

Hilltalk

November 2009

News & Inspiration
for Members & Friends

St. Andrew's
by-the-Sea

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



November is Missions Month

St. Andrew's has designated November to be Missions Month for 2009. St. Andrew's is involved in several missions both locally and around the world. Within this issue you'll find several of our mission opportunities: Welcome Inn (which helps locally by feeding the hungry), Sojourner's Ministry (helping those who have fallen on hard times), San Clemente Military Family Outreach and their Comedy Night, as well as some of the work St. Andrew's has been involved with in the Ukraine.

Putting our faith into action is at the very heart of our Christian faith. The New Testament instructs those who would be followers of Jesus to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give shelter to the homeless, heal the sick, care for the widows, and nurture the children.

Through our missions, every person in the church has the opportunity to serve and to live their lives more faithfully. And when we reach out and use what

God has given us in the service of others, we have life-transforming experiences.

Helping those in need and sharing with each other are what God expects. "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." - Hebrews 13:2

On Sunday, November 15, Mission & Outreach will host a Silent Auction with all proceeds to benefit all of St. Andrew's missions. Your support of these missions is vital and we hope you'll make a special effort to join us on November 16. As a side benefit, you may be able to get some Christmas shopping done, too.

Where will you be in mission in this coming year? How will you be the hands and feet of Jesus?

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- A full listing of staff, including email addresses, may be found on our web-site at www.sabts.org
- Deadline for next Hilltalk is **noon on November 16, 2009**. Please submit articles via email attachment whenever possible. All submissions subject to editing.

Pastor Paula's Peace

I am in the middle of the first volume of the Pulitzer Prize winning history/biography by Taylor Branch, *Parting the Waters: American in the King Years, Part 1*. It's quite a read. Since I was born in the mid-fifties, the history of the civil rights movement is familiar to me only as a kind of fairy-tale of long-overdue justice and heroes named Martin, Jack and Bobby.

What has been most unsettling as I read is the amount of hatred and violence that went on. I knew that the civil rights movement was a struggle. I've seen the photos of Freedom Riders and their beaten bodies. I've seen the footage of the dogs and the fire hoses. But, so much of the hatred and violence was not shown or reported. It's sickening.

My generation inherited a kind "that's been solved" belief about racism in this country that, as we grew up, was replaced with a subtler, less simplistic understanding. We now recognize that, while most Americans believe in civil rights for all, there are a few who mistakenly think it's a done deal and a tiny minority who cling to their hatreds for reasons that defy understanding.

As I've been immersed in this sweeping book, I learned about Keith Bardwell, a white justice of the peace in Louisiana who makes it a practice to refuse

marriage licenses to interracial couples, despite the Supreme Court's 1967 decision in *Loving v. Virginia*.

Bardwell explains his resistance to interracial marriage not as racism, but as a protective measure for the potential children of these unions who, according to Bardwell, are not accepted in any racial community.

It is impossible not to laugh aloud about the utter absurdity of defending the tragic mulatto narrative in the age of Tiger Woods, Mariah Carey, Ben Jealous, and Barack Obama. The hilarity is exceeded only by Bardwell's quaint assumption that refusing a marriage license to a heterosexual couple would block their ability to procreate.

It is clear that Bardwell is not protecting children; he is protecting a particular understanding of marriage rooted in old American bigotry. And, it's sickening.

As the body of Christ, we are, of course, here to love one another through the difficulties of our lives--divorces, lost jobs, children with addictions, unfaithful spouses and, yes, stubborn real estate transactions. But, even more, we are called to be the people who cry out to God for justice.

We are called to be the people who stand up in the world and say, "This is wrong." We are the

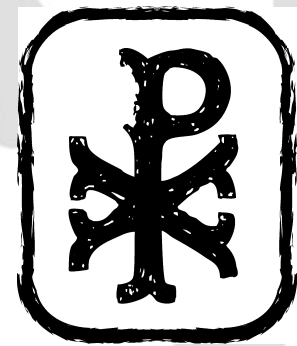
people who stand with the people who have been crying out, "How long, Lord?" for too long.

Sometimes we disagree about what is justice. This is not one of those times. And, we can certainly agree that we are the people who must cry out for justice, who must stand for justice, who must work for justice, who must insist on justice for **all** God's children.

In November, I will be preaching a sermon series on church "family." Come explore with me how we, as individual Christians, are a part of something bigger than our personal faith journeys and how we live as companions in Christ on a common journey to find the true way to God for ourselves and bring justice to a wounded world.

Shalom,

Pastor Paula



The ChiRho is an ancient monogram of Christ.

Children's Ministry News

In the end of October, the children trick-or-treated the congregation for UNICEF. The boxes were heavy with coins and even now the elves are busy counting each penny, dime, nickel and quarter. We'll report back to you in December with the final tally. A big thank you to all who donated those coins, dollars and checks. We are thrilled to participate in helping children around the world.

The annual Children's Christmas Eve service is quickly approaching. If your child is a good reader or plays an instrument and would like to participate in a Christmas Eve service, please let Emily know (at 949-412-7523 or emily@sabts.org). We need four readers and two instrumentalists.



Youth News

The youth group of St. Andrews has changed its name to Refuge! Refuge will be doing a lot of exciting things in November. First off, we are going to have a 'Refuge Re-do' on November 21st from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. We will be re-painting and re-designing the youth room. We would love your help. We need supplies and people power. Please contact Andrew to volunteer or for information at youth@sabts.org.

Refuge will be focusing, with the rest of St. Andrew's, on missions in November. We will look at what our mission field is, who our mission field is, and how we are all commissioned by Jesus to lead a life of missions. We will also have a guest speaker come a share their story about growing up in Venezuela and the Dominican Republic in a missionary family.

Items needed:

Paint (beige, black, white, red, green)

Rollers

Brushes (med and fine tip)

Hamburgers

Hotdogs

Buns

Condiments

Cheese

Water

Masking tape

Paper/plastic carpet tarps

We would love replacement items as well:

Bean bag chairs

Couches

Loveseats

Chairs

Pool sticks



Little Blessings

Congratulations to David and Amberly Petty on the birth of their son, James Wesley. James was born on October 19 and weighed an impressive 11lbs, 1oz at birth.



Congratulations also to two sets of proud grandparents. Joyce and Paul Obradovic welcomed their first grandson, Ethan Paul Krich on October 14, 2009. Marilyn and Ken Stark also welcomed a new grandson, Brayden Connor Stark, into their family on October 19, 2009.

All babies and families are doing well.

POLO & KPG

In November, Parents of Little Ones (POLO) and Kids, Parents & God (KPG) will combine for **Pizza and Game Night on November 6** in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Bring \$10 to contribute to the cost of the pizza and your favorite game to share. We'll play some big group games and then break out into smaller groups.

This is one of our most popular nights, so make sure to RSVP to Emily at 949-412-7523 or emily@sabts.org. Can't wait to see you there!

St. Andrew's Seventh Sojourner

Rev. Lucy was on duty at the hospital when their 5 month old daughter was brought to the Emergency Room. Dad found her unresponsive in her crib and the EMTs could not revive her. They are a San Clemente family with two other small children. Mom works as a nurse's aide. Dad is a truck driver whose hours have been cut due to the economy. They truly live

paycheck to paycheck.

Even though the mortuary gave them a discount, it set them back \$600 for their daughter's funeral. Paying for the funeral meant that they could not make their monthly rent. Our St. Andrew's Sojourner program stepped in, paying half of the rent in September and half again in October.

Sojourners is a beautiful program that truly makes a difference in the quality of the lives of the families we assist. For Sojourners to continue, volunteers to work the program must step forward! Please contact Diane Clark (cardiincal@cox.net) or Rev. Lucy (revolucy@sabts.org) for more information.

Chernigov, Ukraine: Part 1

by *Diane Clark*

In 2006, St. Andrew's sent our first mission team to Ukraine. Ten of our members returned in 2007 – eight serving on teams running summer Bible camps at orphanages. I can remember the congregation collecting supplies, medicine, clothing, and the sewing parties. It was not “just ten” going on that mission trip, at least in spirit!

If you have heard Rev Lucy's sermon based on 2007's trip or been to the team presentations, you know of the abuse, neglect and despair so prevalent in rural orphanages. And about the kids “aging out” of the orphanages at 15 to 16 years of age, leaving for a trade school system that can only be described as life in the slums. There are no social services for them. No social safety nets.

During the summer Bible camps, for several years, we taught the kids that Jesus

(Uucyc) loves them. We told them that God's people love them. When they were feeling lost, desperate, unloved, in trouble they should look for the church. We promised they would find love and assistance and acceptance there.

When we left Ukraine in 2007, our team members felt the pull of the Spirit and the call to do more. But, what? A summer Bible camp is a brief encounter that plants seeds.

To really nurture children and to change lives, children – especially orphans in an exploitative system, need consistent, long term ministry. A Bible camp is a nice first encounter for both Americans and kids. The next step needs to be more.

Fast forward to 2009. Through friends, we have kept up with news about the orphans at Krasni Hutor. The older kids are now in the trade school system, many

in the city of Chernigov. There is an orphanage here as well – Gorodnya. A small church here has ministered to orphans for several years. They have loving hearts and willing hands, but no funds.

Bodgan, a leader in the church orphan ministries, wrote to our friends, Roger and Beth Rymer: “Several orphanage graduates started to visit our church as of several weeks ago. They are helpless. Their lives are destroyed by evil (alcohol, drugs, prostitution) and are seeking Jesus. We never faced such problems before – so many kids came at one time and we don't have the ability to place them somewhere. Transition home for orphan grads at Chernigov becomes a very big need now.” What tugs at me most is how naïve my own promise to them was: “All you have to do is find the church.” (Watch for part 2 in December's Hilltalk.)

Comedy Show triggers more than laughs

The second annual SCMFO Comedy Show slated for November 7 is guaranteed to leave you laughing. But it will leave you, period, if you don't act quickly to get your tickets. The San Clemente Community Center will rock and roll while top comics help raise funds to put more than a thousand thanksgiving turkey dinners on the tables of low income military families in north Camp Pendleton. Families will pick up the frozen turkeys, roasting pans, stuffing mix, gravy, vegetables, cranberry sauce and pies on November 23 at an on-base site supervised by San Clemente Military Family



Outreach volunteers. The comedy show features two of the finest stand-up comics in the business -- Mark Schiff and Steve Mittleman. Both comedians have sparkling resumes, and each will take a turn at entertaining the Community Center crowd with their fresh, clean comedy routines. The doors open at 7:15 and the show starts at 8 pm. Pre-show food and drink is offered for sale at Fred and Judi Vote's "Big Bird Bistro", a dessert bar loaded with goodies and all proceeds going to fund

the turkey giveaway. Tickets are \$30 each. For more information, call 949.492.2537, visit the church office, or see Lee Beck after Sunday services.

Tickets are on sale on the patio after each Sunday morning service or in the church office.

Christmas for Ruth

81 year old Ruth, our first Sojourner, will celebrate Christmas by herself once again.



Ruth feels very fortunate to be in her studio apartment, safe and warm. She feels blessed to have assistance from St. Andrew's, with shopping and other needs.

In November, the Clarks will get a DVD player for her as she loves movies! For Christmas, it would be very special to take Ruth a basket from St. Andrew's. Will you please consider adding something to the basket? It will be out at coffee time. A \$10 Ralph's gift card (that is where she shops) or a DVD movie would be great! Please wrap and include a card from you and your family.

We will deliver the basket the week before Christmas. Maybe we can get a group to carol at delivery time? Ruth and all the others in her apartment building would love that!

Welcome Inn: Be the hands of Jesus

Every third Thursday, members of St. Andrew's prepare a hot dinner for 65 homeless or poor men and women in our community. Sometimes there are children at dinner. We serve two pieces of chicken, beans, salad, roll, bottled water, fruit and cookies.

It costs \$125 for the food and supplies to provide that meal once per month. The St. Andrew's Welcome Inn crew would like to take on a second monthly dinner night. We need to find a way to fund these meals.

Would you consider donating

\$5 each month to the Welcome Inn? On the third Sunday of each month, or when you make your monthly donation – put \$5 in an envelope and mark it "Welcome Inn." If you would like to donate by check, please make it out to St. Andrew's, with "M&O / Welcome Inn", in the memo section.

Additionally, please consider joining the Welcome Inn crew. Help is always appreciated – to cook, to clean up, to go to Doheny to deliver, serve dinner, and pray with the people who come to eat. Come! Be the "hands and feet" of Jesus!

Dates to Save

Make a note of these upcoming events and mark your calendar now to ensure you'll be able to join us!



- Wednesday, Dec. 2, 6 p.m. **Mary's Feast**, offsite. Join the women of St. Andrew's and our sister church, Palisades, for an elegant evening together. Contact Chris McCann (chris@sabts.org) for more information.
- Friday, Dec. 4, 6 p.m. **Advent Craft Night**, Fellowship Hall. Adults and children gather together to

begin the preparations for Christmas by creating meaningful symbols of Christmas. Contact Emily Bredthauer (emily@sabts.org) for more information or to volunteer.

- Saturday, Dec. 12, 9:00 a.m. **Breakfast with Santa**, Fellowship Hall. A treat for children of all ages! Pancake breakfast, photos with Santa, face painting and a special thank you gift all in one morning. Contact Chris McCann (chris@sabts.org) for more information.

- Saturday, Jan. 23, 2010 **SABTS Women's Retreat**, Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside. Rev. Dr. Carolyn Bohler, noted author and lead pastor of Redlands First UMC will facilitate this retreat. Contact Ann Small (spiritform@sabts.org or 949-369-5893) for more information or to express your interest.

St. Andrew's Day

It's shortbread and Tartan time again at St. Andrew's! November 22, 2009 is St. Andrew's Day and we'll celebrate our church's name sake.

Help dress the Sanctuary to celebrate this day with Tartans, plaids of all kinds and shapes. Please put your name on any plaid item you would like to loan, leave it in the Church Office and we'll return it to you.

Hmm... you say you have "nothing" plaid? Well then, consider making some Shortbread to share at Coffee Fellowship that Sunday. It's a simple recipe (at right) and a great one to do with kids.

Join us for a fun Sunday complete with plaid and bagpipes!

Shortbread Recipe

1 lb	Soft Butter
3 cups	Flour
½ cup	Sugar

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour baking pan. Mix all ingredients together until combined. Pat the mixture evenly into a 9 x 13 pan. (Enjoy licking the mix off your fingers after you're done patting it into the pan. Then wash your hands again.) Bake at 325 for 45 minutes. Remove from oven. Lightly sprinkle more sugar on top and cut while still warm. Enjoy a piece with some tea and bring the rest to share on November 22.

Prayers Needed

Please continue to be in prayer for:

Arliss & Betty Berenger
Bob & Ruth Creighton
Jeanette Hill
Barbara Larson
Fred Muster
Dorothy Osborne
Art & Jean Stafford
Bruce & Patty Walden
Peyton Woll

Memorial Chapel

There is only one niche left for sale in the Wall of Love. Church members can purchase this niche for \$2500. There are other niches available for sale in the Wall of Grace for \$3000. If you are interested in purchasing a niche, please contact Willa Coe (949-355-9291).

Ministry Openings

We have a few places for you to join 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? Perhaps you like the simple joys of getting to know others? Maybe you like helping people find the resources they need to be creative? Maybe you secretly love behind-the-scenes administrative tasks that make the day go smoothly? If this ministry sounds interesting to you, email Emily Bredthauer at emily@sabts.org. All training will be provided for this volunteer position.

Super Seniors

Plan to join Super Seniors on the second Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. for a program and luncheon hosted by Hanna Circle. This ministry is designed especially for active retirees and is a great place to meet new friends.

Programs vary from month to month and cover a wide range of subjects and talents. So come, enjoy and stay for lunch. You'll be glad you did!

On November 11, the Happy Hoofers dancers will be back. They are a "must see" group!

To RSVP or request more information, contact Judy Ferguson at 949-498-0654.

Thank you!

Dear St. Andrew's,

God only knows how much our family needed someone like you to care. He answered our prayers through your generosity.

We know he will continue to bless you all so that you can continue to be a blessing to many others.

Thank you!

Sojourner Family #6



Advent Series

Are you desiring contentment and peace amidst seasonal consumption? *The Songs of Christmas*, a four week study, will focus on the Songs of Zechariah, Mary, Simeon, and the Angels. Aligning with Pastor Paula's sermon series, it guides you in finding prayerful faith, hope, and trust while awaiting God's ultimate gift. Led by Ann Small, Director of Spiritual Formation, in her home on Wednesdays, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 at 7:00 pm. This study is also available at for home Bible study groups seeking a refreshing change of pace. E-mail Ann at spiritform@sabts.org or call 369-5893 to enroll.

The following article was discussed at the recent October “Prayer Series,” and seems particularly fitting this month as we join others around our dinner tables to pray, give thanks, and be present to God and each other. It has been shortened for this newsletter.

The Power of Presence in Prayer

Take time to settle your mind as you meet the Holy One.

by Trevor Lee

As a child I had the privilege of spending a month on the farm with my grandparents each summer. I learned to drive a tractor, feed chickens, and herd cattle, but the most important lesson I learned came before dinner each evening. As we assembled around the table, I dreaded the pre-meal prayer. My grandpa sat at the head of the table, and once everyone was seated he bowed his head and began to pray. When my grandpa prayed you knew you were going to be there for a while. He launched into what seemed like a one-hour prayer before every meal, and I would sit at the other end of the big kitchen table thinking, “I want mashed potatoes.”

All that changed one day shortly before my grandpa's death. He began to pray as he had so many times before, but this time I wasn't thinking about the potatoes; I was focusing on his prayer. He prayed for his family as though our well being **depended** on his prayer. He prayed for the kingdom of God like it was the most important thing in the world. And as he prayed he began to weep. It wasn't the first time he had cried while he was praying, and in the past I always thought it was a little strange. I don't know if it was the maturity that comes with being 12 or the Holy Spirit making me pay attention, but this time it grabbed my attention and I was moved—I wanted to start crying too. I understood that he was weeping because he cared about his petitions with a depth I couldn't fully fathom. His prayer was passionate and meaningful. His mind and his heart were fully engaged as he cried out to his Father.

Prayer should be a moving experience. It is entering the presence of the Creator. The image bearers uniting with the One whose image they bear. The broken feeling—the touch of the Healer. Entering the presence of the God who defies our explanation and cannot be contained should never be a boring experience. Yet it often leaves us uninspired. Why?

(Perhaps) we are left uninspired and wanting because we are not completely present with God when we pray. We thank God for the food we're about to consume, but our thoughts regress to the meeting we had that afternoon. We ask God to protect our kids while we ponder how to survive until the next paycheck. We sit down to listen to God and our mind wanders uncontrollably. We lack the ability or discipline to be truly present with God in prayer. Our culture has trained our minds to wander.

One way it has done that is by demanding that we multitask. Not multitasking is seen as wasting time. Our lives are so busy that to do one thing at a time just isn't efficient. I recently noticed a bumper sticker on the car in front of me that said, “Put the phone down and drive!” But we don't have time to put down our phones, the food we grabbed at the drive-thru, the makeup, or even the paper. The problem with multitasking is that it trains the mind to jump from task to task. As we work on one thing, our mind runs to other things that need to be accomplished. So we quit our original task to give attention to the task that just popped into our head, and this process repeats itself.

This translates into a horrible habit of being in the presence of people without being fully present. I often meet people at a bagel shop close to our church. As you approach the front of the line to order, there is a plain white sign taped to the counter that says, “Please get off your cell phone before ordering.” They're asking people to give them the courtesy of being fully present for 30 seconds while ordering. Being present with others is a basic human courtesy, even if our culture has overstimulated us into forgetting that.

When we don't give people our full attention, we can't truly engage them. We cannot see the pain or joy in their eyes, hear the tremble in their voice, or even remember what they said. Presence is essential in relationships, not just with other people, but with God. If we want to hear him, to be moved by the weight of our petitions, or to be awed by the privilege we have of approaching our Father, we have to be there—heart, mind, and soul.

There is no shortcut to being fully present in prayer; it is a discipline. As we begin to pray and our mind wanders, we must force ourselves to come back. One method I have found helpful is to choose a single phrase that can draw my mind back to God. Something like, “God is merciful.” Then when my mind tries to distract me from being in the presence of God, I have something I can use to coax it back.


Training our mind to focus and stay present with God is a process; it takes time and perseverance. But it is time well spent. My grandpa approached all prayer as more than a formality. He often wept because he was completely present. Being fully present in prayer increases the depth and joy of our prayer lives and allows us to enter the presence of God with awe and excitement.

Trevor lives in Denver, Colorado with his wife Michelle and two children, Isaiah and Ayla. He is the Pastor of Young Adult Ministries at Southern Gables Church in Littleton, CO.

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 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 10:00 am Women's AA, CR	9:30 am Mommy & Me, CC 9:30 am Holy Rollers 5:45 pm Bell Choir, CR 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, S	Office Closed 8:00 p.m. Al-Anon, Lib.	9:30 am Holy Rollers

November 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1—Daylight Savings Time Ends 12:00 pm Focus Team, SPO	2 7:00 p.m. Welcome, Lib. 7:00 p.m. Trustees, FL	3	4	5 5:30 p.m. Caregiver's Support Group, Lib.	6 5:00 p.m. POLO, offsite	7 2 pm Memorial for Jack Heath, S 8 pm SCMFO Comedy Night
8	9	10 7:00 p.m. Mission & Outreach, FL 7:00 p.m. Stewardship, Lib 7:30 p.m. Finance, SS1	11 10:30 am Super Seniors Luncheon, FH 12:30 pm Seniors Board, FL 7pm Worship Com., SS1 7 pm New Beginnings I, FL	12	13	14
15—Silent Auction, FH	16 12:00 pm Hilltalk Deadline 7:30 p.m. Invitation, Lib. 7:30 p.m. SPRC, SS1	17 7:00 p.m. Joint Council and Charge Conf., FL	18 7 pm New Beginnings II, FL	19 9:30 am Sarah Circle, offsite 12:00 p.m. Welcome Inn, FL 5:30 p.m. Caregiver's Support Group, Lib 7 pm Prayer Warriors, FL	20	21 8 am Men's Breakfast, FH 10 am Youth Room Re-do
22	23 7:30 p.m. Beyond Words, offsite 7:30 p.m. Planning & Assessment, FL	24 7:00 pm SCMFO, SS1 7:30 pm Leadership Development, FL	25 10:00 am Hannah Circle, FL	26—Thanksgiving Office Closed 	27	28
29	30		<u>Key for Rooms</u> CC: Children's Center FL: Fireside Lounge SPO: Senior Pastor's Ofc. CR: Choir Room Lib: Library SS1: Sunday School #1 FH: Fellowship Hall S: Sanctuary YC: Youth Center			



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.*

There's always more at
www.sabts.org

Open Minds
Open Hearts
Open Doors