

The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

February 8, 2015

Come and See

Lenten Study Program begins Feb. 24

The 2015 Lenten Study Program is set to begin on Tuesday, Feb. 24. This year's theme will be "Come and See: Ordinary people sharing God's extraordinary Good News." Once again, the five-week study will be held on Tuesdays. With programs for adults, youth and children, our hope is that families will come together to make this Lent a time of discipleship, fellowship and worship in preparation for Jesus's sacrifice on the cross, which opened the door to eternal life for us and for all who know him, and choose to follow him and call him Lord.

In Week 1, we'll examine the Scriptures to answer the question, "What is the Good News?" In subsequent weeks we'll discover our personality for sharing the Good News naturally; identify the Good News in our own life; look at how we can share the Good News with those whom God puts in our path; and talk about how we can invite others to "Come and See" God at work in our midst.

The study program will be held from 6:15 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays, beginning Feb. 24 and concluding March 24. Each evening will begin with a simple supper of soup and salad at 6:15 p.m., followed by a teaching by **Fr. Ron Baird**. Participants will then break into small groups for discussion and reflection.

We are also planning a program for our children, which will include a lesson, music and crafts. Youth participating in Testimony Troupe will meet for rehearsal following the evening meal each week. Youth not participating in Testimony Troupe are invited to join the adults for the teaching, and will break into their own small group for discussion.

Each evening will conclude with all ages coming together for a brief time of prayer and worship.

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Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper set for Feb. 17

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held this year on Tuesday, Feb 17, at the church. We will begin serving at approximately 5:30 p.m. and will continue until 7:30 p.m., or whenever the food runs out. As in the past, there is no charge for the supper, although we will be accepting freewill donations to defray the costs. Friends and neighbors are welcome!

You may sign up at the church, or online at standrewspolaris.org. Either way, please make sure to sign up so we'll know how many guests to prepare for. Once again this year the Pancake Supper is hosted by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in conjunction with the Kitchen Ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Ed Summers at 614-371-1649, or see any member of the Brotherhood.

Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday Feb. 18

Our Lenten journey begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18. We invite you to come to the altar of Christ at one of the two services that day, at 12 Noon and 7 p.m., to receive the imposition of ashes, to hear the call to a devout and Holy Lent and to receive God's mercy in the form of Christ's Body and Blood.

Remember that Ash Wednesday is also a fast day in the church. Those who are healthy and able are encouraged to fast from solid foods from sunup to sundown.

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Chili Cook-off this evening!

The St. Andrew's Youth Group will host its sixth annual Chili Cook-off today from 5 to 7 p.m. at the church. Everyone in the parish is invited to come and join the fun! This event grows each year, with more and more folks competing for the top prizes. Please plan to attend, and consider entering your favorite chili in the contest. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place; "fan favorite;" and the most unusual chili.

Drinks, rolls and dessert will be provided. If you plan to attend and/or enter a chili in the Cook-off, but have not yet signed up, please do so this morning on the sign-up sheet on the Youth Group bulletin board in the Gathering Area so the youth will know how many to plan for. And please pass the word on to your friends and family, and encourage them to come!

St. Andrew's youth are asked to be at the church at 4 p.m. on Sunday to help set up for the event. If you have questions, please contact **Karen Osmond** at 614-975-0878 or khosmond@gmail.com.



St. Andrew's will once again be participating in the Anglican Relief and Development Fund's Lenten Mite Box project. This year's focus is on ARDF's work in Myanmar (Burma), and how we can pray for, and assist financially, those suffering in poverty and oppression there. This is an opportunity to reflect on our own spiritual poverty before God, and our need for mercy and grace, while helping those in need. Mite boxes will be delivered soon, so please watch "The Net" and our website for details.

The Daily Lectionary

Week of the Fifth Sunday after The Epiphany • Feb. 8-14

Sunday, February 8 — A.M.: Psalm 93, 96; P.M.: Psalm 34; Isaiah 57:14-21; Hebrews 12:1-6; John 7:37-46

Monday, February 9 — A.M.: Psalm 80; P.M.: Psalm 77, [79]; Isaiah 58:1-12; Galatians 6:11-18; Mark 9:30-41

Tuesday, February 10 — A.M.: Psalm 78:1-39; P.M.: Psalm 78:40-72; Isaiah 59:1-15a; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Mark 9:42-50

Wednesday, February 11 — A.M.: Psalm 119:97-120; P.M.: Psalm 81, 82; Isaiah 59:15b-21; 2 Timothy 1:15-2:13; Mark 10:1-16

Thursday, February 12 — A.M.: Psalm [83] or 146, 147; P.M.: Psalm 85, 86; Isaiah 60:1-17; 2 Timothy 2:14-26; Mark 10:17-31

Friday, February 13 — A.M.: Psalm 88; P.M.: Psalm 91, 92; Isaiah 61:1-9; 2 Timothy 3:1-17; Mark 10:32-45

Saturday, February 14 — A.M.: Psalm 87, 90; P.M.: Psalm 136; Isaiah 61:10-62:5; 2 Timothy 4:1-8; Mark 10:46-52

Next Sunday, February 15 — A.M.: Psalm 148, 149, 150; P.M.: Psalm 114, 115; Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Hebrews 12:18-29; John 12:24-32

Next Sunday's Lessons — First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6 (BCP 654); Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

Prayers for the Church

Following the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, please pray for **Bishop Emmanuel Mani**, and for the priests, deacons, religious, and people of the **Diocese of Maiduguri, Nigeria**. The Diocese is one of the 161 dioceses in the Church of Nigeria, and the latter had a membership of more than 18 million in 2012. Islam became the predominant religion in 1090 in the area covered by the diocese and remains so today. Maiduguri is the capitol city of Borno State, comprised of largely arid and sandy plains in northeastern Nigeria, extending into the Sahara Desert and bordering on the nations of Chad and Niger.

In the past five years, largely because of the depredations of Boko Haram (literally "Western Education is Forbidden"), Borno State has become one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a Christian. Maiduguri is the city of Boko Haram's origin. Hundreds of Christians have been killed, thousands displaced because of their religion, and thousands more threatened with death if they do not convert to Islam. In July of 2014, the governor of Borno State said that 176 teachers had been killed and 900 schools destroyed since 2011 by Boko Haram. The first Anglican services in the area occurred in 1936, the first Anglican church, Holy Trinity, in the area was dedicated in 1947, and the Diocese of Maiduguri was created in 1990.

The state is under Sharia law, which makes Christian evangelization of Muslims illegal. Boko Haram has made numerous attacks on Christians, most recently in January 2015, when US Secretary of State John Kerry was visiting Nigeria. The terrorist group now controls villages surrounding Maiduguri. Please pray especially for the survival of Christianity in the area, that the Holy Spirit will comfort and succor Christians in the area, for ongoing evangelization, for those who are now and will become martyrs, and for the conversion of Boko Haram.

Following the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, please pray for **Fr. Gene Sherman, Fr. Sean Templeton, and Fr. Bob Andrew, Deacon Kevin Krumenaur**, and for the people of **Christ Church, Bay Village**.

Following the Parish Cycle of Prayer, please pray for **Larry and Patti Cooper; Phil, Lori, Jonathan and Hannah Cornett; Steve, Laurie, Connor, Liam, Avril and Aiden Darke; the Youth Sunday School Class; and the Facilities Team**. Please also pray for volunteers: May they serve the Lord in love as they serve others.

Encouragement for your prayer time with God

Prayer is not just words or thoughts. It is our spirit making live contact with God's Spirit. "If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God." (1 John 4:15) "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10).

— From the Prayer Ministries Team

Annual Parish Meeting Feb. 22

The Annual Parish Meeting will be Sunday, Feb. 22 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This meeting will be an opportunity to hear from Fr. Ron Baird and members of the Vestry about the state of the parish in 2014, and look ahead to what's planned for 2015. It's also an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the 2014 Annual Report, which will be available on Sunday, Feb. 15.

Please mark Feb. 22 on your calendar, and plan to come out to hear what God is doing in our midst! Child care will be available.

Join the 'Early Birds' in getting the WORD!

The "Early Birds" Small Group, which meets at 9:30 a.m. Sundays at the Parish House, welcomes parishioners to join them for Bible study and fellowship. There is no pressure, no preconceptions; just know that the door is always open to you, if you would like to visit! The group has adopted as its foundational Scripture passage Romans 10:17 — "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing, by the word of God." The reference in their name to an "early riser" is a reminder to others that they meet after the 8 a.m. service, but the true significance is that they base their study, prayer, reflection and fellowship, on the WORD of God — and that the Early Bird gets the WORD!

Ash Wednesday

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Fasting helps us keep in mind the plight of those who don't have enough to eat, and also focuses our attention on the need to be "hungry" for the Gospel.

Walking the Lenten journey allows us to experience the true joy of Easter. The imposition of ashes begins this journey by reminding us that we are but creatures of dust, created by God, and lost without his saving grace.

Come & See

— Continued from front —

As in the past, we're asking parishioners to contribute to the weekly meals by bringing a soup or salad to share. Sign up sheets for the study program, meals, and volunteers for our children's program and nursery, are available in the Narthex.