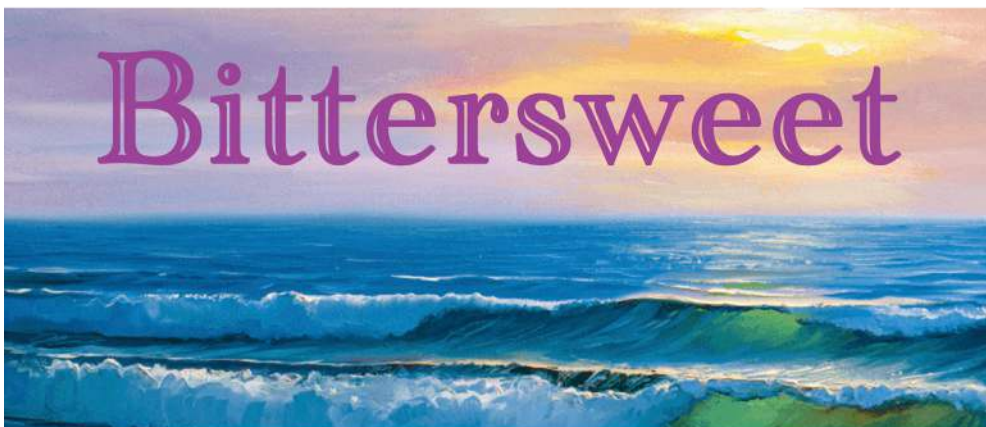




St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

JANUARY 21, 2024 • 10:00AM



5308 BUFFALO SPEEDWAY • HOUSTON, TX 77005 • WWW.SAHOUSTON.COM

WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

We are grateful you've chosen to worship with us today! St. Andrew's is a place where all kinds of people come together for a common journey – one of seeking, discovering, and sharing God's love in Jesus Christ. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey we would be privileged to walk with you along the way. Whether you need a safe place to ask questions, find encouragement, learn about mission opportunities, or you need to find some solace in your busy week – we are here, and we look forward to meeting you.

St. Andrew's is a community where you will be encouraged to know and follow Jesus more deeply. Our stated mission is encouraging each other daily to follow Jesus and love the world. We seek to represent Christ to the world in an authentic, non-judgmental way, so that others may know the depth of His grace and come to know Him as Savior and Lord. As a part of our witness, as a church centered near Rice University and the Medical Center, we are also a community that takes God and science seriously. We have numerous science and faith programs each year. Each of these programs is designed to help us as the church to engage our world in this important ongoing dialogue between science and faith.

We also value community and the blessing of being part of a church family. We support each other. We lean on each other. We live life together here at St. Andrew's: From worship, to weekly discipleship HomeGroups, to serving our community, to spending time together socially, St. Andrew's is a church that seeks to engage the whole person in an exciting process of merging faith and everyday living.

If you're looking for a church home, I realize it can take time to discern which church God is calling you to join and I encourage you to take that process seriously. If there's any way I can be of help in that process, or in any other way, please don't hesitate to email me. I would love to get together over a cup of coffee and talk about the kind of community St. Andrew's has become for me and my family and answer any questions you may have.

I look forward to meeting you soon!

Jeff Smith, *Pastor*

WORSHIP AT ST. ANDREW'S

Gathering for corporate worship is an integral part of our faith journey and a meaningful expression of our love for God. Knowing that different worship styles resonate with people's hearts in numerous ways, we purposely strive for a combined approach to worship. A combined style celebrates the strengths of each style rather than blending them into something less impactful. With that in mind, we craft each service with elements of both traditional and contemporary including music, various styles of prayer, and the use of videos.

On the first Sunday of the month, when we celebrate Communion, worship tends to be more traditional with our Chancel Choir while still including at least one contemporary element. Second and fourth Sundays are usually led by our worship team who loves to include well-known hymns in addition to new and powerful contemporary music. The third Sunday of the month is usually led by the St. Andrew's Strings sharing music from all musical genres and partnering with other music groups at St. Andrew's. Our prayer is that there is something in every worship service that inspires you and draws you closer to God.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

As a courtesy to other worshipers, please silence all electronics during the worship service.

GATHERING

**String Quartet in G Major, II. Andante Moderato
Florence Price**

WELCOME

GRATITUDE

#630 Fairest Lord Jesus

WORSHIP AS A CHILD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

**2 Corinthians 11:23-27 NIV
Philippians 4:10-13 NIV**

PRAYERS

**Ministry Partners
Agape Development & Action International**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.**

OFFERING

Steal Away

SERMON

**Life Is Bittersweet
Life Is Definitely NOT Fair**

SONG

#438 Rock of Ages

BENEDICTION

SENDING FORTH

Elite Syncopations by Scott Joplin

Leading in Worship: Preaching
Liturgist
Worship Leaders

Prayer Intercessor

Jeff Smith
Katy Butterwick
Chancel Choir, Mandy Kung, Paul McCarroll,
St. Andrew's Strings, Angel Hickerson
Donna Vierling

Flowers:

The flowers today are given with thanksgiving and to the glory of God by Hazel McWhinnie in loving memory of her father, James Munro, on the anniversary of his passing.

Checking In

We would love to know who is joining us today. Please check-in, whether you're in person or online, with our SA app. You can also use the QR Code here.

On Facebook or Youtube you can also check in by going to the comment section and clicking on the link provided.



CHECK IN

Looking for ways to connect with others?

Consider joining a Home Group! We have been encouraging people to join a HomeGroup as a way to grow deeper in faith and in relationships within the church. If you would like more information, please contact Amy Smith at amy@sahouston.com.



From Pastor Jeff:

I wanted to share some great news with you on two fronts.

YEAR-END-GIVING

First, I have to admit you had me sweating the final weeks and days of the year on how St. Andrew's would end up financially, but your year-end efforts were worth the wait!

We ended the year ~ \$57,000 in the black for 2023, and this is despite being ~\$100,000 OVER budget on Facility maintenance costs! Take a moment to take that in. Although you can't see me, I'm jumping up and down shouting for joy at the top of my lungs!

FINANCES



We got to this great number because our Estimates of Giving were on budget and Non-estimated Contributions were about \$132,000 above estimates!

NAVIDAD MARKET

Secondly, our final tally for Navidad Market Missions Support 2023 was \$40,455.00! Another stellar result! Our mission partners are more grateful than you know for your generosity!

ESTIMATES OF GIVING FOR 2024

As I revel in all this good news, there IS one thing you could do to truly put me over the top! If you have not turned in an Estimate of Giving for 2024, would you take a moment to do so. Please contact Maria@sahouston.com if you need assistance doing so.

My gratitude is overflowing for the way our community loves and supports one another and our ministry partners. Thank you, thank you, thank you for how your love of God has motivated your love and support of St. Andrew's!

Pastor Jeff



Giving

Gifts to the Operating Budget provide the resources needed to carry out our various ministry activities, pay our staff, and maintain our building. In addition, St. Andrew's takes missions very seriously. We "tithe" approximately 10% of our operating budget to support our external ministry partners both here in Houston and throughout the world. Such contributions also, either directly or indirectly, support the work of our branch ministries, such as the Children's Place Day School, Building Blocks, and the School of Fine Arts (SOFA).

Personal Bank "Bill" Payment option through your personal bank's online banking website. St. Andrew's prefers for members who give regularly set up a recurring (e.g., weekly, monthly, quarterly) payment. This allows us to have a consistent source of funds even during the lean holiday and summer months when many of our members are out of town. With such recurring contributions, you may change the amount of the payment or cancel it altogether at any time.

ShelbyNext secure, online giving: one-time or recurring payments (use the QR code to the right).

Checks or cash may be placed in the offering plate, delivered to the church office, or mailed to:

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church,
c/o Maria S. Ibarra, Fin. Gifts Admin Asst.
5308 Buffalo Speedway
Houston, TX 77005



GIVING



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Today

- 10am **Worship** • Sanctuary
- 11:15am **Rutgers Street Grill** • Family Center
- 12:00pm **Youth Worship Team** (DIFFERENT TIME)
- 3:00pm **Honduras Mission Trip Informational Meeting** (NEW TIME)
Brett and Amy Enzor's house - 2925 Nottingham
Stephen, Amanda, Addie, Davis and Georgia Mae Olson travelled to Honduras last summer and served with World Gospel Outreach at Rancho Ebenezer outside of Tegucigalpa. Rancho Ebenezer is an orphanage and school for displaced children. The Olsons had an amazing experience sharing their love and faith in Christ with the community there. We are taking a team this summer to serve with them. Contact Amy Smith with any questions.



Coming Soon

- January 23 **Connecting Threads** • 4:30pm • Room 214
Children's Choir with Olivia Gonzales • 6:00pm • Choir Room
- January 25 **Sewing Ministry** • 10:00am • Building Blocks Classroom
- January 27 **Prayer Ministry** • 9:00 am • Welcome Center
- January 28 **Chili Chow Down** • 11:15am • At this **Family Ministries Fundraiser**, we will feed you a bowl of meat or vegan chili and invite you to bid on homemade desserts. Your generosity allows us to raise money for youth and children's activities and to offer scholarships for trips. The Chili Chow Down is a great and long tradition of church family fellowship at St. Andrew's. Please save the date!
- February 4 **Lunch and Learn** - This session is focused on the middle and high school years. You do not have to have attended Part 1 of the series to participate in the subsequent sessions. All are welcome to attend.
- February 14 **Ash Wednesday** • noon & 6:30pm •



UPCOMING EVENTS



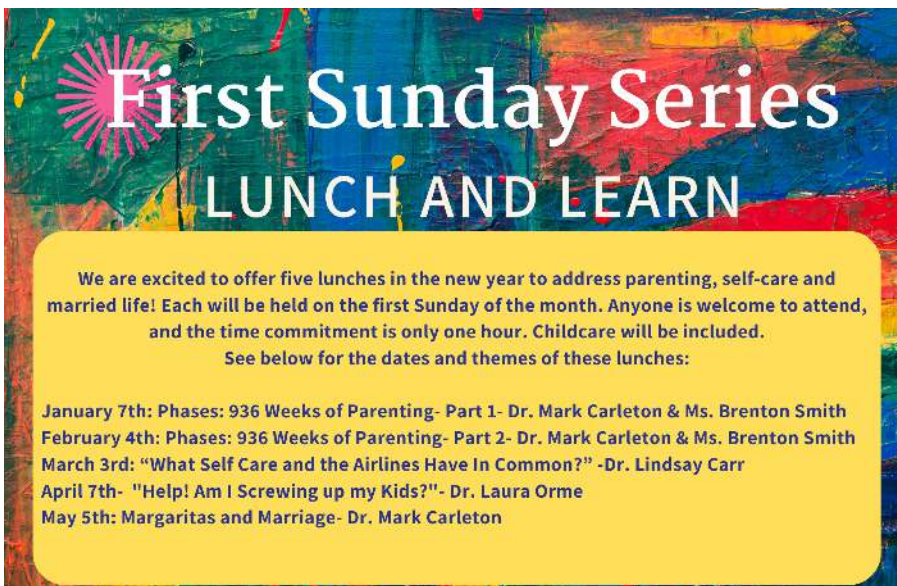
LIFE IS BITTERSWEET SERMON SERIES

Last Sunday Pastor Jeff began a 5-week series based on Susan Cain's book *Bittersweet*. Susan has a beautiful website with lots of resources if you would like to dive deeper into her work. There is also a Sad Song Playlist you can access through Apple Music and Spotify.

You do not have to purchase the book to enjoy this sermon series.

Connecting THREADS

Connecting Threads is a needlepointing group that meets on Tuesdays in Room 214. We have been on a break during the holidays, but its time to start stitching together again! Please join us this Tuesday, January 23 at an earlier time of 4:30. Bring anything you are working on or if you need help getting started we will have some things to get you going!



First Sunday Series LUNCH AND LEARN

We are excited to offer five lunches in the new year to address parenting, self-care and married life! Each will be held on the first Sunday of the month. Anyone is welcome to attend, and the time commitment is only one hour. Childcare will be included.

See below for the dates and themes of these lunches:

January 7th: Phases: 936 Weeks of Parenting- Part 1- Dr. Mark Carleton & Ms. Brenton Smith
February 4th: Phases: 936 Weeks of Parenting- Part 2- Dr. Mark Carleton & Ms. Brenton Smith
March 3rd: "What Self Care and the Airlines Have In Common?" -Dr. Lindsay Carr
April 7th- "Help! Am I Screwing up my Kids?"- Dr. Laura Orme
May 5th: Margaritas and Marriage- Dr. Mark Carleton

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests."

Ephesians 6:18

St. Andrew's is a praying community.

Below are ways to ask for prayer or join in prayer for all things.

Requesting Prayer:

Please complete a prayer request card (available in the pews and at the entrances) and hand to an usher during the Gratitude song or place it in the offering plate. We have a dedicated person who prays during our worship service for God to be glorified and for the needs people submit on these prayer cards. And if you would like to become an intercessor or be added to our longer term public prayer list, please email Amy Smith at amy@sahouston.com.

We encourage you to pray for the immediate needs of our congregation:

Vasti Adkins, Pat Bowers, Harry Bristol, Annie Brownfield, Allison Callaway, Cindy Chmielewski, Forrest Clark, Christy Craig, Zia Duffy, Natasha Erskine, Laurie Fitzpatrick, Grant Fraser, Stephen Gelbaugh, Mary Lou Horsley, Meghan Handyside, Renee Hayter, Ken Kern, Jill Kinkel, Natalie Kinkel, Peggy McCall, Anna McMahon, Mike Staley.

The ACTS Prayer Group is praying for these members this week:

Beth and Doug Dawson

Dave Decker

Betsy and Noah Denson, Everett and Natalie

Nancy Donaldson

Cynthia and Steve Doroghazi

Please let Cynthia Chmielewski (chmielewski1912@gmail.com) know any specific requests that you have when it is "your" week!

Golden Members:

Bondu Anderson, Carolyn Blakley, Sidair Boeker, Ruth and Walter Bohannon, Pat Bowers, Judy and Harry Bristol, Jan and Dan Butterwick, Margaret Caddy, Carolyn Caldwell, Florine Carr, Janet and Ed Christensen, Forrest Clark, Nancy Donaldson, Carolyn Draper, Dorothy Falkenberg, Janiece Ferguson, George Ferry, Ann Gaston, Maria Geddes, Ann Gentle, John Grubb, Mary Lou Horsley, Mona Johnson, Charlene and Ken Kern, Jerry Ann Kilcoyne, Alice Loveless, Peggy McCall, Dorothy McIntosh, Sue McLeod, Ann and Phil Migliore, Ziilah Oden, Dinah Orum, Pat Perry, Nora and Florante Quiocho, Suzanne Reese, Kay Russell, Dee and Joe Savoy, Hanna Schwarze, Betty Smith, Barbara and Mike Staley, Jamie Strauss, Ann Wallin,

Births:

Today we give thanks to God and celebrate the birth of Joel William Adkins, son of Vasti and Joel Adkins, born January 14, 2024.

With Deepest Sympathies

It is with a heavy heart we share the news of the passing of Percy Gentle, husband of Ann Gentle who entered the Church Triumphant on January 15, 2024.

WHO WE ARE



***We are a welcoming community of broken people,
learning to be loved by Jesus so we can love like Jesus.***

We are a welcoming community of broken people - God knows we are imperfect, flawed, broken people with no part of our lives untouched by the consequences of sinful attitudes and actions opposed to God's will for us. We gather together knowing that by ourselves no one is right with God, not even one (Romans 3:23). We also know that God created us good and in God's image, which is ultimately restored to wholeness through his Son, and God accepts us as right with God through what Jesus has done for us. So we have no basis for pride or pretence, and every reason to be humble and authentic before one another, because we are all received and become whole only by God's grace (Ephesians 2:8, Galatians 2:20-21).

learning to be loved by Jesus - In following Jesus, we learn to receive continually God's forgiveness and grace through him. We cannot truly live apart from the renewing, identity changing power of his Spirit filling us to overflowing (John 4:14, 7:37-38). Apart from Jesus we can do nothing (John 15:5). All those practices that put us in a place to be renewed in our relationship with God as God's adopted, beloved children, to receive God's love directly and through others in community remind us of who we truly are. Being God's people comes before doing God's work. We cannot give or live out what we are not regularly receiving.

so that we can love like Jesus. - This is the mark of being followers or disciples of Jesus, that we love with the same tenderness, compassion, "toughness" and intensity with which Jesus loved his disciples and the world (John 15:12-13). We give our lives away to love, serve, and restore people and systems in the world to God. We extend the reach of God's just and gracious rule in the lives of people as we notice and join in what the Spirit is doing to make "your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10).

Opportunities to Serve at St. Andrew's

A great way to get involved at St. Andrew's is to join a ministry team. The following page has a list of elders and the ministry teams they lead. You can email the elder using the address listed under each ministry to find ways you can get involved. Here are a few ideas:

- **Worship** team is always looking for ushers to serve on Sundays or for special services during the week.
- **Missions** oversees the ministry partners we support and organizes our annual Navidad Market.
- **Outreach** hosts our First Fridays, Coffee House Live and other opportunities to reach out to our community.
- **Church Life** hosts Rutgers Street Grill, Easter Brunch and other events to care for our congregation.
- **Spiritual Formation** oversees Adult Discipleships, Small Groups and Retreats.
- **Family Ministries** provide a loving space for kids to learn about God. From reading to toddlers in the nursery to chaperoning youth weekly activities or retreats, we have many opportunities for you to impact young lives.
- **Educational Outreaches** volunteer in SOFA, Building Blocks or Children's Place.



LEADERS IN OUR CHURCH

SESSION LEADERSHIP 2024

January 7, 2024

MINISTRY	Active Elders	Active Elders
WORSHIP worship@sahouston.com	Ginny Martin Carrie King	vma6423527@aol.com caroleeaking@gmail.com
FACILITIES facilities@sahouston.com	James Lambuth Ron Stern Winston Reid	james.lambuth@gmail.com ronhstern@gmail.com winstonreid23@hotmail.com
RESOURCES resources@sahouston.com	Natasha Erskine David Lucke	Natashaderskine@gmail.com j.david.lucke@gmail.com
MISSIONS missions@sahouston.com	Bryan Gowen Mark Wendt	b2bgow@sbcglobal.net wendt.mark8@gmail.com
OUTREACH outreach@sahouston.com	Beverly Brownfield Kristy Juzswik	bev@wbrownfield.com juzswik@yahoo.com
CHURCH FAMILY churchfamily@sahouston.com	John Bremer MaryAnn McGlamery	j.bremer57@gmail.com mau0901@yahoo.com
SPIRITUAL FORMATION spiritualformation@sahouston	Elaine Ecklund William Orme	ehe@rice.edu william.h.orme@gmail.com
CHILDREN children@sahouston.com youth@sahouston.com	Katy Butterwick Sarah Cleary Tami Mallett Brandon Walker	katy.butterwick@gmail.com saecami@gmail.com mtmmallett@aol.com walkbrandon@gmail.com
CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE nominating@sahouston.com	Beverly Brownfield Carrie King	bev@wbrownfield.com caroleeaking@gmail.com

Clerk – Aletha Evert, abevert@swbell.net
Treasurer – Mark Mallett

Assistant Clerk – Katy Butterwick
Assistant Treasurer – David Lucke

TRUSTEES -- [2022] John Fitzgerald, Jan Kelly [2023] Florine Carr, Brian Duffy
[2024] Rick Bott, Joyce Ramsey-Coleman

CLERGY AND STAFF



Jeff Smith, *Executive Pastor*

jeff@sahouston.com

Jim Gill, *Parish Associate*

jim@sahouston.com

Amy Smith, *Director of Family Ministries*

amy@sahouston.com

Brenton Smith, *Children's Ministries Coordinator*

brenton@sahouston.com

Mandy Kung, *Director of Music*

mandy@sahouston.com

Byron Williams, *Assistant Director of Music*

byron@sahouston.com

Kelly Lewis, *Exec. Dir. of Ed. Outreach and Church Life*

kelly@sahouston.com

Mandy Kung, *Director of SOFA (School of Fine Arts)*

SOFA@sahouston.com

Claire Mello, *Director of Children's Place*

claire@sahouston.com

Rachel Gowen, *Director of Building Blocks*

rachel@sahouston.com

Joanne Anders, *Director of Operations*

joanne@sahouston.com

Jacks Kelly, *Director of IT*

jacks@sahouston.com

Juan Bravo, *Facilities and Maintenance*

juan@sahouston.com

Maria Ibarra, *Financial Gifts Admin Assistant*

maria@sahouston.com

Beth Gowen, *Financial Secretary*

beth@sahouston.com

CONTACT Us



Join the church

Amy Smith

amy@sahouston.com



Fund the altar flowers

Kelly Lewis

kelly@sahouston.com



Plan a Wedding

Joanne Anders

joanne@sahouston.com



Announce a birth or adoption

Prepare for Baptism

Kelly Lewis

kelly@sahouston.com

Make a donation • sahouston.com/giving

Planned giving • Maria Ibarra, maria@sahouston.com

Add a name to the prayer list • Joanne Anders, joanne@sahouston.com

Notify us of a death or illness • Amy Smith, amy@sahouston.com

Request a bulletin announcement • Kelly Lewis, kelly@sahouston.com

Request an announcement for the weekly email • info@sahouston.com

Update contact information in our database • Maria Ibarra, maria@sahouston.com





BUILDING BLOCKS NEEDS YOUR HELP

VOLUNTEER: Building Blocks is in need of After School Volunteers for K-5th grade students. This is an easy one hour time commitment. You would help a small group of students on complete their homework from 4-5pm any day of the week you choose. Tutors are also present to help with anything that needs more specialized assistance. We do ask that volunteers commit to one day a week minimum to help build consistency and relationships with the students. Please email Rachel Gowen rachel@sahouston.com for more information.

JOB OPENING: Building Blocks is in need of an After School Tutor with strong math and english skills for K-5th grade students. Your role would be supervising students during snack and group free play periods with other staff members, assisting with classroom and behavior management during the homework period, and maintaining a safe and respectful environment that is conducive to learning. Strong leadership and redirection skills as well as experience working with children are required. Please email Rachel Gowen for more information.

