

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



On Sunday, April 26, we began a 4-week series called 'De/ReConstruct,' delving into our doubts and questions in order to reconstruct our faith in the Risen Christ.

In this age of so many people deconstructing and demolishing their 'theological houses,' it's important to note that the church can be a place where doubts can be

expressed, questions can be asked, harmful and death-dealing ideologies deconstructed while at the same time, helpful and life-giving theologies REconstructed, even within the church walls.

We ended the service that Sunday singing 'House of God,' a fairly new hymn written by Marianne Kreitlow in the year 2000. We will sing this hymn each Sunday during this series, and I love that it portrays the church, and each of us, as 'the house of God' in which each of us is always welcome, even amidst changes and seasons, worries and excuses, trials and stories...This beautiful song resonates with me on many levels at the moment, and I'd like to share the words with you as a prayer of encouragement, and challenge, as we go through this holy season of 'tearing down and building up,' 'doubting and believing' together.

This is the house of God. This is the gate of heaven. This is a holy place. You are always welcome. Trust and know I'm always with you through all changes and all seasons. When you wake and when you're sleeping. All is well.

Live in the house of God. Live at the gate of heaven. Life in a holy place. You are always welcome. You are always precious to me. You are always perfect to me. Stop your worry, your excuses. All is well.

You are the house of God. You are the gate of heaven. You are a holy place. I am always welcome. Through your tears and through your courage, through all trials and all stories. Cradled in my arms please hear me. All is well.

You are the house of God. You are the gate of heaven. You are a holy place. I am always welcome. This is the house of God.

Grace and peace,

Jonathan

Farewell to Pastor Jonathan and Family

Pastor Jonathan, along with Rebecca, Edward, and Mary Elizabeth, will soon be leaving St. Andrew for a new assignment. Their final Sunday with us will be June 14. As we prepare to say goodbye, we invite everyone to join us in celebrating their time here and expressing our appreciation for their ministry.

Farewell Lunch

Before their departure, we will host a farewell lunch in honor of Pastor Jonathan and his family. Because of travel commitments for Annual Conference in June, the lunch will take place on Sunday, May 31, immediately following the 11:09 service in the Celebration Center. This gathering will give us an opportunity to offer our thanks and bless them as they begin their new chapter.

Join Us Both Sundays

We invite everyone to attend both the farewell lunch on May 31 and Pastor Jonathan's last Sunday with us on June 14. Watch for additional details in the coming weeks.

11:09 MUSIC LEADER

We offer a farewell blessing to Wayne Altman, moved back to Ohio to help take care of some family members. Wayne was with us a short time as our 11:09 modern service music leader, but we are thankful for what he brought to our services.

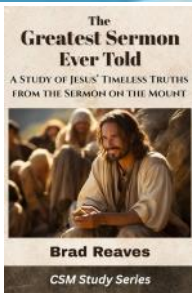
As we wish Wayne well on the next step of his journey, we'd like to officially welcome Jason Snyder as our new music leader for the 11:09 service. Jason has degrees in Music Education and Choral Music Conducting, has experience in teaching music in the public school system, and leading music in church settings in both traditional and contemporary worship. Our 9:00 service folks will recognize him as a new member of our choir, and our 11:09 folks have already experienced his skills on the piano and at the mic. Welcome to the St. Andrew family of faith, Jason!

Congratulations 
Class of 2026

IT'S GRADUATION SEASON! Share with us the name of your 2026 graduate, their degree, school from which they are graduating, and any future plans. We will publish graduates' names in the June Fisherman and future bulletins and weekly email Blasts.

Email all information to standrewbythesea@gmail.com by May 15 to be included. *Please note that by submitting grad information, you agree that this information may be shared in various St. Andrew publications.*

Studies This Month



NEW!
The Greatest Sermon Ever Told: a Study of Jesus's Timeless Truths from the Sermon on the Mount

Men's Devotional Group

Thursdays :: Begins May 21

8:00 - 9:00 am :: Zoom only

Jesus of Nazareth preached the greatest sermon ever told, the Sermon on the Mount. His life-changing words instruct how to live in this world as one of His followers. His message pierces the heart with the precision of a surgeon and reveals our need for a Savior. By studying this sermon, you will learn how to live as a citizen of the Kingdom of God. In these pages, discover Jesus' timeless truth for living with joy, integrity, and unshakable faith. Whether you are new or a seasoned believer, this book will help you understand and apply Jesus' words to your life. Author Bradford Reaves walks you verse by verse through Matthew 5-7. More than a commentary, this study is both theologically rich and intensely practical.

Contact: Dave Peterson at dvdpltrsn@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

**Hope for Hard Times:
Lessons on Faith from Elijah and Elisha**

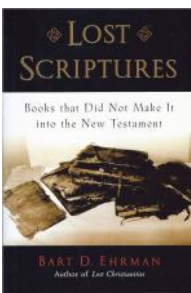
Seekers Class

Sundays :: Ending May 10

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

We've all been there. Rock bottom. The end of our rope. The last straw. During hard times, it often seems like the only option is to throw in the towel. In this book, Magrey deVega examines the lives of the great biblical prophets Elijah and Elisha and reveals a consistent message in their stories: Don't give up, and don't lose hope. Through the stories of these prophets you will find God provides for Elijah when he feels alone and ready to give up while hiding in a cave listening for God's still, small voice. God provides for Elisha when he is surrounded by enemies and praying for spiritual eyes to be opened to hope.

Contact: Kerry Tilden at christedhhiiumc@gmail.com



The Acts of Peter

Joy Class

Sundays :: Ending June 7 :: HYBRID

10:15 - 11:00 am

Admin. Bldg. Conf. Rm or Zoom

The Acts of Peter was written in the second century. This is a legendary account of the Apostle Peter presented as a miracle-worker confronting both non-Christian pagans as well

as other Christian sects. The book was written to popularize and promote the new religion known as Christianity. It ends with Peter's crucifixion. For those attending via Zoom, *Lost Scriptures* by Bart Ehrman is recommended (book not audiobook).

Contact: Wes Warren, wwarren23@aol.com

NATIONAL DAY of Prayer

Thursday, May 7, 2026

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

St. Andrew Sanctuary + Chapel

St. Andrew will be open to all who would like to stop by for a few minutes of reflection, petition, and thanksgiving. Pray for our country, your own needs, for those of others, for our community, and for all of creation.

Self-guided prayer prompts will be provided



A MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

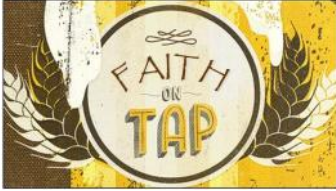
We come before the Creator of all to remember those who bravely served our great country and, as a result of their service, were called home by our Lord. Father, we ask for Your blessing upon the souls of those men and women who gave their last breath in defense of our nation, our freedom, and our children's future. We also ask You to bless us and grant us the strength to rise to the challenges of our time and meet them in full faith that You will always be with us. We pray for peace. May we glorify You in all that we do, Lord, today and every day. Amen.



Church Membership

We invite you into fellowship as a member of our church family. On Sundays, use the attendance pad to indicate your interest in joining at St. Andrew, or email to standrewbythese@gmail.com, and one of our pastors will contact you.

Fellowship Opportunities This Month



Faith on Tap
 2nd Thursday of the month
 This month :: May 7 :: 6:00 pm

The newly established Faith on Tap group meets at different breweries or pizza spots on Hilton Head and in Bluffton and offers family-friendly events. Email to RSVP and find out the location. Last one until Fall!

Contact: Linda and Steve Jennings, lmathomenc@icloud.com

Games Fellowship
 3rd Friday of the month
 This month :: May 15

6:00-8:00 pm :: Celebration Center

Come play games—card games, board games, parlor games. All ages welcome, perfect for a family night out; bring a savory snack to share, beverages provided. Last one until Fall!

Contact: Kerry Tilden at christedhhiumc@gmail.com



Men's Basketball
 Tuesdays :: 6:30 pm
 Celebration Center

For questions and/or to join the weekly interest email list, contact Scott Wild, scottwild74@gmail.com



SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

Attention rising college sophomores! Applications for St. Andrew scholarships, either new or renewal, are due by the end of May. If you or someone

you know is eligible, please take advantage of this church ministry. Information about eligibility and application forms are available on the church website or contact Bob Oetjen, Committee Chair, 203.650.1084 or robertoetjen1@gmail.com.

Send all required application materials **by May 31** to:
 St. Andrew By-The-Sea United Methodist Church
 Attn: Scholarship Committee
 20 Pope Avenue, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928



GIVING AT A GLANCE (January-March 2026)

| | Year-to-Date Actual | Year-to-Date Budget | Variance favorable/ (Unfavorable) |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Contributions | \$309,852 | \$305,420 | \$4,432 |
| OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES (January-March 2026) | | | |
| | Year-to-Date Actual | Year-to-Date Budget | Variance favorable/ (Unfavorable) |
| Revenue | \$345,526 | \$310,900 | \$34,626 |
| Expenses | \$260,103 | \$299,032 | \$38,929 |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit) | \$85,423 | \$11,868 | \$73,555 |



May Donuts + Discussion

Sundays, May 3, 10 + 17, at 10:15 am in the Youth Lounge.

Currently Discussing:

'A New Season: TURN, TURN, TURN - Ecclesiastes 3:1'

Contact: Alan Prochazka at umyfhhiumc@gmail.com

UMYF on

SUMMER BREAK

Starting May 24



As the choir takes a well-deserved summer break, we will be singing your favorite hymns and praise songs during worship.

Use the index cards found in the Sunday bulletins in May and submit your **three** favorite hymns and/or praise songs. We will sing one each Sunday throughout the summer.

Fellowship Friends

We continue to meet weekly

Tuesdays via Zoom at 10:00 am

A different Focused-Sharing Topic or special guest each week. Email jaygraves@hotmail.com for a Zoom invitation. If you do not have access to the internet, you can still participate via telephone by calling Jay at 843.342.6322



Epworth's Mother's Day Offering
 Sunday, May 10, 2026



20 Pope Avenue
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Hilton Head, SC
Permit No. 46

Address Service Requested



Connect with us!

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

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

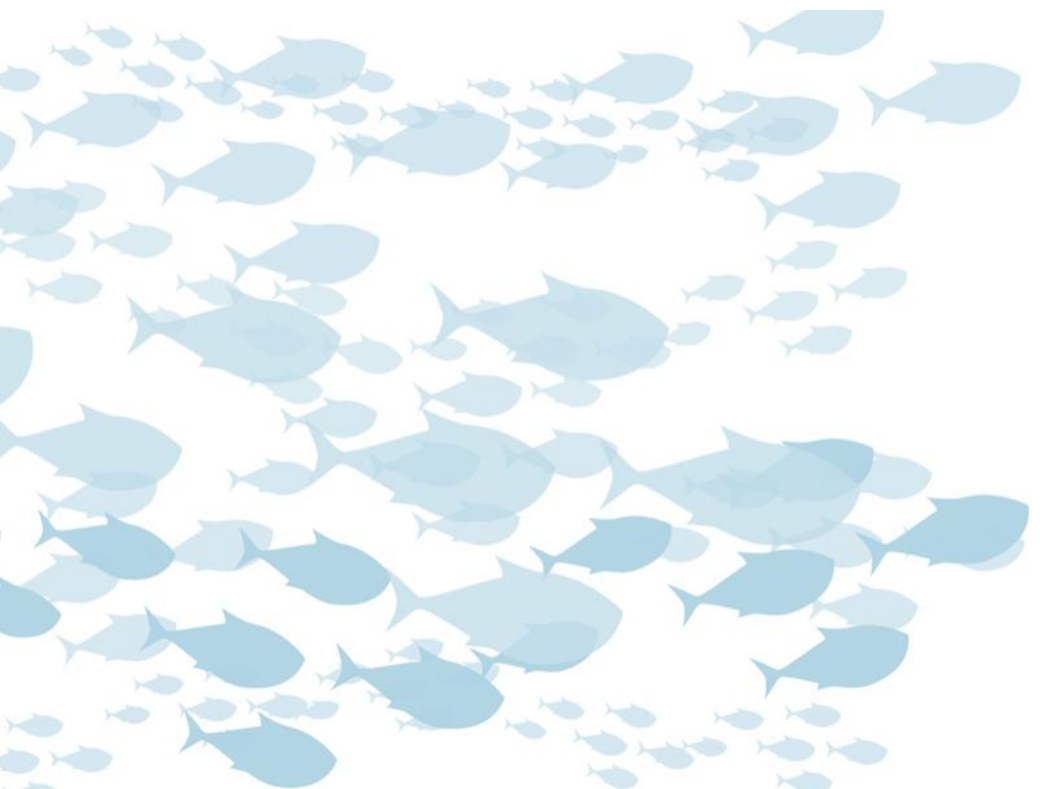
SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

Rev. Jonathan Tompkins
Senior Pastor

Rev. Frank E. Lybrand
Associate Pastor

Find us on all your
favorite platforms



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