Church. Please remember to add st.andrew.kent@snet.net to your address book or let us know if you prefer not to receive email from us.

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



This Week & Weekend at St Andrew's

Wednesday, 23 October Holy Eucharist at 6.00 p.m. A.A. for Women at 7.00 p.m.

Thursday, 24 October A.A. at 7.30 a.m. (Parish House) Parish Office Open 10.00 a.m. - 2 p.m. Al. Anon. at 7.00 p.m. (Vestry Room)

Friday, 25 October Prayer & Meditation at 5.30 p.m.

Saturday, 26 October Choir Rehearsal at 10.00 a.m. (Nave)

Sunday, 27 October Holy Eucharist at 8.30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at 10.30 a.m. Coffee & at 11.30 a.m.

Tuesday, 29 October Parish Office Open 10.00 - 2 p.m.

> Wednesday, 30 October Holy Eucharist at 6.00 p.m. A.A. for Women at 7.00 p.m.

From the Junior Warden

Please help us search for a Provisional Priest-in-Charge...... The Call Committee has been charged by the Vestry with leading the search for candidates for Provisional Priest in Charge to supplement the search of the Diocese. As we were told when Lee Ann Tolzmann was at St. Andrew's, all candidates must be vetted and approved by the Diocese before they can be presented to us as prospects for our review. We are aware that there is a shortage of available priests, which presents a challenge in our search. The best way to find people is to spread the word

St Andrew's Church 1 North Main Street Post Office Box 309 Kent, CT 06757

> 860.927.3486 860.927.3903 (facsimile) st.andrew.kent @snet.net

Visit St Andrew's website at www.standrewskentct.org

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut www.ctepiscopal.org

Service Schedule

-Sunday-Holy Eucharist 8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m. Rite I at 8.30, First Sundays; Healing Service at 8.30, Third Sundays

> -Wednesday-Holy Eucharist 6.00 p.m.

-Friday-Prayer & Meditation 5.30 p.m.

> Holy Days as announced.

Calendar

Friday, 25 October Makers & Bakers Preview Party 6.00 -7.30 p.m. Saturday, 26 October Makers and Bakers 10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. (Great Room)

26 - 27 October Diocesan Convention Connecticut Convention Center (Hartford)

Sunday, 3 November All Saint's Sunday

Monday, 11 November Veteran's Luncheon 11.00 a.m.

Saturday, 23 November Annual Christmas Bazaar 10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Twelve Step Groups

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. A.A. for Women

Thursdays A.A. at 7 .30 a.m. (Great Room) Al-Anon. at 7 .00 p.m. (Vestry Room)

Parish Staff

Thomas W. Holcombe, Organist & Director of Choirs

Margie O'Brien, Director of the Children's Choir

Heather Scofield, Parish Administrator

Joan I. Cassel Financial Secretary

> Bill McLaren, Sexton

Randy Osolin, Verger far and wide and so we are asking you to join us in doing that. We have prepared a profile document describing St. Andrew's, titled The Special Character of St. Andrew's, Kent, which is printed below to help you as you spread the word, hoping that it presents us in a way that will appeal to our future rector.

Please send a link to this document <u>The Special Character of St Andrew's</u> or cut and paste the text below into an email and forward it to anyone who you believe can help us in our search.

Chris Rehkow, Junior Warden, Head of the Call Committee Christine Beer Lynn Perry Eric Roper

THE SPECIAL CHARACTER OF ST. ANDREW'S, KENT, CT

We are looking for a full-time Provisional Priest-in-Charge to live in the Rectory and guide our parish following the retirement of our Rector.

We are a small town parish with a little boost from big city energy and ideas, given our location in Kent, CT (population about 3,500) but 90 miles from the center of Manhattan. St. Andrew's is woven into the fabric of our town. We are a vibrant cornerstone of the community and even non-church-goers feel a part of us.

We sponsor or host a wide array of church activities, among them: Pancake breakfast with Santa, the Makers and Bakers fundraiser for Kent Affordable Housing, our August tag sale and Christmas bazaar. We participate in the Kent Food Bank and the Torrington Soup Kitchen. Our Mission and Outreach Commission disperses funds to address a wide range of needs, from the Kent Community Fund, to Sister Mary Lanning's Street Corner Gourmet activities for the homeless in New York, to Books to the Philippines. AA and Al-Anon have their regular meetings in our parish house. Both St. Andrew's and Kent are centers of volunteerism and community spirit.

We are a parish of deep and personal faith. We do not proselytize, other than through trying to lead the most Christian lives we can, through our thoughts, words and deeds. We are understated New Englanders, wherever we came from.

We are a diverse community, embracing each other and welcoming all. Our newer members tell us that our hospitality to visitors is unusually warm and is the reason they chose St. Andrew's.

Music is a core value of St. Andrew's. Our choir director/organist is knowledgeable of liturgical music, honoring its rich tradition while expanding our horizons and challenging his choir of accomplished amateur singers. Our Music in the Nave series brings a variety of programs to the town. The Kent Singers holds its concerts in the church, as does the Sherman Chamber Ensemble.

While we are on the potluck supper circuit, we are at the same time a sophisticated parish. We are good listeners to varied music and are eager to enhance our faith and daily lives through the messages of thoughtful and focused homilies.

Thanks to the loyalty and generosity of our parishioners the church and its buildings are in fine condition and we have the resources both to help others and to maintain our facilities. Our rectory, adjacent to the church, is a spacious and gracious residence.

We really enjoy each other's company and have a lot of fun. We support each other. We are a close community always open to increasing our numbers.

We are seeking a Provisional Priest in Charge who would like to live in a vibrant town straight out of Yankee magazine, but a commuter train ride away from Manhattan. Kent lies in the Litchfield County hills of northwest Connecticut, and is at the eastern edge of the Hudson River valley. The town has natural beauty and New England charm. Our community boasts a variety of stores and galleries and an independent bookstore, as well as a public elementary school and several top private schools, three of which (Kent School, South Kent School and Trinity-Pawling) are Episcopal schools.

If you are interested in leading a church and living in a town that share beauty, energy and fellowship, please be in touch with the Rev. Lee Ann Tolzmann, Canon for Mission Leadership, at latolzmann@episcopalct.org and either of our wardens: Charmian Place, Senior Warden, at cplace@coopermailbox.com or Christopher Rehkow, Junior Warden, at crehkow@ncsplus.com

From the Stewardship Commission

"The ball is in our court." "We need to step up to the plate." "The time is now."

Any of these phrases can be applied to all of us at St. Andrew's as we come together to keep our parish alive and relevant.

In order to help the vestry plan for the coming year of transition to a new priest, they need to sense the support of the laity financially as well as emotionally.

One of the ways we can all be part of keeping this parish strong is by making our annual pledge.

Please take a moment to "Seize the Day" and make your pledge.

Ned Reade Stewardship Commission

(Additional Pledge Cards are available in the Narthex)

All Saint's Sunday

This year, All Saints' Sunday will be 3 November, and as usual we will be marking this holy day by using a special prayer list. Please submit the names of the faithful departed whom you want included as soon as you are able.

In order for the names to appear in print, we do need to have them by Tuesday, 29 October. They may arrive by mail, via the collection plates, or by sending them to st.andrew.kent@snet.net.

Refreshments after the 10.30 a.m. Liturgy

After the various events on Sundays in September, we have returned to the usual Coffee hours on 6 October. There is a sign-up sheet on the pass-through into the kitchen for volunteers to be responsible for both brewing the coffee and bringing light refreshments.

During the time of transition between rectors, Coffee Hour is an especially important time for members of the parish to be together: please help by bringing in some coffee cakes, cookies, &..., to make the social time more enjoyable!

Homily by The Reverend Geoff Hahneman

20 October 2019

THE UNJUST JUDGE

Luke 18:4 "But later (the unjust judge) said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming."

One of the things I frequently heard as the parent of a small child, when denying one of their requests, and which is something that I suspect that all of you who are parents have probably heard as well, was that familiar but troubling two word phrase, "But why?" For no matter how one answered that question, the follow-up response was always the same, another "But why?" My child could continue on and on and on sometimes, until in exasperation, I declared something like "Because I say so!" as though that would finally answer the complaint. But frequently thereafter, the child would continue the refrain with another "but why do you say so?"

Clearly this kind of pestering of someone to get what you want is nothing new. In today's Gospel, Jesus gives an illustration of a similar story, where Jesus seems to be encouraging his disciples to behave with God in just such a similar exasperating fashion. Luke does not tell us exactly what the widow's complaint was, because that's not important to the story, though it is not hard to guess. Since she is described as a widow, her case probably concerns her dead husband's estate. Under Jewish law she could not inherit it, it would go straight to her sons or her brother-inlaws, but she would be allowed to live off of it, unless someone was trying to cheat her out of it. The fact that she is standing alone in the street in this parable is a pretty good indicator that none of the men in her family is on her side. If she had any protectors left, they would have kept her home, and they would have gone about things in a more civilized fashion. No son wants his mother hanging out the dirty family laundry in public. No brother-in-law wants his brother's widow disgracing the family name in the village square.

But there is no holding back this widow, and as the unjust judge finds

out, she is quite capable of taking care of herself. Remember that this is not a respectable judge. By his own admission, he has no fear of God and no respect for anyone else. Maybe he thinks that makes him a better judge, more impartial and all of that, or maybe he has sat on the bench long enough to know how complicated justice really is. However it happened, he feels very well-protected and secure in his position. God does not get to him; and people do not get to him, he says, but oddly this widows gets to him --- at least partially because she throws a mean punch.

We cannot hear the humor in the English translation, but in Luke's original Greek version, the judge uses a boxing term for the widow. He declares "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out with continued blows under the eye." That's what the Greek literally says. Thus the judge's motivation in responding to the widow is perhaps not justice, as much as it is pride. He does not want to walk around town with a black eye and have to make up stories about how he got it. For anyone who has seen this widow nipping at him like a mad dog day after day will know exactly where he got it. Since he cannot stand that idea, he grants her request, but mostly to save face.

"Listen to what the unjust judge says," Jesus tells his disciples. This is the part Jesus wants us to pay attention to. Won't God do the same for you? If you too cry out both day and night, will God delay long in helping you too? Or ---- when the Son of Man comes, will he find no faith on earth?

So then we have this woman who found herself all alone and without anyone to help her, but she did not lose heart. She knew what she wanted and she knew who could give it to her. Whether he gave it to her or not was beyond her control, but that did not matter to her. She was willing to say what she wanted, out loud, day and night, over and over, whether she got it or not, because saying it, was important in revealing who she was. It was how she declared the shape of her heart, and while there may have been plenty of people who were embarrassed by her or felt sorry for her for exposing herself like that; there must have been some kind of selfaffirmation going on here. How exhilarating perhaps it was for her to stop trying to phrase things just the right way, to be polite or to be politically correct, to stop going through all the proper channels, and stop acting grateful for whatever scraps life dropped on her plate. There were no words for the relief she felt when she finally threw off all her shame, her caution, her self-control and went straight to the source to say exactly what she wanted. "Give me justice! She yelled at the judge. Do your job! Answer me now or answer me later, but I am here. And I am coming back every day and every night ---- forever --- until you deal with me!

As some of you know, petitions like that can wear our hearts right out, if we're not careful --- especially when there is no sign on earth that God has heard, much less answered, our prayers. We can only knock so long at a closed door before our hands hurt too much to go on. We can only listen to ourselves speak into the silence so long before we start to wonder if anyone else is there. When that happens, when the pain and the doubt gang up on us to the point that we start feeling dead inside, then we are in trouble, because we are, as we say, 'losing heart.' That is the phrase Jesus uses, and he does not want it happening to his disciples. That is why he told them this parable about their need to pray always and to not lose heart. For we all know that superficial prayers whispered just before we fall asleep at night turn out to be less painful than real prayers from the heart; and no prayers at all turn out to be the least painful of all. Don't ask and we won't be disappointed. Don't seek and we won't miss what we don't find. As for that growing deadness we feel where our hearts used to be, well, we will just have to get used to that. Isn't it better to feel nothing inside, than to feel pain? Or is it?

What the persistent widow knows is that the most important time to pray is when your prayers seem meaningless or impossible. If you don't go throw a few punches at the judge, what are you going to do? Take to your bed with a box of Kleenex? Forget all about seeking justice? No! No, the widow says. Day by day by day, we are going to get up, wash our faces, and go ask for what we want! We are going to trust prayer, regardless of what comes of it, because the prayer itself gives us life, the prayer itself helps identify who we are and what we want.

So who are we, and what do we want? We want justice, I tell you! We want peace on earth and goodwill among mankind! We want the hungry fed, and the homeless housed! We want the sick and suffering cared for! We want to know why it is not being done already! And we will respond to every pat answer given to us with the refrain of childhood innocence, "but why?" And we are not to going to stop until we get what we want; we are going to keep coming back to God and to each other day after day and night after night until our prayers are answered, until we get what is right, until God's will is done here on earth as it is in heaven!

In the end, our prayers keep us engaged with what matters most to us, with the very values and meaning of our lives. The alternative is to lose heart and become dead inside; and many people today have sadly chosen that path, because it is less painful. But I beseech you to keep praying. For our prayers help reveal and declare and establish who we are ultimately, and whose we are, and what's important in life, so that in the end, by our persistent prayers, we do NOT lose our hearts, but we gain them. AMEN.

Annual Christmas Bazaar

The Annual Christmas Bazaar is on Saturday, 23 November 10.00 - 2.00 p.m.

Donations --gently used Christmas ornaments and decorations; lovely pieces of china, silver, and giftware that you yourself would be glad to receive as a gift; puzzles and gently used games for children; etc., etc., etc.-- we will begin to receive on Sunday, 3 November, in the NE corner of the Great Room in the Parish House.

Baked goods are also needed: Please plan to deliver on Friday, the 22nd or Saturday, the 23rd (by 9.00 a.m.) We cannot sell creamed pies, etc., but fruit pies, cookies, cakes, jellies, and so forth are most welcome!

Not a tag sale but a time to share treasures!

Toys ... Puzzles and Board Games: please no stuffed animals or action

figures.

Whatever you can do to help --staff for the selling, assistance with the setting up and the pricing-- will be deeply appreciated.

All of the proceeds contribute to the Mission & Outreach efforts of the parish, which have helped to support sending books to the Philippines, Educare Africa, the Kent Community Fund, Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services, the Kent Food Bank, Torrington Soup Kitchen, and the list goes on and on

Veteran's Luncheon

St Andrew's will be hosting a Veteran's Luncheon in the Parish Hall on Monday, 11 November around 11.00 a.m. We will be serving a meal to a total of about 40 veterans and their family members after the 11 a.m. Ceremony at the Memorial on 11 November. I'm hoping for volunteers to set up tables and chairs after coffee hour on November 10th, and also people to help cook, serve, clean up, decorate, etc. Anyone interested can contact me by email; gagowan@mac.com or call me at 860-927-4065

Thanks for your help, George-Ann Gowan

Makers & Bakers Market













Kent Affordable Housing's

MAKERS & BAKERS MARKET

HOME MADE for KENT HOMES

Saturday, October 26, 2019 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Preview Event - \$30 per person Friday, October 25, 2019 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm (early access with refreshments, by advance reservation)

> St. Andrew's Parish Hall Routes 7 & 341

kentaffordablehousing.org

info@kentaffordablehousing.org.











The Prayer List During the Time of Transition

During the transition time, Heather Scofield, our Administrator, will me maintaining the parish Prayer List. Please call her and ask her to add names to the list, remembering to tell her at which service --8.30 or 10.30-- you would like the prayers offered. If possible, please indicate for how she should keep the name(s) on the List. And please remember to let her know when she may remove the name(s).

You may also write to Heather at st.andrew. kent @snet.net Please be sure to provide her with a telephone number so that she may be able to ask if she has any questions.

We remember the faithful departed during the week after their deaths, and on those Sundays when you ask for their names to be included.

EVENTS in the NW REGION of the EPISCOPAL CHURCH in CONNECTICUT

St Andrew's Parish in Kent is one of the 28 congregations of Episcopalians worshiping in the NW corner of Connecticut. Our new Missioner, Dylan Mello, has begun to publish a bulletin that advertises events of interest, open to all, in these places, and we will notify you of at least some of them.

A Request from *FISH* 'Friends in Service Here'

FISH provides rides for those needing to keep local medical appointments, and

VOLUNTEERS ARE VERY MUCH NEEDED, IN PARTICULAR DRIVERS! FISH is very short-handed

Please call Edith Altvater (new number: 860.539.9957) if you can help!

Open House at South Kent School

Please join South Kent School for an Open House celebrating the friends and neighbors of the South Kent Community.

> Friday, November 1 6-8 p.m.

Libations and Light Fare

South Kent School's Culinary Arts Building 170 South Kent Road South Kent, CT

RSVP to Jennifer Haase at haasej@southkentschool.org or 860.927.3539 x206

A Prayer for Change

This prayer has been used several times since this summer at Eucharist and several of you have asked that we reprint it again. It was developed by The Women's Prayer Circle of St John's Church in North Guilford, as a reflection on the state of the world and how to bring God's love. Their hope is, as more people and churches use and share it, the prayer will create an energy that will be a force for loving change.

A Prayer for Change

Loving God, You have made the whole of human life in your image; each one of us shaped in love. Your goodness is ever-present within us all. But, there is so much evil and pain in our world, it comes at us from every direction. Teach us how to rediscover Your love within us, to use that love as a force for good. help us to turn our hearts toward the world in hope, Praying for each other, regarding each other as treasure. Join us all together in prayer, that we might be the light which darkness can never overcome; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

The Lections this Week

All Saints' Sunday 3 November 2019 Year C

Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18 Psalm 149 Ephesians 1.11-23 Luke 6.20-31

St Andrew's Crafters

With the Annual Christmas Bazaar fewer than three months away, the St Andrew's Crafters will next meet on

Monday, 4 November in the Parish House

and will continue to meet on the First Monday of the month through November.

Announcements

A request from those who count the collection monies:

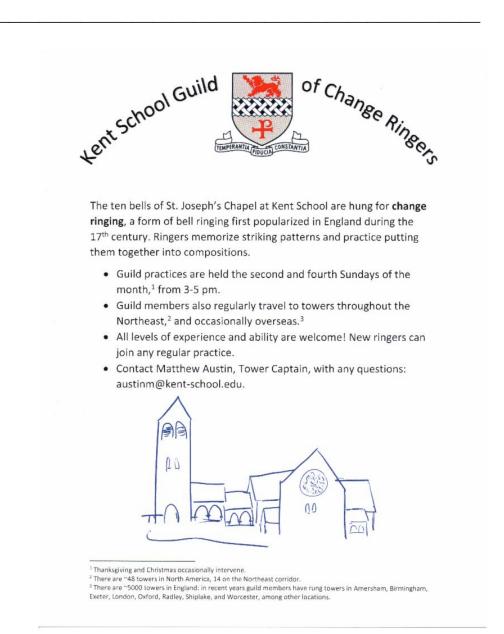
The counters ask us to help them by tagging our cheques so that they are certain as to how to receive them: as Pledge, as donations to the Capital Fund, donations to the Discretionary or Mission & Outreach Funds, etc.

Please remember that the loose offering on the first Sundays of the month

... is given to the Parish Discretionary Fund for those in any kind of need.

The Quality Thrift Shop

... at The First Congregational Church is very much an effort of the whole of our community to provide affordable clothing and household necessities to those who need them. Members of St Andrew's Parish and of Sacred Heart Church help out there, and more help is urgently needed! Whatever hours you can give will be appreciated, and so please call 860.927.3287 if you are able to assist!



Needed by The Kent Food Bank

This month, The Kent Food Bank is especially in need of coffee, tea, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, canned soups, canned or bottled fruit juices. Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

Also: the Bank is interested its selections for personal care including supplies for adult incontinence, soaps, toothpastes, feminine products, etc.

Donations may be dropped off in the basket in the narthex, to the left of the doors. And please: do try to make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past!

The Annual Reports for 2018

The Reports presented at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, 21 January, are available in hardcopy form in the narthex or in the Parish Office, and may be view online by clicking on <u>Annual Report 2018</u>

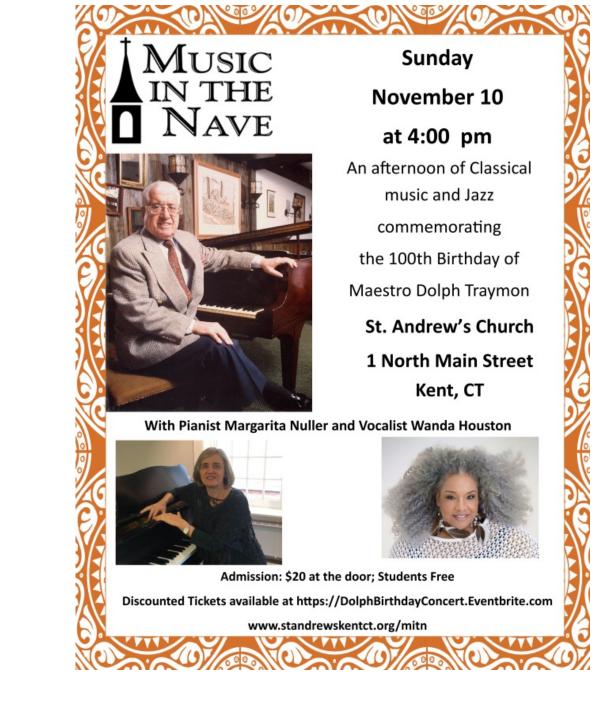
> At nearby Camp Washington 190 Kenyon Road, Lakeside 860.567.9623

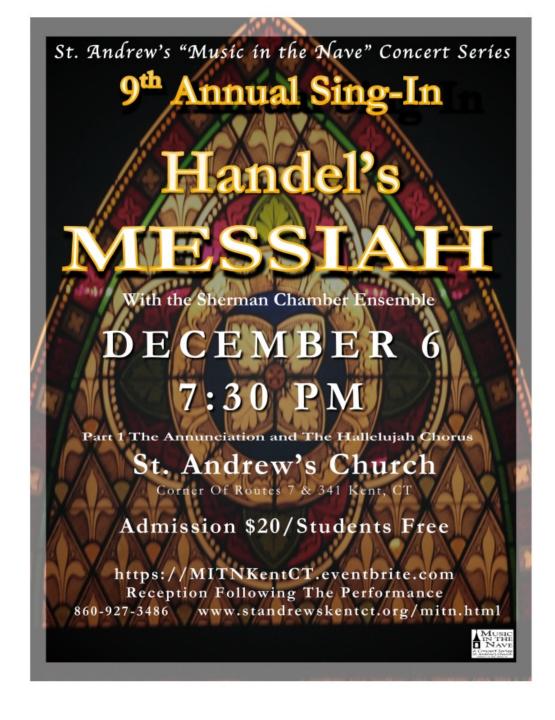
SECOND SUNDAYS at Camp Washington

at 4.30 p.m.

Guest clergy will offer a short program, followed by worship and then a simple meal, at Camp Washington on the second Sunday of the month. Those interested are asked to make reservations at 860.567.9623. and a \$10 donation for the meal is welcomed. Further information is available at campwashington.org

Music in the Nave





Pawling Music Series

WINDSYNC in a multi-media performance 'A Trip to the Moon'

using visuals from the 1902 silent film and contemporary film footage from NASA

> Friday, 22 November 7.00 p.m.

in the Gardiner Theater Trinity-Pawling School 700 Route 22 in Pawling, New York