



*The most difficult task facing us today
is to persuade the person who is
enjoying Christian culture and
Christian standards that these do not
survive of themselves.*

... Godfrey Cowan

THE PRESS

JULY, 2004

Honoring Ministry

The life of any person, organization, or entity encounters moments of rebirth and renewal. They are moments of new beginnings full of sadness of what we leave behind, but also full of promise and excitement of what lies ahead. These are nodal moments in life. Often they become watershed moments that mark, indeed, delineate one phase from another. St. Andrew's stands on just such a threshold. Contained within the pages of this month's X-Press is a letter addressed to St. Andrew's from Judy Adams. It is with sadness and a heavy heart that Judy ends her time with us as our organist. And although Judy will not be saying goodbye (she intends to remain as a parishioner of St. Andrew's), nevertheless, she will be sorely missed as St. Andrew's organist and choir director. This moment is certainly a nodal point of transition for our parish. I am sure you join with me in honoring Judy's dedication, love, and faithful ministry among us. Judy has served St. Andrew's for eight years. During her tenure we have been delighted with many fabulous musical offerings. Judy has done much to enhance the music at St. Andrew's with sung evensong, special musicians for the high holy days of Christmas and Easter, and her loving

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tutelage of the St. Andrew's choir. Among her crowning achievements has been her leadership and guidance as St. Andrew's 1916 Estey organ was restored. Her knowledge and expertise in leading the parish in this venture was superb.

As with years past, Judy will be on vacation for the month of July. When she returns in August, I urge you to join with me in expressing your gratitude and appreciation for her time as St. Andrew's organist and choir director.

Your servant in Christ,

Scott+

2nd Annual Parish Picnic at Mirror Lake

July 25th promises to be a wonderful day for St. Andrew's!! On July 25th we will hold the second annual Parish Picnic at Mirror Lake, Devens. Last year's event was a complete and total blast, and this year promises to be just as wonderful. We learned a lot from last year and this year we have made some alterations. First, this year we gather at the lake at 11:00 rather than 10:30. After the liturgy (of less than an hour), we'll have lunch around 12:00 noon. Second, all the food and drinks are provided compliments of the Parish Life Commission. So, all you need to do is bring a bathing suit, towel, lawn-chair and a pair of shades (oh, don't forget your sunblock!).

The schedule for the day:

8:00 Rite I – Holy Eucharist in the church

11:00—Rite II – Holy Eucharist at Mirror Lake followed by Cookout/Picnic and swimming at Mirror Lake.

EVENING PRAYER SCHEDULED ON THE FOURTH THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

For the past two months a small group of St. Andrew's parishioners have gathered once a month at 6 o'clock in the evening to worship God by means of the daily office of Evening Prayer. It is a beautiful service that closes the day by with the ancient ceremony of the lucernarium (the blessing of light with the lamp lighting). The lucernarium is the prelude to the Evening Prayer service when we recite a portion of the psalter (psalms) and hear the lections from the daily office lectionary. Finally, the service concludes with prayers and The Grace.

This is a marvelous service filled with mystery, awe and meditation. Those who have attended describe it as "a very contemplative time." If you are longing for some quiet time - indeed some holy contemplative time, this is the service for you.

Please mark the fourth Thursday of every month

July 22

August 26

September 23

October 28

November 18 (the third Thursday, since the fourth Thursday,
November 25 is Thanksgiving Day)

December 23

on your calendars for the rest of the year and make plans to join in this wonderful service.

Editor's Note:

Next Issue: August 2004

Deadline: July 20th

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: (978) 448-4053 (home) or (978) 772-5422 x 323 (work)

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

Readings for July

Sunday, July 4 – The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Isaiah 66: 10-16

The Old Testament reading from Isaiah foresees God gathering all the faithful people of the earth into the kingdom.

Second Lesson: Galatians 6: 14-18

In the second reading, we hear the conclusion of Paul's letter to the Galatian church.

The Gospel: Luke 10: 1-12, 16-20

Luke's account of Jesus sending out seventy of his disciples to announce the kingdom of God is also a call to us.

Sunday, July 11 – The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30: 9-14

The Old Testament reading is from Moses' final address to the people of Israel.

Second Lesson: Colossians 1: 1-14

Today we begin reading through the Epistle to the Colossians, hearing Paul's opening greeting to the church in Colossae.

The Gospel: Luke 10: 25-37

Our reading from the Gospel of Luke today is the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Sunday, July 18 – The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Genesis 18: 1-10a,

The first reading today finds God coming to Abraham and Sarah to renew his promise to them of a child.

Second Lesson: Colossians 1: 21-29

As we continue to read the Epistle to Colossians, Paul tells us that the mystery which lies behind reality has been revealed in Christ.

The Gospel: Luke 10: 38-42

Today's reading from the Gospel of Luke gives priority to the time spent in Christ's presence.

Sunday, July 25 – The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson: Genesis 18: 20-33

In today's reading, Abraham intercedes with God for the righteous persons in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Second Lesson: Colossians 2: 6-15

We continue today to read Paul's Epistle to the Colossians. Jesus in his death, resurrection, and ascension is the ultimate and perfect mediator between God and humanity.

The Gospel: Luke 11: 1-13

The Gospel reading today is Luke's account of Jesus' teaching about prayer.

Farewell to St. Andrew's

Dear Friends,

I think it was in 1995 that I first looked into the position of music director here at St. Andrew's. At that time, though I was drawn to the parish, I felt that the position would demand more time than I could give. So I passed it up, and instead, spent a year or so as a parishioner, worshiping along with you in the pews.

By the time the position opened up again, I knew I wanted to give what it would take to be your organist and choir director. I liked what I saw of the church and its work and I wanted to be a part of it. I began what was to be eight years of leading the church in its worship through music. It has been a joy to do so! Your warm support and the love that you've given me, the loyalty of the choir, your increasing participation in congregational singing, and the enthusiasm you brought to raising money for the organ have all be so gratifying to me. So it is with a lot of sadness that I tell you, that my tenure at St. Andrew's is coming to an end.

It has become obvious that we have different views of what a church music program should be, and different concepts of music. I don't feel I can adequately meet the demands that must be met to fulfill that vision.

I wish only the best for St. Andrew's and all my friends here. I won't be far away. I consider this my church home.

With love,

Judy

*"My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation
I hear the real, though far off, hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to the rock I'm clinging.
Since Love is Lord, of heaven and earth.
How can I keep from singing?"*

—Quaker Hymn

Hugh Tones to be St. Andrew's Guest Organist In July

For the second summer in a row, St. Andrew's is delighted to welcome Hugh Tones to be our guest organist in the month of July. When you see Hugh, please give him a warm St. Andrew's welcome.

In Memoriam

The community of St. Andrew's extends its prayers and sympathy to Nick Morris-Kliment on the occasion of his mother's death. Janet Simon fought a brave, brief battle and succumbed finally to pancreatic cancer on June 19. Individual messages to Nick may be sent to him at 166 Main Street, Concord, MA 01742. Donations in his mother's memory may be made to Valley Hospice, 380 Summit Avenue, Steubenville, OH 43952.

Outreach Benefit BBQ

Sunday, June 13 was a picture perfect day, and about 65 parishioners and neighbors gathered on the lawn in front of the Rectory to enjoy an old-fashioned BBQ. The object was to help raise funds for the Outreach Campership fund, and to show a welcoming face to our neighbors. The Ayer Fire Department sent us their biggest and best fire engine for the children to explore and enjoy (a huge attraction!)--and some of the neighbors came and shared a meal.

Thanks to some very generous contributions, we were able to raise \$ 540.00 !! So thank you all who participated, and we hope that next it will be even bigger.

Your Outreach Committee

EFM—Education for Ministry

On June 20th, I preached a sermon in which I referred to the program called, EFM—Education for Ministry. Since that sermon, some have expressed interest in EFM. What follows below is information regarding EFM for those interested. I, myself am a graduate of the program. I can say without exception every single person I've met who went through the four-year course went on to do some amazing things for God and the Church. Here is how the EFM website describes the program:

“Every baptized person is called to ministry. The Education for Ministry (EFM) program provides people with the education to carry out that ministry. During the Service of Confirmation we ask God to "Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before them." EFM offers an opportunity to discover how to respond to the call to Christian service.

Many people think that one must be ordained in order to be "a minister." The fact is that all baptized Christians are called to be active participants in the church's total ministry. This Total Ministry is nothing less than the exercise of the church's vocation to continue the ministry of Jesus. He reconciled the world to God. We are called to incarnate that reconciliation in our own time and in our own place through worship, service to others, and by proclamation of his Word to all people.

The EFM program is preparation for the ministry to which we are called. It is that vocation for which we pray at the end of the eucharist: "And now, Father, send us out to

do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord."

The Education for Ministry program is a four-year curriculum. Each "year" is a nine-month cycle of study. Students enroll for one cycle at a time. Groups may enroll in any month from September through May.

Each EFM group must be financially viable; therefore, groups must have a minimum of **six** students. To maintain an effective learning environment and to provide participation or everyone, EFM groups may not have more than eleven students.

At the time of enrollment students pay the full year's tuition. In case of a move during the academic cycle, a student may transfer to another group.

The tuition for the academic cycle 2003/2004 is \$450. Participants in groups under institutional sponsorship (parochial or diocesan) pay a 2003/2004 tuition of \$340. Fees pay for the EFM materials and the honorarium for the mentor. In addition, students need a Bible and may wish to obtain additional reading materials suggested in the bibliographies. To assist students in need, a tuition reduction provision is available on the basis of the total enrollment of the group."

If EFM sounds like something you would be interesting in doing please call the Church office or speak with me to learn more. My old EFM books and curriculum will be available in the parish hall for your perusal.

July 2004

St. Andrew's Church

Tel: (978) 772-2615

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9:00-4:00

Friday - Office closed in the summer!

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