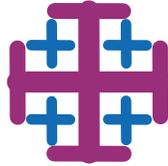


The Messenger - October 2015

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:

October is upon us and our life has returned to "normal." Activities are everywhere and we are back to being busy, busy, busy; with no rest in sight. Maybe it is time for all of us to take a step back from all the chaos and to develop a new "normal" in our lives.

Jesus calls us to be involved in all kinds of work on His behalf, but He also calls us to rest, not just passively, but to find our rest in Him. To this end, there are many things going on at St Andrew's designed not to take energy from us, to suck us dry a little bit more, but to fill our spiritual batteries – prayer, Bible study, fellowship, services – all are available that we might grow and find our truest rest. I invite you, as this year begins in earnest, to make a commitment to something that will bring true rest to your spirit and a new energy and vitality to your daily life.

The Bishop will be here on Saturday, December 5, for his visitation. A number of our youth will be confirmed at this service. If you are an adult and would like to be confirmed, received into the church, or reaffirm your faith, a small class is forming on the essentials of our faith. Mother Ellen will be teaching this class – particulars to come.

There is a special trip to Liberty Farms, Schaghticoke, on Saturday October 10. All are invited.

Many thanks to all those who participated in the parish picnic on September 13. It was a wonderful success; a time of great fellowship with the Lord and with each other.

Don't forget the Pulled Pork Dinner is on Saturday, October 3 – much help is needed to make this a success.

Blessing of the Pets will be on Sunday, October 4 at 2PM. Come and bring a friend who is a pet lover.

Music Ministry

"Fruitful and acceptable worship begins before it begins." ~ Alexander MacLaren

As you know, for several weeks I've been playing my guitar and singing prior to the service. The purpose of this is not "performance", it's not even to conduct a sing-along - although it is always welcome when you join in. The real purpose though, is to draw us into a place where we are prepared, hearts and mind, to worship God and His Son. I realize that many of us see each other only on Sundays and we have news and information to exchange. In the spirit of preparing to worship however, if you could remove yourselves to the lounge to visit with one another, it would be greatly appreciated. You would be amazed at how loud – and distracting - even a whisper can be (praise God for great acoustics!). Even voices from the narthex carry, perhaps not distinctly, but loud enough to be a distraction to worship.

I covet your prayers as I attempt this endeavor which God laid on my heart, and truly appreciate your cooperation.

In His peace, Jeri

But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.

For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress. Psalms 59:16

From the Altar Guild - Periodically we need to remind everyone that lipstick has become extremely difficult to remove from the communion linens. Removal requires a great deal of scrubbing which has a tendency

to wear holes in the fabric. If you wear lipstick, please make sure it's blotted sufficiently so it doesn't transfer to the chalice and then to the linen. Thank you so much!

From the Wardens: Wardens are on hiatus for this month. See specific articles or the calendar for upcoming events.

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, October 8 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 2015 – Deb Battista, Christine Bissonette, Chris Crouse, Steve George, Karen Jarosz, Claudette Mayer, Jeri Vincent

Yard Maintenance Committee – submitted by Christine Bissonette

Dear members of the parish:

One way we can show our community that we are a welcoming parish is by having an attractive, neat, and tidy outward appearance. Callie Allard has done a fantastic job with lawn mowing and snow removal (kudos to you Callie!!!), but that is only one part of maintaining our curb appeal. We also have garden beds to plant, weed and maintain; trees and shrubs to prune; weeds and crabgrass in the lawn; fences in disrepair; and Spring and Fall cleanups to think about. You can see what a large job this is! Maintaining our grounds requires participation by volunteers. At the same time we recognize many members of our parish are so involved with ministry activities that finding additional time to assist with landscaping puts them in jeopardy of “burn out.” We don't want that!

Vestry member Christine Bissonette has been tasked with creating a landscaping committee to address the maintenance and upkeep of our landscaping. This committee will focus on the following:

- Simplifying our landscaping by removing overgrown shrubbery, beds or other landscaping features we are unable to maintain
- Improving the quality of the lawn and removing obstacles to mowing and weed whacking
- Increasing our visibility from the road
- Generating resources to:
 - Replace fencing, benches, picnic tables etc.
 - Purchase lawn care treatment (weed, grub and crabgrass prevention)
 - General Maintenance (for example trees, flowers, etc)

If you would like to be a part of this committee, please email Christine Bissonette (cbissonette@hotmail.com) or send a text message to her (248-0547). At the first meeting (TBD), we will plan to walk the grounds and identify problem areas. Ultimately we will create a plan (with phases) to present to the Vestry for approval, and work would ultimately begin next Spring on the 1st phase of that plan.

Church School News – from Carol Kiddle

Our first class was Sept. 20 and we welcomed Claudia and Alex as new students. Jack was a big help as a seasoned "pro" showing the younger children the ropes and teaching them his favorite song- Who's That Walking on the Water. We are learning about the fundamentals of prayer and sharing stories of the Miracles of Jesus. We had laid the foundation for this during VBS.

October 10th will be our trip to Liberty Farms corn maze. We will meet in the church parking lot at 9:30. All parish families are welcome. We hope to be able to cover the cost of the children's admission but they may need to bring money for lunch. If lunch money is a hardship, please let me know and we will find a way to fund it. We had hoped to go on the 17th, but Father's Mike had a prior commitment on the 17th. This is a favorite outing every year. Please plan to join us.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) of St Andrew's

The next luncheon gathering will be on Wednesday October 14th at 12 noon in the lounge. As always all the ladies of the church are welcome. Just bring a sandwich to share (or your own lunch if you prefer), drinks and dessert are provided. We take turns bringing the dessert. We hope to see you there.

We will be discussing the upcoming November bake sale, one of only two fund-raisers for our ministry. This includes buying the church wine, home prayers stamps and baptismal candles as well as Christmas gifts for our clergy.
Blessings to all, *Joan Acker*

Pulled Pork - Carol Kiddle, chair of event

October 3rd is our pulled pork dinner. This is one of our most successful events. We still need donations of food, flyers to be taken, and tickets to be sold in advance. It is from 4-7 and will be take out and eat in. Tickets will be available at the door. Please check the sign-up sheets on the lounge door. If you haven't had Wes Lavery's pulled pork, you are in for a treat.

Christian Education offerings for all

Church School & Confirmation 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 5PM for dinner out)

Wednesday morning Bible Study – 9:30AM – Hebrews

Wednesday evening Bible Study – 6:45PM – Isaiah

Upcoming in October and into November see calendars for full schedule of services and events

Saturday Service: 5:00PM Holy Eucharist - Rite 2

Sunday Services: 8:00AM Holy Eucharist - Rite 1; 9:45AM Holy Eucharist - Rite 2

11:00AM Adult Bible Study, Church School, and Choir rehearsal

Saturday, Oct 3 - Pulled Pork Dinner - Serving starts at 4pm.

Sunday, Oct 4 - Blessing of the Pets (2PM on front lawn)

Saturday, October 10 - Liberty Ridge outing (leaving church parking lot at 9:30am)

Saturday October 31 & Sunday November 1 - All Saints Celebration at all Services

Saturday, November 7 - Soup Sale

Sunday, November 22 - ECW Fall Bake Sale

Wednesday, November 25 - 5:30PM Thanksgiving Service

Saturday, December 5 - Bishop's visit and Confirmation

Other events will be listed in the Saturday/Sunday bulletin. Watch for additions

October, 2015

St Andrew's Church

Episcopal Diocese of Albany

50 Sacandaga Rd

Scotia, NY 12302



Disciples Making Disciples