

THE MESSENGER

Growing Together in God's Love

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MADISON, CONNECTICUT

MARCH 2012



Bowling Over Hunger

Everyone is invited to a special Outreach Committee family event — “**Souper Bowling: Bowling over Hunger One Pin at a Time**” — at the lanes in Old Saybrook, on Sunday, March 4 at 1 pm. There will be bowling for 2 hours, pizza and soda. Bring a bag of groceries to donate to the Madison Food Pantry and \$10. For more information, call Rich Fisler at 203-421-8647.

New Photo Directories

The St. Andrew's Photo Directories arrived and are available in the Parish Office for those who did not pick one up yet — one per family, please.

Holy Week Services

While we still have several more weeks of Lent before us, I want to look ahead to the last seven days of this season that we call Holy Week. From a religious standpoint, these days are the most important of the year even more profound than Christmas!

Believe it or not, Christians did not focus on this week until the middle of the fourth century after the emperor Constantine built shrines around Jerusalem and encouraged people to go there. Once the pilgrims started going to Jerusalem around Easter, the bishop began leading the faithful to the various holy sites connected with the last days of Jesus' life and death. Much of what we know about these early rituals comes from the diary of a Spanish nun who went on such a pilgrimage.

Over the centuries these practices changed and developed taking on various forms. The Episcopal Church attempted to recover some of the earlier traditions and wrote these liturgies into the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. Many parishes use all of these services, while some congregations do not. We at St. Andrew's will celebrate all of these *continued on page 4*

Lenten Series Schedule

Each session of our Lenten Series in March will begin with a simple meal of soup and salad. Please sign-up if you are able to assist with food. Each session stands alone so you do not need to worry if you are unable to come to all of them. We hope to see you there!

• **Wednesday, March 7**, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.
We will explore the **impact of gratitude** on our lives. Discussion will be led by Don Rankin and Fr. Steve.

• **Sunday, March 11**, 12:30 - 2:30 pm.
The focus is on **our journey as Pilgrims throughout life.** *continued on page 5*

Spaghetti Supper and Auction Set for March 24

Join in the fun and fellowship on Saturday, March 24 at 5:30 pm.

- Live Auction
- Theme-Baskets
- Silent Auction
- Mystery Boxes
- Full-course meal
- Wine-tasting

The fabulous Spaghetti Supper features Barb Gibbons' amazing spaghetti sauce!

Tickets are on sale in the narthex following Sunday services and weekdays in the church office — \$15 per person.

Please consider donating an auction item. Past auction items include tickets to sporting events, gourmet dinners, sailboat cruises, getaways to vacation homes, golf outings, and monthly delivery of home-baked desserts. Contact Jean Card, jcardshouse@sbcglobal.net, regarding donating auction items.

Gift cards and certificates (\$20 to \$50 value) are needed for mystery boxes.

For theme-basket donations, contact Donna Johansen, dmjarm@snet.net. Please bring all items being donated to the church office by Friday, March 16.

Thank you for helping to make this a fun and successful celebration! (*Area businesses were contacted with requests for donations.*)

This event is for adults. Please arrange for baby-sitting.

50th Anniversary News

If you have not been part of the activities celebrating our 50th Anniversary, there are many opportunities coming up in the next weeks. If you have been among those who have helped us plan and carry out our events for the past 18 months, please don't leave us now!

Book of Remembrances: We have documented all the *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.

Irish Bread Bake-Off

No Blarney — save this date! Join us at coffee hour on Sunday, March 18. Bring your favorite Irish Bread or Irish-inspired baked good, and we'll have a taste test. Be creative! Prizes will be awarded! Join in the fun, there's a wee bit of Irish in all of us!



Dinner Invitation for Our Newcomers

The Welcoming Commission will host an evening for everyone who has come to our parish in the last year or two, to provide an opportunity to meet some of the staff and lay leadership of our church.

This is a great way to find out what makes our congregation special and have your questions answered. Representatives from our ministries also will be invited, so it's a wonderful chance to find out all about our church school, music programs, stewardship, outreach, and much more.

This Newcomers' Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 18, from 5:30 to 8 pm. Invitations will be mailed soon, and a member of the Welcoming Commission will call you to confirm your attendance and answer questions. Child-friendly food and child care will be provided, so please let us know the ages of the children you will bring with you. We look forward to getting to know you better.

— Martha Stewart,
Welcoming Commission Chair



50th Anniversary: Be Part of This Special Time

continued from page 1

memorials and gifts of Thanksgiving that exist in the church and on the grounds. It was the intention of the founding members that a book keeping track of such items would be maintained. Unfortunately that wasn't the case — so we dedicated ourselves to completing this project. We will collate photos and descriptions and finally complete the Book during the next three months. We could use 2-3 people to work on this by April 15.

Historical Document: We are writing this document, and it is our intention to print it "in house" to keep costs down, allowing it to be sold for \$10-\$15. We hope to print it in early June and could use 2-3 people to assist with the preparation and printing of the document by May 15.

Time Capsule: We plan to "bury" a time capsule with contents representative of our church and the 50th Anniversary. We would like to develop a committee of 5 people to oversee, plan and collect the items. This will need to be ready for the Commemorative Service, so the committee should be established by May 1.

Commemorative Service on June 16, 2012: This service will commemorate the "first service" held in our church when the cornerstone was laid. Past clergy of St. Andrew's, as well

as present clergy from other places of worship in Madison, will be invited to attend. We will have one of the Bishops as our guest. A working committee of 4 to oversee the service would be helpful and should be in place by April 15.

Video of Our History and Celebration: If you have any interest in helping pull together materials to produce a video of our history and celebration, we can use your help. Alan Miller has offered to oversee this project but 2-3 others would be helpful. Again, we would like to see this group formed by April 15.

Reception Following the Service: There will be committee formed to plan and oversee the reception following the service. A committee of 5-6, with Chair or Co-chairs, is needed to cover all the aspects of the reception and needs to be in place by April 15.

We will be either liaisons or chairmen of some of the above committees and groups — but we cannot do all that is planned without your help. Please consider helping with one of the projects that might interest you..... and, in case you missed it:

SAVE THE DATE —

JUNE 16, 2012 at 4:00 PM

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

Meals on Wheels Program Change

Many volunteer drivers for the Meals on Wheels program were disappointed to hear that the Estuary Council of Seniors will discontinue the use of volunteer drivers and will have a paid person deliver the meals in Madison, effective February 21. The Madison Senior Center was not involved in the decision. St. Andrew's provided drivers on Mondays for this program for at least six years.

I would like to thank all the parishioners who have taken the time to

deliver hot meals to local senior citizens, whether on a regular basis or just once in a while. Your involvement in this important Outreach endeavor was sincerely appreciated.

If you are interested in helping with seniors in another capacity, you may contact the senior center at 203-245-5627.

— Martha Stewart,
Meals on Wheels
Schedule Coordinator

Church School and Youth Activities

■ Church School

- Our First Holy Informed Communion class completed their sacristy tour and will be involved in a Eucharist dinner lesson with Father Steve. The class worked on an Altar Cloth, which will be presented during the FIHC service in May. The children are learning a great deal and are working hard! Each child will receive a seek-and-find devotional book to have during the Season of Lent.

- **J2A** – On Valentine’s Day, our teenagers were involved in making and serving dinner at the Branford Soup Kitchen. What a wonderful opportunity for the teens to spend time in the community and begin to see how they can make a difference in the lives of others.

■ Middle School Youth Events

- The kids had a blast tubing in January – thank goodness for snow-making machines!

- In support of an Outreach Committee event, join us for “Bowling Over Hunger” (see page 1). Rides will be arranged, we may need extra drivers. Please reply and if you need a ride. RSVP by email to stazyouth@gmail.com or lmilner@snet.net, or call 203-640-5761. Scholarships are available.

- Look for service projects ahead! On March 31, from 9:30-11:30 am, youth will help the altar guild prepare the church for Easter. In April, we will make crafts with the elderly at the Madison House.

■ High School Youth Events

- Youth Services Opportunity Project (YSOP), the homeless immersion project in Manhattan, will be held on February 24-25. Nine students from St. Andrew’s will attend with members from other area churches.

- The Interfaith Progressive Dinner on March 18 will include several youth groups from other Madison churches. The dinner will start at 4 pm at the Lutheran Church, move to the First Congregational Church, and end at St. Margaret’s. It will be a walking progression to each church and all participants will bring something. This great community event is for the older youth.

■ Vacation Bible School

We are beginning to plan VBS. We will collaborate with the First Congregational Church and will spend the week at their church. We need volunteers (adults and teenagers) to help us have another successful event for our children! Please contact Lisa Preikszas at preikszas@comcast.net for information. Look for VBS updates in the near future.

■ H.O.M.E. Trip

The H.O.M.E. Trip is scheduled for July 15-21 (new dates). The kick-off youth social will be held on Saturday, March 10 at the Johansen house. Students will make their meal, eat together, clean up, do some planning for the trip, and start fundraising planning as well. It is time to commit and pay your deposit of \$125 to hold your spot. (Be sure to put “H.O.M.E.” on the subject line of your payment.) Let us know if you are coming – send an email and any questions to stazyouth@gmail.com.

— Lisa Preikszas

Shopping Cards Help St Andrew’s

Stop & Shop Cards help support the many missions and ministries at St. Andrew’s. Just by using Stop & Shop cards – **5% of all purchases go directly to St. Andrew’s!** These cards are convenient and easy to use.

You can buy these cards after each service or during the week in the church office. Visa, Discover, and Mastercard accepted.

If you would like to help sell Stop & Shop Cards on Sunday mornings, please contact the church office.



2012 Mission Trip to Dominican Republic

Hola amigos! Liven up your summer with a mission trip to the Dominican Republic! Join other high school and college students from all over Connecticut to volunteer at a Vacation Bible School for 300 Dominican children. This annual diocesan trip to Santo Domingo, the capital city of the Dominican Republic, will take place from July 21-29.

This unique trip is a great opportunity to experience life in the third world, provide much needed activities for children, and make new friends. Student participants meet daily to plan events and activities, divide tasks and prepare the craft projects. This is truly a life-changing experience! Knowledge of Spanish is helpful, but not required. Trip cost is \$1,100.

Last summer, six students and one adult from St. Andrew’s attended. To view a video of last year’s trip, go to YouTube and type in *CT Episcopal Diocese DR Mission Trip 2011*. To see the previous year, type in *Dominican Republic Slideshow 2010*. For an application and additional trip information, send an email to Mary Merkle-Scotland at themsgroup@snet.net.

— Mary Merkle-Scotland

Treasurer’s Report

We are off to a great start for 2012. With pledges of approximately \$28,000, we met our expenses and have a surplus of approximately \$1400 for January 2012. This surplus will hopefully grow, so that we can cover expenses during the leaner pledge months. We can all help by keeping up with our pledges. The vestry also will do their part by keeping expenses under control.

Thank you to all who contributed to the offerings for the month of January. Give with faith and from your heart.

— Cathy Golden

Holy Week Services

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Holy Week services, so I would like to take a moment and describe each of them now.

Palm Sunday is really a combination of two separate services that were celebrated on two different days. The Liturgy of the Palms reflects the triumphal entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem when people were honoring him as the Messiah, a great king like David. This is a joyful and spirited part of the liturgy, but the mood changes drastically after the second reading. Here there is a dramatic shift as the Passion Gospel is read for now we hear about the arrest, trial, torture and execution of Jesus.

Tenebrae is the Latin word for darkness or shadows and has for centuries been applied to the ancient monastic night and early morning services. There is no Eucharist but rather a series of readings, psalms and sung responses in a darkened church lit by candlelight.

Maudy Thursday comes from the Latin “mandatum” which refers to the new commandment. This liturgy celebrates the events of the Last Supper, the foot washing and the institution of communion. Following this service, the altar will be stripped and you are invited to sign-up for a 60-minute block of time to keep a silent vigil in the church that will run until 7 am Friday morning.

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion and death of Jesus. There will be two traditional services on this day at noon and 7pm. Stations of the Cross will follow the noon service and will be led by our teenagers. There is no communion on this day.

Easter Vigil is the first celebration of Easter and is among the most ancient liturgies we have. Originally it would have started at sunset and lasted all night until daybreak.

Easter Sunday will begin at a sunrise service at 6 am down at the beach! There will not be an 8 am service but we will celebrate the Resurrection at 9:15 am with a blended musical service. The 11:00 am service will be a traditional Rite II liturgy with organ music, chancel choir, trumpet and harp.

— Fr. Steve

Team Uganda Update and Spring Events

■ **Destiny Africa Coming to Visit St. Andrew’s**

The choir will be with us on Sunday, March 18 at the 9:15 service. Invite your friends and get ready to make a joyful noise together with this brilliant choir! This will be their only Madison performance. It is an honor to host them, and they can’t wait to see you all again.

■ **Peep Peep Peep — Chicks 4 U**

Easter is just around the corner, and you know what that means — baby chicks! Keep your eye out for our cute and fuzzy friends, and plan ahead to “donate a chick” (or 3, 4 or 5, hint hint) to help our sponsored Ugandan orphanage have a healthy diet and learn all about farming skills. This annual program has made a huge impact on many lives. Your gift goes a long way.



■ **TU Needs U!**

Want to join a dedicated team that plans mission work to help orphaned children in Uganda? We meet once a month and would love to have your fresh ideas and compassionate heart beside us! To find out about the next meeting,

From the Altar Guild

A huge word of thanks to Sharon Service for some quiet, but very generous work behind the scenes. Sharon laundered all of the acolyte robes and organized the choir robes. She also spent a recent Saturday cleaning the chancel area of the church. Thank you, Sharon!

Thank you to Marilyn Bullis for her loving donation to the Altar Fund in thanksgiving for the life of her daughter, Diane Bullis Snyder. Thank you, also, to Margaret and Dave Mason for their Altar Fund gift in memory of Barbara Capron Walden. Gifts to the Altar Fund make possible the purchase of vessels, linens, vestments and other items used in our worship.

— Donna Gregory

contact Martha Hoffman at 203-245-3932 or marthahoffman@comcast.net.

■ **A Letter from Timothy**

One of our sponsored Ugandan orphans that we pray for each week, Timothy, has graduated from secondary school and is currently awaiting his results to find out if he can go to college. Please keep him in your prayers.

Here are a few words from Timothy:

“I greet you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Before I go any further, do allow me to say a happy new year to you. I am very glad to inform you that by God’s grace and with your help and that of my friends at St Andrew’s, I was able to sit for my final exams in high school, and God willing, I shall be going to the university later this year. As I write this, I am in my vacation awaiting the return of our results in March this same year, after which we will be able to join the university around August. For fear of being idle during the vacation, I decided to get myself occupied in a hotel around home as a waiter. My job is tiresome but I am happy at least to be free of idleness. I am hoping for the very best out of my results so that I can do Law at university. Please do allow me to end here, and I hope to hear from you very soon and please let me know if there is anything else you need to know. Do send my greetings to all my friends at St Andrew’s. God Bless You. Engwau Timothy (your sponsored son)”

— Martha Hoffman

Prayer Shawl Ministry

According to the Prayer Shawl Ministry founders, “these lovingly knitted wraps are made for anyone and for nearly any occasion.” At St. Andrew’s, we make the shawls to give to anyone in need of a blessing from our community. The shawls are blessed by Fr. Steve before given to the recipient. We are looking for new members — no knitting experience needed. Call Judy Albright for details at 203-245-1287.

Feed Thy Neighbor

As I considered what I wanted to write for this month's article, my thoughts brought me to the topic of hunger and children. Without food, it is difficult for a family to function, and difficult for a child to learn. Having enough food available to you should be a basic right.

In Connecticut, nearly 1 in 5 children are hungry. We don't necessarily see the children with the bloated tummies, but we do have a problem in the U.S. and in Connecticut. With the busyness of our lives, it is understandable to forget that others are having difficulty just putting food on the table.

I ask fellow parishioners to become more aware. Volunteer at the food pantry for just a few hours a month. When schools ask for food for various causes, donate freely. Consider walking in "The Walk Against Hunger" in New Haven and the local Crop Walk. The first Sunday of the month at St. Andrew's is an easy way to donate food.

I found this prayer that I want to share:

Loving God, we thank you for the rich blessings you have given us. You created a world with enough food for everyone. We are sad that many families still struggle with hunger. We pray that you would be with children all across the country who are hungry today and be with us as we learn how we can make a difference in your name. Teach us to share with one another so everyone has enough. Inspire us to share our abundance with others, and prepare us to help those who are hungry. Fill the stomachs of your children who are hungry, and guide us to change the world so that all children will have enough to eat. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

— Lisa Preikszas

Lenten Series Schedule

continued from page 1

Facilitated by Steven Rawlings.

• **Wednesday, March 14**, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. **Reflections on a Holy Land Pilgrimage.** Led by Sue and George Morris.

• **Wednesday, March 21**, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Continued exploration of **our lives as pilgrims** led by Joan Rawlings and Fr. Steve.

• **Wednesday, March 28**, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. **Our faith journey as Pilgrims leads us to Calvary and Easter.** Session facilitated by Fr. Steve and Joan Rawlings.

■ A Special Note From Sue and George Morriss received on February 10

Shalom, from Sue and George Morriss. We write to our parish tonight from Jerusalem, and send prayers to our St. Andrew's Family.

We have just read Compline in the St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem, where we are staying in Guest House accommodations. Our Pilgrim Journey is almost indescribable. We have toured the areas of Nazareth, Galilee, Mount of Olives, and this afternoon, I prayed at the Wailing Wall. Tomorrow, with our Jewish Historian guide, we will cover all of the old city of Jerusalem, in 10 hours or less, all on foot. We have walked and walked; this afternoon George "swam" (more like bobbed) in the Red Sea. We read Morning Prayer, matins, Evening Prayer, and Compline everyday, whether on a bus, in a lobby, or at the departure gate at JFK.

It is very chilly here in Jerusalem, but our weather has been excellent.

We return on Tuesday, February 14 to Michigan, and George and I fly back to Connecticut on Saturday the 18th. We are both serving in church at the 8:00 am service the next day. Please come to our March 14 Lenten Series "talk and photo show" — we have so much to share!

I am a new person and will never read the Bible again in the same way.

In Peace, Love, and with Prayers,
Sue Morriss



Preschool News

St. Andrew's Preschool will have a Semi-Formal Dance in April for the students who attend the preschool. We are excited about hosting this event for our families. The Advisory Council will organize this dance. If you would like to join the council, it meets the first Friday of every month from 12:30 pm-2:00 pm in the Preschool.

We will create raffle baskets for the dance. The one from the congregation is entitled "Chef's Delight." If you would like to donate items for the basket, please put them in Judy's office during the week or in an open classroom on weekends. Label items for "basket raffle" and include your name. We need to collect all donations of new items by April 1.

Currently, we are meeting with volunteers and interns for our summer program. We will continue to set appointments through the end of April. Enthusiastic and energetic Summer Program Assistants are needed to help Miss Abby coordinate the summer program. Experience such as babysitting or working in a child-care facility is helpful. The program will run weekly throughout the summer. The weeks and themes are listed on our website — www.standrewsschoolct.org. This is a fun learning experience for a student who needs credits and wants to gain experience. The experience can be added to a resume, and we can provide references for future employment.

— Judy Goldberg
St. Andrew's Preschool Director

MARCH 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>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.</p>				<p>1 6:00 pm — Spirit Choir</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 9:00 am Safe Church Training Madison Cares Groundbreaking</p>
<p>4 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 1:00 pm Bowling (see p.1)</p>	<p>5 7:00 pm Madison Cares Meeting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Lenten Series and Supper</p>	<p>8 6:00 pm — Spirit Choir</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 H.O.M.E. Trip youth social (see page 3)</p>
<p>11 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist 12:30 - 2:30 pm — Lenten Series, includes lunch 3:00 Holy Communion Class event</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 7:00 pm Exec. Com. Mtg</p>	<p>14 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Lenten Series and Supper</p>	<p>15 Deadline for <i>Messenger</i> 6:00 pm — Spirit Choir 7:00 pm Outreach Meeting</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Destiny Africa Choir at 9:15 service 5:30 pm Newcomer Dinner</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>21 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Lenten Series and Supper</p>	<p>22 6:00 pm — Spirit Choir</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 5:30 pm Spaghetti Supper and Auction</p>
<p>25 8:00, 9:15 and 11:15 am Holy Eucharist Church School will make Resurrection Rolls</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 9:00 am Holy Eucharist 6:30 pm Lenten Series and Supper</p>	<p>29 6:00 pm — Spirit Choir</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 9:00 am Altar Guild Clean Up</p>

St. Andrew's Spaghetti Supper and Auction

Saturday, March 24

**Live Auction • Silent Auction
Theme-Baskets • Mystery Boxes
Full-course meal
Wine-tasting**

See page 1 for details

Serendipity Farewell: Whatever I Can Do, I Will

We will clean out the store in March, literally. The doors will close as of March 3, the heat will be turned down low, and we'll donate anything unsold to charity.

So many of you have said to me, "Just let me know what I can do to help. Whatever I can do, I will." I found the poem below, author unknown, and it partially expresses my thanks and gratitude for our Serendipity journey.

— Laura Downes

*The key to our success
rests in people like you,
who embody the spirit of greatness
by saying, "Yes I can, and so can you!"
Thanks for your inspiring dedication
and tremendous example to the world.*

*Now that our work is finished,
we say good bye with sad yet grateful
hearts.*

*We want to thank you for your
dedication,
and being there from the very start.
Words cannot convey our gratitude
for your tremendous contribution.*

*With gratitude in our hearts
for your contributions to our cause,
we wanted to thank you with this verse
as our personal round of applause.
The credit for our good deeds
firmly rests with our dedicated volunteers.
Thank you!*

*Thank you so much
for all of your hard work
and to bear witness to your passion
was an unexpected perk.
We never could have asked
for a more dedicated volunteer
and words cannot express
how grateful we are to have had you here.
It has been a pleasure and a privilege to
work with you.
Thank you.*

MILESTONES *Milestones*

Parishioners are encouraged to submit information about current events that are important in your family life that you wish to share with everyone at St. Andrew's. This is a place where we will acknowledge those transitions, turning points and milestones in our lives. Submissions should include relevant information, as well as a brief comment.

■ BSA Troop 490 announces two new Eagle Scouts and other news:

- **Matt Haigis** completed his Eagle Board of Review. At age 13, Matt began the process of renovating St. Andrew's Preschool playground. Matt worked hard, and at age 15, achieved the highest rank of Boy Scouts. He plans to earn his Eagle Palms and will focus on a few career goals.

- **Billy LeBlanc** also became an Eagle Scout recently.

- Former Troop 490 Eagle Scout **Tim Mertz** is attending Pilot School for the U.S. Air Force.

This is an awesome group of boys!

— Ann Marie Haigis

New Beginnings

Baptisms

Two new members of our St. Andrew's family were welcomed through Baptism in the past weeks.

- On January 22, **Piper Grace Carroll** was baptized by Fr. Steve. She is the daughter of Lindsay and Dan Carroll. Piper's Mom, Lindsay (Callahan), grew up at St. Andrew's.

- On February 19, **Anelia Celeste Webster** was baptized by Fr. Steve. Benjamin and Kelly Webster are Anelia's parents, and are newer members of St. Andrew's parish.

Natty Bumppo and the "Wasty Manner" Part 2

In James Fenimore Cooper's *The Pioneers*, Judge Marmaduke Temple and his cousin have built one church, St. Paul's Episcopal, for the frontier village of Templeton (Cooperstown, NY). An impoverished Episcopal missionary, The Rev. Mr. Grant, is called to serve this outpost of the fairly new Episcopal Church in America. Since this divine must struggle to win over Protestants unfamiliar and uncomfortable with even Low Church ritual, today's reader should not expect him to fervently preach sustainability; that's Natty's job.

The villagers, having won the battle against the migrating pigeons, take an equally frenzied approach to a night fishing expedition. In Otsego Lake, they use seines (large fishnets) to haul in thousands of fish, most of which are left to rot. While the Judge is saddened at such waste, Natty declares this practice, "the sinful kind of fishing."

Laws, such as Judge Temple might have envisioned, have helped keep this region with its small villages, farms, lakes, rivers, and forests a model of the picturesque. Otsego Lake, while now declared "under stress," is a reservoir for Cooperstown with its Baseball Hall of Fame and other tourist attractions.

Picturesqueness, however, was not for the uncompromising Natty Bumppo, who abandoned the too civilized Templeton for the true wilderness of the West. There, he would spend his final days as a trapper in Cooper's book *The Prairie* (1827).

Currently, with an exploding deer population in Northeastern Pennsylvania, modern Natty Bumppos are prowling the woods with firearms which *Deerslayer* would have recognized. One such hunter, Seamus McGraw, wrote in the *New York Times*, Dec. 25, 2011, about hunting with a flintlock rifle. While no Hawkeye, McGraw does give careful thought to the moral issues surrounding his actions. Natty couldn't have said it better.

— John Fuller

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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E-mail: welcome@standrewsmadison.org
Web site: www.standrewsmadison.org
Parish Hours: Monday - Friday 9 am - 4 pm

The Parish Staff

Priest-In-Charge	Rev. Steve Domienik
Parish Administrator	Barbara Gibbons
Preschool Director	Judy Goldberg
Church School Director	Lisa Preikszas
Director of Musicals	Joy Weaver
Guitarist	Jim Olden
Sexton and Verger	David Mikus

The Parish Vestry

Senior Warden	Geoff Gregory
Junior Warden	Joan Fisler
Treasurer	Cathy Golden
Clerk of the Vestry	Nick Rawlings

Chris Abbott, Jen Conroy, Roger Cyrus, Ben Hoffman, Margaret Mason, Susan McCann, Brenda Naegel, John Paulson, and Olivia Scaros

Choir Rehearsal Schedule

■ **Spirit Choir** — Thursday Rehearsal 6:00 - 7:00 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.

The Easiest Way to Give

When using Stop & Shop cards, **5% of all purchases go directly to St. Andrew's!** Buy these cards after each service, at coffee hour, or during the week in the church office. Visa, Mastercard, and Discover credit cards are accepted.

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



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