

# 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

## Family Ministries Summer Recap

We had such a busy summer! Check out some of the service and fellowship events we had for our youth and children's groups.

**MIDWEEK MEETUP** Each Wednesday this summer we've met at various spots on the island for lunch and to hang out. We have had some great times together.



**BEACH NIGHT WITH BEEBEE FIRST UMC** In June, St. Andrew youth joined up at the beach with BeeBee First UMC, a youth group from Arkansas, who were on the island for a week of service. We had pizza, played some beach games, and enjoyed time in the water. It was great getting to know them.

**SALKEHATCHIE SUMMER SERVICE** At the end of June, a group of St. Andrew youth and adults spent a week in the Upstate. We linked up with a team of 30 other youth and adults to rebuild two



houses in the Piedmont community. This trip was a very eye opening experience for everyone involved. Working hard for those less fortunate tends to put things in perspective. We made some lasting friendships and helped spread the love of God in the local Upstate community.



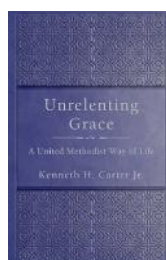
**SERVICE PROJECT WITH OPEN HEARTS UMC** In early July our youth group collaborated with the Open Hearts UMC youth from Greenville to complete a service project for those affected by the Texas flood. Our groups had lunch together at Al's Aloha Cafe and then met back in the Celebration Center to fill blessing bags with essential items for the Texas flood victims.



**BOAT DAY** At the end of July we had an awesome boat day packed with swimming, tubing, and good times, ending the day with lunch provided by our hosts, Marty and Becky Baroni.

## Unrelenting Grace - A United Methodist Way of Life

### Fall Short-term Study Options coming in September



This book by Bishop Ken Carter is an inspiring and practical resource for United Methodists who want to move forward with confidence and hope. As we wrestle with the effects of the pandemic, social disruption, and conflicts, *Unrelenting Grace* offers guidance for stepping into the future as individuals and as communities of faith.

Ken Carter reminds us of our core values as United Methodists, prompting us to rediscover, redefine, and reclaim the power of grace, holiness, and connection. We will see afresh ways to bridge the gap between faith and life, and rediscover deep connections of unity and love – and insights and courage to overcome feelings of isolation, loneliness, and alienation.

### Sunday Morning Study

September 7-28

10:15-11:00 am / Celebration Center Gym

Leaders: Kim Likins, Jim Gresham, Kerry Tilden, Wes Warren

### Wednesday Morning Study

September 10-October 1

10:00-11:00 am / Celebration Center

Leaders: Pastors Jonathan Tompkins, Frank Lybrand, Wayne Dickert

Books are available through the church (\$10). Contact Connie at [conniebhhiumc@gmail.com](mailto:conniebhhiumc@gmail.com) to sign-up and reserve a copy of the book.

## COMING UP IN AUGUST FOR YOUTH AND CHILDREN

- **Fall Kickoff** Youth and children are invited to kickoff the school year on Sunday, August 10. After the 11:09 service meet us in the back parking lot for bouncy houses, a taco bar, ice cream station, water games, mission opportunities, and a ton more. Bring friends!
- **Back To School Blessing** Our Back to School Blessing is on August 10 during both services. Students of all ages are encouraged to attend to receive a blessing for the coming school year. Stick around for the Fall Kickoff afterwards!
- **Biweekly UMYF** (United Methodist Youth Fellowship) Meet up every other Sunday night starting August 24 to eat, play, and talk about things to help us grow deeper in our faith. Parents: please contact Anna if you are available to provide food.

**ANNAMHHIUMC@GMAIL.COM OR TEXT 843.642.2747**



## Music Ministry at St. Andrew - Late Summer

Plans are underway for the upcoming fall season with the goal to expand our active and dynamic Music Ministry. We encourage and welcome interested individuals to join any of our groups.

**SEASIDE BELL CHOIR** – This group is seeking additional ringers! No prior musical experience or ability to read music is required; participants only need to be able to count to 4. We are an enthusiastic and welcoming group and always open to new members.

Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary, beginning again on September 2. Please consider joining us.

**SEASIDE CHANCEL CHOIR** – The Chancel Choir has experienced significant growth over the past year, but there is always room for new members to join us. No music reading skills are required and you do not need to commit to any length of time. If you are only in the area for the cooler months, or travel a lot, you are still most welcome.

Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm in the Music Room. The choir performs most Sundays from September through May, as well as during special services throughout the year. Regular rehearsals will resume on September 3.

**INSTRUMENTALISTS** – Instruments of all kinds enhance our services by creating richer and more meaningful worship experiences. If you play an instrument, please reach out for how you can participate.

Contact Bruce Gale at [bruceghhiu@mc@gmail.com](mailto:bruceghhiu@mc@gmail.com) if you have interest or questions.

## Fellowship Friends

**Tuesdays via Zoom at 10:00 am**  
with a different Focused-Sharing Topic  
or special guest each week

*Everyone is welcome to join the conversation!*

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. Call Jay at 843.342.6322.

## BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

Sunday, August 10, 2025  
9:00 + 11:09 am

Students (of all ages), teachers, school administrators + staff  
are invited to bring their backpacks, laptops + tablets to church



## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE GRANTS FOR 2025-2026

The Scholarship Committee received two scholarship applications for the upcoming academic year. The committee is pleased to have awarded a grant renewal to Tyler Brigham at the University of Hartford. A new grant was awarded to Pastor Brian Humphries, South Carolina Conference of the UMC, who will be pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. The grants will help both deserving individuals continue their educational and career objectives. Tyler is a member of St. Andrew by-the-Sea.

One way that you can have a direct impact in the life of a young person is to let us know of any rising sophomore who is pursuing a course of study leading to a degree for a career in Ordained Church Ministry, Christian Education, or Church Music Director. Such an individual does not have to be a member of St. Andrew or another Methodist Church.

The Scholarship Committee thanks members of the congregation for continued support of this important outreach activity of our church.

~Toney Mathews, Scholarship Committee Chairman



## ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Hilton Head Island, SC

St. Andrew By-The-Sea UMC and Hudson's Seafood House on the Docks will host the 26<sup>th</sup> Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, from 11am - 3pm. Attendees can expect the same gracious hospitality and delicious traditional Thanksgiving Dinner they've enjoyed all these years.

A brand-new website is currently under construction and is expected to launch this month. The website address remains the same: [www.communitythanksgiving.com](http://www.communitythanksgiving.com).

Volunteer registration opens after Labor Day and St. Andrew congregation and members will have the opportunity to register before the public announcement is deployed. Please watch the weekly church email blast for that announcement. Volunteer positions are expected to be filled with a waiting list in October.

Donations collected through the website and on Thanksgiving Day benefit Bluffton Self Help, Second Helpings, and The Deep Well Project.

Questions? Please contact Lesley Kyle at:  
[hhcommunitythanksgiving@gmail.com](mailto:hhcommunitythanksgiving@gmail.com) or 843.505.1370





# ChristmasGrace

## Christmas Grace comes to St. Andrew!

Christmas Grace is a very special long-standing St. Andrew ministry that allows disadvantaged parents in our island community to choose gifts for their children, and then celebrate together as families at a fun-packed Christmas party/fiesta.

On Sunday, December 7, St. Andrew will once again host the Navidad Fiesta, offering not only gifts for the children, but also family portraits; a fellowship meal; craft time when kids can make gifts for their parents; self-select tables of children's books, teddy bears, handmade items, and socks; and time with our Stephen Ministers.



On Sunday, November 9, 'Angel Trees' will be in the church narthex, decorated with tags with the names of the children who will be attending our fiesta, and their Christmas gift wish lists. Pick a name or two from the tree and have fun providing a child some special gifts. Unwrapped items are then

returned to church and will be waiting for the parents at the fiesta on December 7.

### There's plenty of room for YOU to serve!

The Christmas Grace Leader team will meet on **Tuesday, August 19, 1:15 pm in the Celebration Center** for those who wish to take a leadership role.

Contact Rebecca Jones at [pikejones22@gmail.com](mailto:pikejones22@gmail.com) if you have time, interest, or questions.



During summer, many of us can't make it to church due to travel or other commitments, and we might not be as faithful as we normally are in our financial support. But it's easy to make those gifts even when you're away. We encourage you to consider automating your regular donations.

To set up online giving or recurring gifts and tithes, visit [standrewbytheseaumc.org/donations](http://standrewbytheseaumc.org/donations) or scan the QR code. If you need assistance, please contact Paula in the church office at 843.785.4711.



To give online scan the QR code with your smart device which will take you directly to the giving page on St. Andrew's website.



Family Promise is a non-profit organization that provides temporary shelter, family stability, and permanent affordable housing solutions for families with children aged 18 and under.

St. Andrew currently supplies meals to as many as four families each month through Family Promise, with the potential to provide more meals as needed. This is a great service opportunity for small groups or families to prepare a meal for another family experiencing a crisis on a one-time or regular basis.

Get in touch with Dee Grubb at [bdgrubb@gmail.com](mailto:bdgrubb@gmail.com) to learn more or to sign up.

## Backpack Buddies OF HILTON HEAD



*The signature program of the Hunger Coalition of the Lowcountry*

School starts on August 6 and our Backpack Buddies (BPB) program will be starting back as well! This will be the 16<sup>th</sup> year for our BPB program in the Hilton Head public schools. St. Andrew is a Founding Partner Congregation, providing a location for storing food, serving as a packing site and meeting space, as well as contributing financially to the program. St. Andrew, along with three other HH churches, provides weekend meals for at-risk students at the three elementary schools on the island, and healthy snacks to middle and high school students.

St. Andrew's efforts specifically support the Backpack Buddies program at the Early Childhood Center, the pre-K and kindergartens on the island.

The projected food cost per student for this school year is approximately \$35 per month for the 9 months of the school year. In a few weeks, on **August 24**, we will be sharing a Missions Moment during the worship services to bring awareness of this important program. A portion of St. Andrew's annual budget supports Backpack Buddies, so thank you for your generous and faithful giving to the church.

We are looking for additional people to serve this academic year in a variety of ways: packers and drivers (1 to 2 hours a month), in-school fruit packers, (weekly duty of 1 to 2 hours, one month at a time), and someone with computer skills to coordinate food ordering and inventory tracking (2-4 hours per month).

Serving with Backpack Buddies is a great way to enjoy fellowship with other St. Andrew folks, and to play a significant role in helping hungry children in our community.

Interested in serving or would like more info?

Contact: Carol Ringler, St. Andrew BPB Volunteer Coordinator at [raringler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:raringler@sbcglobal.net) or Joe Kerr, St. Andrew BPB Coordinator at [jandskerr@gmail.com](mailto:jandskerr@gmail.com)



## Report on the 2025 SC Annual Conference

The past two years have been challenging for the United Methodist Church as 225 churches have left the denomination, surrounding the General Conference's decision to take out the harmful language in our discipline regarding sexuality, and allow same sex marriage and ordination of individuals who identify as LGBTQIA+.

The theme of this year's conference was "See the Possibilities of a Seed." Bishop Leonard Fairley proclaimed, "Don't let anybody tell you The United Methodist Church is dead. It is alive!" He urged the church to continue planting seeds of possibility with courage; looking to the future, not dwelling on the past. Bishop Fairly has organized a team of people designated as a "Jeremiah Team" who are charged with reimagining how we live out our call; realigning Conference Staff, looking at all the different areas of ministry that make up our conference and being creative to make better use of the resources we have.

The body approved five resolutions which had been submitted.

1. LGBTQIA+ Inclusion in Ministry
2. Our responsibility for Personal Health
3. Upholding the Dignity of All Mothers
4. Supporting South Carolinians Living with Dementia
5. Recommitment to Collegiate Ministry as a Priority of the Church.

All of these resolutions are on the conference website included below, section 5, if you'd like more information about them.

At the last General Conference which took place in 2024 after having been delayed by Covid since 2020, four amendments to our constitution were proposed and passed. In order for these amendments to become a permanent part of our constitution however, they must be ratified by a 2/3 vote of 2/3 of the annual conferences within the next five months. We will not know the result of our vote until all votes are tallied in November later this year.

The most impactful amendment is Regionalization, which is basically a reorganization of worldwide conferences to reflect the equality of all regions of the United Methodist Church. Up until now, the UMC has been US centric, with any conferences outside the US having been called Central Conferences. Now all conferences worldwide will be considered "regional" and with these changes, "there shall be no regional or jurisdictional conference based on any ground other than geographical division." This change will also allow the different countries to do ministry in the context of their own cultures.

The other amendments: 1) expanding gender and disability inclusion in church membership; 2) standing against racism and colonialism, and 3) clarifying requirements for clergy-delegate elections. These amendments are also in Section 5 on the website included below.

# SAVE *the* DATE

Saturday, October 18, 2025

10:00 am to noon

Presentation + Reception

Dr. Julius Scott

Lecture Series

Hosted by the Bridge Builders Committee

Racism and the Church: How Do We Respond?

Keynote Speakers

Bishop Robin Dease

Bishop Kenneth Carter

Church  
Council  
Update

### Our 'Seamless Staff'

"Summer time, and the living is easy" goes the song. Well, maybe for me and thee, but certainly not for our staff! There are certain days of the year where pastors or administrative staff are to be recognized but as most of us are enjoying travels, beach time and a change of pace I felt compelled NOW to call out our wonderful St. Andrew staff and all that they do to keep things running seamlessly.

Sunday bulletins are always prepared, quarterly financial statements appear complete and on time, youth group is flourishing and activities continue, Sunday worship is filled with wonderful music and uplifting sermons, our property looks good and is a welcome beacon for all who are visiting...all of this is expected of course, and is indeed 'seamless,' but it only happens because of their dedication and focus. And, while we may be taking the summer off, they are already busily gearing up for a busy and exciting fall.

We are very blessed in many ways, but especially by our staff. The next time you stop by the church, take a moment to thank each and every one of them for the role they play. They are just one of the many reasons St. Andrew is a very special place.

~ Sarah Coffin, Church Council Chair

Also of note, there was a motion to go on record as a conference, expressing concern about the federal government making deep cuts to needed federal jobs, health care, education, non-profit agencies, universities and discrimination without justice against the vulnerable immigrants and LGBTQ+ persons. This motion passed overwhelmingly without any descent.

The overall sense of unity without uniformity was very prevalent. There is a spirit of Hope for the future of United Methodism particularly in South Carolina that was contagious, especially as youth delegates on behalf of Connectional Ministries gave out bright red, heart shaped stress balls as well as t-shirts imprinted with the words "...By Our Love" reminding us how we are all to be recognized as Christians.

For more information visit: [ac2025.umcsc.org](https://ac2025.umcsc.org)

Respectfully submitted by, Merryl Dietz. St. Andrew Lay Delegate



# memory matters

## BRAIN BOOSTERS

### Time & Location

Wednesdays, September 10, 17 + 24

1:00-3:00 pm

St. Andrew By-The-Sea UMC, Celebration Center

Sponsored by the Health Ministry of St. Andrew

### About the Classes

Brain Boosters is a 3-week brain wellness course for active adults interested in improving brain health and learning positive lifestyle choices.

### Details

The classes take place over 3 consecutive weeks. If you must miss, you may make it up at another location and time. Class size is limited to 24 people, with a minimum of 12 required.

• **Cost** \$120 per person

• **To Register** Contact Memory Matters

📞 Call 843.842.6688

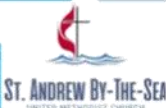
🌐 Visit [mymemorymatters.org/events](http://mymemorymatters.org/events)



Scan the QR code



20 Pope Avenue • Hilton Head 29928  
843.785.4711 • [standrewbytheseaumc.org](http://standrewbytheseaumc.org)



## August Soup Kitchen Report

During the first half of this year, 3,600 lunches have been served at our Soup Kitchen. Tuesday lunches are provided as nutritious takeaway meals, while Fridays feature kitchen-prepared, sit-down service. The St. Andrew Soup Kitchen is projected to serve over 7,000 lunches in 2025.



Our Harvest Table program supplied groceries and fresh produce to 6,000 individuals through June 30, which indicates that more than 12,000 family members will receive fresh produce and groceries in 2025. The estimated retail value of Harvest Table food distributions for 2025 is expected to reach approximately \$150,000.

Food donations are received from Second Helpings, Deep Well, and recently, through a generous \$9,000 grant from The Church Mouse Thrift Shop. Additionally, your regular, generous contributions to St. Andrew allow us to purchase \$1,000 worth of groceries every month. The Harvest Table groceries are a true blessing to families, allowing them to free up their limited funds to meet their housing and transportation costs.

St. Andrew church members and friends are encouraged to donate food items regularly via two primary avenues: the blue Blessing Box located in the parking lot, and the white Giving Cart available outside the sanctuary entrance on Sundays.



The blue Blessing Box functions under the principle of "Give What You Can and Take What You Need." It is restocked three times weekly by Soup Kitchen volunteers. Church members are invited to contribute routinely, for example, donating one item per member each Sunday.

The white Giving Cart offers another opportunity to donate to the Soup Kitchen and is located near the church entrance each Sunday. A list of recommended food items for donation is provided in the cart.

There is a significant need for both recycled plastic and paper grocery bags; approximately 200 plastic bags are used weekly for Harvest Table distributions, and paper bags are delivered to Deep Well every Friday for their distribution efforts.



Your generous support for the Blessing Box, the Giving Cart, and to St. Andrew in general is appreciated—the Soup Kitchen team thanks you!

If you'd like to serve at the Soup Kitchen, please contact Tom Sharp at [thomasossharp@gmail.com](mailto:thomasossharp@gmail.com).

### GIVING AT A GLANCE (January-June 2025)

	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget	Variance favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Contributions	\$532,681	\$520,800	\$11,881

### OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES (January-June 2025)

	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget	Variance favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Revenue	\$535,848	\$529,926	\$5,922
Expenses	\$507,579	\$529,926	\$22,347
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$28,269	0	\$28,269



**Moms' Night Out**  
Thursday, August 21  
6-8pm at The Bank  
59 Pope Avenue, HHI

Connect (or reconnect) with other St. Andrew moms to chat about life and your family as the new school year begins. Hear about plans for a new monthly small group for moms to help us all stay connected as we nurture our own faith through the busy-ness of life. **Bring a friend and take a break with us at The Bank!** (No RSVP required)





20 Pope Avenue  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

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## *Connect with us!*

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

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

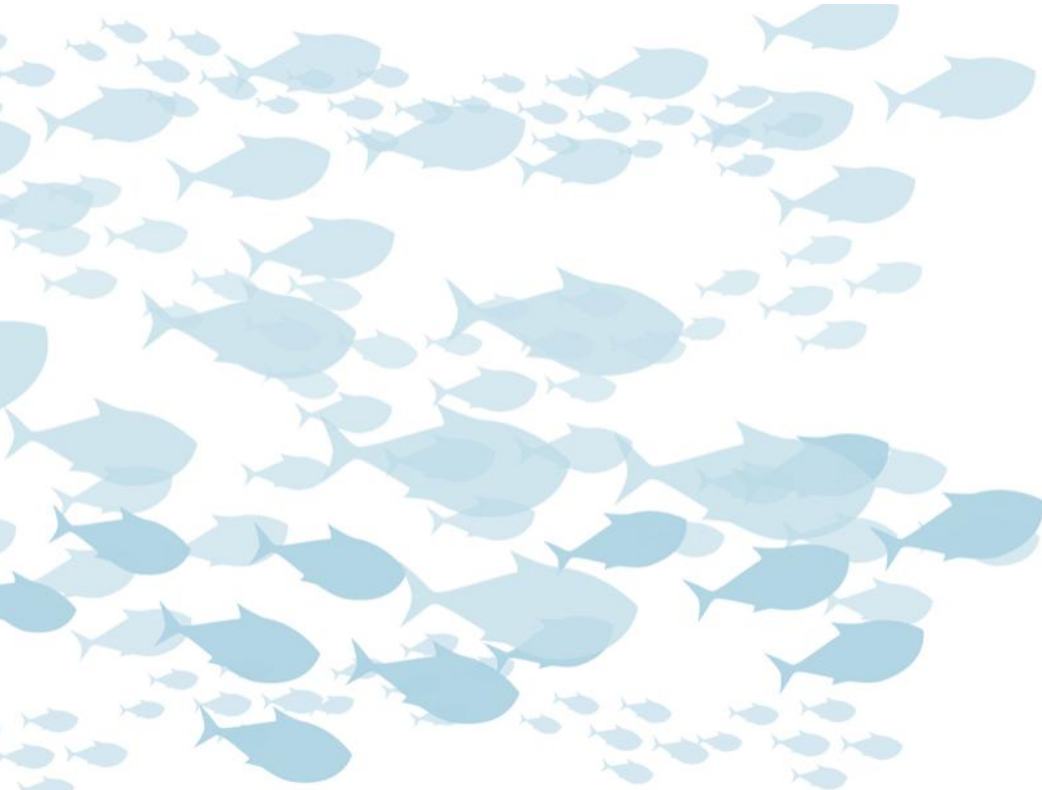
### SUNDAY WORSHIP

In-person + Online  
9:00 am Traditional Worship  
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.*