

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

PRESBYTERY REPORT

"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed; His compassions do not fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him." Lamentations 3:22-24.

Rev. Ernest Betson
PRESBYTERY REPORT

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

God is good all the time. Blessed and Prosperous New Year in Christ! *"For the Lord is good; His mercy endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations."*

Matthew 28 **"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you."**

The mission of St. Andrew's is found in the great commission a mandate to go to the lost, spread the love of Christ and the gospel, making disciples for the glory of God!

SHEPHERDING

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, is our guide. We must acknowledge that without His direction we go astray. But by following His leadership, we honor His name. Christ our Shepherd leads us, which means we must follow Him. Following the Shepherd requires great trust. It starts with knowing the shepherd's voice and obeying his command. Jesus taught that following is what true disciples do. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). He states, "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." (Acts 20:28)

Today, post COVID a crippling aftermath effect wages another contagious virus of survival due to high cost of living and illnesses of all manner with cancer on the top of the list everywhere, robbing peace from many hearts. In Belize City, this have affected all our churches in many ways. Deaths, hurt, pain, sense of loss are only some the emotional and spiritual struggles of our people. We believe in **embracing** the stricken, **encouraging** the lost, **empowering** the unsaved and discouraged, and **loving** the broken. The need for our Lord and Savior is greater now than ever!

Our focus continues to be the same! To build, strengthen, equip, and empower the Men, Women, and families with specialized group programs to encompass, to explore and to discover intimate relationship with God. The power of the **Word** is the **source of power** that leads to a victorious life in Christ Jesus! Therefore, we have continued Google Meet- Women's Bible Study Meeting, Face to Face Men & women Bible Study, Children Program and Church Service.

Lamentations 3:22-24 It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed; His compassions do not fail. **They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.** "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him."

NEW MISSION - BELMOPAN

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

In October 2023, outreach mission work of sharing the Gospel was initiated in Belmopan. Brother John Stodghill and I drove to Belmopan once a week and did house meeting Bible Study on the roof of brother Adrian Bartley. We are studying the Gospel of John. We alternate and share time teaching time.

With God's grace and his lovingkindness, through church partners from MTW we were able to procure a lot in Belmopan City. We are planning to move on this property in the next few weeks to host on group study. We are also planning to do a summer VBS sometime in July 2024, God's willingness be granted.

Soaring Hope

The name soaring Faith is based on Isiah 40: 31 **"but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint."**

This is a Christ Centre Support environment where one greatest needs to be heard, listen and voice matters. Assurance, assurance of salvation and hope is discovered guided by the Lord in his perfect timing. The need of time is always available based on the immediate need and freeness to openly sharing. This need is respected. Just to cry , silence period or share the same thoughts un-interrupted.

Too often the Christians tend to quickly have a "Bible verse quick remedy prescription" to pacify the situation and fail to meet the need which is imperative, to win the soul of the broken. Have faith and trust God is dished out forgetting that **trials** are what develop both faith with trust!

Battling serious illnesses or cancer is a terrifying, horrific place beyond understanding and involves emotional ups and down, despair, frustration, doubts, fears, and constant loneliness that automatically comes with this territory. The experience of cancer not only is destructive in a physical way but can be a major deterrent to your fighting attitude and will to live. Imagine face a battle of this magnitude and not knowing God as Lord and Savior...not having him as your Shepherd in all this.

Purpose: Sustaining spiritual needs requires forming trust and empathy, providing desirable environment, appropriate communication, and respect and guidance by the Holy to lead the way in nurturing caring spirit for faith beliefs. This result in a catapult action of brotherly/sisterly Christian fellowship relationship. Hands and heart for Jesus.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

Words of God is imperative to the development and growth of the church so teaching of the word and wisdom of God take formal direction through:

1. **Tuesday Outreach Home Visit:** 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
2. **Sunday Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
3. **Men & Women Bible Study on Wednesday:** 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
4. **Vacation Bible Study:** July 24th. – 26th.
5. **Church Spiritual Retreat:** May 1, 2023, at Jaguar Creek

COUNCELING

Based on present day life situation I see the need for personalized counseling to bring **comfort and emotional healing (not just physical) for the family of God and community as requested.**

Marriage Counselling & Baptism: We had 4 Weddings at church and 2 baptisms.

Leadership Training

Saturday Morning classes with Mr. Clifton Perez, Owen Morrison and Alex Gillett for elders.

Hospitality/ Service Ministries

Ephesian 2:10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them,"

Through a High School comrade, we can do an outreach program every 3 months which involves going into the community to distribute a bag of basic food needs to needy and sharing the gospel. The most needed from our church is also blessed too with a pantry bag.

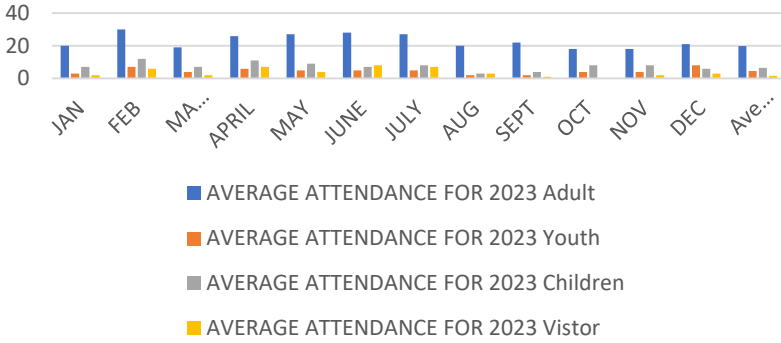
Home visitation of the sick and "shut ins" church members is done by me and some of the church members every other week.

Jesus Rangers Ministry: Bus picks up children from within the community on Friday evening to do a bible Club and the do games or sports after at the park.

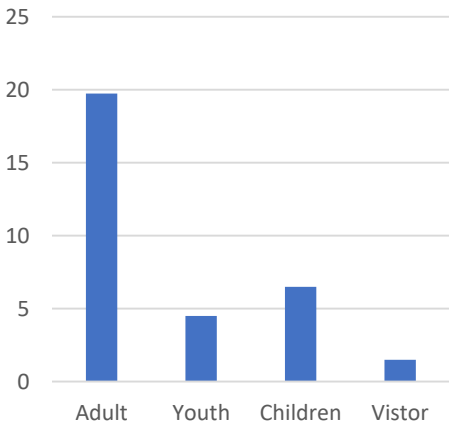
Average Monthly Attendance

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

2023 CHURCH ATTENDANCE



Average



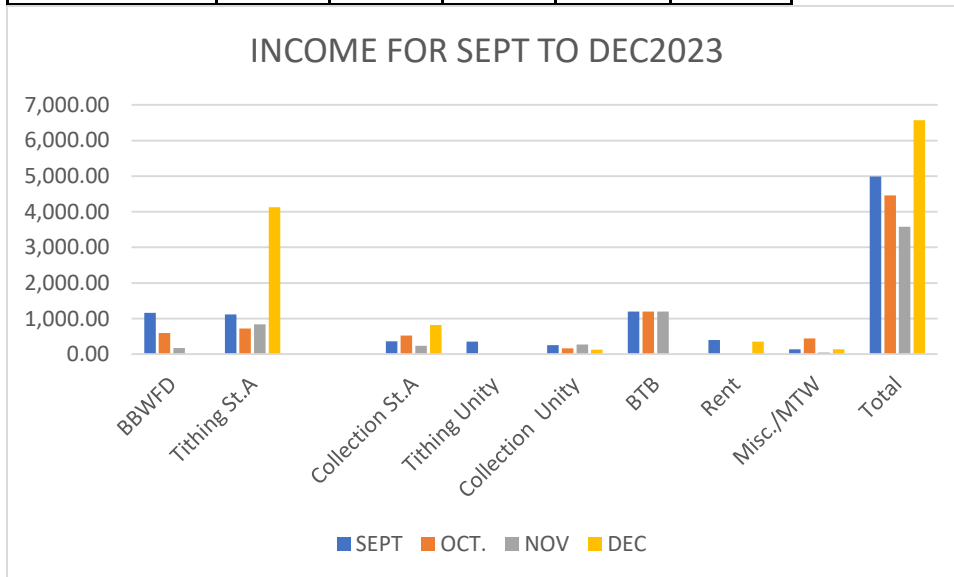
The monthly average attendance is 20 with adults being the greatest. The month of D shows the largest percentage and March showing the lowest attendance.

Finance

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

INCOME FOR SEPT TO DEC 2023

INCOME	SEPT	OCT.	NOV	DEC	Avg.
BBWFD	1,165.38	598.4	169	866.29.	699.77
Tithing St.A	1,116.00	720	840	4,126.00	1,700.50
Collection St.A	365.31	523.85	232.4	815.85	484.3525
Tithing Unity	350	810.00	820.00	150.00	532.50
Collection Unity	253.25	166	270.85	128	204.525
BTB	1,200	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	900
Rent	400	0	0	350	187.5
Misc./MTW	136	445	45	140	191.5
Total	4,988.94	4,463.25	3,575.25	6,576.14	



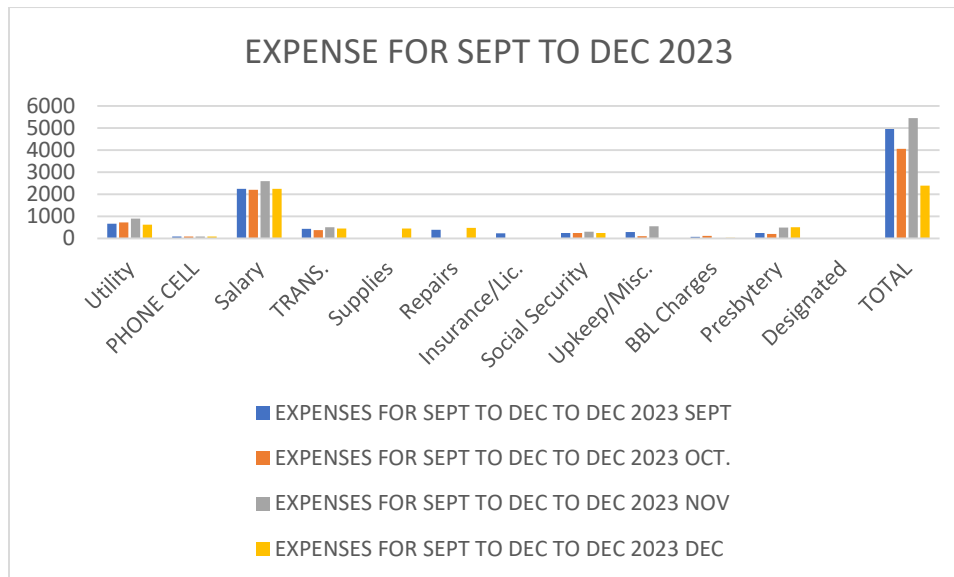
There was a great decrease in Tithing & offering during the months October to November 2023. Rent has also been inconsistent this year.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

Expenditure:

EXPENSES FOR SEPT TO DEC TO DEC 2023

EXPENSE	SEPT	OCT.	NOV	DEC	Avg.
Utility	671.28	720.46	894.71	625.72	728.04
PHONE CELL	84.38	84.38	84.38	84.38	84.38
Salary	2,250.00	2,200.00	2,600.00	2,250.00	2,325.00
TRANS.	442.48	386.81	512.65	445.75	446.92
Supplies	0	0	0	450	112.50
Repairs	400	0	0	480.7	220.17
Insurance/Lic.	240	0	0	0	60.00
Social Security	244	246	305	244	259.75
Upkeep/Misc.	300	100	560	0	240.00
BBL Charges	70.45	115.6		33	54.76
Presbytery	248	205	489	514	364.00
Designated					
TOTAL	4950.59	4058.25	5445.74	2395.69	3878.038



ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN

PRAYER NEEDS

1. Pray for prospected elders that are in training.
2. Prayers for my wife's health and support for procedures necessary as it will be an all-year ongoing treatment. For grace and strength within the process for us a family.
3. Rafters at St. Andrew's Church badly needs repair.
4. Sand fills for churchyard as during raining season the yard is like a pool and walking and driving is a challenge.
5. Prayers for more men in our church
6. Prayers for church growth, support for Great Commission & Soaring Hope Ministry
7. Spiritual hunger for God and perseverance of the saints