



# Good News

OCTOBER 2022

## From the Rector: A Future with Hope

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Beloved friends,

If it's good to be together, it must be bad to be apart.

And yet: the truth is that life has always been a rhythm of separation and togetherness, exile and return. We may

prefer the "return" bit, the "bring you back to this place" bit, but that doesn't mean separation isn't part of the story.



Experiences of separation are at least as old as the ancient stories of the Garden of Eden, the Israelites' exile in Babylon, and the parable of the Prodigal Son. Jesus and his followers were separated by betrayal and death, and then reunited by forgiveness and newness of life. Even on our most "normal" days, our lives are a rhythm of gathering and dispersing, coming together and going apart, calls to worship and benedictions.

While the COVID pandemic is still with us, we rejoice that we can again be together for worship. We as a church are still recovering from the effects of our time apart and seeking to re-establish patterns of gathering that meet the needs of our community. You are a part of this pattern and we crave your presence.

The pandemic has been another profound experience of this ancient pattern, and as challenging as it's been, we can take solace in the knowledge that our ancestors, too, experienced seasons of exile. And here's the point: thanks to this history, over time our faith — and our church — has been built to help us live through such seasons with grace and hope.

## FROM THE RECTOR (CONT.)

At our core, St. Andrew is a community of reunion, homecoming, and return. Now more than ever, in a world full of exile, our congregation stands as a beacon of hope, welcome, and radical hospitality.

With all of this in mind, we invite you to join us in giving thanks for all the resources — spiritual, emotional, theological, physical, and financial — that support this indispensable work. And as we look ahead, please consider praying this giving prayer daily, over the coming weeks. We will invite you to complete your pledge card which we will provide to you, during in-person worship on Giving Sunday, November 13. Together, we'll fill out the cards; and together, we'll celebrate God's beautiful gift of "a future with hope."

Blessings,

Lisa+

*Abundant God, you made us in your image and breathed in us a spirit of generosity that is both gift and response. Move us, we pray, to give as we have received—abundantly, generously, and joyfully that our common ministry may ever bear witness to your unfailing grace. In the name of the Three in whom we are One, Amen.*

## PANTY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Consider joining your St. Andrew family by volunteering at our Sunday and Tuesday afternoon food pantries! The first Sunday and second Tuesday of each month needs additional help from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Additionally, help is needed for the St. James Lunches on holidays that fall on a Monday. This includes October 10<sup>th</sup> (Columbus Day.) Contact the office for details.

## October Celebrations

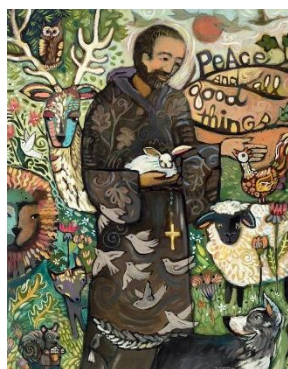
### Birthdays

- 05 Peggy Sturm
- 07 Sheree Sandacz
- 07 Kathy Gudel
- 08 Chase Rotz
- 11 Steve Grau
- 17 Cathy Joe Kaiser
- 21 Doug Sundstrom
- 23 Doris Silvaroli
- 25 Lisa O'Rear
- 28 Micki Rotz
- 30 Evelyn Peshek
- 30 Joe Gudel

### Anniversaries

- 02 Dennis & Sue Corbett
- 14 Chris & Sherrie Sweet
- 24 Jack & Bonnie Semenik

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



Blessing of the animals at St. Andrew this Sunday October 9 at 10:30am. It is likely, due to the predicted temperature on

Sunday, that we'll be inside, but don't let that dissuade you, your pet is welcome at St. Andrew inside for blessing and church, (and so are you) regardless! Join us, every one of you! All two-legged, four-legged, belly crawlers, and anyone in-between are welcome! Share this with your friends and invite them and their pets! we're better together!

## Important Dates in October

- 02 Sunday Worship 10:30 am
- 02 Food Pantry 1 – 3 pm
- 03 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 09 Sunday Worship 10:30 am – Outdoors for Blessing of the Animals
- 10 St. James Lunch 11 am
- 10 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 11 Food Pantry 1 – 3 pm
- 16 Sunday Worship 10:30 am
- 11 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 16 Sunday Worship 10:30 am
- 17 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 19 Vestry Meeting 6:30 pm
- 23 Sunday Worship 10:30 am
- 24 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 30 Sunday Worship 10:30 am
- 31 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm

## A NOTE FROM THE BENCH



On October 1, Rev. Lisa shared many things she

encountered through the week that increased her faith. As I think about faith, I am reminded that so many times I look for the big thing – something that is huge and miraculous that I can say for sure “This is FAITH!”

While big things are wonderful and always a gift, Lisa’s homily reminded me that our Creator reveals many things every day (not always BIG things) that can increase my faith.

In the coming weeks we will hear the story of Jesus healing ten people. One (a Samaritan) returned to say thank you for the healing blessing he had received. Jesus wonders why only one returned to praise God -- the Samaritan, an outsider.

In her hymn, “Ten Who Suffered Sought Out Jesus,” by one of my favorite present day hymn writers, Carolyn Winfrey Gillette includes these stanzas:

*Where are we, O God of mercy?  
For your Son has blessed us, too.  
He has given life abundant,  
offered healing, made us new.*

*Like the nine, are we distracted  
by our homes, our work, our play?*

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*Or do we return and thank you,  
taking time to humbly pray?*

*Jesus, make us truly grateful  
for the blessings we receive.*

*Like that one, may we say, "Thank You!"  
like that one may we believe:*

*Give us faith to see your mercy.  
and through all we do and say,  
May our lives become our "thank you!"  
as we follow you each day.*

As Winfrey Gillette notes in her book, *I Sing to My Savior*, Jesus' words at the end of this passage are not only intriguing, but they invite us to receive healing, as well as to be grateful. Jesus says, "**Rise and go. Your faith has made you well.**" Winfrey Gillette notes that an expression of gratitude, our "Thank you!" is an essential part of the healing that takes place.

May we approach the end of this church year with gratitude, and may we always be aware of the importance of gratitude in the many blessings we receive – some so subtle that we may miss them.

May Jesus words, "Your **faith** has made you well," remind and invite us to live in faith be grateful for the blessings we receive.

John Spiesman, Organist

Reference: Winfrey Gillette, C. I sing to my savior.  
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2022. a chance to "Sing a New Song to the Lord."

### DIOCESAN CONVENTION

We are in need of delegates to represent St. Andrew at the Diocesan convention in November. The schedule consists of:

Friday, Nov. 18 at Trinity Cathedral

6:00 p.m. Convention Eucharist

Reception following

Open to all (registration required)

Saturday, Nov. 19 at the Cleveland Marriott Hotel at Key Tower

8:00 a.m. Check-in Opens

9:30 a.m. Convention Convenes

The Episcopal Address

All business and election of Bishop Coadjutor

Please contact Rev. Lisa if you are willing to attend.

### MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR BISHOP

The Episcopal Diocese of Ohio is electing a new bishop at November's convention. A series of "Meet and Greet" are being held this month with the three final candidates.

Andy Spiesman invites you to join him at the Meet and Greet at Christ Church in Warren on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2-4. Andy can take an additional three people in his car with him.

In addition, Andy is a delegate for the convention and is interested in hearing opinions from other parishioners on the candidates. You can talk to Andy in person at church, by phone at 440.413.6671 or via email at [andrewspiesman@gmail.com](mailto:andrewspiesman@gmail.com).

St. Andrew Episcopal Church, 7989 Little Mountain Road, Mentor, Ohio 44060  
standrewmentor@gmail.com - 440.255.8842

Additional dates can be found at the Diocesan website at <https://www.dohio.org/bishop-search/meet-and-greets> and biographies of the candidates at [www.dohio.org/bishop-search/candidates-for-the-12th-bishop-of-ohio](https://www.dohio.org/bishop-search/candidates-for-the-12th-bishop-of-ohio)

## GUNS TO GARDENS

Our Guns to Gardens event on Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> was a great success. We received 10 guns and had a joyful time with volunteers from Church of the Epiphany, Euclid, Grace Church, Willoughby and the team from God before Guns.

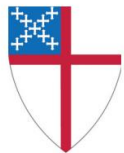
### Save the Date

GUNS TO GARDENS  
ART EXHIBITION OPENING



featuring art, decor, garden tools, devotional items,  
and jewelry made from firearms surrendered and  
dismantled at our summer community events

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH  
2-4 PM  
CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY  
21000 LAKESHORE BLVD  
EUCLID, OH 44123  
216 731 1316  
WWW.EPIPHANYEUCLID.ORG



Church of the Epiphany is continuing the good work with a Guns to Gardens Art Exhibit.

## VESTRY NOTES

You should see big changes coming to the Worman Room this month! New windows and carpeting will be installed and new furniture placed. The best news is that the room now has air conditioning!

As for the roof, we are waiting on the grant approval for the flat roof. The slate roof will be repaired soon and is funded by a generous donation from a parish family.

The vestry would also like to acknowledge the resignation of the Senior Warden position by Tony Wesley. Tony contributed greatly during his time on vestry and will be greatly missed.

Please let Rev. Lisa know if there are any other items you would like the vestry to address.

## JOIN VESTRY

It is not too early to begin thinking about running for Vestry. There will be three 3-year terms and one 1-year term that will need to be filled in February. As you know, the Vestry is the governing body of the church. They meet 1 time a month on the third Wednesday of at 6:30pm and hopefully attend the spiritual events that occur. It is a great way to learn more about the workings of the church while having fun. Any questions, ask a present vestry member or Rev. Lisa. Please also let Rev. Lisa know if you are interested in running.