



## *St. Andrew's Tidings*

A MESSAGE FROM Frank Lopez

Living Stones, Where Are We Now?

Where are we now seems like a question that can be answered quite easily with just one look around our newly renovated worship space and chapel. We have, in fact, been looking at what we have brought forth since early January. It is a beautiful and inspiring sight. There has been no lack of praise and compliments for what has been accomplished.

Yet, it seems to me that we need to pause and think about what Saint Andrew's Parish has done during the last two plus years. The Capital Campaign Committee has submitted a formal report to the Vestry. The following is a summary.

The total cost of our renovation was \$373,639

Total working capital, which included donations, bequests, and Loans was \$475,859. Leaving \$100,219 in surplus.

We have paid \$76,321 in principal and interest.

The committee used \$50,000 of the \$100,219 to pay down our loan to Hancock Bank.

Our current checkbook balance is \$30,515

Our current indebtedness is \$140, 769

In the near future we intend to pay another \$25,000 on our Hancock Loan, reducing our obligation to them down to \$22,000.

I have never taken much comfort in balance sheets. I have found they don't reveal the depth of the stories behind them. This has been the story of a small parish which set itself a large task and how they have managed so far. I have

always been partial to “The Little Engine That Could” sort of stories. Five years ago we were a church on the brink of merger (oblivion if you like). In the intervening years we have been restored to a higher level of spirituality, faith and trust. We came to believe ourselves to be a living and viable community in Christ, who wanted to participate in making our future, while honoring our past.

When we began we made formal pledges of \$134,720. Our actual giving has been \$179,350. When we include things like the sale of pews, donations for chairs, font, chapel windows and other items we find that the people of St. Andrew’s have made contributions of \$215,311. That is \$80,591 more than our original combined pledges. That does not include the generous bequests that we have received from those who have remembered us in their wills

This may yet have the ring of balance sheets, but what I see, and what touches me deeply is the generosity that has poured forth from our congregation. It is a generosity which springs from our gratitude, grounded in our abundance. Fear of scarcity does not seem to have any hold on us. This can only come from a trust in God and love of one another.

While preparing the report to the Vestry I learned a most impressive fact. There are thirty pledges that have been redeemed in full. Twenty-four of those people who had completed their pledges have continued to donate to Living Stones, totaling an extra \$34,110. They have set a wonderful example for us.

It is well that we joyfully celebrate what we are accomplishing at St. Andrew’s. So, in the vocabulary of balance sheets,

Our total indebtedness is \$140, 769.

We have eleven months until the conclusion of our Living Stones Capital Campaign Fund. Our committee asks that we all renew and extend our pledges for another two years, with the hope we can retire all our loan obligations before then.

In Love and Admiration,

Frank Lopez



*Coming Up:*

*A Taize' Service in Celebration of All Saint's Day*

*Sunday, November 1, at 4 p.m.*

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**9 a.m. for Sunday School for All Ages**

**Adult Sunday School: "Prayer" (A four week study)**

**Led by Sally Brewer**

**Godly Play for Youth and Children**

**Led by Lucy Dozar**

*St. Thomas by the Sea - Fall Fair*



*A unique Arts and Crafts experience*

*Sat., October 10, 2015*

*9 am - 4 pm*

*St. Thomas by the Sea*

*Episcopal Church*

*(First Ave. and Wisteria Lane)*

*Laguna Beach (West end of PCB)*

*Fine art, glass, jewelry, pottery, primitives, wind  
chimes, mosaics, wood and much more!*

*(23 craft vendors, 2 food vendors)*

*Entertainment by Surfside Middle School Chorus*

*Proceeds to benefit St. Thomas by the Sea Outreach Projects*

**PARISH WORK DAY**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**BEGINNING AT 9 A.M.**

***THERE IS A LOT TO DO IN THE YARD,  
THE KITCHEN, AND FLOWER BEDS.  
BRING YOUR WORK GLOVES, TOOLS  
AND HELP OUT! ALL ARE NEEDED!***

WORSHIP WITHOUT WALLS

RESUMES OCTOBER 18

EVENING SERVICE AND JAZZ BY AMANDA ADAMS

4:00 PM ON THE FRONT LAWN

HOT DOGS PROVIDED

BYO

Casual ~~ Contemporary ~~ Family Friendly



### Help Needed!

The St. Andrew Oaks Garden of Hope fall garden will be planted Tuesday, Sept. 29. Two classes of second grade students will come to the garden to plant crops for fall. We need adult volunteers from St. Andrew's to assist and interact with the students from 8:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. This is truly a rewarding experience and it aligns with our church's mission to **go beyond our doors**. A sign up is in Byrne Hall. The Garden of Hope is located on the church's vacant lot at the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> St. and Fairland Ave. Many thanks to the beach Home Depot and Pablo Coronel for their contributions.

***There are a number of dishes in the kitchen which have been left after several of the concerts. Please check and see if they are yours!***

## Episcopal Church Women's Fall Retreat



The Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast will be having their Episcopal Church Women's Fall Retreat at Camp Beckwith on October 2-4, 2015. The Very Reverend Kate Moorehead will be the Keynote Speaker. Please feel free to take a copy of the retreat schedule and breakout sessions from the tract rack in Byrne Hall. Anyone wishing to attend this conference may ride with Nancy Young.



### Mosquito Nets

**St. Andrew's has held an Alternative Gift Fair for several years to benefit Episcopal Relief and Development. We have purchased about 350 nets with our alternative gifts and each net covers up to three sleeping people. Thank you for helping to care for our brothers and sisters who are afflicted by this often fatal illness.**

Geneva (AFP) - Malaria deaths worldwide have fallen by 60 percent since 2000, the UN said Thursday, with improved diagnostic tests and **the massive distribution of mosquito nets aiding dramatic progress against the disease.**

Fifteen years ago, malaria killed nearly 840,000 people, while projections for this year indicate the disease is likely to cause 438,000 deaths, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations children's agency (UNICEF) said in a joint report.

"Global malaria control is one of the great public health success stories of the past 15 years," WHO Director-General Margaret Chan said.

## *Office Help*

*We could really use some volunteer help in the office especially on Fridays. Please consider donating a few hours of your time. It would be much appreciated.*

### *THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS*

*NEXT SATURDAY OCTOBER 3, AT 10 A.M. AT THE PET GARDEN, AND AGAIN ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> (The Feast of St. Francis) AT THE 10 A.M. SERVICE*



*Please keep the following in your prayers: Iva, Bob, Bill, John, Sallie, Charles, Wendy, David, Sandra, Vincent, Leslie, Mary, Bobbie, Hong, Hazen, Anna, Rita, Eric, Janice, Corey, Kelly, Anne, Diane, Sue, Luke, Jon, Beryl, Corey, Lindafaye, Richard, Patricia, Jeremy, Heather, Gail, Teresa, Virginia, Patrick, Lisa, Adam, Lynn, Mr. & Mrs. Collins, Peggy, Bill, Toni, Bob, Mike, Harry, Betty, Toni, Bob, Nick, Dee, Sandra, Keith, Jayne, Ryan, Carol, Jack, Kathy, Oz, Jimmy*

*(Names are left on the prayer list for 3 weeks, unless specified for a longer time)*

*We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad:  
Richard, David, Brian, Jason, Billy, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan, Jeremiah, Richard,  
Patricia*