger
Dane Bullock
Rosaline Campbell
Cecil Cowder
Bob & Ruth Creighton
Jeanette Hill
Fred Muster
Dorothy Osborne
Bruce & Patty Walden
Peyton Woll

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

- Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

Ministry Opportunities

Where is the Lord calling you to be in ministry at St. Andrew's?

Sound and Light Technician

Do you enjoy a great worship service? Think the quality of our sound and lighting makes a big difference in making an OK worship service a great one? Interested in learning how our sound and light systems work? Willing to give one Sunday a month (or one month a year) to serving Christ by serving His people in this way? If this sounds like the ministry for you, email Dave Petty, Tech Supervisor at davidmpetty@gmail.com. All training will be provided for this volunteer position.

Video Technician

Do you enjoy the way media can enhance worship and really connect to our hearts? Do you find yourself thinking about beautiful, moving images that would enhance our worship service? Like to get creative with Powerpoint? Interested in learning how our media technology helps our worship? Willing to give one Sunday a month (or one month a year) to serving Christ's people by helping our worship service be the best it can be? If this sounds like the ministry for you, email Dave Petty at davidmpetty@gmail.com. All training will be provided for this volunteer position.

Sunday School Superintendent

Do you have a heart for the spiritual education of children? Do you enjoy the sound of the children laughing and talking their way to Sunday school? Maybe you like helping people find the resources they need to be creative? Maybe you secretly love behind-the-scenes administration that makes all go smoothly? If this ministry interests you, email Emily Bredthauer at emily@sabts.org. All training will be provided by Emily Bredthauer for this volunteer position and as a bonus, you'll get to work closely with her in this position!

Super Seniors News

In March, 'four leaf clovers' were in bloom for the Super Senior Meeting. Following Pastor Paula's opening prayer, Shirla Hardy presented the group with a beautiful new Mystery Box as her good-bye gift and placed lucky charm coins inside. Then Pastor Paula gave all present an opportunity to share one blessing in their life. For people of faith the only hard part was choosing just ONE.

Lucy took time out from her packing and sorting to share more about her new position as Program Director of Gilcrest House. It is obvious that this job is the right one for her so we wish her well, and send her off

with our love.

It was a full day, made ever more wonderful by the music and stories of Mike Chamberlain who graduated in 1966 from San Clemente HS. Mike's music reveals a great spirit which was his gift to us. I think I speak for everyone present when I say "Thank you Mike, it was great!"

How could there be anything but corned beef sandwich, cabbage salad, pickles and pistachio cake for lunch? Special thanks to Fred and Judi Vote for the tasty lunch.

In April, Larry Fresch will be here. Larry is a well known musician, drawing large,

enthusiastic crowds wherever he is featured...but this time he is coming to introduce his new love and business: the electric bicycle. He has even promised a few songs on his saxophone.


Super Seniors will meet at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall on April 14th. For further information or to RSVP call Judy Ferguson at 498-0654 or Judi Vote at 366-0151.



St. Andrew's by-the-Sea United Methodist Church Calendar

EVERY SUNDAY	EVERY MONDAY	EVERY TUESDAY	EVERY WEDNESDAY	EVERY THURSDAY	EVERY FRIDAY	EVERY SATURDAY
8:45 am Seekers, RIO Center 9 am Band-led Worship 10:30 am Choir-led Worship 10:30 am Youth Sunday School, YC 6-8 pm Refuge-Youth, YC		9 am Andrew's Kids, CC 9:30 am Holy Rollers 1:30 pm Women's AA Mtg 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, YC 7:00 pm Light Reigns Band, Sanctuary	7:30 am Fishermen at Carrow's Restaurant 9:30 am Mom to Mom, CC	9:30 am Mommy & Me, CC 9:30 am Holy Rollers 5:45 pm Bell Choir, CR 7:00 p.m. Choir, S	Office Closed 8:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Lib.	9:30 am Holy Rollers

April 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<u>Key for Rooms</u> CC: Children's Ctr FL: Fireside Lounge SPO: Pastor's Ofc. CR: Choir Room Lib: Library SS1: Sun. School #1 FH: Fellowship Hall S: Sanctuary YC: Youth Center			1	2— Good Friday 6:00 pm POLO, FH 7:30 pm Good Friday Service, S	3
4—Easter Sunday 8:00 am Celtic Fire Svc 9:30 am Children's Svc 11:00 am Victory Svc	5—Office Closed 7:00 pm Trustees, FL 7:30 pm SPRC, SS1	6	7	8 10:00 am Welcome Inn, FL	9	10 9:00—4:30 Women's Retreat for Moms, FH
11	12 7:30 pm Worship Logistics, CR 7:30 pm Foundation, SS1	13 7:30 pm Finance, Lib	14 10:30 am Super Seniors Luncheon, FH 12:30 pm Senior's Bd, SS1 7:30 pm New Beginnings I	15 9:30 am Sarah Circle, offsite 12:00 pm Welcome Inn, FL	16	17 8:00 am Men's Breakfast, FH
18	19 12:00 pm Hilltalk Deadline 7:30 pm Invitation Ministry, SPO	20 7:00 pm Joint Council, FL	21 10:00 am Hannah Cir. 7:00 pm Mission & Outreach, FL 7:30 pm New Beginnings II	22 10:00 pm Visitation Group, L 12:00 pm Welcome Inn, FL	23	24
25	26 7:30 pm Beyond Words, offsite 7:30 pm Planning & Assessment, FL	27 5:00 pm SCMFO, SS1 7:30 pm Leadership Development, FL	28 9:00am Monthly Hilltalk Mailing, Lib	29	30	



St. Andrew's by-the-Sea

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St. Andrew's by-the-Sea Core Principles

As fully-committed followers of Jesus Christ:

*We have been **transformed** by our encounter with the living God in Jesus Christ.*

*We practice **spiritual disciplines**, such as prayer, meditation, scripture reading, attending worship, receiving the sacraments, and fasting, which cultivate our daily conscious contact with God.*

*We seek to **learn** more about God through continual study.*

*We practice **sacrifice** through tithing and selfless giving of ourselves.*

*We actively work for **justice and mercy** in the world.*

*We seek **unity** through working and living in harmony with our community of faith.*

*We walk our spiritual journey with **honesty and authenticity**.*

*We live our lives **humbly** knowing the gifts we have received come from God.*



Easter at St. Andrew's

**8:00 a.m. Celtic Fire Service
with Communion**

**9:30 a.m. Children's Worship with
Puppets**

**11:00 a.m. Victory Celebration
with Communion**

**Easter Egg Hunts for children will be
during Sunday school at the 8 and 11
am services.**