

The CrossRoads Connection



A Youth and Young Adult Ministry of
St. Andrew United Methodist Church

We're Looking for a few GREAT People!

When we take in new members or when we baptize someone we ask the parents or individuals some questions having to do with their decision to take their faith to the next level through baptism or membership. We also ask the congregation some questions. These questions are important, historic questions that have been asked to generations of our fore-parents, asking them if they will come alongside our congregation to share the gifts and talents we have to make sure we provide an avenue for them to grow in their faith.

How many times have you and I heard and answered these questions – and really meant it? Dozens, certainly! Hundreds of times maybe, for some of us?

Every time I walk a baby around our beautiful

sanctuary after baptism or watch Pastor Tim do it, I think what it means to this community of faith.



One, it means that individual or family still places value on this sacrament. It also means that these individuals are kneeling or being held in our arms, or standing on the platform trusting this community of faith will both accept and love them. And, I think we

do. We love having new families and individuals join our fellowship. They add to our diversity, add their voices to the faith discussion we are having here and increase our potential to be the church God calls us to be. Each new member, each newly baptized baby or youth or adult is important to this community of faith.

As we hear these important questions answered by the parents or candidates, we hear their promise to live a Christian life, to

uphold the tenets of the faith and to get involved and support this community of faith with their gifts, prayers AND their service.

And, then you and I are asked if we will not only accept them but also if we will accept our responsibility as members of this church – to support the church and to pitch in where needed and share our gifts where needed.

As you know if you've been around here for the last year or so, I like to ask of babies we are baptizing: "Is this the one?" Is this child the one to cure cancer or end poverty or make peace a reality when they have grown? Is this the one the starving and sick and frightened have been waiting for? Is this the one to reach out to those too often forgotten? It just may be. And, by our positive response to the questions for membership



Pat Sleeth is pastor to the CrossRoads community.

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chipping in

Our MISSION: We seek to encourage youth and young adults to develop a genuine faith in Jesus Christ, encourage them to grow as lifelong disciples, and to equip them to minister to others for the sake of the world.

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and baptism, we promise the candidate and God that we will do our part to help them become all God wants them to be.

We covenant to provide a safe, loving place to learn and grow. We promise to provide encouragement and the best possible programming to make sure they grow with a solid grounding in our faith. The fact is, we just can't do that without your help. We don't have enough paid staff and couldn't possibly afford enough paid staff to do everything that needs done in a church this size.

And, we shouldn't.

Yes, you heard me right. Even if we could afford to hire a hundred people, we shouldn't. Why? Well, because God has called every person on this planet to lend a hand according to their own unique set of gifts and talents. You can trust me; the Trustees do not want me doing construction at this church! Dave Evans (our Director of Music) has not invited me to sing in the choir (good call), and Dave Klenosky probably wakes up screaming in the middle of the night even THINKING about my getting into the sound booth and playing with the computers and sound equipment!

This is the busiest congregation in the world! I know that! We have movers and shakers in the world of industry and education and everything in between. I know we all juggle family, jobs, faith commitment and recreation. But the fact is, we have

some of the busiest people getting involved in several things here at the church because their faith and this community means a lot to them. My friends, we can't let "busyness" be an excuse to not roll up our sleeves and get involved.

So, let me ask you: Have you ever wondered if maybe it's time for you to step up and ask where you are needed? Can you sing or play an instrument? Give Dave Evans a call. Do you have gifts in technology or sound engineering? Talk to David Klenosky. Do you teach or work with children and LOVE it? Why not talk with Cindy, our Director of Children's Ministries? Do you teach or coach or work with teenagers, college students or young career age folks or think you would enjoy that? Give Ted Foster or Carol Downard (CAB) or me a call. And, maybe you're retired or have some extra time and like to work with landscaping (talk to Dan Dunten). Or do you like to answer phones, or get mailings ready to go? If that's the case, you should talk to Donna Biehl. Would you like to see more adult programming or couples or singles fellowship? Talk to Pastor Tim or myself. We need you!

**Remember,
you can always
access the CR
calendar on the
Web at
thecrossroads-
umc.org**



My point is, we have something for you to do! I know in the CrossRoads we need a replacement for our Young Adult Sunday School by the start of Purdue's fall semester. Monica Arrowsmith will be stepping down from this important ministry to take over another important ministry here (InTouch).

Talk with me or Monica if you'd like to find out more about this ministry. AND, Marilyn Foster, likewise, is moving from one ministry job to another here in our church and needs to step down from being the editor on the CrossRoads Connection.

Please don't read this as Pastor Pat pointing fingers. Please don't do that! I am inviting you to take part in a great faith adventure; an opportunity to grow in your faith while helping others do the same. God called this community of faith (St. Andrew UMC) to move from our comfortable home on Meridian St. to a new place to do a new thing and we stepped out in faith and God is blessing us with new people every week. Our ministries are growing across the board and new ones are needed. New ministries with new ideas and new energy – like those you have.

Every person in ministry is our goal. So, please pray about your gifts and talents, and let's put them to use, here at St. A, but for the Kingdom. I think you'll be very glad you did! The first life you change just might be your own.

Pastor Pat

See YOU at the CrossRoads

Young Adult Sunday Study

The Young Adult Sunday Study continues to be held on Sunday mornings at 10 am. This class is for anyone who considers themselves a young adult (most are in their 20's and 30's), whether single, engaged, married and/or parenting. We usually start with some community time and breakfast munchies, then dig into our lesson of the week.

We are having a great time at our Sunday Study and love spending the time with God and with each other. Each lesson stands on its own, and there is always room for more – so please join us on any Sunday morning.



Senior High Update



There is yet another new face in the senior high room! Trae Mitten has joined Tom Arrowsmith and Joy May on the leadership team for the Sr. High Youth Group. He has been a member of St. Andrew for three and a half years. He is the Assistant Dean of Students at Purdue University, where he oversees the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Trae has three sons, Parker, Spencer, and Fletcher, and is a member of the Young Families Sunday school class. In his spare time, he enjoys attending and coaching youth sports, watching sports, listening to music, and collecting sports memorabilia. Trae has been working with youth in high schools and college for nearly 20 years, and he is looking forward to sharing the gospel and Christian lifestyle with the youth of St. Andrew.

Remember that our senior highers are hard at work at Covenant College at Lookout Mountain, Georgia. Throughout the week, they have been a part of bible study, reflection, camaraderie, and work - definite work! Our teens have been wielding weed eaters and chain saws during their landscaping efforts, and many have learned the magic of making mulch from tree branches (with the aid of a wood chipper, of course)! And, it goes without saying that they have been sharing God's love with others in the process!

St. Andrew has some G-R-E-A-T kids in this congregation; please continue to shower them with prayers! Oh, and be sure to ask Debbie Honsowetz about a traffic cone....

