

# GRAPEVINE

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

M & TH 8:30 am-noon and

TU 8:30 am-11:30 pm

## **Parish Administrator**

Janet McDonald

*Office Phone and Fax:*

978-689-0463

*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**

Molly Ratcliffe

## **Vestry Members**

Charlie Currie, James Beagan, Lisa Storey, Val Carey, Patti Eldred, Beth Regan, Huib Walta, Paula Campbell

## **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,

Thinking back on the extreme cold of this past winter, I'm so grateful for summer's warmth. I plan to do my best to enjoy a few fine weather days for rest and refreshment. I hope that you can too. It is a very important part of trying to achieve balance in our busy lives, and so is a very productive use of time. I encourage you to make room for it.

My congratulations and gratitude go to the Vacation Bible School crew. Once again, they did an amazing job teaching children about Jesus through song, skits, games and crafts. The good-sized starting group kept increasing as the week went on and the message went out. Evangelism in action! And everyone had such a great time. It's hard to tell who had more fun, the children learning or the crew teaching. Faith with high energy and fun: What a great combination. There will soon be a slide show on our website. Check it out.

The Altar Guild also had a great time at its recent afternoon tea. Among many items discussed were altar flowers. The Altar Guild and I invite people who donate flowers during the summer and early fall to con-



sider donating live perennial flowers and plants. We will place them on the altar for Sunday worship, then plant them in the memorial flower garden in front of the church where they will bloom each year as a living memorial. This beautifies our church for Sunday worship, and supports our effort to renew our flower garden.

During the summer, our Sunday morning service will be at 9:00 AM. This is by popular request so that we can have our worship before the church gets very hot, as it tends to later on summer mornings. On Sunday July 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup> we will have a "hymn sing" during our worship service.

We'll take some time mid-service to sing a couple of verses of your favorite hymns. It would help us prepare if you let Craig or me know ahead of time which ones you would like. We'll include as many as we can. You can let us know by emailing or calling the church, or by letting us know in person on a Sunday morning. Meanwhile, have a wonderful summer.

God Bless you.

Faithfully,  
Rev. Joe

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR SENIOR WARDEN

This past week, I had the opportunity to volunteer at our annual VBS. I know, I know - some of you are surprised because you've heard me say on more than one occasion that the Sunday school thing is not "my cuppa tea." To say that I

was a reluctant volunteer at the beginning of the week is probably an understatement. My son even asked, as I was grumbling on our way to church on the first evening, "So why do you do it?" To which I responded, "because

it's the right thing to do." How things can change in a week! Valerie, our fearless VBS leader, designated me as snack lady for the week. A group of twenty-something enthusiastic children charged

## SENIOR WARDEN MESSAGE (CONT.)

into the parlor every evening at 7:20 to see what I had on the menu for the day. The snack was designed to complement the bible theme for the evening - everything from "Crunchy Crosses" made of pretzels and cheese to vanilla pudding and sea worm "Beach Cups" to "Turtle Sandwiches." The kids were loud and noisy; they were having fun (at church no less); the parlor was rockin'. At 7:45, they charged out of the parlor, with the same energy they rode in on, and were off to their next activity. I was exhausted every evening when they left, but realized quickly that it was impossible not to see the Holy Spirit, alive and well, in that very room, during those 25 minutes.

Another takeaway for me this week was just how blessed we are to have such a wide range of volunteers committed to this project. Val and Mimi do a

stellar job of organizing VBS and directing all of the helpers. It's hard for me to believe that anybody out there does it any better. The crew consisted not only of parents of children currently in the program, but parents of children who have long since aged out of the program, young adults and teens who were formerly in the program, adults who never had any children in the program, and maybe even one or two reluctant volunteers like myself. Bringing all of us together for the week surely has to be the work of the Holy Spirit.

During the closing program, Val, asked the kids seated before her "who is coming back next year?" Kids jumped out of their seats, waved their arms and a loud chorus of "I am, I am" was heard. The loudest "I am's" came from one group of girls, who started off the week

as reluctantly as me, but came because their grandmother had promised them a trip to Canobie Lake. And that, folks, is why we do it, why I do it. Kids having fun at church, kids wanting to come back next year (and hopefully before). For me, it was a week looking at our very bright future.

Consider joining us next year, even reluctantly. I promise that you that the kids will be loud and noisy, the church will be hot and sticky, there will be lots of camaraderie and it will be a richly rewarding experience.

Thank you again to Val, Mimi and all of our volunteers!

Peace,  
Janet

### Church Service

*For the summer months of July and August, church service will begin at 9:00am.*

### Summer Office Hours

*For the summer, Janet will be in the office Mondays & Thursdays 8:30 - noon*

*and Tuesdays 8:30-1 1:30 or 3:00 -6:00 (if phone message is changed).*

## TREASURER MESSAGE

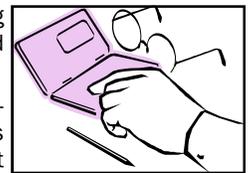
Since we are at the half year mark, I wanted to give a recap as of June 30. We are in a deficit situation of \$5,820. Income was \$56,304 and expenses were \$62,124. This was driven by the heating bill, for which I hope I have finally paid off the last bill of the heating season. We have spent \$14,454 on heat so far this year, which is all of the heating budget, and we still have the fall and winter to go. The sexton has been very conscious of this and has worked to reduce any waste. A few of you have complained about being cold in church. Please be

assured it is something we are very concerned about.

The pledged total received for the year is \$23,035, running at only 91% of schedule.

We realize people go away for the summer, but please, try to keep up with your pledges this summer. It is easy with electronic bill pay at your bank.

Thank you, Jim Beagan



## ST. ANDREW'S FELLOWSHIP

This summer, while things at St. Andrew's slow down on other fronts, it is a good time to resume our efforts. The Membership/Fellowship Committee (Patti Eldred, Paula Campbell and Janet Ratcliffe) is planning

a "Get Acquainted" barbecue for our newer members later this summer and have tentatively set August 28<sup>th</sup> as the date. We hope that this fellowship opportunity will allow us all to become better acquainted

with each other. If you are an established member here at St. Andrew's and would like to participate, please contact Patti, Paula or Janet.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

**Rebecca Kwakye** - Methuen High School.  
Rebecca will be attending UMass Amherst in the fall.

**Nick Wunderlich** - Tenney Grammar School

**Megan Donegan** - Central Catholic.  
Megan will be attending Endicott College in the fall.

**Madeleine McKeon** - Timony Grammar School



*Congratulations to Mark and Nina Bowes who were married at Saint Andrew's on June 11th.*

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- July 5 - Hateya Eddings
- July 7 - Elisia Perillo
- July 7 - Jordan Polmatier
- July 18 - Kayla Allbee
- July 27 - Avangelina Ayala
- August 5 - Theodore Saindon

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## ATTENTION KEY HOLDERS

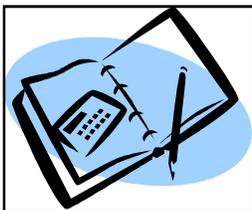
We'd appreciate it if everyone who has a key to the building would take special care to be sure that it is not lost, stolen or otherwise misplaced. Replacement keys must be ordered from the locksmith and cost \$7.00 each.

Thank You.



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## AUDIT HELP WANTED



We are looking for a couple of volunteers with a business/bookkeeping/accounting background who could assist with

an audit of our books. The Diocese requires an annual audit and a special, less cumbersome (and costly) audit by committee is permitted for parishes of our size. The job would entail spending a few hours, at your convenience, working through the checklist developed by the Diocese. Our ability to apply for certain grant funding opportunities for projects we'd

like to undertake here at St. Andrew's is dependent upon getting the audit done in a timely fashion. To the extent we can find volunteers to help with this important task, it will save us the expense of having to hire professional accountants to do the job. Please speak with Jim Beagan or Janet Ratcliffe if you can help.

*Please welcome Jamison Joseph McKenzie, baptized on June 12th, and Anthony Louis Perillo, Jr. baptized on June 26th, and their families.*

## RECOGNITION SUNDAY



Recognition Sunday took place on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Greycourt Park.

## SINGING THE PSALMS



The word *Psalms* is from the Greek *Ψαλμοί (Psalmoi)*, meaning "music of the lyre". In Jewish and Christian faiths, *Psalms* refers to the Book of Psalms, a collection of 150

songs and prayers, possibly compiled from a larger set. Many of these Psalms are attributed to David. I have an image of David playing the lyre and singing these Psalms like a troubadour, while he is tending sheep on the hillside, or in the courts of King Saul.

Even though the Psalms may have been used for private devotions, in Jewish tradition the Psalms were sung initially in front of the Tabernacle, and later on from the steps of the Temple. The original intent was to teach, explain, encourage and communicate with the individual listeners as well as the entire people. Only Levites were allowed to sing, and the Levites also played musical accompaniment on various instruments. Psalm 150 exhorts us to praise God with the ram's-horn, the lyre and harp, timbrel and dance, strings and pipe, and loud-clanging cymbals.

In the New Testament, several references indicate that the earliest Christians used Psalms in

their worship, and the Psalms have remained an important part of worship in most Christian Churches. A few denominations, including Anglican, have always made systematic use of the Psalms, with a cycle for the recitation of all or most of the Psalms.

The translation of the Psalms found in the Book of Common Prayer are intended for reading (or chanting) responsively. But for a Psalm to be sung as a hymn, the Psalm needs to be translated into a metrical version, with a regular number of syllables per line. For example, the version of Psalm 51, which we used during Lent, was set to Long Meter (LM), which means that each verse has 4 lines of 8 syllables each.

At St. Andrew's, we started singing Psalm 51 during Lent. Elaine Morrisette then loaned me [A New Metrical Psalter](#), by Christopher Webber. In there I found Psalm 118, which we used for Easter, and Psalm 104 which we used for Pentecost. We will continue singing the Psalms during worship services, with a different Psalm selected each month.

by Craig Seaman

### ***Important Note***

*If you are scheduling an event in our parish hall, please let Janet M. know at the time you are entering the event on the calendar whether you will need tables and chairs and, if so, how many. Our sexton will then be able to plan his weekly schedule accordingly.*

## FLEA MARKET

Our annual flea market is coming in the fall and will once again be organized by Patti Eldred and Paula Campbell. The date will be announced later this summer, but in the meantime, please keep us in mind for donations of clothes, household items, furniture, toys, and sporting goods.



## MOM'S SUMMER SERENITY PRAYER

Dear God,

Grant me the strength to last until Back to School Night.

Give me the energy to drive the swim team car-pool, take knots out of wet shoelaces with my teeth and untangle the dog from the sprinkler hose one last week.

Grant me the wisdom to finally remember the name of the redheaded kid from down the street who hasn't left our house since early July.

Walk with me through the backyard over piles of wet bathing suits and empty ice cream cups, to rescue my good lipstick from the bottom of the wading pool.

Give me the courage to accept that everything in the refrigerator either has a bite out of it, had a finger stuck in it or is reproducing in the vegetable crisper underneath the expensive cheese. Guide me down the hallway to the laundry room, where I can experience five minutes of peace and quiet by turning off the lights and climbing on the dryer so the kids can't see my feet under the door.

Help me accept the fact that even if I take the kids to the circus, install a pool in the backyard,

go on a safari, and carve a redwood tree into a canoe and sail down the Congo, my children will end each day with "I'm bored."

Grant me the serenity to smile when my husband insists on tossing the Hamburger Helper on the gas grill because "everything tastes better barbecued."

In your infinite wisdom, show me how to disconnect the video game console that hasn't been turned off since June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Comfort me when I realize the color of my earth-tone carpet has changed into a mixture of melted blue popsicle and the remains of somebody's purple slushie.

And if I ask too much, God, just give me the foresight to know that one day-not too many years from now-the barbeque, television, and sprinkler hose will be off; the refrigerator, front door and garage will be closed, and I will wonder where my children-and the little redheaded boy with glasses-went!

*By Debbie Farmer*



*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.*

## LOST AND FOUND

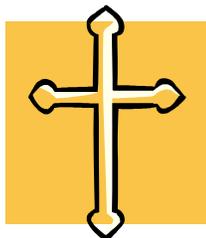
It's time to clean out our Lost and Found box since we've had a number of items lingering for a LONG time. Items include several pairs of eye glasses, a cell phone and a jacket.

Please contact Janet M. in the office as soon as possible if you think any of these items may belong to you.

## 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  
9 7 8 - 6 8 9 - 0 4 6 3 o r  
[admin@standrewsmethuen.org](mailto:admin@standrewsmethuen.org) if  
you wish keep someone on the  
list or add someone new.

## BILOXI TRIP

Dear Friends,

In May of 2010, I had the opportunity to travel to Biloxi, MS to volunteer at the Back Bay Mission. While there, I worked in the food pantry, soup kitchen and day shelter. I even did some construction at a rehab project. Being able to reach out to those less fortunate and live my faith was most rewarding. Funds necessary to cover travel expenses were available through fund raising efforts. However, due to the change in economy, the funds are not avail-

able this year. The group is returning this September and I would truly like to go with them.

I am asking for any of you who are able to sponsor me in any amount. This would be most appreciated and it is one way of putting our faith into action.

*Thank You!*

*Bev Brown*



*Our office secretary,  
Janet McDonald, will be  
on summer vacation the  
weeks of July 18th and  
July 25th.*

## CHURCH DONATIONS



Our sexton could use a wet/dry shop vac and a wheel barrow to help with his regular maintenance around the church. If you have any of these items in good working condition and are no longer using them, please consider donating them to the church.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL SIGN UP



**Starts on September 18, 2011**

The registration forms will be available starting July 24, 2011 through the church office, on the website, or on the table in the parlor.

Please return the forms to the church by September 18th so that we may order supplies.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Calling all **Sunday School Teachers** (returning and new) and any interested parent

There will be a teacher's meeting on:

**September 11, 2011 after the 9:30 AM service.**

Please contact Mary-Ellen Briggs [briggsmaryellen@yahoo.com] or Valerie Carey [carey.james@comcast.net] with any questions.



# A SAMPLING OF VBS PHOTOS



*Check out the website for more great pictures. Thanks Huib!*

**SAINT ANDREW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

90 Broadway  
Methuen, MA 01844

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

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## COMING IN THE FALL



- ▶ We are planning to hold **First Communion classes** during the upcoming school year. One must be a rising 2<sup>nd</sup> grader to participate. If you are interested in joining this class, please contact Val Carey.



- ▶ Vestry will once again host "**Welcome Back Sundae**" on Sunday, **Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>**. We'll welcome everyone back from their summer activities that day and celebrate with an ice cream social after church.

- ▶ Beginning **Labor Day weekend**, we'll start up a trial monthly **8am Sunday Service**. The service will be held on the first Sunday of every month. If there is enough interest during the trial period, the monthly service will continue.
- ▶ A new **Confirmation Class** will begin in the fall with confirmation set to occur in the *Spring of 2013*. You must be a rising 8<sup>th</sup> grader or older to participate. If interested in joining the class, please contact Reverend Joe, Jim Beagan or Patti Eldred.

*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!*