



3010 W 15th Street  
Panama City, FL 32401-1327

## The Lighthouse

October 17, 2017

### IT'S FALL Y'ALL

It's true that this year Fall looks a little different without Fall Fest, but we are excited about our new celebrations!

On Friday, October 13, our Preteens celebrated at Camp Herbert Watts with a cookout and hayride!



### NEXT

All 1st-6th graders and their friends are invited to a Fall Party!

October 22, in the Fellowship Hall  
4:30 – 6:15

It will be a Festive Fun Night with:

- Carnival Style Games
- Face Painting
- Pigs in a Blanket & Other Treats
- Candy Prizes

Everyone is encouraged to invite their friends!

Pre K & Kindergarten will have their own Fall Party with games and treats from 5:00 – 6:15 in the Preschool Kid Zone.



# Shepherd's Staff

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To the Flock of God at St. Andrew Baptist Church

## REBUILDING OUR OWN BROKEN WALLS

I shared with the church Sunday morning that as Jerusalem's walls were broken down, and God called Nehemiah to lead in their repair, St. Andrew's financial walls are in need of repair.

Simply put, as of October 8, we were \$227,604 behind where we should be in our giving to Ministry Needs.

As of that same date, we are \$92,225 behind our goal for Missions giving.

This ought not to be! We are not living in a depressed economy. While we always have some who are temporarily in difficult financial straits, that is not the condition of most. We should not be letting the walls of ministry or missions fall into disrepair.

Therefore, like Nehemiah and the citizens of Jerusalem, we are setting our course to repair the walls by the end of 2017. I call upon each of us who are a part of the family called St. Andrew Baptist Church, to join in the rebuilding. Here are the things I ask each one of you to do.

- If you were not in worship last Sunday (Oct. 15), please go to our website [sabc.org](http://sabc.org) and listen to my message where I explain things in greater detail than I can here.
- Open the Church Contribution Statement being mailed to you showing your record of giving for the first nine months of the year. It will also contain a letter from me about our effort to rebuild the financial walls of our church.
- Check your own record of giving. If you have missed some times you intended to give through travel or unforeseen events, determine to make that up over the next 11 weeks.
- If your giving is on the schedule you planned consider these things –
  - Are you tithing? God promises great blessings to those who obey Him in giving the 10% as an acknowledgement of God's ownership.
  - Are you giving proportional to your blessings? Most Americans are in the top 2% of the world's population in terms of wealth. We compare ourselves to multimillionaires and consider ourselves impoverished. Most of us enjoy blessings most of the world never sees.
  - Are you giving to God with a big basket? Jesus said that with the same measure we give, we will receive. "Give," He said, "and it will be given to you!"
- Pray and ask God what He would want you to do, what He will enable you to do, weekly, monthly, or in individual gifts.
- Begin next Sunday, Oct. 22.

Folks, we love the Lord!

We love His church!

We love what God is doing among us!

Let's not let our walls be broken down. Let's rebuild them by end of year!

The Shepherd Loves the Sheep,  
Bro. Mike

# ON MISSION

GIC week is upon us! I hope you have been making plans to join in the festivities as we have so many great opportunities for you to celebrate and praise God for His work in missions this past year. While we've got so much going on during these jam packed 5 days, I want to tell you about 3 things I'm really excited to see happen this week.

1. **PROJECT 127** This is something that is so near to my heart! Project 127 is a new ministry beginning this week that is dedicated to caring for the orphan. James 1:27 says, "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world." That is the goal of Project 127. Wednesday Night, we will be revealing ways for everyone to join in on this endeavor to care for and reach orphans, both in Panama City and around the world.
2. **PASTOR JESSE NELSON** Jesse is the pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church right here in Panama City. He is a godly man who is leading his church well right in the heart of our city. On Wednesday night, Jesse and I will sit down for a conversation on a subject that is so crucial to today's Church in America: Racial Reconciliation. Jesse and I will be talking about how this plays into our mission to reach the world with the Gospel, and practical steps that churches and church members can take to be instruments of Grace and Love to people from all backgrounds, ethnicities, and walks of life.
3. **PASTOR MIKE CRAWFORD** Many of you know Pastor Mike is the Lead Pastor at Freedom Church in Baltimore, Maryland. He is going to be our Guest Preacher on Sunday morning. Lord willing, he will be preaching from our theme text for the week. Acts 4:20, which says, "For we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard." I am so excited to hear what God has to say through Pastor Mike.

Like I said, there is SOOOOO much I could tell you about that I just don't have the space in this Lighthouse to cover, so I guess you will just have to come to all of it to get everything God has planned for this amazing week. I am praying and trusting God to be exalted for His work this past year and move us with Boldness into the future! Here is a full rundown of the week.

## **Wednesday, October 25**

### **NEIGHBOR'S NIGHT**

Worship Center

6pm

## **Thursday and Friday, October 26 & 27**

### **MISSIONARY HOST HOMES**

Various Homes

6-8pm

Sign up at the Welcome Center

## **Saturday, October 28**

### **BRUNCH AND PANEL DISCUSSION**

Fellowship Hall

9am

Sign up at the Welcome Center

## **Sunday, October 29**

### **GLOBAL EVENT**

Worship Center

9am

## **Sunday, October 29**

### **GIC SERVICE**

Worship Center

10:30am

For His Glory,  
Thomas

# Discipleship | Evangelism

When the church gathers on Sunday mornings, we are encouraged by the reminder that Jesus' tomb is empty and His heavenly throne is occupied. We are reminded that in Christ, our sins are forgiven and death has been defeated. This is cause for worship!

Yet, there remains an attitude of indifference to weekly worship gatherings among professing Christians around the world, and we at St. Andrew are not exempt. Many feel they are too busy to make time for Jesus Christ or His people. Now, whether we would admit this or not is debatable, but here is an area that we should apply "actions speak louder than words." We often

decide to invest our time elsewhere, while gathering with the redeemed to worship the Redeemer is neglected.

We must see that there is both a vertical and horizontal aspect to our corporate worship services, both having benefits for the individual and the local body of believers. The vertical is easy to see. We need God. We were created to worship, and God is the only one worthy of that worship. But the horizontal aspect is also important. Hebrews 10:24-25 states;

*"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of*

*ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."*

You have a role to play in corporate worship. Your purpose is not to be entertained, but to encourage and to be encouraged. For the good of your souls and the good of this local body we call St. Andrew, protect and prioritize the weekly worship of our Lord.

God bless,  
Bro. Jeremy

## MUSIC MINISTRY MOMENTS

### THE 12TH DAY OF CHRISTMAS!

We are going to try something fresh for our Christmas celebration and we want you to be part of it in many ways!

We are intentionally moving our Celebration to The Marina Civic Center. God put this on our hearts when we discovered an open opportunity to be THE CHRISTMAS EVENT to our community at that location that would celebrate the coming of Christ. We are going to make it a fun and interactive night. Here's how you can help!

First, the Choir is inviting you, members of St. Andrew, to JOIN US ON STAGE! Yes, you can sing with us, the Choir and Orchestra! This week you will get a letter explaining how to ACCEPT this invitation to sing. With it will come instructions on how to hear and see the music on your computer or smartphone to get the songs!

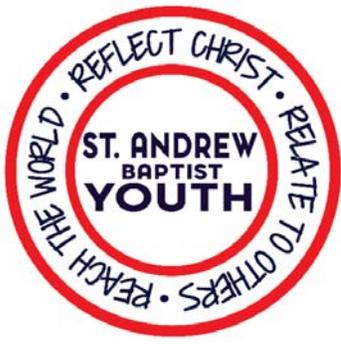
Second, SAVE THE DATES – Monday December 11 @ 6pm for Rehearsal at The Civic Center and Tuesday, December 12 @ 6 pm for The 12th Day of Christmas Celebration!

Finally, we will produce tickets for you to distribute to help get the word out. Invite your friends, relatives, co-workers, and be creative! Ask God to help you meet new friends and invite them for this one night featuring you, the choir, the orchestra, and them – the audience!

So, be looking for your letter with instructions and come be a part of this one of a kind night of joy, music, fun, and audience participation!

(We already have CDs of the music ! If you'd like to have one see me or any choir member!)

~ Doug



Here we go again! Fall Retreat 2017 Take 2! Thanks to Hurricane Nate we had to postpone our Fall Retreat to Oct. 21-22 and relocate to Laguna Beach. This was a big disappointment for the leadership who pours so much time and energy into Fall Retreat to make it work,

and for the youth who were so excited to go! But not all is lost. God gave us a chance to make some changes and host the retreat here locally. We are so thankful that we were able to recoup our deposits and move them to

Laguna Beach. We worship the same Jesus no matter where we are, so we are super pumped to still be able to make Fall Retreat happen! So we are still praying hard for our youth this weekend. 1. Prayer for the leadership and adults who will be teaching, driving, and cooking. 2. Pray for the youth who will be on the retreat. God has placed them on this trip for a reason. Many youth have invited their friends who have not come to faith in Jesus, and they are praying their friends meet Him there. A weekend can change everything! Do you believe that? Will you pray like that?

Bro. Mark

## From Rick's Desk

Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, spoke openly about his feelings of thanksgiving for their gift to him. Paul realized that the Philippians would receive a blessing from God for their stewardship and generosity in their giving to spread the gospel. Warren Wiersbe says this about Phil. 4:17, "What a blessing it is to know that our gifts are looked upon as spiritual sacrifices to the Lord that rejoice His heart!"

Financial Stewardship is an important component of our spiritual growth. It is a mark of maturity that has little to do with our physical age and more to do with our spiritual walk. It is unfortunate that we see in the media abuses by a few high-profile individuals which have created an atmosphere that makes it difficult to talk openly about stewardship without an unusual amount of skepticism. I pray you will not be put off by our discussion about stewardship things and that you will continue to read about some aids that might help you become consistent in your stewardship or might streamline the process so it is easier to give.

My goal, as administrator, is to give you the tools that might make it easier for you to give. I confess I've had to learn over the last few years that things have changed and I've had to make some changes. I also confess that those

changes have been beneficial and have made my life easier! I hope you will find if you are not already using some of these that you'll try them to see how they might help you in your giving to the gospel.

Each week we provide an opportunity to worship through our giving during our corporate worship time. You can give cash or by check. We provide envelopes in the pews so that you can place your gift in an envelope. Our faithful and trustworthy Counting Team helps keep confidential records of your giving and our Church Accountant sends out quarterly reports of your giving for your records. Church members receive envelopes mailed to their home as further reminders to be a faithful giver. To date, many have chosen to stop receiving envelopes and have begun to give electronically through the secure church website or through their bank. Many have set up a recurring gift that has been beneficial in making sure that our giving has fewer ups and downs than in the past as their gifts are received by the church even when they are away on holiday! Paying bills and giving our gospel gift online has become easier and less stressful across the years and I encourage you to consider this whether you determine to do it through the secure church website or through your bank.

Another financial stewardship tool that is gaining popularity in our culture today is text-to-give via your smartphone. This has become easier and faster, and allows you to give anytime and anywhere. All you do is text: [sabcgive to 73256](text:sabcgive to 73256). You'll receive a return text that will include a blue link. Touch the link and you'll be whisked to our giving link. Insert the amount you wish to give and the drop box below the amount will enable you to choose to give to Ministry (tithes and offerings) or Missions (Global Outreach) as well as others. Select the method of payment and then fill in your information. You'll only need to do this the first time and then it will be automatically filled in for you until you choose to change the method of payment. You will be sent a receipt for your records that you can print out if you choose to.

The how you give is pretty easy. The why you give is important. One preacher says that we are most like Jesus when we give sacrificially to benefit others. I pray that God will mature us all to become faithful givers to the gospel efforts of St. Andrew Baptist as we seek to grow a 4Gen Church here in Panama City!

# PostingBoard

## News & Information

### Coming for Membership

**By Baptism:** Maurice and Beverly Yowe, John Kirchens

**By Letter:** Lavonia Whitaker

**By Statement:** Gabriel McAfee

### Sympathy Is Extended To

Paul Green, family, and friends, in the passing of his wife, Betty, on Sept. 27, in Panama City.

Family and friends of Mary Bobbie Abbott who passed away on Sept. 27, in FL.

Verna Howard, family, and friends, in the passing of her sister, Hazel Homes, on Oct. 10, in Panama City.

Ruth Caswell, family, and friends, in the passing of her daughter, Laura Jenkins, on Oct. 11, in Panama City.

### Martha Lloyd Media Center

MAGNOLIA MOONLIGHT by Mary Ellis was donated to the library by the Friendship LCG in memory of Lola Hendricks. These books have also been added for your reading enjoyment: CHASING SECRETS by Lynette Eason, MY SISTER'S PRAYER by Mindy Starns Clark, and VENDETTA by

Lisa Harris. Homeschool books are also available for check out. See you in the library!

### Budget Information

As of October 13:

YTD Budget Goal: \$1,685,757.23

YTD Received: \$1,458,153.25

Global Outreach Budget:

YTD Budget Goal: \$259,305.73

YTD Received: \$167,080.25



### Announcements

Congratulations to Brian and Christina Knox on the birth of their daughter, Ella Inez, on October 11. Ella weighed 8.67 lbs and was 20.5 inches long. Proud grandparents are Bubba and Pam Hill. Proud great-grandparents are Hugo and Wanda White.

Ladies, you are invited to a Baby Shower honoring Dana Dykes on Saturday, November 18, at 11am in the Fellowship Hall. Dana is registered at Amazon.com and Target.

Did you know that this newsletter can be emailed to you? To sign up please send an email to [jenniferstrickland@sabc.org](mailto:jenniferstrickland@sabc.org).

## The Lighthouse

Volume 131, Issue 10

St. Andrew Baptist Church glorifies God as we worship, equip, minister, fellowship, and share Christ at home and around the world.

The Lighthouse is published every month by St. Andrew Baptist Church to keep members informed on news and events of the church.

The deadline to submit information for the next issue is Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2017.

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Join our group on Facebook



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