

September 2025

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

As we welcome everyone 'home' this month, you are invited to go on a trip with us to Greece and Turkey from the comfort of our church home!

Our September series, *In the Footsteps of Paul*, will help us follow some of the missionary journeys of the Apostle Paul as he brought the good news of God's Kingdom to the world at large. Through videos and photos from our recent church trip this past spring, we will be able to go 'on location' and walk with Paul in Athens, Ephesus, Corinth, Philippi, and other places of note, along with travelers from St. Andrew By-The-Sea, Bluffton UMC, and Travelers Rest UMC.

We are excited that our friends at Bluffton UMC, led by Pastor Scarlett Hester, will be following this series as well – we encourage you to tune in to their services on YouTube (after worshipping here, of course :o) to get Scarlett's perspective on the journey, and we will have the special honor of welcoming Pastor Scarlett here on September 21 while I swap pulpits with her and preach at Bluffton that day.

(www.youtube.com/@BlufftonUnitedMethodistChurch)

Join us for the journey this month!

Grace and peace, *Jonathan*



Welcome
home
SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
Two Services : 9:00 + 11:09 am
Refreshments between
and after services
St. Andrew By-The-Sea UMC

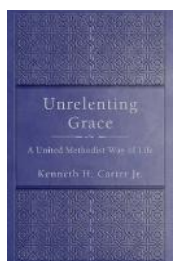
Has it been a while since you've been to church? Have you been meaning to get back? Been away for the summer or traveling? We hope you will join us for a day celebrating the blessings of being part of God's family.
No matter who you are or how long you've been away, welcome home!



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL

Follow along as we embark on a new sermon series, tracing the missionary journeys of the Apostle Paul. Through videos and photos from a recent church trip, we are going 'on location' and walking with Paul in Athens, Ephesus, Corinth, Philippi, et al, along with fellow travelers from St. Andrew and two other United Methodist congregations.

Join us for the journey!



Unrelenting Grace - A United Methodist Way of Life Fall Short-term Study Options Beginning this month

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 to sign-up and reserve your copy.



As the summer winds down, and school is back in session, our thoughts turn to Fall and the resumption of committee work, Church Council meetings and various ways to be engaged as a member of the St. Andrew family.

I encourage everyone to reflect on how they might serve, but I particularly welcome *new* members to “jump in” and find their niche. Look over the Fall Opportunities insert included with this month’s newsletter, and find something just right for you. Serving together is a great way to meet other members and share your talents and experience.

We especially need volunteers on the Safety and Security Team. The primary goal of this group is to coordinate a response in the event of a medical emergency...a fall, a stroke, a cardiac event.

Members are trained in CPR and serve one Sunday a month. The team on duty coordinates a 911 call, guides emergency responders to the incident, and provides guidance to the congregation if necessary. We have been fortunate to avoid any major issues, but being prepared with an action plan is the best approach to ensure the security of our members and guests.

Methodists are called to support our church through our presence, our prayers, our offerings AND our service. Won’t you join us and lend your gifts as we continue to strengthen our church? ~ Sarah Coffin, Church Council Chair

New Book Discussion Group This Fall

The Widening of God's Mercy

Sexuality within the Biblical Story

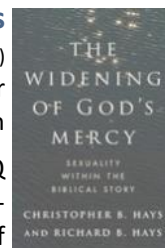
by Christopher B. Hays and Richard B. Hays

Mondays

October 6 - November 17 (skipping Nov 3)

4:30-5:30 pm / Celebration Center

Facilitators: Merryl Dietz and Kerry Tilden



For decades, the question of whether LGBTQ persons should be included in Christian communities has been debated by scores of Christians of almost every denomination. Arguing over a handful of verses in a few books of the Bible, homosexuality has been condemned by the very conservative, defended by the most progressive and generally accepted by the vast middle majority.

These authors, a father (a New Testament scholar) and son (an Old Testament scholar) explore a more expansive way of listening to the overarching story told in the-scriptures. They remind us of a dynamic and gracious God who is consistently broadening His grace to include more and more people.

We will be discussing the entire book over six weeks this Fall. We invite all to come, no matter your opinions. Please join us for what we hope will be lively and informative conversation!



ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Hilton Head Island, SC

The Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner has a brand-new website! Visit us at the same address:

www.communitythanksgiving.com

The 26th Annual Dinner will be held Thanksgiving Day, November 27, from 11 am - 3pm at Hudson’s Seafood House on the Docks.

Volunteer registration opens after Labor Day and the St. Andrew congregation will have the opportunity to register before the public announcement deploys. Please watch the weekly church email blast space for that announcement.

Questions? Please contact Lesley Kyle at:

info@communitythanksgiving.com or 843.505.1370

GIVING AT A GLANCE (January-July 2025)

	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget	Variance favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Contributions	\$588,754	\$607,600	(\$18,846)

OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES (January-July 2025)

	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget	Variance favorable/ (Unfavorable)
Revenue	\$600,364	\$618,247	(\$17,883)
Expenses	\$594,595	\$618,247	\$23,652
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$5,769	0	\$5,769



Sharing Our Social Media Impact

by Lorena Best, Communications Chair

I thought you would find some recent Facebook and Instagram stats for our church interesting. During the period of July 13 to August 13, 2025, our church's social media presence demonstrated remarkable reach. On Facebook, our posts collectively garnered 22,800 views, while Instagram posts reached 2,100 views.

UNDERSTANDING TRUE IMPACT

It's easy to think that 'likes' are the only measure of impact, but that's far from the whole story. The real value lies in the reach—how many people see our posts, engage with our community, and discover the vibrant life of our church.

GROWTH AND CONNECTION

It has been inspiring to witness our social media growth over the years. Every view, share, and comment represents a connection with someone in our church family—or perhaps someone just starting their search for a church home. So many wonderful things are being shared, and the best part? It's all free.

GRATITUDE FOR COMMUNITY

I am grateful for each of you who contributes to our thriving online community. Your involvement helps spread joy, hope, and connection beyond the walls of our church.



Diane Bollerman has served as the Nursery Coordinator at St. Andrew By-The Sea since 2000. She enjoys the children and has made life-long relationships with many of them and their families. She's been here long enough to

have gone to graduation ceremonies and weddings of children she cared for in the nursery.

When asked what she likes most about what she does at St. Andrew, Diane says, "I am a people person and I love the children, they are simply magnetizing. The children and their parents are like my family, and I'm so honored to be able to spend time with them."

**Thank you, Diane, for your 25 years
of faithful service at St. Andrew**
You are appreciated and loved!



COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Family Promise of Beaufort County provides temporary shelter, fosters family stability, and offers permanent affordable housing solutions for families with children aged 18 and under. As the only shelter program in Beaufort and Jasper Counties, they fill a critical need in the region. Their services extend beyond housing, providing assistance with securing employment, access to medical care, childcare, and school placement. To further empower parents, the organization offers Life Skills programs focused on parenting, household management, and budgeting. The aim of Family Promise is to offer a hand-up, not a handout, and currently, four families are housed at their Freedom House facility.

Churches and individuals across Beaufort and Jasper Counties collaborate to provide dinners for resident families five nights each week. The St. Andrew Soup Kitchen team plays an essential role by supplying a complete, nourishing meal every third Friday. In addition, the team delivers health and hygiene products from the Suds Sunday supply to the Family Promise Day Center in Bluffton. Through these efforts, the St. Andrew Soup Kitchen is truly a blessing to these families in need.

If you'd like more information about how you can serve with Family Promise or our Soup Kitchen, please contact Dee Grubb at bdgrubb@gmail.com

Your Endowment Committee is suggesting a variety of ways you can consider giving to the permanent Endowment Fund of St. Andrew By-The-Sea United Methodist Church over the next year through articles in The Fisherman monthly newsletter.



ENDOWMENT FUND

Earlier articles have described giving through bequests and life insurance policies. This month we focus on an excellent way to donate through a gift of stock, especially if it has appreciated in value since you acquired it. The increase in the stock price is subject to capital gains tax, which can be avoided, and there could be other tax advantages of the remaining stock value depending on your situation. Consult with your tax advisor to determine what is best in your case.

All gifts to the Endowment Fund are kept in perpetuity and only the earnings are used to support special church functions and programs.

For additional information, contact Bruce Siebold, Chair of the Endowment Committee, at 843.368.7788 or via email at brucesiebold@gmail.com.



Children + Youth Fall Event Highlights and Upcoming Activities

FALL KICK OFF EVENT

A huge thank you to all the adult volunteers who helped make the Fall Kick Off on August 10 such a success! Your support made the event possible. Despite challenging weather, we had a big turnout, and everyone enjoyed an afternoon filled with games, a fun raffle with prizes, an awesome time in the bounce house, and an amazing taco bar.

UPCOMING FALL RETREAT

The momentum continues with the Fall Retreat for students grades 6-12, planned for September 12-14 on St. Simons Island, Georgia. The weekend will be spent at the Epworth By-The-Sea Retreat Center, featuring guest speaker Pastor Matthew Price and worship led by Sarah Mount.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church has resumed for the school year and children, 5th grade and below, are invited to join Anna in the Children's Room for a lesson, crafts, and games following the Young People's Discipleship Moment at the 11:09 worship service.

UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship)

Students grades 6-12 meet up at UMYF every other Sunday night to eat, play, and talk about things that help us grow deeper in our Faith. Check the calendar on the St. Andrew website (link below) to see when we meet next.

SMALL GROUPS

Guys and girls grades 6-12 are invited to meet every other Sunday in small group settings for Bible study, exploring our faith, and talking about life. Beginning in October.



SMALL GROUPS for guys + girls starting soon

Bible study, exploring our faith, and talking about life

COMING UP

- Sunday, October 26 - Halloween Party
- Sunday, November 16 - Friendsgiving
- Sunday, December 14 - Christmas Party

Contact Anna Musselwhite, Director of Family Ministries, with any questions about children's or youth activities, or if you'd like more info on how you can serve in this exciting area of our church. annamhhiiumc@gmail.com or text 843.642.2747 standrewbytheseaumc.org



Music is vital to worship at St. Andrew, with opportunities for all styles and ages. Whether you love hymns or modern songs, there's a place for you. Explore the options below to get involved this Fall.

PRAISE BAND

Our 11:09 Praise Band consists of volunteers, both instrumentalists and vocalists, who bring contemporary Christian music for modern worship experiences here at St. Andrew. There are opportunities open to singers and musicians—including guitarists, bassists, percussionists, saxophonists, horn players, and string players—who want to share their gifts and be part of a dynamic worship team.

Interested in joining?

Contact Bruce Gale at bruceghhiiumc@gmail.com with your interest and for the rehearsal schedule.

SEASIDE CHANCEL CHOIR

Participating in the Chancel Choir is a great way to meet new people while using your musical gifts to serve God, the church, and the community. The choir leads worship each Sunday at the 9:00 am traditional service, as well as many other special services throughout the year. If you can't make a weekly commitment to join, you are welcome to participate for special occasions (holidays, cantatas, etc.) - we would be happy for you to join us as your schedule allows.

Rehearsals

Chancel Choir rehearsals are in the Music Room Wednesdays, September through May, 5:30 – 7 pm, and Sunday mornings.

Interested in joining?

The Chancel Choir includes members and non-members of the church who volunteer their time to support the music ministries of the church. The choir is open to all adult vocalists high school age and older. There is no audition and all are welcome. The Chancel choir is led by Bruce Gale, St. Andrew's Music Director. For more information, or to join, contact Bruce Gale at bruceghhiiumc@gmail.com

SEASIDE HANDBELL CHOIR

St. Andrew's handbell choir helps lead worship monthly, generally the second Sunday of the month. The choir is open to anyone interested, regardless of handbell experience or ability to read music.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals are in the Sanctuary Tuesdays, September through May, 2:00-3:00 pm.

Interested in joining?

New ringers are accepted at any time; there is no audition. Contact Bruce Gale at bruceghhiiumc@gmail.com

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Instrumentalists of all ages, musical styles, and abilities are invited to participate in our music ministry. Whether you enjoy playing solo, in a small ensemble, or as an accompanist, there is a place for you at either the Modern or Traditional service.

Interested in joining?

Contact Bruce Gale at bruceghhiiumc@gmail.com

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



Scan the QR code



20 Pope Avenue • Hilton Head 29928
843.785.4711 • standrewbytheseaumc.org



SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

USE WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE RECEIVED TO SERVE OTHERS
- 1 PETER 4:10 -

For all contact information and easy sign up or any of these ways to serve God and the people of St. Andrew, please visit standrewbytheseaumc.org/serve-on-a-team

COMMUNION SERVERS

Servers are needed the first Sunday of every month. No previous experience required.

11:09 MUSIC LEADER (paid position)

We are seeking someone to lead singing, head the band, and coordinate music planning for our modern service.

Contact: Pastor Jonathan for a detailed job description or more info.

SAFETY + SECURITY TEAM

We are seeking individuals willing to be trained and serve on the Safety and Security Team. No previous professional security or medical background required; flexible scheduling.

Contact: Bob Blitzler, Safety + Security Coordinator



RACISM AND THE CHURCH

How Do We Respond?

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
10:00 AM

THE CHURCH'S HISTORY WITH RACISM AND ITS EFFORTS TO DISMANTLE IT

The vestiges of America's original sin—racism—are still with us. While progress has been made, the work of justice and healing remains unfinished. Racism continues to divide and harm individuals, communities and churches across generations. Let's journey together toward justice, understanding, and change.

Why This Conversation Matters

Racism is not just a political or social issue, it's a matter of faith. This event invites people from all backgrounds and perspectives to join in honest, hopeful dialogue about:

- The roots and realities of racism today
- Why justice and reconciliation matter to us all
- Biblical and ethical foundations for action
- How faith communities and allies can lead the way

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Bishop Ken Carter

Resident bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church



Bishop Robin Dease

Resident bishop of the Georgia Episcopal Area of the United Methodist Church, including the North Georgia and South Georgia Conferences

Saturday, October 18
10:00-11:30 am

at St. Andrew By-The-Sea
United Methodist Church

20 Pope Avenue, Hilton Head, SC 29928
standrewbytheseaumc.org • 843.785.4711

Reception to follow presentation
Hosted by the Bridge Builders Committee

A
Dr. Julius Scott
Lecture Series
Presentation

Come with an open heart and mind • Bring your questions • Free Event • All are welcome

FELLOWSHIP FRIENDS

Tuesdays via Zoom, 10:00 am

Watch the St. Andrew email each Thursday
to see the weekly Focused Sharing Topics

To join in the Fellowship Friends Zoom

or for more information,
contact Jay Graves at
jaygraves@hotmail.com
or call 843.342.6322



TECH TEAM

Anyone, middle school age and up, is invited to be part of our Screen Team, helping to operate Sunday morning worship. No previous experience necessary, training provided.

Contact: Bryan Dobbs, Tech Coordinator

HOSPITALITY TEAM

While we live in a community where the hospitality industry thrives, we in the church are also called to thrive with our Christian hospitality. A goal is to create a team that will vision, develop, and carry out various hospitality practices.

Contact: Pastor Jonathan



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Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

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Connect with us!

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

Church Office Hours
M-F 9:00 am - 4:00 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.

