

**ST. ANDREW'S NETWORK**  
Newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
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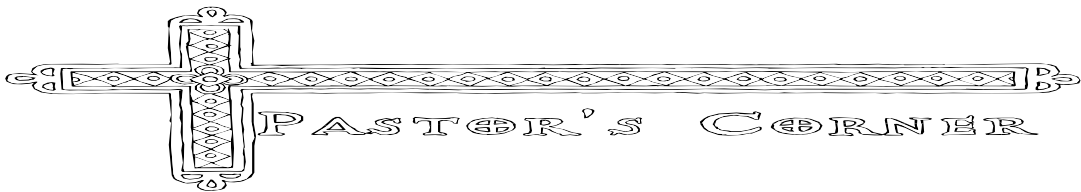
**ST. ANDREW'S MISSION STATEMENT**

*"We are a welcoming family of believers in Christ Our Savior and are committed to Sharing God's unconditional love with all."*

March 2008

**PARISH OFFICE INFORMATION**

Parish Office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 -12:30 PM  
Father Ted is often in the Office on Saturday from 9AM -12 PM  
Call for an appointment



**PASTER'S CORNER**

To beloved ones,

Easter is coming. It will be here before we know it. As I reflect on Easter and what it means, I am drawn to the disciples and to Mary who have come to the tomb to prepare Jesus' body and have discovered that it is gone. They went expecting his body to be there. After all he had been killed and placed in the tomb. The Gospel of John tells us "while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'" (John 20:1)

Mary's faith and the faith of those who knew and walked with Jesus had faltered. Just a few days before they had seen Jesus crucified. His body had been placed into a sealed tomb. And now the rock had been pushed away and he was gone. Their faith in Jesus, the Messiah, had been frayed. It was coming unraveled because they could think only in human terms. They, like most of us, tend to believe and put faith in what we see and experience. It is a belief system that is based on materialism. It is not faith. Faith is belief in the seemingly impossible. It is belief in the unseen and in things not experienced. Tragically if we focus our efforts on only what we see and experience then we continually struggle with our attachment to the material world we know. Focus only on the material world hinders our faith in Jesus.

The Good News for us is every human being struggles with an imperfect faith. Our call to God is not to perfection of our faith; rather, it is a call to engage and struggle with our faith. We are called to bring our faith into community. And the community is called to embrace us and walk with us, and we with them.

It was Mary who stayed by the tomb and tried to figure out what had happened to Jesus. Peter and the others left discouraged and went home almost as if they had given up hope. Had they lost their faith? We don't know but surely it was compromised. They were grounded in the world and its meager understanding of God. But Mary stayed and struggled. She was fully engaged trying to figure out what had happened. She remained at the tomb, and Jesus, the resurrected Christ, came to her and revealed himself. After Jesus' revelation to Mary, she shared that overwhelming experience with the others who had fled so their faith might be restored.

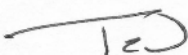
From John's understanding of the first days, it was Mary who renewed the faith of the other disciples. It was Mary who struggled with what she could not comprehend. It was Mary who walked with God through a troubling and confusing situation that was beyond human comprehension. And it was to Mary that Jesus revealed what had happened. He revealed to her that he had defeated death and been resurrected to eternal life.

The Easter story tells us of importance of struggling and wrestling with our faith. We are called to do it with God in prayer and in community. We are called to share our experiences with the risen Christ so others might know Him.

Yes. Christ is Risen...and that is what we celebrate Easter Day. It is faith in the resurrected Christ that we are called to struggle with and to share with others who are also struggling. It is all part of our journey to God. Our faith is revealed to us on the journey....just as it was to Mary.

May your journey to Christ be one filled with expectations, perseverance and joy.

Blessings,



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**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

**MINUTES OF VESTRY MEETING  
January 20, 2008**

Father Ted offered an opening prayer at 11:40 a.m.

Attendance: Kara Bushman, Larry Shillock, Becky Dempsey, Heidi Demasi, Bill Fasnacht, Cindy Lou Franke, Nichol Free, Arnold Gee, Ron Schlect, Deacon Janice Fritz, Father Ted Babcock

#### Minutes:

- A motion was made by Nichol to approve the minutes from the December meeting. The motion was seconded by Larry. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### Treasurer's Report:

- Ron presented the treasurer's report. He noted there was \$0 draw down in 2007. The vestry voted to have the Finance Committee develop a policy on what to do with the residual monies left in small memorial accounts. Larry made a motion to approve, Heidi seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- We are \$2,100 short on pledges for 2008.
- A motion was made to add a summary section (if possible) to the budget for presentation to the parishioners at the annual meeting (summarize salaries, etc.) Larry made the motion, Kara seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- The vestry commended Ron for the outstanding job he did on the budget and working with the new ACS software to get it up and running.

#### Nominating Committee:

- Cindy Lou read the conditions from the bylaws to become a vestry member.
- At the Annual Meeting, Jan. 27, 2008, we will take nominations for new vestry members. The annual meeting will then recess after the other business is finished for 30 days and resume on March 2, 2008 when ballots will be distributed in the PLC for the members of the church to elect the new vestry members. Currently there are six nominees for the vestry: Mike Stitt, Alison Carey, William Davis, Sharon Gilbert, Geri Dunham, and Edna Guido. After the ballots are turned in, they will be counted and the new members will be announced. At that time the Annual Meeting will adjourn.
- Debbie Searfoss, Cindy Lou Franke, and Larry Shillock are finished with their three year terms on the vestry.
- Arnold Gee made a motion to elect four new vestry members. The motion was seconded by Nichol. It passed unanimously.
- Father Ted nominated Cindy Lou to remain as the Senior Warden, Rick Bushman to remain as the Junior Warden, Ron Schlect to remain as the Treasurer, and Nichol Free to remain as the clerk. Becky moved to approve the nominations. Larry seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
- During the annual meeting, nominations will be taken for the Standing Committee, Council of Trustees, and Ecclesiastical Trial Court.

#### Rector's Report

- Father Ted spent the last 36 hours with Father Ed Battin and his family.
- Father Ted suggested that the church office be closed on Christmas Eve in 2008 and future years. This will enable him to prepare and rest before the two Christmas Eve services.
- Father Ted has requested the some of his time off that was not taken last year in 2007, be carried over to 2008. None of these days will be taken on a Sunday. Nichol moved to allow seven days to carry over to 2008. Kara seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Father Ted requested that his housing allowance stay at \$36,000, as it has for the past two years for the 2008 tax year. Bill made the motion, Heidi approved. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Senior Warden's Report

- Cindy mentioned that the 2008 budget was approved at the last vestry meeting.
- We will look for additional counters, who can then fill in as substitutes or as replacements for the vestry members.
- The vestry will host the Lenten supper on February 20.
- Cindy read a thank you card from Carol regarding her Christmas gift.

#### Junior Warden's Report

- Rick explained the door is being wired with a camera and intercom system to aid Carol in answering the door when it is locked and she is in the office alone. A special thanks goes to Will and Virginia Davis, and Elizabeth Demasi, who each spent eight hours completing the wiring.

#### Deacon's Report

- Janice attended a *Quiet Day* in Danville, PA
- She was the Deacon for Bill Murphy's celebration.
- Janice preached on Sunday, January 13.

#### Committee Reports

##### *Christian education*

- Jennifer Morehouse is taking over Christian Education and has some wonderful ideas for the upcoming Sunday School year.
- A special thank you will be send to Deb Galbraith for all her hard work running the Christian education department.

##### *Building & Grounds*

- Rick Bushman has agreed to head the committee.

##### *Parish Life*

- Heidi read through the list of scheduled events for 2008.

##### *Outreach Committee*

- Ed and Marsha Warren will head this committee.

#### New business

- The Vestry Service award will be given to Ron Schlect during the Annual Meeting. He will be presented with an Icon of St. Andrew. He was selected by the vestry for all his hard work as treasurer, for completing the 2008 budget, and for becoming efficient with the new ACS software. Cindy Lou moved, Larry seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Bill. It was seconded by Kara. The motion passed unanimously.

Janice led the group in closing prayer at 1:20 p.m.

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### **MARCH SERVICE HELPERS:**

The Altar Guild for March is Sue and Virginia Davis and Amy Pryce.

#### **March 2**

Chalice: Wanda Kloza and Nichol Free  
Lectors: Anne and Harold Herman  
Greeters: The Cains  
Acolytes: Brett and Brandon Erickson  
Nursery: The Hawkins and Allison Carey  
LEM: Deanna Stouffer and Lesley Carter  
Coffee Hour:  
Flowers: Lent

#### **March 9**

Harold Herman and Craig Hoffman  
Jody Harpster and Craig Hoffman  
The Schlechts  
Hannah and Davis Richardson  
The Lowerys and Edna Guido  
Linda and Craig Hoffman  
Lent

#### **March 16 Palm Sunday**

Chalice: Amy Pryce and Heidi Demasi  
Lectors: Lyn Babcock and Zan Beattie  
Greeters: The Peters  
Acolytes: Samantha and Virginia Davis  
Nursery: Kristina Faber and Lisa O'Donnell  
LEM: Deanna Stouffer and Wanda Kloza  
Coffee Hour:  
Flowers: Palms

#### **March 23 Easter**

Marcia Warren and Vic Karcher  
Lawrence Bradshaw and Mike Morehouse  
The Roses  
Kara Bushman and Elizabeth Demasi  
Sysha Surcica and Crissy Senecal  
Lesley Carter and Harold Herman  
Easter Flowers

#### **March 30**

Chalice: Samantha Davis and Mike Morehouse  
Lectors: Stella Mears and William Davis  
Greeters: The Kitts  
Acolytes: Brett Erickson and Brandon Erickson  
Nursery: The Eshlemans and Kim Steenstra  
LEM: Linda and Craig Hoffman  
Coffee Hour:  
Flowers: Easter Flowers

### **SPECIAL DAYS:**

#### **March 22 Great Vigil**

Chalice: Craig and Linda Hoffman  
Lectors: Cindy Lou Franke and Wanda Kloza  
Acolytes: Virginia and William Davis

## EASTER FLOWERS:

Easter Flower envelopes are included in the March Newsletter for those who receive it by mail. The envelopes will also be included in the March 2 and 9 Service leaflets.

Where in the world is Port Matilda?

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

**Rehearsals for the Easter drama, “Are You Sleeping?”** are underway! The children and youth will practice at the following times:

Sunday, February 24 at 9:45am in the HS classroom

Sunday, March 1 at 9:45am in the HS classroom

Sunday, March 1 after the 10am service

If you would like to participate, please join us at the next rehearsal. Parts are available for children of all ages.

The children and youth will perform an **Easter Drama entitled “Are You Sleeping?”** on **Sunday, March 9 at the 10am service**. Please be sure to attend this humorous, yet thought-provoking depiction of the events in the Garden of Gethsemane. Directed by Becky Dempsey, with Elisabeth Davis as Assistant Director, this play is lively and enlightening!

**Easter Egg Decorating on Saturday, March 15 from 9:30am to 11:30am in the PLC-** This event is for all children and youth (and their families). Please have each child bring 1dozen hard boiled eggs to decorate (or an appropriate amount for your child), an Easter basket, and wear old clothes, just in case it gets messy! The children will decorate Easter Eggs for the holiday, have snacks, learn about our Easter traditions, and will have a basket of decorated eggs to bring home. (Think: No messy egg dyes to clean up off your kitchen floor!)

There will be **no Sunday School on Easter Sunday**.

**Adult Christian Education** continues weekly with a discussion group in the **PLC at 9am** on Sundays. Please join us for this exciting discussion of current events from a Christian perspective, where we enjoy hearing a wide range of ideas and opinions.

**Looking ahead...**Come and hear Lee Stuart preach and teach on **Sunday, April 6** at the 8am and 10am services. Ms. Stuart was the lead organizer of South Bronx churches, and currently works toward millennial goals to defeat world hunger.

A Friday night dinner and educational lecture on Christian Icons will be held in the PLC this spring.

**Sunday, June 1** is Youth Sunday, a picnic at South Hampton Township Park, and the last day of Sunday school for the 2007/2008 school year.

## 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Bishop Nathan Baxter will be with us on Saturday March 22, 2008 as we celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a family of worship. At 4:00 PM that day we will celebrate the Easter Vigil. During this service we will also see the dedication of our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary chalice. Following the service there will be a chance for parish fellowship and food as we adjourn to Premier Events in Shippensburg for a 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner.

The menu for the dinner will include:

Grilled Marinated Chicken Breast

Roast Beef

Roasted Seasonal Vegetables

Roasted Red Skin Potatoes

Macaroni and Cheese

Tossed Salad

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake

Coffee, Tea, Punch

The cost of the dinner will be \$15.00 for adults, \$7.00 for children under ten and no charge for children under three. We will be taking advance sign up and payment within the next several weeks.

This will be the conclusion to our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and we hope the kickoff to a glorious next 100 so please plan in advance for this wonderful afternoon and evening.

Why would I want to know where Port Matilda is?

## KING'S KETTLE

**For March**, please bring CANNED FRUIT/VEGETABLES and/or INFANT FORMULA for the needy of Shippensburg. Place items in the sacristy, and we will deliver to King's Kettle Food Pantry at the end of the month. There is a great need for emergency food supplies, so please bring in as much as you can to help out those in need. Contact Tim and Irene Hawkins with questions. Thanks!

Dear St. Andrews Episcopal Church,

Thank you for your recent donation of items to Women In Need during the Christmas holiday. All of the items donated were greatly appreciated and were exactly what we needed. These donations are essential in the work that we do to help victims of domestic violence/sexual assault. Thanks again for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Lisa Dougherty

### **LIBRARY NEWS**

As we move through Lent, we often find ourselves thinking of seeking some help that would enrich our prayer and meditation practice. The library has much to offer in these areas, both in classic texts long recognized, and in some recent additions.

Margaret Gunther's The Practice of Prayer has become one of the classics, although it was written for the New Church's Teaching Series in 1998. Guenther, an Episcopal priest, was the longtime director of the Center for Christian Spirituality at The General Theological Seminary in New York. The book ranges widely but is written to be practical and down-to-earth. A rich introduction to the art of contemplative ("centering") prayer is Thomas Keating's Foundations for Centering Prayer & The Christian Contemplative Life which includes three of Fr. Keating's most popular (short) books. And if you haven't come across Always We Begin Again: the Benedictine Way of Living, a tiny, pocket-size book of daily meditations by an Episcopal layman/attorney, John McQuistan II, it is deeply worth knowing. Warning: you may find you want to own your own copy.

The Library has recently received two books primarily directed to women: an excellent paperback, Women Pray: Voices through the Ages, from Many Faiths, Cultures, and Traditions, and the recent hardback book, Knitting into the Mystery: A Guide to the Shawl-Knitting Ministry. The latter, incidentally, is much more than a set of knitting instructions (although it does contain those at the back of the book). The authors consider the knitting itself to be a contemplative act, and put forward helpful suggestions as to how individuals and small groups can add a spiritual component to their work.

### **REVISED CHOIR REHEARSAL TIMES**

Feb. 13 thru March 12 /choir will rehearse on Wednesdays at 8:00 pm

Beginning on March 19th choir will rehearse on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm

### **KNITTING GROUP**

The Knitting Group will resume regular meetings on the first Monday of the month. Knitters and crocheters will meet at 6:30 in the dining room of the Episcopal Home. Please bring your current project as well as finished items. We encourage others to join us in this ministry which serves individuals in need of comfort or support. Don't know how to knit or crochet? Come we'll teach you. For further information call Jean at 352-7242.

### **PACKAGES FOR THE TROOPS**

We are still collecting items to send to our troops overseas. These items will be shipped on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month. Please do not donate any more books. They do have libraries and they have plenty of books. Also, no aerosol cans (with the exception of shave gels) as these can be explosive items onboard the planes flying overseas. Also, nothing that contains alcohol.

What is the Women's Social Group up to now?