



*We are a diverse community of faith called by God to love, worship, pray, support, and serve.*

## Your Vicar's View ☩

*A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit  
I will put within you.  
I will remove from your body the heart of stone  
and give you a heart of flesh.*

[Ezekiel 36:26-27]

In reflecting upon Ezekiel's recounting of God's promise to restore the life of the Israelites, I have been reminded of the "Pet Rock" fad that swept through the country briefly in the 1970s. Gary Dahl, an advertising executive, came up with the idea after listening to his friends complain about their pets. According to Wikipedia, he realized that a rock would not need to be fed, walked, bathed, or groomed, and it would not die, become sick, or be disobedient. The first Pet Rocks were ordinary gray stones bought at a builder's supply store. They were marketed like live pets, in custom cardboard boxes, complete with straw and breathing holes for the "animal."

The popularity of Pet Rocks was short-lived, however. Much as we may complain about our pets, and as much as we may moan about walking our dog on a cold morning, or vacuuming cat hair every other day, or tending to toads, turtles, ferrets, fish, and other creatures who share our homes, we want real life around us. Created in the image of a living God, we are drawn to the messiness of life and companionship, and we quickly grow tired of what is hard and artificial, brittle in its beauty.

In the same way, even when we cling to the hardness of our own hearts, protecting ourselves from the aches and pains of loving and worrying, we nevertheless become restless in the stillness we find when we hide behind our walls. We may pretend that our stone hearts are as real as hearts of flesh, and we may convince ourselves that we prefer the safety of a predictable life over the risks

of trying something new, but God's life stirs in us despite our resistance.

During Stewardship Season we welcome God's new Spirit—into our own hearts, into the hearts of our families and close relationships, and into the heart of our St. Andrew's community. We become aware of the many small ways that we harden our hearts—through pride and self-righteousness, through fear, through weariness, through confusion—and one by one we replace these "pet rocks" with the desires and longings that make us human—and vulnerable. Our pledge is a promise—known only to God and to ourselves—that we will trust in God's steadfast care and that we will use the gifts that God has given us to do something new.

During this month, think about doing one new thing in the coming year. Perhaps you will want to sign up for a class where you will learn a new skill. Perhaps you will try knitting a prayer shawl, or hosting Coffee Hour, or helping with a Sunday School class. Perhaps you will stand for Vestry, or join the choir or Altar Guild, or help in the office. Maybe you'll try talking with one new person each Sunday, or you'll sit in a different pew, or you'll begin a new spiritual practice. These promises that you make are not about making yourself a better person; they are about allowing God to transform you, *working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight.*

*Judith*

# "Times"

## Your Warden's View

"Come gather 'round people, wherever you roam, and admit that the waters around you have grown..." Bob Dylan wrote those words in 1964. It was a time of massive cultural changes in America and throughout the world. Agree or disagree with the changes, they were real then and are real now.

Change represents challenge and to a degree, threat. In change, we don't always know where to stand or what to

think. That was true 37 years ago and it is true today. Things change all around us. We struggle to find our old place in the new paradigm. We lose track of familiar touchstones, and what seemed clear is now muddy.

This probably all sounds like change is some precursor to doom. It isn't. In all the chaos and conundrum, a single voice, rings out: "I am the way and the truth and the life....".

The single voice didn't say "This theology, or that way of living is the way the truth and the life".

Keep Christ where he belongs, at the center of all we are, and all the other tumult and noise becomes less and less scary. We find the touchstones may look a bit different around us, but we will always know THE WAY.

Peace be with you my brothers and sisters.

- Martin H. Gregg

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## Sunday School

### It's Truly for Life!



Week after week in St. Andrew's Church, children, youths and adults gather to find friends, to learn about God, to delve into Scripture and to catch and teach the faith.

Is the lesson always wonderful? No. Is the teacher always prepared? The class always engaged? Again.... no. But God is always there, yearning to gather us in and to send us out. In Sunday school we can work to become the sort of community of faith that we envision and to find mentors and models for the lives of faith that we aspire to lead.

In many places, Sunday school has great support from congregational leaders. In other places, we find that Sunday school is taken for granted, or even soft-pedaled. At the same time we know that people are looking for authentic connection with others and with God. They are seeking to learn more about the love of God made known in Jesus Christ through the Bible, through worship, and through various kinds of spiritual exploration-- both inside and outside the church.

What would happen if we decided to give Sunday school more attention? What if:

- We act as if being part of a Sunday school class is as critical to our formation as participating in worship?
- We affirm what the classes are learning?
- We listen for stories of growth and engagement, and share those stories with others in the congregation?
- We help the leaders recruit new teachers?
- We see classes as a primary spot for inviting new people and making them welcome?

We believe that St. Andrew's is looking for authentic ways to make disciples. We believe St. Andrew's wants to ground those disciples in the Bible. We believe that our congregation wants to relate those in Sunday school to others so that they become communities that are journeying together toward becoming new creations in Christ. The Sunday school is a primary place where this great vision and calling can be lived out.

Sunday school can make a difference in your church. You can make a difference in Sunday school.

- The Sunday School Staff

# The Power of Prayer

## Your Deacon's View

It is with great gladness and thanksgiving that I bring to you my personal good news. As you all know, I was diagnosed earlier this year with cancer of the prostate and have completed three months of radiation treatment.

Now for the good news! I recently went for my first follow-up PSA blood test and appointment with my urologist and the results are great! My PSA levels are back down to normal!

I believe these results are the grace of God.

His grace that my cancer was detected early.

His grace in leading me to a team of professionals that used their God-given talents in my behalf.

His grace in sending me to St. Andrew's and St. John's, where your love and prayers supported me and Di through this ordeal.

I believe in the power of prayer and thank you all for yours. You did good!!

Please continue to keep me in your prayers,

- Deacon Rocky



## Money Matters - Treasurer's Report

Have you ever forgotten your check book or pledge envelope on a Sunday morning? Many of us have, so don't feel alone. Well, we have some good news for those of "slipping memory" or for those who would like a more convenient method of making donations to St. Andrew's. We will soon be adding a PayPal link to our website and upcoming Facebook page. This will be a convenient method to pay a pledge, make a memorial donation, or make a donation for a special event or purpose electronically. You will be able to use it as often or as little as you like. There will be more information to follow as we develop this new convenience.

Here is our financial picture as of the end of August.

### Financial Status as of August 31, 2011

Total Expenses	\$94,107
Actual Income	\$78,673
Income equals	83.6% of Expenses

- Mike Depew

## St. Andrew's Youth Group News

The St. Andrew's Youth Group is off to a great start! We had about 10 young people sign up at the organizational meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Everyone worked together to brainstorm ideas for activities. We are in the process of planning a campfire/lock-in at the church and some type of Halloween activity for October. Ideas for future events include bowling, Lasertron, a retreat, kickball, horseback riding,

ice skating, Christmas caroling, community service activities, and many more (too many to list). We plan to meet once a month after church to plan events. We also hope to schedule at least one activity each month. It is not too late to sign up, and we will welcome new members at any time. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Laurie Gregory – [lauriegregory04@gmail.com](mailto:lauriegregory04@gmail.com)  
Josh Gregory – [gregory311@yahoo.com](mailto:gregory311@yahoo.com)

- Laurie & Josh Gregory

# Vestry Highlights

September 14, 2011

## Resolved:

- ✓ Approved 5 HAPPENING Scholarships to be paid from the Leyland Fund
- ✓ Authorized Mike Depew to open a PayPal account for the convenience of members who would prefer to pay their pledges that way.
- ✓ Authorized purchase of a new headset microphone for Judith+ to improve sound quality during the service
- ✓ Authorized Mike Depew to consult with Bill Buchanan and follow his advice on the CDs that are coming due in November
- ✓ Approved the Gifts Survey developed by Natalie Beilein to be distributed as part of our Stewardship Season in October
- ✓ Approved the Covenant Agreement to be renewed for 2012 with no changes

## Discussion:

- ✓ St. Andrew's is in the black by approximately \$9,000 despite budget projections of a deficit by this time of year. Pledge income is up and expenses are reduced
- ✓ Discussed leadership qualities and experience that we will look for in the 2012 elections: faith in our church family; organizational experience; a visionary who can make the vision happen; interpersonal skills; someone without a personal agenda; experience on Vestry.
- ✓ Since Marty Gregg will not be able to complete his term, we will elect 2 Wardens (a 1-year term and a 2-year term) and 2 Vestry members (3-year terms). If a current Vestry member stands for Warden, we will have at least 1 unexpired Vestry term to be filled. Our commitment is to invite at least one Warden each year to be someone who has never before served as Warden. We discussed the qualities and skills that we need in our Wardens and Vestry members in the coming year.
- ✓ The Sanctuary Renovation Project will present a proposal to the Vestry in October. This presentation will give the options for different stages of the renovation, the cost of each state, and the problem & solution for each stage.
- ✓ Sharing our Stories of Faith – we clarified the expectations for the reflections and stories to be shared. Basically, we are asked to share our answers to the question: What does St. Andrew's mean to you?
- ✓ Parish Nurse Judi Naylor announced that St. Andrew's will host a Red Cross CPR Workshop on Saturday October 15, 9 a.m. –noon. There will be room for 20 participants, the registration will be \$20, and each participant will earn a 2-year certification card.
- ✓ Technology update: St. Andrew's now has a Facebook page being developed by Zachary Roeseler, and a Google calendar listing all parish events is available on our website.
- ✓ Reports for the October Meeting:
  - Sanctuary Renovation Team
  - Hospitality
  - Ecumenical Choral Festival

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## Deanery Outreach Project

The current Deanery outreach project is the collecting of hats, mittens and scarves for Journeys End. This organization helps to settle legal immigrants who come to our country, sometimes after spending years in immigration camps. These people usually come with little more than the clothes on their backs. Our Western New York winters are difficult for them without warm clothing. And so we try to do our small part to warm them up with mittens, hats and scarves.

We will also collect any non perishable foods to be donated to the Community Missions Soup Kitchen.

Collection will take place on **Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**. We will bring our donations to the Deanery pre-convention meeting on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Food Pantry Collection for October is*

**Halloween Candy & Treats**

Food Pantry Sunday is **October 23<sup>rd</sup>** to afford enough time to get the treats to the food pantry



# Thoughts on Stewardship

*"A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you" Ezekiel 36:26*

October 9, 2011 kicks off our annual stewardship campaign this year. The committee chose these words from Ezekiel for our theme this year. I think this verse is especially appropriate as we consider St. Andrew's vision statement developed by the vestry this year: *God is renewing us in his love*

This stewardship season we hope to look closely at our gifts and how we can renew our commitment to St. Andrew's and to God. It is easy to get bogged down in everyday life, so this gives us a chance to look at what we do and how we can renew, refine and regenerate the ministries in this Church that we love. It will hopefully give us the opportunity to look at an old ministry and make it new, or to take a chance on a new ministry altogether.

Everyone can be a part of this. We have asked all members of the congregation to reflect on their lives

here at St. Andrew's: our faith, our relationships, our hopes for the future, and our ups and downs. During the month of October, a booklet will be available with all these reflections to remind us of how important this community is to all of us.

A letter will go out to all church members in October which will contain your commitment card for 2012. Please return it to the Church office as soon as possible, but no later than October 30<sup>th</sup> when we will have a special blessing for the end of the stewardship campaign.

Also on October 30<sup>th</sup>, please join the Stewardship Committee for a special coffee hour as we celebrate our lives together here at St. Andrew's. Watch the St. Andrew's website throughout the month of October as we will be posting this information there as well.

- Stacy Lampman

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## CPR Training Opportunity

### Parish Nurse



### American Red Cross CPR Training

October 15, 2011 9 a.m. – noon

Light refreshments will be available

2-year Red Cross Certification

Call St. Andrew's to register (778-7633)

*The Importance of CPR: Are we our brothers' keepers?*

When I was 19 years old, I had an unusual experience at the Grand Opening of a new bank in our small town in Vermont. As people walked in to enjoy the festivities of food and information, a man who was about 50 years old suddenly collapsed on the floor.

This was the first time I had witnessed and participated in this type of sudden event. The father of a classmate (a physician) spoke with an authoritative voice: "Judi, go to my car and get my bag." My heart was pounding as I raced out. Upon returning, Dr. Jackson was starting CPR (chest compressions), and his wife Naomi was providing breathing. As I walked in, I was instructed to open the bag and retrieve a scalpel. (I was unable to locate it quickly). Dr. Jackson was then able to perform a tracheotomy right there and to open the airway.

I learned what a great benefit knowledge can be to save lives, no matter where you are. This incident was instrumental in changing my career plans from art studies in Boston to nursing.

There are many unexpected times in our lives when quick, calm, and educated action can save the life of another person, no matter what age or where you are.

On October 15<sup>th</sup> a CPR course is being offered by the Red Cross at St. Andrew's, under the Parish Nurse education program. The cost of the program is only \$20, and all participants will receive a 2-year certification card at the completion of the course. Only 20 people can enroll.

I especially encourage the youth and adults of St. John's and St. Andrew's, as well as community members, to attend. You *can* be your brother's and sister's keeper.

- Judi Naylor, Parish Nurse

"Have you read my #1 bestseller?  
There will be a test."  
- God



## Book Club

One Day

by David Nicholls

Thursday, October 13th at 7 p.m.  
at Stacey's House



## News and Notes



**SCRIP and TOPS cards – Gifts for St. Andrew's Bazaar** – Consider using cards to purchase basket items for the Basket Auction at St. Andrew's Bazaar on November 12th, or offer cards as gift certificates as part of the Auction. Deacon Rocky will order the cards for you, and they will arrive within 2 weeks; at no cost to you, St. Andrew's will earn a percentage of your purchase. Please consider planning your grocery budget by using TOPS cards that you purchase from Rocky each month; cards are available every Sunday, and Rocky can arrange to have cards available for you on a designated Sunday every month. At no cost to you, St. Andrew's will earn 5% on your purchases. Contact Deacon Rocky by email if you would like him to set aside cards for you. ([deaconrocky@live.com](mailto:deaconrocky@live.com))

**Discretionary Funds** – Deacon Rocky and Pastor Judith+ have discretionary funds that are used to provide for people in need; we pay bills, provide gas and grocery cards, and help people through tight times in any way that we are able. We had more calls than usual during the summer months, and our funds are running low. Please consider contributing to these accounts; write a check to St. Andrew's with "Vicar's Discretionary Account" or "Deacon's Discretionary Account" on the memo line.

**Website Changes – Google Calendar** - We are gradually updating our website to make it a more useful source of information for members of the congregation and for visitors. We also plan to add more photos from parish life. We now have a Google calendar on the website where you can check on the schedule of events at St. Andrew's & at St. John's. Please be sure to sign a Permission Form to allow photos of our children to be included—without names being designated.

**Cursillo Gathering – November 5 at the Ministry Center** – if you have been curious about Cursillo, this is your opportunity to learn more. Come to the Ministry Center for a day of prayer, reflection, and learning.

**Our Little Roses Dinner – 6 p.m. Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>** - We have been supporting our Little Roses School for Girls for many years, and we have recently heard stories from Deacon Rocky, Diane Dworak, and Lois about their visits and their relationships with the girls they sponsor. Now we have an opportunity to meet Diana Frade, one of the founders of the school. She will speak at the dinner sponsored by St. Andrew's & St. John's. Tickets to the dinner are free, but we will have a Free Will Offering to benefit Our Little Roses.

**Halloween at St. Andrew's – Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup>** – It's our tradition to wear costumes to church on the Sunday nearest to Halloween. So don't be shy- adults and children are welcome to dress up on the 30<sup>th</sup>. We will also celebrate our Stewardship Ingathering with a special coffee hour, and our high school youth will perform a skit during the service.

**Newfane Food Pantry Bags** – To help us remember to shop for our monthly donation to the Newfane Food Pantry, we will soon have bags decorated by our children. The bags will be available for you to take home, with a shopping list, each month, so that you can return them with items for the Food Pantry on the designated Sunday – or any time.

### ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers available through Pallister House of Lockport

Cost remains at \$35.00



Please give your check to Prudy Waters or mail to:

Pallister House

41 East Avenue

Lockport, New York 14094

(Please let Prudy know that you have paid for flowers, if mailing check directly to Pallister House)

# St. Andrew's Photo Directory Update



By now, I hope that everyone has signed up for a photo for our 2011 photo directory. Each of you is an important part of our church family and we are anxious to have everyone included! Below are a few reminders:

## Photo Dates (by appointment)

- Monday, Oct. 10, 2011 (**Additional day added**)
- Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2:30 – 9:00
- Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2:30 – 9:00
- To make an appointment, call Kathy Massie, or go online to [www.standrewsburt.com](http://www.standrewsburt.com) and click on “portrait sign up”.
- If you cannot make one of these dates, contact Kathy Massie, for other options.

## Your Photo Appointment

- Review the LifeTouch Portrait Guide (available at church).
- Plan to spend about one hour for your session.
- Include additional family members if you wish (intergenerational).
- Bring special “props” if you wish (toys, instruments etc.).
- You will receive a free 8X10 or 9 wallets.
- There is NO obligation to purchase photos but if you do, remember that you will receive 20% off plus an additional \$5.00 if you bring a food item for the Food Pantry.

## Church Family Members who are away

- It is possible that family members can have their photo taken at another location. Call Kathy for more information.
- Or, please consider submitting a photo (glossy or on disc) of absent members so that they can be included in the directory.

We need your candid photos of church folks/events for the directory. Please drop them off, or email them to the church office ASAP.


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## *BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES for October*



### Birthdays

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Eowyn Colley		17 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Buchanan
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cheryl Knapp		18 <sup>th</sup>	Alexander Gallo
4 <sup>th</sup>	Bob Flewell		20 <sup>th</sup>	James Breczka
8 <sup>th</sup>	Kelly Breczka		24 <sup>th</sup>	Allison Duhow
9 <sup>th</sup>	Sharon Benson, Barbara & Troy Barnes, Debbie Bartenstein, Joe Donaldson,		25 <sup>th</sup>	Richard FitzRandolph
11 <sup>th</sup>	Emily Harrington & David McCollum		27 <sup>th</sup>	Noah Finley
14 <sup>th</sup>	Dan Anger		29 <sup>th</sup>	Judith Dold
			30 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Villeneuve

### Anniversaries

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Butch & Nancy Reinhardt
20 <sup>th</sup>	Mike & Liz Depew
24 <sup>th</sup>	Bill & Connie Steen



## ***Bazaar Preparation***

The craft meetings for this year's Bazaar will be on **Mondays:**  
**Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, and Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.** at the church.

If you have a craft, please bring it. If you would like to do one at home, let Darcy know.

We can always use new ideas.

Please check the church bulletin board for more information.

Remember to keep your calendars open on **Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**  
for the Bazaar!

Bazaar runs from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Lunch served from 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Even though it's early, please be thinking about your donations for the Bazaar. Below are some suggested items:

### **Country Store**

Jams / Jellies / Pickles  
Chili Sauce, Salsa, etc.  
Dried Herbs / Spices / Flowers  
Produce (fresh that week)

### **Remember the Bake Sale**

Breads / Pies / Cookies / Cakes, etc.

### **Candy Booth**

Sugar  
Nuts  
Chocolate Bits / Chips  
Butter  
Brown Sugar

### **Basket Auction**

Think about donating a basket.  
Sign up sheet at Church.

### **Donations**

If you unable to participate in the bazaar preparations, monetary donations to help defray cost of supplies, are greatly appreciated.

### **Chairpersons for the Bazaar**

Baked Goods - Jim Massie & Gary Few  
Cashier – Tickets - Prudy Waters & Cheryl Knapp  
Homemade Candy - Cindy Harrington & Kathy Seeloff  
Country Store - Dorothy Cheasty  
Christmas Tree & Booth - Tina Hedley & Tish Gooding  
Homemade Goods - Gladys Finley & Carol Wright  
Basket Auction - Flo Phipps & Joyce Clare  
Set-up Dining Room - Sunday, 11/6, after coffee  
*Group Effort*  
Publicity - Darcy Buchanan & Mike Depew  
Dining Room - Kathleen Massie  
Coffee Servers - Larry Waters  
Kitchen - Stacy Lampman & Kathy Gregg  
Clean Up - Judi Naylor  
Dishwashing, etc. - *need chairperson*

*If you wish to work on one of these groups, please let the Chairperson know.*

➤ ***We will need help on Thursday night November 10<sup>th</sup> for setting tables and preparing luncheon food – chicken, etc.***

*Thank you. Darcy Buchanan*

# Schedules for October 2011



## *Acolytes - 10:00 AM arrival time*

- 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Michael Vogt, Kyle Lyon, Olivia Mazanka, William Beilein  
**9<sup>th</sup>** - Melissa Pestinger, Jarrett Gilson, Jacob Roeseler  
**16<sup>th</sup>** - Zachary Roeseler, Matthew Vogt, Chad Gilson, William Beilein  
**23<sup>rd</sup>** - Matthew Roeseler, Mark Vogt, Jonathan Pestinger  
**30<sup>th</sup>** - Jocie Lyon, Olivia Mazanka, Jacob Roeseler

**A Note from your Acolyte Director:** This is an open invitation to ALL those interested in becoming an acolyte. Anyone from the age of 7 through adult is welcome to join our team. If you are 7 you would be the 4th acolyte on your assigned weekend and you would process, recess and observe and help with some easy tasks. Anyone 8 and older will be in training as an acolyte; you will sit at the altar watching for the first few times; then as you feel more comfortable you will be given a job to do. **I am looking for ANYONE interested in either helping out once in a while or to fill in in the event of illness.**

*Thank You. Sue Villeneuve*

## *Lay Readers*

- 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Dorothy Cheasty & Shirley Litz  
**9<sup>th</sup>** - Lisa Roeseler & Diane Dworak  
**16<sup>th</sup>** - Stacy Lampman & Lynn Schauer-Bewley  
**23<sup>rd</sup>** - Margaret Moran & Matt Pestinger  
**30<sup>th</sup>** - Jerry Harrington & Stacy Lampman

## *Altar Guild*

Cindy Harrington & Kathy Gregg

## *Collection Counters*

Gary Few & Dale Nikitas

## Dates to Remember



- Sept. 30 - Oct. 1** Rummage Sale at St. John's  
 Bishop Brent Mini-Classes at the Ministry Center
- October 2** **Prayers of Blessing for Animals during the service**
- October 8** **1 p.m.** Our Little Roses Tea – St. Paul's-Harris Hill  
**6 p.m.** Our Little Roses Dinner at St. Andrew's, Diane Frade, Guest Speaker
- October 9** **Deacon Rocky away for Prison Ministry**  
 Stewardship Campaign begins
- October 10** **Columbus Day** – Parish Photo Directory Photograph sessions: 2:30 p.m.-9 p.m.
- October 11 & 12** Parish Photo Directory Photograph sessions: 2:30 p.m.-9 p.m.
- October 12** **7 p.m. Vestry Meeting**
- October 15** **9 a.m.-noon** CPR Training coordinated by our Parish Nurse.
- October 16** **Applefest at St. John's**  
 Father Massie will be Celebrant and Preacher at St. Andrew's  
 Outreach gathering of mittens & hats for Journey's End & food for Community Missions
- October 18** **7 p.m.** Deanery Pre-Convention Workshop at St. John's-Wilson
- October 23** **Food Pantry Sunday** Collection of Halloween Candy & Treats
- October 28-29** **Diocesan Convention**
- October 30** **Stewardship Ingathering**

# Looking Ahead



- November 3-6**    **HAPPENING** weekend
- November 5**    **Christmas Shoebox Event** - at St. John's  
9 a.m. Cursillo gathering at the Diocesan Ministry Center
- November 6**    **All Saints' Sunday – Full Acolyte Procession**  
Service begins at **10:45 a.m.**  
**3 p.m.**    **HAPPENING** Closing Ceremony
- November 9**    **7 p.m.**    **Vestry Meeting**
- November 12**    St. Andrew's Bazaar
- November 20**    **4 p.m.**    Ecumenical Choral Festival at St. Andrew's



## Adult Christmas Party

Mark your calendar now  
Friday, Dec. 2, 2011 at 7 p.m.



The party will be at the Waters' Residence with  
Kevin Clark at the keyboard  
More information to follow

- Prudy Waters

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## ST. ANDREW'S-BURT AND ST. JOHN'S-WILSON Covenant Team Meeting September 26, 2011

**Present:** The Rev. Deacon Rocky Dworak, The Rev. Judith Lee, Liz Depew, Martin Gregg, Kathy Gregg, Lois Carter, Denise Failla, and Robyn Krueger

**Absent:** Judi Naylor, Jacquie Rodgers, Bonnie Wintersteen, Doug Wintersteen, Millie High, Janet Hoffman

### Opening Prayer

### Report from St. John's

St. John's is busy getting ready for Applefest. Aric Freischlag has begun an Eagle Scout Project of planting apple trees and building a fence along the back of the property. There continue to be concerns about communication within the congregation: The Phone Tree has been re-established, and we would like greater clarity about job responsibilities on parish projects, the priest's accounting of her time, and Vestry meetings. We would like to explore the role and responsibility of a Parish Nurse.

### Report from St. Andrew's

We have had at least 2 new families with young children join the congregation and Sunday School in September; we now have re-usable shopping bags decorated by the children for bringing in donations for the Food Pantry. Matthew Roeseler completed his Eagle Scout Project in clearing land for a Memorial Garden.

## Discussion:

- ✓ **2012 Covenant Agreement** - Proposed that language be changed under "Principles of Agreement" - from representatives *chosen* by the Vestry to representatives *approved* by the Vestry. It was felt that the current system of the priest appointing team members in consultation with each Vestry has worked well in providing representatives who have a range of interests and expertise,
- ✓ **Sharing Stories of Faith** - Marty Gregg will write the story about the formation of the Covenant between St. John's and St. Andrew's as a contribution toward the Deanery and Diocesan "sharing stories" project. We shared our images of a story of hope for the future of the Covenant
  - That it continue as an open-ended relationship not dependent upon the priest or on the small group of leaders who have played a pivotal role in its development to date.
  - That the youth from the two churches might become a more cohesive group, that new leaders will emerge, and that the covenant will enable both churches to widen their footprints in their communities.
- ✓ **Ecumenical Choral Festival - November 20<sup>th</sup>** - we will include plans for a potluck chili dinner after the performance, asking each church to bring chili for 20 and bread or muffins. St. John's and St. Andrew's will provide the beverages and desserts.
- ✓ **Advent and Christmastide**
  - We will have an Advent Book of Meditations created by members of both congregations
  - **Advent Lessons and Carols Joint Service on December 11<sup>th</sup>**. Kirsten Rodgers (of St. John's) & Sarah Harrington (of St. Andrew's) are working together to plan the children's pageant.
  - Each congregation will celebrate **Epiphany Sunday** on **January 8<sup>th</sup>**. During Coffee Hour that day at St. Andrew's we will hold the drawing for the Van Horne dinner hosted and donated by Joanne Stanton to benefit Our Little Roses.

## What's working and what's not?

- ✓ Both congregations see the need for more intentional and explicit stewardship education
- ✓ While our shared Picnic Eucharist and Homecoming Sunday were successful, we would have liked more children from both congregations to participate in both events.
- ✓ The Cookbook project was a great success.
- ✓ We need to improve communication between the congregations regarding events.
- ✓ We need to be sure that all members of both congregations know about and understand our Covenant relationship

**Next Meeting:** Monday, January 23, at 7 p.m. at St. Andrew's

## Closing Prayer

*"When someone gets you hot and bothered,  
just turn on your prayer-conditioner."*



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



*“Every shoebox offers an opportunity to share the Good News of the Savior with a hurting child.”*  
- Franklin Graham

It is that time of year again to start thinking about Operation Christmas Child. This year's campaign runs from November 14<sup>th</sup> through November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

On **Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**, St. Andrew's and St. John's (children of all ages... that means adults as well) will come together for our annual Operation Christmas Child extravaganza. We will prepare and pack up shoebox Christmas gifts and enjoy lunch and fellowship together.

As most of you know, Operation Christmas Child is sponsored by Samaritan's Purse ([www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org)). The idea is to create Christmas shoeboxes for children 2- 14 years old to be shipped around the world to needy children.

You can be a part of this in many ways:

- You and your family can make up your own box(es) or bring your gifts to St. John's on November 5<sup>th</sup> to join with us as we all put our boxes together (boxes are for a boy or a girl and marked as such).
- You can donate monetarily towards gifts. Several of us will go shopping before November 5<sup>th</sup> to get the gifts we need to stuff the boxes. In addition it costs \$7.00 **to mail one box** so money for shipping expenses will also be needed. In order to have another successful year, we will need to raise **at least \$1000**. Please make checks payable to *St. Andrew's* and mark in the memo line what the funds are for.
- You can come on November 5<sup>th</sup> and enjoy fellowship and lunch at 10:30 a.m. at St. John's where we will pool our resources and put the boxes together to be shipped.

Here are some gift ideas suggested by Samaritan's Purse:

**TOYS** – small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yo's, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise, Slinky, etc (make sure you include extra batteries if the toy requires them)

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES**- pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pads, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books

**HYGIENE ITEMS** - toothbrush, toothpaste, bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth

**OTHER** – hard candy or suckers (double bagged), mints, gum, t-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights

**We will also need Christmas wrapping paper, scotch tape, shoeboxes (regular sized), or plastic bins, large rubber bands for wrapping the boxes. Bring your own scissors if you will be wrapping boxes.**

Things not to include: used or damaged items, war-related items, chocolate, food, liquids, lotions, medications, vitamins, breakable items, aerosol cans.

A sign-up sheet will be in both parishes so we can get a head count for lunch. Don't miss this great day for you and your kids!!!

# Children's Pages

The Children's Pages are devoted to learning the Ten Commandments. It includes a devotional that can be read together as a family and then a fun page. Here is this month's edition. Enjoy the time you spend together.



Only you can be the judge of how ready your kids are to discuss sexual sin. Keeping the emphasis on faithfulness and loyalty is fine. Just be ready for possible questions about the meaning of the word *adultery*.

## Devotional

“AT LAST!” Adam exclaimed. ‘She is part of my own flesh and bone! She will be called “woman,” because she was taken out of a man.’ This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one” (Genesis 2:23–24).

Jesus later quoted these same words from Genesis (recorded in Matthew 19:5 and Mark 10:7–8), adding that divorce was never part of God’s original plan for marriage. He clarified that Moses had reluctantly allowed for it, especially when adultery had been committed. It was also a protection for women, as men could no longer just decide to toss out their wives for no good reason. It made everybody think twice about divorce.

God wants us to think twice, three times, a hundred times, a million times about lifelong marriage. One of the first things we should think, and teach our children, is that marriage is a gift from God. But it’s not a gift on everybody’s list; it is not his will for everybody. God loves us the same, and we are not lesser people if we remain single.

When God brings two people together as husband and wife, the sacrament is called holy matrimony. A sacrament is defined in many traditions as “the outward and visible symbol of an inward and spiritual grace.” They are brought together, they are joined, and they must cling together, despite all the threats to break them apart.

Adultery is the ultimate threat. It has powerful allies—the attitudes and people themselves who do not value faithfulness and loyalty between married people.

Marriage was the first human relationship that God brought about. May the husbands and wives he has brought together cling to each other and to him.

# HIDDEN WORD

When a man and woman get married they promise to be loyal and love each other. The word that tells what they need to be in a marriage is hidden in this puzzle. Color all the spaces with a dot to find the word.

