

HEALTH

Option revolutionizes orthodontic treatment

By *Stephen W. Durham*
CONTRIBUTOR

We've been providing patients with a modern treatment for tooth alignment – to create a smooth, even smile in much less time than traditional orthodontic therapy.

It makes so much sense and produces such fine results that we, and often our patients, want to share the news about it.

Using clear braces and low-force adjustments, it takes an average of just six months, rather than the typical two years, to complete treatment. It takes just six months to get a smile that literally changes lives and faces.

And while it's going on, the treatment is barely noticeable to people around you.

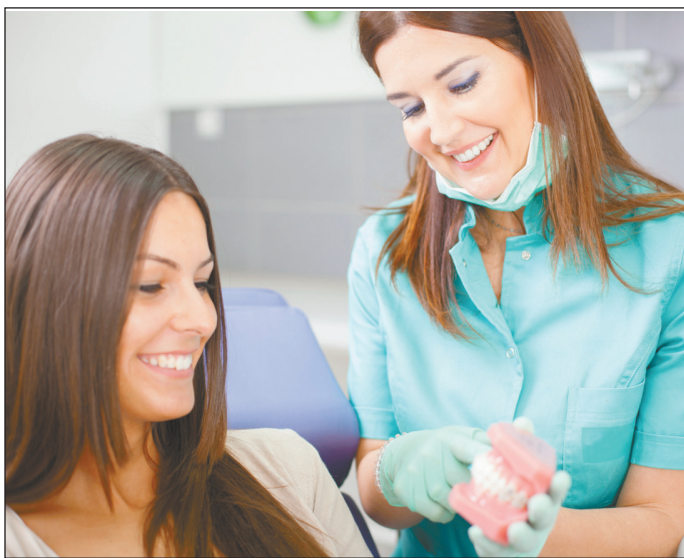
It's so unexpected to get this kind of result without years of wearing traditional metal braces that it's worthwhile to

review how we got here and why it's possible.

Lifetimes of experience

Our neighbors here in the Lowcountry grew up with many different views of orthodontic treatment. Baby boomers remember when only a handful of classmates "wore braces."

As time went on, the advantages of straight teeth – not only to appearance but also to personal outlook and overall health – became so widely known that it seemed like every middle school and junior high was populated by young folks who had braces in common.



One good thing about this period was that braces became more accepted among young folks, sometimes even a bit of a status symbol.

Another good result of this time was that so much practice helped dentists understand the many variables of condi-

tion and treatment that affect the experience and outcomes of orthodontia.

Miles of smiles

With that much experience, refinements eventually took shape. "Clear" braces now make it much harder for others to see that your treatment is in progress.

Focusing on the visible teeth helps hasten completion. Special custom treatment "trays" help make appointments quick and comfortable.

And the whole course of treatment typically costs less than traditional braces, aligner therapy or veneers.

Thanks to this treatment option we have brought a smile to many faces here in the Lowcountry – a new smile.

Stephen W. Durham, DMD, MAGD practices at Durham Dental at Town Center in Beaufort. www.drstephendurham.com



FALL SEASON KICK-OFF SUNDAY, SEPT. 7TH !

Sundays 10:30am | USCB Hilton Head Gateway Campus
(843) 837-4712 | SaintAndrewByTheSea.com

Join us for this special series as we discover practical steps on how to grow in our faith to help us all move forward in our walk with Christ. We'll plan to take these steps together so we can all strengthen our faith, both individually and as a church community. The guiding text for this special sermon series will come from Hebrews 11:1. We'll aim to answer this: What is faith and why does faith in Christ matter?

CONNECT TO GROW. PRAY. SERVE.

We invite you to join us for a relaxed, casual experience that is a little modern and a little traditional...a blend that feels just right. St. Andrew By-The-Sea is more than just an hour on Sundays. We offer many ways to get connected. Some of our growth groups include:

- Weekly Small Groups
- Youth Groups
- Men's Breakfast
- Lunch with the Pastors
- Counseling Center



Bluffton Campus
Serving Bluffton, Hilton Head and the World

Come see how we're "Living It" at St. Andrew By-The-Sea