

THE MESSENGER

Growing Together in God's Love

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MADISON, CONNECTICUT

DECEMBER 2009



Christmas Eve Services

We will have three services on Christmas Eve — the 4:00 pm service features the Christmas Pageant; 6:00 pm service with traditional carols and seasonal organ music; and our 'big' Christmas Eve service at 10:00 pm (with prelude music beginning at 9:30 pm). See page 2 for more information.

Christmastime

"God grant you:
The light in Christmas which is faith;
The warmth in Christmas which is love;
The radiance in Christmas which is purity;
The belief in Christmas which is truth;
The all of Christmas which is Christ."

— by Wilda English

Rector's Reflections

The Trinity is speaking: "When we three spoke ourself into human existence as the Son of God, we became fully human. We also chose to embrace all the limitations that this entailed. Even though we have always been present in this created universe, we now became flesh and blood. It would be like this bird, whose nature it is to fly, choosing only to walk and remain grounded. He doesn't stop being the bird, but it does alter his experience of life significantly...although by nature he is fully God, Jesus is fully human and lives as such... That is why his name is Immanuel, God with us, or God with you...My purpose from the beginning was to live in you and you in me." (from *The Shack*, pages 99 and 112).

As we enter into Advent on November 29, we begin the preparations for the incarnation, the indwelling of God, as Jesus Christ, in our midst. But, it goes beyond the historical presence of Jesus Christ at a certain time and place. As the author says in the book, *The Shack*, it is God's fervent hope and delight that God may dwell in us and we in God.

God gives us hope by connecting us to God's self, and also connecting us to one another in love. As you may know, God is love. So, whenever true love is found, God is found. The incarnation or birth of Christ is another example of true love, sacrifice, delight and desire to be in relationship with us. We, however, must choose "yes" to that invitation. May we say "yes" to the indwelling of God in us this day and every day to come, and most especially on Christmas Eve at our Celebrations of the Nativity of Christ with Holy Eucharist at 4:00 p.m. (with Children's Pageant), 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. (with Christmas music beginning at 9:30 pm).

Faithfully yours,
Pastor Mary Canavan



Advent Series: Major World Religions

On Wednesday evenings during Advent — December 2, 9, 16, 23 — please join Pastor Mary for presentations on Major World Religions (Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism). We will explore the history of each religion, its core beliefs, and how those core beliefs are similar to and differ from other major world religions, including Christianity. The classes will be preceded by potluck dinners (with great fellowship) beginning at 6:00 pm. The classes start at 7:00 pm and will be finished no later than 9:00 pm. If you need a ride, please contact Pastor Mary or Parish Administrator Barb Gibbons at 203-245-2584.

In order to have the correct number of handouts, it would be helpful if you would please register with Barb.

Holiday "Giving Tree"

Our annual Holiday Giving Tree will be up and ready by November 29. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this project, it is our commitment to our Covenant to Care outreach project. St. Andrew's helps support our DCF social worker, Tonya Morgan, throughout the year. At Christmas, we supply gifts for the children and families that she works with. The Giving Tree is set up in the narthex, and each child will be represented on a card hung from its branches. The name, gender, and age are provided, as well as a wish list for suggestions. The wish list shows the child's interests or need, not an expectation. All gifts are presented and appreciated! If by chance there are no more cards available, please consider a gift card — as there is always an ongoing need! All gifts should be returned

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.

Christmas Eve Services

As in the past few years, there will be three services on Christmas Eve. The first, at 4:00 pm, will feature the Christmas Pageant — the children love this traditional event.

The 6:00 pm service of Holy Eucharist will feature traditional carols and beautiful seasonal organ music.

Our 'big' Christmas Eve service will be held at 10:00 pm. 'Prelude' music will start at 9:30 pm, so you may wish to plan to arrive early and prepare to get into the Christmas spirit! This service will feature our choir and instrumental accompaniment.

If you are not a regular participant in our music program, but wish to join our choir for the evening service, please feel welcome to do so! You may talk to Joy Weaver or Paul Jordan, or call the church office at 203-245-2584.

We look forward to celebrating the joy, magic and mystery of this most special time with all of you!

Preschool Begins 2010 Registration

Registration for the 2010-2011 school year begins December 1!

From December 1 through December 22, we will accept registrations for current students and their siblings, the siblings of alumni, and St. Andrew's Church parishioners.

Beginning January 5, registration will open to the general public.

St. Andrew's Preschool offers structured play and Connecticut Framework Curriculum-based programs for children ages 2-6. Additionally, we offer a part-time childcare program and the "Lunch Bunch." Our teachers are well-qualified, caring, and enthusiastic.

Interested parents should please contact Director Leah Ann Portley for forms and to arrange a personalized tour of the school.

— Leah Ann Portley

Help Seniors have a Merrier Christmas

The Madison Senior Center is looking for some elves to help with its "Santa for a Senior" program. Gift wrappers and drivers will be needed in December.

Each year, Home Instead, a companion agency in Guilford, teams up with the Madison Senior Center to help provide holiday presents for seniors in need. The Senior Center provides gift ideas, which Home Instead then puts on ornaments on trees in Stop & Shop, R.J. Julia, and Wal-Mart. Shoppers can take a suggestion off the tree, purchase presents, and leave them in a drop-off box while in the store.

Assistance will be needed to wrap all of the donated gifts from December 14 to 23 at Home Instead in Guilford, and/or to deliver the gifts to Madison's senior citizens from December 20 to 23.



This will be a wonderful opportunity to spread some holiday spirit. Some of the recipients will be those on the Meals on

Wheels routes that we service every Monday. If you are unable to commit to deliver Meals on Wheels on a monthly basis, perhaps this one-time volunteer opportunity will appeal to you.

Please contact Martha Stewart at 245-3220 if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

Holiday "Giving Tree"

continued from page 1
to the church by December 19, and each gift must be labeled with the child's name to ensure proper delivery.

Thank you in advance for supporting this worthy cause and showing a child in need that they are valued and cared for on Jesus' birthday.

Any questions, feel free to call 203-421-0474. Have a blessed season.

— Trish Arida



Cookie Bake-Off

Join us for a festive Cookie Bake-Off! Share your favorite holiday cookies on Sunday December 13 during coffee hour after the 9:15 am service. Take out your favorite cookie recipes and dust off those cookie sheets! Judging will take place and prizes will be awarded! You're in for a real treat — so come and share your favorite cookies!

If you have any questions, call Donna Johansen at 203-245-6729, or send an e-mail to dmjarm@snet.net.

— Donna Johansen

Middle School Youth Group

All students in Grades 6-8 are invited to go bowling with St. Andrew's Middle School Youth Group on Friday, December 11. Meet at church at 3:30 pm.

First, we will stop at Benny's to buy some refreshments for bowling (i.e., candy) and a gift to donate to Toys for Tots. Then we'll bowl two games in Old Saybrook.

We will return to the church for dinner. Chaperones will drive you home afterward (around 7:30 pm). The approximate cost for everything will be \$20. Permission slips and waivers will be available online and outside Mary Merkle-Scotland's office. Friends are always welcome. It would be helpful to have all of the paperwork completed a few days ahead of time. For more information, contact Glenn Stewart at 203-245-3220. Join us for a fun time!

Thank you to Kristen Garnett and Jean Card for organizing such a successful youth group event in November. There were 23 middle-schoolers who went rock climbing!

Church School and Youth Activities at St. Andrew's

Some warm sunny days in November are hardly a sign of the short, cold, dark days that lie ahead. The time of expectation is upon us. Four weeks of waiting until we celebrate the Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, the King of kings — the amazing harbinger of truth and love and justice — Jesus Christ. What are you waiting for this Advent? Perhaps a new or improved relationship, a new job, a college acceptance letter, relief from pain, a change in attitude — whatever it is — the Light is on its way. May you find friendship, love, renewed hope and faith with friends and family this holiday season. Take time to celebrate all that is good!

■ Church School

Church school continues through Advent, with two weeks off at Christmas. Church school takes a break on December 27 and January 3. Church school will resume January 10. We will pass out yellow mite boxes to children and families to collect change for the Bishop's Fund for Children during Advent. Thanks in advance for your help with this project.

- Be sure to get to church on time on December 6 for the **Feast of St. Nicholas!** You will want a good seat to watch the performance of **Will the Real St. Nicholas Please Stand Up?** during the 9:15 am service. The children of the parish, ages 6-11, have been working very hard this fall to bring us a great show.

- Rehearsals for our annual **Christmas Pageant** will kick off on Friday, December 11 at 5:30 pm. There



Danny Butler, shepherd and Kacie May Wines, angel, get ready for the Christmas Eve service.

is room at this inn — all who would like to participate are asked to come on the 11th. The pageant is open to all kids three years old and up! Additional rehearsals will be held at 5:30 pm on December 18 and December 22, and at 2 pm on December 24. There will not be anything to memorize this year!

Please be sure that you will be in town on the December 24 for the Christmas Eve service at 4:00 pm before you sign up for this.

Special thank yous to Sandy Butler and Susan Wines for their help in coordinating this event. For pageant information, please contact Sandy Butler at 203-245-2119 or Susan Wines at 860-883-1251 or susanwines2002@yahoo.com.

■ Youth Group News

- **The Middle School Youth Group** had a great trip to Prime Climb in November. Next up... Bowling and shopping for Toys for Tots on Friday, December 11 at 3:30 pm. See the article on page 2. Call Glenn and Martha Stewart for more information at 203-245-3220 to get in on the fun — all 6-8th graders are welcome. Plus you can bring a friend!

Thanks to the wonderful parents — Kristen Garnett, Jean Card, Jen Achille, Jenn Ledyard, Gina Kolstad, Lynn Milner, Sean Portley, and Glenn Stewart for making these wonderful events happen.

- **High School Youth Group**, Grades 9-12, will sell poinsettias during Advent to begin filling the coffers for their summer mission trip to Maine. In July, they will build houses and perform maintenance projects at the Emmaus community, H.O.M.E. (Homeowners Organized for More Employment). Please buy poinsettias — small and large, red and white plants will be available. See details in box at right.

H.O.M.E. sign-ups have begun and the trip opens up to those outside the parish in January. A \$100 deposit holds your space. Get in on the fun!

- Sign-ups for the **Youth Services Opportunity Project** will begin in December. This project, for Grades 9-12, will take place February 19-20, 2010. This is a homeless immersion experience in New York City that is both fun and

challenging. Students will sleep overnight Friday at the Quaker Meetinghouse at 15th Street in Manhattan and spend most of the day on Saturday at various soup kitchen and relief sites serving hungry families. This is a townwide event sponsored by the Madison Interfaith Youth Coalition, of which Madison is part. Forms are outside Mary Merkle-Scotland's office.

- **Youth Nooz** provides information on events for young people in the parish. Go to www.standrewsmadison.org and follow the instructions to receive it.

■ Twelfth Night Celebration and Musical Performance

Join us in Farmer Hall on Saturday night, January 9 at 5:00 pm for food, fellowship, and fabulous entertainment. Joy Weaver and the cast of **Altar Boyz and Girlz** invite you to the 2nd Annual Twelfth Night Celebration! We begin with a potluck dinner — bring a dish to pass. At 7:00 pm, **Altar Boyz and Girlz** will be performed by the youth of our parish and their friends. Tickets for the performance are by donation, usually \$5-\$10. The show also will be performed on Friday, January 8 at 7:00 pm (show only on Friday night).

■ Mom's Group

Change announced — the group now meets on Thursdays at 12 noon at 53 Liberty Street (the same location). For more information, please contact Jen Conroy at 203-779-5420 or send an e-mail to jenmconroy@gmail.com.

— Mary Merkle-Scotland
themsgroup@snet.net

HOME for the Holidays

Deck the halls with beautiful poinsettias while supporting the H.O.M.E. mission trip! H.O.M.E. trip participants will take orders until December 6. Proceeds from the sale will go directly to offset the cost of the H.O.M.E. mission trip to Maine this summer. For details, call Nancy Karas at 203-245-9367.

Celebrate Our Experiences at St. Andrew's

Jean and I were rushing off one Friday to drive up north so we could slow down. That just doesn't sound right — rushing off to go relax. All of us can get so busy that we easily can lose sight of what is good, and often, all around us. Sometimes we have to work hard to find what is right. When we are busy with all that is pulling at us, what is right in the world can simply go unnoticed. The weekend away was a great opportunity to slow down and focus on the gifts in our lives.

A few weeks ago, our St. Andrew's community came together for one of my favorite St. Andrew's events — the Celebration Dinner. For me, the Celebration Dinner is like Thanksgiving. It is the "relaxing holiday."

Thanksgiving is where the favorite relative (Rich Fisler) is making you laugh so hard you cry. The request comes in to go outside, play football and get a little muddy (Florie and Patches Earle rallying the troops for what was a very successful Holiday Fair). After dessert, the old photos come out and you laugh and smile at the good times (the Fullers' now famous slide show). Where you work to clean up as a gesture of thanks to those who pulled off another smooth evening (Donna, Louise, Debbie, Colleen and so many who made the night a success). And of course, taking a moment to tell a loved one how lucky we are to celebrate with them (Nancy Karas and Kristen Garnett for all that they have done through the years). It was so nice to celebrate with all of you.

I shared with you that evening how we are thankful for our experiences. The great statistician and manufacturing consultant Ed Deming understood and explained that beyond all the text books and all the numbers — it was our experiences that shaped our beliefs which led to our actions which gave way to our results. So that is why we do what we do; our past experiences.

We have many roles in God's world. One role might be to create wonderful experience for others; those little moments where people's beliefs just might be changed. Just imagine where that may lead. Celebrating all that God has allowed us to build through St. Andrew's

is a wonderful reminder of what is right in the world. So slow down and look for what is right. See the value in your experiences as well as those around you. You may not even need to go north to find it. After all, we have another Celebration Dinner to prepare for next year. We need to capture many pictures of how our experiences celebrate what is right in the world.

Peace,
Rob Card
Cardshouse@yahoo.com

Holiday Fair Was A Terrific Success

My deepest thanks to Florie Earle and everyone who helped at the Holiday Fair by volunteering, staffing it, making donations and supporting it. Florie, you are an amazing person to step into such a leadership role being so new to St. Andrew's. Thank you for agreeing to chair it. The feedback is unanimous — you and everyone did a FANTASTIC ministry! Thank you to all who helped



us raise \$11,000 gross income in the 2009 Holiday Fair!
With gratitude,
Pastor Mary

Stay Current with eNews

St. Andrew's weekly **eNews** is another channel of communication for parishioners. This electronic update contains scripture lessons for the coming Sunday, events and announcements for the coming week, and a short reflection by clergy and/or lay members.

To receive our **eNews**, go to — www.standrewsmadison.org — and sign up on the home page.

A Sincere Note of Appreciation

We wish to express our thanks to all of you who donated baskets or items to create a basket for the Holiday Fair Theme Baskets. They were a huge success again and simply could not be done without the generous contributions we receive. You should all take a bow!

For those of you who have witnessed our efforts with Theme Baskets the past four years, you can probably attest to how much fun we have had. We are continually amazed with the finished products and each year challenged ourselves to do better, in spite of personal discomfort with asking people, many repeaters, to once again help us. However, we knew that this year would be our last at this task; it is time for someone else to lend their talents to this endeavor.

We have complete files and supplies ready to hand to the next Co-Chairs (too much fun for just one person would be our recommendation!) We would be available for support and to answer questions but encourage people to think about contributing to the Fair by taking on the Theme Baskets for next year.

Thank you all for the laughs and fellowship. St. Andrew's is blessed with great people and we have been privileged to work with so many of them.

— Margaret Mason
Maggie Walden

Our Music Fund

Did you know that St. Andrew's has a Music Fund that you can donate monies to for the use of the music directors to buy instruments and music? If you would like to make such a donation, please contact Barb Gibbons, Parish Administrator, at 203-245-2584.

“A generous man will himself be blessed...”

- Proverbs 22:9

Treasurer's Notes

Total church income was \$307,257 through October 31, versus ten-month budgeted income of \$326,000. Expenses are largely tracking as budgeted for the year. However, the income shortfall combined with our ongoing debt service payments on the Diocesan and National Church loans are presenting challenges on the cash front.

Pledge statements were mailed at the end of September. Parishioners seeking a more recent update on their pledge contribution status are encouraged to contact Barbara Gibbons, Parish Administrator, at 203-245-2584.

On a positive note, preliminary results from the Holiday Fair held November 14 show income net of expenses from the Fair in excess of \$9,000. This amount exceeds the 2008 total, and it is a wonderful product of the hard work of the team of Fair volunteers.

— Bill Downes, Treasurer

A Thoughtful Present

Many of us already have lots of “stuff.” Finding just the right present for folks on our Christmas list can be difficult.

Here's a fabulous idea for thoughtful gifts and wonderful stocking stuffers — Stop & Shop gift cards!

Perhaps wrap up a Stop & Shop gift card with a box of fancy crackers and a cheese spreader — or with a selection of fresh fruits — or with a bunch of flowers. An elderly person on your list would be thrilled if you offered to take them grocery shopping as part of their present.

When you buy Stop & Shop cards, you help support the missions and ministries at St. Andrew's — **5% of all purchases go directly to St. Andrew's!** These cards are convenient, easy to use.

You can buy Stop & Shop cards after each service, at coffee hour, or during the week in the church office. Mastercard and Visa credit cards are accepted.

New Beginnings

On All Saint's Day, Cloe Champlin Haydon was baptized. Cloe is the daughter of Laura and Bill Haydon and has two brothers, Will and Finn. Welcome Cloe!

Important Things in Your Life

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, he picked up a very large, empty jar and filled it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They all agreed that, yes, it was full. Then the professor picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar and shook the jar. The pebbles sifted down into the open areas between the golf balls. He asked again if the jar was full. “Yes” came the response from the class. Next, the professor picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students were unanimous, “Yes.” The professor then produced two beverages from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar — effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed. “Now,” said the professor, “I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the most important things — your family, your children, your friends, your church. And if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter — such as your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else — the small stuff. If you put the sand into the jar first, there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy (and money) on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are most important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness.”

— Source unknown

You are cordially invited to attend St. Andrew's production of

ALTAR BOYZ AND GIRLZ



Friday, January 9 at 7:00 pm
Saturday, January 10 at 7:00 pm

There is no cost to attend, but a suggested donation of \$5 per audience member for the music fund would be greatly appreciated.

DECEMBER 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 6:00 pm Advent Series and potluck supper	3 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir 6:30 pm Quick Cuisine in Clinton	4	5
6 8:00, 9:15, 11:00 am Holy Eucharist St. Nicholas performance during 9:15 service 9:00 pm Compline Service	7	8	9 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 6:00 pm Advent Series and potluck supper	10 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	9 3:30 pm Middle School Youth Group bowling 5:30 pm Pageant rehearsal	12
13 8:00, 9:15, 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Cookie Bake-Off, see p. 2 9:00 pm Compline Service	14	15	16 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 6:00 pm Advent Series and potluck supper	17 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	18 5:30 pm Pageant rehearsal	19
20 8:00, 9:15, 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Help decorate after 11 am service, see page 7 9:00 pm Compline	21	22 5:30 pm Pageant rehearsal	23 9:00 am Morning Prayer 6:00 pm Advent Series and potluck supper	24 2 pm Pageant rehearsal 4 pm Service & Pageant 6 pm Holy Eucharist 9:30 Prelude Music 10 pm Holy Eucharist	25 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 	26
27 8:00, 9:15, 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 pm Compline Service	28	29	30 9:00 am Morning Prayer	31		

Cook Up Some Fun at Quick Cuisine

At Quick Cuisine, they do the shopping and chopping. You can reserve a spot to select and assemble meals for your family. St. Andrew's has arranged a group party for December 3 at 6:30 pm at Quick Cuisine, 8 Post Office Square in Clinton.

Enjoy some wine, cheese, and conversation with others from St. Andrew's — mingle in the party area before and after assembling your meals. **St. Andrew's Church will receive 10% of all dollars spent at Quick Cuisine!**

Make your selections (required 3 meals minimum) at the Quick Cuisine web site at customerservice@myquickcuisine.com. **You must order and register on their web site in advance. Each session is limited to 12 people.** Entrees change monthly and seasonal selections of ready-to-take-home appetizers, entrees, soups, sides, and desserts also are posted.

Upon arrival, you will receive a printed copy of your menu, simple directions to assemble your meals, and labels with detailed cooking instructions.

View the Quick Cuisine web site at myquickcuisine.com or call them at 860-664-9456. For other details, call Florie Earle at 203-421-0100.

Join us for coffee, tea & conversation

When you attend the 9:15 or 11:00 am services on Sundays, please join us for refreshments downstairs in Farmer Hall between the services. We encourage those who go to the 11:00 service to come early and mingle with fellow parishioners. Notice that we are "going green" with our coffee cups, trying to be eco-friendly!

If you would like to volunteer to help with coffee hour, please sign up at church on Sundays, call 203-245-6729, or send an e-mail to Donna Johansen at dmjarm@snet.net.

— Donna Johansen

St Andrew's Lines of Communication

- *The Messenger* Newsletter — Denise Forrest, 203-245-9089, messenger@standrewsmadison.org
- Web site — Terry Sinclair, 203-245-0384, sinclan@comcast.net
- E-News — Bill Crawford, 203-318-0060, woc_md@yahoo.com
- Sunday Bulletin — Barb Gibbons, Parish Administrator, 203-245-2584, barb@standrewsmadison.org

We Need Help With Christmas Decorating



On December 20 after the 11:00 am worship service, we need help transforming the church for the holiday.

Many hands will make light work! Please join us at this festive time and bring a friend, too.

If anyone has some greens that we can use, please donate some — they will come in handy in the narthex and under the tree. Thank you.

Save Money While Saving the Environment

The Interreligious Eco-Justice Network (IREJN) is Connecticut's Interfaith Power and Light organization which includes diverse faith traditions with a strong representation of Episcopalians. Nationally, The Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, The Episcopal Cathedral of San Francisco, founded the Interfaith Power and Light to help create **environmental sustainability through engagement with faith organizations.** Several Episcopal parishes in this area have participated in IREJN's "This Old House of Worship" conservation classes.

IREJN provides a monthly bulletin dealing with environmental issues, the first of which appears below.

Are You a Bigfoot?

The term "carbon footprint" is the most common term used to describe the amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) that are emitted into the atmosphere each year by a person, household, building, organization, or company. The number of miles you drive, the type of car you own, and your home energy use (electric-

ity and heating fuels) all impact your individual carbon footprint numbers. Individuals can calculate their carbon footprint easily using any one of a number of online tools. The United States Environmental Protection Agency has a personal carbon footprint calculator available at www.epa.gov/climatechange that is simple to use. It also shows you the reductions you can make in your footprint AND calculates the potential monetary savings from implementing those changes.

Take a few minutes and calculate your carbon footprint. Find ways to make your footprint smaller and save money while saving the environment. If we all take the time and make the effort, our individual savings could be combined to make a big difference in mankind's impact on climate change.

Climate Change deniers are intensifying their efforts in a well-funded effort to hire local meteorologists to muddy the issues in peoples' minds as climate change legislation is in play. As people of faith, we are not the experts in this field — but we rely on the experts! You might want to visit *CO2Now*, a web site with up-to-the-minute information on this global threat.

Bulletin provided by the Interreligious Eco-Justice Network, www.irejn.org. See their web site for a family-friendly carbon reduction home curriculum.

Mailing address:

Interreligious Eco-Justice Network
P.O. Box 270147
West Hartford, CT 06127

Contact person:

Rabbi Andrea Cohen-Kiener

Let's Celebrate Serendipity

- C** **Clothing** — new and gently used — sells like hotcakes
- E** **Every Volunteer** is appreciated — there are about 50!
- L** **Laughter and fellowship** at our semi-annual luncheons
- E** **Eclectic Merchandise** — come see for yourself
- B** **Bargains galore** — find a little treasure or two
- R** **Reaching out** to those in need; ongoing contributions to more than 20 non-profits worldwide
- A** **A long winter nap** — closed Dec. 22 to Jan. 11 — re-open Tuesday, January 12, 2010
- T** **Total profits of \$78,000** since opening in May 2006
- E** **Everyone welcome** to shop, donate, consign, and volunteer.

In 2010, come CELEBRATE as we begin another year of ministry.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of the elves at Serendipity!

Thoughts of the Season

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." — Mother Teresa

"Somehow not only for Christmas, But all the year through, The joy that you give others Is the joy that comes back to you. And the more you spend in blessing The poor and lonely and sad, The more of your heart's possessing Returns to make you glad."

— John Greeleaf Whittier

"Peace is our gift to each other."

— Elie Wiesel

Sustainable Event Standards

Adopt sustainable event standards for your next St. Andrew's event. To help us host more environmentally-friendly events, both large and small, the Green Church team has drafted a set of guidelines for anyone in the church to follow. Visit our web site at www.standrewsmadison.org/greenchurch.

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

Rector	Mary A. Canavan
Parish Administrator	Barbara Gibbons
Preschool Director	Leah Ann Portley
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	David Mikus

The Parish Vestry

Senior Warden	Rob Card
Junior Warden	Matt Parthasarthy
Treasurer	Bill Downes
Clerk of the Vestry	Olivia Scaros

Charles Albright, Sandra Butler, Rich Fisler, Jenny Gerst, Geoff Gregory, Terry Sinclair, Martha Stewart, Robert Stimpson, Maggie Walden

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

Choir Rehearsal Schedule

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

This youth and adult choir 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

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
232 Durham Road
Madison, Connecticut 06443

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Madison, CT 06443

Pastor Mary Canavan
Parish Office: (203) 245-2584



NOVEMBER 2009
Editor: Denise Forrest