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

Sunday, 7 April

This Week & Weekend at St Andrew's

Wednesday, 3 April

Holy Eucharist for the Wednesday in Lent V at 6.00 p.m.

A.A. for Women at 7.00 p.m. (Great Room)

Thursday, 4 April

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, 5 April

Prayer & Meditation at 5.30 p.m.

Saturday, 6 April

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

Sunday, 7 April Lent V

Holy Eucharist at 8.30 a.m.

Book Discussion at 9.30 a.m. (Library)

Choir Rehearsal at 9.30 a.m. (Nave)

Children's Choir Rehearsal at 10.00 a.m. (Choir Room)

Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist at 10.30 a.m.

Coffee & ... at 11.30 a.m.

Dwelling in the Word at Noon (Library)

Music in the Nave at 4.00 p.m.

'Melodies of Mark Twain'

Tuesday, 9 April

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

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

Wednesday, 10 April

Holy Eucharist for Wednesday in Lent V at 6.00 p.m.

A.A. for Women at 7.00 p.m. (Great Room)

From the Rector

Book Discussion at 9.30 a.m. (Library) Dwelling in the Word at Noon (Library) Music in the Nave at 4.00 p.m.

Saturday, 13 April Vestry Retreat begins at 9.00 a.m. (White Hart Inn)

Sunday, 14 April PALM SUNDAY Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist at 8.30 & 10.30 a.m.

Thursday, 18 April MAUNDY THURSDAY Potluck Supper at 6.00 p.m. Liturgy of the Day & Stripping of the Altar at 7.30 p.m.

Friday, 19 April GOOD FRIDAY

Liturgy of the Day at Noon Sr Mary Lanning, Preacher Tenebrae at 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, 20 April HOLY SATURDAY

Adult Choir Rehearsal at 9.30 (Nave) Children's Choir Rehearsal at 10.00 (Choir Room) Easter Egg Coloring & Pizza Lunch (Parish House)

Sunday, 21 April EAST ER Holy Eucharist with Hymns at 8.30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist with Choirs at 10.30 a.m.

Egg Hunt, Reception in the Parish House at 11.45 a.m.

Sunday, 5 May Book Discussion at 9.30 a.m. (Library)

Monday, 6 May St Andrew's Crafters at 4.00 p.m. (Parish House)

Twelve Step Groups

LENT IV Laetare 31 March 2019

A Homily preached by the Reverend Roger B. White

Joshua 5.9-12; Psalm 32; II Corinthians 5.16-21; Luke 15.1-3, 11b-32

This year, most of our Gospel readings come from Luke's Gospel, and Luke's is the parable-rich Gospel. It contains more of Jesus' stories than do the Gospels of the other three evangelists, and this morning we hear one of the two (probably) most famous parables, that of the Prodigal Son, which is found only in Luke. The other famous one is that of the Good Samaritan, which is also unique to Luke; but today we hear the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

For the past couple of weeks we have been hearing Jesus tell those who are following him that they need to repent. Repentance --in Greek, metanoia-- means 'to turn again', to turn towards God and begin to pay attention to what it is that God expects God's people to be about, to turn back to God and listen for God's voice. Jesus has been encouraging repentance, and today he describes what the response to repentance is.

There are two shorter parables that precede the telling of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, and the context for all of these parables is that the Pharisees are grumbling that Jesus teaches and eats with likes of tax collectors and other 'sinners' -reprobates whose company any 'good' rabbi would shun. The Pharisees are complaining, and the parables are Jesus' reply.

The first is about a shepherd who loses one sheep and leaves the other ninety-nine in the flock in order to find it. When he does, he picks it up, carries it back to the flock, and then calls in his friends and neighbors to celebrate because he has retrieved the one lost sheep. The second story is about a woman who has ten small, silver coins -ten drachmae-and misplaces one of them. She tears the house apart until she finds the missing coin and then summons her friends and neighbors to come over and rejoice with her.

And ... these are pretty much preposterous stories, but they describe both God's extravagant joy and the jubilation in the heaven over even a single sinner who repents, who changes. For ... what shepherd leaves ninety-nine sheep alone to go in search of a lone lost one ...? And who overturns a house in order to find a solitary lost coin ...? And who then throw parties when these lost things have been found ...?

And next comes the Parable of the Prodigal Son. It perhaps engages us more than the other two because it is about human relationships -how we live with one another-and each of us may see a bit of ourselves in the younger brother, and a bit of ourselves in his older brother, and may hope to find a bit of their father within us.

The younger brother demands his inheritance and the father without question hands it over to him. He goes to a faraway country to live among Gentiles and spends all that he has in 'dissolute living'. Eventually he finds himself, a Jew, hiring himself out to care for a Gentile's pigs -unclean animals that a

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

> Bill McLaren, Sexton

Randy Osolin, Verger Jew ought to avoid. He 'comes to himself', realizes that he is not who he needs to be and ... he repents; he resolves to return to his father and declare his ... *metanoia*.

His father sees him coming a long way off and has 'compassion' on him; but that word that we hear translated as 'compassion' is really so much stronger, for the father 'yearns in his bowels' for him, grieves viscerally over him, and goes out to meet him at that great distance. And before the son can even finish his declaration of repentance, the father orders the servants to put a clean robe - 'the best one'-on him, to put a costly ring on his finger, and to put sandals on his bare feet. The father has already given him great riches that have been squandered, and now the father lavishes still more on him and calls together their friends and neighbors to celebrate. There is a party to welcome back the son who was dead and is alive again, was lost and is now found.

This is a parable about resurrection --a prefiguration of The Resurrection on Easter-- because new life has emerged from old life; in repentance, changed life has emerged from what was before. And the elder son is angry, deeply offended: he will not go into the party, and so the father once more goes out to a son. Look, he tells him: everything that I have to give is already yours, but this son of mine and brother of yours was lost and is now found, was dead and is now living anew, is living a new and changed life. We need to rejoice; come in and celebrate

The father is perhaps more accessible to us than the shepherd who lost one sheep, the woman who lost a single small coin, for we just might relate to the people in the third parable that is about how human beings can treat one another. Will we have compassion on others whose behavior we have not much liked ...? Will we have compassion and welcome them when they seek to change ...? Will we sit down and eat with them, rejoice with them, when they seek to become different ...? Will we forgive ...?

For God is always willing to forgive the penitent, those who are willing to change. St Paul tells us today that we are 'ambassadors for Christ', which must mean that the compassion of God needs to become more and more our compassion, the willingness of God to forgive needs to become more and more a willingness that is also ours.

God forgives; God in Christ Jesus forgives; and we ourselves can forgive -just forgive-and forgiveness can change our worlds Amen.

LENTEN DISCIPLINES

Once again this year we are inviting people to keep a mite box on a counter or a table and to use it for depositing loose change -- quarters only, pennies only, all of the change at the end of the day: the decision is up to you! And on Easter morning we ask you to return the mite boxes so that we can count the contents of all the boxes and then divide the proceeds equally between the Kent Community Fund and Bethania Kids, the Lutheran charity in southern India that takes in orphaned, abandoned, or unwanted children and cares for them, educates them, and

prepares them to live on their own.

The mite boxes are available in the narthex, and please remember that they are a bit flimsy: it is best to re-enforce the bottoms with tape ...!

Also with the mite boxes there are booklets of daily meditations for each of the days of Lent and Passiontide, Ash Wednesday through Easter Eve. They are published by ERD --Episcopal Relief & Development-- and are fine companions on one's journey through Lent!

RACIAL HEALING, JUSTICE, & RECONCILIATION

As a follow-up to the 10 February Sunday of Racial Healing, Justice, & Reconciliation, there will be two presentations at Trinity Church, 220 Prospect Street, in Torrington on Sundays, 7 & 14 April, Noon - 3.00 p.m., with a simple lunch provided. Short videos will be shown and articles shared. All are welcome!

To learn more, please visit www.trinity-torrington.org

SUMMER CAMP at CAMP WASHINGTON

The summer camping season is not all that far away, and Camp Washington has published their calendar for 2019.

Children's Camp (ages 7 - 12) will be from 30 June - 7 July & from 4 - 16 August. The one-week camp costs \$575 and the two-week camp \$1300.

Mini Camps (ages 5 - 10) will be from 14 - 16 July & from 17 - 19 July for \$275. There will be a Mini Day Camp from 15 - 19 July for \$300.

Please visit the Camp's website for more information and to register: www.campwashington.org or call 860.567.9623.

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.

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.

The Homily from 31 March

Please click on the link below in order to hear or read the Rector's homily from 31 March

Amen.

HOMILY for 31 March

The Lections this Week & Next

THE FIFTH SUNDAY in LENT

7 **April 2019** *Lent V, Year C*Isaiah 43.16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3.4b-14
John 12.1-8

The roses on last Sunday, Rose Sunday, given in memory of Hayley Brodhead, Helen Christensen, Idella Howland, Gordon & Norma Seigel, and Mildred White, were delivered to Liz Ober.

Volunteers for Coffee & ... after the 10.30 liturgy

Those who have signed up to provide light refreshments for Coffee & ... in the next few weeks are

7 April ???

Palm Sunday, 14 April ???

Easter, 21 April

Everyone is invited to bring special finger foods for the Easter Party!

28 April ???

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

St Andrew's Crafters

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

Monday, 1 April 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, 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 Book Discussion Group

... will next meet on Sunday, 7 April, at 9.30 a.m. in the Library in order to discuss Chapter 14 & 15 ('The Impact of Reform: Parishes' & 'The Impact of Reform: Wills') 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!

Norfolk Library Art Show by Heather Scofield 'enLIGHTenment'

April 5-30
Opening with refreshments on Sunday, 7 April 4-6 p.m 9 Geenwoods Rd. E.
Norfolk, CT 06058
(860) 542-5075

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

14 April - with The Rev. Dr. David K. McIntosh

APRIL FOOLS: 'God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.'

The Cross of Christ is at the heart of our Christian faith We are taught that the suffering and Passion of Jesus, which we recall this week, is the prelude to something wonderful and new. Human instinct and 'the world' teach us to avoid suffering, while our faith compels us that suffering is redemptive. How do we reconcile the two? Join us at the beginning of Holy Week, to explore ideas of suffering and healing, justice and compassion, and the Passion and the Resurrection... and reflect upon and share in the 'foolishness' of the Cross and the countercultural way of our salvation.

BISHOP'S BOOK DISCUSSION with Bishop Laura Ahrens

with lunch to follow at 12.30 p.m

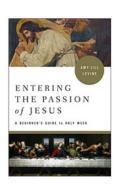
\$10 donation, registration requested via the Camp website. **ALL WELCOME!!**

Bishop's Book Study at Camp Washington

Friday, April 12, 11am-12:30pm



This April we will be discussing Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week, by Amy-Jill Levine.



Join Bishop Laura J. Ahrens for The Bishop's Book Discussion at Camp Washington, a monthly gathering of clergy & lay people who love to read. Our discussion group will be meeting Friday, April 12 at 11am with continued conversation over (optional) lunch at 12:30pm.

The event gives us the opportunity to discuss how our learning relates to self, spirituality, and God's Mission. Every few months a new book will be selected for our book study. The discussion is open to everyone, even if you have not read the book, you are welcome to join in! There is no cost to attend, however a \$10 donation is encouraged towards lunch. Registration is requested. To find out the current book selection & register please visit campwashington.org or call 860.567.9623.

We look forward to reading with you!

Camp Washington

ECCT's Place for Discipleship

campwashington.org

campwashington.org 860.567.9623 camp@campwashington.org



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

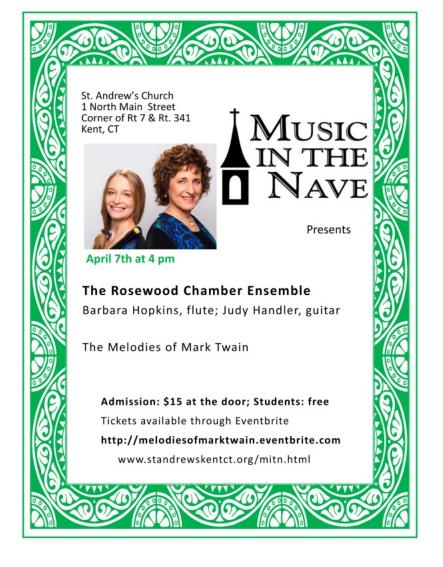
FISH provides rides for those needing to keep local medical appointments, local hair appointments, and to do local grocery shopping, and

VOLUNTEERS ARE VERY MUCH NEEDED, IN PARTICULAR DRIVERS!

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

Music in the Nave

Sunday, 7 April



Pawling Concert Series

Friday, 12 April
8.00 p.m.
Gardiner Theater
Trinity-Pawling School
700 Route 22, Pawling, New York

Camerata RCO

The Chamber Ensemble

of the

Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra

of Amsterdam

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

in

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