



Good News

From the Rector

*If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels,
but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge,
and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,
but do not have love, I am nothing.
If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,
but do not have love, I gain nothing.*
-Corinthians 13:1-3

A year and 4 months ago the vestry of St. Andrew resolved to love the way Christ loves, by inviting Laura, Jose, and Joshua into sanctuary at St. Andrew. We acted swiftly, by necessity, after much prayer, to insure that Laura, a single mother born in Mexico and living/working in the US for over 15 years, was not separated from her young sons through summary deportation.

We do not want you to be uninformed....about the troubles we experienced...

**We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure,
so that we despaired of life itself...**

**But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves alone
but on God, who raises the dead.**

-2 Corinthians 1:8-9

It was a bold decision for our church leadership to make, and it was not without its detractors within the body. Some left us over this decision, and some stayed but distanced themselves from the family, the body of Christ, and sanctuary support activities. The vast majority of our membership, however, prayed for this family without ceasing and helped, in myriad ways, to make their time with us a true gift of love courtesy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For this I am eternally grateful. By your love, made manifest in sanctuary, you have strengthened my faith, and the faith of many inside and outside the church. You have given us hope for the future of the kingdom of God in this time and place.

**Jesus said, "Abide in me, as I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine,
neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches.**

By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and prove to be my disciples."

-John 15:4-5a

I am filled with joy and trepidation as I now report that Laura, Jose, and Joshua moved from our sanctuary home into their own residence on Sunday January 27. A small but hardy group of St. Andrew parish members facilitated the move with their hands, hearts, and good spirits despite freezing temperatures and icy roads. The future is far from certain for them or for any of us, but we know that they rest in the arms of Christ. We rest in the arms of Christ.

"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world.

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.

Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body.

Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

-Teresa of Avila

Laura, Jose, and Joshua are now settling into their new life, and we at St. Andrew are left with the knowledge that we stood for Christ in our time by creating a sanctuary for one holy family who had no safe place to go. Today Laura and her sons have hope and a future by the power of the Holy Spirit, alive in the community of St. Andrew, Mentor. Thanks be to God.

And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

-2 Corinthians 13:13

Annual Meeting February 24

On Sunday, February 24th, we will join together as a parish to celebrate the accomplishments of this past year. During the annual meeting, we will receive the reports of our various Ministry and Vestry leaders, and elect new members to the Vestry.

There will be just one Eucharist at 10:30 AM, followed by a potluck lunch in the parish hall. Please bring a side dish to share. Coffee, tea, and lemonade will be provided.

As soon as we finish our meal, the annual meeting will begin and should last approximately 30 -45 minutes. Nursery care will be provided during the meeting. Please save the date and make plans to be a part of this important event.



New Church Directory

We are hard at work on the new St. Andrew church photo directory! Thanks to everyone who stopped to get their picture taken at the January picture day! We will be taking pictures again after services on February 10th. You may also submit a digital photo to the office via email and have your picture included in the directory. Send the photo to standrewmentor@gmail.com by February 17th. We are producing the directory in-house and hope to have it ready to distribute by the Annual Parish Meeting.

Dates to Remember: February

- 3 - Food Pantry Distribution, 1-3 PM
- 12 - Food Pantry Distribution, 1-3 PM
- 12 - We Make the Road by Walking Learning Circle, 6:30 PM
- 13 - Women's Luncheon, Noon
- 17 - Vestry Meeting, 9 AM
- 18 - St. James Lunch Service, 11 AM
- 20 - Tetélestai Planning Meeting, 7 PM
- 24 - Annual Meeting - One Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM, followed by Potluck & Meeting.
- 24 - Vestry Organizational Meeting, Noon
- 28- Lenten Supper Study: Hazardous Saints, 6:15-6:45 PM supper; DVD discussion 6:45-7:45 PM



"We Make the Road by Walking" Learning Circle

The Learning Circle we began together in October is still going strong and we'd love you to join us! Had trouble keeping up with the readings? No worries! Our dinner meet-ups do not require you to be current in the readings. Our conversations are broad and wide-ranging, and while they are informed by the book and accompanying scripture readings, our conversation is not dependent on the readings and everyone can join in. Our next Learning Circle is set for Tuesday February 12 at 6:30 PM in the Narthex (note the new start time). We'll plan to focus on Chapters 25-26 of the book.



St. James Holiday Lunch Bunch

Every Monday holiday, you'll find a group of dedicated St. Andrew volunteers preparing a meal at St. James Episcopal Church in Painesville. The program feeds 90-135 clients who are homeless, hungry or just need a little extra help to get by. New volunteers to serve on the St. Andrew team are always welcome. The only requirements are a willingness to serve and a smile! If you are interested, call Conrad Galayda at 440-413-8712.

Vestry Nominations

Nominations are now open for parishioners to serve on the 2019 Vestry. Nominees should be members of St. Andrew who are committed to serving the congregation in a leadership capacity. Vestry members commit to active participation for a three year term. Elected at the Annual Meeting, they work with the Rector to set goals and priorities to support the mission of St. Andrew.

As a Vestry member you'll:

- Attend the monthly Vestry meeting.
- Use the time spent on Vestry to enhance your relationship with God, the Church, the rector, and the congregation.
- Lead not only with your words and decisions, but by action and example.
- Show up for parish events when possible and be a visible figure in the parish community.
- Discuss issues affecting the spiritual, administrative, and financial goings-on of St. Andrew, the Episcopal Church at large, and our community.

Nominations are being sought to fill 3 full three year Vestry terms and a 1 year unexpired vacancy. You may nominate yourself or another parishioner (with their consent). If you have any questions or would like to discuss this process further, please contact: Andy Spiesman, Senior Warden via email at andrewspiesman@gmail.com or Rev. Lisa O'Rear at revlisastandrew@gmail.com, or call 440-255-8842.



Tetélestai Update

The Cleveland Performing Arts Ministries will perform the Passion play Tetélestai, at St. Andrew the weekend of Palm Sunday - April 12 & 13 at 8 PM and April 14 at 2 PM. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We have lots of tasks to accomplish before the April performances. All volunteers welcome! Please attend this month's planning meeting on Wednesday, February 20th at 7 PM in the Narthex.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Hazardous Saints

Christians Risking All, Changing Everything
A Lenten Supper Study-All Welcome!

Thursdays: February 28, March 7, March 14,
March 21, March 28, April 4

Supper: 6:15-6:45pm
DVD/Discussion 6:45 to 7:45pm

No books to buy-ALL WELCOME.

We eat, learn, pray better together!

You're Invited

Women's Luncheon
Wednesday, February 13
Noon - 2 PM

Sign up to bring a salad or dessert!
All women of St. Andrew are invited to enjoy a light lunch, socialize and get to know each other better. Invite a friend! RSVP by February 8th to Maryellen or Marybeth by email at standrewmentor@gmail.com.



February Celebrations

Birthdays

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

Don't see your Birthday or Anniversary?

*Contact the Office at
440-255-8842 and
let us know!*



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