

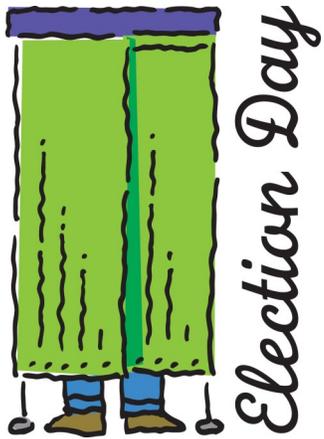
Newsletter of
St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church
November 2018

The Carillon

Worship Schedule

Sunday mornings:

- 8:30—Quiet Communion Service
- 9:30—Christian Formation
- 10:30—Communion Service/
Music / Children's Sermon
- 11:30—Fellowship



Vote —Nov. 6

St. Andrew's Episcopal
Church
300 Third Street, Elyria, Ohio
44035-5618
Phone 440.322.2126
office@standrewselyria.org
www.standrewselyria.org
revjunehd@gmail.com
Rector: 804.370.2989

Rector's Reflections

Dear Friends,

The table of bread and wine is now made ready.

It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him.

It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world,
with whom Jesus identified himself.

It is the table of communion with the earth,
in which Christ became incarnate.

So come to this table, you who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;

You who have been here often and you who have not been for a while

You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed;

Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Perhaps you have noticed the Invitation to Communion that we have been using at St. Andrew's in recent Sundays. This invitation is a simple way of explaining what we do when we come to communion. At St. Andrew's each week we say, "All are welcome to receive Communion." Sometimes people who visit receive communion for the first time ever or for the first time in a long time. Recently I began to want to explain more about the invitation to those who are visiting or are new. I also wanted to remind each of us about Communion and how it is that we gather at the table. This Invitation to Communion is adapted from one used in the Iona Community. It clearly states the inward and outward aspects of Communion along with the broad invitation that exemplifies what we seek to offer at St. Andrew's.

"Joining God's work in the world" has been an underlying theme in the 2019 Share Campaign where we have invited parishioners to make a commitment of finance, time and talent in serving in and through St. Andrew's. What has become increasingly clear to me is that Communion is central for us to join God's work in the world. God doesn't require it but we need it. When we gather at the table, with those we know and love and with those we don't know and maybe even those we don't like, we are stepping into the world as God sees it and being transformed as we take Jesus' body and blood into ourselves.

So... dear friends. Let us gather at the Lord's Table and be transformed. Let us go from there in love and peace to serve the world. The two are inextricably connected.

Blessings,

June



ALL SAINTS DAY CELEBRATION

**Sunday, November 4, 2018
After 10:30 am service**

**Please stop by the
auditorium for food and
fun.**



FREE FLU SHOT CLINIC AT ST. ANDREW'S

In Partnership with Lorain County Public Health, Free Flu Shots will be available at St. Andrew's on **Thursday, Nov. 1, from 4 pm – 6 pm**. Protect yourself and your family from the flu. All are welcome!

St. Andrew's folks...

We wrote a letter of support to B'Nai Abraham Temple on Sunday. On Friday, we can show our support by attending this event.



Stand with Us!

Rabbi Lauren Werber will preside over a Shabbat service of Words and Remembrance on Friday evening November 2nd at 7:00 PM to honor the lives and acknowledge the tragedy in Pittsburgh this past weekend. The service is open to the public, with several local churches planning attendance to show solidarity with their Jewish brothers and sisters. Security will be provided. An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service.

Location is Temple B'nai Abraham, 530 Gulf Rd. Elyria, OH 44035



All Hallows Eve, All Saints and All Souls

Did you know that Halloween is only the beginning of a holy three days? Hallow means holy and “Hallowe’en” is a contraction of All Hallows Eve, or Even. On Halloween, we face our fears and laugh at them, knowing that nothing, not even death, can separate us from the love of God. The Celtic day of the dead, Samhain, predated Christianity and fell on **October 31**. Ancient practices and festivals have been adopted by the Church and made new in the light of Christ. To me this does not diminish the Christian holy days; it makes them stronger, more resonant.

November 1 is All Saints Day, a major feast of the church which we’ll celebrate on the following Sunday with baptisms. The Book of Common Prayer calls saints “the lights of the world in every generation”—people whose lives and deeds have shone brightly and helped others more closely follow Jesus. There are saints who lived long ago and there are saints living and working in the world today, saints who are known by the church and saints who are known only to God. We say that we are part of the Communion of Saints, the company of all faithful people, connected through our baptism to those Christians who have died, those who are alive now, and those yet to be born. The word “saint” means holy. In the Episcopal Church we have a Calendar of Saints, holy men and women we remember in prayer and with readings from scripture on their feast day. The saints tend to be quite colorful, and being perfect is in no way a requirement.

November 2, All Souls Day, is the “commemoration of all faithful departed,” a day to remember our own family and friends who have died. It’s a good time to visit a cemetery, which should not be a place of fear, but of respect. No one minds if you make rubbings of old gravestones. The churchyard where I work has markers dating back to the late 17th century. Mexican friends observe this day with serious play and even joy as the Day of the Dead, making family altars with photographs, flowers, candles, and food. Light a candle, say a prayer, tell stories of the ones we love and see no longer.

Here are three books I recommend for children who are grieving: [The Invisible String](#) by Patricia Karst does a wonderful job of describing the way in which we are all connected to those we love and is helpful for those experiencing any kind of art. [Death is Stupid](#) by Anastasia Higgenbotham, is refreshingly honest, while leaving room for your own religious beliefs.

(Excerpted from [Faith at Home: A Handbook for Cautiously Christian Parents](#), Chapter 5)

Article written by Wendy Claire Barrie, Trinity, Wall Street



November 3, 9 am-3 pm
St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Elyria

Be sure to visit the Gift Fair to support the Heather Campbell Reich Community Meals. We are also looking for vendors. To become a vendor, please contact Margo Reich, mreich@coastiemail.com.

Proceeds to benefit the Heather Campbell Reich Community Meal Program.

Vendors include:

Thirty One, Avon, Tupperware, Norwex, Longaberger Baskets, Alpaca Clothes, Usborne books, Young Living Oil, Premier Design Jewelry, Mary Kay, Juice Plus, Cawley's Confection, pampered Chef, Charlette Jewelry and potholders, Rodan + Fields, Simply Fun Playologist and more .

*Vendors subject to change.

Diocese of Ohio 202nd Annual Convention Nov. 9-10, 2018

St. Andrew's Delegates –

Lay: Charles "Chuck" Reich, Matthew Van Wormer, Anne Yug

Clergy: Rev. June Hardy Dorsey

Alternates: Todd Hartman and Hannah Barkhurst

Guests with Seat and Voice : Doug Skladan and Lee Kauffman (Diocesan Council Members)

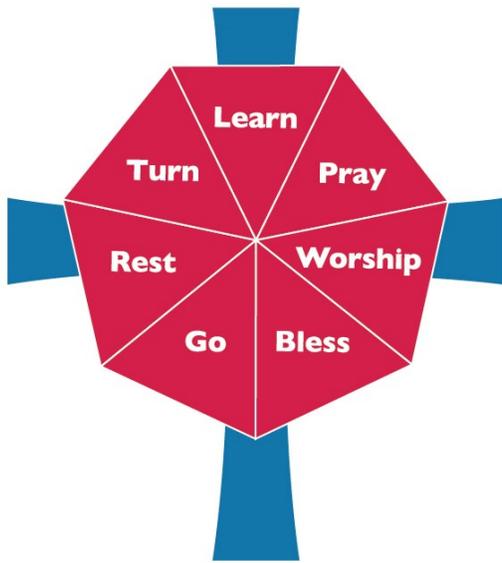
A Prayer for a Church Convention

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel in the 202nd Convention of the Diocese of Ohio, for the renewal and mission of your Church.

Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory.

Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life



THE WAY OF LOVE *Practices for Jesus-Centered Life*

TURN: Pause, listen and choose to follow Jesus
As Jesus was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me."
And he got up and followed him. – Mark 2:14

"Do you turn to Jesus Christ ...?" – Book of Common Prayer, 302

Like the disciples, we are called by Jesus to follow the Way of Love. With God's help, we can turn from the powers of sin, hatred, fear, injustice, and oppression toward the way of truth, love, hope, justice, and freedom. In turning, we re-orient our lives to Jesus Christ, falling in love again, again, and again.

LEARN: Reflect on Scripture each day, especially on Jesus' life and teachings.

"Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." – John 14:23

Grant us so to hear [the Holy Scriptures], read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them. – Book of Common Prayer, 236

By reading and reflecting on Scripture, especially the life and teachings of Jesus, we draw near to God and God's word dwells in us. When we open our minds and hearts to Scripture, we learn to see God's story and God's activity in everyday life.

PRAY: Dwell intentionally with God daily

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him,

"Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." – Luke 11:1

"Lord, hear our prayer." - Book of Common Prayer

Jesus teaches us to come before God with humble hearts, boldly offering our thanksgivings and concerns to God or simply listening for God's voice in our lives and in the world. Whether in thought, word or deed, individually or corporately, when we pray we invite and dwell in God's loving presence.

WORSHIP: Gather in community weekly to thank, praise, and dwell with God

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. – Luke 24:30-31

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord. – Book of Common Prayer, 361

When we worship, we gather with others before God. We hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, give thanks, confess, and offer the brokenness of the world to God. As we break bread, our eyes are opened to the presence of Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we are made one body, the body of Christ sent forth to live the Way of Love.

The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life, continued

BLESS: Share faith and unselfishly give and serve

“Freely you have received; freely give.” – Matthew 10:8

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: We will, with God’s help. – Book of Common Prayer, 305

Jesus called his disciples to give, forgive, teach, and heal in his name. We are empowered by the Spirit to bless everyone we meet, practicing generosity and compassion and proclaiming the Good News of God in Christ with hopeful words and selfless actions. We can share our stories of blessing and invite others to the Way of Love.

GO: Cross boundaries, listen deeply and live like Jesus

Jesus said to them, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” – John 20:21

Send them into the world in witness to your love. – Book of Common Prayer, 306

As Jesus went to the highways and byways, he sends us beyond our circles and comfort, to witness to the love, justice, and truth of God with our lips and with our lives. We go to listen with humility and to join God in healing a hurting world. We go to become Beloved Community, a people reconciled in love with God and one another.

REST: Receive the gift of God’s grace, peace, and restoration

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. – John 14:27

Blessed are you, O Lord ... giving rest to the weary, renewing the strength of those who are spent. – Book of Common Prayer, 113

From the beginning of creation, God has established the sacred pattern of going and returning, labor and rest. Especially today, God invites us to dedicate time for restoration and wholeness - within our bodies, minds, and souls, and within our communities and institutions. By resting we place our trust in God, the primary actor who brings all things to their fullness.

St. Andrew’s Hunger Ministries Statistics

Meals served by Community
Meals program during September:
715

People served by the Food Pantry
program during September: 810

The flowers on the altar are available for funding.

Flowers can be
-in memory of a loved one
-in honor of a loved one
-in thanksgiving of a loved one or other special thanks

To sponsor or fund the flowers, please call the church or talk to anyone on the Altar Guild on Sunday.

James W. Moore
JESUS'
PARABLES OF LIFE



Adult Class starting Nov. 4

Why did Jesus use parables, and how do we unravel them to discover their timeless and powerful messages? Jesus' parables proclaim the good news, they show us the kingdom of God, they show us God's unconditional love for all, and they convey a central truth. Parables even surprise us! They slip up on us and flip our values. They turn our world upside down. And the great thing about the parables of Jesus is that they are always relevant and always personal; they speak eloquently to you and me, here and now. In this book, we will examine six of Jesus' thought-provoking parables, parables of life, to see if we can find ourselves and God's truth for us in these magnificent "truth-stories." They are, after all, truth-stories from the mind of Jesus that can change our lives as they proclaim God's truth for you and me.

Please come and join us to read and discuss six of Jesus' thought-provoking parables.

Harvest Altar



Nov. 1—Nov. 18

As in the past, our Harvest Altar will include items which will be contributed to our Pantry. Items which are especially requested are toilet paper, tuna, canned pasta (ravioli, spaghetti, and meatballs), fruit cups (peaches), dried pasta, soups, cereal, ranch dressing, coffee (small cans).

Please place them in baskets at the back of the church or in the upstairs elevator lobby.

Thank you. St. Andrew's Altar Guild.

We listen.

We pray.

We vote faithfully
on Election Day.

#VoteFaithfully

Dear Friends in Christ,

We are all saddened by the murders by gun violence in the Pittsburgh Tree of Life Synagogue last Saturday. On Friday November 2nd at 7:00 pm, there will be a local Shabbat (prayer) service led by Rabbi Lauren Weber at the Temple B'nai Abraham, 530 Gulf Road, Elyria, Ohio 44035. I commend this interfaith prayer service to you. Here is a link for more information [Stronger than Hate Prayer Service](#)

Below is a letter from Bishop Hollingsworth.

Faithfully,

Fr. Brian K. Wilbert+

Sunday, October 28, 2018

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

In church this morning, my prayers were filled with thoughts of yesterday's horrific attack at Tree of Life Synagogue. I imagine that yours were as well. Especially as we listened to the Hebrew scripture and recited the psalm, the presence and pain of the Jewish community, both in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh and around the world, felt very immediate.

St. Andrew's Church, Akron, the site of my visitation today, is surrounded by an immigrant community. The congregation has a vibrant ministry mentoring the Bhutanese and Nepalese children of the neighborhood. It felt a particularly poignant place to gather in grief and spiritual solidarity with people around the world trying to come to terms with this profound act of anti-Semitic hatred and violence.

Following the service, I received word that the brother-in-law of a colleague on the Kenyon College Board of Trustees was one of the eleven killed. Such heartbreak is often closer to home than we think.

While the murders at Tree of Life were the actions of one hate-filled soul, they were equally the consequence of a polarized, weaponized, and increasingly xenophobic America. Only two days before, two people were gunned down in a Kentucky grocery store after the gunman had tried unsuccessfully to enter the First Baptist Church of Jeffersontown, a predominantly African American congregation. And throughout the week, more than a dozen pipe bombs were discovered by the U.S. Postal Service, the intended targets all prominent members and supporters of one political party, just as the targets of the 2017 Congressional baseball team shooting were members of the other party.

In the face of such violence and division, we are vulnerable to feeling hopeless and helpless, as well as to increased polarization. That is, of course, precisely what the power of evil wants. Only when we are separated from one another does it win. But we are neither without hope, nor without help, because the God of Abraham is with us and has given us to one another as sisters and brothers, children of the same God.

Anti-Semitism is anathema to Christian faith. We are disciples of Jesus, a Jewish teacher to whom we refer in our own scripture as rabbi, the Savior who taught the Torah and kept the laws of Moses. We hold fast to the love he demands of each of us - love your neighbor, love your enemy, love one another. And we are empowered by the spirit of holiness to resist evil, not by taking up arms, but by opening our arms.

Jesus's response to hatred and violence is always the disarming power of love. And it behooves people of faith, of every faith, not only to stand together, but to act together, to act on behalf of one another and on behalf of the other, whoever that may be - the stranger, the down-trodden, and the disenfranchised; the brokenhearted, the underserved, and all victims of injustice; the disdained and the disdainful, the hated and the hateful, and all who are different from us in ethnic heritage, religious tradition, political conviction, or any other way.

In response to these acts of evil, let us come together, stand together, and act together to heal the world that God loves and has given us to share. Because we all belong to God, we all belong to each other.

In God's holy love,

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.
Bishop of Ohio



November Birthdays

Charlene Watson	1
Hans Van Wormer	2
Aiden Von Gunten	6
Everly Varga	8
Kyle Loeser	9
Mary Worcester Millinder	9
Larry Woods	9
Jane Cameron	11
Isaac Shaffer	11
Patty Peacock	12
Mark Milkovich	14
Lindsey Varga	14
Dennis Wilkerson	15
John Kellogg	16
Greg Hebble	18
Adrienne Lloyd	19
Matt Skladan	21
Elizabeth Thomas	21
Mya Frazier	22
William Hebble	22
Jeremiah Heck	24
Savannah Heck	24
Kathy Bazley	25
Dori Mueller	25
Jakub Mueller	28
Madison Mueller	28
Sue Paine	29
Dana Watson	30

Deadline for the
December Carillon is
Mon., Nov. 26

November 2018 Liturgist and Usher Schedule

November 4

8:30 Greg Hebble (1, Ps), Gary Pressnell (2, Pr, EM)
10:30 Amy Kellogg (1, Ps, U), Karen Hahn (2, EM),
Jim Jablonski (Pr), Todd Hartmann (EM)
Pam Hahn (U)

November 11

8:30 Jim Jablonski (1, Ps, 2, Pr), Peggy Cassleberry (EM)
10:30: Doug Skladan (1, Ps), Sue Paine (2, EM)
Matt Van Wormer (Pr)
Jim Paine, Deb Panchak (U)

November 18

8:30 Jon Quisenberry (ALL)
10:30 William Taylor (1, Ps), Lee Kauffman (2), Karl Kirk (Pr, U),
Patty Peacock, Doraine Toms (EM)
Joe Myers (U)

November 25

8:30 Linda Wilbert (1, Ps), Peggy Casselberry (2, Pr, EM)
10:30 Leanne Taylor (1, Ps, EM), Michael Taylor (2), Barb Prior
(Pr), Ellen Otis, (EM)
William Taylor, Dave Whalen (U)

FALL BACK ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Don't forget to turn your clocks back on November 3rd.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS



Please keep these people in your prayers:

Our Spiritual Leaders

Michael, our presiding Bishop
Mark, our Bishop
Bill and Arthur, Assisting Bishops
June, our Priest
Greg, our Curate
Jane, our Deacon
Joan, our Music Director

Our Friends

Christ Church, Oberlin
Church of the Redeemer, Lorain
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Elyria
Elyria First United Methodist Church
Avon United Methodist Church
The Original Glorious Apostolic Church
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Elyria

Active duty military

John Able, Stephanie Bacskey, Rose Buttle, Luke Colcough, Aaron Colcough, Trent Crofit, Dylan Donnelly, Cory Garretson, Charles Kellogg, Kim Reich, Nicholas Schafer, Gavin Schwan, Ryan Sumner, Ashley Augustine

In Discernment

Those who are seeking Holy Orders in the Diocese of Ohio—Aspirants, Postulants, Candidates.

Our Partner Dioceses

The Diocese of Tonga and The Diocese of Belize

Churches in our Mission Area

St. Paul's, Bellevue; St. Paul's, Fremont; Christ Church, Huron; Redeemer, Lorain; St. Paul's, Norwalk; Christ Church, Oberlin; St. Thomas, Port Clinton; St. Paul's, Put-in-Bay; Grace, Sandusky; Old Trinity, Tiffin.

Long term illnesses/injuries

Kathy Inderrieden (Karen Blair's daughter), Margaret Super

At home

Zen Fitzgerald, Virginia Larson, Lynn Mand, Verne Potter, Ruth Smith, Doris McDonough, Sally Ruth, Tom and Barbara Tobin, Robert Wilson

Illness, surgery, challenges, concerns

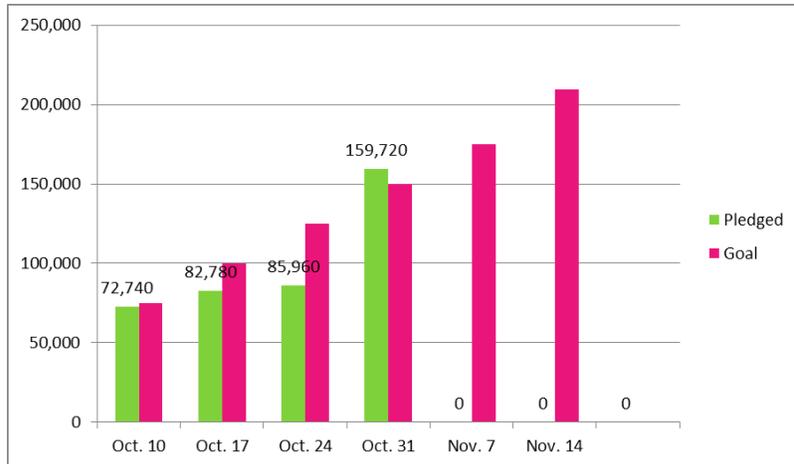
8/12/2018 Bob Smitley (Joanne Pressnell)
9/9/2018 William Christopher Zickefoose: waiting for kidney for transplant
9/12/18 Richard Foglyano
9/23/2018 Marilyn Monschein (Amy Kellogg)
9/30/2018 Charlotte Chotlos (Amy Kellogg)
9/30/2018 John Kellogg
9/30/2018 Gregg Sepic (Bob Sharkody)
9/30/2018 Quinn Elise Housel (Judi Radosevich)
10/7/2018 Mavis Hardy (June Hardy Dorsey)
10/14/2018 Kathy Iderrieden, (Karen Blair's daughter)
10/14/2018 Patrick (Pat) Niles (Chuck and Margo Reich)
10/28/2018 Judi (Hudnutt) Radosevich

Those who have died

9/2/2018 Jamel Myles
9/9/2018 Laddie Lidde
9/30/2018 Olga Balliett (Bob Sharkody)



2019 Pledges compared to goal for a balanced budget



Time Change: Set your clocks back on November 3rd.

† 2018 Roof Project

I want to help raise funds for the roof project by;

Pledging \$ _____ per week ___ per month ___

or making a one-time gift of \$ _____.

Starting ___ / ___ / ___ Ending ___ / ___ / ___

NAME _____

Thank you for your generosity and support.

2018 Helen Mussey Building Roof Project



Big Brothers/Big Sisters Giving Tree.

Watch for the Big Brothers/ Big Sisters Giving Tree in the Gathering Place in the next week or so. The tree will be filled with tags containing the names of children involved in the program. If you wish, you may take a tag and provide a gift for the child whose name appears on it. Each tag has the child's first name, age, size and gift suggestions.

The approximate value of the gift is suggested to be \$25.00-\$35.00. Of course, some children may list a gift that exceeds the suggested value. It is up to you, however, to decide what presents to get them.

Please lightly tape the nametag onto the gift, You may fill out the "to" and "from" section on the tag. Please have the wrapped present returned to St.

Andrew's by Sunday, December 7 when we will bless the gifts. A representative of BBBS will be in that week to pick up the gifts.

Remember to fill in your name and phone number next to the name and tag number of the tag you choose on the sign up sheet next to the Giving Tree.

Nov. 11th Restaurant Night at Marconi's in Huron. Contact Lee Kauffman to make reservations

An Invitation to Consider Vestry Service

From the Catechism of the Book of Common Prayer, page 855.

Q. What is the ministry of the laity?

A. The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

Very soon, members of the vestry nominating committee (Jim Jablonski, Lee Kauffman and Doug Skladan) will begin the work of establishing a slate of candidates for election to the vestry at the Annual Meeting on January 20, 2019. As Episcopalians we believe that everyone has been gifted to serve in the mission of God in the world and part of that service is to take our places in the governance of the church. Serving on the vestry is one of the most important and sacred ways that a lay person can represent Christ and his Church. The ministry of a vestry person can be a spiritual and formative experience as the person makes the connection between the administration of the church business with the ministries of the church and fulfilling God's call for St. Andrew's. You are invited to prayerfully consider if you might be called to stand for election to the vestry. Listed below are the general responsibilities and qualifications for Vestry service. St. Andrew's by-laws state that communicants in good standing age 16 or older who have been involved at St. Andrew's for at least six months are able to stand for vestry election. Please prayerfully consider if this is a way God is calling you to serve and reach out to members of the Nominating Committee, others on the Vestry or the Rector to learn more.

General Responsibilities for all Vestry Members

All vestry members should strive to the best of their abilities to:

- Have a love of God and demonstrate a commitment to following the way of Christ;
- Be active in and knowledgeable about the congregation, its programs and governance;
- Be fair, interact well with people and strive to earn the respect of the members of the congregation;
- Purposefully strive to "check one's ego at the door;"
- Purposefully strive to be a servant of the people without the need to be the "most important person" in the congregation or the need to be the one with the right answers to everything;
Have enthusiasm and vitality for this ministry.

All vestry members should be able to make the following time commitments:

- Vestry meetings, committee work;
- Vestry retreat(s);
- Weekly worship services (rotating occasionally if more than one);
- Congregational events: coffee hours, meals, fundraisers, adult education programs, etc.;
- Diocesan meetings, as necessary; Annual meeting.

All vestry members are responsible for:

- Offering talents to support the congregation's ministry;
- Praying daily for the rector, leaders and members of the congregation;
- Pledging financial support early in the stewardship campaign;
- Being active ministers of the Gospel in daily life and work;
- Bringing one's whole self to the table; being present – mind, body, and spirit; risking openness with one's ideas, beliefs and desires.

Looking Ahead

St. Andrew's Annual Meeting

Jan. 20, 2019

Joint Worship Service at 9:30 am followed by the Annual Meeting

The Curate's Corner

November 2018

*Remember your word to your servant, *
because you have given me hope.
This is my comfort in my trouble, *
that your promise gives me life.
Ps. 119:49-50*

Our psalmist sings, “Remember, God, you gave us your word and your promise, and this brings hope, and comfort, and life.” In the midst of catastrophe, reminding God of God’s promises to us is life-giving. What are the promises of God? The statutes and commandments that teach us the Way of Love. We Christians have been grafted into this covenant God made with a community God brought out of slavery in Egypt to a land of promise, and we share these psalms with the Jewish people. God’s promise is that God will be with us, that God follows us in power and in exile, in triumph and in suffering, in life and in death. For Christians, we make this claim specifically in who we say Jesus is: the Word of God in flesh, as one of us, participating in all that we do, suffering even death on a cross, and overcoming death to bring us new life. Jesus doesn’t invite us into a way that throws out or ends the covenant with the Jews, but opens it up for all creation. God chooses a specific people to be a sign for God’s promise, for the assurance of God’s love, for all creation. And *that* is good news.

So, how do we find hope and comfort and life in God’s promises today? How do we proclaim God’s promises to a world that is hurting and turning away from the ways of love? Here are some ways that we are going to do that this year in youth group. On November 4th, in the morning we will be learning from several saints about their lives of holiness right after the 10:30 service, and in the evening we are hearing from the senior wardens of Christ Church and St. Andrew’s about their faith journeys and leadership. On November 11th, the youth will be leading a walk-and-learn through the neighborhood to learn more about our community, through the eyes of our youth. On November 18, we will join the Mission Area Youth Group, to share in fellowship with youth from the wider area to learn more about the Way of Love together.

In the spring we have one major project that relates to living the Way of Love. The Episcopal Church has put together curriculum on faith and sexuality that is age appropriate and grounded in our tradition’s theology and ethics, *These Are Our Bodies*. The curriculum is about more than sex: it is about learning about our bodies as they grow and change; it is about how we are faithful and respectful to one another’s bodies; it is about how we cultivate healthy relationships with God and one another. I will share more about this curriculum and our plan for using it in next month’s newsletter. If you have any questions about any of this or about how you can be involved in being faithful stewards of our children and youth ministries, feel free to email or call me.

Faithfully,
Greg+