

# The Messenger - January 2011

St Andrew's Church Episcopal  
50 Sacandaga Rd  
Scotia, New York 12302  
Rector - The Rev'd Michael Neufeld



Office - 374-8391  
Rectory - 372-2255  
standrewscotia@yahoo.com  
www.saintandrewscotia.org

## GOOD NEWS FROM FR MIKE

The new year is upon us and many, if not all of us, are about making New Year's resolutions. The problem is that we are the busiest people in the world. We are pressured beyond belief and New Year's resolutions often just add more pressure. They become just another thing on a list of things to get done.

God has a plan for all of us, during this new year, and that plan is simple. It is time to stop at least some of that "important" stuff that we are constantly doing, long enough to relax in Him. We are privileged, you and I, to live in the rhythm of the Liturgical Year. There is a power presented to us each year in the many seasons. God has a great deal to tell us, but we are too busy to listen.

Advent is intended to be a time of waiting in joyful expectation, for our Lord's return, His second coming. However He comes to us today in a multitude of subtle ways. How many of us were too busy with the frenetic activity of the "holiday season" to just sit and wait upon the Lord? We are presently right smack in the middle of the Christmas Season. How many of us are just too plain tired to celebrate?

We are about to begin the season of Epiphany, when we encounter Christ showing forth who He is in word and deed. This season does not merely introduce us to what Christ did 2000 years ago but to what He continues to do today. We would see Him and hear Him if we would just pay attention.

My prayer for all of us is that we would spend time each day during the coming year just doing nothing with the Lord. God has miracles, insights, peace surpassing all understanding, but we need to be prepared and waiting to receive what He has to give. By the way, this is a very important aspect of prayer. Prayer goes way beyond speaking to God or doing things in God's direction. All prayer is designed to wake us up to God's presence, right here and right now. The Lord is with us, prayer gives us eyes to see Him and ears to hear Him.

Might I suggest that prayer be the focus of the New Year. There are many prayer forms. We as Anglican Christians have the gift of the Daily Office. I highly commend that to you. The prayers and the Scriptures within that office, washing over us, are intended to quiet our heart and feed our soul. There are materials you can get from Gail on how to do the Daily Office and I would be more than happy to teach anyone, at any time, how the office is set up. As I mentioned last month, one can also read the Daily Office on the internet. All one need do is to go to our website and click Mission St Clare. You will then be taken directly to the Daily Office site.

The Daily Office is really meant to be done in community. There are 2 times a week we meet as a community to pray the Daily Office – 9:10AM on Wednesdays and 6:30PM on Mondays. At the Monday service, there is also a time for praying for the needs of the parish, the Church, and the world.

Another way of praying is by repetitious prayer, often with the use of beads. Such repetition is not done to get God's attention, but to get ours. Our minds tend to be so focused on so many things. Repetition prayers, like the Jesus Prayer or the Rosary, can help to quiet the chaos and make relaxing with the Lord a real possibility. Presently there is a group meeting at 6:00PM on Mondays to pray the Anglican Rosary. Come and be involved.

I invite you to a year centered in prayer. Again, not that you might have something else to do, but that you might find true rest in the Lord. Invest some time in quiet and watch what happens.

## Report from your Wardens

### *Thoughts from Betsy –*

Christmas Season is upon us. Our Christmas Eve Family Service was awesome. There were 119 of us and as I looked around, there were new faces to be seen. Welcome to our St. Andrew's Family!! We can only pray that the efforts of the Evangelism Committee putting together the new invitations and delivering them the Sunday before our Christmas services paid off. There are so many of the un-churched not only in the St. Andrew's neighborhood, but in our own neighborhoods, that need to receive the word of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please continue to pray that their visit to our church wasn't just for that one time.

It doesn't seem possible that 2010 is coming to a close. Many thanks to Mother Jackie, Deacon MaryCarol, and Rick Cioppa for their devotion to us while our Fr. Mike was recovering. It's great to have him back! Wishes to all for a safe, healthy and prayerful 2011.

### *Thoughts from Steve -*

For those who are keeping track, probably no one, this is my last newsletter as Warden with St. Andrew's. Term limits, part of the parish rules, do not allow me to continue and so my term will end at the annual meeting on January 23rd. I choose not to challenge these rules, as I do not have a legal team and financial resources to mount such a challenge.

It has been an interesting and very challenging four years. When I was asked to consider the position of warden, I just didn't know what to do. I wasn't sure how I would do or whether I would be up to the position. I truly knew and expected it to be a challenge and take up a fair amount of time, which would mean rearranging my usual routine. I also considered the wonderful work Ray Rockwell was doing as warden and wondered how I could even come close to the job he did. But, deep down I knew that God would guide me through this challenge. And, besides, if things didn't go well, it was only a two-year term and I could be done. Well, it looks like I did all right as I was elected to a second two-year term.

As I stated many times before, St. Andrew's is a truly remarkable parish. Everyone here truly loves God our Father and the Lord Jesus and loves to share that love and joy with everyone who attends our church. People who come here for the first time are amazed at the love and joy we share with others. Another example of this love is when the Vestry delivers semi-regular updates on the status of our church and the challenges we need to deal with at that time. It is amazing how the parish has dealt with these issues. It kind of reminds me of how many military leaders responded to difficult battlefield situations and were told to surrender. Most of their responses cannot be printed in a church bulletin, but they basically said, "no way – we are not giving up".

And this is what I see happening here, we are not giving up and we will continue to keep going until it's no longer possible to keep going. The most important challenge we have right now is increasing our church attendance and membership. We have asked the parish to make this an important part of their daily prayers. And it's working, your daily prayers have worked as we are seeing a small increase in attendance over the past two or three months.

But remember, we are not giving up. We need to continue to keep St. Andrew's in our daily prayers, along with the many people in our community who are faced with difficult situations in their lives and would benefit from knowing God, of the love and joy he has for everyone, no matter what their life is like.

In closing, it's been a real pleasure to serve as your warden and vestry member for the last seven years.

**Please note** – For monthly Vestry minutes and Finance reports, see copies posted on the bulletin board outside the office. As a member of the Parish, you are always welcome to visit Vestry Meetings.

Next meeting – January 13 at 6:45PM in the lounge.

Contact your Wardens:

Betsy Baxter (399-5948; ehb51@yahoo.com)  
Steve George (381-4444; svgeor1@verizon.net)

## **Christian Education offerings for all –**

Church School – Sundays at 11:00AM

Adult Bible Studies:

Sunday morning Bible Study – 11:00AM – study of the Sunday readings

Sunday evening Men's Study group – 7:00PM – variety of different approaches to studying the Bible

Tuesdays in February and March - 6:30PM – Living Water by Brother Yun  
book study led by Deacon MaryCarol

Wednesday morning Bible Study – 9:30AM – The Letter of James

Wednesday evening Bible Study – 6:45PM – Gospel of Mark

## **ECW (Episcopal Church Women) / St Elizabeth's Guild United**

From Joan Acker, Co-President

Thank you to all who supported the Advent Sale tables by bringing in items to sell and purchasing treasures to take home. Proceeds from the sale were \$402.50.

Next meeting is January 12 at noon in the lounge. All women of the parish are members of ECW and invited to the meeting. Bring a sandwich; dessert and beverage is provided.

## **Evangelism – January 2011**

The Evangelism Committee wants to thank everyone who helped with the evangelism packages. Donations were collected, materials purchased, information was keyboarded and printed, packages put together and distributed to different neighborhoods in the Village. In each package were a copy of the New Testament, inspirational messages from Christian authors and information about St. Andrew's and the times of the services and Bible studies. We are very blessed to have the number of volunteers willing to distribute the packages. The one thing we should remember most with the packages is that we are getting the Word of the Lord out to the Community, the Word that many in our community are not getting and are in desperate need of. We are letting the Community know that they can come to St. Andrew's for comfort, fellowship and love.

If others would like to be a part of this great committee, please contact Father Mike, Deacon Mary Carol or Steve George. Monthly meetings will be starting up soon.

## **Annual Diocesan Parish Leadership Conference**

**Saturday Jan 15 – Cathedral of All Saints, S Swan St, Albany**

Sign-in & coffee begins at 8:15am, program begins at 9 am and you'll be on your way home by 4 pm.

This year's conferences will be centered on Bishop Love's "focus on the basics" - the Holy Scriptures. He has invited Mr. Whitney T. Kuniholm, President of Scripture Union, USA to be our featured speaker. Mr.

Kuniholm is an Episcopalian from the Philadelphia area, and his presentations are titled: "A Call to Bible Reading Revival" and "How to Read the Bible." He describes his first presentation as "How rediscovering God's word releases spiritual power in the church and in the lives of people." His second presentation will focus on the Essentials 100 Challenge, which leads participants to understand the meaning of the Bible through the reading of 100 key passages. He will show you the various ways the E100 Challenge can be used in a church, small, medium, or large, to get people excited about reading the Bible.

## St. Andrew's 3rd Annual Chocolate Fest! Saturday, February 12, 2011 – 1-4 PM

Plans are underway for our 3rd Annual Chocolate Fest at St. Andrew's.

Here's how you can help make this year's event a success:

**Posters & Pre-Sale tickets:** Will be available in January. See Carol Salvino (374-1394) or Gail.

**Gift Baskets:** We had an overwhelming number of wonderful donations for our Silent Auction of gift baskets last year. This year, we will have only a few large gift baskets, made by committee members, for the auction, so it's not so over whelming. But we welcome donations of smaller gift baskets which we will sell outright for \$10, \$15, or \$20 dollars. **Please contact Simone Rockwell (370-3412) BEFORE making a gift basket**, so she can co-ordinate that aspect of the Chocolate Fest. Simone will also have ideas for themes, plus some baskets and items to help fill them up. If you can get donations of gift certificates (as early as possible, please), these can be added to gift baskets, as well.

**Volunteer:** Sign up sheets will be on the lounge door in January. We need bakers (cakes, cookies, brownies, etc.) and candy makers, help with set-up (around 10:30 AM, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>), table workers and help with take down/clean up.

### **Food Donations:**

- ♥ If you'd like recipe ideas, contact one of our committee members: Callie Allard, Lori Borst Azoia, Simone Rockwell, Carol Salvino, Anne Simon and/or Nanci Wilson or email us at: [chocfeststa@yahoo.com](mailto:chocfeststa@yahoo.com).
- ♥ **Drop off food items on Friday afternoon, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> between 2-5 PM**, if possible. Otherwise, bring them **on Saturday morning between 10:30-11 AM**.
- ♥ **PLEASE** let us know ahead of time the name(s) of treats you will be bringing, so we can have **labels** prepared ahead. Thanks! You can do this by: 1) listing the name on the sign up sheet on the lounge door OR 2) by emailing us the information (including the info on those that contain nut or nut butters) to us at: [chocfeststa@yahoo.com](mailto:chocfeststa@yahoo.com).
- ♥ Please label all food items with the **name of the food** ("Triple Chocolate Cookies", "Chocolate Mayonnaise Cake" or whatever) **and your name** so we can match our premade labels (or make labels, if need be) to each item. Also, note whether it contains nuts or nut butters and, if you are not bringing items in disposable containers, then **make sure your name** is marked clearly on all containers (including lids!) even if you want returned.

Please **attend!** Come and bring your friends, family and sweetheart!!

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH  
ANNUAL MEETING  
Sunday, January 23, 2011

St. Andrew's will hold its annual meeting on  
Sunday, January 23, 2011 at 10:30AM

As part of the meeting, the parish will elect one warden, three vestry members, diocesan convention delegates & alternates, deanery representative, columbarium committee members, and other committee members as may become necessary. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions and would like to know more, please ask one of the wardens or vestry members for additional information.

If you would like to nominate an individual, please complete the nomination form at the bottom of this page and give it to Marjorie Edgar, Steve George, or leave it in the church office by Thursday January 20. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR NOMINEES AS WARDENS OR VESTRY MEMBER.

Under the New York State Religious Corporation Act (RCA) and St. Andrew's by-laws, persons nominated for warden or vestry member must met the following requirements.

- Possess the qualifications of voters - A communicant of the parish, age 18 or older, who has been faithful in attendance and contributed to the support of the parish for at least twelve months prior to the election. To be elected a warden, the nominee must also be a confirmed communicant.
- Per a resolution passed at the annual meeting in January 1969, no one may nominate another person for the position of warden or vestry member without the prior written consent of the person having his or her name placed in nomination.
- Upon expiration of their current term, wardens and vestry members are eligible for immediate re-election to their respective position, but for no more than two consecutive terms. Other persons may be nominated for the same position.

Present Vestry Members (position, year term expires, name, home phone number):

Wardens – elected at the Annual Meeting, on a rotating basis, for 2 year terms:

(2011) Steve George (381-4444)

(2012) Betsy Baxter (399-5948)

Vestry – elected at the Annual Meeting, on a rotating basis, for 3 year terms:

(2011) Simone Rockwell (370-3412); Dale Sorensen (374-8486)

(2012) Marjorie Edgar (370-1725); Wes Lavery (372-3791)

(2013) Chris Crouse (877-8334); Vicki Ramotar (399-1043); Don Reid (399-3864)

**POSITIONS TO BE FILLED AT THE 2011 ANNUAL MEETING**

**WARDEN - 1**

Incumbent: Steve George – not eligible for re-election to this position

*VESTRY – 3 – for three years; 1 – for a one year – to complete a term vacant*

Incumbents: Simone Rockwell - eligible for re-election to this position

Dale Sorensen - not seeking re-election

one position vacant - for the 3-year term

one position vacant - for one year to complete a term

**DEPUTIES TO DIOCESE OF ALBANY CONVENTION <sup>1</sup> - 3 + alternates**

(Delegation is Warden plus two others<sup>2</sup>)

All Deputies to be confirmed by motion and vote of the Annual Meeting

Betsy Baxter, as second-year Warden

and Incumbents: Jerry Carroll, eligible for re-election.

Marjorie Edgar, eligible for re-election.

\*\*\*\* You must be able to and plan on attending the Convention \*\*\*\*  
before consenting to be a delegate or alternate

<sup>1</sup> ***Diocesan Convention is scheduled for Friday evening June 10 – Sunday, June 12, 2011***

Convention is called to order around 7PM on that Friday evening  
at Camp of the Woods in Speculator, NY – you will need to make reservations

for event

<sup>2</sup> No restriction on consecutive terms as delegate to convention.

**METROPOLITAN DEANERY REPRESENTATIVE – 1**

Incumbent: Christine Bissonette, eligible for re-election.

**COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE (treasurer) – 1**

Incumbent: Georgia Giacomo, eligible for re-election.

**St. Andrew's Church Nomination Form - 2011**

I hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
position of \_\_\_\_\_

(insert position title)

Nominator (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby agree to have my name placed in nomination, and attest that I meet the requirements  
and can serve in the position.

Nominee (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

## **Diocese Cycle of Prayer January**

**Daily: For our Bishop and for growth in every parish**

**1 Christ's Holy Catholic Church, especially where afflicted with persecution or affluence** *The Rev'd Mark McDarby*

**2 The Diocese of Albany - Bishop William Love**

**3 All candidates taking the Canonical Exams; Women's Epiphany Retreat (January 7-9)** *Canon Charles King, Jr.*

**4 The Episcopal Church & The Most Rev'd Kathrine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop & Primate**

**5 The Anglican Communion & The Most Rev'd Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury**

**6 The Epiphany - That the unchurched find Christ in our Missionary Outposts-Principal Holy Day** *The Rev'd Stephen Hart*

**7 Cathedral of All Saints, Albany -The Very Rev'd David Collum, The Rt. Rev'd David Ball, The Rev'd Allen Carpenter, The**

**Rev'd Richard Erickson, The Rev. Christine Wickman, *The Rev'd Scott Underhill***

**8 Grace & Holy Innocents, Albany – The Rev'd G. Tyrone Reddie**

**9 Parish Leadership Conferences (January 15, 22, 29)**

*The Rev'd Julia McPartlin, The Rev'd David Sullivan*

**10 St. Andrew's Church, Albany - The Rev'd Mary White**

*The Rev'd Clement Hulick, The Rev'd Allen Carpenter*

**11 St. Ann's, Amsterdam -The Rev'd Christopher Smith**

**12 St. Paul's, Albany –The Rev'd J. Nixon McMillan, The Rev'd Nancy Rosenblum**

*13 The Rev'd John C. Smith*

**14 St. Paul's Church, Waddington – The Rev'd Arthur Garno**

**15 St. Paul's, Bloomville – The Venerable Barbara Hanstine**

**16 For the Alpha, Cursillo, and Disciples Courses in the Diocese**

**17 St. James, Ausable Forks-The Rev'd David Ousley, The Rev'd Patti Johnson**

*18 The Rev'd Lawrence Steuer*

**19 The Standing Committee** *The Rev'd Patti Johnson*

**20 Christ Church, Ballston Spa -The Very Rev'd Derik Roy, The Rev'd Scott Evans, The Rev'd Lynne Crimi, The Rev'd**

**Albert Moser, The Rev'd Bill Pearson**

**21 Episcopal Church Women**

**22 The Trustees of the Diocese**

*23 The Rev'd Carlos Caguiat, The Rev'd Randolph Lukas*

**24 St. Paul's, Troy -The Rev'd Michael Gorchov, The Rev'd Alicia Todaro**

*25 The Rev'd John Zimmerman*

**26 St. Peter's, Albany -The Rev'd Paul Hartt, The Rev'd Susan Waldron**

**27 Men's Ministries across the Diocese**

**28 St. Luke's, Catskill - The Rev'd David Sutcliffe, The Rev'd Henry Verdaasdonk**

**29 Christ Church, Hudson -The Rev'd John Perry**

**30 The Clergy Spouses, in thanksgiving for their apostolic support**

**31 Clergy Widows and Widowers**

## **Anglican Cycle of Prayer January**

**01-International Anglican Family Network (IAFN)**

**02-Lahore - (Pakistan) The Rt Revd Dr Alexander John Malik**

**03-Lainya - (Sudan) The Rt Revd Peter Amidi**

**04-Lake Malawi - (Central Africa) Awaiting Official Confirmation from the Province**

**05-Lango - (Uganda) The Rt Revd John Charles Odurkami**

**06-Epiphany - O God, who revealed your only Son to the Gentiles by the leading of a star, mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may after this life enjoy the splendour of your gracious Godhead, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**07- Langtang - (Province of Jos, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Stanley Fube**

**08- Lebombo - (South Africa) The Rt Revd Dinis Salomao Sengulane**

**09- Leicester - (Canterbury, England) The Rt Revd Timothy John Stevens**

**10- Lesotho - (South Africa) Vacant**

**11- Lexington - (Province IV, USA) The Rt Revd Stacy Fred Sauls**

**12-Liberia - (West Africa) The Rt Revd Jonathan Bau-Bau Bonaparte Hart**

**13-Lichfield - (Canterbury, England) The Rt Revd Jonathan Michael Gledhill**

**Shrewsbury-The Rt Revd Mark James Rylands, Lichfield - Stafford - (Canterbury, England)The Rt**

**Revd Geoff Annas, Wolverhampton - The Rt Revd Clive Gregory**

**14-Limerick & Killaloe - (Dublin, Ireland) The Rt Revd Trevor Williams**

- 15**-Lincoln -The Rt Revd John Charles Saxbee Grantham The Rt Revd Timothy William Ellis, Grimsby, The Rt Revd David Douglas James Rossdale
- 16**-The Most Rt Revd Nicholas Dikeriehi Okoh Archbishop, Metropolitan and Primate of All Nigeria and Bishop of Abuja , Suffragan Bishop of Abuja
- 17**-Litoral Ecuador - (Province IX, USA) The Rt Revd Alfredo Morante
- 18**- For Christian Unity, Liverpool - (York, England) The Rt Revd James Stuart Jones  
Liverpool - Warrington - (York, England)The Rt Revd David Wilfred Michael Jennings
- 19**- Lokoja - (Province of Abuja, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Emmanuel Sokowamju Egbunu
- 20**-London - The Rt Revd & Rt Hon Richard John Carew Chartres  
London - Edmonton - (Canterbury, England)The Rt Revd Peter William Wheatley  
London - Fulham - (Canterbury, England)The Rt Revd John Charles Broadhurst  
London - Kensington - (Canterbury, England)The Rt Revd Paul Gavin Williams  
London - Stepney - (Canterbury, England)The Rt Revd Stephen Oliver  
London - Willesden - (Canterbury, England)The Rt Revd Peter Allan Broadbent
- 21**-Long Island - (Province II, USA) The Rt Revd Orris `Ja' G Walker
- 22**-Los Angeles - (Province VIII, USA) The Rt Revd Joseph Jon Bruno  
Suffragan Bishop of Los Angeles - (Province VIII, USA)The Rt Revd Chester L Talton
- 23**-Louisiana - (Province IV, USA) The Rt Revd Charles Edward Jenkins
- 24**-Luapula - (Central Africa) The Rt Revd Robert Mumbi
- 25**-The ordering of our life together, that in all things we may show the glory of God.
- 26**-Lucknow - (North India) The Rt Revd Anil R Stephen
- 27**-Lui - (Sudan) The Rt Revd Bullen A Dolli
- 28**-Lusaka - (Central Africa) The Rt Revd David Njovu
- 29**-Luwero - (Uganda) The Rt Revd Evans Mukasa Kisekka
- 30**-The Most Revd Thabo Cecil Makgoba Archbishop of Capetown  
Suffragan Bishop of Cape Town - (South Africa)The Rt Revd Garth Quinton Counsell
- 31**-Lweru - (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Jackton Jeremiah Lugumira

***Take Note - Calendar Reminders***

**Saturday, January 15 – Diocesan Leadership Conference at the Cathedral (S Swan St Albany)  
9:00AM to 4:00PM (coffee and registration begins at 8:15AM)  
See lounge door and newsletter article for more info**

**Sunday, January 16 – 5PM Eucharist Service in celebration of Fr Mike and Mtr Ellen’s  
25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary – followed by covered dish supper in the lounge.  
Bishop Dan will preside as they renew their marriage vows.  
Everyone is invited to join them in this celebration.  
They have requested no gifts, please.**

**Sunday, January 23 – ONE SERVICE at 9:00AM  
followed by Annual Meeting at 10:30AM (see newsletter article)**

**Tuesdays in February & March – Living Water by Brother Yun book study  
with Deacon MaryCarol – all welcome to join!!**

**Saturday, February 12 – 3rd Annual Chocolate Fest – 1PM to 4PM (see newsletter article)**

**Tuesday, March 8 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – 6:00PM**

**Wednesday, March 9 – Ash Wednesday – Eucharist Services at 7:00AM, 11:00AM & 7:00PM**

**Watch the Sunday bulletins for added services and events**

January 2011

**St Andrew's Church**

Episcopal Diocese of Albany

**50 Sacandaga Rd**

Scotia, NY 12302



***Disciples Making Disciples***