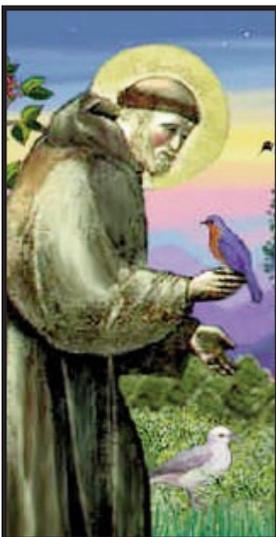


THE MESSENGER

Growing Together in God's Love

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MADISON, CONNECTICUT

OCTOBER 2011



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Blessing of the Animals

Bring your pets to church on Sunday, October 2 — as we honor St. Francis on this special day.

Crop Walk

The Crop Walk will be held Sunday, October 2, at 1 pm. This 5-mile walk from the Madison Green to the Guilford Green raises money for Church World Services and provides hunger relief at local and global levels. Participants include walkers, sponsors, and drivers.

Holiday Fair

Save the date for St. Andrew's Holiday Fair. This year, it will be held on Saturday, December 3 from 9 am - 3 pm. Please contact the Parish Office if you can volunteer to help.

A Priest's Perspective Faith-Based Giving

October is such a beautiful time of year here in New England. Whenever I see the brilliant colors that surround me in the natural world, I find myself standing in awe of the cosmic painter who created it. This always reminds me of how amazing God is and how fortunate I am to be alive to experience the beauty and wonder of our planet! *continued on page 5*

A Taste of Broadway

Join us on Saturday, October 1 at 6 pm for live entertainment and a dinner to benefit the Music Program at St. Andrew's. St. Andrew's parishioners will present our own off-Broadway theater. A talented cast, led by Father Steve and directed by Joy Weaver, will perform a "taste" of some of the best Broadway shows. Plus, we will have a complete gourmet dinner, fine wine and tempting desserts! Reservations are required, call the Parish Office at 203-245-2584.

Welcome to St. Andrew's

The Welcoming Commission would like to extend two invitations to all those who have come to St. Andrew's in the last year or two. On Sunday, October 23, Ministry Sunday will be held in Farmer Hall between the 9:15 and 11:00 am services. Representatives of all of the commissions and ministries will set up displays, be available to describe their work to you and answer questions. You need not be a newcomer to take advantage of this "job fair" of sorts — all ministries welcome volunteers at any time. At the very least, *continued on page 2*

Team Uganda Is Having a Party and You're Invited

How does all the tea you can drink, hors d'oeuvres, a wine tasting, silent auction, and entertainment sound? All at one event — and all to benefit the orphans that we help support in Uganda? Currently, we provide the complete tuition costs of four teenage orphans and the funding for infrastructure needs at the Chain Foundation Orphanage.

Here's the plan. Team Uganda's Party will be held at Savvy Tea Gourmet, 28 Durham Road in Madison, on Saturday, October 15, 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Savvy Tea was named one of the five best teahouses in New England by *Yankee Magazine*.

In addition to tea served all evening, guests can enjoy gourmet appetizers and a generously-poured wine tasting led by a local expert. An exciting silent auction will feature unique shoreline products and services. A brief slideshow, featuring the orphans sponsored by St. Andrew's, as well as light musical entertainments are on the evening's schedule.

Tickets to the party are \$30 per person. Please reserve the date and also consider donating an item or service to be included in the silent auction. Contact Kris Kolstad by e-mail at kriskolstad@sbcglobal.net for additional information.

50th Anniversary News

Fifty years ago things were pretty busy around the church property. Permission from the Diocese had been granted, money was raised, architectural plans were approved and in November 1961, ground was broken. The dream was about to become a reality. Fifty years later, things are still *continued on page 2*

Our Mission — To deepen faith and transform the world as Christ calls us through joyful worship, music, study, and service to others.

Feed Thy Neighbor

Hurricane Irene increased demands at the Madison Food Pantry. The Pantry, which serves the residents of Madison, had nearly 100 clients the first week in September. That number is up from the usual 85 clients. I am not sure whether this is a reflection of our economy, or did Irene really have an impact? More than 3,000 pounds of food was given out, and the shelves at the Pantry are almost bare.

Please remember the Pantry when you are doing your weekly shopping. St. Andrew's collects food each week, with a special emphasis on the first Sunday of every month. Items that are especially needed include juice, juice boxes, canned fruit, and tuna.

Even though we live in a town where the average income is over \$100,000 a year, there are those among us that do not have enough money to put food on their table. Please remember those less fortunate than ourselves. Let's help restock the shelves at The Madison Food Pantry.

With thanks,
Susan Miller

Treasurer's Report

The August pledge income was \$12,619, with loose offerings of \$553.

A correction to the Music Camp profit. It was \$8,684, which is great for the future music programs.

Have a great Fall.

— Helen Van Antwerp, Treasurer

Easy Way to Contribute

Help support our many missions and ministries while you buy your groceries. Just by using Stop & Shop cards — **5% of all purchases go to St. Andrew's!** Cards are convenient and easy to use. Buy Stop & Shop cards after each service or during the week in the church office. Visa, Mastercard, and Discover accepted.

50th Anniversary: Be Part of This Special Time

continued from page 1

pretty busy around here as our parish continues to build on that reality.

On October 16, we will honor Boy Scout Troop 490. St. Andrew's began to sponsor this troop in 1971, and so it is our 40th anniversary together. In the interim, more than 40 Eagle Scouts have come from Troop 490, and five of their projects have directly affected St. Andrew's. Please join us at the 9:15 am service when we recognize this partnership.

The parish will celebrate Ministry Sunday on October 23. We would like to encourage all of you to get involved with a ministry if you haven't already done so — and others to think about expanding their interests. It has been a privilege to honor the people who give so much time and talent to the ministries of

our parish. These are the vehicles through which we live the Word and reach beyond ourselves to make a difference. Without them we only have a building; through them we are so much more.

We will honor the Welcoming Ministry at all three services on October 30. In addition to greeting everyone before each Sunday service, this ministry helps make the transition easier for newcomers to St. Andrew's. They shepherd new members from the first time they enter our doors until they formally join the parish — answering questions, offering support and most importantly, providing a friendly smile.

In November, we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the groundbreaking and honor the Outreach Ministry. We will host a very special Veteran's Day service and reception for Madison veterans. We will conclude honoring those who do so much for our parish in a special way when we celebrate our patron saint, St. Andrew, on November 20. Please join us then to honor "The Crew" of our ship!

— Maggie & Charlie Walden,
Co-chairs

50th Anniversary Committee
203-318-5045

mccwalden@yahoo.com

We Welcome You to St. Andrew's

continued from page 1

it's a great chance to meet other people.

The second event invites newcomers to a special dinner held 5:30 to 8:00 pm on Sunday, October 30. Some staff and leadership of the church will be present, so you'll be able to put a face with a name and find out about all the wonderful things that folks at St. Andrew's are doing. Also, you will have a chance to ask any questions about the Episcopal church in general or our parish in particular. Children are always welcome, and we will have child-friendly food as well as childcare available. Look for a letter of invitation soon.

Here's a brief reminder to all parishioners to wear your nametags on Sunday mornings during the service as well as at coffee hour. It helps not only visitors but all of us to remember your name. When you leave, you can deposit your nametag in baskets located in the church school hallway, Farmer Hall, or near the exit in the narthex. A volunteer will file your nametag back in the box.

— Martha Stewart

Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin

Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin. God lifts you up, takes you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. He opens you up, touches you deep inside and scoops out all the yucky stuff — including the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, and envy. Then he carves you a new smiling face and puts his light inside you to shine for all the world to see.



Note: I hope you enjoy this delightful analogy I discovered. Regrettably, the source is unknown. I included this item in last year's October Messenger and felt it warranted a another look! — Denise Forrest

Passing The Baton for Youth Ministry

The cool September weather is upon us, and it was almost exactly three years ago that I came on board as the Director of Church School and Youth Ministry at St. Andrew's.

I pass on the duties of the church school director into the very capable hands of Lisa Preikszas. It is with great joy that I leave knowing that Sunday morning church school shall continue apace with a warm welcome for each child, engaging classes and ongoing large group events during each season of the church year. I shall greatly miss the wonderful fellowship and support found at the church school teacher meetings.

As for the many and varied youth offerings at St. Andrew's, these shall continue through the dedicated efforts of several people. Dick Johansen, Mary Potenziani, and Tracy Zachos will continue to ensure that youth activities and service projects find a place in the hearts and schedules of our high school students; and Lynn Milner will manage events and activities for Grades 6-8. Thanks so very much to all of those who have stepped up to lend their time and talents to our amazing young people.

Recently, I attended a concert in an historic venue in New Haven. The symphony was terrific, but what was truly remarkable was the conductor who led the orchestra without so much as a page of music. He not only conducted the musicians surrounding him, but he incorporated two groups of choristers and four soloists into one of the longer pieces of music. I was stunned by his ability to pull it all together — each of the groups and individuals played their tune so that the whole would be perfect. As our youth program transitions to a new look and feel, I am greatly encouraged by all of those who have asked how they can help and have offered suggestions about how things might look different. The concert is just beginning with a fresh sound. Bravo to all of those continuing to make music together for our youth.

A very heartfelt thank you to everyone in the parish for all of the encouragement and participation over the past

three years. I especially want to thank our amazingly dedicated church school teachers, youth volunteers, VBS crew, fellow staff, and Fr. Steve — you have truly made the journey a blessed one. To the children and youth of the parish, thank you for all of the warmth, the great humor, the bad jokes, and for your boundless energy for fun, friendship, food, and faith. May the Lord be with you and remember, "It's all about LOVE!"

— Mary Merkle-Scotland

Preschool News

Our new school year has begun! We are very excited to see new faces and some returning ones. In the Fall, we will go apple picking and enjoy the fall weather with lots of time outside. Fall also brings a visit from the fire department and picture day. We look forward to an exciting year ahead.

We will say goodbye to two wonderful teachers, Miss Betsy and Miss Tania. Miss Michelle has joined the Twos class and Miss Terry has started teaching Pre-K.

— Judy Goldberg

St. Andrew's Preschool Director

Theatrical Tidbits: New Shows Set

We are so happy to welcome many new faces to our St. Andrew's Musical Theatre program this season, as well as our returning "actors and actresses." One exciting aspect of having a Musical Theatre program at the church is welcoming new children and new families to our church family.

I would like to start this article by saying a special "thank you" to all of you who help make **A Taste of Broadway** such a success. I know I speak for all of the performers when I say how much fun we had. We appreciate such an appreciative audience. We thank my husband, Scott, for a delectable meal and Father Steve for agreeing to not only let this show happen, but actually be a part of it. I hope it is the first of many "adult" performances at St. Andrew's.

This year, we chose a fun musical for our teens to perform, **Nunsense, the Mega-Musical**. Nunsense begins when the Little Sisters of Hoboken discover that their cook, Sister Julia, Child of God, has accidentally poisoned 52 of the sisters, and they are in dire need of funds for the burials. The sisters decide that the best way to raise the money is to put on a variety show, so they take over the school auditorium — you can just imagine what mayhem takes place.

This musical is suitable for all ages and will have the whole family rolling in the aisles. Although we have just begun our rehearsal process, already I can tell that this show will be one worth seeing! We will perform the show on Friday, January 6 and Saturday, January 7 in the evening. Be sure to save that date.

Our younger group, children in Grades 1-6, have begun their rehearsal process with a completely original show about All Hallows Eve. This fun comedy is filled with rousing music designed to delight both cast members and the audience! It will also serve to educate all of us on the actual origins of Halloween and how it transformed in to the holiday we celebrate today. The performance of **Twos The Night before Halloween** will take place during the 9:15 am service on Sunday, October 30.

As always if you have any questions, send an e-mail to joyann228@yahoo.com, call me at home at 203-230-8264, or leave a message for me at St. Andrew's and I will get back to you. I look forward to another exciting season with my extended family at St. Andrew's.

— Joy Weaver

OCTOBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Bless the Animals 1:00 pm Crop Walk	3	4	5 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	6 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	7	1 8 6:00 pm Adult Musical & Dinner
9	10 Columbus Day Parish Office closed	11 7:00 pm Exec. Com. Mtg	12 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	13 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	14	15 Deadline for <i>The Messenger</i> 7:00 pm Team Uganda Party
16 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist	17	18 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	19 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	20 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	21	22
23 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Ministry Sunday	24	25 7:00 pm Communications Meeting	26 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 7:00 pm Pastoral Care Mtg.	27 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	28	29
30 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Theater performance at 9:15 service (see page 3) 5:30 Newcomer Dinner	31 Halloween					

A TASTE Of BROADWAY

A Musical Revue
By adults, for adults
Benefiting St. Andrew's Music Fund
October 1st, 2011
Dinner at 6:00, Performance at 7:30
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Madison, Connecticut

For tickets, call St. Andrew's office at 203-245-2584

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A Ministry of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, proceeds help support many charities.

A Priest's Perspective — Faith-Based Giving

continued from page 1

In moments like these, gratitude seems to spring forth from my being, and I want to praise and thank God for all of the blessings that I often take for granted.

When I start to think about all the things in my life that I am thankful for, the question soon wells up within me — how can I return the favor? I realize how much God has given me, and out of gratitude, I want to give something back to say “THANK YOU.” Now I can’t invite God over for a home-cooked meal or drop off a nice box of chocolates and a bottle of wine at God’s house — so what am I to do?

The answer soon reveals itself. Share the things that God has given me with others — my skills, knowledge, talents, faith, joy, time, compassion and resources. There are many needs in the world so opportunities abound. The dilemma arises as to how much I should share and where I should focus my efforts. How do I decide?

This is a conversation that each of us has to have with God. Be aware that this may be a frightening thought at first, but when we honestly ask God how much and what we should offer, we discover a fundamental truth: that all of us have been created in the image and likeness of our generous God who gives lavishly and unconditionally. The mark of God the gracious giver is embedded in our souls. Deep down in all of us lies the need to be such a giver for that is the way God made us. This generous way of life beckons us.

The challenge, however, is that we have to overcome our fears, our sense of scarcity and our belief that we have to hold on tightly to everything we have because if we give too much away we won’t have enough for ourselves. Our intentions may be good, but we cannot do this alone. We have to ask God to dispel these concerns. It takes faith to present ourselves to God in this way. Our faith helps us trust that God will ignite the fire in our hearts that will propel us into action as abundant givers.

Later this month, all of us at St. Andrew’s will have an opportunity to explore faith-based giving on a deeper

level. Our Stewardship committee will send a letter to every household encouraging us to engage God in this important dialogue. Please join me in asking God these tough questions so that each of us may discern how we may more fully share our time, talent and treasure within our faith community for the greater enhancement of God’s mission here on earth.

It all begins with a thankful heart. What are you thankful for?

Blessings,
Fr. Steve

Green Matters

October’s colors are vivid reds and yellows against a deep blue sky, while greens are muted, sidelined until spring. If green is considered a sign indicating ecology, however, October 4, the Feast of Francis of Assisi, seems very “green,” for this humble Italian 14th Century friar can be considered a great Christian environmentalist. A few lines from his *Canticle of the Sun* make the point:

Praised be my Lord for our sister water, who is very serviceable unto us and humble and precious and clean...

Praised be my Lord for our mother the earth, who doth sustain us and keep us, and bringeth forth divers fruits and flowers of many colors, and grass.

In this spirit today, an Episcopal priest, the Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, actively works for environmental sustainability. So, as we recall lines of this hymn, it seems appropriate to visit www.interfaithpowerandlight.org. At this web site, you will find a video clip and some links about environmental issues.

— John Fuller

A Biblical Moment

It is More Blessed to Give than to Receive

“In all this I have given you an example that by such work

we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ When Paul had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed.”

— Acts 20:35-36



Stay Current with eNews

St. Andrew’s weekly **eNews** provides up-to-date information. Go to www.standrewsmadison.org — and sign up on the home page to receive **eNews**.

Remembrances

Funeral Services

■ A funeral was held at St. Andrew’s on August 27 for **Captain Philip Walter Evans, SC USN (Retired)**. Phil passed away on August 7. He was predeceased by his wife of 61 years, Jodi, in 2010. He is survived by two daughters and a son.

■ The life of **Jenefer Rawlings** was celebrated at a funeral service led by The Rev. Steve Domienik on September 10 at St. Andrew’s. Jenefer was 97 at the time of her passing. She had been a very active parishioner at St. Andrew’s, as a member of the choir and the vestry, President of ECW and the originator of the Holiday Fair, which we continue to hold for more than twenty years. Jenefer was the mother of Nick Rawlings and is survived by two other sons and daughter, as well as 10 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

232 Durham Road, Madison, Connecticut 06443
Telephone: 203-245-2584 • Fax: 203-245-2601
E-mail: welcome@standrewsmadison.org
Web site: www.standrewsmadison.org
Parish Hours: Monday - Friday 9 am - 4 pm

The Parish Staff

Priest-In-Charge	Rev. Steve Domienik
Parish Administrator	Barbara Gibbons
Preschool Director	Judy Goldberg
Director of Children's and Youth Ministry	Mary Merkle-Scotland
Organist & Chancel Choir Director	Paul Jordan
Director of Spirit Choir & Musicals	Joy Weaver
Guitarist	Jim Olden
Sexton and Verger	David Mikus

The Parish Vestry

Senior Warden	David Karas
Junior Warden	Kristen Garnett
Treasurer	Helen Van Antwerp
Clerk of the Vestry	Michael Greene

Chris Abbott, Sandra Butler, Art Criddle, Florie Earle, Susan McCann, Brenda Naegel, John Paulson, Martha Stewart, and Robert Stimpson

Choir Rehearsal Schedule

- **Spirit Choir** — Thursday Rehearsal 5:15-6:15 pm
Sunday Rehearsal at 8:30 am

This choir is for everyone — age 6 through adult — and sings each Sunday morning at the 9:15 am service during the school year. The selections include a varied palette of musical styles, including gospel, jazz, folk, and contemporary music.

- **Chancel Choir** — Thursday Rehearsal 6:15-7:45 pm
Sunday Rehearsal at 10:15 am

Open to all high school and adult singers, this choir sings each Sunday morning at the 11:00 am service during the school year. The Chancel Choir sings a wide variety of music — traditional literature, gospel, jazz, folk, and music of the great composers, including their Masterworks.

THE MESSENGER is a monthly newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Contributions are always welcome. The deadline is the 15th of the preceding month. Please send an e-mail to messenger@standrewsmadison.org. All articles may be edited for space, style, and content. Editor: Denise Forrest



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THE MESSENGER

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