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.



#### 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

Saturday, 16 February

#### This Week & Weekend at St Andrew's

#### Wednesday, 13 February

**Holy Eucharist for** 

the Feast of Absalom Jones at 6.00 p.m.

Kent Singers Rehearsal at 7.00 p.m. (Nave) A.A. for Women at 7.00 p.m. (Great Room)

#### Thursday, 14 February

A.A. at 7.30 a.m. (Parish House)

Parish Office open 10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Strong Women, Strong Bones at 10.00 a.m. (Parish House) Al. Anon. at 7.00 p.m. (Vestry Room)

#### Friday, 15 February

Prayer & Meditation at 5.30 p.m.

#### Saturday, 16 February

Choir Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. (Choir Room)

#### Sunday, 17 February

Holy Eucharist at 8.30 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. (Nave)

Holy Eucharist at 10.30 a.m.

Vestry Meeting at Noon (Library)

Music in the Nave at 4.00 p.m.

#### Tuesday, 19 February

#### Parish Office open 10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

Strong Women, Stong Bones at 10.00 a.m. (Parish House)

#### Wednesday, 20 February

**Holy Eucharist for the Feast of Peter Damian** at 6.00 p.m.

Kent Singers Rehearsal at 7.00 p.m. (Nave) A.A. for Women at 7.00 p.m. (Great Room)

#### From the Rector

Dear Friends,

Regional Vestry Meeting (Camp Washington)
9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Sunday, 17 February Lay Preachers Class

at 12.30 p.m. (Great Room) Music in the Nave at 4.00 p.m.

#### Sunday, 24 February

Evensong at Trinity Church, Torrington, at 7.30 p.m.

#### Sunday, 3 March

Book Discussion at 9.30 a.m. (Library) M&O Commission Meeting at Noon (Library) Lay Preachers Class at 12.30 (Great Room)

Monday, 4 March

St Andrew's Crafters 4.00 - 6.00 p.m. (Parish House)

Wednesday, 6 March ASH WEDNESDAY Liturgy of the Day

Liturgy of the Day at Noon & 6.00 p.m.

#### **Twelve Step Groups**

#### Wednesdays

7:00 p.m. A.A. for Women (Great Room)

#### **Thursdays**

A.A. at 7.30 a.m. (Great Room) Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m. (Vestry Room)

#### **Parish Staff**

The Revd Roger B. White, Rector

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 At the Forum on Sunday, on the Day of Racial Healing, Justice, & Reconciliation through The ECCT, we were priviliged to have as our speaker Scott Esdaile, the President of the United Chapters of the NAACP in Connecticut and a member of the National Board of the NAACP. He is a powerful and cogent speaker who reminded us that people of faith and good will, working together, can accomplish much in the way of 'liberty and justice for all'.

Mr Esdaile came to us through the good offices of Irene Connors, who has a friend of more than forty years standing also on the National Board of the NAACP, and this friend appointed Scott Esdaile to represent her and their organisation here in Kent.

We owe Irene many thanks for helping to make the arrangements, and I want to express my own gratitude to her as well. It was a wonderful Noontime, filled with hope and also with a summons to be Blessings.

Faithfully, Roger+

# A Day of Racial Healing, Justice, & Reconciliation

#### Epiphany V, 10 February 2019

A Homily preached by the Reverend Roger B. White, Rector of St Andrew's Parish, Kent, Connecticut

Isaiah 6.1-8; Psalm 138; I Corinthians 15.1-11; Luke 5.1-11

When five months ago the Convention of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut voted that all of our congregations would observe today, the Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany, as a day, a beginning of a season, of Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation, no one could have seen how 'of the moment' such a day and season would be .... This weekend, the news is filled --indeed fraught-- with illustrations of how the legacies if the slave trade, the American Civil War, and the era of Reconstruction have left deep wounds within our society and social fabric that continue to cause deep pain, anger, and grief.

And the words of the Psalmist can resonate equally deeply, if we allow them: O Lord, your love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands'. For we, each of us, are among these works, and we do not want God to be finished with any of us just yet.

Nor does St Paul want to give up on any of the Corinthians, anyone in the Church in Corinth. They are a fractious and contentious group, some contending that their gift of speaking in tongues is superior to any other gifts of the Spirit, such as teaching or healing; and Paul replies by saying that the gifts of the Spirit are many and equally important. Some insist that they are prophets whose pronouncements are indisputable, and Paul pushes back and says that several people need to listen to these pronouncements and discern just how indisputably the Spirit is speaking through them. And this morning we hear that some refuse to believe that there can be a Resurrection of the dead. And each time that Paul hears about what one group are insisting about their

Bill McLaren, Sexton

Randy Osolin, Verger stranglehold on the truth, Paul challenges .... We preach that Christ has been Resurrected from the dead, and so this must be our faith, our hope, our calling as well.

Resurrection means new life, changed life, not mere revivification. The death of seeds means the birth of plants: the seed changes, and in whatever kinds of deaths the rest of us endure, each of us also emerges ... changed. Belief in the Easter Resurrection means that God is calling us, always calling us, to change, to become different --to reconsider what we have been thinking, saying, and doing, to allow the Spirit to lead us into new ways of listening, hearing, seeing, and being. For, to believe in the Resurrection is to believe, to trust, that in fact God is not finished with us, any of us; that each of us can and in fact become different, can keep becoming still more different until we are acting more and more, sounding more and more, like the LORD of New Life, the Resurrected Christ.

The prophet Isaiah protests that the words that come from his mouth, like those that come from the other mouths around him, are unworthy of the LORD; and sees a seraph --an angel-touch his lips with a burning coal and hears the angel say that all of that is old news, assuring him that the LORD can work through him, that he can change the way he thinks and become the LORD's prophet.

As Luke's Gospel tells it, Jesus seeks out Peter, James, and John, who are dispirited because of a luckless night of fishing. He commandeers one of their boats and uses it to preach to them and a lot of other people. Presumably he preaches what a couple of weeks ago we heard him tell the synagogue in Nazareth -that 'the Spirit of the LORD is upon me ... to bring good news to the poor ... to proclaim release to the captive ... recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free', and he then tells the exhausted and discouraged fisherman to try again. They protest but obey, and their catch of fish is at once miraculous, overwhelming, so large as to begin sinking the boats. Terrified, Peter pleads with Jesus just to go away just to leave them alone; and Jesus replies that they are better at catching things with him, and that therefore their lives need to change, will change: they will no longer seek to catch fish but rather to make disciples of the Good News, the Gospel.

Isaiah hears the call to begin doing things differently, to be changed. So do Peter, James, and John, as do countless of the other disciples - -discipuli, 'students'-- who follow them, because God's love for the Creation and its beloved Creatures endures forever, and God will not abandon the works of God's own hands .... God in Christ Jesus will continue to summon us students to think again about what we have been thinking, to think anew, to think, speak, and act ... differently than we have done ....

My youngest Godson is Puerto Rican, obviously darker skinned than I am, with my Scandinavian heritage. Midway through high school he moved from a large and diverse suburban school to a smaller and rather different one. He is a sweet guy --quiet, keenly observant, shy, a bit withdrawn-- and at first he ate lunch pretty much by himself. A lighter-skinned boy quickly started to mock his lonesomeness, his isolation, and because no one protested, the mocking grew louder, more obsessive. True to form, JJ endured it silently as long as he could, but when one day the other boy entered their classroom, sniffed the air with disgust, and announced, 'Smells like 'Ricans in here', JJ shot up from his seat and (astonishingly) challenged, 'Should we take this outside ...?' The other boy fled the room in tears, and the next time at lunch there was

someone who sat with JJ .... And then another, and then another .... They listened. They heard his cry, and they began to act ... differently. They changed, and the world around them changed, too. It can happen ....

There are so many things that divide us from one another, and race and skin color are prominently among them. The Scriptures --the prophets and the writers and the Gospel-- insist that this can change, that we must allow it, make it to change.

Listen. And when we hear cries of fear, of anguish, the summons is to do something --to comfort, to relieve, and to bless for Christ's sake, remembering what the Risen LORD who refused to distinguish amongst Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles would have done, would have said. The summons is for us to change this world, our world, to continue the Easter work of Resurrection: it can happen .... Amen.

#### **Lay Preachers Class**

Beginning on the Sunday, 21 January, and running for four Sundays into March, St Andrew's is privileged to be able to host a Lay Preaching Class organised by Eliza Marth, the ECCT Missioner for the Northwest Region. The training will begin to equip members of three congregations --St Andrew's; St John's, New Milford; and Trinity, Lime Rock-- to speak theologically 'from the pulpit' on occasional Sundays.

The meetings will take place on Sunday afternoons, 12.30 - 2.30, and Alexis Dorf, the Reverend Jack Gilpin, and I have helped Eliza to put the program together.

Randy DiPentima, Nick and Janet Downes, and David Lindley were pleased to agree to take the classes, and we look forward to hearing from them!

### 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 Homily from 27 January

Please click on the link below in order to hear or read the Rector's homily from 10 February

**HOMILY** for 10 February

#### The Lections this Week & Next

#### THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE

**EPIPHANY** 

17 February 2019

Epiphany VI, Year C Jeremiah 17.5-10

Psalm 1

I Corinthians 15.12-20

Luke 6.17-26

#### 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

Annual Report 2018

# **Emendations to the Parish Email & Telephone Directory 2018**

Carol Hoffman Matzke's telephone number has changed to 206.295.4128

Bob McDowell's email address is rnmcd30@yahoo.com  $\{r \ n \ m \ c \ d\}$ 

Charlie Milligan's email address is chasmil@gmail.com

Charmian Place & Ken Cooper have closed P.O. Box 72 in South Kent and are receiving mail at their new street address, 47 Upper Kent Hollow Road in Kent. Their telephone number is now 860.592.0003.

### Georgianne Kent's new email address is georgiannekent@gmail.com

George & Elissa Potts have a new home telephone number: 860.592.0013

#### St Andrew's Crafters

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

Monday, 4 March in the Parish House

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

#### **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, dish washing liquids, laundry detergents paper towels, and toilet paper Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

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!

#### **Announcements**

#### **The Book Discussion Group**

... will next meet on Sunday, 3 February, at 9.30 a.m. in the Library in order to discuss Chapter 12 & 13 ('The Attack on Traditional Religion II: To the Death of Henry VIII' & 'Attack on Traditional Religion III: The Reign of Edward VI') in Eamonn Duffy's remarable study of the Pre-Reformation Church in England, *The Stripping of the Altars: Traditional Religion in England*, 1400 - 1580. All are welcome!

### 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!

#### **At nearby Camp Washington**

190 Kenyon Road, Lakeside campwashington.org 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.

Further information is available at campwashington.org

On 10 February, the Reverend Nik Combs will present 'A Practical Intrduction to Anglican Chant.

# BISHOP'S BOOK DISCUSSION with Bishop Laura Ahrens

with lunch to follow at 12.30 p.m

\$10 donation, registration requested via the Camp website. **ALL WELCOME!!** 

On 14 February, the book under discussion will again be Leadership in Turbulent Times, by Doris Kearns Goodwin.

You are invited to consult the Camp website for more information about the following events:

15 - 17 February Winter Wonderland (Children 7 - 12)

16 - 18 February Gamers' Weekend (Middle School & High School)

20 February Raising a Child of Faith (Parents)

1 - 2 March Women's Yoga Retreat

8 - 10 March Spritual Retreat for High Schoolers

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

FISH provides rides for those needing to keep local medical appointments, local hair appointments, and to do local grocery shopping, and

VOLUNTEERS
ARE VERY MUCH NEEDED,
IN PARTICULAR DRIVERS!

Please call Edith Altvater (860.248.0316) if you can help!

#### **Music in the Nave**

Sunday, 17 February
4.00 p.m.

Margarita Nuller, piano Adam Grabois, 'cello

in

A Recital to Benefit Bethania Kids

music of Franck, Glazunov, Miaskovsky, & Debussy

Reception in the Parish House to follow.

\$15 at the doors

Bethania Kids is a Lutheran charity in South India that houses, feeds, and educates abandoned, unwanted and impoverished children.

The Mission & Outreach Commission of the parish have been assisting them for several years.

#### **Pawling Concert Series**

Friday, 26 April 8.00 p.m.

### **Hubbard Court in the Smith Field House Trinity-Pawling School**

700 Route 22, Pawling, New York

# Davina & The Vagabonds

A Coffee House-Style Concert

of New Orleans charm, Memphis soul, tender Gospel moments, and Kurt Weill-like theatricality

**\$30/\$15** students

www.pawlingconcertseries.org