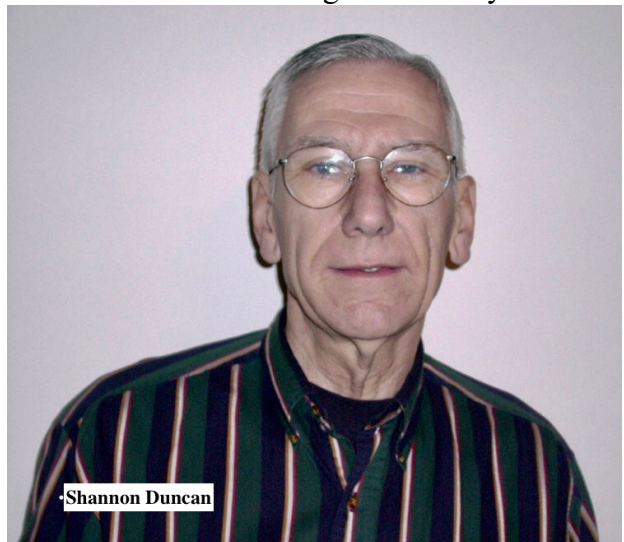


## AIPM at St. Andrews 2003 - 2004

AIPM was invited to recommend candidates for interim pastor for St. Andrew's Community Church (SACC) in Tilbury on the east side of London. SACC was a local ecumenical partnership Baptist/Methodist church. It had been a church plant by the Eastern Baptist Association with help from a Baptist organization in Missouri about 10-years earlier. SACC had had a Baptist pastor for about 4-years prior to our serving. He had recently been called to pastor a church in Yorkshire. Sunday morning attendance was about 40 with half being Baptist and half being Methodists.



Shannon Duncan from Charlotte, North Carolina was invited to serve at Tilbury. Shannon's wife, Tillie, was on staff at their home church in NC. She stayed state-side and Shannon served solo. He began his ministry at St. Andrews in October 2003. He went home to NC for the Christmas holidays and returned in January to serve for another 3-months to late March 2004. Shannon had a good ministry at Tilbury with a lot of effort going into youth work and outreach to young families. However, during Shannon's ministry there, it was discovered that a major investment was needed to correct building defects. The local Methodist organization felt unable to afford their share of the costs and recommended their members join other nearby Methodist congregations. That left too much for the Baptists in the fellowship to afford so they also joined other congregations. That is sadly a situation that Christian churches all over the UK encounter. Most congregations are older, and their numbers are shrinking. Many congregations have worship services in older buildings many dating to the Victorian era and the upkeep is very expensive.



As usual, AIPM prepared a flyer to communicate the opportunity to volunteer at Tilbury.

## MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY IN ENGLAND

### For Retired American Laymen or Pastors

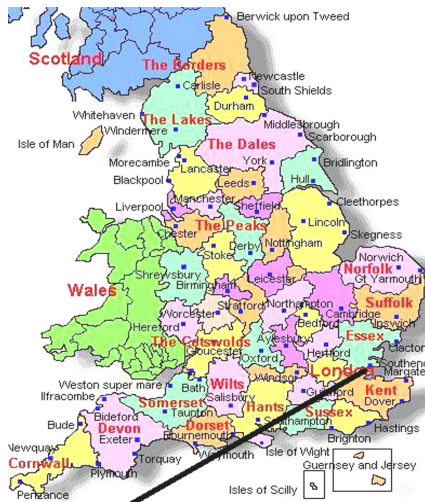
#### THE OPPORTUNITY

Retirees serve in a series of Interim Pastor assignments of six months each for 2 to 5 years. Help the church grow to the point that she can afford a full time British Baptist Pastor in this community east of London.

QUOTES FROM CHURCH LEADERS: “We are a mainstream evangelical church that is open to spiritual renewal.” “We believe Christ is the head of the local church and the Bible is the supreme authority, which has to be interpreted by the Holy Spirit in today’s community.” “We desire positive engagement with the secular community.”

#### QUOTES FROM BAPTIST LEADERS:

“This is a small, fragile and vulnerable fellowship of newish Christians but they are a beacon for Jesus and desperately need a shepherd. This is a real Macedonian call to COME OVER AND HELP US. The need is now and urgent.”



#### HER HISTORY:

St. Andrews, a Baptist/Methodist Ecumenical Partnership, was formed in 2000 by the Essex Baptist Association and Baptists from Missouri. In 1994 an American couple came to Tilbury, began a church plant, established an informal partnership with local Methodists, and used the Methodist Church buildings. When the Americans left in 1997, local Baptists continued the Methodist partnership. St. Andrews had a full-time British Baptist minister from 1998 to 2002 when he was called to another church.

#### HER CURRENT SITUATION:

St. Andrews has been unable to find a British Baptist Pastor. Membership now is 24 and attendance is 40.

“Tilbury - 22 miles from Tower Bridge” Tilbury Town Square



#### THE ARRANGEMENT:

St. Andrews Community Church will provide round trip air fare, a car to drive and a furnished house with all utility bills paid. The interim pastor will not receive compensation.

**FOR INFORMATION:**

Contact American Interim Pastor Ministries, Inc. (nonprofit) c/o: Chuck McComb, 412 Carriage Creek Lane, Friendswood, TX 77546, Phone 281-799-1869 or Email [mccombch@aol.com](mailto:mccombch@aol.com). Chuck is a retired Mechanical Engineer from Monsanto Chemical Co. He has had two assignments as Interim Pastor in Baptist churches in the UK.

