



The Messenger - July / August 2013

St Andrew's Church Episcopal

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Rector - The Rev'd Michael Neufeld
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 worshiping family of Christ's Church

GOOD NEWS FROM FR MIKE

We are a church that embraces people of all ages, as well we should be. We have been a child friendly church and have let families of small children know that they are indeed welcome. However, we have seen an alarming trend in the last few years, as fewer and fewer young families are present on any given Sunday. Our Church School has dwindled greatly and we are in need of a vibrant youth ministry. *Our children are our future.* After prayerful discernment, the Vestry has decided there is a need to begin a new focus on ministry to children and young adults. To this end, we are forming a ministry team to prayerfully address our present need. Is God calling you to this ministry? Do you have any inspirations, experience, or wisdom that can aid us as we form this ministry? There will be more information in the near future. Meanwhile, please hold this ministry up in prayer that we might be led where God would have us go.

Please remember Vacation Bible School is offered this month and is a wonderful place to introduce children to the love of the Lord.

For many years, we at St Andrew's have been earnest about praying for healing for the sick. This is a critical ministry, which relies totally on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. None of us can heal on our own. It is the Holy Spirit who heals through us. However, it is important that we rely heavily on the wisdom of Scripture and the experience of the Church as we participate in the healing ministry. Good training is very important and good training is available. The *School of Healing Prayer®* Level 1 (the very basic course) will be offered through St Anne's Church, Amsterdam, which will run through two weekends. Dates are July 20 / 21 and August 10 / 11 (Saturdays 9AM to 4PM and Sundays 11AM to 6PM.) This is good solid training and I highly recommend it to you. There is a \$30 cost for materials (scholarship will be available.) Please prayerfully discern God's call in your life when it comes to the healing ministry.

Join us for a July outing to the Tri-City Valley Cats baseball game (Troy) on Tuesday July 9. Game begins at 11:00AM and we will be leaving here at 9:30AM. Hope you can attend.

Christian Education offerings for all

Church School - will resume classes on Sunday September 15

Confirmation classes (13 yrs and up) - Sundays at 11:00AM (July 14, 21; Aug 11, 18, 25)

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)

Tuesday evening Bible Challenge gathering - 6:00PM

Wednesday morning Bible Study - 9:30AM - Exodus

Wednesday evening Bible Study - 5:30PM - Paul's letter to the Galatians

From the Wardens

Please continue to consider the questions presented at the Diocesan Parish Leadership Conference - Feb 2013

- A) When in the past month have you felt a passion for Jesus in your life?
- B) How may you nurture your passion or increase your passion for Jesus?
- C) Where do we see passion for Jesus in our parish?
- D) What can we do in our parish to increase our passion for Jesus?

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 July 11 at 6:45PM in the lounge. (There is no meeting in August)

Contact your Wardens: Callie Allard (cell – 926-9569; callielucretia@yahoo.com)
Marji Edgar (370-1725; medgar2@aol.com)

Vestry members for 2013 – Deb Battista, Christine Bissonette, Kathy Cioppa, Chris Crouse, Steve George, Rhonda Krutz, Wes Lavery, Simone Rockwell, Jeri Vincent

Vacation Bible School

July 18-20

Theme- *The seven sacraments*

Thurs, 7/18 - 6:00 to 8:00 - A "wedding" with a reception to follow.
The entire parish is invited to attend.

Fri, 7/19 - 9:30 to 2:00 - snack and lunch provided. Lessons, crafts, and games!

Sat, 7/20 - Trip to the Farmers Museum in Cooperstown

Leave the parking lot at 8:30 AM. Bring a bag lunch. A generous member of the parish has offered to pay the admission for all of the children who attend.

Sign-up sheets are on the lounge door. To volunteer or make a donation to help fund the event, see Carol Kiddle (377-7234 / foneldy2@verizon.net) or Nancy Wilson (280-1061 / amethyst4292@aol.com)

Congratulations to Olivia Allard who graduated in June from Cambridge High School and will be attending SUNY Potsdam majoring in Political Science.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – submitted by Alice Mose

We have been meeting on third Thursday of the month at 7:00pm for the last several years. Anyone who is interested in learning to knit or crochet or would like to join us to make prayer shawls, chat, and enjoy learning new stitches are welcome to come. Several people had asked me about meeting in the daytime. If anyone is interested in meeting during the day or would like to try a different night, please talk to me or E-mail me your suggestion. My E-mail address is mose48@juno.com Plan on seeing you on July 18 at 7:00 pm.

ECW – ST. ELIZABETH'S GUILD UNITED

Our annual Memorial Service for departed ladies of the church and thank you "picnic" was well attended, the food was good and plentiful, and it was an over all success. We thank those who came.

Our next meeting (luncheon) will be on Wed. July 10th at noon in the lounge. Remember all you need is a sandwich to share (or your own lunch if you prefer), drinks and dessert are provided. We would love to see you there.
Joan Acker, Co-Pres. ECW

LAWN SALE

Cancelled

due to not enough people to help with all aspects of event

Take Note - Calendar Highlights

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

Mon, Tues, Wed – July 1,2,3 – Summer Lunch program – our day to serve at Collin's Park

sign up sheet is on the lounge door or contact the office to help

Tues, July 9 – Tri City Valley Cats Baseball Game (11AM game; carpool at 9:30AM)

Sat, July 13 – Yard Sale (rent a table and sell your treasures) CANCELLED

Thurs July 18 to Sat July 20 – Vacation Bible School (see article in newsletter for info)

Fri, Aug 9 – Song Fest



8/9/13 – 6 pm. Saint Andrew's SONG FEST

This summer we are going to try a new event here at St. Andrew's! The Song Fest will be held on the evening of August 9th, starting at 6 pm. This music "showcase" event is a fellowship and evangelism event. This is a free event and open to the community.

Our main performance will be offered by Deacon Mary Carol & Alan Hart. We are also on the lookout for anyone else from our parish who would like to perform a song; we know there are a lot of talented people at St. Andrew's and we hope that you will share your song with us!