



July-August 2011



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

The Tartan

A Message to the Parish: Holy Conversations at St. Andrew's— An Update



Our Holy Conversations project for spiritual discernment this Spring and Summer has seen us gather as a congregation for two conversation events thus far. On April 3, 30 parishioners gathered in Puddicombe Hall for “Bread, Soup and Bible”. Our task, besides delicious soup and bread, greeting friends and getting to know one another better, was to consider what Bible stories relate to our parish and where we are today. We discovered that we know our Bible rather well – the results were – a wide and rich gathering of stories. Conversation and fellowship are eagerly enjoyed and yearned for. One story which came up frequently was the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). We found identifications with all the characters: the lost and returning younger brother, the older brother who is challenge to accept those with different experiences and journeys, and the welcoming father, full of mercy and grace.

The second conversation was held on June 26, with sessions after each Sunday service. We had 25 participants after the 8 am service, and 28 after the 10 am service. We discussed four questions and found the following:

1. We experience our parish as an accepting and welcoming community, especially valuing outreach, youth ministry.
2. We feel most spiritually alive through personal encouragement, serving in outreach and in worship, working and playing together, and in celebrating holy times such as Holy Week and Christmas.
3. We have some worries about our future growth, carrying-on ministries, and developing our facility and ministries.
4. We see tasks to do physically and have a healthy through sometimes conflicting variety of ideas for worship and ministry.

Our Holy Conversations team has been busy as well with gathering information about St. Andrew's Strengths, Weaknesses,

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> **A Message to the Parish . . .**

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Opportunities and Challenges, reviewing our parish history, examining the demographic composition of our congregation and considering the organizational “character” of the parish.

We have further work to do on the demographics of the community around us, how our history relates to “congregational life-cycle models”, and how the Diocese’s vision and goals relate to and inspire our mission.

Through these conversations within our parish (and more to come), and through our team’s conversations as well as Vestry discussions, we seek God’s guidance and way ahead for St. Andrew’s.

Please continue to pray for our holy Conversations team: Linda Brice (Chair), Skip Broadhead, Patty Mannie (stepped away from the team in July), Kristen Mellis, Pam Rhodes, Marian Warren and Martin Yabroff.

**A Warm Welcome to
Reverend Kendall Haynes**

We are pleased to announce that the Reverend Kendall Haynes is joining the ministry team here at St. Andrew's as Transitional Pastoral Associate. Kendall was most recently the rector at St. Mary's, Lakewood. He will be moving sometime this Fall to a new congregational ministry, yet to be determined. Meanwhile, we are excited to welcome him, his wife Mindy, and their sons Parker and Addison to our St. Andrew's community.

Kendall's joining our ministry will in no way diminish the important ministry of Fr. Ed Sterling.

I look forward to your getting to know this wonderful and faithful family.

Yours in Christ,
Martin Yabroff



Episcopalians and Methodists stand together
at joint service on June 14th

Senior Warden Musings

by Ken Rhodes

June is almost over as I write this and that means that 2011 is exactly half over. How are you feeling about the year so far and how do you feel about the rest of the year to come?

Thinking about the future might bring anxiety, or fear, or uncertainty. This might be especially true in the current economic situation, coupled with 2 Middle East wars, political unrest in several countries, and other global and local conflicts. Strange weather in the mid-west with tornados, flooding, and drought all at the same time is unsettling. It makes the rainy and cool weather here seem insignificant in comparison.

Conversely, you may be filled with hope and eagerness for the future. It may be simple things like a bowl of fresh berries, a summer picnic, a day at the ballpark, or an upcoming concert that give you great joy. It may be a larger event like a trip to a distant country, a great book to read, a timely seminar, or a wonderful educational opportunity that give you hope and anticipation.

Each of us has the chance to make the very best of the rest of 2011 and far into the future. One of the things that make me feel hopeful for the future is that there is always St. Andrews, the place I go almost every Sunday and many days in between. Stepping through the doors is like sitting down along a cool, calm river. The river is just over the hill from the freeway, just far enough away that you can barely hear the trucks rumble over the pavement. The tranquil

Continued

> Senior Warden . . .

setting along the riverbank gives you reason to pause and reflect and appreciate every thing around you. From the cool breeze, to the sound of the birds, and the water gurgling over the slippery rocks, all these sensations give hope and focus on the future, both for St. Andrew's and for the world.

Bless us as we go forward in to the second half of 2011 and beyond.

Reward, Rebate, Recycle:

Three Simple Ways to Support St. Andrews

Rewards, rebates, and recycling income are three simple ways that we can support St. Andrew's financially. Remembering St. Andrews as we go about daily shopping and recycling routines can generate a small amount of income for the church.

Reward and Rebate Programs

Amazon.com

We are a participating partner with Amazon.com. When you shop at Amazon.com, connect through the church website. The church then receives a reward for any purchases.

To connect to Amazon through the church website:

- 1) Go to www.saintandrewstacoma.org
- 2) On the left, find "Shopping with St. Andrews."
- 3) Click on the Amazon link

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St. Andrew's Youth Summer Activities

by Sunshine DeGennaro, Youth Director

And to all of you who came and ate.---
thank you for participating!

This summer I would like to invite all youth grades 6 to 12 to join in any activity that we have listed. (You need not participate in the Wed. evening Youth Group to come to any of these activities.) I will update the bulletin board in the Ada Webbs room as times, dates and activities change as there are still things that I hope to add.

If you have a friend or family member who may be visiting and would like to join us, they are welcome. If you have a youth who has been thinking about participating, this is a great time to join as everything is very low-key! If possible, please contact me ahead of time as I do need a signed permission slip and to make sure we have enough seatbelts/cars for everyone.

Please contact me with any questions.

Happy Summer!

Upcoming Activities

July:

Monday, 18th - Harry Potter movie

Time to be announced

- We will be going to a mid or late afternoon movie, \$5.00 (treats are on your own)

Saturday, 23rd - Mother Earth Farm 1:00 - 6:00

- Meet at St. Andrew's, upstairs at 1pm.
We will be back by 6pm

- Bring: water, snack, hat and sunblock

Monday and Tuesday, 25th and 26th - Puget Park and Creek cleaning and restoration

Monday - 11 am to 5 pm, meet at Mason United Methodist church

Tuesday - 11 am to 7 pm, meet at Mason United Methodist church - you can leave at 5 pm or stay for a dinner

- You can participate one or both days
- BOTH days bring: sack lunch and a drink (we will have water).
- You must wear sturdy CLOSED-TOE shoes and jeans. Toss in a jacket or hoodie. sunblock and/or hat. No i-pods please. I will have work gloves for you.
- We will go out no matter what the weather is like!

Wednesday, 27th - Food Bank 4:45 - 7:00

August:

Tuesday, 16th - Mother Earth Farm

Time to be announced

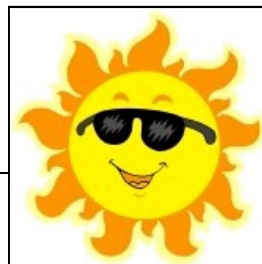
- Meet at St. Andrew's, upstairs
- Bring water, snack, hat and sunblock

Thursday, 25th - Mystery Day with Mason Methodist

Details will be out later

- We will be all around the Sound having a fun day.

Wednesday, 31st - Food Bank 4:45 - 7:00



Continued

Joeseppi's Take Over Night

by Marian Warren and Linda Brice,
Co-chairs

Thank you to all who made our take over night at Joeseppi's so much fun. ! We don't have the figures from Joeseppi's on how much we made that evening, but we can tell you that the silent auction was a huge success—we made over \$900!!

To those of you who donated auction items:

Devena Thomsen
Rena Girard
Gretchen Liebenberg
Reberta Skinner
Pam Rhodes (Suburban Opticians)
Margo Fleshman
Halley Egnew
Patty Mannie
Marian Warren
Susan Rowe
Margie Hoffman
Cyndi Wolfer
April Wallace
Linda Brice

To those who bused and greeted:

Kit Adams
Geri Schlosser
Fr. Martin Yabroff
Patty Mannie
Bill Brice
Ken Rhodes
Skip Broadhead
Norbert Herriges
Liz Herriges
Stan Liebenberg
Don White
Reberta Skinner
Nancy Gregory
Beth Broadhead
Jeffrey Boyce

> ***Joeseppi's . . .***

Kurt Johnston
Ann Morgan

A special thanks to Gretchen Liebenberg for helping us with pricing.

Bobbles, Bangles, and Beads

Donate to Celtic Faire

Second Time Around Jewelry Table

by Linda Brice

Are you looking for a good home for your old jewelry? Do you have bags or boxes of Great-grandma's jewelry to be donated to a worthy cause? What are you going to do with all those tie tacks and cuff links your Uncle gave you? Are you tired of your own jewelry and want to make space for some new purchases?

Our 4th annual Celtic Faire will be October 29-30, and back by popular demand is the St. Andrew's Second Time Around Jewelry Table—new, used, old Bobbles and Bangles which need to find a good home. We are looking for women's, men's and kids jewelry. Necklaces, pins, earrings, rings, bracelets, tie tacks—gently used or new. We also will accept single earrings, broken jewelry or loose gems.

Gold, silver, diamonds and semi-precious stones are also accepted!

Last year the St. Andrew's Second Time Around jewelry table made over \$900 to support the mission and ministries of our church.

So if you have a box, a bag or a few individual pieces, just drop them by the church office, or bring them on Sunday. I will gladly accept all donations!

> **Three Ways to Support . . .**

Continued from page 3

eScrip.com

eScrip.com enables retailers to contribute to non-profit organizations. When you register, list St. Andrews as a group that you want to contribute to. (You may contribute to up to three organizations or schools.) You may register a Safeway card to contribute through Safeway purchases, or a credit card to contribute through other retailers.

If you do not wish to register on the eScrip.com website, Virginia Gaub can help you complete a paper registration form.

Fred Meyer

If you have a Fred Meyer Rewards Card, Simply by giving the church phone number (253-564-4402) as your alternate ID number when you check out. With the Fred Meyer program is that you may receive discounted gasoline purchases at Fred Meyer and Shell filling stations when you enter the alternate ID number (253-564-4402) at the pump.

Recycling Program

A recycling donation box is in the church narthex, under the bulletin board near the church entrance. Here, you may donate inkjet cartridges, copier toner cartridges, cell phones, mp3 players / iPods, and lap top computers. All these items are sent to a company that refills, refurbishes, recycle them and compensates the church in return.

If you have any other question about any of these programs, please contact Virginia Gaub.

Make the Call, Don't Miss a Beat

*By Cyndi Wolfer, RN, MSN
Parish Nurse*

The youth group just completed their 30 hour famine and met their goal of raising awareness of hunger in the world. Reducing the numbers of those suffering from hunger is one of the goals of the World Health Organization. Significant gains have been made: Children's nutrition has improved. The percentage of underweight children is estimated to have declined from 25% in 1990 to 16% in 2010. However 104 million children are still undernourished.¹

In the United States, 36.3 million people, 13 million of whom are children, live in households that experience hunger or are at risk of hunger². One way to experience what these people go through each day is to set aside a day where you eat one bowl of rice and nothing else for an entire day. An alternative would be to substitute a bowl of rice for one meal. This represents the thousands of people who only get one bowl of rice a day.

Some questions to think about during this experience include the following: What does it feel like to eat a meager meal? What would it be like to eat this way all the time? How long after eating the rice do you feel hungry again?

Say a prayer for those who eat this way every day. Have a rice day!

References

- 1 World Health organization, 2011
- 2 Household Food Security in the US, 2003, ERS Research Briefs

Summer Reading—The Psalms

by Fr. Martin Yabroff

Dear Friends,

Have you ever thought about an acquaintance and said to yourself, I wish I knew that person better. I would like a deeper friendship with that person. What could we do together or talk about to help us get to know one another better?

Maybe you have felt that way about God. Maybe you have said to yourself, I would like to know God better, have a deeper faith / relationship with God. How could that happen?

Or maybe – we are honest people here – you are not entirely sure about God, about where God is in the midst of all the stuff going on in your life.

Summer is often a time to tend to things you have been meaning to get around to. And I want to suggest that the Psalms are a good way to grow in faith and to deepen your prayers and your relationship with God.

The Psalms are a key part of the Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament. There are 150 Psalms, and you can find them in the Book of

Common Prayer as well as the Bible. They have been the prayers and hymns, the worship book, of Biblical people for thousands of years, and for Jesus and the early Church. Traditionally attributed to King David, they were most likely composed and developed over the times of Israel's settling in the Promised Land, going into Exile, and returning to begin again. Thus, they express the highs and lows of the journey of faith.

So why read and pray the Psalms? Here are several reasons:

First, because they help us know who God is for us. The 23rd Psalm, the most popular, reminds us that God is our shepherd and guide, even in the valley of the shadow of death. The psalms tell us of God being in the heights and the depths, of creating the seas and the dry lands, and playfully creating strange creatures like Leviathan and ostriches. Psalms stretch our imagination about God, not as an abstraction but in terms of our own experience.

Second, the Psalms help us recognize and express our feelings and thoughts, our “stuff”, to God. The Psalms express the whole range of our human experiences, from joy to sorrow, doubt to faithful trust. They do not hold back – they show us that we cannot offend God with our doubts or questions or anger. Rather, the psalms help us find our spiritual voices, which is a key part of a lively faith.

A third reason for reading and praying the Psalms is because they are, in the words of the early church bishop Ambrose, “a kind of gymnasium” for our souls. They stretch and exercise our spirits. They are helpful to develop faith, to go deeper spiritually, to help us have vital and fit souls.

So what shall we do with them, and how shall we start? When you open the Psalter, you will not find an orderly or systematic collection. The Psalms appear haphazardly – there are praises and laments, confessions, royal processions, historical ballads. There are no simple or stock answers or explanations either. The observation about the Psalter's disorder that I find most reasonable is from Eugene Peterson: they are so varied because that is what communication between living persons is like. “the life that God calls into being in us is enormously various and infinitely complex.” Through these psalms we learn a language for our relationship with God that is both intimately personal and adequately wide-ranging. (Eugene Peterson, Working the Angles, p. 56)

After-all, faith is not a set of beliefs or the absence of doubts or questions. It is not knowing all the answers. Faith is a living relationship with a living God, whom we only partially understand and are getting to know and trust more and more. That is what faith for me is like.

I call us as a congregation this Summer to the reading and praying of the Psalms. As you prayerfully and reflectively read the Psalms, you may find some verses that you don't relate to you. That is OK. But I am confident that you will also find verses or psalms that will ring true, that seem real, that challenge you or give voice to your intimate and deep experience and your perception of the world and the nations around us. When that happens, let them be prayer. Let them also be God's words to you, because that is what is going on.

As for practicalities, here are some suggestions. Read a few psalms every day, or as often as you can. In the Prayer Book, the psalms are arranged and marked for reading in 30 days, in the morning and in the evening. You can read them that way, and read through the Psalter in a month. Or, what I do, on even numbered months, read the evening prayer portion for whatever day it is. Next month, read the morning prayer psalms. Then in 2 months, you will have tasted them all.

When you forget or neglect a day or a few days, don't worry. (It won't help to worry.) Read the psalms for that day. (You can catch up later, if you want.)

It is also helpful to work on memorizing some psalms, because they are very helpful to have when you want to pray and nothing comes, or when you are overwhelmed with anxiety and need to re-establish your bearings.

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Summer Reading...

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The purpose here is not to prove to God or yourself how virtuous or faithful you are. The purpose is to listen to your heart and to God through the Psalms, and to express praise and confession and trust and discouragement to God, because all that is prayer. It gets us out of ourselves. It points and leads us to God, a higher and loving Power and presence.

So, Psalms this Summer. A wonderful meal, a spiritual banquet awaits. "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord". For they are "finer than gold, sweeter than honey." Taste and see for yourself.

Amen.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains be
toppled into the depths of the sea;
Though its waters rage and foam, and
though the mountains tremble at
its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown;
God shall help her at the break of day.

The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now and look upon the works of the Lord,
what awesome things he has done on earth.

It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;

he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, then, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

All Parish Campout!!!

by Doug Strausbaugh

It is the time of year again for the campout. It is being held at the group campsite at Penrose Point State Park. No carrying or packing in and out this year. You will be able to drive up to your campsite. It will be on August 5th, 6th and 7th. Come for one, two night or just for the day. We will be having our nightly campfire songs and usual Saturday potluck. Please come for good fun, a relaxing time and great fellowship. Contact Doug Strausbaugh directly or through the Parish Office (253-564-4402). There is a sign up sheet in the Ada Web room.

July Birthdays

- 3 Michael Dick
- 3 Lindsay (Koch) Ettinger
- 8 Susie Cameron
- 8 Tom Rowe
- 11 Judy White
- 16 Kaylie Rainer
- 21 Bill Brice
- 22 Tom Baker
- 22 Maggie Burdick
- 29 John Hickman
- 30 Molly Strausbaugh



August Birthdays

- 1 Matthew Wolfer
- 2 Theresa DeGennaro
- 3 Kelly Gaspar
- 4 Fran Christiansen
- 4 Wynn Hoffman
- 7 Don Bishop
- 8 Vera Heritage
- 9 Sunshine DeGennaro
- 12 Tom Pickford
- 12 Emily (Yabroff) Bradley
- 15 Cynthia Johnston
- 17 Derek Ramage
- 18 Don Ramage
- 21 Bobby Dowlearn
- 21 Kaitlyn Gibbs
- 25 Thomas Yabroff
- 26 Nita Cameron
- 29 Margie Hoffman
- 30 Nancy Knudsen
- 30 Alex Yabroff
- 31 Martin Yabroff



Celebrating July Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| 8-3-91 | Brian and Karen Burdick |
| 8-5 | Tom and Marilyn Baker |
| 8-7-82 | Jim and Flo Ball |
| 6-17-2003 | Wayne and Patty Mannie |
| 8-21-71 | Bill and Jean Lubken |
| 8-23 | Tom and Gina Pickford |
| 8-28-68 | Tim and Mary Lowenberg |
| 8-30-96 | Noel and Laurie Shillito |

Save the Date—

Everyone is welcome to join us for



Utreya

Sunday July 31, starting at 4:30 PM
with a potluck to follow at 5:30 PM.

Please bring a dish to share for the potluck.
Contact Reberta Skinner for more information.

* **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

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St. Andrew's

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is committed to knowing Christ and making Christ known by word, faith, and action.

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Skip Broadhead, Junior Warden
Kit Adams
Jeffrey Boyce
Virginia Gaub
Norbert Herriges
Ann Morgan
Sean Moody
Marian Warren

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The Rev. Martin Yabroff, Rector
The Rev. Edward A. Sterling, Associate
The Rev. Kendall Haynes, Transitional Pastoral Associate

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