

The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

December 19, 2021



Join us at one of our three
Christmas Eve services!

5:30 P.M.

FEATURING A CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
& CAROLS LED BY OUR WORSHIP BAND

8 P.M. & 10:30 P.M.

TRADITIONAL SERVICES FEATURING
CAROLS WITH ORGAN & CHOIR @ 8 P.M.
AND CAROLS WITH ORGAN @ 10:30 P.M.

HOLY COMMUNION AT ALL SERVICES

Emmanuel: God is with us!

Christmas! The Feast of the Incarnation of God is a time when we celebrate the radical change of history. With the coming of Jesus in the flesh, God can never again be only an idea or a concept.

God is no longer only the one who initiates creation. Even the revelation of God as Father can no longer be considered allegorical, for he is the Father of the only begotten Son!

— Please turn to the inside —

St. Andrew's will celebrate the joyous Feast of the Incarnation of our Lord at three services on Christmas Eve.

"Calling of Levi," our contemporary worship band, will lead us in traditional Christmas carols at the 5:30 p.m. service, and Godly Play Storyteller Karen Brust will present a children's message.

Our 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. services will be traditional Anglican Christmas Eve services, with choir and organ at 8 p.m., and organ at 10:30 p.m. Fr. Ron Baird will be preaching. Holy Communion will be offered at all three services.

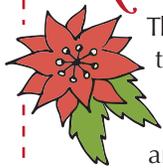
Many thanks to all who responded to our Christmas Eve Service survey. While the majority indicated that they plan to attend the 5:30 or 8 p.m. service, there is enough interest to bring back the 10:30 p.m. service this year.

The 5:30 and 8 p.m. services are filling up fast, with 103 people planning to worship with us at 5:30 p.m., and 94 at 8 p.m. as of this past Friday. If you haven't yet made your Christmas Eve plans, please consider joining us at the late service. This will keep the earlier services from being overcrowded, and make the 10:30 p.m. service even more joyous with additional voices singing glory to God in the highest!

Please note that we won't be making specific seat assignments like we did last year, so we encourage you to arrive early, especially if you have a large number of people attending with you.

Inside 'The Net' today
Christmas Memorials & Thanksgivings form for flowers and greenery; how you can help Kentucky tornado victims; an update from the Rector Search Committee; and more photos from the celebration of the Feast of St. Nicholas.

Memorials & Thanksgivings



The Altar Guild is accepting contributions toward flowers and greenery 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 basket along with your check made payable to St. Andrew's Anglican Church. Please note "Christmas Flowers" in the memo section of your check. Cash gifts should be placed in an envelope, along with this form. You may also fill out on this form online at app.onechurchsoftware.com/standrews/forms/75. For more information, please email us at mail@standrewspolaris.org or call 740-548-5112, ext. 3.



Deadline: Wednesday, Dec. 22.

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

Please print all information as you would like it to appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Submissions may be edited for space reasons.

This gift is given by (please print):

Your contact info: _____

In memory of (please print names only):

In thanksgiving for (please print names only):

Encouragement for your prayer time

In Jesus, God came to be with us. "I am with you and will save you," declares the Lord." (*Jeremiah 30:11a*) "'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (which means "God with us").'" (*Matthew 1:23b*) — *From the St. Andrew's Prayer Ministry Team*

Weekday Prayer Service at noon on Wednesdays

The Weekday Prayer Service, which is normally held at noon on Wednesdays in the Sanctuary, will be held this coming Wednesday, Dec. 22. There will be no Weekday Prayer Service on Wednesday, Dec. 29. All are welcome to attend this weekly service, which also continues to be offered via Zoom from the church. For the Zoom link, please contact Ann Schnapp at acbs2@hotmail.com.

This is the last edition of "The Net" for the 2021. Our next edition on Sunday, Jan. 2, will feature photos from The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, as well as Christmas Eve.

Holiday service changes announced

With Christmas Eve falling on Friday this year we'll be changing up our regular weekend services times for the following two weekends.

There will be no service on Christmas morning, Saturday, Dec. 25, and no 5 p.m. service that day. On Sunday, Dec. 26, we'll be having one service at 9 a.m.

There will be no Saturday evening service on Jan. 1. On Sunday, Jan. 2, we'll be offering both the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services as usual.

Regular service times will resume the weekend of Jan. 8-9.

Prayers for the Church

Anglican Church in North America: Bishop Clark Lowenfield, his wife Tricia, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of the Western Gulf Coast. Almighty Father, we pray that they may be faithful witnesses for Jesus Christ and empowered by your Holy Spirit to serve you in the world.

Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes: Fr. Ed Steele and the people of Good Shepherd Anglican Fellowship, Chillicothe, Ohio.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: Ryan, Diane, Caroline and Sophia Bobay; Dan and Christine Brill; and the Hokey Pokey Small Group.

A Prayer for the Selection of a Rector: Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Rector for this Parish that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Daily and Sunday Lectionary are available in a separate leaflet at the Information Desk and through the link in this week's e-Net Mail. The Daily Lectionary is also online at standrewspolaris.org/lectionary-daily.

ARDF accepting donations as it partners with others to aid Kentucky tornado victims

The Anglican Relief and Development Fund (ARDF) stands ready to respond whenever and wherever disaster strikes. For the Rev. Jake Stum, ARDF executive director, the tornadoes that ravaged Kentucky a week ago Friday hit close to home, quite literally. "I grew up in Madisonville, Kentucky and have deep roots there," the Rev. Stum writes. "The next town over is Dawson Springs, Kentucky. This is a community that was 75 percent devastated by the tornado."

You've likely seen photos in the news of the destruction of towns like Dawson Springs and Mayfield, Kentucky. As you can imagine, the need is overwhelming and the recovery efforts will take years—and a considerable amount of resources. ARDF is accepting funds for tornado relief through its Joseph Fund. If you'd like to contribute, please write a check payable to St. Andrew's with "Kentucky Tornado Relief" in the memo section. We'll then write one check to ARDF on behalf of the parish.

While there are no Anglican Church in North America congregations in the immediate area, the ARDF is partnering with three trusted organizations to help with recovery. In Mayfield, they will be working with the North American Lutheran Church disaster response team, a long-time partner that is already on site. In Dawson Springs, ARDF will partner with Men and Women of Action and Covenant Community Church, which the Rev. Stum helped plant years ago.

The first wave of response is to help with emergency resources (water, shelter, food, gasoline) and support these organizations in mobilizing their equipment to the site. In a few weeks they will have a better picture of longer-term needs and also will be able to determine what type of manpower is needed.

Emmanuel: God is with us

— Continued from the front —

In the Incarnation, God becomes personal, a human being like you and me. One who prays to his Father in Heaven and through his sacrifice enables us to pray to God as our Father.

In Jesus of Nazareth, God forever dispels any speculation about who he is. He lives his life upon our planet, being tempted as we are, and yet without sin. He lives in the defenseless condition of a baby, totally dependent upon his mother for protection. He lives as a man who walks in the path of God: The path which God intended for all human beings to walk.

In contradiction to the claims of the world that we should get the most out of life, he walked the path of self-giving, giving even his very life for us.

This fundamental understanding of the Incarnation is in direct contrast to what the world teaches about Christmas. In the world we encounter a season that teaches children to want the best presents they can get under that tree. We encounter a world that speaks of "shopping days left until Christmas." We encounter a world that expects peace on earth and joy to the world, and yet refuses to sacrifice its own security for it.

This Christmas we have a wonderful opportunity to recapture the real joy of Christmas. We can receive the only truly valuable gift of God Incarnate, Jesus the Christ!

Furthermore, we can share that gift by bringing others to one of our three Christmas Eve Eucharists here at St. Andrew's, at 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m. or 10:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 24. The music, liturgy and lessons will resound with the Word of God incarnate! Anglican worship at its very best!

Give the best Christmas present of all to your friends and family this year. Bring them to church to experience with us the presence and power of the personal, self-giving God; Jesus the Child-King of the Universe. — Fr. Ron Baird

Search Committee available to answer questions this weekend

As the Rector Search Committee nears the end of Phase II of our search process we want to continue providing you updates and opportunities to connect with us. This weekend we will be meeting with the parish family after the 5 p.m. service on Saturday and also between the 9 and 11:15 a.m. services on Sunday.

We plan to release the parish profile the first of the year and have also scheduled the same times on Jan. 8 and 9 to provide another update.

You may continue to follow our progress at the Rector Search site, accessible from on our public website—standrewspolaris.org. Please keep in mind that if you have the Member Connection (the site that requires a login and password) already bookmarked you can still get to the public site. Just look for the link "Access to St. Andrew's public website here" under "Welcome to your Member Connection" on your dashboard or "Home" page.

Year-end giving, business reminders

As year-end rapidly approaches, parishioners are asked to keep the following deadlines in mind to enable us to close our 2021 financial records.

Donations by check or cash need to be received by the church **no later than Friday, Dec. 31**, to be included on your 2021 giving statement.

Those who have receipts to be turned in for reimbursement for church-related purchases in 2021 are asked to turn them in **no later than Monday, Dec. 20**. Reimbursement forms are available at the Information Desk today, or by contacting Rachel at rcherubini@standrewspolaris.org or 740-548-5112, ext. 1. Please also contact Rachel with any questions.

At right, children welcome St. Nicholas to their Godly Play classroom on Sunday, Dec. 5. Below, left, a child displays a picture she drew after St. Nicholas' visit; and below, right, St. Nicholas gives another child a gift in observance of his feast day, which is celebrated in the Church worldwide on Dec. 6.



About St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas was born in the 3rd century in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey). After his wealthy Christian parents died, he used his entire inheritance to help the poor, the sick, and children in need. Nicholas gave in secret, expecting nothing in return. He became Bishop of Myra while still a young man, was later imprisoned for his faith, and attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. One story tells of Nicholas throwing gold coins through an open window into stockings hanging in a poor man's house, providing a dowry for his three daughters, thus saving them from certain slavery.

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Justin Anthony
Trina Anthony
Cole Beverick
Chris Bryant
Emelie Deslauriers
Jan Johnson
Pippin Jordan
Jenny Marinov
Alex McKeown
Francis Meyers

John Osmond
Amanda Oxenham
Bella Oxenham
David Patton
Frank Scott
Reed Slevin
Didi Smith
Kiera Snead
Brenda Spradling
Fr. Shane Tucker
Fr. Wil Verhoff

David Warner
Baxter Whitehead
Tally Whitehead
Pete Wilkinson
Karolyn Yoakum

Anniversary
Fr. Ernie and Candy Tracy

Brotherhood of St. Andrew meets Dec. 21

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew will meet at the Parish House and via Zoom on Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m. All men of the parish are welcome!

For the Zoom link, please contact Carlo Cherubini at cherubinicarlo@yahoo.com