



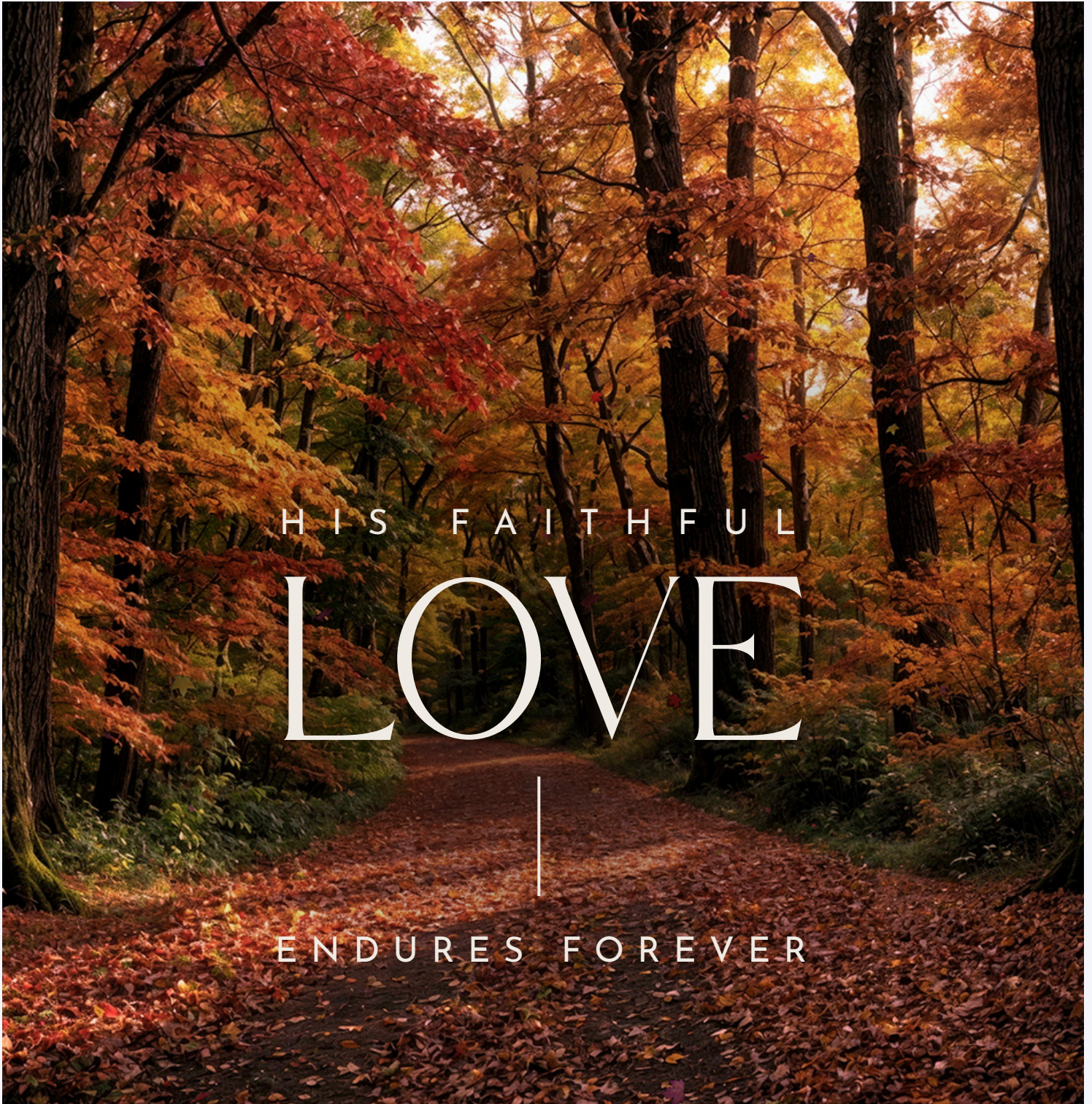
saumc

stewardship news

FALL 2026

GIVE THANKS

ISSUE 06



H I S F A I T H F U L

LOVE

E N D U R E S F O R E V E R



ST. ANDREW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH-BRANDON | WWW.SAUMC.NET



FROM THE DESK

The purpose of this newsletter is to periodically update the congregation on the major stewardship initiatives of St. Andrew's United Methodist Church.

We want to fulfill God's commandment of making disciples. We invite everyone who calls St. Andrew's home to be a part of God's plan for the future of our church. If we all sacrificially and prayerfully give, we can cultivate faith in a world desperately in need of the hope and love of Jesus Christ.

Through your tithes and offerings, prayers and service, we can make a difference by sharing God's amazing love and fostering relationships with Him.

In His Service,

St. Andrew's Stewardship Committee

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

**Tithes and Other Congregational Giving to Support the General Operations
and Missions of St. Andrew's UMC**

Our Annual Stewardship Campaign

Each year, our church family has a special opportunity to come together with gratitude, generosity, and faith through our Annual Stewardship Campaign. Your participation helps support our general operating budget and makes possible the worship, care, fellowship, and outreach that brings our shared mission to life.

Together, our tithes and offerings sustain Sunday worship, nurture children and youth, strengthen community outreach, and help St. Andrew's remain a welcoming place where people can encounter God's love.

As this year's campaign proceeds, we invite everyone who calls St. Andrew's home to take part. Please pray about how you may be called to participate—through a financial commitment, prayer, service, or by encouraging others. Whatever your response, it is a meaningful expression of faith and an important part of our life together.

Together, with grateful hearts, we can continue building a strong foundation for ministry and sharing the hope and love of Jesus Christ. Visit our 2027 Stewardship Campaign website [HERE](#)

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET Year-to-date Financial Results As of August 31, 2026

General Fund Revenues Collected to Date	\$863,840.06
General Fund Expenditures to Date	\$857,687.86
Difference	\$6,152.20



ST. ANDREW'S IN MISSION

Stewardship extends beyond caring for our church facilities and daily operations. It also calls us to care for neighbors facing crisis and hardship, offering practical help that shares the hope of Jesus Christ.

HOPE *for* HER

SHARING HOPE

Missions & Outreach

After much research, evaluation, and prayerful discernment, St. Andrew's selected **Hope for Her** as a new mission outreach partner. This partnership is one way we are living into our 2026 initiative, "Discerning Our Next Mission," by responding together to a meaningful need in our community. Hope for Her is a safe place where women experiencing crisis and trauma find the strength, skills and support they need to rebuild their best lives.

The following testimonial underscores the need for this vital mission in our community:

"After leaving my husband to flee an abusive and dangerous situation, the path forward for my daughter and me seemed unbearable on my own. I first came to Hope for Her in need of food and clothing. While they helped me with food, gas, a car, clothes and even a place to stay, they gave me something I needed even more — hope."

— Hope for Her Guest

St. Andrew's has already responded enthusiastically with our new mission partner through the Panties for Hope drive, collecting packages of new underwear in a range of sizes for Hope for Her. In September, the congregation donated **1,330** pairs and over **\$3,000** to help women served by the organization meet this basic need.

As we move forward in our new partnership, there will be many more opportunities to get involved and lend our support.

To learn more about Hope for Her and its work, please visit the organization's website

www.hopeforherfl.org



St. Andrew's United Women in Faith attend Hope for Her "Pant-Tea Party" Fundraiser, 2026.



STITCHING WITH GOD'S LOVE

Missions & Outreach

When temperatures drop, a warm quilt offers comfort that many of us take for granted. For those who struggle to meet this basic need, that gift can make a meaningful difference.

That is where **St. Andrew's Quilters' Corner** steps in. For many years, this talented group of volunteers has created beautiful handmade quilts for people in need. Each quilt is both a practical gift of warmth and a work of art, reflecting the care and love stitched into it by its maker.

This year, Quilters' Corner completed **216 full-size quilts, five quillows**—quilts that fold into pillows—and **31 tiny quilts** for newborns in neonatal intensive care units.

Most of the quilts are delivered through Mountain Hearts Community Services to preschool children in need in the Appalachian region. Closer to home, quilts are shared with Forgotten Angels, which serves young men aging out of foster care; Hope for Her, our new mission partner; Family Promise; Vitality; and hospital neonatal intensive care units.

Quilters' Corner welcomes new volunteers and offers two opportunities to gather each month:

Every Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month - after Sunday worship services.

Beginners are welcome, no quilting experience is required! For more information, contact Renae at stampwithrenae@verizon.net.

A big THANK YOU to all the hard-working, talented volunteers of Quilters' Corner!



CHURCH CAMPUS FACILITY PROJECTS

Preparing our Church Campus to Meet Our Needs in the Coming Years

PROJECT UPDATE: “KEEPING IT COOL!”

Pledges to the Keeping It Cool! capital campaign now total approximately **\$246,400**. We have also received **\$25,127** in gifts not associated with pledges, bringing total pledged and donated support for the three-year campaign to **\$271,527**. Thanks to your generosity, we are well on our way toward the **\$300,000 goal** to replace aging air-conditioning systems across the church campus.

In August, air conditioning Unit #5 in Disciples Hall failed after more than 20 years of service. Thanks to those who have already made donations toward our Keeping It Cool! capital campaign, we had funds available to quickly get the unit replaced.

We will continue to monitor the remaining units scheduled for replacement and will move forward with each one in the most cost-effective and responsible manner.

Thank you to everyone who has given so generously to this important project. Your stewardship helps ensure that St. Andrew's remains a welcoming, comfortable, and functional place for worship, fellowship, and community ministry.

Keeping Our Cool! A/C Replacement Campaign As of August 31, 2026

Capital Funding Goal
Pledged Contributions
Balance Needed to Reach Goal

\$300,000
\$271,527
\$28,473

CHURCH CAMPUS FACILITY PROJECTS

Preparing our Church Campus to Meet Our Needs in the Coming Years

GREENER PASTURES

We are also excited to let everyone know that we have recently completed a project to put in a **second water well** on our church property. With water usage restrictions, the existing water well did not provide enough capacity to adequately water our grounds and plants.

By using some savings in our budget and thanks to generous donations for this project from some of our members who are passionate about keeping our campus beautiful and welcoming, we were able to complete this long-needed project.

The additional new well will help us care for the landscape more reliably, make responsible use of water, and preserve a welcoming setting for worship, fellowship, and community events. We are grateful to everyone whose gifts and talents helped make this improvement possible.



THE LEGACY FUND

A Permanent Endowment Fund for St. Andrew's UMC



GROWING IN LEGACY

The Legacy Fund was created as a meaningful way for members and friends of St. Andrew's to leave a lasting impact — whether through a final bequest, a planned gift, or a contribution made in honor or memory of loved ones. These gifts help ensure that the ministries of our church will continue to thrive for generations to come.

The Legacy Fund reached an exciting milestone in 2026, growing to more than \$100,000. At this level, investment growth can make an increasingly meaningful contribution to the fund's long-term value. Grants are made only from fund appreciation; contributed principal is preserved. This approach allows the Legacy Fund to support programs and ministries at St. Andrew's while continuing to grow. As the fund grows, the amount available for annual grants also increases.

Fund Information:

- Current balance as of October 3, 2026: \$120,584.66
- Fund continues to grow, receiving \$9,750 in contributions YTD
- Fund appreciation YTD – \$9,511 (10.35%)

The church is also making several minor operational updates. At the Annual Church Conference on October 4, 2026, changes were approved to the Permanent Endowment charge document originally adopted on September 6, 2021.

The approved changes include:

- Memorialized the name “Legacy Fund” and designated it as the sub-fund of the Permanent Endowment Fund. The Legacy Fund will focus grants on church ministries and capital improvements. Additional sub-funds can be established with proper approvals.
- Minor changes to the makeup of the committee and clarified voting rights.
- Clarified how grant amounts will be calculated. The Permanent Endowment Fund Committee will recommend grants, and the Church Council will provide final approval. Total grants will equal 3% to 5% of the prior year-end fund balance.

In the first quarter of 2027, the Permanent Endowment Committee will make its first grant recommendations.

If you have questions about the Legacy Fund or would like guidance on how to participate, please contact the Church Office for assistance at 813-689-6849.



PSALM 136:1 NIV

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
His love endures forever.

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STEWARDSHIP NEWS

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