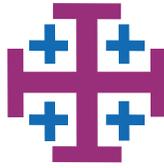


The Messenger - April 2016

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



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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 worshiping family of Christ's Church

Good News from Fr Mike:

Alleluia! Christ is risen! This is our celebration: not just for one day on Easter Sunday, not just for the 50 days of Easter. We celebrate the resurrection each and every day of our lives. Christ rose from the dead, Christ is risen, He is alive and more importantly with us and within us. Now if that were not enough, we have risen with Christ to new life, a life which is eternal. How blessed we are.

The resurrection, however, is not just something to be celebrated. You and I are called, by the Lord by name, to be witnesses of the resurrection to the world around us. Our broken world is ruled by fear, doubt, indifference, and anger. You and I have been privileged with the call to proclaim the good news to a waiting world. Evangelism is not just something for the few, the bold, the spiritual overachievers. We all have a part in spreading the Gospel.

With this in mind, I have invited Torre Bissell to come and present a short workshop on simple evangelism. This will occur on Thursday evening, May 12. It will begin with a simple dinner of pizza and salad. All leaders of the Church are invited and encouraged to attend. By the way, one is a leader if one is baptized. I hope to see you all there. There will be a sign up on the lounge door in the near future.

Thank you for all who made Holy Week such a wonderful moment. I thank the Daughters of the King for a very blessed Seder meal, the Altar Guild, the many lectors and Eucharistic ministers, and especially our beloved Deacon Ray. Without all your help, none of this could have happened.

Christian Education offerings for all

Church School Class – Sunday 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 5:30PM for dinner out)

Wednesday morning Bible Study – 9:30AM – Galatians

Wednesday evening Bible Study – 6:45PM – Mark

Tuesday Morning Eucharist and Breakfast

The group has resumed its gathering on the second Tuesday of each month. Eucharist Service starts at 8:30am followed by breakfast. Next service is April 12.

From the Wardens: *thoughts by Simone Rockwell*

The beautiful month of April is here with God's gifts of flowers, greening grass and warm sun. So is the opportunity for new beginnings and new growth in our spiritual life.

The month of March began with our Parish Leadership Conference. Those who attended said it was a very good experience. We had our ECW Bake sale on March 13 and thanks to Joan Acker and the many bakers who made it a success. We lost one of our vestry members, Claudette Mayer, who moved to Johnstown, and JoAnn Smith will be finishing out Claudette's term. The Daughters of the King sponsored our Seder Dinner on Maundy Thursday. It was very well attended (the undercroft was full) and the response from many people was extremely positive. It was not accomplished without a great deal of work. Many thanks to Betsy, Lynne and Gail who worked in the kitchen. We put in a long day. Thanks to the Daughters who made desserts, purchased all the food, and helped setting up. Thanks also to Christine for her presentation during the dinner. We were also fortunate to have the opportunity to experience the many Holy Week Services. Thanks need to be extended to Harlan Barney for fixing the letter racks on the front sign as well as doing other odd jobs needed around the church. Thank you also to Pete Jendzezyk for replacing the batteries in the emergency lights.

The landscape committee is already at work. On April 2nd we will be having a clean-up day in order to prepare the grass for putting down crabgrass prevention. Bob Hagen and Pete J. are planning on building a new crib around the church sign replacing the old plastic one. Thanks to both also for the other work they did on the grounds. Karen Jarosz did a very nice job with the cross garden. Contributions have already been received for the landscaping with much more needed.

Just a little note: we don't have very much parking close to the church and we have an aging congregation. When we have services or events with larger attendance, it would be sincerely appreciated if the parking places closest to the church could be left for those who have difficulty ambulating or are handicapped.

Please note – For monthly Vestry minutes and Finance reports, see copies posted on the Vestry bulletin board. As a member of the Parish, you are always welcome to visit Vestry meetings.

Next meeting – Thursday, April 14 at 6:45PM in the lounge.

Contact your Wardens: Simone Rockwell (370-3412; srockwe2@nycap.rr.com)

Marji Edgar (370-1725; medgar2@aol.com)

Vestry members for 2016 – Deb Battista, Agnes Bukhala, Christine Bissonette, Karen Jarosz,
Todd Lavery, Kevin McCarthy, Rick Rapp, JoAnn Smith, Jeri Vincent

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) of St Andrew's

Welcome Spring! Our first LUNCHEON of the season will be Wednesday, April 13th at noon in the lounge. We bring a sandwich to share (or your own lunch if you prefer), drinks, chips and dessert are provided on a rotating basis. All women of the church are invited. Please join us – the more the merrier!

Thank you to all those who helped with the bake sale in any way – with food, donations or by purchasing goodies. We made \$390+. The leftovers were all purchased and taken to the City Mission so all went to a good cause. We couldn't continue our church mission without your help and you always are generous in your support. Again we thank you all.

We also have received a generous donation from a parishioner which will allow us to replace the small refrigerator in the lounge among other things. The 'fridge is old, inefficient and has serious "issues" and we had hoped to replace it for some time so the funds are a blessing to us all and we thank the donor very much.

Blessings to all, *Joan Acker*

April and May Events

See calendars for full schedule of services and events

Any updates and addition will be listed in the Saturday/Sunday bulletin.

Sat April 2 - 9am Spring yard clean up

Sun April 17 - Evangelism - prayers and breakfast for Fire Fighters/ First Responders (after both Services)

Sun May 8 - Mother's Day Breakfast - after both Services (men of parish to cook)

Sun May 22 - End of Year Picnic (after 9:45am Service)

Sun May 29 - Evangelism - prayers and breakfast for Memorial Day (after both Services)

Sat June 4 - Chicken Barbeque - watch for information soon

Fri June 10 to Sun June 12 - Diocesan Convention (and Retreat) at Camp of the Woods, Speculator

Sun June 19 - Father's Day Breakfast - after both Services (women of parish to cook)

Weekly Eucharist Service schedule -

Saturdays at 5:00PM

Sundays at 8:00AM and 9:45AM

Wednesdays at 11:00AM (in the lounge)

Also in May - **Thursday May 5 - 7:00PM Ascension Day Service**

Christ Church Schenectady will be joining us

April, 2016

St Andrew's Church

Episcopal Diocese of Albany

50 Sacandaga Rd

Scotia, NY 12302



Disciples Making Disciples