

January 2010

Reminder : January 17th Annual Congregation Meeting

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				New Years Eve The office will close at noon.	1 Happy New Year The office will be closed.	2
3 Communion WASA First Sunday Coffee 11 a.m.	4 Festival Bells 5 p.m.	5 Board Meeting 5 p.m.	6 Winter Guest 9 a.m. Handbells 5 p.m. Rev. Warren's class 6 p.m. Hand Bells 5 p.m. Choir 6 p.m. Undercurrent 6:30 p.m.	7	8	9
10 Renewal of Baptism	11 Finance Com. 5 p.m.	12 St. Andrew Men 9 a.m.	13 Winter Guest 9 a.m. Rev. Warren's class 6 p.m. Ed. Com. 4:30 p.m. Handbells 5 p.m. Choir 6 p.m. Undercurrent 6:30 p.m.	14	15	16
17 Annual Congregational Meeting	18	19 Board Meeting 5 p.m.	20 Winter Guest 9 a.m. Rev. Warren's class 6 p.m. Handbells 5 p.m. Choir 6 p.m. Undercurrent 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23
24 Installation of Officers	25 Festival Bells 5 p.m.	26	27 Winter Guest 9 a.m. Rev. Warren's class 6 p.m. Handbells 5 p.m. Choir 6 p.m. Undercurrent 6:30 p.m.	28	29 Young Adults Dinner Club 6:30 p.m.	30
31						

St. Andrew by the Sea

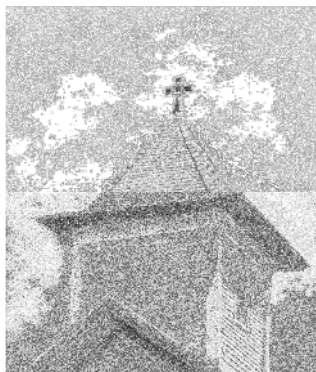
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GULF SHORES, AL

STAFF

Senior Minister:
Rev. Robert C. Warren
Associate Minister:
Rev. George R. Myers
Associate Minister of
Youth and Children:
Rev. Jonathan M. Henderson
Director of Music:
Joan Hand
Administrative Assistant:
Pat Strahan



The Wave

January 2010

St. Andrew by the Sea, A Community Church - Gulf Shores, AL

From the Pastor . . .

In his column, "An Encouraging Word," Dr. Thomas Lane Butts, shares a copy of a lovely 'wise men related' legend. It is in the form of a poem by Phyllis McGinley entitled: *The Legend of Befana*. I now share it with you, without commentary.

THE LEGEND OF BEFANA

Befana, the housewife, scrubbing her pane,
Saw three old sages ride down the lane,
Saw three gray travelers pass her door-
Gaspar, Balthazar, and Melchior.
"Where journey you sirs?" she asked of them.
And Gaspar answered, "To Bethlehem,
For we have news of a marvelous thing.
Born in a stable is Christ the King".
"Give Him my welcome!" Balthazar smiled,
"Come with us, mistress, to greet the Child".
"Oh, happily, happily would I fare

Were my dusting through and I'd polished the stair".
Old Melchior leaned on his saddle horn.
"Then send but a gift to the small Newborn".
"Oh, gladly, gladly I'd send Him one
Were my cupboards clean and my weaving done.
I'd give Him a robe to warm His sleep,
But first I must mend the fire, and sweep.
As soon as ever I've baked my bread,
I'll fetch him a pillow for His head,
And a coverlet, too", Befana said
"When the rooms are aired and linen dry,

I'll look to the Babe". But the Three rode by.
She worked for a day and night and a day,
Then, gifts in her hands, took up her way.
But she never could find where the Christ Child lay.
And still she wanders at Christmastide,
Houseless, whose house was all her pride,
Whose heart was tardy, whose gifts were late;
Wanders, and knocks at every gate,
Crying, "Good people, the bells begin!
Put off your toiling and let love in".

Robert



Many thanks to Linda Fennell and her mother Alice Schaffer for the beautiful reception following the Christmas Program. The coffee, punch and goodies were enjoyed by all. Thank you, **St. Andrew Choir**.

A Special Thanks to parents and others who brought your children to sing with us this year. We are blessed by their presence and their voices and hope to see them again next year.
Jo Roy and Ann Wright

Greetings to my superb church family, I am at a loss for words when I try to let you know how deeply I love all of you, for the out pouring of love and caring shown for my 100th birthday. It was not only a distinct honor to be included with the Thanksgiving festivities, but also a wonderful way to be able to enjoy so many of my friends at one occasion. It turned out to be one of the nicest birthday parties I can recall. It was a beautiful cake and tasted as good as it looked. As always, the food was elegant, but that's what we expect from the ladies at St. Andrew. Who knows, some of the men may have contributed their skills also. After all my dear husband was not only a master carver but also very good cook. I remember with much gratitude every time I went thru surgery and spent quite some time in Hospitals and Rehabs what torture it was to eat the institutionalized food. One of the joys of finally being discharged was home cooking and St. Andrew played a major role in my recuperation.

Our caring pastors were generous with their precious time and provided me with the comfort and peace only available thru them.

St. Andrew by the Sea has become my sanctuary and I thank God that Dorothy and John Elliot introduced Dan and me to our exceptional church.

The Nurturing Committee alone provides untold vital needs. The Children's program, under Rev. Henderson, is expanding every day. It's a pity if you missed the Children's Christmas Musical, presented Sunday Dec. 13th during service. It was precious and so well done. At the close of Carson Manning's Baptism Rev. Warren gave Carson to his father who returned to his seat with his son. In no time, Carson began to cry and became very unhappy. Rev. Warren cut his sermon short and hastened to Carson and plucked him from his father's lap and raised him up over his head a few times, then tucked him comfortably in his arms while he proceeded to talk and include him in everyway. The remarkable thing was there was not a sound out of him, he appeared to be fascinated by what Rev. Warren was saying right to the end of the sermon. Rev. Warren then, very slowly hugged and kissed Carson and gently placed him in his fathers' arms. It was one of the most moving and beautiful happenings I have ever witnessed. I am so grateful I made the effort to go to church. It was a once in a lifetime event in my 100 years of living and I will never forget it.

I am most grateful for your lovely, thoughtful gifts. It was like an unexpected Christmas. I am most appreciative of your kindness.

The cards brought tears at times, they were so beautiful and the sentiment made me grateful to have such loving friends.

All in all, I have much to be thankful and I assure you, I am.

You have given me love and caring in abundance and that's the greatest gift of all. This, I will treasure forever.

As for our precious Choir, there are no words that I can find to do them justice. When I think of all the hours they practice, in order to bring us a perfect performance every Sunday, it's obvious why I admire and love them so much.

I love you, one and all, my St. Andrew by the Sea family, Elizabeth (Betty) Christie.

Congratulations Linda Chappelle for winning the Island Spirit Award!

The nominations for Linda stated: "Our Island is very fortunate to have a hero like Linda Chappelle giving her heart and soul on a daily basis".
"There are many people on this Island who do many things for many people, but none do it more consistently and graciously than Linda Chappelle".

Open letter to my St. Andrew Family: Could it be that in recent times, God has been sending us messages about children and children's ministries at St. Andrew by the Sea? Lately, haven't we all been surprised, moved and thrilled with the move of the Spirit in our worship services? I personally have been touched and amazed by the way in which children have directly or indirectly inspired us. My thanks and appreciation to Robert for being sensitive to the leading of the Spirit...what blessings for the entire congregation! We have all been reminded that, while we do have many mandates with consequences in the scriptures, none is so clear as Jesus's directive regarding the children.

Of all the things I've done in 2009, I bear witness to this truth: working with the children has been my greatest joy and my deepest blessing. Thank you to those who support and serve with us in this ministry, and I encourage everyone at St. Andrew to thank the children when you see them!

While teaching the music, Ann & I are very careful to stress the scriptural lessons found in the lyrics, and we are constantly amazed at the children's comprehension & response.

We ask for your prayers and your support for this area of ministry at St. Andrew. If your heart leads you in this direction, please say yes. We are growing, and our vision is strong for these little ones in our Church family, but we need all of you to share that vision. So, include this in your prayers; let us know you are out there; and, come join us! Just ask how you can help, and we will tell you! Our children will be blessed and so will you!

Peace and Joy from *The Child of Bethlehem*, Jo Roy

First Sunday Coffee

The Membership and Welcome committee would like to invite **everyone** to join them Sunday, January 3rd following the worship service for coffee in the Fellowship Hall. Please have a cup of coffee, and visit for a while.

Musical Program: St. Andrew Choir and Holy Spirit Episcopal Church invites you to join them for the production of the musical "Amahl and the Night Visitors" on Feb. 6th here at St. Andrew by the Sea. If you are interested in assisting with props or costumes please contact Joan Hand.

The Directors of the Children's Choir would love to have someone play the piano for their rehearsals and church presentations. If you can play the piano (and you don't have to be a professional!) and you are willing to give one hour a week to help instill the love of music in our children, please contact the church office.

Free Osteoporosis Testing: There will be a Free Osteoporosis Testing hosted by Sacred Heart and the Christian Service Center event on January 26, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the parking lot of Gulf Shores First Presbyterian Church at 309 East 1st Ave. Gulf Shores, AL. No ID is required. Men and women are invited to attend, since both are at risk.

Sympathy

Louise Adcock in the loss of her mother.

Rea Lairsen in the loss of her mother.

Memorials

*Lynette McGarry
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Barefield*

*Christopher Leonard
Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Garner*

*Jim White
Mr. & Mrs. Todd Riggs*

*Jackie Wallace
Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Garner*

*Virginia M. Karg
Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Garner*

*Dan Christie
Betty Christie*

Honor
Betty Christie

*Mr. & Mrs. Howard Zimmerman
John Elliot
Mr. & Mrs. James Harris*

Annual Congregational Meeting will be January 17th immediately following Sunday Worship Service.

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is very important. We will approve our 2010 Budget, review the 2009 year, elect our officers for the new year, and set goals for the future. You will receive an agenda packet in the mail soon. Nursery care will be provided. Please mark your calendar for this very important meeting.

Rev. Warren will lead a weekly class starting January 13th - February 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the Modular on "Love As A Way of Life" by Dr. Gary Chapman. Seven keys to transforming every aspect of your life. The books may be purchased at Just Book's in Gulf Shores. Please call the office at 968-3900 to register.

YOUTH and Young adults pay attention to your email for up coming events including the January 29th Young Adult's Dinner Club.

January Anniversaries

- 1st - John & Barbara Larson
- 5th - Richard & Rany Parrott
- 21st - Carlton & Jean Garner
- 23rd - James & Melba Chasteen
- 27th - Al & Lois Erbes
- 28th - Don & Carol Kopf
- 30th - Greg & Mary Mattison

January Birthdays

- 1st - Forrest McCalmon
- 1st - Richard Parrott
- 3rd - Marshall Egbert
- 4th - John Charles Boller
- 4th - Linda Fennell
- 5th - Hal Callaway
- 5th - David Schatz
- 7th - Matthew Hand
- 7th - Deborah Whetstone
- 9th - Terra Douglas
- 11th - Frank Rikard
- 11th - Sharon Svejda
- 12th - Mary Davis
- 12th - Marie Denson
- 15th - Bob Boles
- 15th - Dale Stevens
- 16th - Andy Haynes
- 17th - Marjorie Bumann
- 17th - Karen LeBlanc
- 18th - Todd Bagwell
- 19th - Jarret Hancock
- 19th - Jackie Miller
- 19th - Diane Ward
- 21st - Taylor Brown
- 21st - Pierre Geneux
- 21st - Anita King
- 22nd - Amanda Atwater
- 26th - Lois Erbes
- 28th - Jonathan Henderson
- 30th - Sophia Barkan
- 30th - Iris Reddy
- 31st - Jean McKim

Winter Guest Programs will begin Jan. 13th - Feb. 16th at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Jan. 13th, Rev. Warren and Rev. Henderson will introduce our guest to St. Andrew by the Sea.

Jan. 20th - Our own "Music Man" David Saunders will entertain.

Jan. 27th - Wayne Villadsen will entertain with music.

Feb. 3rd - Joan Hand present an introduction of the Feb. 6th musical program "Amahl the Night Visitor".

Feb. 10th - Musicians Phil and Carol Carlo from Iowa, will entertain with Country and Gospel music.

Feb. 17th - Ash Wednesday Services at 7:30 a.m. 12 noon and 6:00 p.m.

While winter guests are the focus for these fellowships, EVERYONE is invited to attend, participate and enjoy!

Nursery Linens - Many thanks to Sharon Svejda for her love and support in Dec..

Ushers

- 3rd** - Phil Bass, Ed Diercks, Carlton Garner, Bubba Lee, Hollis Messer, Sam Rice, Wade Ward, Tom Seals.
- 10th** - Charley Ogletree, Bob Boles, Dale Stevens, Andy Haynes, John Boller, Joe Porter, Buddy Brown, Ray Wright, Allen Woerner.
- 17th** - Tom Gauntt, Don Kopf, Joe Martin, Leon Null, Nat Young, Jan Zimmerman, Howard Zimmerman, Homer Bumann, Dolly Crewes.
- 24th** - Mickey Webb, Lynda Thurmond, Carl Schuchardt, Joe Slaughter, Bob Davidson, Pierre Geneux, Mike Hancock, Tommy Lee, Bill Parks.
- 31st** - Terry Jones, Faye Kelly, Jack Grace, Lynda Thurmond, Jim Roy, and Pierre Geneux.

STEWARDSHIP

	December
Monthly Budgeted	\$25,000.00
Monthly Received	\$27,511.00

Attendance for Dec.

- 6th - 229
- 13th - 295
- 20th - 261
- 27th - 236

Adult Sunday School Attendance for Dec.

- 6th - 43
- 13th - 37
- 20th - 37
- 27th - 19

