



The Anchor

November 2011

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Longmeadow MA

Parish Theme:
Creating Caring
Connections

Parish Goal:
To develop, expand and deepen meaningful relationships among St. Andrew's parishioners and those outside the parish through ministries that foster fellowship; encourage spiritual development; and serve the common good.

Let's Go Fishing!

Those who participated in the Celebration of New Ministry on October 16th shouted these words as prompted by the Rev. Becky Robbins-Penniman at the end of her St. Andrew-themed sermon. What an amazing and fitting way to formally begin our ministry together. As Becky noted, we are to resemble our patron saint in that we are to go fishing for people by being in the common places of life where people congregate. The sermon moved many participants including me. Did the sermon move us enough for us to respond with action?

Why do we need to *actively* go fishing for people you may ask? First of all, Jesus calls us, as he called the original disciples, to follow him and be the Good News to people yearning for hope. By virtue of being practicing Christians, we bear the responsibility of fishing for people. Due to societal shifts, Christianity is losing its prominence in American society. As a result, we cannot expect people to flop into our boat (people will not just come to us as they did in past decades). Becky notes how fishing for people is changing: "In fact, this job of fishing for people actually got pretty easy in our world, sort of like fishing for fish in a barrel. Many of us were caught at birth. Churches were filled up by Christians having babies and by old fish moving to new towns and finding a new church to go to. But, it's rapidly becoming a very, very different world. The fish barrel is disappearing."

How do we go about fishing for people in a changing world? To begin, we have to be clear that we want to fish for the right reasons. Are we wanting people to join us for the sake of institutional survival or because we believe that the Christian way of life can give people abundant life now and in the next life and transform our society? We need to determine together if we want to reprioritize our time, energy and finances to go fishing in a different way. We have to assess our ministries, worship services and traditions to see how they help or hinder fishing for people in our present age. To effectively fish for people, we need to learn, explore and implement best practices in being church. As Becky suggests, we have to listen deeply to those outside our walls and listen to society in general so we can navigate the changing waters. I assure you that fishing in new ways does not mean that we will be fundamentally changing who we are and that

Continued on page 7

Of Budgets and Pledging

Thanks to the faith and generosity of our parishioners in their pledging, the Finance Committee believes that the parish will end the current fiscal year very close to being even. This is encouraging as the 2011 budget was a significant increase over the 2010 year — good news as we climb out of a three-year period in which the economic downturn impacted families, adversely affected our endowment, and the parish went through a period of transition between rectors.

2012 will continue to be a financial challenge, but the Finance Committee is working to develop a responsible budget, and the Stewardship Formation Team has launched a Fall Pledge Appeal to gain the commitments necessary to have a faithfully balanced budget in 2012.

As of the end of October, the draft budget for the coming year anticipated total expenses of \$358,700 (by comparison, the projected total for 2011 is \$341,300). The increase is due primarily to the following factors:

- ◆ 2012 will be the first year since 2008 that the parish has had a full-time rector for entire year.
- ◆ We have budgeted a 2% increase for lay staff salaries — the first increase since the cut-backs in hours and compensation in 2010.
- ◆ With the payment period of the 2008 Mission and Capital Campaign coming to a close, we believe we will have approximately \$18,000 outstanding on our line of credit not covered by pledge receipts. We must factor the repayment of that debt into our operating budget over the next three years.
- ◆ We have deterioration to the stonework on the exterior of the chapel that must be repaired in 2012 to prevent further damage.

Members of the Finance Committee will hold an informational meeting on the budget on Sunday, November 6 following the 10 a.m. service. Additionally, committee members will be available during coffee hours throughout November to answer any questions parishioners may have.

Seeking Parish Leaders

Every year at this time, we begin the process of seeking nominations for a variety of leadership roles in the parish. A strong slate begins with the willingness of parishioners to give thoughtful consideration to leadership in the parish and submit names into nomination.

Have you ever considered serving on the Vestry? Listen to what some current vestry members say about the experience:

“Vestry is a wonderful and fulfilling way of stewardship for St. Andrew’s.”

Mike Young

“I’ve experienced the joint decision-making by laity and clergy which involves respect for various points of view, and which is so important in the continued growth of St. Andrew’s. However, my most cherished experience was the opportunity to meet so many other parishioners from different walks of life and see the amazing talent they have and share with St. Andrew’s.”

Kathy Riess

If you have questions about serving on the Vestry, please feel free to speak with any member, or Fr. Derrick. The process is as follows:

◆ Nomination forms are included in the weekly bulletin during November. Parishioners are encouraged to self-nominate or submit names of members in good standing* for consideration.

◆ In early December, all who have been nominated attend a discernment meeting to hear about the expectations of the positions for which they have been nominated. They then take a short time to decide whether they will allow their names to go forward.

◆ The Nominating Committee meets to consider the names of those who have agreed to go forward, and to construct the slate which is presented at Annual Meeting in January.

**a “member in good standing” is a person of at least 16 years of age who has been confirmed or received in The Episcopal Church, is a donor of record to the parish, and who attends worship at least three times a year.*



Church School News

We have a name for our **pre-k to grade 2 class**:

Let's Go Fishing!

Watch for the transformation of the church school corridor and classes.

Calendar note: Nov 13th children will worship with parents. Activity bags will be available. On Nov 27th class will meet upstairs and we will have 'Children's Chapel' as we did during the summer months.

J2A/R-13 – "Activities & Mexican Pile Up" afternoon with Fr. Derrick on Sunday Nov 6th at 4:30pm in the undercroft. Weather permitting we will have some outdoor activities followed by a Taco Feast. We hope everyone in both classes will participate!

Reminder: there will be **no 9am classes** on November 13 & 27.

It's not too early to the thinking about the Christmas Pageant ...

All children who wish to are encouraged to participate in the pageant on Christmas Eve at the 4pm liturgy. Participating children will need to attend the two scheduled rehearsals.

Sat - Dec. 10th 9-10am — Children will be fitted for their costumes (Angel, Sheep, Shepherd) and be able to take them home so they can practice. We will also do a quick run through of the program.

Wed - Dec. 21st 5:30-6:30pm – This is a full dress rehearsal with readers. We will begin on time and run through the pageant at least once.

We know this is a busy time of year, and will do our utmost to begin and end the rehearsals on time!

Adult Formation and Education Opportunities

The God-Shaped Community: 9 a.m. in the St. Andrew's Room on the following Sundays:

- Nov. 6: Some Prophets Calling Us Back Together
- Nov. 13: Jesus' Ideas about Connectedness
- Nov. 20: What Jesus Expects from Us

Attendance at previous classes is not required.

Community Conversation: Blessing of Same Gender Relationships in the Episcopal Church : November 13 at 11:30 in the St. Andrew's Room. An ongoing conversation about the issue as it's being addressed by our Diocese and the wider church.

Discipleship via Anglicanism: The Anglican/Episcopal way of being Christian. At 9 a.m. on December 4, 11, 18 and January 8.

Topics include: Anglican Identity, Core Beliefs and Practices, Governance, Scripture, Spirituality, Worship, the Sacraments and the Baptismal Covenant. The course is open to the whole parish, and will be helpful to those who have come from other denominations as well as long-time Episcopalians.

Annual Adopt a Family Kickoff

Every year at this time St. Andrew's takes part in the program *Adopt a Family* sponsored by the Salvation Army and carried out by our Mission and Outreach Committee. Taking part in this event is our way of saying "Merry Christmas" to families in the Springfield area without which their Christmases would be anything but merry. *Adopt a Family* has become a favorite of our congregation as it involves real gifts for real people in our community.

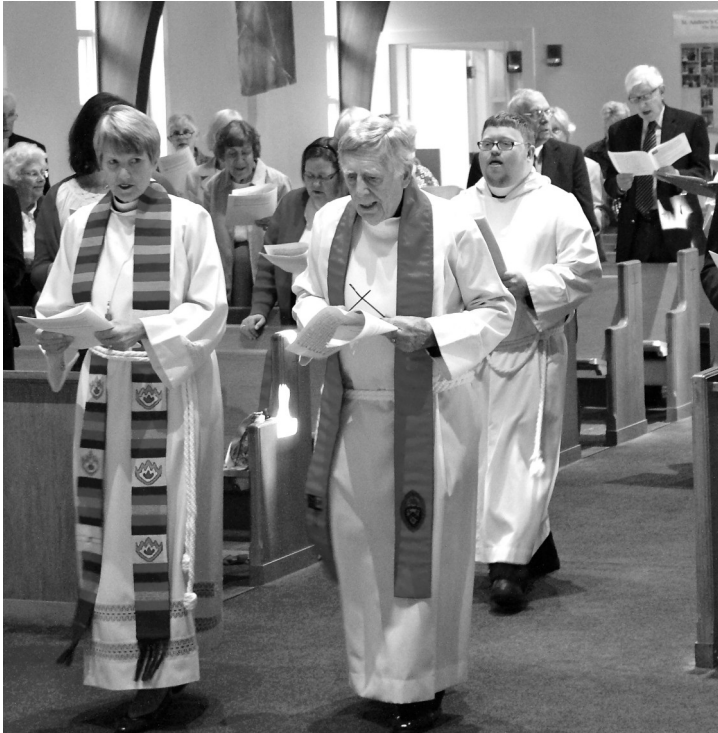


Hand made gift tags will be spread out on a table in the church on the weekend of November 19th with the names of family members and each one's wish for a gift. Members of the congregation will be asked to select one or more tags and shop for the requested gift(s). On Sunday, December 4th an ingathering of wrapped gifts with their tags will make a festive display of reds and greens with matching bows in front of the Altar to be delivered to the Salvation Army later on that day.

Don't be left out. Select your tag(s) and make your own Christmas more meaningful by giving to those in need of your generosity.

Celebration of New Ministry - Sunday, October 16, 2011

The institution of The Rev. R. Derrick Fetz as the seventh rector



Clergy processing at the beginning of the liturgy included the Rev. Becky Robbins-Penniman, preacher, the Rev. Canon Frank Howard, and the Rev. Derrick Fetz.



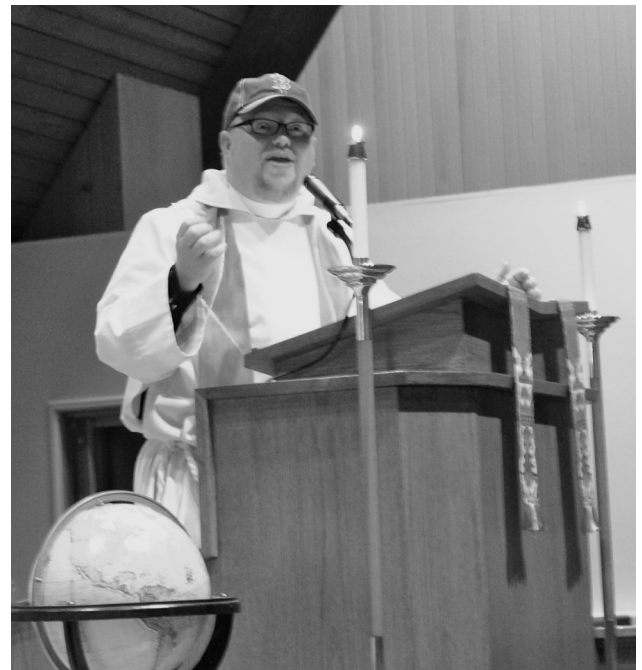
Clergy from the Hampden Deanery, the Diocesan staff, and from other Longmeadow churches participated in the service.

“When Jesus told Andrew and the others that they would be fishing for people, he was not expecting them to stay on the shore and buff up their boats. Jesus expected them to get up and go where the fish are.”

The Rev. Becky Robbins-Penniman



Photos by Jerry Houle



Fr. Derrick announced his conversion ... he is now officially a Red Sox fan!

or of St. Andrew's Church

Parishioners, parish leadership, Bishop Gordon Scruton, and visiting clergy came together for the October 16 Celebration of New Ministry which marked the new chapter in ministry taking place at St. Andrew's and the institution of Fr. Derrick Fetz as our new rector. Bishop Scruton presided, and the Rev. Becky Robbins-Penniman, rector of Church of the Good Shepherd in Dunedin, FL, preached.

The day's festivities began with an Autumn Tea and Open House in the Undercroft, where participants enjoyed refreshments along with musical accompaniment by Dick and Rick Sprinthall at the piano. Those gathered also worked on creating a collaborative piece of art for Fr. Derrick's wall by creating small, colorful prayer madalas.

These photos and others will be found in color on our Facebook page, which is accessible from the parish website, www.St-Andrews-Longmeadow.org. Additional copies of the service bulletin are available from the Parish Office.

During the liturgy, a variety of symbolic gifts were given. Below, staff members Karen McCarthy, Sue Lussier and Jan Brega prepare to present an icon. At right, Ben Wheeler presented a lacrosse stick to "help catch the Spirit and gather people in God's name.



On behalf of the whole congregation, the Vestry gave Fr. Derrick a stole as a symbol of his role as pastor and priest among us, and as a token of our joyful anticipation as we go forward together in ministry. Fr. Derrick will primarily wear the stole, which is predominantly purples and blues, during Advent and Lent.



Birthdays in November

1	Caroline Toner	23	Sandra Gibson
3	Jane Hopkins-Fisher	25	Margaret Whitlock
	Stephanie Lussier	26	Isabella Lewis
	Madison Taylor		Kevin Flynn
4	Kathleen Pasterczyk	28	Art Lucey
	Brett Powell	30	Ruby Cameron
5	Ed Butrick		Jack Blanton
	Rob Purdy		Emma Chase
	Cindy Rea		
6	Robert Stirton		
7	Susan Askin		
	John Bogert		
8	Conner Hebert		
	Muriel Hoag		
	Heather Sweeney		
9	Zain Najeebi		
10	Jenny Lewis		
	Krista Walker		
11	Connor Rintoul		
13	Ben Bennett		
14	Mia Nolan		
15	Michael Morrow		
16	Stanley Melvin		
17	Betty Pierzchala		
20	Gia Sellica		
21	Faith Taylor		
22	Wally Gladwin		
	Klara Pasterczyk		

Anniversaries in November

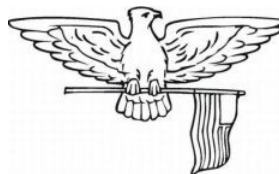
1	Pat and David Wolos
21	Maggie and Chip MacElhiney
	Joan and John Sizer
23	Susan and Charles Baldwin

If your birthday or anniversary is incorrect or does not appear, please contact the parish office.

Funeral

Longtime former parishioner Warren "Lefty" Luthgren died September 24, 2011. His funeral was held at St. Andrew's on October 8, 2011

*Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord
and may light perpetual shine upon
them.*

**Veteran's Day Service**

Remembering and honoring veterans of all the armed services will occur during the Wednesday Eucharist at 7 a.m. on November 9. We will honor and pray for all current veterans by name during the service. Those veterans who are deceased will also be remembered by name. Please email the names of veterans by November 7th to Charles Baldwin at charles.baldwin@yahoo.com and designate whether they are to be remembered or honored.

Saturday, November 5: Outdoor Clean Up Day**8:30 a.m.—noon**

We need you and your rake to help with the fall cleanup at the church. Bring the kids ... come for all or part of the time. The more hands, the faster the job! Do you have a blower or pick-up you could bring? Rain date: November 6.

**Mark Your Calendar!**

November 5: **Fall Clean-Up Day** beginning at 8:30 a.m.

November 19 & 20: **Adopt-a-Family project begins** Pick up your ornament with info on a family in need.

November 13: **Community Conversation on Blessing Same Gender Relationships** 11:30 a.m. An ongoing conversation as the Episcopal Church considers this issue.

November 19: **Staff Open House** 5:45 p.m. Say 'hi' to staff members and enjoy light refreshments.

November 24: **Thanksgiving Day Eucharist** 9 a.m.

December 3: **Advent Quiet Day** For all adults, sponsored by the Daughters of the King.

December 4: **A Visit from St. Nicholas and Ingathering of Adopt-a-Family Gifts** At the 10 a.m. Eucharist. Followed by a festive brunch for all!

December 18: **Caroling on the Green** (on the Longmeadow Green in front of the First Church of Christ) at 5 p.m., with First Church..

December 24: **Christmas Eve Pageant** 4 p.m.
Carols, Candles and Communion 9 p.m.

December 25: **Christmas Day Eucharist** 10 a.m.

We Care For Our College Kids

For the twelfth year we will be sending "care packages" to our college freshmen. Boxes will be in the back of the church for everyone to sign with a short message to let them know that their parish family is thinking of them and looking forward to their return at Thanksgiving.

In addition, if you would like to bring in some Halloween candy or make goodies, we will be filling the boxes over the next few weeks. Some items don't ship well (fruit bruises, etc.) but popcorn balls, microwave popcorn bags, brownies and candy do well and are a nice treat for the kids.

Thank You! ...

To the Congregational Development Committee members, all the volunteers, planned and unexpectedly called to duty when it poured rain, the generous bakers who stepped up to the plate with delicious pies, breads and scary cupcakes and of course the attendees from our Parish, especially those who created beautiful pumpkin works of art at Pumpkins on the Hill!!

Lorie Dixon and Carla Gunn

We would like to thank all of those who ordered flower bulbs for our fundraiser and help us to raise over \$900! This is a great start to our fundraising efforts. We are all really looking forward to our pilgrimage to Colorado next summer. Thanks again for all of your support!

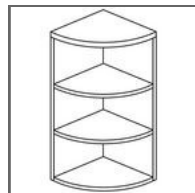
The J2A Class

Wanted for the Nursery

Nursery coordinator Sharlene Lape is looking for the following items for the nursery:

- ◆ A corner bookcase
- ◆ A toy box
- ◆ Gently used children's books
- ◆ Gently used toys
- ◆ Arts and crafts supplies

If you can help with any of these items, please call Sharlene at 224-1263.



PRAYER



A very small group of St. Andrew's women has quietly been creating prayer shawls for the church for the past several years. Perhaps you have noticed the basket in

the narthex, and you may have even taken one for yourself or to give to someone else. The shawls have ended up all over the country! Most recently some of them were given to tornado victims and many were given to children at Brightside. The Prayer Shawl Ministry is world-wide and we love to be part of something so great. Our group meets monthly, on the first Tuesday evening, but we all work on our shawls at home as well. When we meet, it is a time of lively fellowship and chatting, catching up on the news of our lives and families, while we maintain an atmosphere of love and concern for the eventual recipients of our shawls.

This year we'd love to expand our ranks! Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to learn? Or re-learn? We would also like to invite any who might want to make other garments, such as hats for preemies and cancer patients, or mittens, hats, and scarves for those that we serve at Church Without Walls.

Please consider joining us. If you have any questions or want more information, please see Chris Dolan, Carol Howland or Karen Gladwin.

Fishing (... from page 1)

everything will look radically different.

Although we need to spend some time to learn new fishing techniques, we already began our fishing adventure. We will be learning on the job and I am certain we will be surprised how much we already know. Thank you for a powerful welcome and memorable celebration on October 16th! Also, I very much appreciate the new blue, purple and heather stole the parish gifted me—I will be wearing for some of Advent. Jamie and I feel blessed and excited to be working to advance God's mission with you. Let's go fishing!

Fr. Derrick Fetz

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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On the web at: www.St-Andrews-Longmeadow.org



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Schedule

- Weekday Eucharist
Wednesdays at 7 a.m.
- Holy Eucharist -
Saturdays at 5 p.m., Sun-
days at 8 and 10 a.m.
- Parish Office open Mon-
day-Thursday 9 a.m. –
2:30 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-
noon.

***St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Staff and Contact Information***

The Rev. R. Derrick Fetz, Rector
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Jan Brega, Parish Administrator
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Sue Lussier, Director of Christian Formation
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Karen McCarthy, Organist and Choir Director
Music@St-Andrews-Longmeadow.org