

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

St. Andrew Welcomes New Senior Pastor Rev. Steve Patterson



Steve and Debra Patterson met in 2008 and spent a few years getting to know each other while hiking, kayaking, and enjoying the birds, trees, dragonflies, and wildflowers of many outdoor places. They were married January 16, 2011, and remain very happy to have each other.

Debra is originally from Lewiston, Maine, where two of her three siblings still reside. The professional course of her life has been in the field of nutrition, spending her career as a Certified Diabetes Educator and a Registered Dietitian, mostly recently using her skills in the AnMed cardiac rehab department. Besides Maine, she has lived in Wisconsin, Maryland, North Carolina, and three pastoral appointments in SC.

Steve grew up in Antreville, South Carolina, as the eldest of six children. His parents still live there. He became a United Methodist pastor in June 1985. As he begins his work at Saint Andrew By-The-Sea, his pastoral leadership in the South Carolina Conference will have included service in several districts: Anderson, Orangeburg, Florence, Rock Hill, Hartsville, and now, Walterboro. He served in Anderson multiple times, including as district superintendent.



During his final two years as district superintendent, he also supervised 22 churches in the Greenville District as the conference completed its transition from 12 districts to 10. A huge focus for Steve is the valuation of all people: We are a community of God's people on a sacred journey together.



Steve and Debra are both dedicated birders, and free time always has binoculars close by. The blessings of time in creation cannot be overstated for them. While they will miss mountain views and the small farms of the upcountry, the smells of salt marsh and ocean air are some of the best ideas God ever developed. Debra and Steve both are excited for this opportunity to live and practice discipleship among the people of Hilton Head and Beaufort County. They are ready to grow with the people of this place.

welcome

The Sowing and the Growing

by Rev. Jonathan Tompkins

St. Andrew By-The-Sea Family,

As I reflect on my time here with you, two different images come to mind. One is the 'Quilt of Love' that we have stitched and patched together these past three years as part of the 'Handiwork of God' (more on this in my last three sermons with you).

Another image that resonates with me is that of a garden. As you know, Rebecca has become quite the gardener this past year, and many of you have been graced by the beautiful flowers and vegetables she has grown. We have been graced during our time here, by the seeds that we have planted, some of which have grown to fruition, others of which are sprouting, still others which will spring up in their due time as Pastor Steve arrives to 'water,' and to plant some new seeds.

With that image in mind, I'd like to leave you with this prayer from Joyce Rupp, in her book *Praying Our Goodbyes*:

'The Sowing and the Growing'

*I did the planting, Apollos did the watering,
but God made things grow* (1 Corinthians 3:6)

Days of hard hoeing, careful setting of seeds,
delight of daylight, announcement of green touches.
Earthened secrets give birth.

After hours in the garden, a greater meaning comes
between the tiny radishes and tender shoots of asparagus.

Autumn will find me elsewhere,
the garden left to harvest by hands that never knew
the birth of its greening.

So, too, with my ministry.

The garden encircles the truth:

Sowing and going are trademarks, familiar patterns, for disciples.

The tug of sowing and going is tempered by the
stronger hold of a much greater Gardener,

One who sowed first face of seed, who entrusted the growth to
others, and gave himself to the going.

Thus it is that I stand reflectively in a garden so much smaller,
praying the heart of sowing and going,
and wanting to join in the journey.

(from *Prayer for one Going to a New Ministry*, pg 151)

St. Andrew By-The-Sea, thank you for this sacred season of sowing together, and for your prayers in the going, and in the growing, as we all now continue the work of The Gardener, still rooted in the same calling, though now planting in different plots. Grace and peace,

Jonathan



TYLER BRIGHAM will graduate with a Bachelor Science degree in Exercise Science/DPT, Summa Cum Laude (perfect 4.0). He will be attending USF in Tampa, FL for DPT school (Doctorate in physical therapy). Tyler has been a recipient of the St. Andrew scholarship program. He is the son of April and Bryant Brigham.

BRUCE WILLIAM DUDA will graduate from Lewis University in Illinois, with a degree in aviation technology. He is the grandson of Dave and Linda Haleks.

HENRY RAYMOND DUDA will graduate from York Community High School in Elmhurst, IL, and will be attending the University of Dayton, pursuing finance and football. He is the grandson of Dave and Linda Haleks.

LINDSAY MAYA HALEKS will graduate from New Milford High School in New Milford, CT. In the fall, she will attend Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI, pursuing a degree in art and design. She is the granddaughter of Dave and Linda Haleks.

KAITLYN ELIZABETH MITCHELL will graduate from the University of Alabama with a degree in Arts and Sciences. She is the granddaughter of Dave and Linda Haleks.

KATE MCKENNA will graduate from the University of George, Summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, Bachelor of Science in Psychology, and a minor in Sociology. She is working as a Community Supervision Officer for the Georgia Department of Community Supervision in the Guinnett field office. Kate is the granddaughter of Betty Saunders.

WILLIAM R. NICOL, III (TRIPP) will graduate from Bluffton High School and will work for the Charleston Fire Department while starting his Bachelor's in Fire Administration with an arson and explosive investigation focus from Eastern Kentucky University.

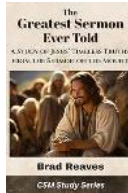
BILLY PERRITT will graduate from high school in Harrisonburg, VA, and will attend James Madison University in the fall. Grandparents are Bill and Nancy Putnam.

MERRITT RISHER will graduate from Hilton Head High School and will be attending Clemson University in the fall. She will be a 5th generation Risher to do so. Merritt is the daughter of Jennifer and Tom Risher.

PAIGE SNYDER will graduate from University of Colorado, Boulder, with a Bachelor of Science in business and marketing. Grandparents are Bob and Karen Gentzler.

*May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you. May the Lord lift up his
countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen!*

FAITH + nurture



The Greatest Sermon Ever Told: a Study of Jesus' Timeless Truths from the Sermon on the Mount
(Men's Devotional Group)

Thursdays :: 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.

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.

12TH ANNUAL Juneteenth CELEBRATION
Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park
40 Harriet Tubman Way
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

Thursday
June 11TH
Juneteenth Campfire, Conversation and Sleepover with Joe McGill | 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Friday
June 12TH
Children's Drum Camp | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Juneteenth Drum Circle | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Saturday
June 13TH
Juneteenth Celebration | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Main stage performance by Stokley Williams of Mint Condition, plus an Old School Dance Contest, karaoke, Dr. Marlena Smalls, The Voices of El Shaddai, new installations, an Arts & Crafts Vendor Village, food trucks, and more.

Friday
June 19TH
Juneteenth 5k Run + Walk | 9:00 AM

SATURDAY
JUNE 13TH
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
\$10 ADULT/CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE
FOR TICKETS & MORE INFORMATION SCAN HERE

Performance By **Stokley**
Grammy-Nominated vocalist of Mint Condition

For more information visit www.exploremitchelville.org or call 843-255-7301. @exploremitchelville

GIVING AT A GLANCE (January-April 2026)

| | Year-to-Date Actual | Year-to-Date Budget | Variance favorable/ (Unfavorable) |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Contributions | \$411,968 | \$407,740 | \$4,228 |

OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES (January-April 2026)

| | Year-to-Date Actual | Year-to-Date Budget | Variance favorable/ (Unfavorable) |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Revenue | \$449,258 | \$414,730 | \$34,528 |
| Expenses | \$375,703 | \$402,542 | \$26,839 |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit) | \$73,555 | \$12,188 | \$61,367 |



SUMMER Worship

Sundays at 10:00 am

St. Andrew By-The-Sea UMC
July 5 through August 9

Regular Worship schedule resumes August 16



Bag: a container made of flexible material with an opening at the top, used for carrying items

Bags are almost as important a mainstay at the St. Andrew Soup Kitchen as are our dedicated volunteers. Without either, we could not serve 40-50 guest households each Tuesday and Friday.

Plastic and paper **bags** play an important role. So let's explore St. Andrew Soup Kitchen's **bags**!

Bags bring to the Soup Kitchen the wide variety of homemade sandwiches, cookies, chips, apples, oranges, and bananas required to assemble 100 takeout **lunch bags** every Tuesday. Volunteers generously donate 80% of the food items needed for these meals, making it possible for the Soup Kitchen to offer Tuesday **bag lunches** as well as Friday sit-down lunches at an affordable cost of \$1.50 per meal. In 2025, we served a total of 8,800 lunches. Each week, 150 **plastic bags** are used to package the take-home **bag lunches**.

Bags, as in many bags make it possible for guests to select, often without restriction, a wide variety of grocery items to bring home for their families. At the start of their visit to the pantry line, guests usually pick up three or four **plastic grocery bags** to begin their shopping. As they proceed down the line and their bags fill up, our attentive volunteers are prepared to offer additional **bags** as needed. Typically, another two to three **plastic Harris Teeter bags** are provided, which are gratefully received and quickly filled with more groceries. Over 400 **plastic bags** leave the Celebration Center each week full of nutritional and "no cost" groceries. Each week, more than 400 **plastic bags** leave the Celebration Center, packed with nutritious and cost-free groceries for our guests. Volunteers on the Harvest Table line remind one another that "we are in the distribution business not the warehouse business," making sure that every guest family receives the groceries they need.

In 2025, the St. Andrew Soup Kitchen Harvest Table "bagged" over \$148,000 worth of groceries to 40 guest households. According to Feeding America's calculations, this distribution translates into approximately 65,000 meals served throughout the year. The result is a significant food savings—about \$3,750 per guest family in 2025.

The support provided by the Soup Kitchen has a significant effect on the lives of our guest families. Each month, by distributing approximately \$300 worth of **bagged** groceries per family, we enable

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

**MEN'S
OPEN-GYM
BASKETBALL**



Fellowship Friends

Tuesdays via Zoom at 10am

with a different Focused-Sharing Topic or special guest each week

Contact Jay Graves at jaygraves@hotmail.com for the link

or call 315.882.6847 to join by phone



them to redirect their limited income. This assistance allows them to allocate more of their resources toward essential and often rising expenses such as housing and transportation.

In addition to groceries, the Soup Kitchen extends its support by supplying diapers and clothing. Currently, around 200 seasonal clothing items are distributed each week, offering further relief and stability for our guest families by easing the financial strain of purchasing these necessities.

The Soup Kitchen requires a tremendous number of **bags** each week. Internally, we rely heavily on recycled and donated **plastic bags** to meet our needs. However, our commitment extends further—we also need just as many **paper bags**, which are collected and passed along weekly to our parter, Deep Well, for their operations.

Help by collecting **plastic and paper bags** and dropping them in the Soup Kitchen box in the church office, in the white shopping cart on Sundays, or at the Celebration Center on Tuesdays and Fridays. Your support makes a difference—thank you!



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!

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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
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.