

The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church



December 12 & 13, 2015

Celebrate the Feast of the Incarnation with us!

St. Andrew's will once again celebrate the Feast of the Incarnation of our Lord with three services on Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24. After feedback from some of our families, the early service will be held at 5:30 p.m. this year to allow people time to get to church from work. Accordingly, the other two services will also be moved by one half hour, to 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

The 5:30 p.m. service will feature traditional Christmas carols led by "Calling of Levi," our contemporary worship band, and a children's sermon. The 8 p.m. service will be a traditional service with organ and choir. Child care will be available at 8 p.m.

This year we'll be bringing back some Christmas Eve traditions, including incense, to the late service, which has for years been a favorite in Anglican churches. We've seen fewer in attendance at this service here in St. Andrew's in recent years, however, and we're hoping to attract our own members, as well as folks from the community, who may be drawn to a traditional Anglican Christmas Eve celebration.

The late service will also feature organ and choir, and all three services will include Holy Communion.

If the late service is a favorite Christmas tradition for you, please make every effort to attend church at 10:30 p.m., as whether we continue to offer this service will depend on how well received it is this year.

Please turn to inside

Children give St. Nicholas, known as the patron saint of children a group hug during his visit to St. Andrew's on Dec. 6, the Feast of St. Nicholas.



Debbie Sterling, one of our first-time volunteers, sorts and hangs clothes donated to the Common Ground Free Store in Delaware during St. Andrew's most recent visit there on Saturday, Nov. 21. In addition to staffing the store, the church also served a traditional Thanksgiving meal to shoppers. See the back page for details and more pictures.

Youth Group Christmas party, 'Wildlights' trip Sunday, Dec. 20

The St. Andrew's Youth Group Christmas Party will be on Sunday, Dec. 20. We will be exchanging gifts and going to see "Wildlights" at the Columbus Zoo. The cost is \$15 and will include admission to the Zoo and dinner (pizza) at the Zoo.

Youth should meet at the church at 3 p.m. for the gift exchange. Those wishing to participate in the gift exchange should bring a gift of no more than \$10 in value.

This event is for both middle school and senior high youth.

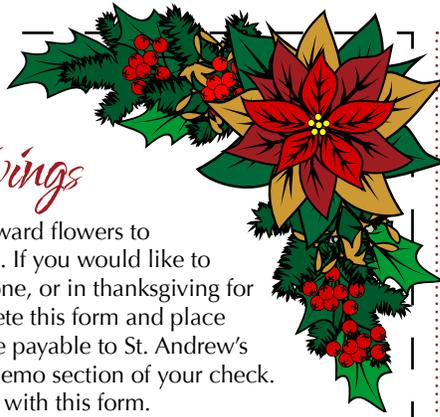
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Parish invited to Christmas morning prayer & brunch

Come celebrate Christmas with your Parish Family on Christmas Day! Jim and Jackie Menke, with Randy and Linda Smith, will be hosting a prayer service at 9 a.m., followed by a pot-luck brunch at St. Andrew's at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend either just the prayer service, or both the prayer service and the brunch.

Please turn to inside

Christmas Flower Memorials & Thanksgivings



The Altar Guild is now accepting contributions toward flowers to decorate the altar and sanctuary for Christmas Eve. If you would like to make a gift in any amount in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for a loved one, an event or a blessing, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate along with your check made payable to St. Andrew's Anglican Church. Please note *Altar Guild* in the memo section of your check. Cash gifts should be placed in an envelope, along with this form.

Enclosed is a gift of \$_____ toward altar decorations for Christmas Eve.

Please print all information exactly as you would like it to appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

This gift is given by (please print):

Please contact me at the follow e-mail address or phone number with questions:

In memory of (please print):

In thanksgiving for (please print):

For more information, please contact **Ellie Schramm**, 614-846-0711 or ellieschramm@live.com. **Deadline: Sunday, Dec. 20.**

Youth Christmas

Continued from the front

Chaperones are needed, so parents and other adults with a heart for our young people are asked to mark Dec. 20 on their calendars and consider chaperoning.

Please contact Karen Osmond at 614-975-0878 or khosmond@gmail.com by no later than Dec. 15 if you plan to attend or if you are willing to chaperone. Chaperones who have not yet completed the Diocesan Ministry Safe Training or had a background check will need to do both before Dec. 20, so please let us know as soon as possible if you can accompany the youth to the Zoo.

Youth should return to the church no later than 9 p.m.

Year-end notes

2015 receipts due

Ministry leaders and others who may have receipts to be turned in for reimbursement for church-related purchases in 2015 are asked to turn them in by Sunday, Dec. 20. Reimbursement forms are available in the green basket on top of the mail boxes in the Gathering Area, and at the parish office.

Note to electronic givers

Parishioners who are using e-giving should be sure to change their pledge in January to "General Fund 2016." You can re-select that option on the e-giving website by clicking on the "Online Giving" link on the home page of our web site, standrewspolaris.org.

Gifts for year-end tax benefit

Parishioners who choose to make stock transfer gifts and other special contributions to the church prior to the end of the year for tax purposes are asked to do so by Dec. 31. Gifts of stock should be made well before Dec. 31 since it takes several days for the transfer to come through to St. Andrew's.

If you have any questions about any of the above business items, please contact **Ruth Eller**, business manager, at 740-548-5112, ext. 2 or reller@standrewspolaris.org.

Holiday office closings

The parish office will be closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 1, to allow our staff to enjoy the Christmas holiday with their families. Regular hours will resume on Monday, Jan. 4. If you have questions about your year-end giving, or any other urgent church-related business to conduct, please call the office at 740-548-5112, ext. 2 and leave a voice mail message, and someone will return your call.

Fr. Ron will also be reachable in case of emergency at 740-548-5112, ext. 1 or 614-961-7012.

Darke to perform in Vaudvillities today

Steve and Laurie Darke, and their son Liam will be performing in Vaudvillities Annual Holiday Show, "Just Believe," at 2:30 p.m. today. For information, visit vvshows.org.



The Daily Lectionary

Week of the Third Sunday in Advent • Dec. 13-19

Sunday, Dec. 13 (Advent 3) — A.M.: Psalm 63:1-8(9-11), 98; P.M.: Psalm 103; Amos 9:11-15; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3,13-17; John 5:30-47

Monday, Dec. 14 — A.M.: Psalm 41, 52; P.M.: Psalm 44; Zechariah 1:7-17; Revelation 3:7-13; Matthew 24:15-31

Tuesday, Dec. 15 — A.M.: Psalm 45; PM Psalm 47, 48; Zechariah 2:1-13; Revelation 3:14-22; Matthew 24:32-44

Wednesday, Dec. 16 — A.M.: Psalm 119:49-72; P.M.: Psalm 49, [53]; Zechariah 3:1-10; Revelation 4:1-8; Matthew 24:45-51

Thursday, Dec. 17 — A.M.: Psalm 50; P.M.: Psalm [59, 60] or 33; Zechariah 4:1-14; Revelation 4:9-5:5; Matthew 25:1-13

Friday, Dec. 18 — A.M.: Psalm 40, 54; P.M.: Psalm 51; Zechariah 7:8-8:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Matthew 25:14-30

Saturday, Dec. 19 — A.M.: Psalm 55; P.M.: Psalm 138, 139:1-17(18-23); Zechariah 8:9-17; Revelation 6:1-17; Matthew 25:31-46

Next Sunday, Dec. 20 (Advent 4) — A.M.: Psalm 24, 29; P.M.: Psalm 8, 84; Genesis 3:8-15; Revelation 12:1-10; John 3:16-21

Next Sunday's Lectionary • Dec. 20; Fourth Sunday in Advent (Year C)

Collect: BCP 212

Psalm 80:1-7 (BCP 702)

Gospel: Luke 1:39-55)

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Encouragement for your prayer time with God

When you pray, do you truly trust God? What issue could cause you not to trust? "Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation." (*Isaiah 12:2*) "The righteousness of Your testimonies is everlasting; grant me understanding, and I shall live." (*Psalms 119:144*)

— From the St. Andrew's Prayer Ministries Team

Encourage 'The River' to play Christmas music for the 12 days of Christmas!

The Sunday Morning Apostles small group would like to ask the congregation to join them in contacting 104.9 FM The River radio station to request that they continue to play Christmas music during the week after Christmas Day, and perhaps through Epiphany. Tell your friends too!

Contact the station at 1-800-609-1049 or 614-479-1049, on Facebook at 104.9 The River, or by email at theriver@1049theriver.com.

Christmas day prayer & brunch

Continued from the front

In conjunction with this year's brunch, there will be a Gift Swap. For each person who wishes to participate, simply bring a wrapped gift to be placed on our gift swap table and get ready for some fun! Gifts should cost no more than \$20, and they should not be male or female specific. Couples can bring one gift, or two if each person wishes to participate individually. The rules of the game will be given prior to starting.

A sign-up sheet is available at the Information Desk. For more information, please contact Jackie Menke at 614-895-0786 or Randy and Linda Smith at 740-417-4702.

Prayers for the Church

Following the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, please pray for Bishop C. Leopold Friday and for the priests, deacons, religious, and laity of the Diocese of the Windward Islands. Anglican worship in the area now covered by the Diocese began in the early 1700s, when several of the islands were still ruled by the French. In an era when denominational rivalry was sometimes intense, a cordial relationship seems to have existed between the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches as several French Roman Catholic priests were buried in Anglican churchyards with at least one of the burial services conducted by the local Anglican priest.

The Diocese was formed in 1877 by the division of the Diocese of Barbados. It includes 16 parishes with 54 places of worship on eight islands (Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines) spread out over 680 square miles in the Caribbean. Anglicans comprised 17 percent of the 342,000 population in the 2001 census. The diocese has maintained a strong emphasis on education. While some schools that had begun as parish schools have been amicably taken over by the government, the diocese continues to operate five secondary schools and 16 primary schools.

Please pray especially for those areas and families still recovering from the devastating storms on Christmas Eve, 2013 (12 known dead, some still missing after 12 inches of rain fell in three hours, causing landslides and floods), for the continued success of efforts with youth and education, for evangelism to the "spiritual but unchurched", and for peaceful and productive general elections set for 2016.

Following the Anglican Church in North America cycle of prayer, please pray for Archbishop Dr. Robert Duncan and the clergy and people of The Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Following the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, please pray for Fr. Ernie Duross, Fr. Richard Palmer, Fr. Dennis Henkle, Fr. Ernest St. Johns, Fr. Joshua Toepper, Fr. Shane Chellis, and Fr. Ryan Kocak; and for Deacon Richard Davis, Deacon Jamie Schmotzer, and Deacon Donna Purkis.

Following the Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Larry and Julie Baldwin; Dave and Marily Barnes; Hilda Barnes; the Early Birds Bible Study; and the Altar Guild Ministry. Please also pray for those in service-related jobs; God, give them a spirit of serving you.

A Thanksgiving Feast at Common Ground Free Store

Thanks to all who volunteered at Common Ground Free Store on Nov. 21. We were all very thankful for the wonderful Thanksgiving meal that was served. Thanks to Mary Alvarado; Judy Baird; Diane, Ryan, Caroline and Sophia Bobay; Larry and Patti Cooper; Eric, Benjamin and Christian Emery; Emily Fieger; Jim and Jackie Menke; Corkeé Miller; Donn and Luann Ross; Frank and Marty Scott; Debbie Sterling; Kathy Summers; Ryan Weiser; Pete Wilkinson; Jan Zacharias and her friend Karen, who served as volunteers to operate the store. A special thanks to Ryan, Pete and Karen for spending time with shoppers explaining the “Miracle on William Street” and registering them for this blessed Christmas event held each year.

Those who help prepare for donate money for food were Mary Alvarado; Judy Baird; Wini Cloran; Emily Fieger; George and Barbara Girard; Peggy Guenther; Sue McKeown; Jackie Menke; Karen Osmond; LuAnn Ross; Frank and Marty Scott; Nancy Renshaw; Kathy Summers; Ernie and Candy Tracy; Erica Weiser; Jim and Julie Worthington; Betsy York; and Jan and Steve Zacharias.

We served a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner of turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potato casserole, green beans, and pumpkin pie and cookies. Monetary donations as it purchased the turkeys from Bob Evans Restaurant and other items needed to operate the kitchen of the Free Store.

St. Andrew’s provided 23 of the store’s 34 volunteers that day. With several other volunteers bringing food, the kitchen staff was able to prepare food for carryout orders as the store was to be closed from Wednesday before Thanksgiving until the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Did you realize when a person gets a job before they get their first paycheck their food stamps are cut off? It was a blessing from God to be able to give food to these shoppers and several people who were homeless but just received a place to stay.

The next time St. Andrew’s serves at Common Ground is Saturday, Jan. 17. Please mark your calendars and join in the Common Ground Free Store mission “Welcoming the community to share in God’s love and gifts.”

For information, contact Diane Bobay at 614-846-6921 or bobayfamily@att.net or Marty



Above, first-time Free Store volunteer Pete Wilkinson, center, with “veterans” Ryan Weiser and Karen, a friend of Jan Zacharias; and at left, new volunteers LuAnn and Donn Ross.



Above, a child shows off his miniature chocolate St. Nicholas while posing with a gentleman who looks very familiar. At left, members of Rachel Cherubini’s Godly Play class gather with St. Nicholas, whose feast day is celebrated in the Church worldwide on Dec. 6.

