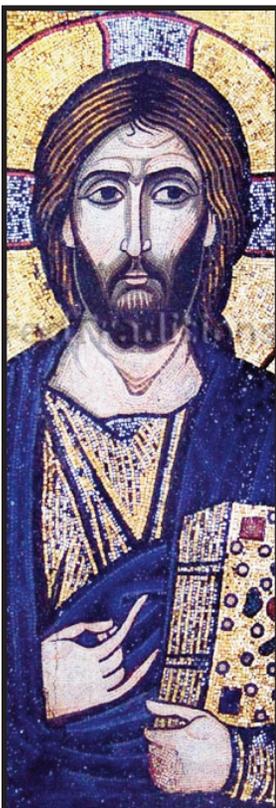


THE MESSENGER

Growing Together in God's Love

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MADISON, CONNECTICUT

FEBRUARY 2011



Compline

Join us on Sunday evenings at 8:30 pm for Compline. This is a quiet, meditative service affording the opportunity to relax and unwind after a busy week and engage in prayerful preparation for the upcoming week. The service lasts 20 to 25 minutes. For more details, contact Bill Crawford at 203-318-0060.

Dinner for Newcomers

The Welcoming Commission invites all who are relatively new at St. Andrew's to attend dinner on Sunday, March 27, 5 to 8 pm. Details will be available soon.

A Priest's Perspective First Impressions

I arrived here at St. Andrew's on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 and was heartily greeted by the vestry as I entered Farmer Hall to sit in on their monthly gathering. Since that day, I have met many wonderful people and participated in numerous worship services, receptions, dinners, pastoral visits, meetings and have been privileged to preside at a baptism, a funeral and a retreat. I even had time to sit and enjoy a terrific musical – State Road 47.

As you may imagine, I have been very busy since my arrival and to be perfectly honest, I have enjoyed every single moment! Everyone has been extremely kind, generous, welcoming and supportive. I work with a terrific staff, and I want to publicly thank Barb, David, Joy, Leah Ann, Mary and Paul. Their dedication and hard work is very much appreciated, we are blessed to have them at St. Andrew's! So the next time you see any of them, I would encourage you to thank them for their faithful service.

In addition, I am getting to know the preschool teachers and the children who attend our school. It is a delight to share in this educational ministry with these professional women, and I always look forward to interacting with our young students. *continued on page 3*

50th Anniversary News

We started 2011 with plans and activities. We are grateful to Fr. Steve for his counsel and support as we go forward celebrating our history, present and future.

On January 30, the Church School celebrated its 50th anniversary! How insightful that our founding members saw fit to make it the first ministry to be started – even when they had no church building to call their own. Many thanks to Mary Merkle-Scotland and those who assisted her and took part *continued on page 2*

Spaghetti Supper and Auction Set for April 2

Back by popular demand, our Spaghetti Supper and Auction is on the calendar for Saturday, April 2.

This evening is about Barb Gibbons and her marvelous spaghetti, laughter, and fabulous auction items such as sailboat cruises, golf with Dave Karas, and a weekend for two in Washington, DC.

I am putting together a committee to organize this event, and if you would like to help, please contact me ASAP via e-mail at kcgarnett@comcast.net or by phone at 203-245-8284. This is a “fun”raiser – proceeds will support St. Andrew's annual operating budget.

Thank you, Kristen Garnett

Bauer Nature Series 2011

St. Andrew's and Friends of Hammonasset will present a 4-part lecture series on Saturdays in February. Programs start at St. Andrew's Church at 10 am – *except the February 26 hike meets at Meigs Point Nature Center at 10am.*

- February 5 – **“A Place Called Hope” Live Bird Presentation** by Christine Cummings-Secki and Todd Secki.

- February 12 – **Live Amphibian Show** presented by Ranger Russ Miller, Director of Meigs Point Nature Center.

- February 19 – **Exotic and Tropical Creatures** presented by Beardsley Zoo.

- February 26 – **Guided Geology and Native American Land-Use Hike** led by Dr. Nick Bellantoni, State Archaeologist. *Note: meet at Meigs Point Nature Center at 10 am.*

Appropriate for all ages, admission is free and the public is invited. For more information, call 203-245-9192.

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

A Favorite Window?

Have you noticed the stained glass windows in our church? Join us on March 13 to share your thoughts on a favorite window and how it speaks to you. More details will be presented in the March *Messenger*.

The Treasurer's Reflection

I have been asked to tell others of my experience at St. Andrew's Church.

I moved to Madison a little over 10 years ago from Hamden where I had been a member of Trinity Church on the Green in New Haven for 30 years.

As is my custom, after moving to Madison I attended all of the Episcopal churches in the area and decided that St. Andrew's was the church for me, attending the 8:00 am service most of my 10+ years. I volunteered as an Usher for several years. In March, I was asked to become Treasurer. I declined the first few calls, but then the past Treasurer and the Administrator "twisted my arm" until I agreed to take on the position. I was totally unaware of the challenges ahead of me.

This past June was very stressful as I didn't know how I was going to pay the church's bills with the shortage of funds. I was advised to go to the Endowment Committee and then to parishioners — which I did. We did get through the summer and the balance of the year.

In reflecting on this congregation, I realize that when you just attend services, you have no idea what it takes to operate a church or the number of giving people to fill all the roles on the many committees. Most of all, I have been amazed at the wonderful busy people who have families and jobs and yet still give their time and energy to this parish.

We have been through some very difficult times, but the people of this parish have supported the church and stuck together to pull us through.

I am very proud to be a part of St. Andrew's, and I have found it very rewarding to be a member of this great organization.

— Helen Van Antwerp

50th Anniversary — Be Part of This Special Time

continued from page 1

in the video presentation of past church school directresses' reflections. This was shown at all three services and the teachers and past directresses also were honored. Additionally, the lay roles at the 9:15 service were filled by church school children — what a treat! Birthday cake was shared, of course.

Also on January 30 at the Annual Parish Meeting, Fr. Steve invoked our prayers and reflections of gratitude in memory of the Rev. Ed Morgan who arrived at our missionary parish in January 1960. He later became the first rector of St. Andrew's when we established full recognition as a parish. Both Ed Morgan and his wife Sally are buried in our Memorial Garden.

This month, we highlight the Youth Choir on February 6 and February 27. Joy Weaver will showcase these young and talented voices in honoring their "birthday" 50 years ago. On February 27, we will offer a birthday cake at coffee hour following the Cherub Choir appearance at the 9:15 service. We also will recognize the 50th milestone for our Youth Ministry during February. How smart were these founding members to focus on our children as they developed their initial church ministries! We believe they would be very proud of how St. Andrew's has continued to cherish them.

In an attempt to hear YOUR reflections, we will host a series of "Sharing

St. Andrew's" chats on Sunday afternoons from 1:30-3:00 pm in Farmer Hall. On February 20, we will begin with those who came to St. Andrew's during the decade of the 60s. Each subsequent Sunday will host the next decade of "arrivals." A make-up date will be held for those who are not available on their respective Sunday. Please join us for fellowship, food and friendship. Details will follow in the Sunday bulletins and E-news.

Are you wondering about that tree on the wall in the entrance? Find out all about it in the insert in this *Messenger*. As the saying goes, "We're bringing it right to ya!" We invite you to express your thoughts and join the celebration.

— Maggie & Charlie Walden, Co-chairs
50th Anniversary Committee
203-318-5045
mccwalden@yahoo.com

From the Altar Guild

Thank you to Jean and Pete Moore for the wonderful gift of two water and wine cruets to be used in celebrations of the Eucharist at St. Andrew's. The cruets were blessed at the January 9, 11:00 am service and will be used often as a central part of worship. On December 19, new linens were blessed and will be used during celebrations of the Eucharist. The linens were bought with money from the Altar Fund, which is funded by gifts from parishioners. We are thankful for these gifts that provide the vessels, linens and hangings that decorate our church and are part of the rituals and traditions of worship.

The Altar Guild is a part of St. Andrew's worship team. Altar Guild members work together and behind the scenes to prepare the church and set a special table to welcome all who worship at St. Andrew's. What we do is a part of how we worship, and we have the special blessing of the friendships that develop and strengthen through working together. We always are happy to welcome new Altar Guild members to our ministry.

— Donna Gregory

Treasurer's Report

The pledge collection for the month of December was \$21,230.25; loose offerings was \$3,730.

I withdrew the last \$5,000 portion of the \$25,000 that the Endowment Committee approved in June 2010.

With Rev. Steve Domienik here and fundraisers planned for 2011, I hope that we will have a good financial year.

Wishing you all a Healthy 2011.

— Helen Van Antwerp, Treasurer

Church School, Youth Ministry, Family Activities, and More

Happy New Year! How are those resolutions going? Are you recycling more, eating healthier, getting more exercise and staying in touch with far-flung friends and loved ones? If not, it is best to simply count your blessings. Name them, list them, or draw them. Eric Hoffer, American philosopher said, "The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings."

Is Your Light Shining Brighter?

A very special thank you to our new priest-in-charge, Rev. Steve Domienik, for leading parishioners in a wonderful morning of reflection at our retreat on January 8. Thanks to those who braved the snowy and icy roads to be there for the event. Father Steve used the celebration of the eucharist as the focus and encouraged us to think about how and where the God's light is shining in and through our lives.

■ Church School

Registration is ongoing and allows teachers to reach parents in the event of an emergency. If you are welcoming friends to church school, please ask them to complete the pink registration form found outside Mary MS' office.

NO church school on February 20, but there will be church school on February 27.

■ February 6 — High School Youth "Souper" Bowl Sunday

Meet at St. Andrew's at 2 pm for flag football on the Green for all high school students. Friendly competition among Madison youth groups! Dress warmly! Please bring canned goods to church or to the game and bring \$5 for pizza. Pick up is at St. Margaret's at 5 pm. This is a snow or sun event! Please send an e-mail to Mary at themsgroup@snet.net if you plan to attend.

■ February 25-26 — Youth Services Opportunity Project

Members of the high school youth group will head to Manhattan to be part of Youth Services Opportunity Project (YSOP) homeless immersion. We will stay at the Quaker Meetinghouse at 15th Street and spend Friday evening

making a meal and serving the homeless. Saturday will be spent at various soup kitchens and relief sites making breakfast and lunch, serving hungry families and cleaning up. This trip is open to 9-12th graders, and we are grateful to the Pardee Fund for defraying a large portion of the cost. Please keep these young people in your prayers. Forms are available outside Mary MS' office. The cost is \$65.

■ H.O.M.E. Trip Events

Homeowners Organized for More Employment (H.O.M.E.) is a mission trip that youth in Grades 9-12 take to rural Maine each summer to build and repair homes for the needy. Meetings for participants are held monthly.

• **March 11, 7-10 pm Pasta Party**
H.O.M.E. mission trip participants meet at "Villa Johansen" at 19 Hull Road for pasta, games and more!

• **March 20, 4-7 pm — H.O.M.E. Trip Progressive Dinner.** St. Andrew's group is in charge of desserts! Pick-up take place at St. Andrew's at 7 pm.

■ Vacation Bible School

Planning is underway, and we are looking for a handful of creative, or just happy, worker bees to assist with VBS this summer. VBS is scheduled for June 20-24, 9 am - 12 noon. Weeklong volunteers receive reduced tuition for their children!

■ Dominican Republic Bible School

Habla Espanol? Are you in high school and thinking about the summer wondering how you can make an impact in the life of a young child somewhere else in the world? This summer, we plan to send five or six high school students to the Dominican Republic to run a Vacation Bible School for street kids. Last year two students from St. Andrew's, Anne-Claire Merkle-Scotland and Denali Dahl, participated in this diocesan mission and had the experience of a lifetime. They worked with 300 street kids each day teaching them about God, playing games and laughing a lot. Please see Mary MS for an application and more information. Students who participate in this trip are expected to volunteer the

week of June 20-24 for St. Andrew's VBS program. This is an ideal trip for those who regularly volunteer with VBS each summer. Cost per family is \$500.

— Mary Merkle-Scotland
themsgroup@snet.net

First Impressions

continued from page 1

I am slowly meeting with all of the committees and groups that operate in the church. There is so much going on in our parish that I feel the energy and excitement every time I talk with someone. I am amazed that 50% of all St. Andrew's members are involved in some type of regular ministry in the church. In addition to Sunday services, there are many ways to participate in our communal life, so if you have been thinking about becoming more involved please let us know.

If you haven't done so already, please stop by my newly renovated office to see the beautiful job that Laura Downes, Glenn Stewart and their crew have done in transforming this space. This dynamic duo and their assistants currently are working on the old rector's office which will soon be the place that our parish administrator Barb Gibbons will occupy. By the time you read this, she already may be moved in — so come by and say hello. In addition, please be aware that I have an open door policy and am happy to talk with anyone whenever you come by the church. If however, you would like to schedule a private time to speak with me, please call the office and I will be happy to make an appointment with you.

Thank you for making my first month and a half at St. Andrew's so wonderful. I am truly blessed to be here — this feels like home already! I look forward to walking with you on this journey of faith!

Peace, Fr. Steve



Serendipity Update

Visit our updated website – madisonserendipity.org! Many thanks to Michael Greene for his hours of work updating the design and the content. Our customers come from many towns around the area, and they find us online. It is great to have a website that is vibrant and reflects our dedication to this ministry.

Serendipity reopened January 18 with anticipation for another wonderful year. The store is filled with furniture gathered during the winter break. In order to keep our customers and volunteers safe, we will follow the school schedule for delays, early dismissals and closings.

– Laura Downes

Five-Part Lenten Series Set for March and April

Fr. Steve Domienik will lead an adult education series on Wednesday evenings during Lent – on March 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13. A musical component in the sanctuary and a light supper in Farmer Hall will precede the lectures.

Our traditional Lenten programs will have an additional dimension this year. At 6:15 pm in the sanctuary, Paul Jordan will offer a brief introductory Lenten meditation in music, usually on organ. Instrumental music composed for Lent is extraordinarily rich in emotion, expression, theological symbolism, and a kind of compelling meditative “grounding” – values that Paul would like to share with our parishioners by

way of these prayerful musical sojourns into the heart of the Lenten experience.

Please save these dates, and watch for more information in the March issue of *The Messenger*.

On behalf of my entire family, I would like to thank my dear friends at St. Andrew's for all their support during the past weeks, following my Mom's passing. We felt amazed and blessed by the kind, loving messages we received in visits, cards, emails and phone calls. The food delivered to our home was wonderful. We are so fortunate to have faithful friends walking with us on this journey.
Peace, Kristen Garnett

St. Andrew's Preschool Registration Form for the 2011-2012 School Year

I would like to enroll my child in the following programs:

- 2-year old program, Mon/Wed Tues/Thurs \$2250.00
- 2-year old program, M/W/F T/Th/F \$3375.00
- 3-year old program, Tues/Thurs \$1900.00
- 4-year old program, Mon/Wed/Fri \$2475.00
- Pre-K/K program, Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs \$3050.00
- Optional Friday Fun Day in Pre-K/K \$750.00
- Lunch Bunch* for 3s, 4s, and Pre-K/K (until 1:30 pm) . . . \$300/day/yr
- Lunch Bunch & Extended Day (until 3:00pm) \$600/day/yr

My child will attend Lunch Bunch on the following days:

- Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

Basic AM programs for all classes run from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Lunch Bunch ends at 1:30 pm; Extended Day ends at 3:00 pm

*Please note that you may choose 1-5 Lunch Bunches and Extended Days (depending on your child's program). The amount listed is for one day per week for entire year.

Child's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Father's Name: _____ Mother's Name: _____

Special Needs/Allergies: _____

Email Address: _____

This application must be accompanied by a \$100/family registration fee, which is non-refundable, and not applied toward the tuition amount. Please make checks payable to “St. Andrew's Preschool” and return to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 232 Durham Road, Madison, CT 06443, attention Leah Ann Portley. Phone (203) 245-1308 x2; Fax (203) 245-2601

Email: leahann@standrewsmadison.org

New Beginnings & Remembrances

Baptism

■ **Corey Martin Letkowski**, son of Katie and R.C. Letkowski, was baptized by the Rev. Steve Domienik on December 26. Godparents are Heather Letkowski and Philip Gerst. Corey is the grandson of Jenny and Martin Gerst.

Memorial Service

■ **Viola Chapman**, a long time parishioner at St. Andrew's, passed away on January 7 at the age of 83. Vi was a member of the Altar Guild and fondly remembered as a gentle woman. She is survived by her husband Roger, two children and their spouses, as well as two grandchildren. A funeral service was celebrated by the Rev. Steve Domienik on January 13, and a reception followed in Farmer Hall.

Musical Notes: Discussion on the Hymnal

The following is the first in a series of three musical mini-essays:

What a wondrous thing is our hymnal!

Some of my happiest hours are spent exploring the hymnal, free-associating, as it were, from one hymn to another and seeking fascinating, untried ground.

Have you considered, though they are all in the form of hymns, how many kinds of music are encompassed in this one book? Without attempting a comprehensive catalogue, I will mention the categories of Medieval chant, Renaissance polyphony, Baroque harmony, the Classical style (e.g., of Haydn), the styles

of mid-to-late Romanticism, of spirituals and gospel, a modicum of more and less dissonant Euro-American Modernism (viz. S280), “ethnic” (Hispanic, Chinese, Korean, African, Indian), American folk melodies, patriotic songs — including tunes of present-day British, German/Austrian and former Russian national anthems... and Christmas carols, too.

It would be interesting to go through the 700 hymns to ascertain how many of them one actually knows. I suspect a small percentage. And let me be frank, it will forever stay that way unless we develop a greater sense of curiosity and adventure in our hymnody. It goes counter to the intentions — the beneficent visions and longings — of the compilers of such a magnificent resource to use it to pluck out, repeatedly, the same old and few reassuringly familiar hymns. Though some of these are indeed important, we tend to exclude many other potentially stimulating and challenging hymns that “subsist” nearby.

How can we become more hymnologically conscientious, broaden our horizons and joyously expand our hymn culture, our collective and personal liturgical repertoires? I do not know the answer to this question (many responses have been offered and tried around the world). Certainly our 11 am choir, when there are enough singers, can help significantly in leading new hymns. Also as a way to keep the hymn “pot” boiling — would be to consider three special 11 am services per year consisting entirely of hymns, with all verses, of course! One of the selections would come from the congregation (via prior written requests), another would consist of the Priest’s choice, and selections for the third would emanate from the Organist/Chancel Choir Director. Perhaps the Worship Committee (now in formation) will consider both the broad questions and specific proposal I’ve tendered here.

In any case, it has been pleasant to chat with you about a matter of shared interest. My next mini-essays will deal with facets of the great master J. S. Bach’s creativity and the church-consecrated musical category of the Chorale-Prelude.

— Paul Jordan

Spirit Choir News

February is an exciting month for the Spirit Choir. It marks the 50th Anniversary of the first Children’s Choir at St. Andrew’s. To commemorate this anniversary and ongoing 50th Anniversary celebrations of St. Andrew’s, February is “Children’s Month.” To start, we will reunite the cast of “Andrew - On the Road to Sainthood” to perform “Light of the World” as our Anthem. This month, we will sing about family (“I will be my brother’s keeper”) and children (“We are all children of God”). The end the month will feature our cherub choir singing “Today is the Day.”

In the spirit of St. Andrew’s, we always look for new members — youth and adult! Spirit Choir meets every Thursday from 5:15 – 6:15 pm and Sunday mornings at 8:30 am. You do not need to come to every rehearsal to participate. Just pick up a music packet, listen to the CD, and join us whenever your schedule allows you! The Spirit Choir is about connecting with your faith through music (not about being perfect), so come one, come all — **sing with your heart in the Spirit Choir!**

— Joy Weaver

joyann228@yahoo.com

home phone: 203-230-8264

Feed Thy Neighbor

Welcome to this new column in *The Messenger* — addressing the issue of hunger, seen and unseen, local and beyond, and what together we can do about it.

Fr. Steve approached the five parishioners who volunteer at the Madison Community Services Food Pantry and shared his commitment and support for St. Andrew’s to take up this challenge in a more focused way. In the months that follow, we will take turns sharing information on the growing need for assistance with the basic necessity of food, our experiences, and some ideas about how you can help.

This initial offering comes from Anne Greene, our St. Andrew’s “In-church Poet.”

*With a little help from our friends
We will all find our way.
Remember, it is what we do
And not what we say.
Get the children involved with this
Show them what sharing means.
Let us be their examples
Let’s make sharing our groceries
routine.
So come along with us
And shop with friends in mind.
Put that little extra in a bag
So we can all share our lifeline.*

FACT: On January 5, the Madison Food Pantry distributed 2,335 lbs of food to 79 clients representing a total of more than 175 family members in just 4 hours.

All clients live in Madison, making them our neighbors.

We encourage everyone to bring additional “gifts” of food on the first Sunday of the month when we celebrate parishioner birthdays and anniversaries. The food collection basket is ever present at the rear of the church, and suggestions for pantry items appear in the Sunday service bulletin. Please feel free to ask any of us about the Food Pantry.

— Anne Greene, Susan Miller,
Lisa Preikszas, Nancy Rankin,
and Maggie Walden

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 1

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:00 pm Fellowship and Welcoming Comm. Meeting	2 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	3 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir 7:00 pm Outreach Meeting	4	5 10:00 am Bauer Nature Series
6 50 th Anniver. Choir 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 1:30 Dialogue on 60s Decade 2 pm Youth Group (see p.3) 8:30 pm Compline	7	8 7:00 pm Exec. Committee Meeting	9 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	10 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	11	12 10:00 am Bauer Nature Series
13 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 1:30 Dialogue on 70s Decade 8:30 pm Compline	14 	15 Deadline for the <i>March Messenger</i> 7:00 pm Vestry' Meeting	16 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	17 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	18	19 10:00 am Bauer Nature Series
20 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist No Church School today 1:30 Dialogue on 80s Decade 8:30 pm Compline	21 Parish Office Closed for Presidents' Day	22	23 9:00 am Holy Eucharist	24 5:15 pm — Spirit Choir 6:15 pm — Chancel Choir	25 YSOP Trip see page 3	26 10:00 am Bauer Nature Series
27 8:00, 9:15 and 11:15 am Holy Eucharist 1:30 Dialogue on 90s Decade 8:30 pm Compline	28	Check St. Andrew's weekly eNews for the most up-to-date announcements. To receive our eNews , go to — www.standrewsmadison.org — and sign up on the home page.				

Highlights from St. Andrew's Vestry Meeting on December 14, 2010

- **Priest-in-Charge update** — We heartily welcomed Steve Domienik, our new Priest-in-Charge!

- **2011 Budget** — We need to form a Budget Committee to develop the 2011 budget; we will set a budget after Fr. Steve has had the opportunity to become familiar with financial details.

- **Rector's Discretionary Fund** — Recent donations total \$3,806.

- **Office reconfiguration** funding cost is approximately \$8,000. Glenn Stewart, Laura Downes and other parishioners donated their time and talent to the renovation; materials were procured at a considerable discount.

- **2011 Vestry nominees** include Arthur Criddle, Florie Earl, Michael Green (Clerk), Susan McCann, and Brenda Naegel. [Continuing Vestry members include Kristen Garnett (Junior

Warden), David Karas (Warden), Helen Van Antwerp (Treasurer), Sandra Butler, John Paulson, Martha Stewart, Robert Stimpson.]

- **2011 Diocesan Convention and Deanery Council nominees** include Helen Kitzman, John Paulson, David Karas (Alternate #1), Brenda Naegel (Alternate #2).

- **Team Uganda** — Martha Hoffman provided highlights of her recent trip to Uganda. The Vestry supports two fundraisers planned for the spring to help pay for tuition for our sponsored orphans — "Pies! Pies! Pies!" fundraiser (February 13) and "Chicks for Uganda" (April 10, 17, 24).

- **Outreach** planning is underway for a "Day of Global Awareness" (walk-a-thon, a Fair Trade Bazaar, U2charist) to be held April 30.

- **Buildings & Grounds** in partnership with **Green Church Committee** are creating a proposal to replace current windows with more energy-efficient windows.

- **Spaghetti Supper and Auction** — We are seeking a chair for the event to be held in the spring.

- **Communications** — A steering committee will advise communications strategy and alignment; Brenda Naegel will serve as the Vestry liaison.

- **Computers** — A decision was made to allocate \$300 to purchase six Microsoft Office software licenses.

- **Endowment Committee** — George Morriss agreed to serve beginning in January 2011; another candidate is considering an invitation to fill the remaining vacant position.

— Brenda Naegel

Mission Conference

The 5th Annual Diocesan Missions Conference, "Taking the Whole Gospel To The Whole World," will take place March 19 at Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford. Key objectives include:

- Celebrate all of the ways that God works through the various mission partnerships in the Diocese of CT.
- Inspire everyone to engage in mission partnerships to be more zealous and energized for gospel ministry.
- Persuade those who considering more involvement to "take the plunge."
- Equip those engaged in missions by offering new ideas and strategies.
- Network with others.

For details, call Martha Hoffman at 302-245-3932 or send an e-mail to marthahoffman@comcast.net.

Theatrical Tidbits: Thank You & Summer Plans

In January, our Senior Performance Troupe brought **State Road 47** to life on our St. Andrew's stage. With different styles of pop, rock and country music, plus wonderful dance and great humor, this show was loved by all. I was happy with all of the kids' accomplishments and overwhelmed by both the size of the audiences and the positive response. It was great combining our Saturday night performance with the 12th Night Dinner. It was our third year and I know that there will be many more to come.

A special thank you to Leah Connolly, Em Filer, Katharine Garnett, Beth Gilchrist, Cassandra Kolstad, Kim Lustig, Devin and Kaila Maus, Natalie Manke, Aimee Merkle-Scotland, Tori Milner, Kristin Papadopolous, Meagan Piombino,

Makayla Portley, Luke Scaros, Meggie Stewart and Gwedolyn Wheeler for their dedication, hard work and support of each other. I was especially delighted to welcome back 2 college-going alumni, Matt Gregory and Shana Reese. Home for the holidays, they helped make our show even better! Matt played keyboards and rocked the house! Shana filled in for a cast member who became ill. These are all GREAT kids, and I feel truly blessed to work with them. Also thank you to our "grown ups" who were involved. The band included Geoff Gregory, Gary Naegel and Jim Olden. Stage construction was supervised by Glenn Stewart, and David Mikus performed so many tasks (too numerous to mention).

Looking ahead, we always welcome new members in our performance troupes. It's never too early to plan for summer. There will be 3 weeklong camps in July — filled with music, dance and fun field trips. The first camp, for children entering Grades 1-6, will run July 11-15, with our performance on Friday, July 15 at 7:00 pm. The second camp, for children entering Grades 7 through college, runs July 18-22, with our performance on Saturday, July 23. This camp will feature our Dinner Theatre (dinner begins at 6:00 pm, catered by my husband, Chef Scott) and our performance will follow. The final camp, July 25-29, also is for kids entering Grades 7 through college. The names of the shows will be announced in the *March Messenger*. Read the *Messenger* monthly for details.

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

— Joy Weaver

Book Review: *Replenishing The Earth*

St. Andrew's involvement with Uganda, often turns my attention to sub-Saharan Africa. So, after hearing Wangari Maathai of Kenya describe her book, *Replenishing the Earth*, I decided to read it. The author, a Nobel Peace Laureate, founded the Green Belt Movement (GBM) in 1977 to promote reforestation and to empower women of Africa.

Trained in biology and veterinary medicine, Maathai combines pragmatic, scientific knowledge of the environment with spiritual values which embrace her own Roman Catholicism as well other belief systems.

Uses of a Felled Tree — Dr. Maathai shows the complexity of environmental problems as ancient traditions and forests give way to progress. She sees a 70-foot tree cut and learns it is economically feasible to use only 35% of the tree for lumber; the remainder is relegated to a brick-making kiln or burned for charcoal.

Scientists have called the Congo the "world's second lung" (next to the Amazon) because these forests absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen in huge, life sustaining quantities. Congo natives actively pursue charcoal production to provide fuel and basic sustenance. Yet this burning causes massive pollution,

soil erosion from loss of trees, and creeping desertification.

View from Space — Commander Eileen, returning from outer space in 2005, viewed "massive burning" and the deforestation in Central Africa. Her puzzled response — "I'm not sure why they do that?" — becomes a recurring question throughout the book.

The author concisely summarizes the big bang and the subsequent millions of years to the early human presence on earth. Thousands of years later, writers of ancient sacred scriptures speak of the "majesty and awe" of our world — a response shared by some cosmonauts and astronomers.

A copy of *Replenishing the Earth* has been placed in Farmer Hall for anyone wishing to read it. More on the Green Belt Movement can be found online at www.greenbeltmovement.org.

To be continued in next month's *Messenger* — Part II of the book review, *Replenishing the Earth* by Wangari Maathai, New York: Doubleday, 2010.

— John Fuller

Note: John Fuller's complete review of this book can be found on our web site at www.standrewsmadison.org/greenchurch.html

"Your talents are a gift from God, what you choose to do with them is your gift to God."

This message was displayed on a large banner in the nave of Holy Trinity Church in Devonport, New Zealand. I thought it was apropos. Peace, Susan Miller

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	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. All articles may be edited for space, style, and content. Editor: Denise Forrest



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

THE MESSENGER

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