

GRAPEVINE



OFFICE HOURS:

Wed. & Thurs. 9am-2pm

Parish Administrator

Jill Eckelkamp

Office Phone and Fax:

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E-mail: admin@standrewsmethuen.org

Reverend Joseph Wilkes

617-957-2960

Senior Warden

Krista McLeod

Work: 978-686-4080 x 10

Home: 978-975-8224

E-mail: kmcleod111@yahoo.com

Junior Warden

Laura Walta

E-mail: laura@walta.org

Clerk of the Vestry

Matt McKeon

978-975-8224

Vestry Members

Val Carey, Anne Duffy, Patti Eldred, Matt McKeon, Krista McLeod, Robert Pauley, Gail Ratcliffe, Sharon Taylor, Laura Walta, and Joseph Wilkes

Treasurer

Valerie Carey

Religious Education

Donna Henderson

978-609-2654

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 Krista 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 & Brothers in Christ,

I know from speaking with many of you that everyone has been praying especially fervently for so many worries we share. Among them are the people the world over who have been suffering at the hands of terrorists in what seem like increasing numbers. We are prayerful that God call on all leaders whose citizens and followers profess peace to confront and thwart the perpetrators of hatred and violence. May God show a way to do it that is both effective, and consistent with God's desire for us to seek peace, not judgment and revenge. We pray similarly for our own cities that saw violence in the fall and early winter, and where we wonder if more strife simmers just under the surface.

Closer to home, I know we are worried about our record-breaking winter. It has done a lot of damage to so many homes and work places. We wonder how much more might happen this winter, and how much more damage might happen when melting starts in earnest in a few weeks. I have been praying for "seasonable weather," by which I mean just a plain, old, regular winter. I hope that's what we get till spring, and that spring is good this year.

Meanwhile, we live the season of Lent. Lent is a time for repentance. In part, that means



acknowledging to God our sins and short-comings, and asking for God's forgiveness and help to do better. In part, it's making some deliberate sacrifices to give some things up, worldly things that perhaps distract us from our duty to God. That way we can spend a season of special prayer and exploration about what it is we are called to do by God, upon whom we are totally dependent for all we are, and all we will become. I invite you into prayer and reflection about this during Lent, hoping that God will reveal to each of us an action or two we can take to be better followers of His way.

Before closing, I want to shift into gratitude for the gift of leadership God has given, and continues to give, our parish. We have gone through a time of transition. Krista McLeod was elected Senior Warden at our recent annual meeting. I am grateful for her willingness to stand for election to this position. Krista has deep faith, intelligence, great people and management skills, and a

wonderful sense of humor. These will make her a great Senior Warden. They did for her predecessor, Janet Ratcliffe. Janet Ratcliffe ended her service as Senior Warden at that same annual meeting, after six years in the role, the by-law limit of her term. Janet worked especially faithfully and diligently in ways so numerous that it might take an entire Grapevine issue to explain. In this, she stands in an august tradition of extreme dedication and service exemplified by other long-serving Wardens like Len Brown and Laura Walta. Please take time to thank Janet for the six years she spent as Senior Warden, the years she spent as Treasurer and Sunday School Director, and for "being there" for us in so many ways. Please also take time to thank Betty McKay, Bev Brown, and Molly Ratcliffe who completed terms on vestry. And thank Laura Walta who continues as Junior Warden, Val Carey who continues as Treasurer, and Matt McKeon who was elected Clerk. And add to that, thanks

GREETINGS FROM REV. JOE (CONT.)

to Anne Duffy, Sharon Taylor, and Robert Pauley who continue on vestry; and Gail Ratcliffe and Patti Eldred who were elected to vestry. Lots of gratitude all around, to all of them for offering themselves

in His service, and to Him for inspiring them to do so. I couldn't be your priest without them.

In this time of Lent, please know that I keep you in my

prayers. Please keep me in yours.

Faithfully yours in Christ,
Rev. Joe

MESSAGE FROM SENIOR WARDEN

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the support that you all have already given me as I take up this new adventure of being the Senior Warden here at St. Andrew's. While I was willing to try this out, and actually volunteered to do it...(no, no blackmail or coercion was exercised!)...what concerns me the most is the fact that I have a pretty tough act to follow! Janet Ratcliffe has served for the last six years as a particularly hard-working and diligent Senior Warden. She stayed on top of everything that was happening here at the church, kept things moving forward, and made some important changes that will have a long-lasting, positive impact on our parish. I know you join me in appreciation for all that she and the Vestry have done for us, and for our church family. If I can achieve even half of what Janet was able to get done, I will feel like I have made a contribution. Thank you Janet for all you have done for us, and for being a great friend!

One of the things I am interested in doing is to increase our communication as a parish. We have all of the tools in place to make sure we can

communicate with members and those outside our parish, but we must keep up with the rapid pace of communication these days, and make sure people have a variety of ways to access the experience of St. Andrew's. To that end, I would like to work on publishing a simple Parish Directory to facilitate our communication with each other, launch a Facebook page to keep folks updated about things that are happening, and work with the Vestry to plan ahead and publicize our activities and events a little more widely. Please let me know if you have any ideas about improving communications for our parish, and I will be happy to talk about that with you. In the meanwhile, please make sure to let Huib Walta know about anything you would like posted on our web site. Huib's email is huib@walta.org.

On a different note, Lent has crept up on us, through this rather difficult and harrowing winter season. In our house we have an on-going debate about Lent. Some of the people in my house think that the only way to observe Lent is to "give up" things, and indeed, that's what I was taught growing up. And, of course, as a penitential season, Lent can

certainly be observed by removing some of life's pleasures to, among other things, help remind us of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. In recent years I have also begun to see Lent as an opportunity to try to DO something new, or to ADD something to my life. I try to boost my prayer life up a notch or two during Lent. I try to be more thoughtful, helpful or pro-active in kindness to others. I may try harder to give, including remembering to bring food in for the Food Pantry on Sundays, or diapers for the "Undies Sundays" we support at St. Andrew's. All too aware of the many things I do NOT do every day, I try to improve a little and also to forgive myself while asking God's forgiveness for my omissions.

Whatever you do to observe Lent, I hope one of those things will be to join us in our Sunday worship when you are able. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year as we look for ways to improve our parish life and grow our church family.

I wish you the blessing of a holy Lent,

Krista McLeod

MESSAGE FROM JUNIOR WARDEN

Snow. Cold. More snow. Bitter cold. That about describes life since the last Grapevine.

For those that have remained homebound during this period, fear not. The driveway and parking lots are plowed, with all of the bankings pushed back to allow plenty of room. The entries are cleared and sanded. And the inside of the church is always nice and warm for services. The Christmas greens have come down, and we have entered the penitential season of Lent. May your Lent be blessed, as you prepare your heart for the risen Christ.

During the deep freeze, we had a frozen pipe between the kitchen and the room with the oil burner that heats the parish hall, which Paul (our sexton) took care of in no time at all. Otherwise, the church is in stable condition both in structure and in systems. We passed our annual Health

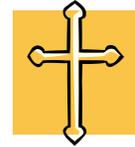
inspection. An ice dam in the roof above the second floor rectory kitchen caused a leak, but clearing the roof of snow in that area cleared up the problem. Unfortunately, the very old boiler in the rectory cellar has developed a leak that requires a complete replacement. In these aging buildings, there is always something that requires repair or replacement. We are so thankful for the faithful pledges of our members, allowing us to address these issues. They aren't things that you see during the service, but they keep the building open!

I am always so glad that Lent comes at the end of the cold darkness of Winter. It holds the promise of Spring, the promise of life after death. And isn't that what Easter is all about? I am looking forward to seeing everyone in church on Easter morning, when the altar is framed with lilies and the church echoes with Halleluiahs!

As an aside, I would still like to form a Building and Grounds Committee. Not to DO the work, but to help us assess what work needs to be done, and to help prioritize when to do it. Of course, recommendations for potential contractors would also be welcomed! This is our church, and I would like to see us, collectively, more involved in keeping on top of what needs to be done to keep it in top shape. I welcome your insights and ideas. Please see me after services, or call Jill at the church office if you'd be willing to volunteer!

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



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.

JOIN US FOR SCRIPTURE STUDY!

Have you ever wanted to talk about the Sunday readings after you heard them? Was there ever a time when something the minister said either puzzled you or provoked you? Do you ever feel inspired by something that is said during the service, and want to share your thoughts?

Well, some of us want to have an opportunity to share our thoughts and feelings about the scripture readings and perhaps the week's sermon as well and we plan to do something about it! After church each Sunday, during coffee hour, we are going to gather for a brief, informal meeting to talk about the readings. We will have next week's readings available if you wish to take



them and reflect on them in advance. Or, you may join us on the spur of the moment if the

Spirit moves you to do so. There is no sign-up, there is no obligation to come all the time, there is no long-term commitment! Spend coffee hour with us and extend your experience and understanding of God's word.

We will be starting our discussions on Sunday March 15th. Join us for coffee hour that day, and find out what this is all about!

For more information, talk to Anne Duffy or Jim Beagan.



MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Lent is an important season in our faith. Lenten preparation includes Fasting, Prayer and Alms Giving. These can be difficult for a child to understand so it is important to break these ideas down to a child's level and relate them to his or her own life.

Fasting – To go without.

Prayer – To talk to God, formally or informally. Think of others that may need some extra support. Prayer is also a time to quiet down our lives to listen to God.

Alms Giving – To help others, donate money, time, or service to those who need it.

Children do a great job following their parents' example. This is a great time to put your faith in action and to practice what you preach. Here are five activities that may help the season of Lent grow in your homes.

1. Make children aware of others among them who are hurting; those who are different; left out; are lonely. Discuss ways they can help.
2. Read about and discuss the Stations of the Cross. Help children understand the story from different perspectives.
3. Have a bowl on the prayer table. Ask children to write the name of someone they find hard to forgive or to include. Have them put the paper in the bowl and say this prayer as a group: "Dear God, we ask You to help us forgive those whose names are here. Forgive us, too, if we have hurt others." Discard these names in the presence of the children.
4. Use a purple tablecloth during Lent.
5. As a family discuss what each member will 'give' for Lent and write these on paper as a commitment and put in on the fridge as a reminder.

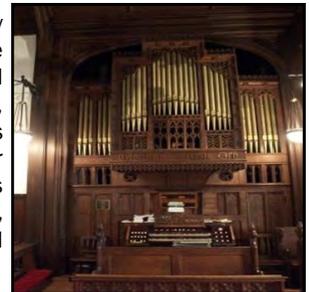
During this season we acknowledge our mistakes and faults, but are comforted in the truth that Jesus lives and that his resurrection freed us from sin.

Donna Henderson

FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

During January and February I have been using the piano while the organ is being refurbished. It has been a different experience sitting closer to the congregation, where I can actually hear people singing. You may read more about the organ project elsewhere in the newsletter.

I recently attended a workshop about hymn playing, presented by Stuart Forster (music director at Christ Church, Cambridge). He made several points about singing hymns. In particular, he pointed out that, even though congregations enjoy singing familiar tunes, the music is really a means of conveying the text, which teaches the doctrines of the church, and that we sing and breathe together as a community. He also pointed out that congregations engage in simple physical exercise during the worship service, when they sit, stand, sing, kneel, and so forth. Another reason it is good to attend church!



I have also been introduced to the writings of Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, a Presbyterian minister who has written many hymn texts based on the lectionary scriptures. One of these hymns ("When you are praying") was used during the Ash Wednesday service, and I will be using others either as congregational hymns or choir anthems.

Submitted by
Craig Seaman
Organist / Music Director

TOGETHER NOW CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Well it has finally arrived- the three scheduled phases of the Organ Restoration are finally complete! Just in time for Easter! Phase three of the project included the following, according to Craig: "This phase of the organ project focused on the manual and pedal key action. This is probably the first time that the action has received a complete overhaul since the organ was built in 1905.

- The keyboards and pedalboard taken out and disassembled. All of the keys were removed and cleaned; broken and worn key coverings were replaced; the guide pins were cleaned, rebushed and adjusted. And the coupler action was cleaned and adjusted. Now the keys move freely without excessive side-to-side or front-to-back movement.
- The pneumatic primary actions for both manuals (Great and Swell) were removed and cleaned. The action for each key (61 on each manual) contains a threaded wire, two disks (made of layered fiber, felt and leather) and four leather nuts. The threaded wires were cleaned, and the disks and nuts were replaced.
- The pneumatic primary action for the Pedal was also removed and cleaned. The action for each of the 30 Pedal keys contains a threaded wire, a disk (made of fiber, felt and leather), and a dowel with felt on the top, and layered fiber and felt on the bottom. The threaded wires were cleaned, the disks were replaced, and the material on the dowels was scraped off and replaced with new material.
- The manual trackers (strips of thin wood connecting the keys to the chests) were examined, and any broken trackers were replaced. Each tracker (2 for each key) has a threaded wire on each end with a felt bushing and a leather nut. All the bushings and nuts were replaced.

Once all of the components were ready, everything was reassembled, reattached, and adjusted for optimum performance."

Who knew our organ was so complicated inside? The only thing left is to install a humidifier as a preventive maintenance effort to keep all that leather and wood moist and pliable. Our beautiful organ is as good as new! I can't wait to hear it!

All of this has been made possible through your faithful stewardship to the Together Now capital campaign. THANK YOU!!

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		-14,054
Pledges Received in 2013	\$13,943	
Pledges Received in 2014	\$10,687	
Pledges Received in 2015	\$ 2,546	
January		2,546.25
Pledges Spent on Organ 2013		11,100
Pledges spent on Organ 2014		2,500
Pledges spent on Organ 2015		<u>10,500</u>
Total Income/Expense	\$44,956	-\$38,154

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

Available for purchase and installation of the humidifier, and Final Payment:\$ 6,802.
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.

Submitted by Huib Walta

CHURCH BOOK CLUB 2014-15

Upcoming Dates & Selections

Sunday, March 15th After Service –
Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The World Before & After Jesus by Thomas Cahill

Part of the "Hinges of History" series...What is the place of Jesus in the history of the world?

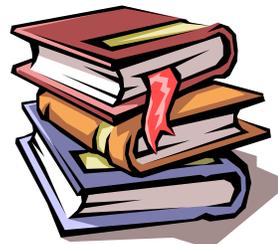
Wednesday, April 29th 6:30pm—
Pope Joan by Donna Woolfolk Cross

A historical novel set in the 9th century that examines the life of the only woman Pope, who lived as a monk and eventually assumed the Papacy disguised as a man.

Wednesday, June 3rd 6:30pm –

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver

The story of a missionary and his family who travel to the Belgian Congo in the 1960's. Told from the point of view of the wife and daughters of this difficult man.



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!"

BAPTISM



Please help welcome the newly baptized and his family to St. Andrew's:

- Justin Bruce McKenzie
 Baptized on January 18, 2015

IN MEMORY OF...



Doryce C. Wunderlich passed away peacefully January 24, 2015, at the Merrimack Valley Hospice House in Haverhill, MA.

Doryce was an active member of St. Andrews for many years serving on the vestry, the Mr. and Mrs. Club, and Altar Guild. She was also a member of the Eastern Star and a founding member of the Methuen High School Band Parents Association and their bowling league.

For the complete obituary please visit:
<http://www.dewhirstfuneral.com/notices/Doryce-Wunderlich>

REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED AT 2015 ANNUAL MEETING/APPOINTED BY VESTRY

- SENIOR WARDEN:** Krista McLeod
- JUNIOR WARDEN:** Laura Walta
- TREASURER:** Val Carey
- CLERK:** Matt McKeon
- VESTRY:** Patti Eldred & Gail Ratcliffe
- DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION:** Matt McKeon & Harry Noorigian
- DELEGATES TO DEANERY:** Jim Beagan & Betty MacKay
- COMMUNITIES TOGETHER:** Beverly Brown
- HISTORIAN:** Krista McLeod



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, March 29th 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 5th

Everyone is welcome.

Please call the office if you need additional information.

Free will donations will be collected to support our food pantry.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- March 12 Joshua Kwakye
- April 4 Jameson Falk
- April 5 Beverly Brown
- April 8 Sarah Ratcliffe



- April 9 Charlie Currie
- April 9 Julia Rourke
- April 23 Alex Wunderlich

If you don't see your name on our Birthday list, please contact the office and let us know!

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 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 21, 2015

St. Andrew's Church
Reverend Joseph Wilkes
7 Messer Avenue
Methuen, Mass 01844

Dear Reverend Joseph Wilkes,

Sincerely + Parishioners

Thank you. When you adopt a child or family for the holidays you are directly sponsoring a child from Methuen. Because of your generosity and people like yourself, Sue and her family enjoyed their Christmas. "It helped a lot because my husband and I live paycheck to paycheck," she said. "If it wasn't for donations this year, I don't think our children would have had a Christmas. It was a really big help for our family." It had a huge impact on Mariana, who is a single mother. Mariana works through a staffing agency because she was laid off last year and she is trying to keep a roof over her family's head by paying her rent. She said, "I was having a hard time deciding between paying the rent and providing a Christmas for my five children. Because of the people in the community, I did not have to make that choice this year." This year, M.A.N. Inc., had enough donations to meet the needs for 298 children.

I want to express my personal appreciation for your generosity and the fact that you took the time to make a donation or to personally purchase gifts for these families in need. As you know, we concentrate on the working/poor families from the neighborhood. We appreciate all your help in making this Christmas more joyous for the families. Your generosity and assistance means so much to me, but it meant even more to the families of the neighborhood when they woke up Christmas morning.

Every child received at least 3 Christmas gifts and clothing. Over 64 children received a new warm pair of shoes, and many received sheets, blankets and comforters for their beds. They received backpacks, books, and school or drawing supplies that will help them with their education. And let's not forget the toys they received. Frozen and Ninja Turtles were a big hit this year.

Again, thank you for your generosity and your support over the years. You can be assured that your donations are truly appreciated by these financially challenged families and makes a positive memory and difference in their lives.

Sincerely,



William Manzi
Executive Director



Linda Soucy
Safe Haven Coordinator

*Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc.
"Building a Better Community"*

COR UNUM MINISTRY

More than once during this cold, snowy winter, I have complained about not being able to find a place to park my car, about needing to remove an ice dam from my roof, or even that I need to bundle on so many layers of clothes that I feel like a snowman myself! Yet it occurs to me that these are causes for thanksgiving, rather than complaint. There are people in our city that wish they had a car to get around, that have no roof to un-dam, and that go cold for lack of clothing. These are the people with something to complain about, no?

Community service is a wonderful way for young and old alike to connect on a personal level with those less fortunate than ourselves. It is easy to take our good fortune for granted. In serving others, we are doing God's work and restoring a sense of dignity and worth to those who so often feel marginalized and invisible. This is what it means to "seek and serve Christ in all people." I am often told that something as simple as looking a person in the eye when you speak to them, smiling as you serve them, calling a person "sir" or "ma'am," can bring a sense of happiness and belonging. The experience changes the way I think about the world around me. It makes me re-evaluate my own priorities. It brings into focus that while God has provided us with abundance, it is divided in ways that create scarcity. It makes me wonder how we can change that reality, and achieve a world that is closer to what God intended.



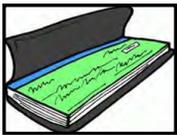
St. Andrew's continues to support the mission work of Cor Unum in South Lawrence. On **the last Friday of each month**, some of us from St. Andrew's join other volunteers to serve a hot dinner meal to the homeless and disadvantaged. We meet at the Cor Unum "restaurant" off Salem Street (beside St. Patrick's Catholic Church) from 4-7pm for three hours of community service in a clean, friendly, well lit, air conditioned (summer)/ heated (winter) environment.

I invite you to join us. Bring a friend. Bring your children. Please mark your calendars now so that you don't schedule other activities into that slot. This is an important responsibility we have taken on- the Cor Unum volunteer staff and over 300 homeless and hungry are depending on us. Help us make a small difference in the life of another human being.

Submitted by Laura Walta

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Dear Parish Family,



St. Andrew's pledge income is already behind what was pledged and our heat, electric, and snow removal is higher than budgeted. We have had, as you are all aware, a much harsher winter than was anticipated. It is imperative that we all try to keep our pledges up to date so that our bills can be paid in a timely fashion.

Wishing all my church family a wonderful Easter Season.

Sincerely,
Valerie Carey



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.



The Food Pantry

Thank you to those who have signed up to bring one item from the list every week when you come to church, this list has recently been revised to suit the needs of the recipients.

Please sign up in the parlor, and participate in this ministry – it is very important to those in need.

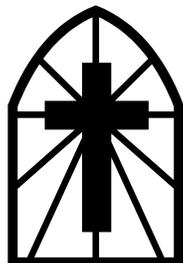
Each week we give the following to each of six families:

Cereal, pasta, tomato sauce, soup, peanut butter, vegetables, tuna fish, rice, dry beans, soap, toothpaste and detergent.

In addition, we purchase milk and bread, so a monetary donation is also helpful.

Thank you for your continued help! Bev Brown

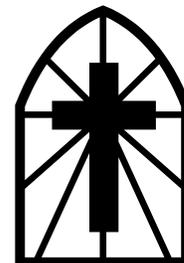
MEMORIALS



Memorial Fund
Doryce Wunderlich

Organ Memorial Fund
Dora Atkinson
Doryce Wunderlich

Music Memorial Fund
Dora Atkinson
Joanne Rae
Lily Skene



SAINT PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

Saturday, March 14, 2015
5:00 pm
St. Andrew's Church Hall



Featuring:

- Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
- Irish Sing-Along
- Door Prize
- Basket Raffle



Tickets on Sale Now 978-686-7770
Adults \$18.00/Ages 5-12 \$9.00/Under 5 Free
Bring Your Own Beverage

All Are Welcome – Cead Mille Failte
Proceeds to Benefit the Arlington Neighborhood Food Pantry

MERRIMACK VALLEY DEANERY

Join the Lower Merrimack Valley Collaborative for a Progressive Lent. This year, our Theme is: Tourist, Missionary, or Pilgrim?

Date: Wednesday, March 11th, 2015
Host: St. Paul's Church, 166 High Street, Newburyport, MA
Phone: 978-465-5351
Topic: **BPeace in the Suburbs**

Date: Wednesday, March 18th, 2015
Host: Trinity Church, 26 White Street, Haverhill, MA
Phone: 978-272-4244
Topic: **Family Feast at the HUB**

Date: Wednesday, March 25th, 2015
Host: All Saints Church, 895 Main Street, West Newb
Phone: 978-462-4244
Topic: **A Matter of Justice**

Date: Saturday, April 4th, 2015
Host: St. Paul's Church, 396 Main Street, North Andover, MA
Phone: 978-683-0671
Topic: **The Great Vigil of Easter, A Collaborative Celebration of the Resurrection!**



The format for each of the Lenten Gatherings will be as follows:

- 6:00 pm - 6:15 pm Gather
- 6:15 pm - 6:45 pm Blessing and Meal with Table Talk Suggestions
- 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm Themed Program (Childcare available, see info below*)
- 7:45 pm - 8:00 pm Ending Worship and Dismissal

* Childcare is available by reservation only. Reservations for any event or the entire series can be made immediately. All reservations must be made by Monday at 9:00 pm the week of the event, by contacting Helen Pickard at the following email address: mapickard1@verizon.net. If no one registers in advance for childcare, we will not be able to provide childcare for you. Children are welcome at all aspects of each event, supervised by their parents. Childcare is offered only during the program portion of the evening. Contributions to defray the cost of childcare are encouraged.

Mid-week Episcopal Worship Opportunities in the Lower Merrimack Valley

- Tues: 12:00 pm Noonday Prayers, Trinity Haverhill
- Wed: 7:00 am Eucharist and Healing, Christ Church, Andover
- Wed: 11:00 am Noonday Prayers, Trinity Haverhill,
- Wed: 6:00 pm Evening Prayer, St. Anna Chapel, St. Paul's Newburyport
- Thurs: 6:30 pm Eucharist and Healing, Trinity Haverhill
- Fri: (2nd Fri of each month) 7:00 Taize, Trinity Haverhill

Musicians Collaborative Day
Saturday, March 14, 8:00- 3:00 (Snow date: March 21)
St. Paul's North Andover, 396 Main Street, North Andover 01845

Last October, the Lower Merrimack Valley Collaborative had a round table morning sessions with the musicians from the 7 parishes. The participants asked for another opportunity to gather and share for

MERRIMACK VALLEY DEANERY (CONT.)

a full day. On Saturday, March 14, there will be an opportunity to do just that.

Event Schedule:

- 8:00 am - 8:30 am: Arrive and settle in. Bring instruments, bring voices, and bring resources.
- 8:30 am - 11:30 am: For all interested parish musicians (choir members, parishioners, instrumental contributors, etc. as well as directors).
- 11:30 am - 12:00 pm: Lunch Break
- 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm: For directors and organists.

Please invite your choir members and parish musicians. Plan to select/practice some shared music for Collaborative Easter Vigil. Additional agenda items welcomed. Other parishes welcome too!

RSVP by sending me an email at: mapickard1@verizon.net or contact me by phone: 978-681-9915. Let me know if you have questions or concerns!

Yours,

Helen Pickard

Lead Collaborator

Lower Merrimack Valley Episcopal Ministry Collaborative

Like us on Facebook: Episcopal Voice

<https://www.facebook.com/DioMassLMVC>

Submitted by Jim Beagan



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.
Thank You.

LENTEN MID-WEEK SERVICES 2015

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 11: Lawrence Community Christian Fellowship Church
290 Water Street - Lawrence, MA

March 18: Forest Street Union Church
15 Forest Street - Methuen, MA

March 25: MAJES (Jesus is Lord Apostolic Ministry)
96 East Haverhill Street - Lawrence, MA

**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!

MARK THE DATE

March 14th - St. Patrick's Day Dinner

March 15th - 10:30am Book Club

March 15th - 10:30am Scripture Study

March 27th - Cor Unum Serving

April 24th - Cor Unum Serving

April 29th - 6:30pm Book Club



HOLY WEEK



March 29th - Palm Sunday, 9:30am service.

April 2nd - Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm worship service.

April 3rd - Good Friday - The Way of the Cross at 6:30pm.

April 5th - Easter Sunday, 9:30am service.