

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY FOR PARISHIONERS

St Andrew's is about to begin a new partnership with Jackson Public Schools...though on a smaller scale than our former work with Rowan Middle School. Our Community Partnership Commission has approved this program and I can't wait to tell you about it!

There is a new data-driven, proven effective, reading program for little 2nd graders. It is called "Arise2Read"...a carefully organized, user-friendly, one-hour-commitment-per-week program that matches reading coaches with 2nd-grade students whose reading skills are below grade level. It prepares them to take the reading test in the 3rd grade...the one that determines whether they will advance to 4th grade. A coach is paired with 2 children. He/she meets with each one for 30 minutes every week. A 2nd coach meets with these same 2 students on another day of the week. You will spend one hour each week. You will have materials, you will have exact instructions, you will have training, you will develop a relationship with these 2 children and you WILL make a difference. It has been proven to work.

We have agreed to partner with Watkins Elementary School which is located at the corner of Northside Drive and Watkins Drive...about a mile west of State Street on Northside. I've been there. I've met the principal, Dr. Josie Blake. I've seen these little people. They are bright-eyed and sweet. There are 56-second graders at Watkins and 27 to 30 of them are reading below their grade level to some extent. We can help them!

I almost typed "I really need 30 folks"....but decided to type "I only have 30 openings so reserve your place quickly"!!! We expect our 2 days to be Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Training date(s) will be announced very soon. There is more information about Arise2Read on Google. We will be on the cutting edge! We are needed! Are you in?

To reserve your spot or for more information, you can reach me at [rljrobinson@aol.com](mailto:rljrobinson@aol.com) or (601) 982-7376.

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