



*To be prayerless is to be without God,
without Christ, without grace, without
hope, and without heaven.*

... J. C. Ryle, "A Call to Prayer"

THE PRESS

SEPTEMBER, 2002

Cycles of Life

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Shopping has always been a chore. Nevertheless, around this time of year I seem to be drawn to the stores for some reason. Then one day it dawned on me: As with most of us, I too spent years of my life living through the cycle of preparing to go to school in September. One or two weeks before school started, I went with my Mom to the stores buying all the necessary items for the beginning of the fall semester. Year after year the same laundry list of items seemed to be purchased: pencils, paper, new three-ring binders (they never lasted from one year to the next), composition pads, and of course new clothes. Year in and year out this same cycle was repeated. Even after many years of living through this cycle, I find that when this time of year rolls around, I'm in the mood for shopping. It's amazing how life seems to build to a level of excitement and anticipation every year about this time. Households are all abuzz with activity trying to coordinate schedules and calendars. Everyone is busy preparing for the upcoming school year.

Autumn also seemed to be filled with apprehension as well. Everyone remembers the trepidation felt at the thought of beginning a new year in a new grade. Each new rotation of the cycle brought old anxieties with a new twist. Who could ever forget what it felt like to begin the first day of senior high school? It was certainly the same, yet it was oh so different than before!

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

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The church has not been untouched by this cycle. We too seem to be 'gearing up' for the upcoming Sunday school year. St. Andrew's has been all abuzz with activity preparing for our upcoming Sunday school year and new Sunday schedule. Yet in the church we are not preparing for the Fall semester, but rather, for the Advent semester. Just as the Fall semester seems to put a new start to a year begun nine months ago in our secular calendar, so too do we as the Church stand on the cusp of beginning our new year in Advent, the sacred calendar. Advent—when we once again begin our journey to the manger and through the cycle and seasons of the Church year. This year our Advent semester kicks off with a bang with our Parish Fair, where all are invited and encouraged to gather in the Parish Hall at 9:30 on September 8th and sign up for classes, and other opportunities for ministry related to our life here at St. Andrew's. There will be food, fun and fellowship during our time of kicking off the new Sunday school year. This Advent semester will usher in not only a new Sunday schedule and school year, but also a new Christian formation/education opportunity for adults.

The cycles of life do shape us indeed. As we begin this Advent semester at St. Andrew's we can rest assured that God's presence will be celebrated and claimed, here in our midst. The trepidations and apprehensions that accompanied the matriculations of past school years can be left behind. Trusting in God's guiding Spirit among us we can look with hope and excitement to the beginning of a new year of growth in our community, in our spirits, and in our love for God and each other.

I look forward to seeing all of you September 8th at 9:30 AM at the Parish Fair. In the meantime, if you can't find me at church, be sure to check the Malls.

Your servant in Christ,

Scott+

Celebration of New Ministry Scheduled September 27, 2002

Mark your calendars for September 27th at 7:00 PM. St. Andrew's will install its seventh rector, The Rev'd Scott Baker.

The Rev'd Barbara Williamson will be here as dean of the Concord River Deanery and as the Bishop's representative to conduct the service. In addition to the parishioners of St. Andrew's, invitations will be sent throughout the diocese and to other local community leaders.

The Celebration will be followed by a reception and fellowship in the Parish Hall of St. Andrew's. Please make plans to attend this special occasion in the life of St. Andrew's.

Editor's Note:

Next Issue: October 2002

*Deadline: **MONDAY, September 23***

Send submissions to: 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 September

Sunday, September 1 – The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Jeremiah 15: 15-21

In the Old Testament reading the prophet Jeremiah, himself persecuted and rejected, reflects on his experience and from that comes to the hope of redemption through God's love.

Second Lesson: Romans 12: 1-8

The final section of the Epistle to the Romans which we begin today, deals with the way God's people are to live in relationship to each other and to the world.

The Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

Beginning with today's Gospel reading, the ministry of Jesus is directed toward his approaching death and resurrection and his preparing the disciples for that event.

Sunday, September 8 – The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Ezekiel 33: (1-6), 7-11

In the first reading, the Prophet Ezekiel is commissioned to warn the people of the need to repent.

Second Lesson: Romans 12: 9-21

Today's passage from the Epistle to the Romans deals with the characteristics of Christian living.

The Gospel: Matthew 18: 15-20

As we continue to read through the Gospel according to Matthew, we now reach a section in which Jesus teaches about God's way of dealing with humanity: namely, forgiveness.

Sunday, September 15 – The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Ecclesiasticus 27: 30 – 28: 7

The first reading sets out the Old Testament's call for us to act with forgiveness to others.

Second Lesson: Romans 14: 5-12

Today we conclude our reading through of the Epistle to the Romans, which we began in the summer.

The Gospel: Matthew 18: 21-35

We continue to read from the section of Matthew's Gospel which deals with God's forgiveness and our role in extending God's forgiveness to all people.

Sunday, September 22 – The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Jonah 3: 10- 4: 11

The first reading is related to the theme of God's call to all people.

Second Lesson: Philippians 1: 21-27

Today we begin reading Paul's letter to the church in Philippi.

The Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16

The theme of today's liturgy is set by the Gospel reading. The parable of the laborers in the vineyard is one of Jesus' most important statements concerning God's call to all people.

Sunday, September 29 – The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32

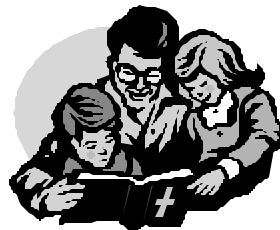
The first reading is a passage from the prophet Ezekiel which calls on God's people to repent and return to God.

Second Lesson: Philippians 2: 1-13

In the second reading Paul tells us that it is in Jesus' willing submission to God's will, even to the point of death on a cross, that the glory of God is seen.

The Gospel: Matthew 21: 28-32

Our continued course-reading from Matthew's Gospel has brought us to a section in which Jesus, in parables, expresses the challenge of living up to the gospel.



From the Treasurer

Dear Parishioners:

St. Andrew's is a beautiful church and capital improvements like last year's new windows are permanent statements. They show the congregation's commitment to making the church even more beautiful, and in many cases honoring a loved one. But in addition to structural improvements, there are many ways to honor someone as a memorial or in appreciation, or in thanksgiving for blessings in your life. Helping the Organ Fund to reach its \$40,000 goal is one, and another is by giving toward the purchase of Vestments and Altar Hangings.

St. Andrew's will be purchasing a new red chasuble and stole for Pentecost and Saints Days, and also needs a white chasuble and stole for funerals, weddings, Christmas and Easter, plus a funeral pall. A green stole and new altar linen are also needed. The costs for these run between a hundred dollars to several thousand dollars, and are a wonderful way to provide a long-term legacy to St. Andrew's which will be appreciated for many generations. Please see me or talk to Susan Leeming or Jane Rockwell on the Worship Committee if you are interested in a particular vestment, or consider a gift to the Memorial Fund to improve them in general.

Current Pledge Update: Finances are tight at St. Andrews. This often happens at the end of summer, since people are away on vacation and get behind on their pledge payments. It would help our cash flow tremendously if you would bring your pledge up to date, and we can start the exciting fall activities without money worries.

Thank you.

Lili Ott
Treasurer



AN IMPORTANT READ ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF SEPT. 11

Jane Rockwell

Rowan Williams, our new Archbishop of Canterbury, has written a powerful, short meditation on Sept. 11, titled; WRITING IN THE DUST, AFTER SEPT. 11. He puts life/Sept. 11 in a newly challenging place — a penetrating theological reflection forcing me to think, breathe and speak differently. I could read it over and over again, and urge others to read it. We have much to investigate within ourselves and Archbishop Williams (who was at Trinity Church Sept. 11th, a couple of blocks from the Towers) writes in the dust of it, trying “to hold that moment a little longer, long enough for some of our demons to walk away”.



LISTEN

Listen
with the night falling we are saying thank
you
we are stopping on the bridge to bow from
the railings
we are running out of glass rooms
with our mouths full of food to look at the
sky
and say thank you
we are standing by the water looking out
in different directions

Back from a series of hospitals back from
a mugging
after funerals we are saying thank you
after the news of the dead
whether or not we knew them we are
saying thank you
in a culture up to its chin in shame
living in the stench it has chosen we are
saying thank you

over telephones we are saying thank you
in doorways and in backs of cars and in
elevators

remembering wars and the police at the
back door
and the beatings on the stairs we are
saying thank you
in the banks that use us we are saying
thank you
with the crooks in office with the rich and
fashionable
unchanged we go on saying thank you
with the animals dying around us
our lost feelings we are saying thank you
with the forests falling faster than the
minutes
of our lives we are saying thank you
with the words going out like cells of a
brain
with the cities growing over us like the
earth we are saying thank you faster and
faster with nobody listening we are saying
thank you we are saying thank you and
waving dark though it is.

W.S. Merwin

Memorial Service Remembering 9-11-01

On Wednesday September 11th at 7:00 PM, St. Andrew's will hold a memorial service remembering those who died in the World Trade Center, Pentagon, and Pennsylvania tragedies one year ago. All are invited to come and join in worship and remembrance as we, a long with the rest of our nation, continue to mourn this tragic event in our lives.

The Fair is Coming...

The **BIG KICK OFF** for the start of the new Sunday School year will be Sunday, September 8th at 9:30 in the parish hall. Thanks to the efforts of Ginny Vatcher and the Parish Life Commission, we will throw one heck of a party. The fair is not only the beginning of the new Sunday school year, but also, the beginning of the new Sunday schedule. We will have food and beverage, decorations and opportunities for families to register for Sunday school. Yes, this year we will also have an adult Christian formation/education offering each Sunday at 9:30 taught by Jonathan Wistar and Scott Baker. All you eight o'clockers can take advantage of this new schedule as well. After the 8:00 service is over and you've had an opportunity to grab a cup of coffee and refreshments, just saunter on over to the parish hall and join in the fun at 9:30. Please make plans for this exciting event to kick off this new year of our life and ministry together!

Looking to the Future

You may recall that we ran this article in a recent newsletter. These ministry opportunities remain open for any and all who would like to participate in the life and ministry of St. Andrew's. There are many areas where a lot of help is needed and as St. Andrew's parishioners, your time and talents are in high demand. Please consider becoming involved in one or more of these wonderful ministries of our worship and our lives together. It's not too late to get involved, as a matter of fact, what better time than now at the outset of a new Sunday school year.

Ministry Opportunities:

- ✘ **Acolytes**—This ministry is open to anyone third grade and up. Training is provided to all who are interested. Come and join in the fun with the existing seven acolytes we currently have serving and you too can contribute to this wonderful ministry.
- ✘ **Choir**—The scriptures say, "make a joyful noise unto the Lord," nowhere does it say you have to be on key. We especially need male voices! All are welcome. Practices are held weekly, and of course commitment for Sundays.
- ✘ **Sunday School teachers for kids and adults alike**—The more the merrier!
- ✘ **Lectors**—Especially for eight o'clock service. Come join the two we currently have (you don't have to be an eight-o'clocker to help out). If the eight o'clock service

doesn't work, we also need lectors for the 10:30 A.M. service as well. Training will be provided.

- ✘ **Chalice Bearers**—Currently we have eight but many more are needed, this is also open to all youth who have been confirmed. Training will be provided.
- ✘ **Pastoral Care**—Currently there is just one person doing this ministry, many, many more are needed. The only requirement—love for people.
- ✘ **Building and Grounds**—This ministry is in desperate need for someone to take it under their wing and care for the facilities of St. Andrew's. This does not mean a "handy man/woman" but someone who can organize and direct the care of our buildings and grounds.
- ✘ **Youth Leaders** (as opposed to Sunday school teachers)—To support and be with the kids during evening activities and outings.
- ✘ **Parish Life**—These are the ones who organize and throw the parties and celebrations of our life and ministry together.
- ✘ **Office volunteers**—helps out once a month in the church office to prepare the Xpress for distribution and help Judy in the office.

These are just a few of the many areas in and around the church where you can be involved in the life and ministry of St. Andrew's. Please consider giving your time and talents to these worthwhile ministries.

Diocesan Happenings

- ✘ **Children's Ministries:** Parents church school teacher and clergy are invited to participate in conversations about religious lives of children. Conversation will be led by Mark-Bozzuti-Jones diocesan specialist for children's ministries.

Grace Church -Medford 9/5 7-9 p. m.

Trinity Church - Concord 11/21 7-9 p. m.

- ✘ **Interfaith remembrance service** - Sept. 11 at 12 p. m. Bishop Shaw will offer a meditation
- ✘ **Celebration of the Ministry of Bishop Harris** - Sunday Oct. 27 at 4 p.m. - The gala celebration will include sermon by Bishop Harris and gospel choir performance in her honor.
- ✘ **Trainers in the Safe Church Program** = The diocese is seeking people with good training skills to serve as trainers in the safe church program - for information contact Helen Netos 617 482 4826 ext 402
- ✘ **Pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey** - The Rev. Jurgen Liias - Rector of Christ Church - Hamilton will lead a pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey Nov 3 to 16th - Deadline for registration is Sept. 1- for information contact Holly Greening 978 468 4461

Adult Christian Formation/Education for Fall & Advent

In our parish profile we indicated that one of the things we sought in our new rector was someone who would help us grow spiritually. In response to that and certain other shortcomings in the previous Sunday service schedule of 8:00 and 10:00 AM, beginning on the Sunday following Labor Day (that is, on Sunday, September 8), the service times will change to 8:00 and 10:30 AM., and regular Christian formation for both adults and children will run from 9:30 until 10:15.

There are a number of components to growing spiritually, but an important one is prayer, and that is the topic for adults for our Advent semester (from September through December). This time will be taught and facilitated by both Fr. Scott and by Jonathan Wistar on an alternating bi-weekly basis. We will be looking at the Lord's prayer, prayer in the catechism, contemplative prayer, lectio divina, the theology of prayer, the history of monastic prayer, and the collects in our Book of Common Prayer.

Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity for spiritual growth on Sundays at 9:30 AM. You're at church anyway, so join us!

- Jonathan Wistar

Choir Season Begins!

Please join us for choir rehearsal Thursday, September 5th, at 7:30 PM. No experience necessary! Singing is good for body and soul—and we have a great time! Call Judy Adams at (978) 448-3598 if you have any questions.

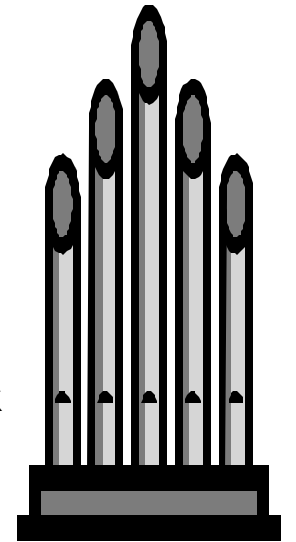
Become an ORGAN DONOR!

The Organ Renovation Project
has begun.

Goal: \$40,000

We still need \$15,000
to reach our goal.

Please pledge or make out your check
today to St. Andrew's Organ Fund.



2 New Stops to be Added to the St. Andrew's Organ

Would you like to donate the new 2' PRINCIPAL?

The principal provides the basic "organ" sound. Our Estey has a principal stop at 8' pitch, called the Diapason, and another at 4' pitch, called the Octave. The addition of the 2' Principal, which sounds two octaves above the fundamental, will complete what is called the "principal chorus" and provide great encouragement to congregational singing. You can donate this new rank of pipes for \$3,000!

Or you may choose to donate the new II RANK MIXTURE.

A mixture is actually a set of pipes where two or more sound together. They don't sound the same pitch, but are arranged in combinations of intervals that are in harmony with the fundamental pitch. A mixture used with the principal chorus enriches the organ's sound and adds particular life and clarity to more complex organ music. This set of pipes can be donated for \$4,500!!

October 5, 2002

7:00 PM

Please join Auctioneer John Ott in the
St. Andrew's Parish Hall for an

AUCTION

to benefit the St. Andrew's Organ
Renovation Fund

Items being auctioned include high-
quality goods and services.

Save the date!

ST.ANDREW'S APPLE PIE DAY

As we swelter in August heat it is hard to think about baking pies, but once more it is time to start preparing for our annual Apple Pie Day.

Each year we come to the Parish Hall to help prepare and freeze apple pies to benefit St. Andrew's Fair, and the General Fund. These pies are ordered, paid for in advance (\$7.00) and picked up or delivered when requested. They are delicious, and a great addition to any menu, but especially good for Thanksgiving.

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

The PLACE: St. Andrew's Parish Hall

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

To meet our goal we need apple washers, peelers, slicers, pastry makers and pie assemblers. If you have never made a pie, come and learn. If you are an old hand, come and help. There are jobs for all (men and women), so please come for as short or as long a time as you can.

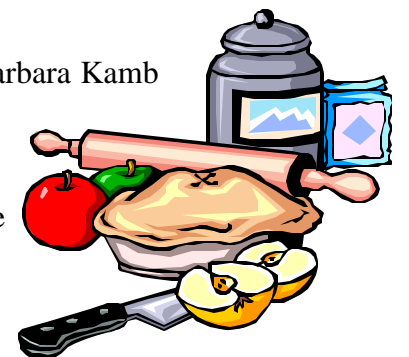
Bring your paring knife and/or rolling pin and apron, and bring your song and laughter.

A light lunch will be served.

If you cannot attend, but would like to help, we would appreciate cash donations for supplies.

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

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



September 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

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