

St Andrew's Episcopal Church Newsletter

New Providence, NJ

September 2009

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FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,
Welcome to a new season at St. Andrew's! We launch the fall with both exciting beginnings and sad farewells.

This Sunday, September 13, is our annual WELCOME SUNDAY, and we return to our fall schedule with Sunday services at 8am & 10am.

Greet friends on September 13 who have been away over the summer, celebrate Eucharist together, and share a fun **PICNIC** at 11:30am (see sign-up info below).

Also on Sept. 13, just after the staff of St. Andrew's is introduced, we'll bid a fond farewell to the Jervey family, who are moving to Chatham, MA this month. Hilton and Georgia have been active members of our church since 1963, singing in the choir and involved in just about every ministry offered. Join us in honoring this dedicated couple, as they will be deeply missed.

We also say farewell to our deacon, the Rev. John Hartman, who just accepted a new job as rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Kingston, PA. John's wonderful preaching and pastoral presence have been a great gift to our faith community this year. He expects to be ordained a priest soon, and will let you know the date when it is set so that you can attend if able.

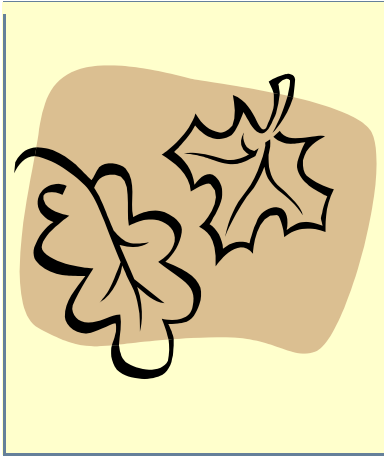
To honor John's voluntary service at our parish, we will collect and present him with a purse for his installation as a new rector. To participate, you may write a check to St. Andrew's and mark "Purse" in the memo line. All gifts will be acknowledged. Please mail or drop off gifts at the parish office by September 25.

To John and the Jerveys, Godspeed! You go with our prayers and with exceptional memories.

Faithfully,

Peggy+

The Rev. Margaret Hodgkins



Rector

Welcome Back PARISH PICNIC!!
SEPTEMBER 13 at 11:30am

Sign up for the annual parish picnic by emailing Bridgett in the office at info@standrewschurch.org. If your last name starts with A-L, please bring a side dish/dessert. If your last name starts with M-Z, please bring sandwiches.

Not able to bring food? You can donate \$5/person or \$10/family to apply towards the purchase of food and supplies. Please write a check to St. Andrew's with a memo "Welcome Back Picnic".

WORSHIP AND EDUCATION

Sundays

September 6th: 14 Pentecost

9am-Holy Eucharist, Rite II

September 13th: 15 Pentecost

Welcome Sunday/Sunday School Begins

8am-Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:15am-Bible Study with the Rector

9:45am-Sunday School (PreK-Grade 6)

10am-Holy Eucharist, Rite II with guest organist Joseph Ireland

11:30am-**Parish Picnic**

September 20th: 16 Pentecost

8am-Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:15am-Bible Study with the Rector

9:45am-Sunday School (PreK-Grade 6)

10am-Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Choir

Introduction of new seminarian Brian Bussey

at coffee hour, following 10am service

11:30am-Forum, "Religious Literacy" with Paula Roper, Interfaith Minister,

Episcopalian and New Providence resident

September 27th: 17 Pentecost

8am-Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:15am-Bible Study with the Rector

9:45am-Sunday School (PreK-Grade 6)

10am-Holy Eucharist, Rite II with guest organist Joseph Ireland

11:30am-Journey to Adulthood presentation for parents and all who are interested

Midweek Eucharist begins Sept. 9 and continues every Wednesday at 9:30am.

Please note new time!!

SEPTEMBER YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

Senior Youth Group

September 20 6-8pm, Kickoff Party at the Strong Residence, Scotch Plains

Junior Youth Group

September 20 6-8pm, Kickoff Party at the Strong Residence, Scotch Plains

September 27 6-8pm, Meet in Parish Hall for dinner, frisbee & program

Friends are always welcome at Youth Group activities!

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

I want to thank all the members of St. Andrew's Church for the opportunity to work with you for the past seventeen years as the Minister of Music. We have been through a lot over that period of time. Your support was never in doubt. We had some exciting choir concerts, a few afternoon teas, a couple of bang-up cabaret shows and much more during our history together. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your enthusiastic support for everything we undertook.

And, of course, I cannot thank the members of the choir enough for their dedication and loyalty. These choir members are jewels, and deserve the highest praise. It is not always easy to come out on a cold winter's night or on a hot Thursday evening or on a Saturday morning to choir rehearsal. Their support has been splendid.

And, finally, thank you for the beautiful glass vase presented on my final Sunday. It is an ongoing reminder of the wonderful people at St. Andrew's.

God bless all.

Howard Dreizler

SUNDAY SCHOOL SPIRIT

**"Train a child in the right way and when old they will not stray."
Proverbs 22:6, NRSV**

Welcome Everyone

September 13 is Welcome Sunday and Sunday School Opening Day at 9:45am! We welcome children to a year filled with programs, activities and

church events to learn about the word and love of God. This is a time in their lives to learn and develop a faith that will be with them for life. Sunday School and church are the place to be! Each child is special to God and to us!

Nursery Renovation

I would like to thank Bob Evans, Peggy Hodgkins, Bernie Heer and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's nursery painting volunteers David Morris and Hilton Jervey. All worked to help Dick and me as we coordinated the nursery renovation. The nursery now has been prepped and painted, and we are hoping to have a new carpet, in time to welcome our young children. Come and see!

Nursery Staff

Welcome to Tina Luque who will be our nursery staff person this year to greet and care for the children. We hope to have a student or a parent assistant to help during the nursery time at the 10am Sunday service. Two caregivers are needed to insure safety and security in the nursery.

Sunday School E-Family Packet

The family packet will be sent by email prior to Sunday School to save on paper and postage. Please print and fill out the registration form ahead of time, bring it on the first day of Sunday School and give it to the teacher in class. The forms will be collected for our records to use during the year for information about your child. If you have a problem printing the form, please contact me. Extra forms will be available at church.

Sunday School Opening Day Schedule

On opening day, parents and children are to meet in the classrooms and bring their registration form to give the teacher. We will have class lessons and a "special welcome" before entering service.

Programs and Event Opportunities for Children

Here is a list of some educational activities that your child will experience at St. Andrew's this year: *Seasonal Events, Sunday School Classes, Scripture Bible Study, Godly Play, Blessing of the Animals, Sheep Ornament Program, Operation Christmas Child Gifts, Advent Carol Sing, Christmas Narrative, Lenten Bible Story Journey, Easter Cards for Mariners, Easter Egg Hunt, Spring Plant Program, and Recognition Sunday followed by a Parish Ice Cream Social.* These events establish belonging to a church community and serving God.

Godly Play Workshop Invitation

We will be holding a Godly Play Workshop at St. Andrew's on September 19 from 9am until noon. You can learn how to teach God's words through sacred stories, parables and liturgical lessons. This exciting method of teaching includes how to tell stories to bring learning about God in a creative and wondering way. More information will follow.

NEW Weekly Bible Club Series

We hope to begin a five-week adventure series in the fall and spring based on the dynamic VBS programs usually held in the summer. This will depend on the support of parents and having two leaders of the Bible Club program. The Bible Club would meet one afternoon a week for 1-1/2 hours for lessons, games and activities. The weekday dates will be announced in September. Parents, please contact me if you are interested in participating in this new weekday program.

Joyce Kern, Director of Sunday School

SEMINARIAN TO JOIN ST. ANDREW'S THIS FALL

Please join the rector and vestry in welcoming Brian W. Bussey to our parish! Effective September 20, Brian, who is enrolled as a "middler" at Drew University's Seminary in Madison, will assist the rector in the leadership of our middle school and high school youth programs.

Brian retired as engineering director of a specialty chemical company in 2002 to discern the possibility of ordination in The Episcopal Church. He works as a volunteer congregational development consultant in the Diocese of Newark, facilitating Mutual Ministry Reviews, strategic planning and parish transitions.

He facilitated the Fresh Start Program (a mutual support program for priests entering the Diocese) from 2003 to 2006. As a result of career-related relocations, Brian has served in four Dioceses as a Vestry Member, Treasurer, Senior Warden and Search Committee Chair during parish transitions. Brian is Treasurer and a Board Member of Operation Link-Up, Inc., a non-profit organization which mentors disadvantaged high school students in the City of Paterson, assisting them to prepare for, apply to, and succeed in college.

He and his wife, Ginny, are members of St. David's Church in Kinnelon, NJ. They have three sons and five grandchildren. Brian looks forward to meeting our parishioners, participating in worship, and working with Rev. Peggy, the youth and their parents.

Welcome, Brian!

MUSIC SURVEY RESULTS

The Parish Music Survey that was conducted between June 21 and July 17 provided useful input for the Music Minister Search Committee to use in reviewing resumes and interviewing candidates. Results were reviewed at a forum on July 19 and are summarized here for your information.

Fifty-six individuals completed the survey. Over 90% regularly attend the 10am service. A broad range of ages was represented, including four responses from individuals under 20, 17 responses from individuals aged 40 to 49, and 12 responses from individuals 70 and older. Over half responded that they play an instrument or sing, but only eight were currently active in the St. Andrew's music program. Music was a significant factor in deciding which service to attend for 43% of the respondents, had little significance for 37%, and was of moderate significance for the remaining 20%.

Overall, people favored a range of music, leaning toward familiar rather than new music. They also favored a variety of hymn/song books over the 1982 hymnal. There was a clear preference for having hymns sung by both the congregation and the choir, and a substantial preference for traditional music over contemporary and for music from the Euro-American heritage rather than music of different cultures. Respondents also showed a strong preference for

including various instruments in our worship services rather than relying solely on the organ.

When asked about preferred musical genres, there was strong support for traditional choral music, moderate interest in spirituals and lower interest in contemporary/popular music. Markedly low interest was expressed for jazz, early music/chant and folk.

Respondents strongly felt that music education was a high priority, but fairly neutral on whether lectures and discussion groups on church music were a priority. There was high appreciation for including professional musicians for special events and for promoting involvement with community and civic musical groups.

There was a clear preference for a Minister of Music who is a strong educator/minister rather than a gifted performer and strong agreement that the Minister of Music should be experienced with a wide variety of musical styles. In addition, respondents provided over 35 helpful written comments that further clarified the congregation's interests and desires.

Thanks to all who took the time to respond to the survey.

Dave Waite

GARDENING NEWS

It's been a busy summer in the church gardens. We held our First Annual GOSA Patio Picnic in June on the Red Door Patio. It was originally planned to be held out on the picnic table patio, but was relocated after days of rainy weather. A 20' X 30' tarp was our insurance policy. Eighteen GOSA members and significant others attended, enjoying the food and fellowship, illuminated by strings of little white lights, outdoor candles and Tiki torches.

Garden Work Parties, held in June, July and August, saw such garden activities as weeding, mulching, pruning, planting, shearing, weed control and watering. A colorful hydrangea shrub was planted at the request of Pat Strasser, in memory of a dear friend. With between 3 and 6 garden volunteers attending summer Work Parties, we concentrated on the more visible garden beds/containers. We WELCOME additional helping hands (no green thumbs required!).

Please lend a hand, even for an hour, and join us at our upcoming Garden Work Parties on **September 12** and **October 10**. We have plenty of projects to work on. Gardening experience not required.

Weekday Lay Weeders

If there are any parishioners interested in doing some light gardening during the week, either in the morning or afternoon, for an hour or so, please contact Rick.

Our once a month GOSA gardening work parties are just not enough time to accomplish what we need to do.

Seeking Fountain Friends

We are seeking parishioners to help us maintain the Memorial Garden fountain. The fountain has been in operation this spring and summer and we could use an extra hand to help keep the water in the fountain clean and free of debris. If you like playing with water, we NEED you. PLEASE help us out. The look and sound of the fountain adds such a special touch to the St. Francis Memorial Garden, where many find solace. Please contact Rick for details.

Day Of Caring

The director of the local United Way has contacted St. Andrew's offering volunteers to assist with various activities on our campus for the United Way Day Of Caring in October. GOSA has expressed an interest in taking advantage of this opportunity for volunteers helping on that day.

GOSA Fashion Wear

In the near future, we look forward to GOSA members having their own easily recognizable clothing to wear while at work in the church gardens. We look forward to wearing T-shirts with our GOSA logo on the front. What better fashions to wear in the gardens?

Remember our GOSA motto, "WE can do it, YOU can help!"
Please contact Joyce Kern or Rick Anderson, GOSA Co-Chairpersons, with any questions.

SANCTUARY MURALS RESTORATION FORUM

Renaissance Restoration Studios President Joseph Tiedeman will speak to our parish about the intricate restoration process of our sanctuary murals. During July and August, the murals which depict the twelve disciples (six on either side of the altar), were cleaned, restored, and then protected with a non-reflective coating. The four Gospel images at the four columns in the nave were also refurbished, and all the window trim was repainted. The entire process was recorded photographically by parishioner Les Medford.

Come and hear how Mr. Tiedeman's painstaking work was researched and executed to make our murals fresh and authentic, using the latest chemical techniques to bring back the original Fernando Calderon style at the forum hour on **Sunday, October 11 at 11:30am** (right after the 10am service).

Mr. Tiedeman, a graduate of the School of Visual Arts in New York, has also studied fine arts at Princeton University. He thoroughly enjoyed this particular conservation project, and expressed gratitude for the opportunity. He expects the School of Visual Arts to publish a story about the St. Andrew's murals in their spring alumni magazine in 2010. Especially in anticipation of our own 50th anniversary as a church, it's wonderful to know that our murals have been cared for with expertise. We, in turn, thank Mr. Tiedeman for his outstanding work to preserve our church heritage.

WANT TO TRY USHERING?

IT'S ONLY ONE LITTLE HOUR A MONTH !

Thanks to those 8am and 10am ushers who took an active part in ushering at the 9am summer services. The joint ushering went very well I thought, and we had all services covered.

HELP! We are seeking men and women adult and youth ushers for the 10am service. Ushering is an important part of the service, but not a difficult task for anyone. If you're currently not volunteering in a ministry to support the Sunday

service or the Sunday School, why not give ushering a try. Please help us out! We are flexible, and our monthly ushering schedule will fit your schedule. We welcome youth members to help with ushering as well. **GIVE IT A TRY!**

Please contact Rick Anderson at 464-8911. Usher instructions are provided. Thanks.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL CONVENTION ACTIONS NOW AVAILABLE

The 76th General Convention, meeting in Anaheim, California from July 8-17, acted on or referred every one of the 419 resolutions it considered.

An unofficial, unaudited, abbreviated summary of some of the resolutions passed by both the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies is available at http://www.episcopalchurch.org/79901_113303_ENG_HTM.htm.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN RETREAT

Our diocese is kicking off a season of Spiritual Renewal with a retreat on September 12:

An Invitation to Christian Spiritual Teaching: How God Loves, Transforms, and Makes People Whole

Led by Dr. Elisabeth Koenig, Professor of Ascetical Theology, The General Theological Seminary

Explore a spiritual path whose profundity and richness have nurtured people for over two millennia. Discover personalities and teachings from ancient times to the present that speak of the value of a conscious, intentional relation with God. This bond not only grounds human identity, through a clearer sense of self and a greater appreciation of potential, but also provides an effective passage through difficult situations of life, such as sickness, death, loss, failure, and separation - the condition for entering into the fullness of joy. Hear others' stories of spiritual growth and tell your own. Explore spiritual practices, including modes of prayer, discernment, and rituals for social change, a fine way to forge a spiritual path or to attend to the one you tread.

Sponsored by the Right Onward Committee.

When: Saturday, September 12 from 9 am to 3 pm
No cost, continental breakfast and lunch provided

**Where: St. George's Episcopal Church
7 Lincoln Avenue
Rumson, New Jersey 07760
(732) 842-0596**

Register by Friday, August 28

Register at spaige@newjersey.anglican.org, or fax registration form to (609) 394-9546, mail form, or phone Sarah Paige at (609) 394-5281, ext. 10.

Elisabeth Koenig, Professor of Ascetical Theology at The General Theological Seminary, earned her Master of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary and her doctorate through the joint program in religion at Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary. Her specialties are patristic spirituality, the fourteenth century English mystics, Christian discernment, spiritual practice, spiritual direction, theology and psychology, religion and art, and comparative religion. Dr. Koenig has directed numerous diocesan clergy conferences, preached, lectured, and conducted quiet days and retreats throughout the United States. She also has lectured on pilgrimages in Italy and England. She is currently at work on a book about Christian discernment.

SAVE THE DATE!

On **Tuesday, November 3** at 7pm (location TBA), Bishop Councill will meet with parishioners and clergy from both the Watchung and Northern Convocations.

(St. Andrew's is a part of the Watchung Convocation in the Diocese of NJ.)

PRISON MINISTRY

Bishop Councill has convened a committee of lay people and clergy to address the needs of the men and women incarcerated in prisons located within the diocese.

The Ministry to the Imprisoned will assist any parish in the Diocese of New Jersey with how to begin a prison ministry, suggestions of activities to consider, whom to contact, and contact information for each of the 13 prisons. Contact Deacon Johnine Byrer at deaconjb@gmail.com or phone her at (908) 399-4170 for more information.

J2A PILGRIMAGE TO NEW YORK CITY

We had a wonderful day on Saturday, June 27 with the Journey to Adulthood pilgrims!

Silas, Kevin, and Scotland were mature and thoughtful as they travelled to Manhattan, and encountered the sobering reminders of 9/11 at St. Paul's Chapel

(part of Trinity Episcopal Church, Wall Street) near Ground Zero, our first stop.

From there we ventured to Central Park for lunch, and ate in the Strawberry Fields section on a bench opposite a bizarre tribute to Michael Jackson and Farrah Fawcett. We had time to watch rowboats on the pond, turtles sunning themselves as well as extensive people-watching!

Next we trooped uptown to tour Union Seminary, the Columbia University campus, and finally reached the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The magnificent interior awed us. We were able to climb a narrow winding staircase up into the parapets.

Silas was the "sweeper" who followed the tour group, entrusted with the keys (like St. Peter) to lock the doors behind us, and to escort the dizzy back down to *terra firma* if they wanted to descend. He handled this responsibility with aplomb.

Kevin and Scotland both said the highlight of the day for them was being up in the heights of St. John the Divine. From the second highest hill in New York City, we could see the city stretching to the south of us, from the outer roof. From the inside roof, we saw the *foret*, or forest, where struts holding up the outer roof connected to the inner roof, and resembled branches of trees.

Our good fortune with weather was magnified by other blessings. We were provided with a live wedding of Amanda and Mario while we were in the cathedral. When the trumpet stops of the organ blasted unexpectedly, we jumped out of our skins in surprise, as we were up at the height of the high rose window when the processional began. And on every subway ride we took that day, we had the benefit of being entertained by street musicians.

I would like to thank Joe LaPara for being our enthusiastic chaperone and great company. He took the whole day to share this experience with us, and his unflinching good cheer was infectious. He drove us to and from Hoboken, which was generous indeed. Thank you, Joe, for treating us to strudel and cheesecake at the Hungarian Pastry Shop after we left the cathedral.

Thanks J2A pilgrims for the good memories! I really enjoyed sharing this pilgrimage with you all.

Peace,
Rev. Peggy+

FIFTH ANNUAL TRINITY CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY DAY

The 5th Annual Trinity Cathedral Community Day will take place on **Monday, October 12** at Mercer Oaks-West Golf Course, beginning at 10am with Eucharist on the course celebrated by **Bishop Cancell**. Shotgun start at 11am, with dinner and prizes at 4pm. Come, support your Cathedral and vie for the Bishop's Cup. Golfers of all skills welcome...singles, twosomes and threesomes, as well as foursomes, can be accommodated. Cost is \$160 per

player. Contact Chuck Perfater at chperfater@comcast.net.

CURSILLO NJ #23

The Diocese of NJ will be holding its 23rd Cursillo weekend. Cursillo is a "short course" in Christianity consisting of 15 talks, meditations and prayer. The weekend will be held from **September 10-13** at the Murray Grove Retreat Center, Route 9, Lanoka Harbor, NJ.

There are still openings for candidates to attend this weekend. They must be sponsored by someone (lay or clergy) who has attended a Cursillo (or three-day format such as "Walk to Emmaus") weekend in the past. (Rev. Peggy has attended and can serve as your sponsor.)

The cost is \$180 and includes eight meals as well as single (or double) occupancy room.

Please contact Jim McConnell at jimmcccon@optonline.net if you are interested.

PARISH MILESTONES

Baptisms

Congratulations to Doyel Angel Shalish, Charlotte Anne Berry, Meredith Lee Carroll, and Brandon Leonard Geddes. They were baptized at St. Andrew's over the summer.

Burials

We regret to share with you the sad news of the deaths of James Harry Cassanos, Olga deBang, Patricia M. Sinnott Strasser, who were buried recently in our Garden of St. Francis. We also mourn the death of Shirley Burris, mother of Anne Burris Lucas.

Please keep their families in your prayers.

NEW SANCTUARY WALL CROSS

The new aluminum white Celtic cross was installed on the stone wall of the sanctuary by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew men's group on June 5. The removal of the old wooden cross and installation of new cross went just as planned. The cross was dedicated on Sunday, June 7 after the 10am service.

The next phase of the project has been the renovation of the spotlight system, which provides illumination of the cross at night. The spotlight lamps, as well as the low voltage power pack/timer, had to be replaced and new wiring installed. The new lighting system hardware has been put in place, with the burial of the new wiring to be done.

KEEPING CONNECTED WHILE AT COLLEGE

Are you a college or university student? Or do you know of a young person in our parish, or a member of your family, who is heading off to college? The Diocese of New Jersey would like to help all students connect with the Episcopal campus ministry or the local parish church closest to their school, so that they can be welcomed and supported during this next stage of their lives.

To connect with a campus ministry visit:

<http://newjersey.anglican.org/Resources/YoungAdult/campusministry.html#>

You'll find an online referral form for connecting students to campus ministries, a link to a list of campus ministries around the country, and a directory of campus ministries in the Diocese of New Jersey (currently Rutgers, TCNJ, Princeton, and Rowan). For each contact submitted using the online form, a member of the campus ministry team will alert the appropriate campus minister or closest local parish church.

PET WALK

Saturday, Sept. 12
9:30am-11:30am

Join dogs and their people this Saturday, September 12 at 9:30am for a fun walk that begins at Murray Hill Health and Racquet Club and then heads to Murray Hill Vets, before going up South Street to visit the pet garden at St. Andrew's for a water and biscuit treat!

Volunteers of all ages are needed to greet the pets with water and biscuits. Please let Bridgett or Rev. Peggy know if you would like to help:

(908) 464-4875.

Elizabeth Jordan, *Editor*

ehjordan@comcast.net

Deadline for the October issue of the eNET is
Wednesday, September 23.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
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