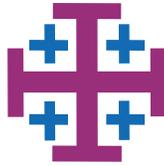


The Messenger - January 2015

St Andrew's Church Episcopal
50 Sacandaga Rd
Scotia, New York 12302
Rector - The Rev'd Michael Neufeld



Office - 374-8391
Rectory - 372-2255
standrewscotia@yahoo.com
www.jesuschristny.org

Parish Mission Statement:

As members of St Andrew's Episcopal Church, our mission is to:

GROW spiritually, rooted in Scripture and Sacraments,

BRING the love of Jesus Christ into the local and wider community

WELCOME all into the healing and worshipping family of Christ's Church

Good News from Fr Mike

You will be receiving this as the Christmas season comes to an end and as we begin the season of Epiphany. Decorations and lights are put away and presents become the stuff of our everyday lives. In other words, we get back to life as usual. But don't be fooled, the Lord is alive, among us, and in us. He shows forth Himself in subtle and not so subtle ways each and every day. Our life is about Epiphany – the Lord showing forth, shining through what appears to be ordinary but on closer inspection is filled with His love and His presence. Pay attention and see your Lord. Be attentive in prayer because prayer sensitizes one to hearing that “still small voice” (1 Kings 19:12) which is so distinctly the Lord's.

Many thanks for the outpouring of love by the caring cooks after Mother Ellen's surgery. We are very touched by your caring. What a great thing to be part of this wonderful Church. Mother Ellen is well on the mend.

Our Parish Annual Meeting is Sunday January --- There will be only one Eucharist Service that day at 9:00AM (5:00PM on Saturday the 24th is as usual.) A light breakfast will be served.

Paula O'Shea has served as our Parish Treasurer for a number of years. She has done a wonderful job but is retiring as Treasurer and to seek other challenges. Is God calling you to serve as Treasurer of the General Fund of St Andrew's? If you are interested, please see Simone Rockwell (370-3412) or Marji Edgar (370-1725.)

The Diocesan Parish Leadership conferences for 2015 have been scheduled. These Parish Leadership conference are excellent and time well spent. There are 2 (same topic) in the area – Saturday, February 7, in Cooperstown and Saturday, February 28, at the Spiritual Life Center. Look for a sign-up sheet on the lounge door right after the new year.

Christian Education offerings for all

Church School - Sundays at 11:00AM

Adult Bible Studies: Sunday morning Bible Study - 11:00AM - Sunday Lectionary readings

Sunday evening Men's Study group - 7:00PM (and occasionally at 5PM for dinner out)

Wednesday morning Bible Study - 9:30AM - Gospel of John

Wednesday evening Bible Study - 6:45PM - Revelation (preceded by 5:30PM Eucharist)

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCHWOMEN OF ST. ANDREW'S

Welcome to 2015!

The Christmas luncheon at the San Souci was a success in spite of the weather. We had 15 hardy ladies join us for a good meal and fellowship (and had the place pretty much to ourselves).

Reminder: We will not be having monthly lunches until after Easter this year. We will have our Spring Bake Sale the week before Palm Sunday as usual.

You will note we are no longer united with the St. Elizabeth's Guild because it no longer exists. Barbara Morris was its last member after Phyllis Van Auken passed away, both in 2014. A sad loss for us all.

Blessings to all, *Joan Acker*

From the Wardens: *Thoughts from Simone Rockwell*

Sadly Christmas is over, but it's now time for a fresh start in 2015! Resolutions need to be made to better our health, but keep in mind resolutions for our spiritual growth are equally, if not more, important! We have some physical changes to the church coming up in the next few months: we will be ordering 10 new chairs for the lounge as well as new flooring (both due to specific donations) and the work on the Undercroft will begin.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone of our St. Andrew's family who sent cards, visited, and called during my recent recovery from surgery. The Caring Cooks kept us going for the first two weeks of my home recovery and I can't thank you enough. God bless you all! This is a great ministry.

In December, we had our St. Andrew's day service and dinner. Karen Jarosz and Christine Bissonette deserve thanks for helping to organize the event as well as everyone who supplied the food. Our Cookie sale was a huge success! Thanks to Carol Kiddle and Nanci Wilson and all our bakers.

Thanks also to all who helped decorate the Church. It looked beautiful! Carol Kiddle and Jeri Vincent did a great job with the Children's Lessons and Carols and thanks to Joan Acker and the Altar Guild who did such a great job setting up for the Christmas services.

Please try to attend the January 25th annual business meeting. You should know how the business side of the parish is doing. Also, a chili sale is tentatively scheduled for the end of January. Watch your bulletin for the actual date and time. Coming up in February are the Diocesan Parish Leadership Conferences scheduled for Feb. 7 in Cooperstown, and Feb. 28 at the Spiritual Life Center.

Please note – For monthly Vestry minutes and Finance reports, see copies posted on the bulletin board outside the office. As a member of the Parish, you are always welcome to visit Vestry meetings. Next meeting – Thursday, January 8 at 6:45PM in the lounge.

Contact your Wardens: Marji Edgar (370-1725; medgar2@aol.com)

Simone Rockwell (370-3412; srockwe2@nycap.rr.com)

Vestry members for 2014 – Deb Battista, Christine Bissonette, Chris Crouse, Steve George, Karen Jarosz, Rhonda Krutz, Wes Lavery, Claudette Mayer, Jeri Vincent

Prayer Shawl Ministry from Alice Mose

Hope everyone had a Blessed Christmas and wishing you a very Happy New Year. Planning on starting the year off with our first Prayer Shawl Meeting at 7:00 PM on January 15. I would like to talk about how we can get more people interested in the group as the need for shawls continues to grow. We are also in need of yarn. We can use any kind of machine washable yarn. Knitting worsted weight and Homespun yarn are the best for shawls. We can use sport yarn weight too! If anyone has any yarn you would like to donate or you would like to make a monetary donation toward yarn, it would be greatly appreciated. We have several ladies who do not belong to the parish, who make many of the prayer shawls so it would be nice to provide them with yarn also. Hope to see you on the 15th.

Anyone is welcome to join us. We can help you learn to knit or crochet. We have crochet hooks and knitting needles for those who want to learn. Please let me know and I will bring supplies. Alice

Caring Cooks – Meals that Heal!! from Vicki Ramotar

♥ ♥ ♥ **This is a ministry for people in our parish who are in need of healing meals.** ♥ ♥ ♥

We can cook for anyone with a need, and a schedule is developed based upon the needs and wishes of those being served. We are always looking for **additional people to cook**, so if you enjoy cooking, this is a wonderful, practical, and much-needed ministry for you! As well, we are always ready for those people in need, so if you find yourself on the needing side of the ministry, this group of chefs is here for you! Please contact Vicki Ramotar at 399-1043, or at vramotar@aol.com, to be added to the list of chefs, or to request meals.

This fall, the Caring Cooks have been quite busy! Many thanks to the many wonderful women who have cooked lately, and who have brought healing meals to our parishioners in need.

Please help spread the word. Cooking for others is not only greatly appreciated by those who are receiving the meals, but it is a blessing to those who are providing the meals too. Plus it is fun!



Take Note – Other Calendar Highlights

Sunday, January 25, 2015 – Annual meeting -- 9:00AM Eucharist Service; 10:30AM meeting

Diocesan Parish Leadership Conference for 2015 – Same conference / 2 dates in our area.

Saturday, February 7 at Christ Church, Cooperstown and

Saturday, February 28 at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center, Greenwich

information will be posted on the lounge door

pre-registration will be requested via the Diocesan website (albanyepiscopaldiocese.org)

Chili Cookoff from Betsy Baxter

Rev up your Crockpots - the Chili Cookoff is on!! January 31 between 12-3PM.

Tasting will be available - 2 Tastes for \$1.00, 2 Pints for \$8.00. Vote for your favorite - Winner will be awarded a \$10 Gift Card from Dunkin' Donuts. We also encourage you to invite a friend to participate with his or her favorite Chili Recipe. Signup sheets are available on the Lounge Door.

January, 2015
St Andrew's Church
Episcopal Diocese of Albany
50 Sacandaga Rd
Scotia, NY 12302



Disciples Making Disciples