



The Wave

December 2009

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

From the Pastor . . .

Welcome everyone to Advent! Advent is the first season of a new Christian year. As January begins the calendar year, so Advent begins the Christian year. It begins with the First Sunday of Advent, November 29th and continues for the next three Sundays leading to Christmas Day. You will recognize Advent by its very special symbols; the Chrismon Tree, the Nativity, the Advent Wreath, and the color purple.

During Advent we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. As he came long ago, he comes again. As he was born to Joseph and Mary, so he is born again to us. This is the Christmas story, and this is our story. We all labor to give birth to good and God and destiny and meaning. Like Joseph and Mary, we wish to leave our mark, make a difference, and know that our lives matter. And they do.

Mary Christmas to you St. Andrew! Merry Christmas!

Robert

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

December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Bible Study 9 a.m.	2 Children's Choir 5 p.m. Choir 6 p.m. Undercurrent 6:30 p.m.	3	4	5
6 WASA First Sunday Coffee 11 a.m. Choir Christmas Program 4 p.m.	7	8 Bible Study 9 a.m. St. Andrew Men 9 a.m. St. Andrew Women 12 noon Worship Com. 5:15 p.m.	9 Ed. Com. 4:30 p.m. Children's Choir 5 p.m. Choir 6 p.m. Undercurrent 6:30 p.m.	10	11	12 Annual Sunday School Party 5:30 p.m.
13 Children's Christmas Musical	14 Board of Trustees 5:30 p.m. Council Meeting. 6 p.m.	15 Bible Study 9 a.m. Board Meeting 5 p.m. Finance Com. 5 p.m.	16 Children's Choir 5 p.m. Choir 6 p.m. Undercurrent 6:30 p.m.	17	18 Children & Youth Cookout 6 p.m.	19
20	21	22 Bible Study 9 a.m.	23 Children's Choir 5 p.m. Choir 6 p.m. Undercurrent 6:30 p.m.	24 Christmas Eve Service 5 p.m. Office will close at 12 noon.	25 Christmas Day Office will be closed	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Rev. Warren will lead a weekly class starting January 5th - February 16th at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall on "Love As A Way of Life" by Dr. Gary Chapman. Seven keys to transforming every aspect of your life. Experience groundbreaking insights on how practicing authentic love can lead to success in every area of life. Through inspiring real-life stories, Dr. Chapman reveals what a love-driven life looks like and how it can transform daily interactions at home, at work, in friendships, and in the church. Learn how to unlock the door to deeper satisfaction in life with the seven keys of authentic love: kindness, patience, forgiveness, humility, courtesy, generosity, and honesty. Watch your weekly bulletin for the dates and time.

Winter Guest Programs will begin Jan. 13th - Feb. 16th at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A complete schedule will be listed in the January Newsletter.

YOUTH: I love this time of year. As I write this, thanksgiving is only a few days away, we are on the eve of Advent and we are looking forward to Christmas. I love remembering the promises that God fulfilled with the arrival of his son, and remembering all of the fun times I've had with friends and family, whether they are still here or have gone to sleep for a little while. To provide another opportunity for memory making, we are going to have a cookout Dec. 18th from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. for children, youth, and their families at the church. Please RSVP Jonathan Henderson.

Christmas Program: St. Andrew Choir will be presenting their Christmas Program "O Come Emmanuel" a service of Carols and Readings on Dec. 6th at 4 p.m. Please mark your calendar and join us for this annual celebration during Advent Season. Nursery care will be provided.

Adult Sunday School Annual Christmas Party will be held Sat., Dec. 12th at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a potluck dinner so please bring your favorite dish. We will be playing Dirty Santa, each man bring a man's gift and each woman bring a woman's gift. Please let your teacher know if you plan to attend so we will know how many places to set.

To all Women of St. Andrew who are members at this time and to all who would like to join. December's meeting will be a fun, fellowship luncheon at Lulu's Homeport Restaurant on Tuesday, December 8 at 12:00 noon. Lucy Buffet will visit with us if she is in town. The only cost will be the cost of your meal ordered from the menu. The dessert will be furnished by Lulu's and will be prepared from Lucy's cookbook, and surprise favors will be enjoyed by all. Please plan to attend and notify Anne Saunders or Boots Bass as soon as possible. Telephone: 965-3431, 968-7260 or Email: bass2@gulf.com.

Memorials
Jane Craft
Mr. & Mrs. James McKenzie Jr.
Honor
Betty Christie
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Gauntt

Women's Bible Study: We will begin a 4 week Advent study beginning Dec. 1st at 9 a.m. The book we will be reading is "Christmas from the Backside" by J. Ellsworth Kalas. The books may be purchased at Just Books. Please come and be a part of this Advent season with us as we study and reflect on the Christmas season.

The Education Committee would like to thank everyone who brought goods for our bake sale, items to sell and came out to visit and play games at our 1st Fall Festival! We had beautiful weather and a great time!! Look for our photos on the website. Thank you all so much for your support. We are already looking forward to next year's festival! Thanks again and many blessings, Meredith Egbert.

Christmas is here and why not share our family with yours by giving them The Holy Grille Cookbook, which has the best recipes from our church family and friends compiled into an attractive keepsake cookbook for \$20. For more information contact committee members, Dee Jones-967-4229, Kathy Van Cor, 968-8413 or Vickie P. Matranga, 543-1555.

The Music Ministry is selling St. Andrew by the Sea Christmas Cards. The front of the card has a beautiful picture of our sanctuary and the funds will aid the music ministry for 2010. The cost is \$5.00 for 10 cards. Contact any member of the choir to purchase!

Angel Tree: Again this year St. Andrew members are being asked to participate in Christian Service Center's Christmas Cheer program. Last year we provided gifts for 75 needy children of this island, and we expect to match that this year. Please choose an ornament from the Angel Tree, get the gift (substitute if necessary), take the gift unwrapped to the church or the Center by Dec. 10. Every child should have a Christmas.

Christmas boxes: We have begun collecting items for the Christian Service Center Christmas boxes which will be given to families in need. **Yams/Sweet Potatoes-Cranberry Sauce-Green Beans-Canned Corn-Stuffing Mix-Gravy.** Other items, like chicken, turkey, or ham, will be added to the boxes at the Center. Desserts and dinner rolls which have been donated by Publix will be included as well. Thank you so much for your help in this endeavor.

First Sunday Coffee
 The Membership and Welcome committee would like to invite **everyone** to join them Sunday, Dec. 6th following the worship service for coffee in the Fellowship Hall. Please have a cup of coffee, and visit for a while.


Enchanting Ireland! Final call to join the St. Andrew Travelers on their trip to Ireland departing May 9, 2010. For information, contact Bebe Gauntt 968-8539 or begauntt@mchsi.com.

Sympathy
Gene Lenz and the loss of his brother-in-law.

New Members in November
Dee Derstine
Sandy Derstine
Chris Bundy

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Dear Casserole Ministries, My husband and I have enjoyed so much your wonderful food. Our neighbor Carolyn George has brought us two of your great meals, turkey & dressing, veggies, croissants, cake, hamburger pie and yeast rolls. This is a wonderful ministry that helps so much when you are ill. My husband had surgery and I also just got out of the hospital, so we really appreciate your kindness.
Sincerely, Reva and Austin Fell

Many Thanks to Jim & Chris Denson: The Music Ministry would like to thank Chris and Jim Denson for the new filing cabinet they purchased for the choir room. They not only purchased it, they delivered it to the room and also filed the music! Thank you Chris and Jim for your help, your devotion and your generosity.

To the people of St. Andrew, Thank you for the prayerful intervention during my recent illness. With your help I recovered quickly. I too am a believer in the power of prayer. With your help and Vickie's constant attention I have recovered. I will remember you always. Your pastor, Robert Warren, called me everyday while I was hospitalized. Our conversations were short but meaningful. When you are so vulnerable you need help! I appreciate what you did, you are a blessed people. Vickie and I both thank you all!
Joe Matranga.

December Anniversaries

- 4th - Leon & Lula Null
- 4th - Michael & Terra Douglas
- 10th - Charles & Courtney Ogletree
- 11th - Jonathan & Nashisha Henderson
- 20th - Paul & Catherine Barefield
- 22nd - David & Lynn Whetstone
- 23rd - Wilodean & Melvin Brown
- 24th - Billy & Helen Webb
- 27th - Joe & Ann Jeffrey
- 28th - Jamie & Dyroma Burroughs
- 29th - Bill & Julia Parks
- 30th - George & Diane Ward
- 30th - Jack & Nancy Bell
- 31st - David & Sue Vosloh
- 31st - Robert & Carolyn George

December Birthdays

- 3rd - Michael Adcock
- 3rd - Matt Tanner
- 4th - Kathryn Brown
- 4th - Steve DeShazo
- 4th - J.D. Whetstone
- 5th - Doris Fisher
- 6th - Delaney Russ
- 7th - Nancy Bell
- 7th - John Henderson
- 7th - Richard Jones
- 7th - Sherry Weaver
- 8th - Pat Faulkenberry
- 8th - Duke Robinson
- 13th - John Whetstone
- 14th - Jennie Rikard
- 16th - Kimberly Tanner
- 17th - Susan Bertrand
- 17th - Julie Jones
- 18th - Al Erbes
- 19th - Leo Jernigan
- 22nd - Marilyn Ward
- 24th - Jennifer Fowler
- 25th - Jackie Turner
- 27th - Desiree McKenzie
- 28th - Hollis Messer
- 28th - Joan Morgan
- 29th - Joe Jeffery

Nursery Linens - Sharon Svejda will be in charge of the nursery linens in December. Many thanks to Patti Haynes for her love and support in November.

Ushers

- 6th** - Phil Bass, Ed Diercks, Carlton Garner, Bubba Lee, Hollis Messer, Sam Rice, Wade Ward, Tom Seals.
- 13th** - Charley Ogletree, Bob Boles, Dale Stevens, Andy Haynes, John Boller, Joe Porter, Buddy Brown, Ray Wright, Allen Woerner.
- 20th** - Tom Gauntt, Don Kopf, Joe Martin, Leon Null, Nat Young, Jan Zimmerman, Howard Zimmerman, Homer Bumann, Dolly Crewes.
- 27th** - Mickey Webb, Lynda Thurmond, Carl Schuchardt, Joe Slaughter, Bob Davidson, Pierre Geneux, Mike Hancock, Tommy Lee, Bill Parks.

STEWARDSHIP

	November
Monthly Budgeted	\$25,000.00
Monthly Received	\$23,655.00

Attendance for Nov.

- 1st - 227
- 8th - 224
- 15th - 226
- 22nd - 261

Adult Sunday School Attendance for Nov.

- 1st - 37
- 8th - 40
- 15th - 61
- 22nd - 34

