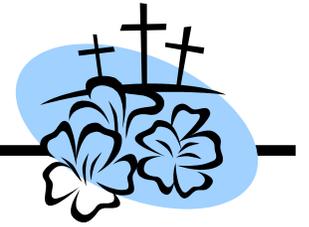


GRAPEVINE



OFFICE HOURS:

W & TH 9am-2pm

Parish Administrator

Jill Eckelkamp

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

Junior Warden

Laura Walta

E-mail: laura@walta.org

Clerk of the Vestry

Molly Ratcliffe

603-860-4331

Vestry Members

Val Carey, Beverly Brown, Anne Duffy, Betty MacKay, Matt McKeon, Robert Pauley, Janet Ratcliffe, Molly Ratcliffe, Sharon Taylor, Laura Walta, and Joseph Wilkes

Treasurer

Valerie Carey

Religious Education

Paula Cambell

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,

As I'm sure the case is for you, I've been spending a lot of my time and energy dealing with the problems of a very harsh winter in comparison to recent years. If I'm not clearing snow, chopping ice, salting driveways and spending extra time just to get where I need to be, then I'm trying to sooth the aches and calm the aggravation from it all. It has made it hard to let the Season of Epiphany capture my imagination and guide me to discoveries of God's love and power active in my daily life. Maybe this is true for you also. Maybe we need a season that encourages us to pay more attention to God's presence with us, and God's call to us. Maybe that's Lent. Lent will be here very shortly. Ash Wednesday is March 5th. What sacrifices will we each make for Lent? What will we give up? Hopefully we'll be able to let go of things that



distract us from God. What will we take on? How will we "stretch" and try something new in God's service? Hopefully, there will be things that help us feel closer with God, and in "sync" with God's call to love one another as God loves us.

For many of us, the season of Lent, though holy, is difficult. Our service music takes a more somber, reflective tone. But even that could be a gift because it means that, more than ever, we can intentionally strive to support each other through it. It's a sea-

son when relationships can deepen, and new ones form. So let's try to be together as much as we can. I hope to see you often in church. Believe me when I say, it means a lot to me in the Lenten season, and I pray it means a lot to you. I have faith that it means a lot to the One who created us, redeems us, and loves us always.

Faithfully yours in Christ,
Rev. Joe

MESSAGE FROM SENIOR WARDEN

Dear St. Andrew's Friends,

Your new Vestry officially began its work at our first

meeting on February 9th. We welcome our new additions: Robert Pauley and Sharon Taylor. We've

added new faces to our leadership ranks and I'm personally grateful for their willingness to participate.

SENIOR WARDEN MESSAGE (CONT.)

Sharon is sure to bring a fresh new perspective and I'm very excited about that. Robert has been hanging out waiting for me at Vestry meetings since he was in kindergarten which practically makes him an old pro at the ripe old age of 16. One of the themes for the upcoming year will be to explore ways in which we can grow our numbers. As part of the that task, we'll visit some other churches to

look for ideas we haven't yet considered, including the possibility of a Saturday evening service. We'd love for you to share your ideas with us. Also, if you happen to visit another church when your travels take you out of town, we'd love for you to tell us about that. Bring back copies of whatever printed welcome materials you find, as well as any insight you may on the way you were welcomed. As

always, we encourage your input and participation. I look forward to another exciting, productive year here at St. Andrew's.

Peace,
Janet

MESSAGE FROM JR. WARDEN

It's not news to anyone in New England, but this has been one snowy winter! As a result, most of the attention around Buildings and Grounds has been on snow removal and making sure that parking lots and walkways are taken care of. Thanks go out to our Sexton, Paul Schermerhorn, for his commitment to safety- he's out there with the snow blower after every storm, and arrives early every Sunday morning to put down sand and salt. So don't let the snow keep you from attending- remember our heritage as hardy New Englanders!

Other recent news includes the installation of battery powered emergency exit lights in the kindergarten, making the space code compliant. We also had to install new radiators at the altar,

after a malfunction caused the old ones to freeze and burst after a recent cold snap. And last but not least, the hot water heater gave out on us, and needed to be replaced. Many thanks to Harry Noorigian, who took care of the emergency with expert efficiency. Nothing was damaged, but it is a reminder that our systems are getting older (as is your junior warden J) and we need to be ready for the unexpected.

It seems fitting that Lent should occur at the end of the winter, when the somber liturgy and penitential focus reflects our own mood after the cold and darkness of our winter season. And yet, we know without a shadow of a doubt that our Savior rose, rose from the depths of death, on that Easter morning. The church will be

clean, bright and decorated with lilies. The pews will be full of families in their Easter best, raising their voices in celebration of our risen Lord. I love Easter. There IS life after death! And we need only look around us during the coming months to see evidence of this glorious cycle of life, as leaves begin to bud on the trees, and crocuses push through the frozen ground.

So stay safe and warm during this final month of winter, and remember that it will soon be Spring, when we can finally leave our burrows and enjoy the emergence of life around us.

In His Service,
Laura Walta

TOGETHER NOW CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Following is a summary of the 2013 Together Now Campaign activity, as published in the St. Andrew's Church Annual Report (reformatted and modified to reflect January 2014):

Funds from the Capital Campaign 5-Year Pledge, received from the Episcopal Diocese quarterly to date:

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Pledges Received in 2012	\$17,780	
Pledges Spent on Parish Hall 2012/13		<u>-14,054</u>
Pledges Received in 2013	\$13,943	
January	\$ 3931.41	
April	4936.33	
July	2305.20	
October	2770.32	
Pledges Received in 2014	\$2,791	
January	2,790.69	
Pledges Spent on Organ		<u>11,100</u>
Total Income/Expense	\$34,514	-\$25,154

NOTE: Expense does not include \$25,982 spent on parish hall from other sources

Available for Phase 2 of the Organ Restoration May 2014 **\$ 9,360**

We'll have to ask Craig to explain "Rebuilding Key Action and Boards" which is scheduled to start shortly after Easter. Who knew how complicated the innards of an organ are?

Thank you to everyone for keeping up your pledges. Remember that our bright, beautiful, warm Parish Hall is now advertised as available for rentals on the parish website, complete with some photos. Keep us in mind if you know of people looking for a venue for 160 or fewer people.

Huib Walta

*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.*

CHURCH BOOK CLUB

Upcoming Dates & Selections



Wednesday May 14/6:30pm

"Song of the Magdalene" by Donna Jo Napoli (fiction)

Wednesday June 11/6:30pm

"Nickel & Dimed" by Barbara Ehrenreich (non-fiction)

If you are interested in joining us for the book club, please speak to Krista McLeod or Janet Ratcliffe.

"We read fiction and non-fiction. We seek books that enlighten and enrich our spiritual journey. We seek books that tell stories or have characters to which we can compare and contrast our own faith journeys. We seek books that challenge our notions of God, conventional religion, heaven, and good and evil. We seek books that challenge us to think about the human family and our relationship to our world and our history. We seek books about comparative religions and alternative faiths. We select books that will create discussion and make us think!"

LENTEN MID-WEEK SERVICES 2014

Lenten Series on Wednesdays at Noon Please share in worship and fellowship this holy season! Plate Collections support the Hospital and Nursing Home Chaplain Ministries of CT. Host churches provide a light lunch after each worship service, supported by free will offerings.

March 12: Andover Baptist Church, 7 Central Street, Andover (public parking behind library or town hall)

Homilist: Rev. Rich Knight

March 19: Rolling Ridge Conference Center, 660 Great Pond Rd., North Andover

Homilist: Rev. James Todd

March 26: Redeemer Lutheran Church, 163 E. Haverhill St., Lawrence

Homilist: Father Waters, OSA

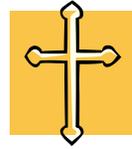
April 2: First-Calvary Baptist Church, Corner of Mass. Ave and Chickering Rd. (Rt. 125 and 133), North Andover

Homilist: Rev. Dr. Alexander Daley

April 9: Forest Street Union Church, 15 Forest St., Methuen

Homilist: Rev. Jon Paul

May 1: SAVE THE DATE - NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER



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 refresh the prayer list quarterly. Please contact the office 978-689-0463 or admin@standrewsmethuen.org if you wish keep someone on the list or add someone new.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY POTLUCK DINNER

MARCH 15, 2014
Saturday, 5-8pm

We will be having a pot-luck dinner to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We hope you will all join us and bring a friend or two. We encourage you to make a favorite dish to bring and share. If possible, let me know if you intend to bring a main dish, a side dish, or a dessert.



We plan to have baskets to raffle. Craig and Cathie Seamen will lead our "famous" sing-along.

Please set the date aside and plan to be there. It should be a fun evening. If you do not wish to bring food come along, admission will be \$10.00.

All monies raised will benefit our food pantry.

Bev Brown



Secretary Mailbox

For those wishing to leave any messages or information for Jill in the office, there is a mailbox on the wall behind the desk.

Thank you.

REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED AT 2014 ANNUAL MEETING/APPOINTED BY VESTRY

SENIOR WARDEN: Janet Ratcliffe

JUNIOR WARDEN: Laura Walta

TREASURER: Val Carey

CLERK: Molly Ratcliffe

VESTRY: Sharon Taylor & Robert Pauley

DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION: Matt McKeon & Harry Noorigian

DELEGATES TO DEANERY: Jim Beagan & Betty MacKay

COMMUNITIES TOGETHER: Beverly Brown

HISTORIAN: Krista McLeod

At its February meeting, the Vestry appointed Anne Duffy as Assistant Treasurer



Easter Flower Memorials

Those wishing to give to the Easter Flower Memorial Fund in memory of a loved one, please have information to Gail Ratcliffe by Palm Sunday, April 13th. Thank you.

ANNUAL EASTER BREAKFAST



Please join us for our annual Easter Breakfast before the 9:30am service at about 8:15am on Sunday, April 20th.

Everyone is welcome.

Please call the office if you need additional information. Free but donations will be collected to support our food pantry.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- March 29 Peter Maccaro
- April 2 Shauna Dalrymple
- April 4 Jameson Falk
- April 5 Beverly Brown
- April 8 Sarah Ratcliffe



- April 9 Charlie Currie
- April 9 Julia Rourke
- April 23 Alex Wunderlich
- April 25 Cassandra Milo

ANNUAL DIAPER DRIVE

The Annual Diaper & Underwear Drive will happen during Lent. Most needed items: diapers and pull-ups of all sizes and NEW children's underwear in small sizes. Please bring your in-kind donations to church each Sunday in Lent. Monetary donations (and coupons dated *after* April 1, 2014) are also welcome. There is no government program which specifically provides funds for diapers and with cuts in food stamps, families are in dire need of diapers. **Checks** should be made out to "Communities Together" ("diaper & underwear drive" written on memo line) and mailed to:

Communities Together Inc. - P.O. Box 428 - Lawrence, MA 01842

THANK YOU LETTER FROM THE ARLINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD

Methuen Arlington Neighborhood

Lena Lahey Community Center

141 Tenney Street
P.O. Box 715
Methuen, MA 01844

(978) 691-5645
Fax: (978) 691-5645
Methuenarlington@yahoo.com

January 10, 2014

Reverend Joseph Wilkes and Parishioners
St. Andrew's Church
7 Messer Avenue
Methuen, MA 01844

Dear Reverend Wilkes and Parishioners of St. Andrew's Church:

Thank you for your participation in our Adopt A Family Program. The Methuen Arlington Neighborhood, Inc. is so thankful to the many people who provided countless hours of time organizing, collecting and delivering food and gifts that brought smiles and excitement to so many families and children for Christmas. Because of the generosity of so many like yourself, we were able to help bring joy on Christmas morning to 227 children. We truly realize that there are so many different worthy causes that you can contribute to, but we appreciate you supporting this very special program that makes Christmas merrier for our families. We also appreciate the time that Beverly Brown puts into organizing and coordinating this program on your behalf.

This year every child woke up to find at least 3 Christmas gifts and clothing under their tree. There were 98 children that received a new, warm winter coat, 104 children received either a new pair of shoes or winter boots, 44 received either new sheets, a comforter or warm curtains to keep them warm, and 126 children received an educational toy, school supplies, or a new backpack. In addition, every family received a food basket or gift card for Market Basket for the Christmas holiday.

Thank you so much for your generosity to make Christmas a special time for our many families in need. Because of your generosity, we were able to brighten the lives of so many children in Methuen on Christmas Day when they woke up and saw what "Santa" had brought for them. Again, thank you for your generosity and support. You can be assured that your donation was truly appreciated by our neighborhood families. These families are struggling trying to put food on their tables and a roof over their heads and you made their lives a little easier this holiday season. Thank you for caring and sharing with our Methuen neighbors.

Sincerely,



Linda Soucy
Adopt A Family Program Coordinator

"Building a Better Community"



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 remember 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, veggies, soup, peanut butter and jelly. In addition we purchase milk and bread, so a monetary donation is also helpful.

Thank you for your continued help! Bev Brown

MEMORIALS

Music Memorial Fund

Harry Anderson
Dorothy (Chute) Archambault
Bob Ratcliffe



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Breaking news: The St. Andrew's Youth Group, and any adults that would like to join us, is now scheduled to serve dinner at **Cor Unum**, across from St. Patrick's Church in S. Lawrence, on **the LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH at 4:00-7:00**. Please mark your calendars now so that you don't schedule other activities into that slot? This is an important responsibility we are taking on, and they are depending on us.

Following is a summary of the 2013 Youth Group activity, as published in the St. Andrew's Church Annual Report:

The Teen Youth Group continued to meet in 2013. We've had 11 teens from the parish, plus 2 exchange students, participate in at least one event, and of those, 8 participated in most events. This fall, sports, academics and work schedules made scheduling complicated, so it's been awhile since we've done anything fun together! It is my hope that the teens will want to continue this combination of monthly fellowship and service activities in 2014, and I welcome any ideas!

This summer, we discovered the need of the Cor Unum meal center in S. Lawrence for help serving meals to the homeless, and started a once/month schedule with them. This has been a great way for teens to see their Baptismal Covenant at work, as we seek and serve Christ in all persons, and respect the dignity of every human being. Over the second half of 2013 the teens did the following:

Social:	Service (Nevins):
Bowling	Game Day x2
Globetrotters Night	Making Valentines
JayGees Racing & Golf	Making Easter Baskets
Rail Trail Hike	People we Remember
Boston Ghost Tour	Christmas Caroling
Lowell Spinners Game	VBS Flyers in Arlington Neighborhood
Gloucester Whale Watch	Friday Night Specials Prom
	Cor Unum x3

Despite our best efforts, it has been tough, with the busy schedules of our teens, to find opportunities to get together. Between holidays and my travel schedule, we have not been able to schedule any social activities to date. Let's try to talk about that and put a plan together? Last year was fun, and I hate to see it die.

A call for help: I am also actively looking for someone who would like to share this responsibility with me. My new job has me traveling every other month, and it has been hard to be in two places at one time! The kids are fun to be with, interesting to talk to, and definitely worth the time. Would anyone like to be a co-coordinator with me?

Laura Walta



Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday school will be having an Easter egg hunt after the Easter service and we are looking for donations of candy and the plastic eggs. Please see Paula. Thank You.

PLEDGES FOR 2014 THANK YOU!

We gratefully acknowledge those parishioners who have pledged their financial support to St. Andrew's for the 2014 calendar year. Not only is your financial support critical to our well-being, your willingness to return your pledge card has been extremely important for planning and budgeting for 2014. This list will be updated to the extent any additional pledges are received. In the meantime, please contact Elaine Morissette if you have any questions on your pledge.

Donna and Douglas Allbee
James Beagan
Joyce Brearley
Beverly A. Brown
Robert D. Brown
Brown and Rourke Family
Blanche Campbell
Paula Campbell
Valerie and James Carey
Claire Cavanaugh
Donald and Sharon Chase
Carol Collopy
Charles A. Currie
Barbara Dion
Deb Donegan
George and Trudi Driscoll
Anne S. Duffy
Patti Eldred
Jim and Carol Elliott
Dorothy Haney
Mr. and Mrs. George H. Hargreaves
Albert S. Harvey
Lawrence and Barbara Hill
Kathleen Hillis
Karen Keleher
Norma Lee
Betty MacKay

Joseph W. Madden
John and Joanne Markavitch
William McBride
Joanne and Fred McCraw
Matt McKeon and Krista McLeod
Christopher and Elicia Miller
Elaine M. Morissette
Harry Noorigian
Virginia Palmieri
Evelyn Ratcliffe
Richard and Gail Ratcliffe
Janet Ratcliffe and Robert Pauley
Molly Ratcliffe
Beth Regan
William and Amanda Robinson
Bertha Rothwell
James D. Shirton
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sparta
Lisa Storie
Sharon Taylor
Laura and Huib Walta
Nancy and Reggie Weisenborn
Rev. Joseph W. Wilkes
Erin Williams
Frank J. Worthy
Doryce C. Wunderlich



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.



**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!

HOLY WEEK



- **April 13th** - Palm Sunday, 9:30am service.
- **April 17th** - Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm worship service.
- **April 18th** - Good Friday - The Way of the Cross at 6:30pm.
- **April 20th** - Easter Sunday, 9:30am service.

MARK THE DATE



March 15^h

St. Patrick's Potluck Dinner, 5:00pm

April 20th

Annual Easter Breakfast, 8:15am