

GRAPEVINE



OFFICE HOURS:

Wednesdays 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

Krista McLeod

Work: 978-686-4080 x 10

Home: 978-975-8224

E-mail: kmcleod111@yahoo.com

Junior Warden

Harry Noorigian 978-688-3421

E-mail: patscrazy@yahoo.com

Clerk of the Vestry

Matt McKeon 978-975-8224

Vestry Members

Jim Beagan, Valerie Carey, Anne Duffy, Patti Eldred, Matt McKeon, Krista McLeod, Harry Noorigian, Robert Pauley, Gail Ratcliffe, Sharon Taylor, 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,

With the close of summer comes the opening of our fall parish season. It's an exciting time. There's the joy of getting re-acquainted with people who have been away over the summer. There's Saint Francis Day with the blessing of the animals during our Sunday worship on October 2nd. And there's the start of planning for Advent and Christmas, two seasons we particularly love at St. Andrew's. I'll let those who are preparing a book study for Advent tell you about their plans. Suffice it to say now that I'm thrilled that we'll have the opportunity to experience Advent in a way that will help us prepare for a truly Blessed Christmas. I'll also let others who are planning a celebration of our capital campaign success tell you about a tremendous "thank you" being held for donors. And there's the Rummage Sale, which will be elaborated on by the people directly involved. Sunday school information will be available soon. Lots going on, while regular ministries like the Food Pantry help us work on mission.



For those who have been away over the summer, I'll catch you up a bit. Sunday attendance has been better than usual this summer. We had three Hymn Sing Sundays. They're always fun. Craig has a new idea about developing a parish hymn book of our favorites, as well as some new ones we can try. We tried Lemonade on the Lawn as an alternative to coffee hour in the parlor when the weather was fair. It was a great chance to enjoy fellowship and our beautiful garden on Sunday morning. Maybe we can do this in the fall when we have good weather. Perhaps the most striking thing you'll notice is that the work on the parking lot and the Messer Avenue church entrance has

started. With luck, it will be done by Welcome Back Sunday on September 18th. Even if it's not quite done by then, it's wonderful that this long-sought improvement is going to be a fact.

It's been a good summer for our parish overall. I pray for a wonderful re-gathering for fall. Until we see each other, I keep you in my prayers and ask you to keep me in yours.

Faithfully,
Rev. Joe

MESSAGE FROM SENIOR WARDEN

What is your Ministry? Try Something New!

As we begin a new school year, everything seems new

again. If you are like me, the habits of a lifetime lead me to feel that THIS is actually the beginning of the new year (forget January 1st!) New shoes, new books, new teach-

ers, new classes, new routines, new commitments to making the best of this new year. Of course being married to a teacher and having a school-age child has helped

MESSAGE FROM SR. WARDEN (CONT.)

Worship Service



*Sunday Services
are back to
9:30am*

prolong this strong investment that I feel in September as a new beginning, but I think all of us carry over a bit of this feeling from our early life experiences.

Returning to the regular routines of church is another thing that brings on this feeling of "new" and "renew." Sunday School will begin soon, there will be more people in church each week, and the choir will start up. There is a lot going on at St. Andrew's and each week many volunteers and staff work behind the scenes to make sure that we strive to fulfill our mission as a church, and to minister to our parishioners and our community.

Ministry can be many things... it can be setting up the altar, bringing the snack for coffee hour, helping out with Sunday School, ushering, bringing donations for the food pantry, working on a church project or fundraiser...or a myriad of other activities that make our church community stronger, and help us reach beyond our walls to make the world a better place for all of God's children. A ministry can be a small activity, a big project or

a regular weekly duty that fulfills you and helps others. Having a ministry can not only nurture our church but also feed ourselves in new ways. If we are doing something for others, we are thinking outside of ourselves, and we may find that a way to be closer to God.

What is your ministry? Do you feel you want to draw closer to God, through more involvement in our parish, or in mission work outside our walls, or in prayer and spiritual development? Don't let the concept scare you...we are all busy, and nobody wants to add one more thing to their schedules these days. Trust me, I get that! But adding a ministry into your life can amplify, rather than detract from your journey here on earth.

A variety of ministries in a church our size, can of course lead to a feeling of being scattered, and of taking on too much. That is a legitimate concern, and one that led the Vestry a few years ago to take on the process of "ministry review" in which existing ministries could be reviewed occasionally to make sure that

they were still supported and relevant, and new ministries or proposed ministries could be looked at to make sure they were consistent with our overall mission, and had a chance of surviving and thriving in our parish. This is important because we want our parishioners who are putting time and effort into ministries to feel supported and assisted, and at the same time do not want other parishioners to feel overwhelmed or drained. It is a delicate balance, and one that the Vestry tries hard to maintain.

So, this fall, as we look ahead at our "new year", I ask you to think about your ministry here at St. Andrew's. Is there something you would like to do, to join in with, to help with, or to accomplish? Do you want to help, but don't know where to start? Talk to Fr. Joe, me, or another member of the Vestry, if you are looking for a way to fulfill a role in our parish life. Thank you for being a member of our church community, and I pray for God's blessing on your "new year!"

Krista McLeod

MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday School Calendar 2016-2017

Sept 18	Sundaes Sunday	Nov 6	Class 9:15am	Jan 8	Class 9:15am
Sept 25	Class 9:15am	Nov 20	Class 9:15am		preschool class
Oct 2	Class 9:15am	Dec 4	Class 9:15am	Jan 22	Class 9:15am
	Blessing of the Animals		preschool class	Jan 29	Class 9:15am
Oct 16	Class 9:15am	Dec 11	Class 9:15am	Feb 5	Class 9:15am
	preschool class	Dec 18	Class 9:15am		preschool class
Oct 23	Class 9:15am		Christmas Pageant	Feb 26	Class 9:15am
Oct 30	Class 9:15am			Mar 5	Class 9:15am

MESSAGE FROM JUNIOR WARDEN

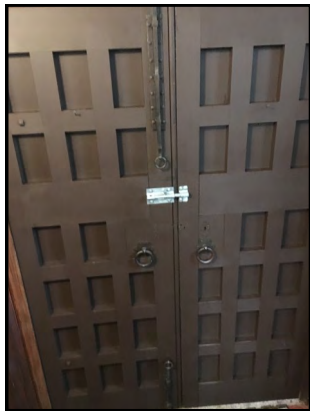
To bring you up to date on the outside projects, we have a new cement walkway and retaining wall, new steps and cemented area at the entrance of the church from Messer Ave. There is a new wall at the back parking lot entrance. It is now being separated by a gate, so the day care will have their own parking lot, which could be entered by All Saints Way. We are now waiting for the paving to be completed on the 2 parking lots, the back lot, the front of the church and the 20x20 pad for the dumpsters.

Paul, our sexton has completed the following work here

at St. Andrew's:

- Church sign pole painted
- Flag pole painted (new flag installed)
- All outside railings have been painted
- Narthex has been patched and painted
- Hardwood floors at rear of church have been refinished
- Altar wall cracks have been repaired and painted
- Wall at Baptismal area repaired and re-painted
- Storage cabinet in hallway re-painted
- New Hi output ballasts installed in bathrooms
- 2nd front entrance to church has been refurbished
- Shrubs trimmed and cut back as needed.
- Electrical work to outside lighting (in Progress)
- Narthex stair painting (in progress)
- Water stains in downstairs parlor ceiling tiles repaired.

Yours in Christ,
Harry Noorigian



Church inner door refinished

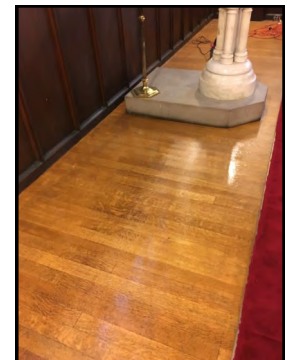
Front walkway underway



Parking lots ready for asphalt



Lots of wall patching being done

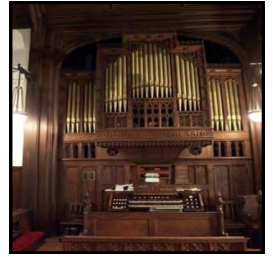


Rear floor polyurethane done

FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Parish Hymnbook project

Congregational singing is an important part of the worship experience at St. Andrew's, and there are many wonderful hymns in our two hymnals - *The Hymnal 1982*, and *Wonder, Love and Praise*. During our summer hymn sings there are usually about 10 hymns selected, some which we have sung recently, and others which have been used less frequently. The hymns selected this summer will be used during a worship service in the fall, starting with "Welcome Back Sunday" and continuing until "Christ the King".

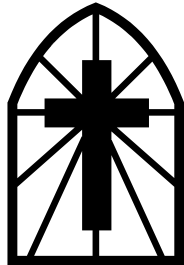


But there are also many equally wonderful hymns that are not in our hymnals, either because they were not selected at the time of publication, or they were written after the hymnals were published. I have used bulletin inserts for different hymn texts that I have found. But the inserts need to be prepared for the bulletin, and then collected afterwards, and so are a little bit awkward to use.

So I have decided to develop a parish hymnbook, which would be kept in the pews in mini-binders that hold half-sheet pages (5 ½ by 8 ½ inches). These binders would allow us to add hymns at any time, and all of these hymns would be readily available for regular worship services, as well as during hymn sings. There have already been two requests for hymns to include - *How Great Thou Art*, and *In the Garden*. Please let me know if you have any other favorite hymns to include in our hymnbook.

Submitted by
Craig Seaman
Organist / Music Director

MEMORIALS

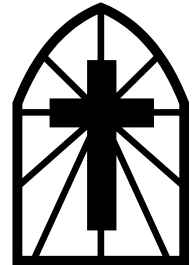


Organ Memorial Fund

Denise Joy Hunt

Garden Memorial Fund

Bernard Zenevitch



THANK YOU!



We would like to thank all the people that made VBS possible this year. We could not have done it without you. From the people who donated money or food, helped with set up or clean up, worked one day or five, each one of you played an important part of this program. We would like to give a special THANK YOU; to Cathie and Craig for, once again, being our music gurus; Huib Walta for being our photographer and technical guru; to Mary Ellen for running the snack program and keeping us all fed and hydrated, and to Jordon, my right hand person, for keeping us on schedule and helping me lock up every night; Patti Eldred for taking on a new element at VBS and Paula Campbell for taking on crafts again. There were so many people that helped out that I cannot name them all but we appreciate each and every one of you.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Valerie Carey & Mimi Falk

TOGETHER NOW CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The fifth and final year of the Capital Campaign is winding down. Those that participated in the Together Now Capital Campaign, we hope you will be joining us on Saturday, September 24th, 5-8pm for an evening of Appreciation and Celebration. Invitations were mailed mid August. PLEASE let us know if you plan to attend. This is a catered dinner, and we want to be sure that we have a plate for you!! Again, we are so thankful for the many members of the Campaign for their faithful pledging. We are almost done- just one more quarter to go! Have you thought about how you will use these funds once you're not making Campaign payments? Will this money continue to glorify God and His work?

Funds from the Capital Campaign 5-Year Pledge, are received from the Episcopal Diocese quarterly. Activity 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 Spent on Organ 2013/14		-13,600
Pledges Received in 2015	\$ 9,865	
Pledges spent on Organ 2015		-15,056
Pledges Received in 2016	\$ 6,960	
January	2057.37	
April	3048.71	
July	1853.67	
Total Income/Expense	\$59,236	-\$42,710

NOTE: Expense does not include \$25,982 spent on parish hall from other sources, and \$3188 spent on the organ from other sources.

Current balance: \$16,526

Thank you to everyone for keeping up your pledges. It is only with your help that we can take on these large projects.



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 Valerie Carey.

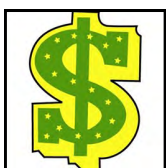
WELCOME BACK "SUNDAE"



We will have an Ice Cream Social after the service on **Sunday, September 18th** so that we can...

Reconnect with our church family after summer vacations
Re-establish our outreach, educational, and social programs.

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER



It has been a hot summer and I cannot wait to see everyone back at church and see your reactions to all that has been going on. I am sure Harry will address all the activities in his letter. These activities, although exciting, have a cost and our pledges are down. Please, if you are behind, bring your pledge up to date.

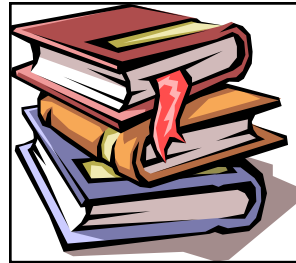
Yours in Faith,
Valerie Carey

CHURCH BOOK CLUB 2016-17

Upcoming Dates & Selections

Wednesday September 14th 6:30pm - The Dovekeepers by Alice Hoffman

Wednesday October 12th 6:30pm - Wave by Sonali Deraniyagala Warning: This book will break your heart. That being said, it is one of the most uplifting and remarkable memoirs you will ever read. The strength of the human spirit is nowhere as evident as in this story of Deraniyagala's devastating loss and recovery.



Wednesday November 9th 6:30pm - To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee An American classic, the tale of Scout, and Jem, their father, Atticus Finch, their neighbors Boo Radley, Dill, and Tom Robinson and justice, racism, prejudice, and redemption in small town America.

Special Advent Program (TBA) - The Advent Conspiracy More information to come...

Sunday January 15th after Service - Nine Parts of Desire by Geraldine Brooks Before she was one of our favorite novelists, she was a reporter stationed in the Middle East for 6 years. In this book, Brooks reveals the

daily lives of Muslim women, and the often seemingly contradictory world in which they live.

Sunday February 26th after Service - Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver

A young mother living on an Appalachian farm, discovers a religious miracle, or is it a scientific anomaly?

Sundays during Lent - Lenten Book Study:

Standing Naked Before God: The Art of Public Confession by Molly Phinney Baskette

**Sundays after service:
March 5, 19, 26 & April 2**

Wednesday April 26th 6:30pm - Sacred Hearts by Sarah Dunant

A rich tale of life in an Italian convent in 1570. Conflict within the cloister reflects the turmoil of the Counter-Reformation outside the high walls.

Wednesday May 24th 6:30pm - The Promise of a Pencil by Adam Braun

Can any of us actually do something to change the world? Adam Braun did, and this book helps us to see how we can too...

All dates and titles are tentative, based on availability of books and the scheduling of other church activities. Check the weekly bulletin for updated information. All meetings are scheduled to take place in the Church Parlor. Meetings are open to anyone who wishes to participate; you may attend just one session, or all. Guests are welcome.

For more information or to request a book, please contact: Krista McLeod - 978-975-8224

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- September 1 - Victoria Milo
- September 9 - Elaine Morissette
- September 15 - Albert Harvey
- September 18 - Kendra Cooley
- September 23 - Janet Ratcliffe



- October 2 - Dick Ratcliffe
Molly Ratcliffe
- October 6 - Melissa Saindon
- October 19 - Evan McDermott
- October 20 - Natasha Lee
- October 22 - Peter Kwakye
Victoria Dion
- October 24 - Michelle Stehm

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

STEWARDSHIP 2016

Each fall, we put away our summer dreams and get back to work. This extends to our church life too. Our children come back to church school. We re-commit to our community worship at welcome back Sunday. We also re-commit to our parish home through the stewardship program.

In the past two years, the stewardship committee has asked for volunteers to speak about the readings provided under the series Walking the Way (2014) and God the Giver (2015). We were blessed to have had testimony from several of your fellow parishioners who told about their faith journeys and how it is manifest in their stewardship.

This year's theme is Living Generously. Rather than seek speakers this year, we invite every one of our parish community to remember the lessons of the past, to walk the way and to think about how God has given to you, and then apply them to this year's theme and how you respond by living generously. Each reading ties to the gospel of the day and has questions for you to reflect on.

Each Sunday, the bulletin inserts will include both the current reading, and the next week's reading. Please read the next week's reading and think about the questions on it. Each Sunday, starting October 9, following the gospel and the rector's brief reflection on that, we will have the lector read the current Living Generously selection. After that, we will take time to ask you for your responses to the reading and the questions. There is no need to prepare a sermon or lecture, just share with us a thought or two that answers how the question moved you to think about your relation to God in your life, and how that may tie into your being generous in all aspects of your life: your family, your home, your community, your job, and especially your parish..

The date for return of pledge cards will be November 13. They will be available in church before that date, and will be included in the November grapevine. We will follow that date with a celebration of thanksgiving to God as part of our liturgy on the last Sunday of the church year, the feast of Christ the King, November 20, the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Stewardship is about how we all share to build the community of the faithful. Although the end result is on financial contributions, that is never just what we focus on. The focus is how you share your time, talents and treasure. We want to use this year's stewardship program to have you share your thoughts and prayers as well. After all, aren't those what guide how you use your time and talents, and are therefore the essence of your treasure, and our parish's collective treasure?

Jim Beagan

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE!



Flea Market/Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, Oct 1st. We are looking for household items, tools, clothing, and books. Please bring in donations and put them in the back room near the stage. Big items and furniture can not be taken until the week of Sept 25th. We are looking for volunteers. If you could do a couple of hours on Saturday or help set up the week before - that would be great. If you need us to pick your items up - please call Patti or Paula.

Thanks, and have a great summer!

Paula Campbell (978) 794-1000

Patti Eldred (978) 686-1472



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.



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

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

This year St. Andrew's will be offering training in "Safe Church" practices, and encouraging all of our church leadership to complete this training. Last fall four of our members attended an all-day/in-person training at Grace Church in Lawrence. Now it is time to move forward with a second phase of training, offering on-line, and supported on-line training to our parish leadership and/or anyone in the church who works in a position of responsibility.

Safe Church training is designed to increase awareness regarding sexual misconduct and abuse of power, to outline steps toward preventing abuse, to offer ways to intervene when misconduct occurs and to equip anyone in a position of parish leadership with ways of healing and rebuilding the body of Christ.

The training is required of all clergy, and highly recommended for wardens, vestry members, lay eucharistic visitors, pastoral visitors, youth leaders, Confirmation sponsors, acolyte leaders, choir directors, church school teachers and volunteers working in a congregation on a regular basis.

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts offers two types of Safe Church Training: in-person group training and online training. While much of the same essential material is covered by each, please review the details below to choose which one best fits your needs.

In-person group training:

- Strongly recommended due to its broad scope and the group experience of sharing stories, ideas, methods and policies
- Offered at different churches throughout the diocese several times a year
- Runs on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (must attend entire session to receive certification)

- Costs \$40 and includes lunch. Scholarships are available; no one will be turned away due to cost.

- Participants receive a binder of materials and resources.

Online training:

- Has four required modules of video, text and interactive questions that take 30-45 minutes each

- No cost (offered through the diocese's partnership with Church Pension Group)

- Participants will be issued a unique user name and passwords for to access the training website. The training is always accessible from any computer with a high-speed Internet connection so you can do the training at any time, at your own speed.

*Participants must successfully complete on-line test based on the training modules in order to receive certificate.

Supported On-line training:

St. Andrew's is offering a combination of these two styles of training, which will be held this winter in the Church Hall. We will view the on-line modules, discuss the concepts covered, and make laptops available so that you may take the test and complete your certification that day. You will get written materials. With this method you can get support from others, and help with using the computer modules. Especially good for those who are not comfortable using the computer or those who do not have computer access at home.

*Date & time tentative, to be confirmed

If you are interested in any of these types of training please contact Krista McLeod for more information (kmcLeod111@yahoo.com or 978-975-8224)

FAREWELL

I'm sure many of you have heard that I am leaving my position as Parish Administrator here at St. Andrew's.

I have enjoyed my time here and will miss the wonderful folks that I have met. Thank

you to everyone, especially Rev. Joe, Krista, Janet and Paul for the support and flexibility you have given me over the years, and thank you to Craig and Cathie who introduced me to your family in the first place.

As I move on to pursue other work on a full-time basis, I will remember my time here fondly and I sincerely wish everyone at St. Andrew's the very best.

Jill Eckelkamp

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 7-11th, St. Andrew's became the base camp for a Mount Everest Adventure. Although the turnout for this event was a bit disappointing the children that did participate had a wonderful time and we had a great time with them.

Bible Expeditions gave the children the opportunity to experience a Bible story and truth. We learned that **God has the power to provide** when we experienced the story of God sending the ravens to feed Elijah.



We learned that **God has the power to comfort** when God spoke to Elijah when he was in hiding. God whispered to Elijah and controlled the elements.

We learned that **God has the power to heal** when God heals Naaman of leprosy.



We learned that **God has the power to forgive** when we learn of Jesus' death and Resurrection. Jesus forgave the people that killed him.

We learned that **God has the power to love us forever**. When we learn from Jesus that heaven is a house filled with many rooms and there is room for all who believe.



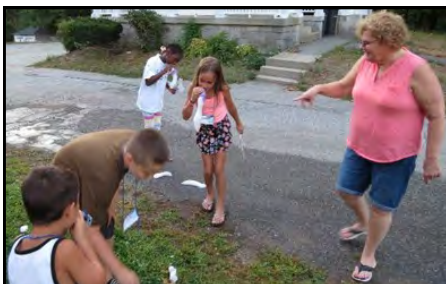
Base Camp and Summit Celebrations was where we learned many new songs, some of which you may hear in church one of these days. We watched as Trek (Craig) learned all about God's power and how it can help him make it up Mt. Everest.

We played all sorts of games like "Ice to Know You", "Porter Parade", "Core Connection",

"Say What" and many more at **Glacier Games**. Some of them included water or ice.

We also went to **Imagination Station** and grew snow seed, made bubble rope, a ball, puzzled out the Befuddler, and put our "footprints" on Mount Everest.

In **Crystal Crafts** the children had an opportunity to paint a hat, make a cross necklace, make a sand yak, a yak headband, and a balancing raven to name a few.



Everyday we had a delicious snack at **Mountain Top Treats**. Yummy items like Trail Mix, Rock Rambler Parfait, Heart-y Snack, Summit Sponge Cake, and Pizza Peaks. They were all wonderful and even though some kids were not sure about the snacks most children tried and like them.

Please check out all the pictures on our website or Facebook page.



All in all we had a wonderful week and can't wait for next year.

Yours in Faith,
Valerie Carey & Mimi Falk

**SAINT ANDREW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

St. Andrew's Church
90 Broadway
Methuen, MA 01844

Phone: 978-689-0463
E-mail: admin

MARK THE DATE



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!

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <u>September 14th</u> | 6:30pm Book Club |
| <u>September 18th</u> | Welcome Back Sundae |
| <u>September 24th</u> | 5pm-8pm Thank You Dinner |
| <u>October 1st</u> | 8am-2pm Annual Rummage Sale |
| <u>October 2nd</u> | 9:30am Blessing of the Animals |
| <u>October 9th</u> | 11:30am Vestry Meeting |
| <u>October 12th</u> | 6:30pm Book Club |