

# THE MESSENGER

*Growing Together in God's Love*

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MADISON, CONNECTICUT

JANUARY 2011



## Annual Meeting

On January 30, we will hold our Annual Parish Meeting following the 9:15 service. All parishioners are encouraged to attend. We will thank retiring Vestry members and vote on a new slate of officers and Vestry members. To allow time for this annual meeting, the 11:00 service will begin at 11:15 am.

## E-News

Our electronic **eNews**, sent via your e-mail, contains scripture lessons, service information, and announcements. It is easy to receive **eNews**, just go to our web site at [www.standrewsmadison.org](http://www.standrewsmadison.org) and sign up on the home page.

## Worship Committee

The Rev. Steve Domienik is forming a worship committee to assist with the general planning of our liturgies for each season. This group will meet five or six times per year. Please call the church office at 203-245-2584 or send an e-mail to the parish administrator at [barb@standrewsmadison.org](mailto:barb@standrewsmadison.org) by Friday, January 28 if you are interested in participating. Please state which service you regularly attend as we need equal representation from each. The first meeting will be held in the middle February.

## Our Time of Transition

We were so fortunate to have been graced for the past six months with the ministry of Rev. Esther Chuboff. Esther was such a gift to our parish and provided a calm, warm presence for us during a time of transition. She presided on Sundays and Wednesdays, at funerals and baptisms, and we appreciate her dedication to our parish.

Thank you Esther for walking with us!

## 50th Anniversary News

It has been an interesting six months relative to the 50th Anniversary. Thanks to several people stepping up, the History Committee's research is well underway. The collation of that research in preparation for a final "historical" document will not take place until sometime this fall, with a goal for the document to be written in 2012. Progress has been made on the complete documentation of Memorials. The talent of the Publicity Committee has led to a logo, slogan, banner and a *continued on page 2*

## 12th Night Dinner

Join us on Saturday, January 8 at 5:00 pm for our **annual Twelfth Night Dinner** — as we celebrate the gifts of our parish and those of our youth.

Bring your favorite casserole, chili, soup, side dish, or dessert to feed 12 — and we'll provide the beverages! Invite a friend, too. You and your family can enjoy the potluck dinner before attending the fantastic **musical performance of "State Road 47."** Under the direction of the one and only Joy Weaver, the fabulous youth of St. Andrew's will delight the audience at 7:00 pm. If you have never seen one of Joy's productions, you are in for a real treat! The suggested donation for the performance is \$5 per person.

Those who wish to stay and socialize in Farmer Hall may do so while others leave to see the show. Don't miss all of the fun!

If you have any questions, please call Donna Johansen at 203-245-6729.

## 'Thank You' for Many Efforts

The entire Vestry would like to extend a huge thank you to Glenn Stewart and Laura Downes for the magical creation of the new office space for Rev. Steve Domienik. You will find our new priest's office in the former classroom 1, to the right of the office wing entrance. Laura and Glenn managed to install the following in three short weeks: crown moulding, hardwood floor, bookcases, new ceiling tiles, new wiring, and comfortable seating. The office features the same desk that has been utilized by past rectors. Glenn and Laura, thank you for sharing your time and talent. We look forward to Phase II office reconfiguration — moving the parish administrator's office. This is likely to *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.***

## Discretionary Fund Update

St. Andrew's and all Episcopal parishes are obligated to maintain a fund which is utilized solely at the discretion of the parish priest. (Though the fund is subject to the annual parish audit.)

The fund typically is utilized by the priest for "pious and charitable" uses, ones that are consistent with the parish mission. These funds are used when other regularly budgeted funds are not available or when for reasons of privacy, discretion, or practicality, the expenditures cannot be made from parish operating funds. Expenditures may be in the form of gifts to others or as payment of expenses incurred.

Thank you to all for your generous contributions to the Discretionary Fund in the past weeks. Father Steve now has more than \$3,500 to begin his ministry here. This will enable him to respond to various needs in our community as he becomes aware of them.

## Welcoming Gesture — Please Wear Nametags

The Welcoming Commission would like to remind everyone to please wear your nametags every Sunday. This will be especially helpful to our new priest-in-charge, Father Steve Domienik, as he will want to learn all our names.

The greeter in the entryway will be glad to help you find your nametag on your way into church. Volunteers from the Welcoming Commission can file the nametags back in the racks if you place them in the baskets in Farmer Hall or in baskets in the church school hallway.

If you need a new nametag, please print your name in the little notebook on the shelf above the nametag table, and John Fuller will print one for you.

Thank you,  
— Martha Stewart

## 50th Anniversary — Be Part of This Special Time

*continued from page 1*  
new design for the Service Bulletin — unbelievable! The ornaments were successful and were given to all past clergy who served at St. Andrew's. It was an avenue to announce activities and plans for a 2012 Eucharistic celebration and social event to mark the 50th anniversary of the Opening Service at St. Andrew's. We strived to keep the parish informed of commemorative activities that took place fifty years ago during these past months. A website was designed and gratefully, we have had monthly articles in *The Messenger* to reach out to all households on our mailing list.

So we look to the next stage — 2011. You may have noticed some unusual activity going on in the entranceway. Stay tuned; an interactive project allowing all parishioners to participate will unfold over the next month or so. We will focus on honoring all of the ministries of which we are so proud at St. Andrew's. These ministries reflect our strongest asset, as it was for our founding members — faith and commitment to do God's work. In January, we will recognize the Church School, and look forward to February for the Youth Ministry and Youth Choir celebration of their 50th birthdays. Additionally, we will host Sunday afternoon "chats" with parishioners according to the decade in which they first came to St. Andrew's. Everyone involved so far agrees that our story must be told through the people, and therefore we will reach out directly to

## 'Thank You' for Many Efforts

*continued from page 1*  
occur early in 2011. This work will be funded through the general parish operating budget, though donations to help defray the cost would be gladly accepted.

Thank you to Donna Johansen and Donna Gregory for organizing a lovely reception on December 19.

Thank you to retiring Endowment Committee members Ray Hencir and Gary Naegel for their six years of faithful service to the parish.

the "source." We definitely plan to march our banner through town on July 4th! In the fall, we hope to begin a new tradition of honoring our veterans and a renewal of dedication for the Memorial Garden and St. Mary's Chapel.

Father Steve has arrived just in time! Work will continue on a commemorative book under the guidance and talent of Brenda Naegle — which we hope to have available in early 2012.

When you realize that approximately 20 people have stepped forward thus far, it is amazing indeed. Clearly we anticipate more hands on tasks as we go forward. Specifically, we need co-chairs for the Events Committee. A review of the above will justify that need! We feel privileged to coordinate these activities but want the input across generations.

We have so much talent in this parish and it is YOUR party! Please feel free to ask either of us any questions you may have or share with us any ideas you may be thinking about. We hope to have another "Gathering" meeting in a few weeks to enlist more help. Please give it some thought. In the meantime, Happy New Year; the best is yet to come!

— Maggie and Charlie Walden,  
50th Anniversary Coordinators  
203-318-5045  
[mccwalden@yahoo.com](mailto:mccwalden@yahoo.com)

## Treasurer's Report

The pledge collection for November was \$14,563, with loose offerings totaling \$2,850. November pledge collection was down from last month, most likely due to the Thanksgiving weekend when many were away.

I withdrew \$10,000 from the Endowment in November — part of the approved \$25,000 withdrawal approved in June 2010.

Collections are up in the beginning of December which is wonderful. Thank you all.

Wishing you a Happy New Year.  
— Helen Van Antwerp, Treasurer

# Church School, Youth Ministry, Family Activities, and More

Church school takes a break and will return on January 9.

A very special thank you to Sandy Butler and her elves for coordinating the pageant this year. It involved a great deal of energy — we appreciate you all!

## ■ Middle School Youth Group

The Middle School Youth Group was busy touching lives during the holiday season! Special thanks to Jenn Ledyard for coordinating the Thanksgiving service project. The middle school group adopted a family for whom they provided a Thanksgiving meal and additional groceries. Then on December 4, the group got together to decorate and wrap plates of cookies for Tommy Fund families. The Tommy Fund supports families with children going through cancer treatment. See the photo below of the cookies and the middle school bakers! We received a thank you note from the family who received the Thanksgiving basket. The Tommy Fund families were thrilled with the gifts of cookies.

## ■ January 8 — Adult Retreat

Brrrr — it is cold out there! Come warm and nourish your heart and soul with Rev. Steve Domienik on Saturday, January 8 from 8:30 am — 1 pm at the Chester Guest House and Retreat Center. This is a morning retreat open to all adults of the parish. A delicious lunch is included and special dietary restrictions are no problem. Just let Mary know! Grab a yellow form in the holder outside Mary MS' office or print one from the church website at [www.standrewsmadison.org](http://www.standrewsmadison.org). The cost is \$45; scholarships are available.

## ■ January 23 — H.O.M.E. Trip Meeting and other updates

• The next H.O.M.E. Trip meeting is January 23 at 7:00 pm. H.O.M.E. sign-ups have begun, and we have space for BOYS! This trip offers a week to serve others, to work hard learning new skills and to have fun. The trip fee this year is \$300. Students again will send appeal letters to family and friends. We have monthly meetings.

• Online Shoppers - DO YOU GOODSHOP? As part of our fundraising efforts for the H.O.M.E. mission trip to Maine, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Madison (yes, that's us!) is now listed as a recipient on the Goodsearch list of charities on the internet. What does this mean and how does this work? It is simple. Visit [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and click on the space "Who do you Goodshop for?" Type in "St. Andrew's Episcopal Church — Madison." Then click on the retailer in the menu — or type in where you want to shop — LLBean, BestBuy, Target, Ebay, Kohl's, etc. Great coupons often are available. A percentage of your purchases will be donated to the church every time you buy something online. Checks are sent monthly to the church. This is a year-round fundraising opportunity; let's make great use of it! Remember, the more you buy, the more you give!

• The Advent poinsettia fundraiser raised over \$1000 for H.O.M.E. and was coordinated by Nancy Karas, with the help of Sue McCann and Lisa Preikszas. Thanks to everyone who sold and purchased plants!

• H.O.M.E. Student Leaders wanted! Student leaders are juniors or seniors who have participated in the H.O.M.E. trip before and are interested in helping out in a leadership role on this summer's trip. Interviews are going on now. Forms are available outside Mary MS' office. Please email for more info: [themsgroup@snet.net](mailto:themsgroup@snet.net).

## ■ January 30 — 50th Anniversary of Church School

The 50th Anniversary of St. Andrew's Church School is right around the corner! On Sunday, January 30 at the 9:15 am service, the church school will be in the spotlight. Children of all ages will help with the service and 50 years in review will be featured and prepared by the kids. You won't want to miss reflections by former church school directors Priscilla Rensis, Alice Hencir, Leah Ann Portley, and others. Find out what church school was like in the 70s and 80s. Come hear what the kids and church school teachers think about this church school history!

## ■ February 25-26 — Youth Services Opportunity Project

Sign-ups have started for the Youth Services Opportunity Project held February 25-26, 2011 for teens in Grades 9-12. This is a homeless immersion experience in New York City that is both fun and challenging. Students will sleep overnight at the Quaker Meeting-house at 15th Street in Manhattan and spend most of the day Saturday at soup kitchens and relief sites serving hungry families. This is a town-wide event brought to you by the Madison Interfaith Youth Coalition, of which St. Andrew's is part. Grab a friend and sign up now! Forms are outside Mary MS' office.

— Mary Merkle-Scotland  
[themsgroup@snet.net](mailto:themsgroup@snet.net)



In December, the Middle School Youth Group decorated and wrapped plates of cookies for Tommy Fund families.

## Theatrical Tidbits

I know we are still recovering from the holidays, but... you won't want to miss our performance of **"State Road 47."** This is a modern-day telling of many of Jesus' parables — full of current music, upbeat and loads of fun. We have a cast of more than 20 teens and a full band working hard to develop the multiple characters and many styles of music in the show. Make sure you save the dates, since I personally guarantee that you will enjoy their spectacular performance on Friday, January 7 and Saturday, January 8 at 7:00 pm.

Looking for a special night out? Join us for "dinner and a show" on Saturday night, January 8. We will start the evening with our "Twelfth Night" Dinner beginning at 5:00 pm. After dinner (and dessert, of course), we invite you upstairs to enjoy **"State Road 47!"**

Looking ahead, we always are looking for new members in our performance troupes. It's never too early to start planning for the summer. We are planning our summer camps for the month of July. There will be three week-long camps filled with music, dance and fun field trips. Read *The Messenger* each month for more details.

As always, contact me for more information or with any questions you may have. You can call me at 203-230-8264 or send an e-mail to [joyann228@yahoo.com](mailto:joyann228@yahoo.com).

— Joy Weaver

## Remembrance

A funeral service was held for **George A. Morriss**, father of George Morriss of St. Andrew's, on Saturday, December 11. The Rev. Esther Chuboff celebrated the service, and family and friends attended.

Mr. Morriss was 93 at his passing and often attended St. Andrew's when visiting with George and Sue. A reception followed in Farmer Hall.

## Meals On Wheels Drivers Needed on Mondays

St. Andrew's provides two drivers every Monday to deliver Meals on Wheels to homebound Madison residents. A few drivers resigned recently, therefore we need more drivers — both for regular monthly delivery and occasional

substituting. Meals are picked up in Clinton between 10:30 and 11:00 am, and depending on how many deliveries are needed, drivers usually finish around 12:00 to 12:30 pm. Some drivers go with a friend or spouse to make it easier to find the houses and apartments.

If you would like more information, please call Martha Stewart, who coordinates the schedule, at 203-245-3220.

## Thank You for Your Community Support

The Madison Community Services Food Pantry thanks you for the support you have given to those in need this past year. From committed funds from Outreach to personal food donations to personal care product donations to Youth Ministry fundraising to volunteer commitments — St. Andrew's demonstrated compassion for our neighbors.

We now have five parishioners who volunteer every month in the Food Pantry, and we welcome anyone else who is interested. We currently serve an average of 70 shoppers every week in four hours of operation, and we distribute more than 2,400 pounds of food in the same period.

Your awareness and support mean more than you can imagine.

— Maggie Walden

## Join Our Yoga Class

Yoga continues, and everyone is welcome. Yoga is a wonderful combination of exercise for the mind, body and spirit. It is a spiritual practice that helps people quiet the chatter of the mind and experience a calm peace. All levels are welcome, including those who have never tried yoga. Bring a mat and water.

Classes are held Wednesdays and Fridays, 7:00-8:00 am, in Farmer Hall.

If you have any questions, call Joan Fidler at 203-421-8647 (home) or 203-494-1619 (cell).

## Colorful Reflections

Have you noticed the stained glass windows in our church? Look for opportunities after the holidays to share your thoughts on a favorite window and how it speaks to you.

## Help Wanted

### Is there music in your heart?

Do you use your showerhead as a microphone each morning? Is your child constantly humming around the house or singing along with commercials? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, the Spirit Choir is for you. We have spaces for everyone, ages 6 through adults, to join us singing at the 9:15 am service on Sunday mornings. No previous experience is required. Just a desire to express your love of the Lord through music! For more information, call Joy at 203-230-8264 or send an e-mail to [joyann228@yahoo.com](mailto:joyann228@yahoo.com) — or just show up any Thursday night from 5:15 – 6:15 pm or Sunday morning at 8:30 am. You do not have to attend every week in order to be a part of the choir.

I look forward to singing with you!

— Joy Weaver



## Madison Cares Sponsors 7th Home Project

St. Andrew's is a founding and continuing sponsor of Madison Cares/Habitat for Humanity. On September 25, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the 7th home sponsored by Madison Cares. Below is an interview with the future homeowner, Shanna Green.

For further information, contact Glenn Stewart or Laura Downes, both Madison Cares Board Members, or visit [www.madisoncares.org](http://www.madisoncares.org).

**The next build date for members of St. Andrew's, ages 16 and over, is January 22 from 9 am to 4 pm.**

Please contact Glenn at 245-3220 if you are interested in helping. We can carpool to the work site since parking is tight.

### A Conversation with Shanna Green

When Shanna Green thinks about living in the house at 12 Elliot Street, the image that most often comes to her mind is sitting at the dining room table eating a meal with her children. "Where we are now is crowded," she says. "Just to be able to say a grace and eat together will be wonderful."

Shanna feels blessed to be assigned to this particular house. When she first looked into buying a home she could afford, she was referred to Habitat, an organization she knew little about. She wasn't sure she liked the area for which they were taking applications at the time. She applied but then withdrew her application — and kept calling to see if there were other possibilities. Just as she began to feel discouraged, she was offered a house on Elliot Street, a street about which she was "very happy and excited."

How has the building process been? "Very educational! I learn a lot and enjoy doing it. I had to do 14 hours of work for the application process — after that I kept going because I met very interesting people and liked the work. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that my kids will volunteer for Habitat when they're older." She says that Rahim (11) and Aida (12), both students at the Amistad Academy in New Haven, will help her with planting and landscaping once they've moved in.

How are her children feeling about

this whole project? "Oh my gosh — very excited. They now share the same room — my daughter especially can't wait to have her own room. They've gone to other dedications and seen what it will be like. They're so happy." (And, says Shanna, she looks forward to being able to say, "Go to your rooms!")

Shanna works at Regency House in Wallingford, a rehabilitation and skilled nursing facility. She also is pursuing a nursing degree at Gateway Community College. She already has been in the program for two years, and hopes to complete it in two more years. "I'm very busy, and to be honest, I have to take vacation days to do my Habitat work. Usually I take a Thursday off and also work at Habitat on Saturday." In the mornings of her days off, she often attends nursing classes. "It's been a struggle, but I won't give up."

Shanna says that # 12 Elliot Street represents "HOME. I will have more stability. It's my dream home — mine and my children's." She ends our conversation with this: "After I move in, I will continue to volunteer — I realize some families can't work all the hours they're supposed to, and I could work for them. I really thank Madison Cares from the bottom of my heart."

Having met Shanna myself, I know that this comment is accompanied by a radiant smile.

— Margit Dahl

*Pictured in photo: Homeowner Shanna Green and her two children are flanked by Madison Cares President Maureen Lopes (far right) and Vice President The Rev. Nancy Leckerling (left).*



## A Holiday Break for Serendipity

Serendipity will re-open at 10 am on Tuesday January 18, 2011 following a well-deserved holiday rest for our volunteers.

Of course, we would welcome new helpers at any time during the New Year. Please call and leave a message at 203-245-4731!

### Note from Serendipity

At the Serendipity luncheon in December, Anne Greene adapted the poem that follows:

*Poem by "Joyce Kilmer" Greene*

*I think I shall never see —  
A group as loyal as thee.*

*A group who work together  
day and night—*

*And enjoy each other  
with utter delight*

*A group whose members  
work side by side —*

*And has made Serendipity  
St. Andrew's pride.*

*Poems are made by fools like me —  
But to Serendipity volunteers —  
we say "WE LOVE THEE!"*

# JANUARY 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>2</b> 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist  8:30 pm Compline	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	<b>6</b>  5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	<b>7</b>  7:00 pm Musical (See page 1)	<b>8</b> / <b>1</b> 8:30 am Adult Retreat 5:00 pm 12th Night 7:00 pm Musical (See page 1)
<b>9</b> 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist  8:30 pm Compline	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 7:30 pm Church School Teachers' Meeting	<b>13</b>  5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Deadline for the February issue of <i>The Messenger</i>
<b>16</b> 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist  8:30 pm Compline	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	<b>19</b> 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	<b>20</b>  5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 7:00 pm H.O.M.E. Meeting 8:30 pm Compline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	<b>27</b>  5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:00, 9:15 and 11:15 am Holy Eucharist 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniver. Church School 10:15 am Annual Meeting H.O.M.E. Sandwich Sale 8:30 pm Compline	<b>31</b>					

## A Tale of Bamboo and Oysters — A Little Greener Story

International environmental discussions may suggest the Walrus lamenting the fate of oysters as he and the carpenter devour them all in Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*. In contrast, Bruce Usher is an advocate for a bottom-up approach to climate change. In an op-ed piece, "On Global Warming, Start Small," in *The New York Times* (online), Nov. 27, 2010, he writes that many states are actively engaged in major green projects.

"Texas alone," says Usher, "produces more electricity through wind power than all but five countries. In California and Arizona, solar energy will soon provide electricity for three million homes. Geothermal energy plants are being built in Nevada. Michigan is making electric cars."

### • Rhode Island Oysters

Elsewhere, Mark Singer's "Department of Recycling" essay, "Used Bambú," in *The New Yorker*, Nov. 29, 2010, concerns Jules Opton-Himmel and Sean Patch who operate Walrus and Carpenter Oysters, an aquaculture business near Point Judith, R.I.

When these two Wesleyan University graduates ('02) learned that "Used Bambú," a temporary sculpture on the Metropolitan Museum of Art roof, was to be dismantled, they got permission from the artists Mike and Doug Starn to haul away some ten cords of this remarkable structural material. The bamboo poles, according to Singer, would find reuse as natural underwater supports for mesh bags holding maturing oysters. The poles would replace the polyvinyl-chloride piping and plastic-coated wire.

### • Revelation: 5:13

Although the Walrus and the Carpenter shed "bitter tears" amid a photo-surreal landscape devoid of birds, they seemed unconcerned with the balance of nature. As an Anglican cleric, however, Charles Dodgson (Lewis Carroll) would have been familiar with *Revelation 5:13*, "**And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea...**"

When apocalyptic seems an appropriate adjective to describe the global environmental crisis, it is refreshing to learn that two young entrepreneurs are literally using a bottom-up approach to sustainability in the nearby waters of Long Island.

— John Fuller

## Team Uganda — An Update from the Field

It was great to have the opportunity to talk recently during services and bring back an update from Uganda. But, in case you missed it, here's a brief recap! (The sermon also is available on [www.standrewsmadison.org](http://www.standrewsmadison.org))

- Visited with Timothy and Cathy; delivered letters from our church school; then returned their answered letters to St. Andrew's on December 5.

### THE CHILDREN LOOK GREAT!

- Visited Calvin and Josephine and provided special delivery of the poster created by our church school children. Also delivered backpacks filled with school supplies and other gifts for the children.

- Spent two days at Chain Foundation Orphanage in Mukono — Wow!

- Delivered first aid supplies; the nurse is overjoyed with her newly stocked sick-bay cabinet.

- New generator in action; building erected to house it.

- Braille machines in use at Martin Nkoyoyo Inclusive School.

- St. Andrew's Chapel on compound (no coincidence in that name).

- Funding from St. Andrew's for livestock, bedding, and flush toilets — an incredible blessing!

- Request from St. James Church in Bushenyi to be partners in prayer. This is Jolly and Jonas's church (they visited us this past summer when Jonas received prosthetic hands). Jolly vowed to set up this prayer relationship, and I have presented St. Andrew's with a plaque and a letter from St. James.

The relationship that we have with our friends and orphaned children in Uganda is an example of God's amazing love for all of us. The support from St. Andrew's is an incredible gift in so many lives.

Keep a watch out for upcoming activities this spring such as "Pies, Pies, Pies" and "Chicks For Uganda" — so we can continue to help!

In closing, I'd like to share a letter from one of our orphans named Timothy. He is 17 year old, is so bright, and he speaks eloquently. His life has been transformed because of your help and God's grace. (*His letter is shown at right.*)

Enjoy his words and God bless you all.  
— Martha Hoffman

*I greet you all brothers and sisters at St. Andrew's in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

*Words alone can't describe the joy I feel in my heart right now. For all the help you have rendered to me, I really don't know how well or how much to thank you. All I can say is that you are really God-sent, and I thank Him for you people at St. Andrew's. Without your help, I don't know how far I would have come. I do send you greetings and love from my family here in Uganda. I also want to thank all my friends there who sent me letters. They are very lovely, and I am hoping to hear from very many more of you. Please do allow me to end here by saying.*

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

*Yours faithfully,  
Timothy*

## Highlights from St. Andrew's Vestry Meeting on November 16

- **Priest-in-charge update:** Rev. Stephen Domienik has accepted our call and will start December 19 celebrating that Sunday along with Esther Chuboff. Rev. Domienik will live in the Rectory, and Classroom 1 will be refurbished for use as his office. A motion passed unanimously expressing that the Vestry fully supports the negotiation of the Letter of Agreement presented by the wardens to the new Priest-in-Charge.

- **Stewardship:** As compared to 2010, half of the number of pledges have been received for 2011; overall, pledge amounts have increased.

- **Newcomers:** There has been a great response for the request for greeters.

- **Christmas pageant:** Sandy Butler will coordinate the upcoming pageant; the event is well underway.

- **Services:** Children's sermons

during supply clergy time have been coordinated by Martha Stewart and are going well; a new bulletin cover will debut Sunday.

- **Adult Christian Education workshop:** "The Way of the Carpenter," an adult Christian education workshop, will be presented on the first two Wednesday evenings in December.

- **Hospitality:** A hospitality coordinator is needed to relieve Louise Beecher who is now teaching Church School.

- **Vestry Nominating Committee:** This committee has been identified and is responsible for compiling a slate of candidates for Vestry terms starting 2011. Members include Charlie Albright (retiring member), Bob Stimpson (on-going member), David Karas (Warden), Steve Domienik (Rector), Donna Gregory (parish-at-large), Jeff Garnett (parish-

at-large). One more person is sought from the parish-at-large from among the 8 am service attendees. The slate of these candidates will be posted prior to Christmas Eve services.

- **Endowment Committee:** Ray Hencir and Gary Naegel are completing their terms; replacements for their positions are needed. The Vestry elects these positions and is beginning to consider possible candidates.

- **Report on Diocesan Convention:** John Paulson attended the recent Diocesan Convention and provided an update including a copy of the Bishop's speech and the Diocesan budget.

- **Transition committee:** A committee will be appointed to clean the Rectory and to orchestrate Esther and Steve's celebration.

— Brenda Naegel



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

# THE MESSENGER



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U S POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 45  
Madison, CT 06443

## St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

232 Durham Road, Madison, Connecticut 06443  
Telephone: 203-245-2584 • Fax: 203-245-2601  
E-mail: [welcome@standrewsmadison.org](mailto:welcome@standrewsmadison.org)  
Web site: [www.standrewsmadison.org](http://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	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 and Verger	David Mikus

### The Parish Vestry

Senior Warden	David Karas
Junior Warden	Kristen Garnett
Treasurer	Helen Van Antwerp
Clerk of the Vestry	Brenda Naegel

Chris Abbott, Charles Albright, Sandra Butler, Art Criddle, John Paulson, Terry Sinclair, 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](mailto:messenger@standrewsmadison.org). All articles may be edited for space, style, and content. Editor: Denise Forrest