



Daniel & Rasha in the homework room.



Volunteers Larry, Jody, and Phyllis hang out by the pool.



Ana keeps Saul from drowning in the deep end of the swimming pool.



John and Jose talk about lifting weights.



Jossey and Ishani get tough on the basketball court.



Miss Hannah pigs out on a giant tortilla chip.

MONTHLY WORK SESSIONS

Led by Joseph Madida of Christ United Methodist Church, monthly work sessions are being organized at the SAC. One Friday evening and Saturday morning volunteers will gather to work on a specific task. For more information, call the SAC Office at 629-9872 or Joseph at 624-5949.



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CALENDAR

Nov. 13—SAC Board Meeting
Nov. 14—Seniors of St. Andrews lunch
Nov. 14 & 15—CUMC Work days
Nov. 25 & 26—ETC performances
Nov. 26-29—SAC offices closed
Dec. 2—*New Play Tuesday* series starts

Our Partners include:

Chattanooga Girls Choir
Chattanooga Sports Ministry
Chattanooga State Comm. College
Chattanooga Theatre Centre
Children's Nutrition Program
Empowerment Church
Ensemble Theatre of Chattanooga
Girl Scouts / Boy Scouts
Heavenly International. Missions
Iglesia Monte Sinai
La Paz de Dios
Plaza Comunitaria
Sobriedad de Chattanooga
St. Andrews Children's Clinic
Urban Century Institute
Urban League of Chattanooga
Holston Methodist Federal Credit Union

SAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom McCrory, President

Ed Cahill
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Mirtha Jones
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ST. ANDREWS CENTER

Rev. Michael L. Feely, Executive Director
Lisa Nichols, Director of Programs
Katie Walters, Administrative Assistant
Marisol Jimenez, Afterschool Program Director



Changing lives, enhancing futures, and enriching spirits.

November 2008

1918 Union Avenue, Chatt., TN 37404



St. Andrews
Center

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

November 2008



St. Andrews Center....An Unfolding Story

"You are, everyone of you, someone's favorite unfolding story" (in Ann Patchett's What Now).

One of my dreams for the St. Andrews Center is that we will become not just a location for ministry and learning, but a place where people can tell their stories and listen and learn from one another. As a child, I grew up in Georgia learning about my family history (and about myself) from sitting on the back porch each night listening to my parents talk. I sat around the table in North Carolina with my grandfather listening to his stories of ancestors long-gone but well-remembered. I soaked it all in, and those stories still resonate with who I am today.

We certainly have a lot going on at the St. Andrews Center, and I'm proud of the good things that are happening here. But sometimes, in our frantic and necessary efforts to help and heal and meet the needs around us, we can find ourselves engaged in a non-stop plethora of activity. I'm beginning to realize, in the midst of all this activity, that our focus needs to change a little - that we need even more so to be a place where folks can listen to one another, and perhaps learn a little more of what it means to be in community. Are we that kind of safe and distinct place where folks can tell their stories, listen for the answers to their questions, and discover a little more of who they are (and what God is calling them to be?). If you're going to have authentic and transformative community, you're going to have to give folks the space to ask questions and ponder the answers. A friend of mine wrote "Big changes in society come from asking the simplest questions."

So I am hoping that we'll help people to ask those very questions. What does it mean to love? What is the meaning of community? What gives your life meaning? What is the good life? How do you live in peace? What is justice?and many others....I want St. Andrews Center to be that sacred place that inspires moral imagination, and that holy space where we old Chattanoogans and new immigrants and folks of every kind can get together and dare to dream of what a blessed community could look like. Maybe we could be that back porch for the city - and listen to each others' dreams and stories. What do you have to say and share? *I hope that that will be part of our unfolding story.....*

Michael

P.S. I want to thank all of you who have responded to our fall fundraising appeal. Thanks for helping us to be present in the city!



NEW PLAY TUESDAYS series: On the first Tuesday of each month, ETC will present staged readings of new or never before produced plays. These plays will be solicited from local playwrights, as well as established playwrights working professionally all over the United States. Following the reading of each new play, time permitting, a talk back discussion will be facilitated in order that the playwright might receive feedback as he/she continues to develop the play. Although it is not the intent, the possibility of ETC premiering a fully staged production of one of the readings does exist. Members of the professional acting ensemble will perform and direct the staged readings

The first event in this series on December 2 will feature **A REKINDLED FLAME** by Garry Lee Posey. Set in a southern Florida retirement home, this love story shows how romance brings out the child in all of us. Ralph reminisces about his childhood in Nazi Germany and the girl he lost because of cultural boundaries. Rebekah has decided to leave her comfortable Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn to be nearer to her daughter and grandson. Ralph and Rebekah meet and fall in love, but something seems all too familiar

**From the Director of Programs,
Lisa Nichols**

The Opportunity Club, the St. Andrews Center collaboration with the YMCA and East Ridge High School ESOL classes, made the Chattanooga Times Free Press on Monday, October 27th. The Club, now in the second month of meeting during this school year, is really coming together as an organization. Under the direction of Alicia Hannah, ESOL teacher at East Ridge H.S., the Club organized and published a three page newsletter. They are also working on activities and registrations for both the YMCA and the Boy Scout Venture and Achiever programs. (See pictures on back.)

The East Lake UMC Cub Scout Pack is also growing. The Pack started with four boys from the East Lake Elementary School, and has grown to include students from Clifton Hills and Spring Creek Elementary schools. The four Tiger Cubs and four Webelos Scouts are working on the family, physical activity and community badges, and will visit the Fire Station in South Chattanooga in November. I'm a new Cub Scout Den Mother, and would appreciate any advice from former Den mothers, Scouts, and other Scout Leaders.

St. Andrews Center after-school program started on October 20th under the direction of Marisol Jimenez. Marisol has lots of volunteer help including Rev. Janet Geitner, Anna Flynn, and other students from Notre Dame High School. We're keeping our fingers crossed that we will grow the program to 35 students on November 3rd working through the Urban League on academic enrichment and arts education. Volunteers will continue to be needed to provide the one-to-one tutoring and recreation that have made the afterschool program a success. For more information about the after-school program, please call 629-9872.

**UPCOMING ETC
PERFORMANCES**

11/25 & 11/26: Children's Theater Double Bill, 6:30-8:30 pm
ARKANSAW BEAR—The world's greatest dancing bear helps a little girl learn a valuable life lesson.
THIS IS NOT A PIPE DREAM—Six clowns show the life of surrealist painter Rene Magritte
Tickets: \$7 general admission, \$5 for children 12 and under.

12/2 —**A REKINDLED FLAME**, an original work by Garry Lee Posey. 7:00 pm. Post-show discussion will follow the staged reading.
Tickets: \$3.00