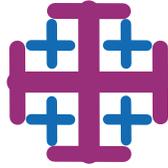


# The Messenger - February 2014

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



Office - 374-8391  
Rectory - 372-2255  
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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 worshipping family of Christ's Church*

## Good News from Fr Mike

I am truly excited about the Essential Jesus, our program for Lent and beyond. Kick-off for this program will begin on March 2, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. Scheduled to run 10 weeks in the Spring and then 10 weeks in the Fall, the Essential Jesus is a lot like the Essential 100, which we did as a parish a couple years ago. However, I believe this program is even better as it focuses on the real core of what it means to be a Christian, a follower of Jesus.

During the first week, the emphasis of the Bible passages will be on why is Jesus so important, why Christianity can't just be reduced to pious truths and practices. Quite simply, Jesus is everything to us – who He is, what He has done, what He continues to do – and this forms the essential nature of our faith. For the next five weeks, the Essential Jesus looks at Jesus through the lens of the Old Testament. Israel needed a Savior, waited for a Savior. Indeed much of the Old Testament is all about Jesus. Beginning at the seventh week, our readings will take us into the New Testament and will explore the many facets of who Jesus is, what He accomplished for us, and His presence in the life of every believer.

There is a committee that has been formed to plan activities and to give support that everyone might grow as we follow our daily readings. Each week our sermons and our Bible studies (the Bible Studies at Sunday at 11 and Wednesday at 6:45PM) will focus on one or more of the selections. What is needed is your participation if this is going to be a truly blessed time.

Stay tuned for much more information will be coming out in the weeks ahead.

## Christian Education offerings for all

Church School - Sundays at 11:00AM

Adult Bible Studies:

Sunday morning Bible Study - 11:00AM - Sunday Lectionary readings (Essential Jesus starts Mar 2)

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

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

Wednesday evening Bible Study - 6:45PM - Gospel of Luke (preceded by 5:30PM Eucharist) with the Essential Jesus study starting March 12 - March 5 is Ash Wednesday

## From the Office:

**Altar flower schedule** for 2014 is on the office door. With the closing of Pedrick's Florist, the arrangement for vase delivery and flower pick up has changed. At least two weeks prior to the Sunday you are signed up for flowers, you will need to contact the office or Gail will contact you. See Gail for clarification.

## From the Wardens

*This month – the Wardens are taking a break. A synopsis of the Annual Meeting, below, is in lieu of the Warden's report. With the March Newsletter, Marji and Simone will resume Vestry reports to the parish.*

### Annual Meeting Report for January 26, 2014 of St. Andrew's Church, Scotia, NY

Twenty-seven (27) members of the parish, eligible to vote, signed the attendance sheets.

#### **Election results:**

**Warden** (2 year term): Simone Rockwell

**Vestry:** Three Vestry persons for three-year terms – Christine Bissonette, Claudette Mayer, Jeri Vincent. Terms to expire in 2017. And Karen Jarosz was elected to complete one year left on a term. Term to expire in 2015

Thank you to Kathy Cioppa for her service on the Vestry.

**Deputies to Diocesan Convention:** Marji Edgar, Betsy Baxter, Carol Kiddle are the deputies; with Simone Rockwell, Tom Dowling, and Todd Lavery as alternates.

**Metropolitan Deanery:** a geographic portion of the Diocese that meets occasionally.

Betsy Baxter was elected as the delegate; with Carol Kiddle and Jeri Vincent as alternates

**Columbarium Committee Secretary:** Nanci Wilson was elected as Columbarium secretary.

#### **Reports from the Parish:**

**Annual Meeting packet** - Included are the following reports for the calendar year 2013: Rector's Report from Fr Mike; Warden's Report from Marji Edgar; General Accounts balances; Treasurer's Report; Attendance/Revenue Report; Budget for 2014; Memorials Accounts Report; Parish Reports – Men's Ministry, Daughters of the King, Church School class, ECW (Episcopal Church Women), Events Committee, Columbarium Finance Report; and ECW (Episcopal Church Women) Finance Report.

\*\*For a few weeks, there will be extra Annual Meeting packets available in the office for anyone who did not get one on January 26.\*\*

#### **Vestry Directory for 2013**

Wardens: Marji Edgar	(370-1725)	medgar2@aol.com
Simone Rockwell	(370-3412)	srockwe2@nycap.rr.com
Vestry: Karen Jarosz	(393-8567)	zeback@msn.com
Rhonda Krutz	(347-1747)	banker@nycap.rr.com
Wes Lavery	(372-3791)	wcsautorepair@hotmail.com
Debbie Battista	(370-4928)	dbattista1@nycap.rr.com
Chris Crouse	(877-8334)	ccrouns1@nycap.rr.com
Steve George	(381-4444)	svgeor1@verizon.net
Christine Bissonette	(374-1552)	cbissonette@hotmail.com
Claudette Mayer	(346-6279)	claudetem125@nycap.rr.com
Jeri Vincent	(377-5656)	luvsmusic415@yahoo.com

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 – February 13 at 6:45PM in the lounge.

## ***Chocolate Fest 2014***

It's almost time for St. Andrew's SIXTH annual Chocolate Fest! This year's Chocolate Fest comes **very early**, on **Saturday February 8**.

Thanks to everyone who has already signed up to make chocolate goodies and/or to help out on Saturday!

If you haven't signed up yet, PLEASE consider making 1 or 2 items and/ or volunteering some time on Saturday. The Chocolate Fest is generally our biggest fund-raiser each year, and having a great selection of tasty treats is what keeps people coming, both from the outside community and also, of course, from within the parish. The Chocolate Fest committee (Simone , Nanci , Lori, Anne & Carol) has been hard at work laying the foundation for another fun and successful event, but it is the varied contributions of so many in the parish that makes it work. **We can't do it without you!**

Last year, I think we had our best selection of chocolate treats ever. Last year, of course, we also had that blizzard scare, which caused a lot of last-minute scrambling by everyone involved in planning the event. I believe the impending storm & the unfortunate need to make last minute adjustments resulted in a lower turnout than we would have had otherwise. But in spite of that, we made nearly as much as we had the previous year, thanks to the support of the parish. This year, we will be back to our usual schedule of one day only, on Saturday from 1-4 PM. Come early for best selection. Some years we've been entirely sold out.

We especially need finger-food type items: cookies, candies, chocolate-dipped goodies, cakes that slice nicely and are not too crumbly to serve by the slice, fancy brownies, cream puffs or other small pastries, and the like. We also sell some larger items like pies or decorated cakes. So we welcome whatever you would like to make to ensure that this year's Chocolate Fest will be another outstanding event! Sign-up sheets for goodies (and also workers for Feb. 8) are posted on the lounge door in the Fellowship Hall. Or you could email us with the information at [chocfeststa@yahoo.com](mailto:chocfeststa@yahoo.com). Also please indicate if your contribution contains nuts or peanut butter. It will help us A LOT to know the exact name of what you will be bringing in advance so we can have most of the food labels made up before the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Food contributions can be dropped off Saturday morning from 9 to 11 am, or call Carol Salvino to make other arrangements. Any questions? Feel free to call Carol Salvino (374-1394).

### ***Take Note - Calendar Highlights***

Please check the calendar for services and events  
and watch the Sunday bulletin for additions to the schedule.

March 4 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - serving at 6:00PM  
donation is \$3.50 for adults; \$2 for children 11 and under

March 5 - Ash Wednesday - Eucharist Services will be at 7:00AM; 11:00AM and 7:00PM

More Lent services and events will be listed in the bulletin and the March Newsletter.

**Know Jesus as never before.  
Let us all join in the Essential Jesus Challenge.**



A Scripture Union program like the Essential 100 – The Essential Jesus is endorsed by Bishop Love – congregations throughout the diocese will be participating.

Every participant will be provided with The Essential Jesus Planner, which includes a punch card to keep track of your progress. The Planner guides participants through the list of short Bible passages following the storyline of Jesus Christ—25 from the Old Testament and 75 from the New Testament—over a 20-week period. The program is undated and can be started at any time during the year. And it's designed to be flexible, too; it fits any time schedule and works with any Bible translation.

At St. Andrews we will begin in Lent – kickoff is Sunday March 2nd. We will break the twenty weeks into two ten week sessions – one for spring and one for fall. We will have two Bible Study groups dedicated to discussing the scripture readings – the Sunday Bible Study at 11:00 AM and the Wednesday Bible Study at 6:45 PM.

February, 2014  
St Andrew's Church  
Episcopal Diocese of Albany  
50 Sacandaga Rd  
Scotia, NY 12302



***Disciples Making Disciples***