

# The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

January 11, 2015



Above, a child helps Fr. Ron Baird open a Christmas gift used to illustrate his children's sermon at the 5:30 Christmas Eve service; at left, several sets of St. Andrew's sisters are decked out in their Christmas finery.

## Donations For Brotherhood Christmas Top \$1,800

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew would like to thank the St. Andrew's congregation Church for their outstanding generosity in providing Christmas help for a deserving family. Thanks to you, **Tally Whitehead** was authorized to present gift cards and other assistance totaling \$1,815 to our family to make sure they had a blessed and merry Christmas. Tally reported the family was overwhelmed with your generosity

Thank you once more for sharing what God has provided you with others who are in need of assistance.

## St. Andrew's Youth Group resumes Tuesday along with Testimony Troupe

St. Andrew's youth are gearing up for an EPIC year in 2015, as they resume Sunday morning Bible Study on Jan. 11, and Tuesday night Youth Group on Tuesday, Jan. 13.

The Re:Form curriculum has been going well, and we hope youth will start the New Year off by committing to attend this great youth class (yummy donuts included!), which is offered at 11 a.m. on Sundays.

Next Tuesday's youth gathering will kick off with Testimony Troupe at 6:30 p.m., followed by a general Youth Group meeting around 7:30 p.m. We will have a pizza party and games planned, and will be officially done at 8:30 p.m., but kids are welcome to "hang" until 9 p.m.

**Tiffany Kennedy-Christy** will be heading up Testimony Troupe, a Christian

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## St. Andrew's to serve at Common Ground Jan. 17

St. Andrew's will serve at the Common Ground Free Store on Saturday, Jan. 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., providing both food and volunteers.

The Free Store — whose mission statement is "Welcoming the Community to Share in God's Love and Gifts" — provides free clothing, household goods, books, toys and more to all in need, regardless of their situation. There are no income requirements or guidelines to meet. The store's philosophy is that everyone is on "common ground."

The Free Store's hours are Tuesdays from 6 to 9 p.m.; Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m.; and Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition to providing clients with a free shopping experience, the store serves a hot meal to shoppers. Donations are accepted during store hours, and volunteers are needed most every day. To learn more about Common Ground Free Store Ministries, log on to [www.commongroundfreestore.org](http://www.commongroundfreestore.org).

**What:** St. Andrew's Day to serve at Common Ground Free Store Ministries

**When:** Saturday, Jan. 19, 9:30 a.m. -  
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## Winter weather notice

With winter upon us, please remember to check our website before heading out for events and activities at the church if weather conditions are deteriorating, if roads are in poor driving condition or if there are snow emergencies in Delaware or Franklin counties. (Please note that all events and activities at the church are canceled if there is a Level 3 snow emergency in Delaware County and/or Orange Township.)

If a cancellation affects a majority of the congregation, we will also send a parish-wide e-mail. Church service cancellations will also be posted on local TV stations.



# Feast of the Baptism of our Lord reveals God's power in Jesus

By Fr. Ron Baird

The Feast of the Baptism of our Lord is celebrated on the Sunday after the Feast of the Epiphany. The reason that this feast stands in such a prominent position is because it was the first time that God manifested his power in Jesus in public.

When Jesus came to John to be baptized, John was appalled at the idea. He claimed he was not worthy to untie Jesus' sandal. Why should he baptize Jesus for the forgiveness of sins when Jesus was obviously so much more righteous than anyone John had ever known?

John tells Jesus, "I need to be baptized by you ..." (Matthew 3:14) But Jesus answers him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Why does Jesus insist on this? Why does he need to be baptized?

The answer is one that John gave earlier in Matthew 3:11. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me...will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."

This is the baptism that Jesus receives. A baptism to be filled

with the Holy Spirit. A baptism of the power of God. To this the Father testifies, "This is my beloved son with whom I am well pleased." God's public testimony of the person and power of Jesus the Christ.

Others would come, at the Transfiguration, through signs and healings: The blind shall see, the lame shall walk, the deaf shall hear, the dumb shall speak. And then through that ultimate sign of the power of God: The Resurrection.

When we come to be baptized as Christians, we come not only to be baptized for the forgiveness of sin, but also to receive the Holy Spirit as Jesus did; to proclaim to a sinful and broken world the Good News of God's salvation through Jesus Christ.

With the power of God with us, we are called to open the eyes of the blind, open the ears of the deaf, enable the dumb to speak and the lame to walk. In other words, we are to set those who are captive to sin free from the darkness to walk as the children of light!



## The Daily Lectionary

Week of the First Sunday after The Epiphany · Jan. 11-17

**Sunday, January 11** — A.M.: Psalm 146, 147; P.M.: Psalm 111, 112, 113;  
Isaiah 40:1-11; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-7, 19-20, 29-34

**Monday, January 12** — A.M.: Psalm 1, 2, 3; P.M.: Psalm 4, 7; Isaiah 40:12-23;  
Ephesians 1:1-14; Mark 1:1-13

**Tuesday, January 13** — A.M.: Psalm 5, 6; P.M.: Psalm 10, 11; Isaiah 40:25-31;  
Ephesians 1:15-23; Mark 1:14-28

**Wednesday, January 14** — A.M.: Psalm 119:1-24; P.M.: Psalm 12, 13, 14; Isaiah 41:1-16;  
Ephesians 2:1-10; Mark 1:29-45

**Thursday, January 15** — A.M.: Psalm 18:1-20; P.M.: Psalm 18:21-50; Isaiah 41:17-29;  
Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 2:1-12

**Friday, January 16** — A.M.: Psalm 16, 17; P.M.: Psalm 22; Isaiah 42:(1-9)10-17;  
Ephesians 3:1-13; Mark 2:13-22

**Saturday, January 17** — A.M.: Psalm 20, 21:1-7(8-14); P.M.: Psalm 110:1-5 (6-7),  
116, 117; Isaiah 43:1-13; Ephesians 3:14-21; Mark 2:23-3:6

**Next Sunday, January 18** — A.M.: Psalm 148, 149, 150; P.M.: Psalm 114, 115; Isaiah  
43:14-44:5; Heb. 6:17-7:10; John 4:27-42

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**Next Sunday's Lectionary · Jan. 18; Second Sunday after The Epiphany (Year B)**

**Collect:** BCP 215

**First Reading:** I Samuel 3:1-20

**Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17** (BCP 794)

**Second Reading:** I Corinthians 6:12-20

**Gospel:** John 1:43-51

## Encouragement for your prayer time with God

What would you like changed about your prayer-life in the new year? "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19a) "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10)

— From the St. Andrew's Prayer Ministries Team

## Prayers for the Church

Following the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, please pray for **Bishop Stanley Fube** and for the priests, deacons, religious, and people of the **Diocese of Langtang, Nigeria**. Langtang is located in east central Nigeria, in Plateau State. Although just nine degrees north of the equator, the altitude of Plateau State (more than 4,000 feet above sea level) renders the climate quite temperate. The area is known for its scenic beauty, with waterfalls, game preserves, rolling hills, and mountains.

The image of Plateau State, once celebrated as "The Home of Peace and Tourism," has been fractured over the last 15 years by violent Muslim-Christian clashes. Over the years, thousands have been killed, many homes and churches destroyed, and tens of thousands displaced. Christians in some areas have responded with violence, killing Muslims in return. Whether killed by Muslims or Christians, the victims have most often been unarmed villagers. As recently as a year and a half ago, more than 70 Christians were killed by Muslim extremists. The military responded by killing about 120 of the reputed assailants. Thankfully, there have been no reported large scale killings more recently. Anglicans are a growing minority among the Christians. Please pray especially for the continued spread of the Gospel, for the return of a lasting peace to the area, and for all those affected by the violence.

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## Bible study opportunities

### Sunday at the Parish House

George Girard's Sunday morning adult Bible Study group will be starting a study on the book of James this week. The group meets Sundays at 11:15 a.m. in the Parish House, and all adults are welcome. If you're interested, please let George know so that he can have enough copies of the lesson available.

### Weekdays in Delaware

Larry and Patti Cooper are inviting folks who live in the Delaware Area to join them for a Small Group Bible Study, perhaps on Wednesday evenings at their home in Delaware. Please contact them at lawrence\_d\_cooper@yahoo.com or 740-369-0832 if you're interested, or would like to learn more.

## Note to electronic givers

Parishioners who are using e-giving should be sure to change their pledge in January to "General Fund 2015." You can re-select that option on the e-giving website by clicking on the "Online Giving" link on the home page of our website, standrewspolaris.org. If you have questions about how to use E-giving, or how to pay your pledge electronically through your bank, please contact Ruth Eller, business manager, at 740-548-5112.

## Prayers for the Church

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Following the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, please pray for **Fr. David Harnish** and for the people of **All Saints Anglican Church**, Rochester, New York.

Following the Parish Cycle of Prayer, please pray for **Chris** and **Cherie Bryant** and **Angie Kerr**; **Mike** and **Pat Buehner**; and **Dick** and **Mary Alice Busick**. Please also pray for all teachers: Grant, Lord, that they may encourage sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom.

## Have a prayer request?

You may email your prayer requests to prayerchain@standrewspolaris.org; call **Jacque Wallace** at 740-369-3963; or fill out the online form on our website, standrewspolaris.org, under the "Scripture & Prayer" dropdown menu.

Prayer requests may also be placed in the prayer box in the Narthex.

## 'Testimony Troupe' opportunity for youth to share faith through drama and music

St. Andrew's youth will have an opportunity to share their faith through drama and music with the formation in early 2015 of the Christian Drama Group Testimony Troupe. The Troupe's first meeting will be during Youth Group on Tuesday, Jan. 13, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the church.

All youth, ages 12 to 18, are invited to participate in this ministry, whose purpose is to spread God's word through theatre ministry.

In addition to stage talent, opportunities exist for technical services, lighting, costume, stage and make-up personnel.

Youth are welcome to invite friends from school, and other churches to participate!

For more information, please contact **Tiffany Christy** at kennedy\_tiff@yahoo.com or **Laurie Darke** at lauriedarke@gmail.com.

## Youth Group

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musical/theatrical group. She will be using the Celebrate Life musical material. According to the description on www.lifeway.com, Celebrate Life "tells the entire story of Christ — from prophecy through his birth, ministry, death, burial and resurrection." Testimony Troupe will meet weekly at church on Tuesday nights, from 6:30 to 7:30-ish. Youth Group will follow from 7:30-8:30, and then allow youth to hangout and fellowship or play games until 9 p.m. During Lent, the Troupe will meet at the Parish House and will end at 8 p.m. along with the rest of the Lenten program.

Testimony Troupe is in no way replacing Youth Group, but will be an additional youth experience for those who want to participate. Everyone is invited to come, no matter what their talents, as there are many needs to this musical experience. There might be nights where we don't have Youth Group afterward, such as during Lent. We will email and print the schedule in "The Net" as early as possible so families can plan.

We need about 20 youth for the Testimony Troupe to be successful, so we are going to try it out and see how it goes next Tuesday. Youth are encouraged to bring a friend next week! Please pray for us as we step out in this new venture and see what God has in store.

Please email **Tally Whitehead**, director of Christian Formation, at whitehead@standrewspolaris.org, or talk to her at church on Sunday, if you have more questions.

The Youth Group is also hoping to host its annual Chili Cookoff later this month, and have another movie night soon. Several youth have expressed interest in a retreat, so we are looking into places that are close by and affordable for a possible mini winter retreat. If that just doesn't fall into place, the goal will be to plan a summer weekend retreat!

Thanks to all of our youth and their parents for their support of our youth ministry. We hope you all commit to making 2015 an EPIC year!

## Common Ground

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1 p.m. or 12:30 - 3 p.m.

**Where:** 193 East Central, Delaware

**Purpose:** Welcoming the community to share God's love and gifts. FELLOWSHIP and FUN for everyone.

**Philosophy:** To share resources, to build relationships to create Christian community. All people matter to God. All people are welcome here. Everything belongs to God and our goal is to use those resources wisely.

**How do you sign up?** Sign-up sheets are in the atrium. We need food, as well as volunteers to serve both during the time the store is open, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and in the afternoon, for clean-up and re-stocking of shelves.

**For more information:** Contact **Ginny Ribbans** at 614-330-5304 or vribbans@sbcglobal.net; or **Marty Scott** at 614-284-0182 or mscott@standrewspolaris.org.

## Prayers sought for the Patton family

We are sad to share with you news of the death this past Tuesday, Jan. 6, of **Robert N. Manson**, father of St. Andrew's parishioner **Meg Patton**. Many of you will remember Bob's cheerful disposition and warm smile, as he and his wife **Ruth** worshiped with us when they visited Meg and her family.

Please keep Meg, **David**, and their children, **Robert** and **Jennifer**, as well as Meg's mother, her brothers **Ralph** and **David**, and the rest of the Manson family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their beloved husband, father and grandfather. Please also pray for Robert as he enters his new life in the nearer presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May his soul and the souls of all the saints rest in God's peace, and may light perpetual shine upon him

The service of Christian Burial was Saturday, Jan. 10, at Christ Church, Greensburg, Pa., with the **Most Rev. Robert Duncan**, recently retired archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America and bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, where Meg's mother served as a deacon, officiating. You may see the complete obituary on the Member Connection of our website.

## Ministry reports due Feb. 1;

It's that time of year again! If you are a leader of a ministry or group, or an officer of the church, your ministry reports for inclusion in the 2014 Annual Report are due by Sunday, Feb. 1. The 2014 Annual Report will be made available to the parish on Feb. 15 in preparation for the Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 22. Details will follow.

Ministry leaders may download an electronic copy of the report form, which includes a suggested outline for your report. A hard copy of the form is available in the Narthex. For more information, please contact **Judy Baird** at [jbaird@standrewspolaris.org](mailto:jbaird@standrewspolaris.org) or 740-548-5112, ext. 3.



## Behind the scenes prep for Christmas Eve

A lot goes on behind the scenes to prepare for Christmas Eve services! At left, clockwise from top left, **Jan Zacharias**, a member of the Altar Guild, polishes the communion vessels; **Larry Baldwin** hangs one of the large wreaths that graced either side of the worship area while **Mike Brust** steadies the ladder; several of our young men sort candles and place them in the holders for the Christmas Eve services; and one looks up from his labors with a smile.

Many thanks to **Wini Cloran**, Altar Guild directress, and her crew, and **Ellie Schramm**, memorials and flower chair, for beautifying the Sanctuary and Altar Guild for our Christmas services!

Thanks, also, to all of you who contributed to the flowers and greenery through your Christmas memorials and thanksgivings.

Christmas Eve bulletin available.

If you were traveling over the holidays, or otherwise unable to be with us on Christmas Eve, you may download a copy of the Christmas Eve bulletin, which includes Christmas memorials and thanksgivings, from the Member Connection of our website, [standrewspolaris.org](http://standrewspolaris.org). A limited number of copies are also available in the Narthex.