



Together, we seek to know Christ and make him known.

Good News

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God.
And the Word was God. In him was life."*

Last Sunday in church I reflected just a bit about the meaning to us of John 1:1-18 which is an understandably prominent Gospel text during the Christmas Season. Its dual metaphors for Christ, as Light and Life, struck me as particularly pertinent today as I think about our new year together as the community of St. Andrew parish, and dream about how we might reflect the Light and Life of Christ, and dare to shine it out in all the days to come.

When you come right down to it, in 2018 we at St. Andrew have thrown out a lot of light. Folks come to the parish on a regular basis to worship and pray together, share Holy Eucharist, and help each other through the twists and turns of life, all in the name of our Light and Life, Jesus Christ. We shined the light on others through our Choice Food Pantry, which helps keep about 2,000 people a year fed on a weekly basis. We shined the light on Laura and her sons when we gave them shelter and hope for the future through our sanctuary project, and that light continues to shine as we prepare to transition them to their own home by month's end. We shine a light on one another every day by smiles, hugs, cookies, and conversation - through all those concrete and humble acts of love that we share with people who are part of our family. And we are family here, so long as we remember that we are children of the Light, and share the Love of Christ with one another.

So what's next for us as the community of St. Andrew? What new adventures of love and service can we launch together in the name of our Light and Life? What embers of holy imagination can we breathe into flame by the holy spirit of our agape love? Think about it, friends-better yet, dream about it and share your dreams with our community in prayer, through coffee hour conversations, by talks with vestry leadership or a visit with me, by your activities as a parish volunteer-the possibilities for greater communion are endless. Whatever comes, (and you know we can count on a few surprises), let's remember that we are children of the living God, and walk on together, confidently, and with hope, in the eternal power of Christ's Love and Light.

*"And that life was the light of the world.
The light shines in the darkness,
And the darkness cannot overcome it."
-John 1:1-5*

In Christ. Lisa+

Make A Joyful Noise

Do you have musical gifts? Share them at St. Andrew! There are many opportunities to participate in praising the Lord in song and music at the church. From Choir to Praise Band to Bells -- join us as we make a joyful noise to the Lord! If you are interested in singing with the St. Andrew Choir, come to a practice Thursdays at 7:30 PM. To find out about participating in the Praise Band contact Chris Peshek at chris.peshek@gmail.com. If you are unable to commit to participating weekly, the Bell Choir is for you! They usually play at just five or six services per year. Contact Eunice May for details at 440-357-5680.



Vestry Nominations

Nominations are now open for parishioners to serve on the 2019 Vestry. Nominees should be members of St. Andrew who are committed to serving the congregation in a leadership capacity. Vestry members commit to active participation for a three year term. Elected at the Annual Meeting, they work with the Rector to set goals and priorities to support the mission of St. Andrew. The Vestry is responsible for the church having the necessary funds and appropriate assets, to accomplish this mission. Nominations are being sought to fill two full three year Vestry terms and a one year unexpired vacancy. You may nominate yourself or another parishioner (with their consent). If you have any questions or would like to discuss this process further, please contact: Andy Spiesman, Senior Warden via email at andrewspiesman@gmail.com or Rev. Lisa O'Rear at revlisastandrew@gmail.com, or contact the Church Office at 440-255-8842.

January Celebrations

Anniversaries

Joe & Kathy Gudel 31

Birthdays

Mary Ellen Fecser 05

Mary Provins 14

Maryellen Sundstrom 14

Marilyn Pastor 16

Alice Johnson 20

Kit Brandenburg 28

Brian Rotz 28

Jack Semenik 30

Don't see your Birthday or Anniversary?

*Contact the Office at
440-255-8842 and
let us know!*

Volunteer to Help

Tuesday, January 8th is St. Andrew's regularly scheduled Food Pantry distribution. With many of our Snow Birds on the road and in warmer locations this month, we anticipate being a bit short handed. If you can spare a few hours (1 - 3 PM) and would like to volunteer, please contact Food Pantry Ministry Leader Barb Sopko at 440-354-2844.



“Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.”
H. Jackson Brown Jr.



Did you notice the beautiful little pine trees that graced the sanctuary altar this Christmas season? They were donated by our St. Andrew Cub Scout Pack 79!! You'll find the cub scouts in the Parish Hall most Tuesday evenings. Thanks to Cub Master Andy Stump and everyone in the pack for helping to decorate the church this Christmas. What a wonderful addition to our Christmas flowers.

Worship Times

Sundays:

8:00 AM

Quiet Holy Eucharist

10:30 AM

Holy Eucharist with Choir

12:00 PM

Contemporary Eucharist
with Celebration Band

Wednesdays:

9:00 AM

Centering Prayer

9:30 AM

Healing Eucharist with Anointing



Scouts from Pack 79

Reflections on Candlemas

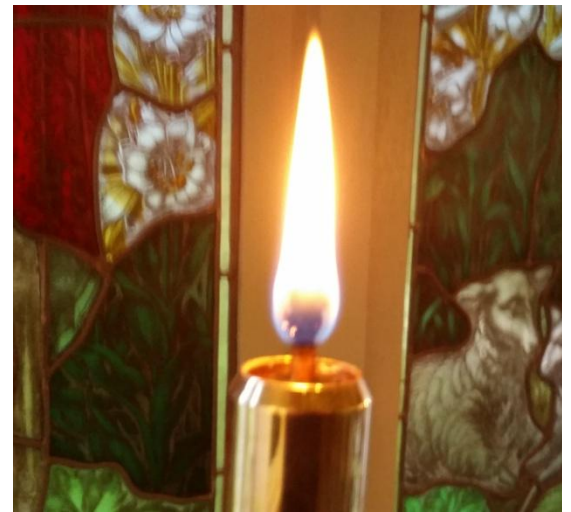
by Eunice May, *Organist and Choir mistress*

Hidden among the widely known seasons of our church, like Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost, are many wonderful, lesser known feasts, which if we had the time, would probably consider worthy of notice. Right now, I speak of the Feast of Candlemas. That service takes place on Feb. 2nd. It seems like a good time to have a quiet service, just on the heels of the busy Christmas season, and before entering into Lent and Easter. It could be, perhaps a good time to reflect on the goings on in our lives.

A few years ago our choir did a special Evensong service on Candlemas. There are sources which refer to February 2nd as the date in which Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem for a blessing, as a special male son from God. There was in the temple, a spirit filled man named Simeon. He had a promise from God, that he would not die until he had seen the Savior. He immediately recognized the Baby Jesus as the Savior and spoke the prophetic words, which are sung as the Nunc Dimittis, "Lord, lettest now thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation".

Look for further notice about an Evensong Prayer service, tentatively scheduled for Sunday Feb 3rd at 7:30pm.

This brief and beautiful Evensong (approximately one half-hour), will most likely be followed by a cookie reception in the Narthex. Please consider attending this special service. Feel free to call me for more info. Eunice May, 357-5680.



**“Life is simple:
We are living in a world
that is absolutely transparent
and the Divine is shining
through it all the time.
That is not just a nice story or
a fable, it is true.”**

-Thomas Merton



2018 Pop-Up Christmas Pageant. Christ the Lord is Born!

Thanks to all who participated in this unique retelling of the Christmas story. Marcus Peshek made his acting debut as baby Jesus in an unforgettable performance!
Please refrain from asking for an autograph until he can write!



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[@StAndrew_Mentor](https://twitter.com/StAndrew_Mentor)

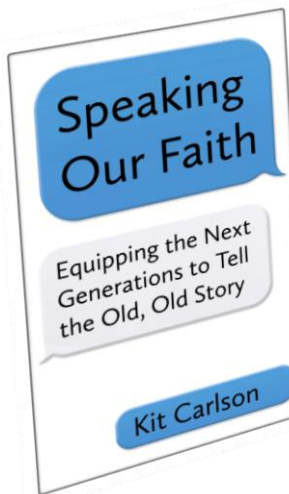
Winter Convocation

The Diocese of Ohio is once again hosting a Winter Convocation for members to gather, learn, share ideas and worship together. The theme for this year's event is "Speaking Our Faith." It will take place at Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Sandusky from 7:00 p.m. on Friday, February 1 through 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 2. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Kit Carlson, rector of All Saints Episcopal Church in East Lansing, Michigan, and author the book "Speaking Our Faith.". In addition, Heidi Carter, will offer workshops on youth ministry in smaller congregations. Leading the music will be George Baum, rector of St. Timothy's, Massillon. With 16 best practice workshops, a children's program, and a youth program, the Winter Convocation offers something for everyone. Additional information and registration is available at <https://2019dwc.eventbrite.com>.



Special Thanks

A special thank you to our friend and fellow parishioner Louise Hassink for creating beautiful Christmas cards and donating proceeds from the sale to the St. Andrew Window fund! What a blessing to have such a talented artist in our midst! Louise will continue to raise money for the Window Project throughout the year by selling hand-crafted note cards. Get a package of 8 cards for just \$10. To place an order see Louise at the 10:30 AM Sunday Holy Eucharist or call the church office at 440-255-8842.



Dates to Remember: January

- 6 - Epiphany 8 & 10:30 AM, 12 PM
- 6 - Food Pantry Distribution, 1-3 PM
- 8 - Food Pantry Distribution, 1-3 PM
- 8 - We Make the Road study, 6 PM
- 9 - Vestry Meeting, 6:15 PM
- 17 - Tetélestai Planning Meeting - 7 PM

Tetélestai Coming to St. Andrew

The Cleveland Performing Arts Ministries will bring the Passion play Tetélestai, to St. Andrew the weekend of Palm Sunday - April 12 & 13 at 8 PM and April 14 at 2 PM. This musical portrayal of the trial, execution and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah features over 100 people in the cast and crew and promises to be an emotionally uplifting experience in anticipation of Easter.

If you are interested in helping during the performances at St. Andrew, please talk to Lisa+.



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