

Think Stephen Ministry might be for you? Here's what to expect!

Stephen Ministers listen, accept, care, and walk with a person who is going through a difficult time. They provide support — prayer, Scripture, caring, listening. Stephen Ministers are *not* counselors or therapists. They do not give advice or tell people how to solve their problems.

A motto of Stephen Ministry is "The Stephen Minister Is the Caregiver; God is the Curegiver." Likewise, Stephen Ministers are not social workers. Stephen Ministers do not run errands, do shopping, cook, clean or provide transportation. The Stephen Minister's role is to care and to listen, standing by the person and ministering to his or her spiritual needs as God works through the relationship to bring hope and healing to the care receiver.

If your gifts include one or more of the following — loving, patient, non-judgmental, confidential, prayerful, encouraging, good listener — consider Stephen Ministry.

Nothing is too large or too small to take to our Lord in prayer. A new training class for Stephen Ministers will be starting in the near future. Take this opportunity to pray to the Lord and seek his guidance. This may be just the ministry he has prepared for you.

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

Alpha explores basics of Christianity

Steve and Beth Myers will host *The Alpha Course* on Sundays at 6 p.m. at their home, beginning March 7. Co-hosts will be Fr. Ric and Val Bowser. This practical exploration of the Christianity will present the basic principles of the faith in a relaxed, informal and non-threatening setting. For people who are new to St. Andrew's or to the Christian faith, this would be a great way to get involved in a small group where you can grow deeper in the faith. For members of St. Andrew's who have already attended an Alpha Course, or who are currently involved in a small group, this is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends or family members who may be seeking to know more about the Christian faith, or whom you would like to introduce to Jesus Christ.

For more information, please e-mail jbaird@standrewspolaris.org. You may also contact Steve and Beth at 614-505-6334 or bethmyers510@gmail.com.

THE DAILY LECTIONARY

The Week of the First Sunday in Lent · February 21-27

Sunday, Feb. 21 — Psalms 63:1-8(9-11), 98/103; Daniel 9:3-10; Hebrews 2:10-18; John 12:44-50

Monday, Feb. 22 — Psalms 41, 52/44; Genesis 37:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-19; Mark 1:1-13

Tuesday, Feb. 23 — Psalms 45/47, 48; Genesis 37:12-24; 1 Corinthians 1:20-31; Mark 1:14-28

Wednesday, Feb. 24 — Psalms 119:49-72/49, [53]; Genesis 37:25-36; 1 Corinthians 2:1-13; Mark 1:29-45

Thursday, Feb. 25 — Psalms 50/[59, 60] or 19, 46; Genesis 39:1-23; 1 Corinthians 2:14-3:15; Mark 2:1-12

Friday, Feb. 26 — Psalms 95, 40,54/51; Genesis 40:1-23; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23; Mark 2:13-22

Saturday, Feb. 27 — Psalms 55/138, 139:1-17(18-23); Genesis 41:1-13; 1 Corinthians 4:1-7; Mark 2:23-3:6

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

Church of England Synod Affirms ACNA

General Synod, the national assembly of the Church of England, meeting in London February 8-12, affirmed the Anglican Church in North America's desire "to remain within the Anglican family." In news release issues by the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA), **The Most Rev. Robert Duncan**, archbishop of the ACNA, thanked **Mrs. Lorna Ashworth** of Chichester for bringing the church to the attention of the General Synod. "We are very grateful to Mrs. Ashworth and the scores of other friends in the Synod of the Church of England for all they did to give us this opportunity to tell our story to the mother church of the Anglican Communion. It is very encouraging that the synod recognizes and affirms our desire to remain within the Anglican family," said Archbishop Duncan.

A private member's motion, put forward by Mrs. Ashworth, and subsequently amended by the Synod, states that "this synod recognize and affirm the desire of those who have formed the Anglican Church in North America to remain within the Anglican family." The motion passed by a resounding 309 – 69 margin (with seven abstentions).

The motion was amended by **the Right Reverend Michael Hill**, the Bishop of Bristol. His purpose, in his own words, was "(1) to encourage those who are part of the Anglican Church in North America; (2) to commend the process of recognition afforded by the Instruments of the Anglican Communion; and (3) to ask the Archbishop of Canterbury to report progress back to Synod in a year's time."

The Anglican Church in North America, founded in June of 2009 with 703 congregations, today unites 800 Anglican congregations across North America. The church's mission is to reach North America with the Transforming Love of Jesus Christ.

Women's book discussion March 6

The St. Andrew's Women's Fellowship group will meet at the home of **Pam Dunlap**, 186 Oakwood Court, Westerville, at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 6. The women will discuss *Whitethorn Woods*, a book by Maeve Binchy. Pam says several women have already read the book and have enjoyed it. She has several copies if any one would like to borrow one. Please bring a favorite snack to share. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area. For more information, please contact Pam at pldunlap2006@yahoo.com or 614-776-1385.

Habitat for Humanity meeting Feb. 23

Delaware County Habitat for Humanity's Apostles Build II will bring together families of faith working toward a common goal. This project can not only enrich the life of our congregation, but is sure to make a genuine difference in our community. If you are interested in learning how we can help "build on faith" in this county-wide ecumenical mission, you are invited to represent St. Andrew's at a meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23 at Liberty Barn Presbyterian Church, 7080 Powell Road, Delaware. Please e-mail mail@standrewspolaris.org or call the parish office at 614-423-4250 if you plan to attend.

Lenten study

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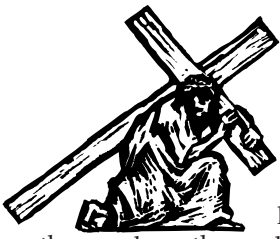
icing or powered sugar or raisins.

There are bait and tackle boxes labeled Kairos Cookies under the table in the front of the Sanctuary. The lures are needed no later than Sunday, March 7, but earlier is fine. *Thank you* to all who help. Contact **Gary** or **Susan Sommerville** at 846-2015 or sgsommer@columbus.rr.com with any questions. Please feel free to sample the dough for quality assurance as you bake!

The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

February 21, 2010



Lenten study to focus on 'Last Days of Jesus'

Plans are underway for a six-week church-wide Lenten Bible study titled "The Last Days of Jesus." This video-based study looks at each week's Bible passage in its historical context, and then explores the application of the passage and its related principles. Existing small groups will be asked to take a hiatus from their current study to participate with the rest of the church in this study, and new groups will be formed for those not already involved in a small group who wish to participate in the Lenten series.

New small groups are forming in Lewis Center, the Delaware area, Westerville and Gahanna. The study is also being offered on Fridays, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. here at the church. If you'd like to participate in any of these groups, you may contact Judy Baird, 614-423-4250, ext. 103, or Marty Scott, 614-284-0182 or msscott@standrewspolaris.org. You may also register online through the front page of our web site or on the Member Connection.

Do you ever feel dead—spiritually dead? Do you ever wonder, "If Christianity is supposed to be so great and Jesus' death was supposed to take care of everything, why is my life so messed up?" It's only when we drink deeply from the life and death of Jesus—understanding the main events of his death—that we can find a full life.

"The Last Days of Jesus" invites us to see the behind-the-scenes truth of the main events of Jesus' death, so that his death can affect our lives today...right where we live...in the midst of our weaknesses and failures. The study will help us understand what made him extraordinary and learn how to draw on his transforming power.

With maps and pictures, outlines, key scripture verses, discussion questions, plenty of room for note taking, and a personal five-day Bible study for each session, this participant's guide will help you get the most out of the study, both in your group and in applying what you learn to your life.

This study is for everyone who wants to deepen their understanding of God's Word and apply it more faithfully and effectively to help them live the truth of the Bible today's difficult world. Included will be historical and cultural background; a close look at the biblical text and its meaning, and accurate, encouraging and challenging applications of the Bible's message to life today.

International Ministry presentation today

What is International Ministry at St. Andrew's? Are you ready to find out? Join us on Sunday in the Gathering Area after the 8, 9:30 or 11 a.m. services for a presentation on international ministry by **Steve** and **Beth Myers**. Currently we are supplying mosquito nets for Nigeria and providing education for a nursing student in Liberia. We are committed to the fact that every person is important to the Lord and we are willing to go out of our comfort zone. Join us as we are led by the Lord to help change lives and disciple nations. For more information, please contact **Marty Scott** at 614-284-0182 or msscott@standrewspolaris.org.

A Balanced diet is a cookie in each hand!

Gary Sommerville needs cookies, one for each of 2,400 hands. That's 200 dozen cookies! It is not that he is on a cookie-eating binge, nor has Gary sprouted extra extremities. Rather, he and a Kairos Ministry team are going to prison to fish for men!

Homemade cookies are irresistible lures to attract the fish to the bait: the love, hope and forgiveness of Jesus. You can't go out fishing with Gary, but please help with the fishing expedition by preparing lures. Twenty-four hundred cookies is a lot of cookies for Gary and wife **Susan** to make by themselves. Cookies should be 2"-ish, homemade, and packed two dozen to a plastic, zip lock bag, and prayed over. Please, no

— Please turn to back —

Annual Meeting Feb. 28

The Annual Parish Meeting will be Sunday, Feb. 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This meeting will be an opportunity to hear from our rector, **Fr. Ron Baird**, and members of the Vestry about the state of the church, and ask any questions you may have about the 2009 Annual Report. The report features reports from the staff, Junior and Senior Wardens and ministry leaders, along with parish statistical data, financial information and descriptions of many of the ministries here at St. Andrew's. Copies of the Annual Report are available today in the Narthex.

Voices of Easter needs you!

With the 40-day countdown to Holy Week underway, now is the time to make participation in a special St. Andrew's tradition part of your observation of Lent. **Nanci James**, coordinator of our Drama Ministry, is desperately seeking three male volunteers to bring us the *12 Voices of Easter* at the 7 p.m. service on Maundy Thursday, March 1.

Many of those who regularly volunteer in this ministry are unable to do so this year, which provides an opportunity for some new folks to step up to bring us the voices of Cleopas, The Centurion and Thomas.

Remember, this is an offering and a celebration of our Lord and *not* a theatrical production; your heart, willingness, and response to his call is needed.

Check your calendars to see if you are available; now is the time to volunteer to start working with your part. *Please, please, please*, commit to making our offering this year the one best ever! What a wonderful gift you will be giving to our congregation!

Contact Nanci at 614-895-0144 or nanci@otterbein.edu for information or to volunteer.

Morning Prayer on Fridays

Each Friday in Lent, St. Andrew's will offer the service of Morning Prayer, at 9:30 a.m., and Stations of the Cross, an ancient form of Christian devotion, originally observed by pilgrims visiting the Holy Land, will be offered at 10 a.m. Both will be held in the Sanctuary.