



ANDY'S NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF ST ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sun City Center, FL

MAY 2024

Inside This Issue

From the Pastor's Desk.....	1
Bible Insights	2
Announcements	3
GA Stated Clerk Nominated.....	3
Church Staff	4
Worship Volunteer Schedule.....	4
Sermon Messages for May	4
Mission Yearbook of Prayer.....	5-6
Bulletin Board	7-8
Calendar	9

Worship Schedule

Sunday Mornings

10:30 AM

Live Streaming

st-andrew-church.org/live

Dates of Interest:

Men's Breakfast.....	May 02
	May 16, May 30
TRSS Faith & Art	
Workshop 'Praying with	
Our Eyes & Ears'	May 04
Kentucky Derby Party	May 04
TRSS Tours of our faceted glass	
collection.	May 10
Mystery Dinner Theatre	
'Cirque de la Morte' ..	May 17-18
Ladies Brunch Bunch	May 21
Pizza & a Movie	May 23

From the Pastor's Desk

Breakthrough Summer 24

As we begin our hot summer in Florida, I am reminded of God has been blessing our community of faith, our efforts, our outreach and even our hearts. These Rocks Shall Speak has brought a fresh breeze in our worship, our personal spirituality and even the community. We will continue this summer with a series of sermons based on the scriptures reflected in our Faceted Glass collection. As we experience this excitement, my mind went to the real roots of how all this may happen. We need to really understand that Jesus did not die "just for you." Jesus did not rise for you alone, and Jesus did not send the Holy Spirit to dwell just in you. Jesus died, rose, and sent the Spirit for the Church. Yes, each of us are part of the Church and in that sense, Christ died for you, rose, and sent the Spirit for you, and all in Christ. But we must not remain isolated on little islands of faith. Like, I'm spiritual, I don't need a church. The Church is a body, not an institution, (thou is run like an imperfect human institution) it is a living organism of people walking together in Christ lead by the Spirit. So, we are members of one another, brought together in Baptism, (note; we are not just baptized, we are baptized into the Church.) to be and become a beloved community in Christ. What does this mean? Well, it means that we belong to a spiritual home, it means that in the context of this spiritual home we can thrive spiritually, and it means that we have a call to serve one another to include the least of these. In the imperfect church we belong, we grow, and we serve! Get involved, get in the groove of what God is doing! Because if These Rocks Shall Speak, so will we with our witness of God's love in Jesus Christ.

New Disciples Class on Sunday May 19th at 9:00am. Please sign-up or tell Edwin.

Bible Insights

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:10



In this daily Bible reading Paul speaks of the afflictions that believers must endure here on Earth. Paul says that these afflictions are necessary and will lead to wonderful things after we die. Paul said, “Momentary light afflictions is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison.”

Compared to the paradise that awaits believers in Heaven, our afflictions are minor. Therefore, if we focus on our eternal destination, Heaven, it will be easier to endure our afflictions.

The Bible says that afflictions are necessary to keep us on the pathway that leads to Heaven. King David in one of his Psalms said, “Before I was afflicted, I went astray.”

Our Heavenly Father disciplines us, just as our earthly father does. Discipline is necessary in raising children to become good adults. The Bible says that such a godly discipline for us is evidence that God considers us his children. We should be grateful for this.

If we aren’t disciplined for sinful behavior, it may be that we are children of Satan rather than children of God. Therefore, I am grateful that God disciplines me and keeps me on the pathway to Heaven. This mindset helps me to endure and strive to live obediently before God.

The Bible says that one must endure to the end of one’s life to be saved. We must therefore endure our afflictions and grow stronger in our Faith.

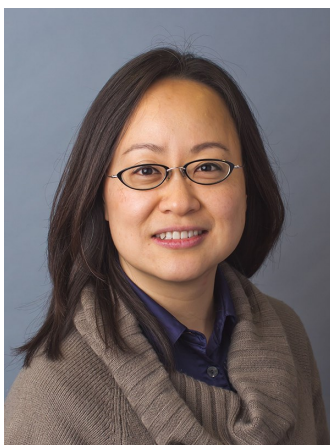
Announcements

May 4	9:30am - 12:00	TRSS Faith & Art Workshop - "Praying with Our Eyes & Ears" Discover Visio and Lectio Divina with Rev Mike Murphy and his wife Anita Lustrea in this FREE workshop - Lunch is included.
May 4	4:00pm	Kentucky Derby Party in fellowship hall. Food and Fun before the race (race starts 6:45pm approx.). Tickets \$10 on sale now.
May 10	10:00am & 1:00pm	'These Rocks Shall Speak' Tours of our faceted glass collection.
May 17-18	4:30 pm	Mystery Dinner Theatre performances of 'Cirque de la Morte' by The Pelican Players. Doors open at 4:30pm. Tickets are \$30 and include dinner:- Menu ~ Chicken Marsala & Vegetables, Dessert, and choice of beverages

If you didn't get your photo taken for the Church Directory but would still like to be included, you can submit your own photo, along with the \$15 fee, by May 6.

Contact Lou Putnam for details. You will also receive a copy of the directory.

The Rev. Jihyun Oh is the nominee to be the next Stated Clerk of the General Assembly



The Rev. Jihyun Oh, director of Mid Council Ministries and an Associate Stated Clerk in the Office of the General Assembly, is the selection of the Stated Clerk Nomination Committee to be the next Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Oh's first name is pronounced "Jee-hun." If elected, the 1.5 generation Korean American, who was born in South Korea and raised in Kansas, would be the first Korean American to serve in the PC(USA)'s highest ecclesial office, only the second woman, and the first woman of color.

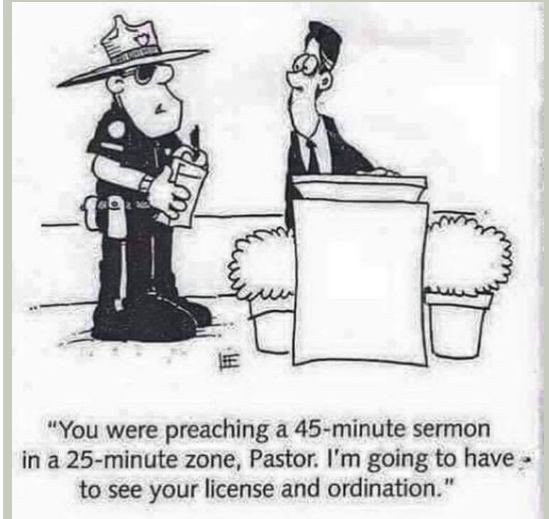
"I'm really honored and humbled to be nominated," Oh said. "I certainly felt like I have some gifts I brought to this time and place, and I imagine others did too. I have enjoyed every conversation with them," she said of the committee. "They are a diverse group of engaged people who are exercising

faithful leadership. We got into deep theological discussions about the future of the church and society. They deepened my understanding of the church."

Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, June 30-July 4, commissioners to the 226th General Assembly will vote on Oh's nomination. It's possible other candidates who applied will also seek the office on the floor of the Assembly.

Church Staff	
Pastor	Rev. Edwin Gonzalez-Gertz
Office Assistant	Steve Downie
Financial Administrator	Christine Johnson
Treasurer	Bob Meier
Sexton	Inez Lafleure
Organist	Ruth Downie
Director of Worship Arts	Steve Downie
Newsletter Editor	Paul Stratton

Worship Volunteer Schedule		
Date	Worship Assistant	Usher
May 5	Carol Strum & Grant Strum	Mary Laipple Mike Signorile Bev Barriger Evelyn Mclean
May 12	Marios Johnson & Pam Cunningham	
May 19	Debbie Pulcini & Steve Reisser	
May 26	D Kay Benson & Bob Meier	



Sermon Messages for May

May 5	Communion and Special Guest Speaker
May 12	Mother's Day : Resurrection Stories: Liberated John 21;9-19
May 19	Pentecost TRSS Sermon series begins: The End and The Beginning Act 2
May 26	Triptych 1 Creation Genesis 1 & 2 Selected Verses

Mission Yearbook for Prayer

Trinity Presbytery's Vital Congregations Coordinator says older Presbyterians have plenty of wisdom to share

Dr. Phyllis W. Sanders, Vital Congregations Coordinator for Trinity Presbytery, took on the study "Gaining Wisdom Through Vital Conversations: Voices of the Aging" because of what she calls "my innermost desire to continue to learn from the elderly."

The seven women and men Sanders interviewed for the project are between the ages of 91 and 104. The report is the second installment in an Older Adult Ministry Project Report.

"I chose to interview the oldest adult individuals because they make up the largest population in most churches, especially since the pandemic," Sanders wrote in her report. "Yet, the clarion call that is being made is for younger people."

For Sanders, an important consideration was, "How do church leaders utilize older adults to gather information about their experience, wisdom about what the church has done in the past, and thoughts about what the church can do to grow in the future?"

Each of the seven people Sanders interviewed has been with the Presbyterian church for more than 70 years. "Should their thoughts and opinions be ignored?" Sanders asked. "Their lifelong discipleship formation has been shaped by the Presbyterian Church. They are living a long life, and they recognize there are reasons for their longevity."

Asked about what they attribute to living their long life, a 103-year-old woman said, "God's grace." Two others — one 104, the other 91 — said it was healthy eating, while the 104-year-old added, "having fun and staying who you are and having good friends."

The 103-year-old is still in her home and has lived in the same community for more than 60 years, in a neighborhood where everyone knows her. All five of her children call her every day and make one or more visits each day. She remains politically involved with city and state officials. She attends church most Sundays, and members bring her food and goodies on a regular basis.



**Dr. Phyllis W.
Sanders**

Mission Yearbook for Prayer (Continued)

When fellow members of her church visit people who are sick or shut in, the 104-year-old often accompanies them.

When asked how churches can become more vital for meeting the needs of the congregation, one 95-year-old responded with, "churches should have mixed music, hymns and gospel music." Another 95-year-old suggested "there needs to be more teaching in the preaching for both adults and children to learn and apply it in their life." A 91-year-old believes that the churches "must keep God at the center of our lives" and that Satan "wants to stick his head in the church, and if the church allows him to stay, people will have lots of trouble."

The 103-year-old contended that these days, "churches are like social clubs, with no respect for worship." Many churches "have lost their vitality for discipleship and fellowship," this woman said. The 104-year-old said, "Sitting at home on the computer for church does not have the same effect as being in the church among others."

"Preaching things contrary to the Bible is wicked, and God is not pleased with wickedness," said a 91-year-old man. "Be careful with who you put in the pulpit. It can destroy a church rather than build a church."

"This practicum experience was most meaningful," Sanders wrote in the report. "It allowed me to review the research and apply it to what I observed, heard, and felt during my time with seven men and women who have lived to be in the ninth decade of life."

Asking questions, according to Sanders, "can be the single most important factor in stimulating and enlivening participation in adult discussions." It "was interesting to hear," Sanders said, "that all of the interviewees had daily interactions, either with family and friends or through activities, telephone calls and group games."

Dr. Phyllis W. Sanders is Vital Congregations coordinator for Trinity Presbytery, a Matthew 25 presbytery. Among those Sanders thanks for their participation in the "Vital Conversations: Voices of the Aging" project are Corine Lytle Cannon of the Presbytery of Charlotte; Jean Bell, Herbert Croxton, Willie Pollin and Nancy Scott, all of Trinity Presbytery; Sarada Mitchell of National Capital Presbytery; and Margaet Spinks of Salem Presbytery.

Bulletin Board



Our Mission:
St Andrew Church is called to -
 "Welcome all to connect with God and one another, through creative worship, innovation in ministry, and embracing hospitality, by renewing and restoring the joy of a spiritual home."



'These Rocks Shall Speak'
FREE 'TRSS Walking Tours'
MAY 10 @ 10am & 1pm
 guided tour + cookie & punch reception
 Sign up or call the Church Office



'These Rocks Shall Speak'
'Praying with Our Eyes & Ears'
a workshop in Visio and Lectio Divina
 (Lunch included)
Sat, May 4 @ 9:30am - 12:00
 call the Church Office 813-634-1252 to sign up



JOIN US!
WOMEN'S BRUNCH
MEN'S BREAKFAST
 Third Tuesday @ 10am
 Venue: Bob Evans
 1st & 3rd Thursday at 8:30am
 Venue: Bob Evans
 Next Meeting: May 21
 Next Meetings: May 16



CENTRAL FLORIDA
 I-4 REGIONAL CONVENING
FRIDAY | MAY 10 | 12:00 PM
 Denise Marrero
 954-544-9881
 dmarrero@faithinflorida.org



Easter Worship Series
Resurrection Stories
 Unlock yours.

Want to be an Event Coordinator for SAPC?
 We are looking for a dynamic **EVENT COORDINATOR** to expand the St Andrew venue!
 • Weddings
 • Conferences
 • Group Meetings
 • Community Events etc
 For further details contact **Bob Meier** or **Grant Strum**



The Giving Tree located in the Atrium
 Give a little extra boost for specific needs or projects.
 Every little helps!




Knit, Crochet, Pray Group
 Contact Kim Bauer (813) 344-9213
 Donate yarn or funds with the Church Office
1st and 3rd Wednesdays
10am in Room 2



HOSPITALIZED or NEED HELP?
HELP ME
 If you are hospitalized, need help or a visit from the Pastor... Please have a friend or family member call the Church Office so that we are aware of your needs...
813-634-1252
We're here to help!

Bulletin Board



MAY 4
doors open 4:30pm

Food & Fun activities before the race (starts 6:45 approx.)

Tickets \$10
includes food buffet
Available now!



METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES

HOPE IS HERE

Andy's Kitchen opens with a **free** lunch on Wednesdays at 11:30 – bring a friend!
Now with weekly entertainment
Donate a Cake for Dessert!

Interested in the local and international Missions of St Andrew Church?



Find out more on our Missions involvement at St-Andrew-Church.org

Presented by: 

Fellowship Hall Doors Open 4:30pm

CIRQUE DE LA MORTE
by James Williams
a murder mystery

Friday 17 & Saturday 18 May

Tickets \$30 (includes dinner)

Menu ~ Chicken Marsala, potatoes & vegetables, dessert & beverages

ONLINE GIVING
now available



Use the QR code on your mobile phone or follow the Online Giving instructions on andy.churchtrac.com

Powered by Vanco

HEARING AID PROJECT

Recycling for a Good Cause!
We collect the following items
Collection bins in the Atrium

- **Used Hearing Aids in any Condition** – Sertoma Speech and Hearing Foundation, Hearing Aid Project
- **Stamps** – Franked, Printed, Presort, Non-Profit – just not 1c - Alliance Stamp Ministry
- **Bottle Caps to Benches** – any Color, any size, cap or lid

'trash into treasure'

Beth-El
Farmworker Ministry, Inc.

Volunteers needed
Wednesday mornings @ 8:30

Can't Sing but want to help?

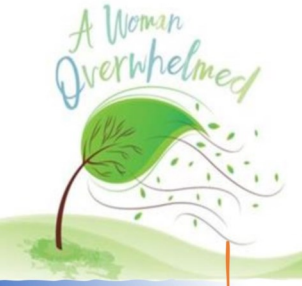
We are looking for volunteers!

- Sound
- Visual Arts
- Worship Assistants
- Ushers/Greeters
- Altar Guild

Ushers & Greeters

Contact: Steve Downie or Steve Reisser via the Church Office

A Woman Overwhelmed



BIBLE STUDY

Let's Dig In together

Concludes May 8
1:30 pm in Room 2

HAYLEY DIMARCO
BESTSELLING AUTHOR of GOD GIRL

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Volunteers Needed

- The Nearly New Shop
- The Inter-Faith Social Action Council – 2 spots to be filled
- Beth-El Food Distribution Ministry

If you can help contact:
Doug Campbell
dscampbell2015@gmail.com

MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 11:30a Andy's Kitchen 12:00p Happy Stitches	2 8:30a Men's Breakfast 12:30p Democratic Club 3:30p Choir Rehearsal	3 12:30p Rummikub	4 9:30a TRSS Workshop 4:00p Kentucky Derby Party
5 Cinco de Mayo 10:30a Worship Service 1:30p Aston Gardens Worship	6 9:30a AA Meeting	7 1:00p Property Mtg	8 11:30a Andy's Kitchen	9 10:00a Celebration Mtg 3:30p Choir Rehearsal	10 10:00a TRSS Walking Tour 12:00p I-4 Regional Convening 12:30p Rummikub 1:00p TRSS Walking Tour	11
12 Mother's Day 10:30a Worship Service 1:30p Aston Gardens Worship	13 9:30a AA Meeting 10:00a Evangelism Mtg	14 1:00p Stewardship Mtg	15 11:30a Andy's Kitchen 12:00p Happy Stitches	16 8:30a Men's Breakfast 1:00p Interfaith Council Mtg 3:30p Choir Rehearsal 5:00p Pizza & a Movie	17 12:30p Rummikub 4:30 Mystery Dinner Theatre	18 4:30 Mystery Dinner Theatre
19 Pentecost 10:30a Worship Service 1:30p Aston Gardens Worship	20 9:30a AA Meeting 1:30p Eagle Audubon Society	21 10:00a Ladies Brunch Bunch 12:30p Hearing Loss Group 1:00p Session Mtg	22 11:30a Andy's Kitchen	23 10:00a Nominating Mtg 3:30p Choir Rehearsal	24 12:30p Rummikub	25
26 10:30a Worship Service 1:30p Aston Gardens Worship	27 Memorial Day 9:30a AA Meeting	28 1:00p Republican Club	29 11:30a Andy's Kitchen	30 8:30a Men's Breakfast 3:30p Choir Rehearsal	31 12:30p Rummikub	
		Notes				