

# GRAPEVINE

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

M & TH 8:30 am-12:30 and

W 9 am-1 pm

## **Parish Administrator**

Janet McDonald

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*E-mail:* admin@standrewsmethuen.org

## **Reverend Joseph Wilkes**

617-957-2960

## **Senior Warden**

Janet Ratcliffe

978-682-5606

*E-mail:* janetratcliffe@comcast.net

## **Clerk of the Vestry**

Beth Regan

978-687-1340

## **Vestry Members**

James Beagan, Bev Brown, Val Carey, Patti Eldred, Betty MacKay, Janet Ratcliffe, Beth Regan, Huib Walta, Laura Walta and Joseph Wilkes

## **Religious Education**

Mary-Ellen Briggs

978-208-8809

## **Pledge Clerk**

Elaine Morissette

978-683-8841

*E-mail:* remor20@aol.com

## **Computer/Web**

Huib Walta

webmaster@standrewsmethuen.org

*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,

I hope you share my joy in the Christmas we had at St. Andrew's. From our service of Lessons and Carols, through the wonderful Sunday School Pageant, to the delight of our Christmas Eve music services with choir and our quiet Christmas morning service, we have enjoyed the gift in so many ways for each of us to experience the wonder of our Savior's birth.

We have had some very good news about our annual Stewardship pledge campaign, reported in detail on page 3 of this issue of the Grapevine. The encouragement we get from this is another gift. I am very grateful for the strong effort that is responsible for this progress. If you need a pledge slip to fill out to make your intentions known, please contact the office. Like each one of us, St. Andrew's depends on a good estimate of income so we can budget for the coming year. Each parishioner's pledge is vitally important.

We have a number of wor-



ship events of note in the near future, so please mark your calendars. Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Scout Sunday at our 9:30 AM service. On Ash Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at noon, we will host the ecumenical Ash Wednesday service for Communities Together. It's a great opportunity to worship together with our brothers and sisters from across the Greater Lawrence region. I will be presiding at the service and we will have a guest preacher to be announced. We will host Community Together's Ash Wednesday Ecumenical service on March 9<sup>th</sup> at noon and at 7pm there will be an Impostion of Ashes

Service at St. Andrews. On Sunday March 27, Magnificat-Boston, a choral group, will do Choral Evensong at St. Andrew's. The details, including the time, will be announced when finalized.

I hope to see you during the Epiphany season. Until I do, may the Star of Bethlehem, that guided the wise men to meet Jesus, light your journey, and fill your heart and soul with confidence that God is your constant loving companion on the way. God bless you.

Faithfully yours in Christ.

Rev. Joe

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR SENIOR WARDEN

It's a time for resolutions and, as such, time for me to revisit the one that I make every single year. Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God (Michah 6:8). I wish I could say that my

adopting this verse as my New Year's resolution was a sign of biblical scholarliness or some deep theological insight on my part. It's not. I happened to hear it in a reading some years ago and sim-

ply decided that it was a great Modus Operandi. Putting my resolution into practice is not always done with a big splash. In fact, it's usually quite to the contrary. During the busy holiday season, I had

## SENIOR WARDEN MESSAGE (CONT.)

someone returning to their car in a space close to the door. I pulled up and sat patiently waiting for them to leave. The exiting car blocked me from entering the space right away and another car zipped in and took my space. I was steamed! But just as I was about to lay on the horn and give this inconsiderate driver a piece of my

mind, I looked up and saw the car's bumper sticker "Do Justice Love Kindness Walk Humbly with Your God." My hand came off the horn about as quickly as if I were touching a hot burner and I circled the lot to find another space.

After all these years, I don't always get it right and sometimes, really more often than

I'd like to admit, I do lay on the horn. I'm still very much a work in progress, but I love it when I get it right. I wish you all a happy new year filled with justice, loving kindness and humility.

Peace,  
Janet

*Congratulations to  
Danielle McGrail on  
the birth of her  
daughter,*

*Brooklynne Rose,  
on December 15th.*

## TREASURER REPORT



The preliminary results from the closing of 2010 are very encouraging. Pledge income is right on track. A big thank you to everyone. Our expenses on several fronts, but mainly the office, were down. The big difference was the rentals; we ended the year with full payment of rents. This is a big change from the past, where

vacancies and expenses threw the budget for a loop. Every landlord knows not to count on that occurring very often.

We were blessed in 2010. We will be able to return to reserves some of the money that we had to borrow from

them in the past, a necessity which left them dangerously depleted.

The full results, along with the 2011 budget, will be available at the annual meeting.

Jim

## NEW CHURCH SEXTON

Please welcome our new sexton, *Paul Schermerhorn*.

Paul joined us on January 3rd as our new sexton. Paul's schedule will include some regular hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday mornings. He

will ultimately be around 10-12 hours per week during the normal business week and then on an as-needed basis to handle building emergencies.

We hope that having a sexton present for regularly scheduled hours during the week will improve the overall appearance of our building.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 2 - Christy Lee  
January 12 - Derek Haidaczuk  
January 12 - Kristofer  
Wunderlich  
January 14 - Alexis Wizboski  
January 16 - Gary Hudson  
January 17 - Pauline Crosbie  
January 22 - Curtis Robarge  
January 23 - Tom Durant



February 1-Huib Walta  
February 4 -Maureen Maccaro  
February 5 -Gail Ratcliffe  
February 6 -Brenda McKenney

February 7 - Kyleigh Cooley  
February 7 -Robert Pauley  
February 16 -Dorothy  
Archambault  
February 16 -Mally, Clive, and  
Lars Falk  
February 18 -Nicholas Wunderlich  
February 19 -Krista McLeod  
February 19 -Peter Kwakye, Sr.



## PLEDGE UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who has returned a pledge card. Your commitment is crucial to our financial planning for 2011, so we very much appreciate the prompt return of your cards. As of January 12<sup>th</sup>, we had received 52 pledges totalling \$49,950. We are just \$50 away from meeting all of the goals that we set during this year's stewardship campaign! In the next issue of the Grape-

vine, we plan to formally thank those who have returned pledge cards by publishing a list of names. For those of you who have not yet had an opportunity to return a card, we will gratefully receive it at any time. If you have any questions or wish to receive envelopes, please contact Elaine Morissette.

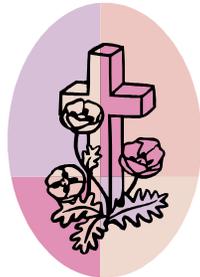
## MEMORIALS

### Organ Memorial Fund

Paul Manzi

### Building Preservation Memorial Fund

Len Brown



### Garden Memorial Fund

Robert L. Rosentrater  
Rita P. Toomey

*If anyone would like to join the **Altar Guild**, we would love to have you. We need your help. Please see Gail Ratcliffe if you are interested and she will be glad to give more information.*

## DID YOU KNOW?...

That it's possible to make electronic donations to Saint Andrew's? It's as easy as using the bill pay feature that most banks now offer free of charge to their checking account customers. You simply set up Saint Andrew's as a payee with our

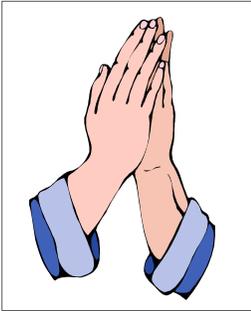
name and address and then schedule payments in the amounts and at the



times you desire. Be sure to direct the payment to the attention of our pledge recorder and include your envelope number in the account number field.

If you have any questions, please speak with Jim Beagan or Janet Ratcliffe.

## PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF THE EPIPHANY



Gentle God, the tinsel falls, the year turns, the carols fade.

The blessing of Bethlehem that touched all the gray in our lives with star-silver is past.

In this turning season of long cold nights, we ask God's presence beyond our holidays into the wintering times of our lives, so that we can begin to grow and become strong, filled with wisdom and the favor of God.

*Amen*



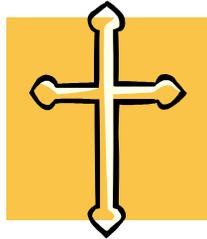
*Please consider helping out with the coffee hour ministry and take a turn providing cookies or pastries.*

*The sign up sheet is on the door connecting the downstairs parlor and kitchen.*

## PASTORAL CARE AND PRAYER LIST

Please notify the church office if you or someone in your family is ill or hospitalized.

In addition to keeping you in our prayers, our Pastoral Care team would like to send one of its members to visit you and bring communion.



We plan to refresh the prayer list quarterly this year.

Please contact the office 978-689-0463 or [admin@standrewsmethuen.org](mailto:admin@standrewsmethuen.org) if you wish keep someone on the list or add someone new.

## THE FOOD PANTRY

Thanks to many of you, we again were able to give food to six families in the Arlington Neighborhood each week. We have many faithful donors; it is such a help!

As spring arrives, new needs will arise and we will strive to continue our weekly donations. As you shop, we ask you to re-



member these families and pick up one (or more) items on our list and bring it with you to church. It all adds up and is a great help!

Each week we give the following to each family: Tuna, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, green veggies, yellow veggies, soup, peanut butter, jelly or fluff. In addition we purchase milk and bread, so a monetary

donation is also helpful.

Thank you for your continued help! Bev Brown

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2011

Saint Andrew's Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, February 6, 2011 after the 9:30am service.

- A report on the adopted 2011 budget
- Any other business as may properly be brought before the Congregation for its consideration

### The Election of the following:

- Clerk of the Annual Meeting
- Senior Warden
- Junior Warden
- Clerk
- Treasurer
- Two Vestry positions available to serve 3-year term
- Delegates to the Convention for the Episcopal Diocese of MA

### Delegates to Deanery:

- Greater Lawrence Council of Churches
- Parish Historian

### Other Business will include:

- The receipt of annual reports from all Parish organizations
- The receipt of annual financial reports

**Your participation is crucial to our success.** First, you'll likely remember from previous years that we need a quorum in order to proceed. That means we need parishioners to be present and sign in. We can't even get the meeting started if we don't have people willing to do that.

Secondly, Vestry members, your representatives to the board that oversee the business of our church, are elected at this meeting. As of this writing, we have a number of positions that will need to be filled, including Junior Warden, two three-year seats on the Vestry, parish historian, delegates to the convention and representatives to Communities Together.

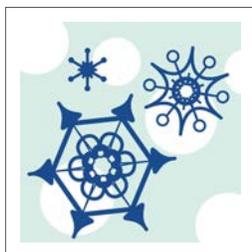
If you'd like the job descriptions for any of these positions, please let us know. This annual meeting is a great opportunity to help St. Andrew's move forward – please consider how you can help make it a success!

### Attention all Committee Chairs:

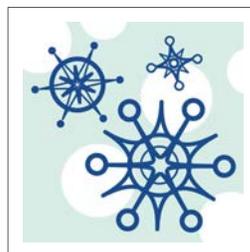
*Now that the holidays are over, annual meeting time is fast approaching. Please submit your write up for the annual report to Janet McDonald no later than January 24th.*

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## WINTER WEATHER CANCELLATIONS



*Throughout the winter season, we will change the voicemail greeting on the church phone to reflect cancellations or delays in Sunday services due to weather conditions.*



**SAINT ANDREW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

90 Broadway  
Methuen, MA 01844

Phone: 978-689-0463  
E-mail:  
admin@StAndrewsMethuen.org

*If you have an email address and are not currently on our email distribution list, please contact the office. Distributing the Grapevine via email is a tremendous cost savings for us.*

*Thank you!*

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## MARK THE DATE



- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b><u>February 6<sup>th</sup></u></b> | Scout Sunday<br>St. Andrew's Annual Meeting     |
| <b><u>March 8<sup>th</sup></u></b>    | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper                   |
| <b><u>March 9<sup>th</sup></u></b>    | Ash Wednesday services (watch for details)      |
| <b><u>March 12<sup>th</sup></u></b>   | Annual St. Patrick's Dinner (watch for details) |

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## SUMMER CAMP

It's not too early to start thinking about summer camp. Our Diocese owns and operates the Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center on Otter Lake in Greenfield, NH. The camp is one of the area's premiere Christian camps, offering great new facilities, an incredible staff, and a strong Christian community, as well as many opportunities for fun and adventure, whether that means swimming, soccer,



crafts, archery, hiking, kayaking, or rock climbing. The programs include traditional, week-long overnight camps for children entering grades 4 through 12, as well as families. This is an opportunity to

experience summer camp at its very best.....and don't forget, when Bishop Tom visited us in December, he offered to make tuition money available to any of our children who wish to attend. For more information, visit the camp's website at <http://www.bchcenter.org/> or, better yet, speak with any of our kids who have already been to camp about the terrific experience they had there.