

# St Andrew's Episcopal Church Newsletter

Celebrating 50 Years!  
1960-2010

New Providence, NJ

March 2010

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## FROM THE RECTOR

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness. --Lamentations 3:22

Dear Friends,

Growing up, my father's morning ritual mesmerized me. He would sit in the kitchen wearing his white t-shirt and army fatigues, light up a cigarette even before he had his coffee, and start to polish his GI-issue black boots. He worked those boots until they dazzled. And every Saturday he would also polish the children's shoes so that they would shine on Sunday. I would wear my Junior Choir robes the next day, with shiny patent leather shoes peeking out from underneath.

Morning rituals stay with us. Daylight comes earlier now during Lent, and this is a beautiful time to "wait for the Lord" as many of the Psalms encourage. The daily discipline of prayer -- to put before God what is in your heart and then to listen -- is a blessing to strengthen you before you go out into the world. In the quiet of the morning, before the rush hour begins, consider inviting God into the beginning of your day with the first fruits of your attention.

Fortunately, God does not require that we have our boots shined up before we meet with him. We can come as we are before the Presence who is always seeking us first. But it helps to put our best foot forward, even with God!

Faithfully,

*Peggy+*

The Rev. Margaret Hodgkins, Rector

# WORSHIP AND EDUCATION

## Sundays

### March 7: 3 Lent

#### Youth Sunday

- 8am-Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9:15am-Bible Study with the Rector
- 9:45pm-Sunday School (PreK-Grade 5)
- 10am-Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Choir
- 11:30am-Forum with Rev. Peggy: Our Parish History, Part III
- 5:30pm-Contemporary Service
- 6pm-Senior Youth Group Bowling at Madison Plaza

### March 14: 4 Lent

- 8am-Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9:15am-Bible Study with the Rector
- 9:45pm-Sunday School (PreK-Grade 5)
- 11:30am-GOSA gardeners meet
- 10am-Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Choir
- 6pm-Junior Youth Group Meeting

### March 21: 5 Lent

- 8am-Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9:15am-Bible Study with the Rector
- 9:45pm-Sunday School (PreK-Grade 5)
- 10am-Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Choir
- 6pm-Senior Youth Group Meeting

### March 28: Palm Sunday

- 8am-Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9:15am-Bible Study with the Rector
- 9:45pm-Sunday School (PreK-Grade 5)
- 10am-Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Choir
- 6pm-Junior Youth Group Meeting

**Midweek Eucharist every Wednesday at 9:30am**

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

<b>March 28</b>	Palm Sunday, with Eucharist	8am & 10am
<b>March 30</b>	Holy Tuesday Stations of the Cross	7:30pm
<b>March 31</b>	Holy Wednesday, with Eucharist	9:30am
<b>April 1</b>	Maundy Thursday Agape Supper	6:30pm
	Hand & Footwashing, with Eucharist	7:30pm
<b>April 2</b>	Good Friday Service at Faith Lutheran	noon-1pm
	Service at St. Andrew's	4pm
<b>April 3</b>	Holy Saturday Prayers	9:30am
	Great Vigil of Easter	8pm
<b>April 4</b>	Easter Day, with Festive Eucharist	7am & 10am

## 2010 LENTEN STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP

**"Teach us to Pray"**  
**Wednesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24**  
**7pm, Evening Prayer; 7:30pm Program**

Join us for a study of the different kinds of prayer  
such as Oblation, Confession, Thanksgiving, etc.  
as taught by the Episcopal monks  
of the Society of St. John the Evangelist

## UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

On **Sunday March 7** at the 10am Service, each member of the YAC Class in the J2A Program will be welcomed into the congregation as a young adult, be commissioned by their mentor for the ministry they have chosen, and present a pledge card as their commitment of time, talent and treasure. I urge everyone in the Journey to Adulthood Program to be present and support our YAC Class in their new commitments.

The schedule for other Youth Group and Youth Diocesan events and deadlines are as follows:

**Sunday March 7:** Contemporary Service from 5:30-6pm. Senior Youth Group goes Bowling at Madison Plaza, depart from church at 6pm. Return about 8pm.

**Wednesday March 10:** Rescheduled Youth Ministry Adult Workshop with Bishop Councill: "What does the Church Say?" Peggy and I will be attending. We welcome parents and other interested adults to join us.

**Sunday March 14:** Junior Youth Group 6-8pm

**Sunday March 21:** Senior Youth Group 6-8pm

**Sunday March 28:** Junior Youth group 6-8pm

**Tuesday March 30:** Stations of the Cross. We would like to have Senior or Junior Youth Group volunteers as readers for all 14 stations.

Longer term Diocesan-wide events are:

**April 9-11:** The Senior Retreat in Mendham (12th graders)

**April 21:** Youth Ministry Adult Workshop with Randy Grieve: "Teenage Spirituality"

**May 14-16:** Spring Youth Event in Lebanon, NJ (6th-12th graders)

For Diocesan-wide events, please contact Brian, Peggy or [newjerseyyouth@abcsignup.com](mailto:newjerseyyouth@abcsignup.com).

Blessings,  
Brian Bussey

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SPIRIT

### Sunday School Spring Happenings

#### Youth Sunday Service

"Jesus Loves Me This I Know, For the Bible Tells Me So" is a favorite Sunday School theme and song, which the preschool class will sing at the Youth Service on

**March 7** at 10am.

Children from pre-school to Grade 5 will lead and participate in the service as readers, ushers, acolytes, singers and storytellers in a Children's Time!

Altar Communion Bread has been baked and special drawings made for the bulletin cover.

Parents, please note that we have regular Sunday School and the children should be in class promptly at 9:45am so we can prepare for the service and be in the procession at 10am.

The Sunday School will sit in the front pews since children in all classes will take part in the service. Parents of preschool children, please sit up front with your child.

Pews will be reserved for all grade levels.

#### Lent and Easter Schedule for Children and Families

**March 7:** Youth Sunday; Classes meet at 9:45am in classroom to prepare and process for service. Last day for Winter Term teachers

**March 14:** First day for Spring Term teachers!

**March 14 & 21:** Music Practice: Preschool-Grade 5; Sanctuary, 11:30am-noon.  
All are welcome!

**March 28:** Sunday School Sings for Palm Sunday!

**April 4:** Easter Sunday, 10am Service: Flowering of the Cross  
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL; NURSERY ONLY  
No Easter Egg Hunt...See "Easter Gift Bags" Below

### **Easter Gift Bags**

This year, instead of the traditional Easter Egg Hunt, we will give Easter gift bags to the children following the 10am service. There will be a special Easter Sunday brunch for the parish following the 10am Service as part of our 50th anniversary year celebrations.

### **Winter and Spring Teacher Appreciation**

Many thanks go to each of the Winter Term Teachers for a wonderful winter session! Your efforts and dedication are greatly appreciated for preparing the lessons and teaching the classes. A big welcome to the Spring Term Teachers for continuing to make it possible for children to have a religious education each Sunday. You are all serving God by building a foundation of faith for our children!

### **Class Grade Level Change**

Grades 3, 4 and 5 will be combined into one class of Grades 3-5 for the Spring Term with Jenny Dallas and Elizabeth Jordan as teachers. This will provide a good size class for interaction of the children, with lessons and activities with the teachers.

### **Lenten Sunday School Outreach Project**

Why make Easter Cards for mariners? Who are mariners? They are people who work on ships at sea and on the river. The Seamen's Institute sends gift packages with these special cards from children tucked inside and the are given to mariners who are far away from home and family. There will be cards for children to make for the mariners at Coffee Hour for the next few weeks, before sending for Easter.

### **"Good News Coins" Report**

Our coin collection to use for postage costs will continue until the end of Lent. The coins will be used to send our used teaching materials to missionary Theresa Hudler for youths in Cambodia villages. Theresa is a relative of Frances Bellack and visits our church when in the USA. Theresa holds classes, services and programs to tell the "Good News" in Cambodian villages. You can find the Coin Jars in the parish hall on Sundays!

Joyce Kern, Director of Religious Education

## **THE MUSIC OF LENT**

This is a very special season, especially from a musical perspective. It is a time of introspection, and the music of Lent reflects its solemn message: repent, cleanse your hearts, seek the Lord while He may be found. No rejoicing until Easter. Or will there be? On **Sunday, March 7**, St. Andrew's preschool-grade 5 children will actively participate in a substantial part of the service, processing in to 'This is the Day'. Try as they might to be solemn, I predict a bit of rejoicing poking through.

**Palm Sunday, March 28**, we will again hear the children's chorus as they sing with the adult choir in a Palm Sunday anthem that is not overly solemn. Of course, Palm Sunday brings us into Holy Week, where we observe the utmost in solemnity. Maundy Thursday's washing of the feet will be accompanied by the choir's wistful anthem 'Remember Me'. And for everyone to sing, there will be a special foot-washing song. Good Friday and Easter Vigil remind us of the intensity of Christ's passion and death on the cross. We stand 'Beneath the cross of Jesus' and marvel at the amazing love and grace of our Lord. And we ask, 'Ah holy Jesu, how hast thou offended, that such sharp sentence, should on the thee descended. Of what great crime has thou to make confession? What great transgression?' And as much as I normally like an upbeat tempo for hymn singing,

there is just no way to sing certain Lenten hymns with an upbeat tempo. We need to feel and reflect on the meaning of the words we sing and these are sober words.

If there are any particular hymns, songs, anthems, praise choruses, responsorial psalms, etc., you particularly enjoy, not just for Lent, but for any season, please share them with me and we will fit them into a worship service. An email or a note would be much appreciated: [music@standrewschurch.org](mailto:music@standrewschurch.org).

Still need a trumpeter for Easter...

Musically yours,  
Doris Merrick, Minister of Music

## TREASURY TALKING POINTS

### St. Andrew's Church Year End Operating Summary: January 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009

	YTD Actual	Annual Budget
Congregational Giving	\$277,527	\$268,750
Special Event and Fund Raiser Income	3,015	5,000
Outreach Income	2,087	350
Special Offerings and Gifts	6,328	7,000
Other Income	143,556	132,756
Total Revenue	\$432,513	\$413,857
Total Expenses	\$402,274	\$399,074
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 30,239	\$14,783

### St. Andrew's Church Balance Sheet: December 31, 2009

Assets	\$582,169
Liabilities	\$151,806
Equity	\$430,363

John Batzer, Treasurer

## INQUIRER'S CLASS TO MEET AFTER EASTER

Do you wish to learn more about the history, theology, and liturgy of the Episcopal Church?  
Ever wonder what words like narthex or chasuble mean?  
Do you desire to be confirmed in the Christian faith?  
Or do you wish to be received in the Episcopal Church from another denomination?  
Perhaps you would just like to learn more about our wonderful faith tradition?  
Then the Inquirers Class is for you!

Please let Rev. Peggy know of your interest by contacting her at either [rector@standrewschurch.org](mailto:rector@standrewschurch.org) or at (908) 464-4875 x120. Our new Inquirers' Class will meet after Easter for 5 or 6 sessions. We can find a time to meet that works well for everyone who is interested.

A regional Confirmation service is set for **June 5** at 11am at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Bridgewater for our parish and a few others in our area. Bishop George Cuncell (our bishop for the Diocese of New Jersey) will confirm and receive those who have completed an inquirer's course in their parishes.

All are welcome--with all questions--at the Inquirers' Class!

### A LENTEN POEM

O God, with hope I enter in  
And call to mind your desert grace:  
To wayworn people you have been  
A presence in the wilderness.

But far from Sinai have I roamed  
And bear the hidden wounds of strife;  
Away and worn, I yearn for home;  
A thirst, desire the spring of life.

O break the rock, let water flow  
And wash the dust and drought from me;  
I taste your peace, your presence know,  
And drinking deep, am healed and free.

How shall my days your grace proclaim;  
How shall my deeds your healing prove?  
An open heart will praise your name;  
My grateful life will sing your love.

O God, with joy I enter in,  
Restored and precious in your sight,  
For in your grace I live again  
In lands of honey and delight.

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## JOIN US FOR OUR FISH-N-CHIPS FUNDRAISER!

### **Fish-n-Chip & Chix-n-Chips Dinner**

Catered by The Argyle Restaurant of Kearny, NJ

**Friday, March 19, 5-7pm**

\$15 Adult dinner, \$8 Child's dinner

Proceeds to support Episcopal Relief and Development Haiti Fund

Questions? Contact Diane LaPara (908) 508-0577 or Sandy Davies (908) 464-0822

## GARDENING NEWS

Well, although there still is plenty of snow out there as I write this article, I can truly say that spring IS right around the corner. It will officially arrive on March 20. And we will be ushering in spring with our GOSA Spring Kick-Off Meeting on **Sunday, March 14** at 11:30am. Please stop by and join us for a bit as we review 2009 and think about what may be ahead for the 2010 gardening season.

The 2010 GOSA Activity Calendar has been distributed and copies will be available at meeting.

Before spring arrives we would like to make improvements in the GOSA closet, where gardening tools are stored.

The Vestry has approved our request to host our April flower fundraising event this spring, to be called "GOSA Flower & Garden 2010". This event was not held in 2009 due to the troubled economic situations that many of us experienced. This will be the only fundraising event GOSA will host all year. We appreciate your support.

A special thanks to those garden volunteers who have given their time and talents in our gardens over the past year. We appreciate your dedication.

We are seeking parishioners and friends who would like to join us in the church gardens this spring. We are not professionals, just parishioners who enjoy gardening with a desire to beautify the lovely landscaped church gardens and grounds. Come out and give us a try!

Remember our GOSA motto: "WE can do it, YOU can help!"  
We look forward to having you join us this year!

Please contact Joyce Kern or Rick Anderson, GOSA Co-Chairpersons, with questions.

## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS!

Thanks to all who attended the 1960 party! It was a lot of fun spending the evening in the style of the time our church had its start.

We need your help! We are preparing for the Anniversary dinner on April 24. We would love to borrow any pictures you can lend us from your time at St. Andrew's. You will get them back, but please be sure to put your name on the back as well as list who is in the picture and what the event was. You may leave them in Amy Evans' mailbox or in the parish office. We also would appreciate you letting us know of any former parishioners

you are still in touch with who might like to be invited to the dinner. Please email names and addresses to Amy Evans at [amyevans67@gmail.com](mailto:amyevans67@gmail.com).

We are also making special plans for Easter Sunday. Since the very first service was outdoors on Easter morning, we're planning to have a Sunrise Easter Service at 7am as well as a brunch after the 10am service. If you're interested in helping with these plans, please contact us.

Amy Evans and Carolyn Glatz

## RELAY FOR LIFE BAKE SALE

The St. Andrew's Youth Group Relay for Life team will be having a bake sale on **March 28** during coffee hour. All money raised is donated to the American Cancer Society. Please stop by and check out the goodies!

## WHY NO FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR IN LENT?

The Flower Guild reminds us that during Lent, the usual flower arrangements are missing. This custom helps us to prepare during the solemn weeks of Lent for the glorious celebration beginning at Easter and the Resurrection of our Lord.

Flower memorials requested during Lent will be listed at Easter.

You **can** request new flower memorials for Easter in thanksgiving or in memory of loved ones. See forms in the narthex or in your Sunday bulletin.

## STILL SEEKING USHERS!

Ushering is an important part of the service, but not a difficult task for anyone. Please help us out! We are flexible, and our monthly ushering schedule will fit your schedule. We welcome youth members as well. **GIVE IT A TRY!**

We welcome Bruce Yeatman and John Wong to our cadre of 10am ushers this month! Please contact Rick Anderson at (908) 464-8911 with any questions. Usher instructions are provided.

## PIZZA NIGHT

Back by popular demand, St. Andrew's Nursery School will be hosting another Pizza Night on **March 25**, with seating times from 5-6pm and 6-7pm in the parish hall.  
All proceeds to benefit ERD!

## PARISH MILESTONES

### Burials

Otto George Barth and Nancy Lane Barth were buried in the St. Francis Memorial Garden on December 15.

Robert John Selbach was buried in the St. Francis Memorial Garden on February 5.

Please keep their families and loved ones in your thoughts and prayers.

## ST. ANDREW'S CALENDAR

Mar. 14	Sunday, 11:30am GOSA Spring Kick-off Meeting, PL
Mar. 16	Tuesday, 7:30pm Vestry Meeting, PL
Mar. 17	Wednesday, 10:30am Bible Study, PL
Mar. 17/24	Wednesday, 7:00pm Lenten Evening Prayer/ 7:30pm Lenten Program "Teach us to Pray"
Mar. 19	Friday, 5-7pm Fish-n-Chips Dinner, PH
Mar. 20	Saturday, Brotherhood Breakfast Mtg., PH
Mar. 24	Wednesday, 1:30pm Synthesis Study Group, PL
Mar. 25	Thursday, 5:00pm Nursery School Pizza Night, PH
Mar. 27	"This Fragile Earth", an exhibition of art by Diocese of NJ Trinity Cathedral, Trenton
Mar. 28	Palm Sunday
Apr. 1	Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm Agape Supper, PH
Apr. 2	Good Friday
Apr. 3	Holy Saturday
Apr. 4	Easter Sunday
Apr. 11	Sunday, Guest Preacher Mike Cassells, Food for the Poor
Apr. 17	Saturday, Sexual Misconduct Awareness Workshop, required for Youth Leaders @ Holy Cross, North Plainfield
Apr. 17	Saturday, 9:30am, Effective Organizing for Congregational Development with Mike Gecan @ Cathedral, Trenton
Apr. 18	Passion & Purpose Sunday
April 24	St. Andrew's 50th Anniversary Celebration
Nov. 1	Eleven-Day Pilgrimage to South Africa w/Bishop Councill

(Key: PL=Parish Library; SR=Shreve Room, lower level; PH=Parish Hall; RR=Rector's Rm)

**Elizabeth Jordan, *Editor***

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**Deadline for the April issue of the eNET is Thursday, March 25.**

Submissions may be edited.

