



The Grapevine

A Publication of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Methuen, MA

Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church
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September/October 2010

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Please do not hesitate to call Rev. Joe or Janet at any time at the above numbers with pastoral emergencies. Be sure to inform them if you or anyone you know in the parish is ill and/or in the hospital.

GREETINGS FROM REV. JOE

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As summer draws to a close, I hope that you have had time for some rest and refreshment. We are ready to begin an exciting fall season at St. Andrew's. There will be some changes that I want to tell you about.

Hugh Tones, who has been our organist and music director for three years, had his last Sunday with us August 29th. He has taken a position as organist with St. David's Chapel in Pepperell, his home town. This will mean a much shorter commute, especially on those stormy winter Sundays. Our prayers and gratitude go with Hugh for his three years of faithful,

and faith-filled, service during which he has shared his considerable gift for music and song with us. Today we wished him farewell with gifts that will help him remember his time with us.

Our music program is now in the very capable hands of Craig Seaman. Craig started on Sunday, September 5th as our new organist and music director. Craig was first choice among a number of very talented applicants and he brings a real gift for music, including some experience that will be new for us. It is clear that music is very much a ministry for Craig. You can read more about him elsewhere in this edition of Grapevine. Please make a point of introducing yourself to Craig when you see him at church services.

Speaking of church services, we will be continuing into the fall with one service at 9:30 AM. This service will often be Rite II, but will Rite I on a regularly scheduled basis for those who prefer that rite. We will also be experiencing some Eucharistic services from the earlier American Episcopal prayer books (1928, 1892 and 1789) from time to time. We will have a chance to learn about the development of our liturgy, and appreciate that each of these prayer book changes was controversial in its day. History does repeat itself. It was not without a lot of prayer and soul-searching that we have discontinued the 8 AM service. Attendance at that service had decreased significantly last year. However, some of those attendees now come to the 9:30. I was finally persuaded that I might be able to productively redeploy the time I spent on the 8 AM to other things you have been requesting, like Bible studies and forums. If significant demand for the 8 AM returns, we can reconsider.

Sunday School registrations will be held on September 12th and Welcome Back Sunday be found elsewhere in this newsletter. I look forward to an exciting season leading to Advent and Christmas. Please know that you are in my prayers always.

Faithfully Yours in Christ,

Rev. Joe +

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

What a summer it was to be at the beach -- one long, hot, sunny day after another! Robert and I enjoyed every single minute of our summer on Plum Island, but we missed our family and friends here at St. Andrew's. It is good to be back, refreshed and relaxed, and I'm looking forward to getting back into the swing of things!

September marks the beginning of our new program year and it promises to be a busy one. Sunday school begins again on Sept. 19th and MaryEllen Briggs is once again our coordinator. Rev. Joe's institution as our new rector will be on Sept. 26th with Bishop Gayle presiding. It will be a 4pm service followed by a collation. We hope as many of you as possible will celebrate this event with us. Later in the fall, we'll hold a ministry fair in conjunction with our annual pledge campaign. Don't miss this opportunity to explore the ways in which you can support St. Andrew's with your time and talent, as well as your treasure.

We will also be exploring the Green Grants Initiative program recently launched by the Diocese to support congregations in their environmental stewardship. While we have already taken some "green" steps with the installation of environmentally-friendly hand dryers in our bathrooms and the use of the paper recycling bin in our side parking lot, there is a long way to go. One of the exciting opportunities afforded by this program would be an energy audit of our facilities. This would give us a clear picture of improvements that we'd need to make in the future in order to conserve energy. We'll be forming an environmental task force in the near future and anyone with an interest in environmental matters is encouraged to join.!

It will be a busy fall at St. Andrew's and I look forward to seeing you in church!

Janet R.

TREASURER'S REPORT *(THROUGH 8/31/2010)*

Income	76,604
Expenses	<u>73,903</u>
	2,701

Pledges 29,007 (101% of projected)

Thank you for keeping up your pledges during the summer months. Although we have enjoyed the absence of the heating expel willnse this summer, we anticipate that our surplus will disappear once the cold weather arrives.

WELCOME BACK "SUNDAE" IS SEPT. 19TH



Please join us on Sunday, September 19th, as we kick off our new program year by celebrating Welcome Back "Sundae." Instead of the usual coffee hour after church, the Vestry will host a "make you own sundae" bar. We look forward to seeing you in church!



SAVE THE DATE

Rev. Joe's official institution as our new rector will take place on **September 26th** at 4pm/ Bishop Gayle will preside at the service. A reception will follow the service in the church hall. Please make a note of this important day and make every effort to come celebrate with us!

OCTOBER 3RD — CREATION CARE SUNDAY



We're very excited to announce that we'll be celebrating Creation Care Sunday on October 3rd by holding our 9:30am service that day outdoors at Greycourt Park in Methuen. The service will include our annual blessing of the animals, so please remember to bring your animals, both live and stuffed. We'll have a light picnic lunch afterwards.

Greycourt is a lovely park located on the grounds of the old Tenney estate behind the Searles Building in Methuen. Shelter is available in what was once the covered portico of the old castle. If you've never been to Greycourt, this is a great opportunity to visit one of Methuen's hidden gems. Please bring your lawn chairs and blankets and dress appropriately for the weather (rather than in your Sunday best). In the case of inclement weather, please call the church voicemail to check on the status of the service as we may be forced to hold it indoors at the church.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

September 1	Victoria Milo
September 15	Albert Harvey
September 18	Kendra Cooley
September 23	Janet Ratcliffe
October 2	Dick Ratcliffe
October 2	Molly Ratcliffe
October 4	Mary Durant
October 6	Melissa Saindon
October 20	Natasha Lee
October 22	Peter Kwakye, Jr.
October 23	Heather Hudson
October 24	Michelle Stehm
October 27	Tammy Kelley
October 28	Adam Ste. Marie

ALTAR FLOWERS

Live Flowers: Over the next few months and in anticipation of the new year, we will be updating our altar flower list. Currently, we are compiling a list based on information as we now know it and inserting cross references to the liturgical year which will hopefully help us to adjust the schedule for each new calendar year. In the not-too-distant future, we hope to contact folks currently on our list to confirm that they wish to remain on the list. At that time, we also expect to announce the new cost for donating live flowers. As with all things, the cost of flowers has increased over time and our new cost will more accurately reflect the expense we bear in purchasing them. Please feel free to contact Janet M. in the office at any time if you wish to check your status on our altar flower list.

Silk Flowers: We have recently accepted the memorial donation of two autumn-themed silk arrangements for use on the altar on Sundays when there is no designated flower memorial. The silk arrangements are done by a floral designer to your specification and cost in the \$50-\$75 range per arrangement. Anyone wishing to donate silk arrangements for the same purpose in other seasons should contact Rev. Joe, Janet R or a member of the Altar Guild .

IMPORTANT SECURITY NOTICE

In the near future, we expect to implement some changes in our security system. Changes will include the installation of a security camera/intercom system at our side door entrance and the issuance of a PIN to all of our key holders. If you are entering/leaving the building when the system is armed, you will need to enter your PIN into the keypad located inside the Messer Ave. entrance. We will publish the alarm schedule well in advance of making this change, but it is critical that we start collecting a list of our key holders. Please call or email the office at your earliest convenience if you have a key to our building so we can add you to our list.



MEET OUR NEW ORGANIST



Craig Seaman joined us as our new Organist/Music Director on September 5, 2010. Craig received his Bachelor of Music degree from Oberlin College in Ohio in 1986. After earning a masters in electrical engineering, his career eventually lead him to Andover Organ Company where he is a full time technician specializing in electrical control systems for organs. He has been Organist/Music Director for a number of churches over the years, most recently at First Congregational in Tewksbury where his wife is a deacon, and where they collaborated in team Sunday School teaching and organizing the children's choir. Craig also has lots of experience in adult choir direction and hand bell choir direction. He and his wife and children live in Tewksbury. Please be sure to welcome Craig when you meet him.

PRAYERS FOR AMY KELLEY



Our prayers and well wishes go out to Amy Kelley (daughter of Jim and Tammy) who joined the Navy in August. Amy, who recently graduated from North Andover High School and has in the past been one of our teenage Sunday School helpers, is currently in basic training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center outside of Chicago. Amy's pre-enlistment testing qualified her for the Navy's air traffic control training program. Along with the entire Kelley family, St. Andrew's is very proud of Amy.

PRAYER LIST

In an effort to make sure that our prayer list is current and accurate, beginning this October, we will be clearing the list once every quarter (January/April/July/October). While additions and deletions can be made at any time during the quarter by emailing or calling the office, we will start fresh with a new list at the beginning of each new quarter. Please be sure to let us know if you wish (or someone you know wishes) to remain on the list. We'll also publish notices in our weekly bulletin about this change until everyone gets the hang of the new system.

MEMORIALS



Memorial Fund

Mildred Buckley
Edward Wunderlich, Jr.

Organ Memorial Fund

Hope Marie Melanson
Joseph Spatola

Building Preservation Memorial Fund

Shane Dion
Denise Noorigian

COFFEE HOUR



We need more people to share in the coffee hour ministry. Please consider helping out with this time of fellowship after the 9:30 service by taking a turn to provide cookies or pastries. The sign up sheet is on the door connecting the downstairs parlor and the kitchen.



ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
90 BROADWAY
METHUEN, MA 01844



The Autumn Prayer

*Leaves falling. Daylight diminishing. Cold
creeping in.*

I pray...

God, I see the cycle of seasons.

*Summer ends and runs into fall,
which gives way to LONG winter,
and then spring.*

*Autumn is a season of change –
and it reminds me that I am changing too.*

Things I used to need, I need no longer.

*Help me throw off those things that hold me down,
so I might become something new.*

*This is a time when there is an explosion of color,
and then it starts to get cold again.*

This is part of life.

Help me understand

I cannot live in summer forever.

*I cannot be growing
like a garden in the spring all the time.*

*I am made to change
and this season is part of it.*

Let me welcome the change.

*Let me see the beauty of your earth
as it prepares to sleep in the wintertime.*

*Let me embrace this time of change and become
something new.*

Amen.

*~ adapted from "The Book of Uncommon Prayer"
by Steven L. Case*

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Sunday School Registration Form

Parents: _____

Street Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email address: _____

Child's Full Name <i>(List each child you wish to register)</i>	DOB	Grade	Year in St. Andrew's Pin Program	Have you made 1st Communion? If so, when and where?

Does your child have any allergies/health considerations which we should take into consideration? If yes, please describe.
