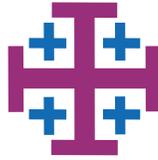


The Messenger - July / August 2017

St Andrew's Church Episcopal
50 Sacandaga Road
Scotia, New York 12302
Rector - The Revd Michael Neufeld
Deacon - The Revd Raymond Rockwell



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

Parish Mission Statement:

As members of St Andrew's Church Episcopal, 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

We are called to be people of prayer, not that we might have yet another thing to accomplish during our day, but that we would discover the true meaning of our lives, in communion with the one who is our Lord and constant companion. This summer is all about prayer, more specifically, the Lord's Prayer, those very "simple" words that roll off our tongue so easily. Yet the Lord's Prayer calls us to a depth of relationship, dependency, and ministry. It is my sincerest hope that we will all take time this summer to meditate on the words of this prayer, and in doing so, come to a deeper sense of prayer in our own lives.

Sometimes, it can be very helpful to personalize the Lord's Prayer, to make it your own, using your own words. What follows is the prayer of one of our own, Anne Vines, which she prays each and every day.

Here are her words:

Oh, my heavenly Abba, Hallowed be Your sacred, beautiful Name.

May Your will be done on earth as in Heaven

And today in our lives.

Thank you for giving us everything we need each day

And so perfectly suited to our needs and personalities.

When I ignore, disobey, or even defy Your will

Please forgive me and get me back on track ASAP.

Help me to continue to forgive those who've hurt and harmed me.

Please protect me from the harm, the snares, the wiles of the Evil one.

For the kingdom is Yours, the glory is Yours now and forever. Amen.

We all have homework this summer, to discern three persons who have huge needs in their lives, whether that need be emotion, spiritual, job related, relational but who also have a far deeper need to encounter the Lord. I hope you have allowed God to help you discern those three people, and maybe more through time if he lays it on your heart, and are praying for them daily. Is God calling you to tell these people that you are in fact praying? Is God calling you to share your own faith journey? We all wait expectantly to hear word of God's moving in these many lives – of healings, miracles, and new found faith. As you hear answers and see God moving, do not be afraid to share the news at weekly Eucharist.

From the Wardens: thoughts from Kevin McCarthy

At last Saturday night's Eucharistic Service I noticed a Guest Card in the pew in front of Gale and me. What caught my attention was the card proclaimed, "Friends We Welcome You to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church". This statement pretty much summed up what I learned from my attendance the week before at the 149th Annual Diocesan Convention at Camp in the Woods in Speculator. We are "Disciples making Disciples" and we do the Lord's work by our involvement in the Church, which includes encouraging others to become involved. Church is the primary connection that binds us together as Christians and it is our job as Christians to encourage our friends and neighbors to turn to God with all their heart. To do this we build relationships with our neighbors and friends, and encourage their turning to God. To accomplish the task though, we must love our neighbors, as we love ourselves, and evangelize with all our heart. Not always an easy thing to do, but it can be done if we lead by example, as Jesus did with his disciples.

Again, let's lead by example. Let's ask a friend to attend a Eucharistic Service and listen to the word of God; to assist the Landscape Committee with keeping our grounds and facilities attractive and well maintained; to serve on the Evangelism Committee to develop plans to attract and welcome new parishioners; to market the Church by working on the Parish website and/or Facebook account; to assist with teaching the Youth Vacation Bible School or working with our young teens; to spend time feeding the youth in Collins Park during our assigned week in July; and finally to train and serve as a Eucharistic Minister serving the sick and shut-ins of the parish. If none of these activities enthuse you, but you still wish to become involved, attend or organize a trip to a ball game, hike, or go to the water ski show with the parish this summer. Just get out and have fun, as it also is a way of bonding to grow our Church.

Our job as "Disciples making Disciples" is to grow the Church and we can't do that if we do not become involved in whatever manner we feel comfortable. Our Parish and the Church as a whole (and all traditional denominations) are aging out, and will only survive and prosper if new members become involved to replace those members who have contributed so much in the past. We must be intentional about taking the Church outside the brick and mortar of the physical Church and encourage others to follow Jesus.

The Church needs Jesus and we are his Disciples. I want to close by thanking all the folks who contributed their time and talents in June to our Church, with a special thank you to Patt Goins for chairing the Father's Day Breakfast, Harlan Barney for getting the lift serviced, and Janet Godfrey, Deacon Ray and Simone Rockwell for taking care of the arrangements for long-time member Don Shattuck's funeral. Thank you.

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, July 13 at 6:45PM in the lounge.

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

Kevin McCarthy (399-2524; kmccart343@gmail.com)

Vestry members for 2016 – Deb Battista, Agnes Bukhala, Christine Bissonette,

Karen Jarosz, Todd Lavery, JoAnn Smith, Jeri Vincent

The Episcopal Churchwomen of St. Andrew's

In June about 20 of us enjoyed our annual indoor picnic following the Memorial Service for all the women of the church who are no longer with us. Father Mike noted that it was a group of women who established our church to begin with over 100 years ago.

Throughout the summer our luncheons will continue on the second Wednesday of each month. All you need to do is bring a sandwich to share (or your own lunch if you prefer). Drinks and dessert are provided on a rotating basis. We would love to have you join us.

Blessings to all, *Joan Acker*

Church School News – submitted by Carol Kiddle

Summer Church School - We are working on learning the Lord's Prayer over the summer. Should we be successful, we will celebrate with a trip for ice cream on our last summer Sunday. We have added some new students and are having a great time. The children are enjoying Father Mike's children's sermons.

VBS- July 27th to July 29th. The parish is invited to Christmas Dinner at 6:00 PM on the 27th as we start our celebration of Christmas in July. The 28th will be a 1/2 day session followed by leaving to "camp out" in a church basement on Friday night. Saturday is a trip to Santa's workshop. We are planning to stop at Golden Corral on the way home Saturday night. Sign-up sheets are on the lounge door. How can you help? Make a dish to share at Christmas Dinner, supply small gifts for the children's stockings (bubbles, chalk, candy etc.), give a donation to help defer the cost, supply a craft project, and give old Christmas cards with pictures of the nativity, the wise men, angels, stars etc. See Carol Kiddle for more information.

July / August Services and Events / plus

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

Monday July 10 to Friday July 14 – SICM Summer lunch program at Collins Park.

Serving 11am to 1:45PM -- about 3 people each day will be needed

Sign-up sheet is on the lounge door

Monday, July 10 - the Sunday night guys group are going to
the Amsterdam Mohawk's Baseball Game

They are extending the invitation to all who would like to attend

Clarkson is being honored for his military service.

For comfort - bring a stadium seat if you have one

**** **Carpool will leave the church parking lot at 5:30PM**

If you would like to meet at the game - Game Time is 6:35pm

address is Shuttleworth Park Amsterdam, NY; 65 Crescent Avenue

there are directions on their website

ticket prices are: Gen. Adm. Adults \$4; Ages 5-18, Seniors, Military \$3; Under 5 Free

Tuesday, July 18 – Ski show outing - meet us by 7:00PM, at Jumping Jack's, when show starts or join us earlier (5:30PM) at Jumping Jack's for those who wish to purchase dinner prior if you need a ride, you must let us know ahead of time – see Gail

Thursday July 27 to Saturday July 29 – VBS (Vacation Bible School)

see Carol's article above and watch for sign up sheet

Weekday Eucharist Service schedule -

Saturdays at 5:00PM

Sundays at 8:00AM & 9:45AM

Wednesdays at 11:00AM & 5:30PM (both Services in the lounge)

Christian Education offerings for all

Church School Classes – 11:00AM on Sundays (see Miss Carol for dates)

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

Sunday evening Men's Study group – 7:00PM (occasionally at 5:30PM for dinner out)

Wednesday morning Bible Study – 9:30AM – Acts of the Apostles

Wednesday evening Bible Study – 6:45PM – Jeremiah

July / August, 2017

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Episcopal Diocese of Albany

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Disciples Making Disciples