



Good News

Together, we seek to know Christ and make him known.

Annual Report From the Rector

What We Need is Here
"And we pray, not
for new earth or heaven, but to be
quiet in heart, and in eye,
clear. What we need is here."
-Excerpt from *What We Need is Here*
By Wendell Berry

The church is a microcosm of the world in all respects save one. We connect as a household, a body, system, or organization (a church is many things), not because we are related by blood, tribe, race, sex, gender, social class, proximity, or political ideology, but because Jesus Christ calls us to meet up, share the bread and wine, and love each other.

For some of us church is a habit (a good habit to have). Some of us attend church because it evokes family or personal history that we treasure-again, all good, because a history that calls us to love is a history worth preserving. Some of us seek refuge at church; in our timeless liturgy, in Holy Communion and the prayers, and in the fellowship we share. Some come to church because they struggle, feel alone, need comfort, desire forgiveness, or seek the strength to carry on for one more day. Most of us can identify with all of these motivations for attending church because we have experienced them at one time or another. In the end, we come to church because what we need is here.

In essence, church is a laboratory for abundant life. We create it together when we recognize each other as brothers and sisters and accept that we are all the beloved children of God. This recognition and acceptance takes time, prayer, study, diligent attention, and the support of committed community to truly believe and internalize.

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Ash Wednesday

February 26

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent and is an opportunity for Christians to renew their repentance and faith. The imposition of ashes reminds us that God created us out of the dust of the earth and that we will return to that dust. The ashes are a sign of our mortality and penitence. It is only through the gift of Jesus that we have everlasting life.

Join us at St. Andrew as we begin our observance of a Holy Lent on Wednesday, February 26th. Plan to attend either our 11 AM Healing service, which will include the imposition of ashes, or the Ash Wednesday Liturgy at 7 PM.

Come as you are. No experience is necessary.



St. James Lunch Bunch

Every Monday holiday throughout the year, a group of St. Andrew volunteers prepare a meal for St. James Lunch program. The program, at St. James in Painesville, feeds 90-135 neighbors who are homeless, hungry or just need a little extra help to get by. New volunteers are always welcome. If you are interested, contact Conrad Galayda at 440-413-8712. The next Monday holiday meal is on Presidents Day, Monday, February 17th. Please call if you have a few hours to spare. Volunteers usually arrive at 11 and are finished by around 2 PM.



Ashes2Go

in addition to St Andrew traditional Ash Wednesday services, Reverend Lisa will once again be going out into the community, and taking Ash Wednesday to the streets of Mentor. Ashes2Go offers citizens the opportunity to mark the solemn day and receive ashes as a reminder of our mortality and of God's gift of everlasting life through Jesus. Lisa will be on Mentor Avenue in front of the Manhattan Deli plaza offering ashes, a moment of prayer, and the love of the St. Andrew parish, on Ash Wednesday from 1:30 to 3:30 PM. She is looking for one or two volunteers to stand with her and assist in this outreach to the community. If you'd like to volunteer, stop by the office to talk or call the church office at 440-255-8842



Annual Report From the Rector (continued from page 1)

We come to church to learn how to love one another, and we become the church, the Body of Christ, when we act in love. Together, we grow the abundant life that Jesus promises each of us when we love the world that is, its people, animals, plants, and environment, with the same active love that Jesus Christ lavished upon all creation and nurtures in us today.

Abundant life cannot be contained. Paradoxically, it grows in us when we share it with others. Abundant life is a state of being that enables us to dwell in the reality of our individual and collective lives and find eternity in the midst of it. Love+Love Shared= Abundant Life.

St. Andrew is a laboratory for abundant life. We experience the love of Christ together, and we share that love with others, actively, in joyful recognition of the saving love we receive in Christ. You will see the clear evidence of our works of love together as you review the 2019 annual meeting reports today. We do Christ's work in the church and in the world, together, thanks to you and the gifts of time, talent, and treasure you share with our beloved parish. Each of you is a gift to the church and I am grateful for your companionship.

We face challenge as a parish in the upcoming year. Despite growth in numbers and in pledges, we face a deficit budget for 2020. In this we are not alone, as parishes across the diocese and across the county are facing similar financial challenges. Times are tough for the Body of Christ.

We at St. Andrew will find our way through it. Your vestry is committed, knowledgeable, creative, and collaborative. Our parish is populated by loving Christians who are invested in the life and health of St. Andrew. What we need is here. If you are reading this report, please know that we value your gifts and need your help. While St. Andrew certainly needs financial resources, our most pressing need is for each parish member to engage her/his mind and heart to the life of the church.

If you are not currently involved in a church ministry, please know that we need you in 2020. Do you participate in church learning and worship activities outside of Sunday morning? If not, please consider doing so in 2020. We need your presence and open mind/heart among us. If you do not now include St. Andrew in your daily prayers, please start praying for us today. In whatever state you find yourself, you are integral to the life and health of this community of faith and we need your support to thrive. We are the Body of Christ together, and every member of the body is precious.

I am convinced that if each parish member engages in the life of the parish through a gift of time, talent, or treasure in 2020 our current budget challenge will become the medium for parish growth in abundant life. Remember: Love+Love Shared= Abundant Life. God guides us on this journey, Christ walks with us on our way, and the Holy Spirit is eager to inspire us forward. What we need is here.



What We Need Is Here -Wendell Berry

Horseback on Sunday morning, harvest over, we taste persimmon and wild grape, sharp sweet of summer's end.

In time's maze over fall fields, we name names that rest on graves. We open a persimmon seed to find the tree that stands in promise, pale, in the seed's marrow.

Geese appear high over us, pass, and the sky closes. Abandon, as in love or sleep, holds them to their way, clear in the ancient faith: what we need is here.

And we pray, not for new earth or heaven, but to be quiet in heart, and in eye, clear.

What we need is here.



Churchlands Pilot Cohort

Rev. Lisa has been accepted to be a part of the ChurchLands Pilot Cohort to learn about better ways to use church owned lands in the Episcopal Church. The vision of ChurchLands is that churches relate to land holdings in a way that is faithful to the Gospel: integrating discipleship, ecology, justice, and health.

Candlemas

A brief litany and candle procession will precede the 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist on Sunday, February 2nd.

We will gather at 10:15 AM in observance of Candlemas commemorating the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple. According to the Gospel of Luke, when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple, the old man named Simeon held the baby in his arms and said that he would be a light for the Gentiles (Luke 2:32). It is for this reason that this event is called Candlemas. Please plan to arrive a bit early to church that morning.



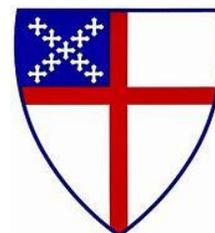
As part of the group, Lisa will attend two retreats and participate in webinars throughout the year, exchanging ideas and sharing resources with church leaders and others about wiser land use.

With a dream of expanding our food ministry through a community garden project, this group will provide knowledge and support to help implement the garden plan. Presenters will include experts in the fields of land access, land-and food-related theology, regenerative agriculture, land and public health, land and racial justice, new farmer initiatives, and more.

The pilot cohort will test the in-person and online program that will be developed into an ongoing opportunity for future program participants. Funding for the pilot program is provided through the Roanridge Trust.

Interested in being Confirmed/Received into the Episcopal Church?

Contact Rev. Lisa to discuss confirmation or being received when the bishop next visits St. Andrew. This spring Lisa is planning an Episcopal 101 meet-up for those who want to know more about the Episcopal Church. All are welcome. Talk to her after church on a Sunday or call the Church office at 440-255-8842.





Looking Ahead

The March 17th, 2020 Primary elections are coming up fast! A large voter turnout is expected, and we want to take advantage by having a HUGE bake sale. Please consider baking now to stock up on items we can sell. EVERYTHING sells. We need lots of cakes, pies, breads and cookies for the table. Look for a sign-up sheet in the Narthex in March.

Thank you all who have so faithfully been a part of this ministry for St. Andrew.

Questions? Contact Michele Miller at 216-403-9102



St. Andrew Vestry

At the St. Andrew Annual Meeting on January 26th, the congregation elected new vestry members Mary Ellen Fecser and Janna Penkowski to serve the parish. Additionally, the congregation elected Conrad Galayda to serve a second term. Congratulations to our new and returning Vestry members. They join current members Ed Bridge, Kim Herczog, Sandy Mazelis, Michele Miller, Brian Sandacz and Doug Sundstrom.

At the Vestry organization meeting members elected:
Doug Sundstrom - Senior Warden
Kim Herczog - Junior Warden
Michele Miller - Clerk



Dates to Remember: February

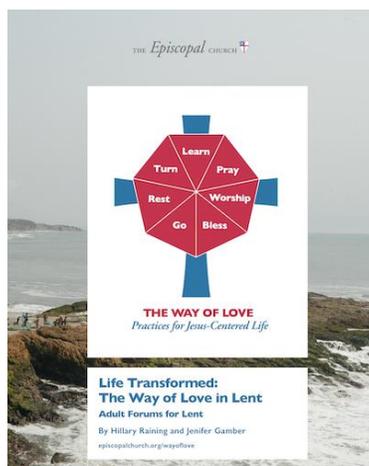
2 - Candlemas, 10:15 AM
2 - Food Pantry Distribution, 1-3 PM
7 & 8 - Diocesan Winter Convocation
11 - Food Pantry Distribution, 1-3 PM
12 - Lenten Learning Circle, 6:15 PM
17 - St. James Lunch Service, 11 AM
19 - Lenten Learning Circle, 6:15 PM
26 - Ash Wednesday, 11 AM & 7 PM
26 - Ashes2Go, 1:30 - 3:30 PM

As part of our Lenten discipline together, parish members are invited to download the free app: Reimaging the Examen

from Loyola Press. Begin a unique daily prayer experience based on St. Ignatius's prayer, that invites you to reflect on God's blessings in your life. The app is available to download from the Google Play Store and App Store for you phone, tablet or PC.



Join the Lenten Learning Group



Often people determine to "give something up" for Lent. Be it coffee, or sweets, or even social media, we tell ourselves we are building spiritual discipline by doing without. At St. Andrew we encourage you to not "give up", but to "take on." Take on a bible study, an enhanced prayer routine, or even a volunteer activity that will build your spirituality and increase your faith. Join the St. Andrew community as we study The Way of Love in Lent

The Lenten Learning Group will begin to meet on Wednesday, February 12. A simple supper will be available beginning at 6:15 and bible study/group discussion will start at 6:45 PM, ending by 8:00 PM. Each session will include a 4-5 minute video clip, a brief focus scripture, and a discussion question to be explored together in conversation, using the "*Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent*" Episcopal Church curriculum. We will post sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those who would like to participate/share soup. All course materials will be provided at no cost.

In order to support interested parish members who cannot drive after dark, we will also post a sign-up sheet for people who are able to commit to drive a local church friend to and from the Lenten Learning group for one or more group sessions.

Folks who cannot attend the sessions can follow the curriculum online at: <https://www.thehiveapiary.com/wayoflove>



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February Celebrations

Birthdays

Sue Corbett 01
Chris Heim 02
Wilma Wells 12
Katie Clark 14
Bob Pattison 15
Wayne Heim 15
Eunice May 18
Linda Pietro 18
Nicholas Heim 22
Joseph Gudel 25
Debbie Pulman 26
Sue Agnew 28

*Don't see your Birthday or Anniversary?
Contact the Office at
440-255-8842 and
let us know!*

January Birthdays We Missed!

Megan Yoney 05
Sandy Mazelis 15
We hope both had a very Happy Birthday! Sorry for missing your special days!