

**From the desk of Lisa Nichols,
Program Director**

Thursday, April 3, marked the end of this year's afterschool program. We had a total of 55 Hispanic boys and girls upstairs and 18-20 students downstairs in Room 107. We heartily thank Kastle Instructional Recovery for partnering with SAC and providing teachers, books, snacks, and transportation from November through April.

The girls had their pizza party on Wednesday and the boys celebrated on Thursday. Each student received a school pack containing a coloring book, markers, crayons, and scissors given by the Holston Conference United Methodist Women Young Women's Retreat.

We say goodbye and many, many thanks to Leanne Chesney for directing the afterschool program for two years. Leanne has done a great job of relating to the children and their families, organizing the program and transportation, recruiting and supervising student volunteers and teaching the first grade classes. She has been doing double duty since she was hired as a second grade teacher at East Side Elementary in February, and we appreciate her commitment to the children and the program. We look forward to seeing her as a volunteer next fall!

SAC is working with the Chattanooga Area Food Bank to provide healthy meals for students once each week in both summer and throughout the school year. The American Idol grant will provide a freezer, supplies, and food for students for one meal each week. Thanks to the Food Bank for partnering with us to provide healthy meals for our students.

Lisa

ST. ANDREWS CENTER STAFF

Rev. Michael Feely, Executive Director
Lisa Nichols, Program Director
Katie Walters, Administrative Asst.
Leanne Chesney, Afterschool Director
Drew Jennings, Dir. of Hispanic Summer Program

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the St. Andrews Center is to transform the Highland Park community and the City of Chattanooga by partnering with faith-based groups and other non-profit organizations to provide space and spirit where all are invited to learn, work, and worship.

SAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CONTACT US

1918 Union Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37404
423/629-9872

www.st-andrewscenter.org

revfeely@yahoo.com
standrewscenter@gmail.com

The St. Andrews Center is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization which relies on the support of foundations and individuals to fulfill its mission. We, the staff and board, regard ourselves as accountable not only to you but also to God for stewardship of the funds you entrust to us. All contributions are tax deductible.

Changing lives, enhancing futures, and enriching spirits

APRIL 2008



**St. Andrews
Center**

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**From the Executive Director,
Rev. Michael L. Feely**

April 2008

Springtime at St. Andrews Center

What does it mean to live in the city? And to do ministry in Highland Park? What does it mean to live in the "blessed community"?

Often people will ask me, "what do you do there at St. Andrews Center?". I sometimes say (only partly kidding) "I go down each day just to see what's going on in the building!" But underneath the mission statement and vision of the St. Andrews Center is the idea that through our work together, we can make this city a better place to live for all its residents. And hopefully, our work together will help people build bridges and find common ground. One builds up community by building up people. And as a perennial student of history, I appreciate the fact that building a "blessed community" has been undertaken by a lot of good people over the past 2000 years. They too struggled, and occasionally changed direction, but they kept at it. And it was always interesting.....

How do we build community here at the St. Andrews Center? Here are a few of the things that we are doing this spring:

- We're **PLOWING** up part of the field next door to us to start a **community garden** that will provide garden space to folks in the community as well as our own operation. We are hoping to be having fresh vegetables showing up before too long, and help provide a source of fresh food for folks in the community. And connected with that;

We're **PREPARING** our parking lot to be the site of the **new community market** at the St. Andrews Center. We're hoping by late spring to have a market bringing together local people with vegetables and other produce and food to gather each Saturday morning for an old-fashioned market (I want to call it the Eastern Market).

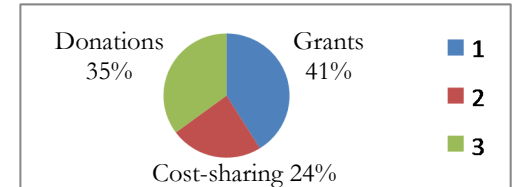
We're **RENOVATING** the fellowship hall and using about half the space to start a **bookstore and coffeehouse**. There will be materials there for readers of all ages and interests, and we look forward to making that a center of community conversation and activity. We are partnering with the Leadership group from Chattanooga Matters to make this happen, and proceeds from the bookstore will benefit the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Library.

It will be fun to see what happens this spring. I encourage you to come visit us soon!

Mike Feely

CURRENT FUNDING

Funding is a daily concern for many non-profits. The SAC is fortunate to be able to procure grant funding for most of its projects and programs. Our building partners also contribute towards our occupancy costs. For the remainder of our general operating budget, we rely on individual, corporate, and congregational financial support.



Volunteers needed

- 1) Office help: The office needs a volunteer (or two) for a few hours a month to help put out the newsletter mailing. This involves folding, labeling, stapling and counting.
- 2) Summer program kitchen assistants: 1 or 2 days per week, June 9—July 18, 2 hours per day
- 3) Yard work: mowing/weedeating the church property as needed.

If interested and available, please call the SAC office at 629-9872.

SAC Partners Calendar

- April 10—SAC board meeting
- April 11—lunch meeting of the St. Andrews Seniors, East Ridge Shoney's
- April 11—May 12—Every Sun, Mon, Tues, & Friday, 7:00, Revival sponsored by McDonald SDA Church
- April 12—Girls Inc. meeting 10:00-12:00
- April 15—Plaza Comunitaria graduation and reception 5:00
- April 19—Iglesia Monte Sinai anniversary
- April 25—Children's Nutritional Program annual board meeting