The Piper



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A Message from Father Martin

Dear Friends,

November is upon us and there is lots going on at St. Andrew's. Sunday, November 12, our bishop, The Right Reverend Lucinda Ashby will be with us for worship at 10 am and then for Potluck lunch and conversation following the service. I hope everyone will make a special effort to be together with our bishop.

November 19 will be our Thanksgiving Sunday. We will offer our "giving estimates" for 2024 so that the Vestry may make a responsible and prudent budget for the coming year. You have hopefully received your stewardship Letter and card either in church or by mail. Please contact me or Senior Warden Rochelle Kelly if you have any questions or concerns about this.

Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00 pm, we are organizing and hosting an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service for our community, reaching out to Protestant, Catholic, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist and other congregations in the area.

Then on Saturday, December 1, we will have our Kirking of the tartans service followed by a highland Shepherd's Pie fundraising dinner. (Leadership is invited for this festive event.)

In the midst of our troubled world, with news of the Middle East, Ukraine, partisan divisions, racism and antisemitism and islamophobia, and the challenges we encounter in our own lives, please share with me in this Thanksgiving prayer from the Book of Common Prayer (p. 836):

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

Yours in Christ,

Martin+

St. Andrew's Stewardship Vision and the Vestry's Call to Pledge for 2024

Thanksgiving

We give in thanksgiving for God's many blessings, including the blessings we receive through St. Andrew's. We are thankful for God's unconditional love, God's forgiveness and mercy, and God's presence with us even "in the valley of the shadow of death."

We give in thanksgiving for our blessings through St. Andrew's: for worship that grounds and inspires, for prayers, personal support and encouragement, for opportunities to serve together and play together, and to welcome all God's children.

Support

We give to support St. Andrew's continuing presence and ministries in our lives and in our community. Our pledges make it possible for St. Andrew's to continue to thrive and grow.

Looking ahead

Our Vestry will build a budget based on our pledges.

- To support an Interim Pastor rather than a succession of supply priests
- To support a musician for Sundays, the work of the Altar Guild, maintain our facility, office expenses, insurance and utilities, publicity, and our Fair Share of diocesan ministries.
- To grow our outreach ministries, children's programs, and to continue our Interim Pastor's term until St. Andrew's can call a settled 1/2 time Rector.

Pledging for 2024

Pledges are confidential and may be changed at any time if your situation changes. We are encouraged in the Episcopal Church to give as a proportion of our income (rather than the same as last year). Please consider your monthly or annual income and what percentage reflects your gratitude and priorities. Our goal is 10% - a tithe - something to grow into. Every pledge is a good pledge.

If there are other ways you feel called to contribute to the mission and ministries of St. Andrew's in 2024, please share that with the Parish Office.







ORANGE EGG NOG

1 quart commercial egg nog

1 ½ cups milk

1 (6 oz.) can frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed

½ cup (or less) light rum

1/4 cup (or less) orange-flavored liqueur

ground nutmeg

Orange zest

In a large pitcher, mix egg nog, milk, orange juice, rum, and orange liqueur. Refrigerate for several hours or over night to blend flavors. Pour into small glasses and sprinkle with nutmeg and orange zest. (Or the orange zest can be added to the eggnog when you make it.) For breakfast, I use very little of the liqueurs, just enough for flavor.

WINE GLOG

Combine: 1 quart hot water, 2 cups brown sugar, 1 teas. nutmeg, 4 sticks cinnamon, 24 whole cloves, 2 teas. Spice Islands orange peel. Bring to a boil and simmer 3 minutes. Add 1 gallon of red wine. Heat and serve.

A good way to heat this and keep it warm is in a crock pot.

HeeHeeHee!!!

A newly ordained deacon was asked to hold a graveside service for someone with no family or friends. It was his first official assignment, so he eagerly agreed. Taking his duties very seriously, the deacon let early the next morning for the cemetery. However, he made several wrong turns and quickly got himself lost. When he finally arrived more than an hour late, the hearse was nowhere to be seen and the two workmen were eating lunch.

The deacon got out of his car, quickly threw on his vestments, and hurried to the open grave. Looking into the pit, he saw that the vault lid was already in place. With a sign, he took out his prayer book and read the burial service. After he had left, one of the workmen said to the other, "Maybe we should have told him he just blessed a septic tank."

ON THE SCHEDULE

Join us at 10 am on Sundays Watch the sermon on the St. Andrew's Facebook page.

Weekly Bible Study on Tuesdays from 11 am to 12 Noon in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome – no background required. We are studying Luke's Gospel.

SAVE THE DATE

Please join in on the Upcoming Church Activities!!

Sunday, November 12 -- Bishop's Visitation

Tuesday, November 21-Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Saturday, December 2 — Kirking of the Tartans followed by a Highlands Shepherd's Pie Dinner

Sunday, December 3 — Celtic Advent service

Sunday, December 24 - 10 a.m. service and 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee has been meeting regularly to explore organizations and programs that St. Andrew's may support this year and in future years. We welcome your recommendations on any non-profit organizations that might benefit from our donation and involvement. If you would be interested in attending the meetings or becoming a member of the committee, please reach out to Joan McVay or Susan Greer.

Notes from the Garden

Please let John Woolliscroft know if you are interested in being part of the gardening crew on future gardening parties.

2023 Vestry Members

Rochelle Kelly, Senior Warden Sara Hector John Woolliscroft, Junior Warden Steve Lafever Susan Greer, Clerk of the Vestry Sue Roe

Cindy Garay

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, please forward them to any of the Vestry members. Vestry meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 1 pm in the Parish Hall.

Thoughts from Steve

Isaiah 61 The Good News of Deliverance 61 The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,

to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners,

- 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,
- 3 to provide for those who mourn in Zion to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

1 John 4:8 - He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

Bishop Michael Curry -- If it's not about love, it's not about God.

And in the words of Jesus when asked which is the greatest commandment: 29 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. [a] 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your Strength.' [b] 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' [c] There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:28-34, Luke 10:25-28



All these words seem to be lost lately as people take sides, people hate. A good war brings out the worst in people as they line up on one side or another and commit acts justified by the word war or hate or in the name of God.

Once I wrote, I got lost on my way from Gethsemane to Calvary. Perhaps that's how I see myself. Perhaps that's my excuse for having human feelings and not willing to get to that sacred hill of Calvary.

As I look around the world right now, I realize that I am not the only one. Anti-Semitic acts are up 400%. It is just like people were looking for an excuse to express their hate for anyone different than they are.

I was asked the other day by a family member, "Wasn't Jesus a Jew? Yes, and they killed him.

This year I didn't come to the church and give out candy, I was drained of energy for some reason and candy wasn't it. For me, getting myself to Calvary means believing in a world of love, a world where peace is possible and a world of hope. I keep trying to put one foot in the other. I don't want to be like the people on the news. I don't want to be one of the haters. I don't want to lose faith.

Help me, O God, to reach Golgotha. Help me, O God, to find peace. Help me, O God, to help others see the answer of love.

St. Andrew's Birthdays

November Birthdays

- Pat Whitby-Strevens
- 11 Ben Rooks
- 15 Randi Alves
- Stefanie Erdman



December Birthdays

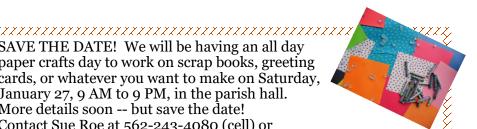
- Jeannie Henry
- Bob Wolfe
- 12 Madison LeRoux

Coffee Hour Organizers

December 3 — Susan Greer December 10 — Jane Pomeroy December 17 — Eve Yabroff November 5 — Barbara Banke November 12 — Parish Potluck November 19 — Jennifer Kennedy November 26 — Rochelle Kelly December 24 - Ellen Terry December 31 — Janet Parske

There will be a special "coffee hour" after the Christmas Eve evening service. If you are unable to serve on any date, please call someone else on the list and alsoʻcall Sharon Fishel at 831-247-5572.

SAVE THE DATE! We will be having an all day paper crafts day to work on scrap books, greeting cards, or whatever you want to make on Saturday, January 27, 9 AM to 9 PM, in the parish hall. More details soon -- but save the date! Contact Sue Roe at 562-243-4080 (cell) or 831-609-6737 (home) or suemhr@aol.com if you have any questions in the meantime.



Episcopal News

For Episcopal Church resources, visit https://episcopalchurch.org. There are many options for self-study, including email notifications, videos, meditations. Visit www.realepiscopal.org to receive information on the Diocese of El Camino Real.



The altar at St. Andrew's is prepared for Dia de los Muertos