

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

1025 Three Mile Rd. NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505  
(616) 361-7887

[www.standrewsgr.org](http://www.standrewsgr.org)

email: [standrew7887@sbcglobal.net](mailto:standrew7887@sbcglobal.net)

Midweek Eucharist: Wednesday, 9:00am

Saturday Eucharist: 5:30pm

Sunday Eucharist: 8:00 & 10:00am

Oasis Wednesday's - 5:45pm dinner

6:30pm, programming for all ages

Children's Program: Sundays, 10:00am

Youth Group: Wednesday, 6:30pm

Vestry: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 7:30pm

**Marc Bush, Senior Warden**

**Helen Scott, Junior Warden**

**Dennis L. Buteyn, Organist/Choirmaster**

**Dominic Maurice & Bonnie Dame, Sextons**

**David Hawley-Lowry, Facilities Manager**

**Abby VanderBrug, Director of Children's Ministries**

**Jeff Brown, Youth Minister**

**Kathy Griffes, Parish Administrator**

**Marsha Harrison, RN, Parish Nurse**

**Laura Macalka, Treasurer**

**Margaret Stretton, Business Manager**

**The Rev. Cindy Nawrocki, Deacon**

**The Rev. Michael C. Fedewa, Rector**

**The Rt. Rev. Wayne M. Hougland, Jr., Bishop**

**WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW'S ...** As the people of St. Andrew's we acknowledge our gratefulness for the unexpected grace of God displayed in Jesus Christ. We look forward to the ways a diverse congregation can teach us more about the manifold love of God. Therefore, we commit to loving others as Christ loves us, welcoming all without reservation, without question, without judgment, without restriction. We are committed to answering the call of the Holy Spirit, being a community of unexpected grace, and actively seeking reconciliation with those we have previously rejected. We repent of the ways we have said to others, "I have no need of you," and we commit to an ever-deepening faithfulness to embody God's welcome to everyone.

In particular, we strive to be a community of reconciliation where diverse ethnicity, culture, gender, age, sexuality, gender identity, political views, economic condition, mental ability, and physical ability are present and all are fully involved in the ministry of Christ we share together.

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**WE ASK THE CHURCH FAMILY TO PRAY** for the Diocese of Western North Carolina.

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dennis Laycock by his daughter, Leslee Hardebeck; given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Cosmo and Harley Smith, LeRoy Hadley, Laurie Doughty and Robert Smith by John and Mary Jo Smith.

**PRAY FOR** Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop; Wayne Hougland, Jr. Bishop of Western Michigan; for our partner dioceses and their bishops, Wendell Gibbs, Bishop of Michigan; the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan; Rayford Ray, Bishop of Northern Michigan; Julio Holguin, Bishop of the Dominican Republic and Moisés Quezada Moto, Bishop Coadjutor; Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in American (ELCA) and its pastor(s); Grace Church, Traverse City, Kathryn Costas, Interim Rector, Clare Andreasson, Sr. Warden; St. Philip's Church, Grand Rapids, Carole Redwine.

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**WEEKLY NEWS DECEMBER 10 - 17, 2017**

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available on the ledge behind the organist.

**SUNDAY MORNING EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS**

**ADULTS** – this week at Sunday morning adult forum, 9:00am. Deacon Cindy and Parish Nurse Marsha, **Change or Transition-It's Up to Us**, will lead a group discussion based on the 3 stages of change outlined in the book *Managing Transitions: Making the Most of Change: Letting Go, Neutral Zone and New Beginnings*.

We can all learn better and healthier ways to acknowledge and deal with the many life changes we experience in our personal lives. Now, as part of our Transition process, we have a wonderful opportunity to help ourselves and be supportive of each other at the same time as we go through the huge psychological change of Fr. Mike's retirement from St. Andrew's and come out on the other side as a stronger and healthier Body of Christ.

**CHILDREN (ELEMENTARY AGE)** – December 10: This week our kids will continue to engage with the Advent season with a focus on hope. We will be talking about things we hope for this season, as well as playing games, making crafts, singing, and practicing prayer.

December 17 - Worship Center & Spark for children ages preschool thru fifth grades will meet in the red chairs of the parish hall beginning at 9:45am and go to their classrooms at 10:00am to hear the story. Pageant rehearsal on Saturday, December 23, 10:00am,

followed by a pizza lunch. NO WORSHIP CENTER the morning of December 24 as the pageant will take place at the 10:00am Christmas family service.

Grades 6 – 12 Youth Group meet on Wednesday nights, 6:30 – 7:30pm for one more week...December 13.

### **DECEMBER DESIGNATED OUTREACH - CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS**

We have received the names of 16 families/76 people. Once again we will supply gift cards for them to purchase favorite foods for their Christmas dinner. There are 2 ways to help this cause...donate funds to St. Andrew's so we can purchase Meijer gift cards OR YOU purchase a Meijer gift card for a family in need and drop it off to church. Thank you.

### **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

Sign up on the chart in the entryway to give Christmas flowers in celebration or loving memory of someone or something. Suggested donation is \$15. Deadline: Sunday, December 17.

### **MID-WEEK OASIS WEDNESDAY'S – December 13**

Dinner – 5:45 – 6:30pm – Cuisine of the evening: Pasta with fresh green salad greens.

**Grades preschool-5<sup>th</sup>:** The focus will be around gratitude. What/for/who are we grateful? How do we say thank you?

As always, we will have games, books, prayer time, crafts & kid friendly yoga. All kids are welcome!

**Grades 6-8:** Will continue their study of key figures from the New Testament with the re:form Ancestors curriculum.

**Grades: 9 – 12:** Highschoolers are following the Animate-Faith curriculum.

**Adults:** Studying the Advent Gospels with Fr. Mike.

### **ONE BOOK, MANY CHURCHES ONE NIGHT BOOK STUDY**

**January 5<sup>th</sup>, North Park Church, 7:00pm, Dessert & Discussion**

**Dementia: Living in the Memories of God**

Author John Swinton will be speaking at Calvin College's January Series. His book addresses dementia as one of the most feared diseases in Western society today. Some have even gone so far as to suggest euthanasia as a solution to the perceived indignity of memory loss and the disorientation that accompanies it.

In this book John Swinton develops a practical theology of dementia for caregivers, people with dementia, ministers, hospital chaplains, and medical practitioners as he explores two primary questions:

- Who am I when I've forgotten who I am?
- What does it mean to love God and be loved by God when I have forgotten who God is?

Offering compassionate and carefully considered theological and pastoral responses to dementia and forgetfulness, Swinton's Dementia: Living in the Memories of God redefines dementia in light of the transformative counter story that is the gospel. Books are available in the church office for \$17.50.

**FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH, Daily Devotions Exploring Creation**, published by Forward Movement –

God saw everything that was made, and indeed, it was very good. Genesis 1:31

St. Andrew's very own Julianne Day has written in this devotional publication for the week of July 15 – 21.

You are part and parcel of the very good creation God has made. Artist Kathrin Burleson captures the majesty of creation in beautiful watercolors that anchor each month. Faithful people from all walks of life – parents, priests, scientists, musicians, teachers, farmers, and bishops – offer devotions for each day of the year that explore & celebrate the wonders of creation & the beauty of the Creator.

**To order:** [www.forwardmovement.org](http://www.forwardmovement.org).

### **FAREWELL EVENT FOR RECTOR**

Invitations have been mailed and we're taking reservations. There are approximately 50 seats remaining so get your reservation in soon. Reserve the date of Thursday, December 28, 6:30 – 10:00pm at Leonard Banquet Hall. We are not selling tickets so your \$30 per person guarantees you a seat at this event. Send your checks to the attention of Kathy. RSVP to [standrew7887@sbcglobal.net](mailto:standrew7887@sbcglobal.net) or call 361-7887.

**YOGA CLASSES** are on hiatus until 2018! Have a great New Year!

**2018 PHONE DIRECTORY - DO YOU HAVE A CHANGE TO YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION?** Are you newer to St. Andrew's but not in our data base for Emails, address, cell or home phones? Send it to the church office at [standrew7887@sbcglobal.net](mailto:standrew7887@sbcglobal.net). Thank you! **DEADLINE, DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**SPARTAN NASH**  
**"DIRECT YOUR DOLLARS"**

North End Community Ministry (our local food pantry St. Andrew's supports) has met the goal of collecting \$150,000 in receipts!!! NECM is one of a few organizations in Michigan to have met this goal!! Their first \$1000 check arrived in August and are well on their way to a second \$1,000. **Keep saving those Spartan receipts!**

**ATTENDANCE** - December 2/3: 175    YEAR TO DATE: 153

**FINANCIALS**

	<b><u>December 2/3</u></b>	<b><u>December 9/10</u></b>	<b><u>December 16/17</u></b>	<b><u>December 23/24</u></b>
Total Collection	13,358.06			
Designated Funds	435.00			
Capital Campaign	680.00			
Funds Available for Operations	11,192.33			
Budget for Operations	8,456.00	8,456.00	8,456.00	8,456.00
Rector's Discretionary Fund	315.00			
TTS/Hurricane Relief	735.73			

**LIVING COMPASS: Heart – Soul – Strength - Mind**

Provided by your Wellness Ministry, as we work to become "a more healthy body of Christ." Be Well to Serve Well.

**Weekly Words of Wellness**

The Rev. Scott Stoner

"We need to create space in our hearts and souls to be quiet long enough to hear the whispers of wonder."

I don't think I have ever heard anyone say, "Hurry up and wonder." The much more common phrase is, of course, "Stop and wonder" and is often heard in the form of a question, "Do you ever stop and wonder...?" In order to make room for wonder it seems that you have to slow down and pause long enough to pay attention.

If I were to ask you right now in your life, "What causes you to stop and wonder," how would you respond? Given the news cycle these days it wouldn't be surprising if what comes to mind is wondering about some aspect of the latest bad behavior of some famous person. We might wonder about many different aspects of such a situation. I'm guessing as well that if most of us were to come across the statement, "That kind of behavior really causes me to stop and wonder," without having any idea of its context, we might easily assume it is describing a negative behavior.

Of course, the experience of something causing us to stop and wonder can relate to positive experiences just as easily as to negative ones. When I hear about an act of generosity or self-sacrifice, or someone who shows the strength to persevere in the face of adversity, it often causes me to stop and wonder what gives someone the ability to act like that. Yet I know that unless I am intentional, I often fail to stop and wonder and thus miss these types of good things that are happening around me every day. And I imagine I am not the only one for whom this is true.

The season of Advent started last Sunday. Advent is a season that some Christians observe as a time of spiritual preparation for Christmas. Each year, Living Compass creates a booklet to help people observe Advent. We recruit guest writers from around the country to help us create a collection of daily readings around a particular theme. This year, the theme is wonder, with the title of the booklet being, "Practicing Wonder with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind." (copies available on the table in the entryway).

In our Advent booklet we invite people to take a moment each day to stop and wonder about the signs of love, light, grace, and hope that surround us, knowing that they are there, and that we can enjoy them if we slow down, taking time to notice. These positive expressions of wonder often appear as a whisper, while the negative expressions unfortunately frequently appear as a shout, and so... we need to create space in our hearts and souls to be quiet long enough to hear the whispers.

So whether you observe the Christian season of Advent or not, I invite you to take some time over the next month for a regular practice of stopping and wondering. As with anything we practice, the more we do it, the more natural it becomes for us and the better we get at it. Let's see what difference it makes when we each make more space in our hearts and souls to be quiet long enough to observe and appreciate the wonder that is all around us.

## **LETTER MAILED TO YOUR HOME THIS WEEK**

Just in case you missed it...

December, 2017

Dear Parish Family,

Throughout this year we have walked alongside one another worshipping, serving and wondering how things will unfold as we say goodbye to Father Mike and begin our search for a new Rector. This process is purposefully long to allow for grieving, regrouping and growth. Due to the current supply and demand for priests within the church, the Vestry has been advised that it likely will take 18 months - 2 years to find a new Rector.

In an effort to keep everyone informed as we move through the process of selecting an Interim Rector, the vestry is pleased to say that we are in negotiations with a good, qualified short-term interim and that the name will be announced when the covenant is ratified. We hope to have a letter out to all of you early next week.

The Vestry has also appointed a Communications Team as a way of facilitating communication from the Vestry and offering mechanisms for the congregation to submit questions. Jim Sterken and Marcia Baker from the Vestry and Marsha Harrison, representing the congregation, are serving on this committee. Stay tuned to the weekly bulletin and emails for updates.

As we enter this season of Advent, we are delighted to join with you as we say our final farewells to Fr. Mike and look forward with anticipation to the weeks and months ahead. As we continue on this journey together, let's remember to support each other and be patient as the Holy Spirit works with us and through us. Your questions and comments are welcomed and appreciated.

In God's Peace,

Marcia Baker, Marsha Harrison and Jim Sterken

**MEIJER 'Simply Give' PROGRAM** has been launched & will continue thru the end of the year. North End Community Ministry's Food Pantry has been named the recipient of gift cards from **BOTH PLAINFIELD & KNAPP'S CORNERS MEIJERS**. These gift cards are a tremendous help in keeping our food pantries adequately stocked! The orange & white cards are available at the beginning of the checkout lanes in the store. Present a donation card to the cashier & \$10 will be charged to your total grocery bills. Meijer matches what is donated & converts all donations into larger gift cards which are given to North End Community Ministry.

### **THANK YOU**

To the St. Andrews Family:

Once in Nigeria, I was "witnessed" to by a Pakistani Missionary trying to convert me to Islam. He described the "Ummah" or brotherhood of believers in Islam, that, unlike in Christianity, no matter what happened, the Ummah would have my back and help with my needs. Well the St. Andrews "Ummah" has truly proven itself over these past few weeks. After my diagnosis with cancer, a group regularly met to pray specifically for my health. Many people brought me food when I returned home. Others gave me a ride to church. I was taken to the hospital for follow-up care. Others even organized a schedule to walk my over-energetic dog. And the prayer group continues its work. People I barely know have given generously of themselves to help. I am humbled to see God at work through all of you and cannot express my gratitude. Steve Arrowsmith

My Dear Friends of St. Andrew's.

Thank you for your warm welcome to me and Dana at our recent visit. Thank you also for your beautiful ministry and service to Northern Grand Rapids. You have big changes ahead and I am confident that you will embrace them with grace and joy and love. Peace. +Bishop Whyne

### **WE PRAYED FOR YOU:**

From Grace Church, Ludington...During our Sunday service today, the congregation of Grace Church said a special prayer for Michael Fedewa, Rector, and the parishioners who call St. Andrew's their church home.

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Clarence and Kathy have almost finished their move to the other side of the state to be near their family.

Their new address is:

Clarence Millen & Kathleen Longcore

3814 Lyndon Lane

Waterford, MI 48329

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Sign up on the chart in the entryway or send an email to Kathy, [standrew7887@sbcglobal.net](mailto:standrew7887@sbcglobal.net), to give Christmas flowers in celebration or loving memory of someone or something. Suggested donation is \$15.

### CALENDAR: December 10 - 17, 2017

#### Sunday – Advent II

8:00am	Holy Eucharist/Anointing
9:00am	Adult Forum-Change or Transition
9:00am	Worship Center for Children
10:00am	Holy Eucharist/Anointing
11:15am	Daughters of the King
12:30pm	St. Raphael's
7:00pm	NA

#### Monday

5:30pm	Healing Prayer Group
7:00pm	OA

#### Tuesday

9:30am	Staff breakfast offsite
6:00pm	Finance Committee Meeting

#### Wednesday

9:00am	Holy Eucharist
5:45pm	Oasis Dinner
6:30pm	Programming for all ages

#### Thursday

6:45pm	Contemplative Prayer
7:00pm	OA
7:30pm	Choir

#### Friday

#### Saturday

9:00am	SAA Support Group
5:30pm	Holy Eucharist/Blood Pressures

#### Sunday – Advent III – Greening of the Church

8:00am	Holy Eucharist/Blood Pressures
9:00am	Adult Forum
9:00am	Worship Center for Children
10:00am	Holy Eucharist/Blood Pressures/ Greening of the Church
11:20am	Youngsters with Fr. Mike & Pizza
12:30pm	St. Raphael's
7:00pm	NA

### December 10 - 16, 2017 Birthdays

Janet Carbonneau-Jones	December 12
Laura Macalka	December 12
Jerry Irwin	December 14

Joanne Unangst	December 14
Stormie Zalokar	December 15
Candice Petrides	December 15

### December 10 - 16 Anniversaries

*Happy Anniversary!*

### SERVING SCHEDULE: December 9/10

#### **Greeters**

10:00am	David & Mary Jo Bultman
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#### **Ushers**

8:00am	Marty & Janet Jones
10:00am	Dell Todd & Greg McKee

#### **Lectors**

5:30pm	Ashley TerBeek
8:00am	Glenn Rotier
10:00am	Walt Harrison & Dale Wood

#### **Chalice Assistants**

5:30pm	Ashley TerBeek
8:00am	Glenn Rotier
10:00am	Kurt Unangst & Dale Wood

#### **Acolytes**

10:00am	To be announced
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**Altar Guild** Cynthia Thomas & Jane Koning

**Counters** Mary Simpson & Jerry Skar

**"Goodies"** Marcia Baker

**Welcome Bread** Jackie Brayman

### SERVING SCHEDULE: December 16/17

#### **Greeters**

10:00am	Pam, Brianna & Kendra Dame
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#### **Ushers**

8:00am	Tom & Pat Cook
10:00am	Steve & Candy Petrides

#### **Lectors**

5:30pm	Jackie Brayman
8:00am	Max Mika
10:00am	Jeff Hines & Stormie Zalokar

#### **Chalice Assistants**

5:30pm	Jackie Brayman
8:00am	Renée Mika
10:00am	Chris Wolterstorff & Jeff Hines

#### **Acolytes**

10:00am	To be announced
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**Altar Guild** Carole Cothran, Michael Woerner, David Battjes

**Counters** Becky Schulke & Linda Rice

**"Goodies"** David Battjes, Michael Woerner, Carole Cothran

**Welcome Bread** Linda Fedewa