

Christmas outreach projects

Care packages for military personnel

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew will once again adopt U.S. military personnel for Christmas, and is inviting members of the parish to join them in making the Holiday a little brighter for the men and women serving our country overseas. The Brotherhood is coordinating the project through **Col. David Mullins**, brother and brother-in-law of **Brenda** and **Don Bender**, and hopes to be able to provide care packages for 100 soldiers. If you'd like to participate in this project, be watching for the "Christmas trees" and details in the next several weeks.

Operation Christmas Child

The Girard Disciple Group expresses appreciation to everyone who participated in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child last year. The children who received your gifts were certainly touched by God's love because of your generosity.

The group will be sponsoring this ministry again this year, and they invite members of St. Andrew's to join them in bringing joy and hope in a shoebox to a needy child. If you wish to participate, you will need to supply a shoe box or plastic container with a lid filled with small gift items for a boy or girl age 2 through 14. Please bring your shoe box or plastic container to the church by Nov. 15. Drop-off will be by the table near the back door of the Gathering Area. Brochures that list all the details are available at the Information Desk in the Narthex. There are also stickers to attach to your shoe box or container to indicate whether the box is for a boy or girl, and what age group you have chosen.

For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact **Barbara** or **George Girard** at 614-882-8754 or girardg@sbcglobal.net.

Since 1993, more than 61 million shoe boxes have been packed, shipped, and delivered across the globe. You may learn more about Operation Christmas Child at www.samaritanspurse.org.

Next week's food pantry collection

The Daughters of the King is continuing to collect food for local food pantries to help those in our community in need during these uncertain economic times. Next week's items are baby food, cereal, formula, diapers, etc.

THE DAILY LECTIONARY

Week of the Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25) • Oct. 25-31

Sunday, Oct. 25 — Psalms 63:1-8(9-11), 98/103; Haggai 1:1-2:9; Acts 18:24-19:7; Luke 10:25-37

Monday, Oct. 26 — Psalms 41, 52/44; Zechariah 1:7-17; Revelation 1:4-20; Matt. 12:43-50

Tuesday, Oct. 27 — Psalms 45/47, 48; Ezra 5:1-17; Revelation 4:1-11; Matt. 13:1-9

Wednesday, Oct. 28 — Psalms 119:49-72/49, [53]; Ezra 6:1-22; Revelation 5:1-10; Matthew 13:10-17

Thursday, Oct. 29 — Psalms 50/[59, 60] or 103; Nehemiah 1:1-11; Revelation 5:11-6:11; Matthew 13:18-23

Friday, Oct. 30 — Psalms 40, 54/51; Nehemiah 2:1-20; Revelation 6:12-7:4; Matt. 13:24-30

Saturday, Oct. 31 — Psalms 55/138, 139:1-17(18-23); Nehemiah 4:1-23; Rev. 7:(4-8)9-17; Matthew 13:31-35
Eve of All Saints: Psalm 34; Wisdom 3:1-9; Revelation 19:1,4-10

Note: *The first set of Psalms are intended for the morning, and the second set for the evening.*

'Voices' of Joseph, Herod still needed

With the Wise Men already cast, **Nanci James**, director, is still seeking two courageous men to bring us the "voices" of Joseph and Herod for the Dec. 20 presentation of *The Twelve Voices of Christmas*. If you would like to step out in faith to portray Joseph or Herod, two very important figures in the Christmas narrative, please contact Nanci at 614-895-0144 or nanci@otterbein.edu. She promises you won't regret it! The reading for Joseph, the Voice of Reason, is based on Matthew 1:16-25. The reading for Herod, the Voice of Deception, is based on Matthew 2:1-12.

The Twelve Voices of Christmas was written by Woodrow Knoll, and is published by Back to the Bible, in Lincoln, Nebraska. It is a series of 12 soliloquies, each from the perspective of an active participant in the birth of Christ, and based upon scripture.

If anyone needs a copy of the part to look at prior to committing, just ask Nanci. Opportunities also exist for props and costumes.

Youth Group plans chili cook-off for Nov. 14

The St. Andrew's Youth Group will sponsor a parish-wide Chili Cookoff on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to enter their favorite chili recipe. Categories for the cook-off will be Best Overall (1st, 2nd, and 3rd place); spiciest; fan favorite, and most unusual.

If you have a chili recipe that you would like to enter, please contact **Emelie Deslauriers**, 614-425-3973 or ecdeslauriers@gmail.com or **Karen Osmond**, 614-975-0878 or khosmond@gmail.com.

Watch for more details in the Net and on the Member Connection so four web site, www.standrewspolaris.org.

Women's book club to meet Nov. 7

The St. Andrew's Women's Book Club, which meets periodically for fellowship and a book discussion, will have their next gathering on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 1 to 3 p.m. The meeting will be at the home of **Pam Dunlap**, 186 Oakwood Court, Westerville.

The women will be discussing *The Help*, by Kathryn Stockett. Stockett's novel chronicles the extraordinary experience of three seemingly very different women working toward one end in the midst of the Civil Rights movement in 1962. The books looks at the times that defined an era, and how these three dare to cross the lines that divide their Mississippi town.

Bring a snack and come enjoy the fellowship of other women in your church. All women are welcome. Please call 614-776-1385 for more information.

Prayers sought for Robinson family

It is with great sadness that we share with you news of the death last Sunday of **Mike Robinson**, a former member of our congregation who had moved to Indiana. **Fr. Ron Baird** officiated at the funeral this past Thursday at Bundy-Law Funeral Home, 120 N. 11th St., Cambridge, Ohio.

Please keep Mike's son **Scott**, and the rest of the Robinson family in your prayers as they mourn his death. And pray for Mike as he enters his new life in the nearer presence of our Lord Jesus Christ. May his soul, and the souls of all the saints, rest in God's peace.

What does it take to become a Stephen Minister... ...and what do you receive in return?

Stephen Ministry may have crossed your mind a few times. You might even have picked up a brochure to see what it is about. But now you want to take a closer look at the idea of becoming a Stephen Minister. You may be wondering, "Is this right for me?" Here are some guidelines that might help you in making your decision.

Gifts

A Stephen Minister is a person with the gift of mercy, who shows compassion, and gives encouragement to and intercedes for those he or she cares for.

Commitment

A Stephen Minister devotes time, energy and resources to this ministry. In return, a Stephen Minister has the chance to participate in meaningful ministry, make a major difference in another person's life, and grow as a joyous child of God.

Training

After being interviewed by the Stephen leaders and accepted, a Stephen Minister recruit completes 50 hours of training before ever meeting with a care receiver. He or she learns about listening, assertiveness, confidentiality and many other aspects of care giving. After completing the initial training, there is continuing education and peer supervision each month. Stephen Ministers find that their relationships become richer and deeper at home, church, at work, and with friends.

Dedicated Service

A Stephen Minister serves wholeheartedly. This isn't a casual ministry. It involves prayer, thought, consideration, study and commitment. In return, the Stephen Minister receives grateful thanks from the care receiver, our Stephen leaders, and the Lord.

Accountability

A Stephen Minister is accountable to God, the congregation, the Stephen leaders, the other Stephen Ministers, and the care receiver. In return, he or she receives support, encouragement and guidance in Small Group Peer Supervision twice a month.

Continuous Learning

A Stephen Minister is open to adjusting and adapting his or her care giving to fit the needs of the care receiver. He or she learns more about care giving at each meeting with a care receiver and also at Continuing Education and Peer Supervision at Stephen Ministry meetings. Stephen Ministry is an experience of continuous learning, growth, and joy.

A new training class for Stephen Ministry is planned to start on Saturdays beginning in February and running through June. The Holy Spirit may be calling you to the joy, commitment, growth, meaning, training, service and care of being a Stephen Minister. Please pray for God's guidance as you consider this opportunity for service to our Lord.

For more information, please contact one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders: **Brenda Bender**, 614-865-4565 or brenda.bender@att.net; **Sarah Fabian**, 614-895-6745 or sarahgf@sbcglobal.net, or **Kathy Summers**, 614-939-1649 or ktsummers@sbcglobal.net.

Parish Meeting today, Oct. 25

Please join us today, Oct. 25 at 6:30 p.m. for a Parish Meeting in the Sanctuary.

Fr. Ron and the Vestry will be discussing the parish family budget and sharing with us our future building plans.

Pledge Sunday, Vestry elections set for Nov. 1

Sunday, Nov. 1 — All Saints Sunday — is also Pledge Sunday, when we will lift up to God during the Offertory at all four services our pledges for 2010.

You should have received the brochure for the 2010 Stewardship Campaign, which details the operating budget for the coming year, this week. If you have not yet received your materials, please contact the parish office at 614-423-4250, and we'll be glad to get them to you this week. The brochure is also available for download on the Member Connection of our web site, www.standrewspolaris.org.

Please prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give toward his work at St. Andrew's in the coming year, and come prepared on Nov. 1 to respond to that call.

Also on Nov. 1, the Parish will be electing members to serve on Vestry. Voting will take place during each of the Sunday services.

Calling all saints...

...and princesses and knights in shining armor, super heroes, cartoon and movie characters, ghosties and ghoulies, puppy dogs and kitty cats, and other assorted characters!

Our annual All Saints Procession will be held on Sunday, Nov. 1. Children (and OK, some of you adventurous adults, too!) are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and participate in the All-Saints Procession during the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services. Fr. Ron will give a short homily on the origin of Halloween and the meaning of All Saints Day. There will be treats at both services!