



*There is an idea abroad among moral people that they should make their neighbors good. One person I have to make good: myself. But my duty to my neighbor is much more nearly expressed by saying that I have to make him happy if I may.*

*... Robert Louis Stevenson*

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# THE PRESS

OCTOBER, 2002

## THE M&M™ CHRISTIANS

M&M does not refer to the candy that melts in your mouth and not in your hand. M&M refers to the *Mission Minded* Christian in the world. Jesus said to his followers, “you are the salt of the earth.” Meaning that, it is the Christian’s presence that brings flavor and zest to the world. As true as that may be, I like to think of us as the people who bring joy and sweetness into the lives of others, in addition to flavor and seasoning to life. Being bearers of the sweet Good News of God in Christ, we participate in mission. It is not the church’s mission, the diocesan mission, or even the Christian mission; it is the *missio Dei*—God’s mission. But what is God’s mission? The Rev’d Ian Douglass answers that question by saying, “It is God’s desire to restore to unity that which had become broken; to reconcile a divided world. The loving creator chose to rebuild the bonds of love, which had been severed through human sin. God’s mission was to reconnect humanity and heal the divisions that separate us. As Christians we affirm that because of God’s love for the world and desire to be united with all of humanity, God took the final decisive step. In the incarnation of Jesus Christ, God enters the world anew and takes the responsibility for God’s mission directly upon himself. Jesus demonstrates in word and deed that the Reign of God, made real in the sending of God’s son, must continue to expand, to move out to the ends of the earth—‘As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world (John 17:18).’ The wholeness of God’s mission is discovered in the combination of the Great Commandment, to love one another as God has loved us, with the Great Commission, to make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Proclamation without loving service are empty words, and good works without naming Jesus as the Christ are simply honorable deeds.”

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*The X-Press is the monthly newsletter of St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church*

In our baptisms, each and every one of us is called to be M&M Christians—we are called to be mission minded. Increasing Sunday attendance, budgets, programs all fall into secondary positions in light of the primary reason for being M&M Christians. The primary reason is to live to the fullest our baptismal vows and participate in God's reconciling work in the world. Living as an M&M Christian means living a life filled with the sweetness of God and bringing joy to the world.

Your servant in Christ,

Scott+

#### Stewardship Matters

On Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Al Colburn and I attended the first deanery meeting after the summer hiatus. We were fortunate enough to spend our time with Ms. Terry Parsons, the head of Stewardship for the Episcopal Church. Ms. Parsons spoke with us about the nature of stewardship as opposed to fundraising or just plain giving of money. She challenged both laity and clergy to stop the annual "fall beg-a-thon" and instead, begin to teach and preach about true stewardship. True stewardship is a way of life that is ongoing rather than just at the end of a year. It is living a life from the posture of gratitude for all that God gives. In essence it is the single most explicit/ outward expression of our faith.

We are approaching the time of year when the church talks about giving of our money and our resources. As your new rector, I realize the importance of talking the talk and walking the walk. That is why I am committed to giving a full one tenth of my income back to the church. Although this may be extremely difficult for many of us, nevertheless, I urge you to consider readdressing your pledge for this year and for the quickly approaching 2003 fiscal year. All of us have before us the opportunity to respond, not just to the needs of our Church, but more importantly, respond to God by giving. Over the following weeks, we will begin to teach and preach about stewardship. We will have held before us more opportunities to respond from a new posture of gratitude and a strong faith.

Yours in Christ,  
Scott

## News & Notes

Jay Hutchinson, who was an intern at St. Andrew's a few years ago, is now the assistant chaplain at St. Andrew's School in Delaware.

His address now is: The Rev. Jay Hutchinson  
350 Noxontown  
Middletown, DE 19709

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*My windows open to the autumn night,  
In vain I watched for sleep to visit me,  
How should sleep dull mine ears, and dim my sight,  
Who saw the stars, and listened to the sea?  
Ah, how the City of our God is fair!  
If, without sea, and starless though it be,  
For joy of the majestic beauty there,  
Men shall not miss the stars, nor mourn the sea.  
... Lionel Johnson*

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### ***Editor's Note:***

***Next Issue:*** November 2002

***Deadline: WEDNESDAY, October 23***

***Send submissions to:*** [acahill@hybricon.com](mailto:acahill@hybricon.com)

*Or, drop off your submissions at the Church Office during office hours or in the Peabody Room on Sundays.*

***Questions?*** Please call me at:

*H: (978) 448-4053*

*W: (978) 772-5422 x 323*

*Be sure to include your name and telephone number on **all** submissions!*

## *Readings for October*

### Sunday, October 6 – The Twentieth

#### Sunday after Pentecost

#### **First Lesson: Isaiah 5: 1-7**

The first reading is Isaiah's Song of the Vineyard – a warning to the leaders and the people of Israel in his day.

#### **Second Lesson: Philippians 3:14-21**

Paul calls on the church in Philippi to hold fast to their faith and practice.

#### **The Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-43**

In today's liturgy we have a parable warning us as the church to be faithful to God lest God turn away from us.

### Sunday, October 13 – The Twenty-first

#### Sunday after Pentecost

#### **First Lesson: Isaiah 25: 1-9**

In the first reading, Isaiah foresees the kingdom of God as a great feast – the same image Jesus uses in today's Gospel reading – and as a feast for all people, not just a few.

#### **Second Lesson: Philippians 4: 4-13**

Paul urges the people of God to persevere in living the Christian way, confident in hope of the kingdom's fulfillment.

#### **The Gospel: Matthew 22: 1-14**

In today's Gospel, Jesus is again teaching about the kingdom. Here it is described in a way which antagonized the establishment.

### Sunday, October 20 – The Twenty-second

#### Sunday after Pentecost

#### **First Lesson: Isaiah 45: 1-7**

Today's first reading refers to the time five hundred years before Christ's birth when the Jews exiled in Babylon found that their rescuer was a pagan king, Cyrus.

#### **Second Lesson: I Thessalonians 1: 1-10**

The second reading today begins several weeks of reading Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians. This is probably the earliest of Paul's letters that we possess.

#### **The Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-22**

As we draw near to the end of Matthew's Gospel, the opposition to Jesus intensifies. Today the Pharisees seek to entrap Jesus, asking if it is lawful to pay taxes to the emperor.

### Sunday, October 27 – The Twenty-third

#### Sunday after Pentecost

#### **First Lesson: Exodus 22: 21-27**

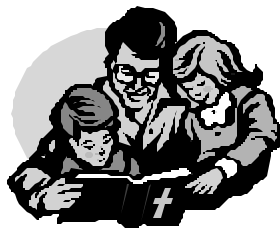
The first reading is a portion of the giving of the Law. In it love and faithfulness toward God is to be expressed by love and care for human beings.

#### **Second Lesson: I Thessalonians 2: 1-8**

In the second reading, Paul continues his greeting to the Thessalonian church, reminding them of his original visit to them and of his love and affection for them.

#### **The Gospel: Matthew 22: 34-46**

As we continue to read through the Gospel according to Matthew, we hear another of the confrontations between Jesus and the Pharisees. Today they test his orthodoxy.



# Annual Christmas Fair Notes

Christmas in October?

Not really ... but the St. Andrew's Christmas Fair team is hard at work preparing for our Christmas Fair on November 9! We are looking for donations for:

**Silent Auction:** Up-scale items that folks will want to bid on! Contact Blanche Foss or Pricilla Andrews.

**Craft Table:** Do you knit, sew, make decorations? Helen Priest is looking for items to sell on our Craft Table.

**Andrew's Attic (White Elephant Table):** Knick-knacks, books, glass wear... items that fit on a table that we can sell at bargain prices!

NO CLOTHES OR LARGE ITEMS, PLEASE.

We also need a volunteer to price items and set up the room week of the fair. Contact Deb Savoie.

**Jewelry Table:** Do you have jewelry that you no longer wear? Delores Louttit will gladly sell them at our Jewelry Table.

**Cash:** As always, we need cash donations to help us purchase beef for Audrey's Famous Beef Stew for the fair luncheon and for our Raffle Table that Gilda Colburn is coordinating.

Would anyone like to run a Children's Craft area on the stage day of the fair? Contact Deb Savoie.

Our Kitchen also needs a volunteer to coordinate the sign up sheet for food and supervise volunteers the day of the fair. Contact Deb Savoie.

Donations of items for Andrew's Attic, Jewelry Table, Craft Table can be left in the Parish Hall, downstairs, first room on the right (Bertha's room).

Cash donations can be given to Deb Savoie, or mailed to the office with a note on how the money is to be spent.

Thanks!

Deb Savoie  
Phone: 978-772-4401

Email: [debsavoie@peoplepc.com](mailto:debsavoie@peoplepc.com)

# St. Andrews / Habitat for Humanity Work Day

Peggy Braat

**WHEN:** SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2002 from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

**WHERE:** At the newest site: 1 Fairmont Street (next to the Y), Fitchburg, MA

**WHO:** 12 to 15 willing workers, 16 years old and over. (Possibly one or two 14 or 15 year olds if accompanied by a parent or guardian). No experience needed, but a willingness to listen and learn and work.

## WHAT:

1. Tools will be available, but you can bring your own tools and safety goggles if you prefer
2. A skilled Contractor and the Super will be on the site to instruct and oversee
3. The foundation is already in, as is some of the framing.
4. Volunteers come for the full day.
5. Workers should bring their own lunch (water is available) or buy a lunch at a nearby location.
6. Workers will meet at St. Andrew's at 8:00 AM and carpool, as parking is limited.

**WHY:** Habitat is one of the organizations we support through our Outreach. It is a non-profit, Christian ecumenical ministry which builds houses for and with people in need. It provides a Hand-up, not a Hand-out to the partner-homeowners.

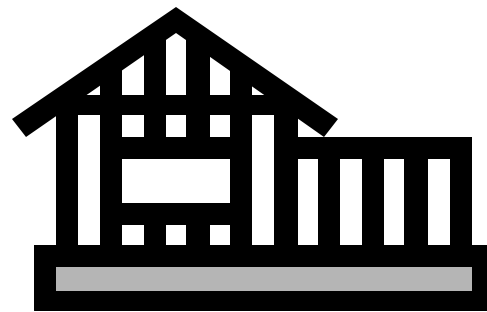
Partner home-owners are chosen according to standards set by Habitat International:

- ✘ **Need:** Current housing is inadequate and income falls between 30% and 55% of median income the area.
- ✘ **Ability to Pay:** There is a steady source of income sufficient to pay the low monthly mortgage payments. There is evidence of responsibility in handling financial matters.
- ✘ **Willingness to Partner:** The applicant is receptive to Habitat's philosophy and eager to share in the work of building the house and willing to put in sweat equity hours.

When finished, houses are sold to partner families at no profit and financed with zero-interest mortgages. Homeowner's monthly payments go into a revolving fund that is used to help build more houses.

## CAN YOU HELP?

There will be a Sign-up Sheet in the Peabody Room.



## Increasing the Household of God

On Sunday November 3<sup>rd</sup>, St. Andrew's will celebrate the sacrament of baptism. If you, or anyone you know, would like to be baptized please contact the church office as soon as possible. Many couples within our parish family have had children in recent months and have expressed an interest in having their child baptized. If you are within this group, or simply desire to celebrate/receive the sacrament of baptism, please call, write or e-mail the church office to sign up. There's always room in God's house, so please let us know if you would like to be baptized.

## "HAPPENING" is About to Happen

In case your wondering, HAPPENING, is a weekend like Cursillo, only it's for teenagers. "Happening: A Christian Experience" is a program designed for high school youth that seeks to bring young persons to a fuller personal knowledge of, and relationship with, the Lord; and to a deeper level of commitment and apostleship. During a two day gathering, participants experience the love of Jesus Christ as shown through the sacraments and the ministry of fellow students, clergy, and lay adults. Teens are encouraged to take a renewed faith back into their worlds to "make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend to Christ." The next Happening weekend is **Happening #20 and will be held November 8-10, 2002** at the Marist House in Framingham, MA. The weekend consists of 45-50 high school aged youth, five adult advisors, and two Episcopal clergy serving as Spiritual Directors. The weekend is run by the "Rector," a senior in high school who has been on more than one Happening weekend before, and who was voted by his or her peers into this position. If you are interested in attending, want an application, or want to know more about Happening, contact Amanda Blackwell, 401-456-4619, or e-mail and web address: [ajeblackwell@hotmail.com](mailto:ajeblackwell@hotmail.com) web address—[www.massHappening.org](http://www.massHappening.org).

# Confirmation Classes

In March of 2003 the recently ordained bishop, Gayle Harris, will visit St. Andrew's. In preparation for her arrival, we will be offering confirmation classes for adults and youth.

These classes are for you if:

- You're new to the Episcopal Church and would like to join and have an introduction to what life is like in this corner of God's world.
- You just simply desire to be confirmed.
- You're new to St. Andrew's and want to get to know the place better.
- You're wondering whether you'd like to be confirmed or received (if you were confirmed in the Roman Catholic or Orthodox church you would be received by the bishop).
- Your confirmation was a long time ago, and you'd like to reaffirm your baptismal vows in front of the bishop.
- A brief "Episcopal Church 101" just sounds like fun.

These classes will be scheduled according to the response we receive from you! Our hope is to offer one class for the youth on Sunday evenings 5-7 PM, and one for adults on Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 PM. The first adult class is scheduled for October 30<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:00 PM. The first youth class is scheduled for the following Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5-7 PM. Depending on the numbers in each group, we may need to combine the classes. However, it is our hope and goal to have separate classes for each group. The youth confirmation class will culminate with a confirmation retreat February 28-March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The adult class will culminate with a one-day retreat on March 8<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested please call the church office to register.



# ST.ANDREW'S APPLE PIE DAY

**The DATE:** Monday, October 21, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

**The PLACE:** St. Andrew's Parish Hall

**The GOAL:** To make 60 to 70 pies and to have FUN

If you'd like a day of camaraderie with fellow parishioners, mark your calendars now!

This is a day of low key, entertaining pie making at it's best. No skill required. You don't even need to like apple pies! We need apple washers, peelers, slicers, baggers, pastry makers, and pie assemblers. There are many who know the ropes so don't be afraid that you don't know how. All of them are more than willing to teach you.

There will be a sign up sheet for both working and pie purchase. This year pies, at a bargain price of \$7.00, will need to be paid for in advance to have it reserved for you. I don't want to burden those who graciously agree to donate freezer space with having to collect money also. If there are extra pies at the end of the day, they will be sold on a first come (and pay), first serve basis.

If you can't attend, but would like to help, cash donations or freezer space will be gladly accepted.

Call Rhonda Cotton (456-8680), chairperson, or Barbara Kamb (486-4360) or Peggy Braat (456-8701) if you have questions or suggestions.

Please put this event on your calendar-- And please COME!!



# October 2002

## St. Andrew's Church

Tel: (978) 772-2615  
 Office Hours: M - Th 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
 Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
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