

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Annual Parish Meeting**

**January 29, 2012**



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**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**

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Bishop: The Right Rev. Robert R. Gepert

CLERGY

The Rev. Michael C. Fedewa  
The Rev. Nurya Love Parish

STAFF

Director of Youth Ministry Jeff Brown  
Director of Children's Ministries Christine Wernette  
Organist/Choir Director Dennis Buteyn  
Parish Administrator Kathy Griffes  
Sexton Fred Nawrocki/Bonnie Dame  
Business Manager Margaret Stretton  
Nursery Attendant Jill Brown

LAY LEADERSHIP

Senior Warden Gordon Finnie  
Junior Warden Beth McKee  
Treasurer Dick Guider  
Acolytes Ray Cascella/Karrie Koon  
Altar Guild Jane Koning  
Bookkeeper John Smith  
Episcopal Church Women Shared Leadership  
Greeters Jacqui & Skip Smith  
Lay Eucharistic Ministers The Rev. Michael Fedewa  
Lay Readers The Rev. Michael Fedewa  
Ushers Jerry Skar

MEMBERS OF THE VESTRY

<b><u>2011</u></b>	<b><u>2012</u></b>	<b><u>2013</u></b>
Gordon Finnie	Lisa Campos	Marc Bush
Gay Stockton	Julianne Day	Jerry Hall
Jim Visota	Beth McKee	Gary Johnson
Candace Witri	Chris Wolterstorff	Jennifer Johnston

**Annual Parish Meeting  
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**Mission Statement**

We are creatures of God.  
We are baptized Christians.  
We are members of the Episcopal tradition.  
We are people who continue to be loved by God.  
Our mission as St. Andrew's parish is to reflect God's love as revealed to us by the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ to all God's creation.

***Hospitality***

We value the relationships we make by opening our hearts and doors to visitors and guests.

***Lay leadership***

We value the full and equal participation of the laity with the clergy in all matters affecting the "church".

***Outreach***

We value active service to persons who are in need in our community, and the world.  
We provide financial support to organizations which offer these services.

***Support of the Greater Church***

We value our relationship with the Diocese of Western Michigan, The Episcopal Church of the United States.  
We are supportive of ecumenical organizations; and organizations which foster inter-faith dialogue.

***Spiritual Growth*** of all ages through education, stewardship, worship, and action on behalf of justice and the elimination of racism.

**Proposed Mission Statement**

The Mission of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church:

As disciples of Jesus Christ,  
we reflect God's love in our commitment to hospitality, service, diversity, inclusion, and stewardship.

Guided by the Spirit of God,  
we strive to become a more healthy Body of Christ as we work together to realize the potential that God has placed within us.

We are dedicated to learning and formation that will bring about transformation in the lives of the people who worship here, our community, and the world.

**Prayer**

Gracious Lord, we thank you for the people of St. Andrew's.

This congregation reminds us that you sent your Son to draw us together, to sustain and love each other.

We are blessed that you have created us in your image and have given each of us unique gifts to bear fruit for your kingdom.

Now Father, give us the courage to trust our gifts, share our faith, and allow your Holy Spirit to work through us, that we may spread your love, your light and your peace throughout the world. AMEN.



## DIOCESE OF WESTERN MICHIGAN

### STATEMENT OF IDENTITY

We, members of the congregations of the Diocese of Western Michigan, affirm and support one another's diverse callings and ministries within the body of Christ, and proclaim our unity in the worldwide Anglican communion, with our Bishop as our chief pastor and leader in the historic apostolic faith and ministry.

### MISSION STATEMENT

We, with our Bishop, in our Anglican tradition, strive to proclaim and manifest God's love to all persons in West Michigan and the world so that, in the worship of God and service in the name of Jesus Christ, unity may overcome estrangement and hope may overcome despair.

### THE VISION OF THE PEOPLE

We are a people committed to our baptismal covenant and empowered by the Holy Spirit. The promises of our baptism create for us our vision of future ministry and provide us with the passion with which we long to live out our faith in Jesus Christ. It is our calling to be known for inclusivity and intentional growth.

We seek to serve Christ in all persons,

- \* Desiring to increase the diversity of our diocese so that it represents the whole population in terms of race, gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation and economic status.
- \* We are committed to establishing a strong youth ministry. We will do so by inviting and welcoming all into our midst, nourishing them in their spiritual growth and supporting them as they minister in Christ's name.

We proclaim the good news of Christ by

- \* Intentionally developing new models of ministry,
- \* planting new congregations,
- \* creatively supporting existing parishes and
- \* encouraging responsible stewardship.
- \* We will equip ourselves for this ministry by a life-long Christian formation process

We strive for justice and peace among all people by

- \* developing diocesan outreach ministries
- \* We continue to work for the elimination of all biases that separate us one from another, especially those of individual or institutional racism; further we will be intentional in including people of color in the elected and appointed positions of our parishes, deaneries, and diocese so that we may see persons of color in all positions of diocesan leadership.

We seek to cultivate a mutually nurturing and collaborative relationship between bishop and the people of the diocese to fulfill our vision.

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, February 6, 2011

### Call to Order

The meeting was officially called to order by Fr. Mike. Those present prayed the prayer for Natural Church Development (NCD).

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting were presented as written and approved.

### Vestry Nominations

Four 3 year positions are to be filled. The names of Jerry Hall, Gary Johnson, Marc Bush and Jennifer Johnston were presented. Fr. Mike asked for nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed. All were welcomed as vestry members by acclamation.

### Nominations for Delegates/Alternates

Convention is April 20 and 21 in Traverse City.

Nominations were open from the floor for convention delegates and alternates. Names placed in nomination were Barb Allen, Christian Baron, Don Davies, Kathy Bush, BJ Heyboer, Mary Simpson and Donna Johnston. The floor was closed to nominations.

The election of convention delegates and alternates was completed by the Vestry following the Annual Meeting.

### Rector's Address

*"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."* Matthew 5:14-16

*Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly...* Isaiah 58:6-8a

It is hard to believe that I have had the honor of presiding over the Annual meeting of St. Andrews since 1993. Doing the math, that means 18 years. I am honored and I am humbled.

I am mindful of that there are a few members of the congregation here today who were members of the congregation way back then. I would like to invite them to stand. I would like to invite also those for whom this is their first annual meeting to stand. We are blessed by those who have been here for many years, and blessed by those who are new.

I am mindful of that Fr. Thomas is not here with us today, we hold him in our prayers. I will be with him this afternoon. And will assure him of our love and continued prayers.

I am mindful of those members and friends of the congregation who have died over the past year: Lois Korstange, Doris Perrin, Allen Gerrard, Cora Sue Hoxie Jepsen, Ken McNamara and James Long. We hold them in our prayers today as well.

I want to thank your staff, and I ask them to stand. Kathy Griffes, Bonnie Dame, Jill Brown, Christine Wernette, Sarah McGee, Jodi Baron, Margaret Stretton, Dennis Buteyn. Our kitchen coordinator, Barb Visota and our photographer, Mike Joshua.

I want to thank publicly those members of the vestry who are retiring today. Jon Bylsma, Janet Carboneau Jones, and BJ Heyboer. You have served us well. I thank you sincerely for your years of service. I thank continuing members of the vestry: Lisa Campos, Julianne Day, Gordon Finnie, Beth McKee, Gay Stockton. Jim Visota, Candace Witri, Chris Wolterstorf. We recognize and thank Jerry Hall for agreeing to serve out an unfinished term for Ray Cascella. We thank Dick Guider for his service as parish treasurer. I want to tell you, that in all the years of service as your rector, this has been among the most effective vestries I have served. I want to tell you that I believe one of the main reasons for this is the time we spend with the scripture before each meeting, and our regular celebration of Eucharist. I believe that we have tried to remain open to the Spirit, and that the breath of the Spirit of God has inspired our gatherings.

I also believe that our meetings are fruitful because this congregation has been and remains amazingly generous. We could not do, we could not be the congregation we are without your generosity. Our God is extravagantly generous. As we seek the guidance of the Spirit in our life, and in our parish, we grow in generosity. My friends, the light of your generosity shines in so many ways. We have paid off our mortgage. And while doing that, we gave over \$86,000 away to agencies doing the work of the Gospel and to members of the congregation in need. This of course does not include our weekly offerings of food which you bring to the altar each week or the generosity with which each of you show in your support of other agencies. My friends, your generosity is a light that shines.

I want to now highlight some of the people, and some of the programs we support with our outreach efforts. We have two guests with us from *Family Promise, Interfaith Hospitality Network*. We welcome Denise and Lynn Martin, former guests and graduates of the program.

Jodi Baron will now speak about her pilgrimage to Nicaragua with *Food for the Poor*.

Let me say also that I am grateful for the willingness of this congregation and the vestry to allow me to travel to other congregations to speak for Food for the Poor. I traveled to 3 congregations last year, and hope to travel to up to 12 this year. I know this causes some disruption to the life of the congregation. As we grow more accustomed to this, I think the disruptions will be less.

We also continue to support the Supper House with our regular times of serving meals there, we are involved in Literacy efforts with various organizations in the community. This coming year we will become involved with two more outreach efforts. The Congregational Partnership program in conjunction with the coalition to end homelessness, and Thirsting to Serve.

Our goal for thirsting to serve is to buy 100 of these water purification systems. That will mean \$10,000. Our alms box will be replaced with one of the systems. What I invite you to do is to place a glass or a cup in your kitchen, your bathrooms, your laundry and everytime you turn on the water, for cleaning, showering, drinking, cooking ... everytime you flush a toilet to put in a dime, a nickel, a quarter. Bring that

change in each week and put it in the water system either in front of the altar or in the one of the pitchers that will be in the entrance to the sanctuary. I am also inviting you to consider matching a month or a week with a donation. Linda and I are going to match the month of May. Is there a month that you will match. Or is there a week that you would match. Might there be some of you able to match the entire year's collection?

We are blessed. Our light shines. May the good works we do be seen by others that they may give glory to God. May we continue to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, embrace the lonely, shelter the homeless. Then our light will continue to shine, then we will continue to grow as a healthy, living people, thriving, generous, passionate people of God.

#### **Burning of the Mortgage**

Dick Guider, Bonnie Dame and Jeanne Snoeyink burned a copy of the original mortgage.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Dick Guider thanked the Finance Committee, Margaret Stretton and Vestry for their wisdom, guidance and use of God's money. Dick led the presentation of the budget.

#### **Chili Cook Off**

The Annual Meeting Chili Cook off raised \$300 for the Youth Group. Linda Fedewa and Barb Allen were crowned the official winners of the cook off.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

*BJ Heyboer/Kathy Griffes*

## Rector's Letter

January, 2012

*The Mission of St. Andrews Episcopal Church: As disciples of Jesus Christ, we reflect God's love in our commitment to hospitality, service, diversity, inclusion, and stewardship. Guided by the Spirit of God, we strive to become a more healthy Body of Christ as we work together to realize the potential that God has placed within us. We are dedicated to learning and formation that will bring about transformation in the lives of the people who worship here, our community, and the world.*

Dear Friends,

Over the past few months the vestry has been prayerfully discussing a new mission statement for our congregation. This was certainly much more work than I imagined it would be. It is hard to capture in a few words who we are and the mission we believe God calls us to. I appreciate the many comments we heard from you. They were very helpful. We tried to incorporate them into the statement above. One of the comments I heard from more than one parishioner was that the mission statement was too long. One person noted that the statement was longer than the Lord's Prayer. On the one hand, I agree that it might be a bit long. Yet try as we did, we did not succeed in shortening it much. Yes it is longer than the Lord's Prayer. But, the Lord's Prayer is a pretty "high bar" to compare it to. Besides, I am pretty sure that the mission statement will be changed more easily than the Lord's Prayer!!!

A few words stand out to me from the statement. We are an Episcopal Church. We are proud of our connection with our Diocesan and National Church. We claim that as part of our identity and mission. We are disciples of Jesus Christ. As disciples we seek to follow him. We reflect God's love because we know that before we can love, God has first loved us. We are giving love that we first received. As God's love was incarnate in the person of Jesus, so it is incarnate in our efforts at hospitality, service, diversity, inclusion and stewardship. Love is never an abstract thought, it is lived. Our efforts at hospitality, service, diversity, inclusion and stewardship are truly our strengths. They are central in our life. We would not be St. Andrew's without them!!! We are guided by the Spirit of God as we seek to be more healthy in our relationships with self, others, God. Jesus was a healer. If we are to be his body in the world, we must strive for greater and greater health. We cannot bring others to healing, if we do not seek greater health and healing in our personal and community life. We believe that the Spirit of God has placed tremendous potential within us. Guided by the Spirit, empowered by the Spirit, God wants to use us to accomplish the divine mission in the world. WOW! That dear friends is amazing, that is potential. We cannot accomplish that by ourselves. We can only hope that God can accomplish it through us. Are we ready for what God wants to accomplish through us!!!! Our dedication to learning and formation is part of everything we do. Learning and formation are part of our worship, our fellowship, our mission trips, our outreach. We learn and we are formed when we pray together, when we eat together, when we serve together. And, as we learn and are formed, we are changed. As we learn and are formed, we can change the world.

## Rector's Letter - continued

By God's grace may we live out our mission in the world.

And, speaking of "too long". I heard recently that the Lord's Prayer could have easily been shortened. Now, far be it from me to ever suggest shortening it, but according to one author it could be summed up in these few words: "Your Kingdom Come, Your Will Be Done, On Earth".

May that be our prayer. May that be our mission.

Amen.

In God's Peace,

Mike

### Associate Priest

What a difference a year makes! Last year, I wrote an annual report as your Seminarian. I had not received my Certificate of Anglican Studies, final approval for ordination to priesthood, or a decision that I could remain at St. Andrew's following ordination. Thanks be to God, this year I not only have received all three, but I am among you as an ordained priest in Christ's one, holy, catholic and apostolic church! I am so grateful to the many people of St. Andrew's who were part of my ordination process: the vestry, who affirmed my vocation; the choir, who sang at my ordination; the reception workers who created the best of feasts; and everyone who read, prayed, and rejoiced on December 3rd and 4th!

I am blessed to write this year's report as the Associate Priest at St. Andrew's. I thank Father Mike for continuing to welcome my presence on our staff. This is my third year with the parish. This continuity has been wonderful both for the development of my ministry with the Episcopal Church and for my family's spiritual growth.

Now that I am on staff as associate clergy, my role has shifted slightly again. I am responsible for oversight of our formation programs for infants through 5th graders and their families. I collaborate with our Youth Minister on programs for 6th through 12th graders and offer input on adult formation. I preach and celebrate Eucharist monthly and plan special liturgies on occasion. It has been a joy to start to chant the Eucharist and I look forward to continuing in that practice. I assist Mike with pastoral care as needed, especially by filling in when he is traveling for Food for the Poor or on vacation.

The past year brought changes to our formation programs for children and youth.

There's a new carpet in the nursery! The nursery was also cleaned and organized as well as completely disinfected this summer. In 2012 my goal is to find and bring together a group of volunteers who will serve in the nursery, enjoy the babies of our church and provide Jill much-needed assistance. Jill's reliable presence of compassion and care is a blessing to our church.

There's a complete roster of Worship Center Leaders! Every age range is blessed with sufficient adult volunteers to tell the stories of Scripture to our children weekly. Christine Wernette has worked tirelessly to ensure we have beautiful and appropriate materials for our Montessori-based curriculum, and to coordinate smooth Sunday mornings. It is wonderful to work with her for this age group!

There's a Middle School Experiment! For the past few years, Sunday morning formation stopped at 5th grade. This year, we're trying out a middle school option as well. Thanks to Beth McKee, Michael York, and Julie Kuhn for serving as leaders in the "God and Church" program which leads these youth to know God and to understand how the church works on a practical level.

### Associate Priest - continued

There's music at Oasis! Bringing Zachary Kolkman on board was purely genius (I can say that because it was Mike's idea.) Zach's relationship with God, care for the kids, and ability to lead them in making music together has been a gift to them and all of us.

This year, I also was honored to lead a workshop at our diocesan Formation Ministries Gathering on making a Christian home in ways that are fun and engaging for kids. I continue to wonder how I can best lead myself, my family and others to honor Christ not just on Sunday, but throughout life together. As someone who was not raised to be a Christian, I find the practice of faith at home with children exciting and foreign territory. I would love to talk with any and all of you about the practices of faith you engage at home and ways you seek to influence younger generations. I would also like to thank my husband David for showing me the faithfulness of Christ by supporting me in so many practical and caring ways throughout my journey toward ordination, even when doing so was neither simple nor easy. As I practice my faith in the midst of my family, I am grateful that he, Claire, and Nathan welcome my occasional liturgical experiments and are honest with me about their responses.

I am excited to have received the approval of our Bishop to remain at St. Andrew's following my ordination as priest. I feel blessed to be in ministry with this congregation and look forward to serving God with you.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Nurya Love Parish

## Vestry Candidates

### Nate Dawson

I have been married to Reanna for nearly 12 years. We have two sons, Kohen (almost 5) and Soren (19 months) and normally attend the 10am service at St. Andrew's. As a minister's son, I experienced the ups and down of life in full time pastoral ministry. Overwhelmed by religious oppression, Reanna and I began attending a large evangelical church where I eventually worked as an intern and trained as a pastor. From performing weddings, working intimately with residents who had traumatic brain injuries, to chaplaincy at one of our local hospitals, I have walked with folks in times of great joy and deep sadness. Not only did I finally experience freedom from religious oppression, I ventured away from my Baptist roots, but discovered a deep love, compassion and commitment to the church.

Recently, I completed a Master of Theology program (module and dissertation) through the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David. UWTSU was the first university in Wales to train ordinands for the Church of England and Church in Wales. My study focused primarily on the relationship between modern biblical studies and systematic theology, and the even stormier relationship of those disciplines with the life of the church. Currently I await final marks before the dissertation is hardbound and deposited into the university's library and a Master of Theology degree will be awarded.

### James Ritsema

I would like to introduce myself to the congregation. My name is James Ritsema. I have been attending St. Andrew's since July, 2009 and was confirmed in the Episcopal Church in May, 2010. I am married to Will Campbell who is a member and is also in the choir of St. Andrew's. We have a dog named Cooper. I hold a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Resource Management from Grand Valley State University. I am a Paraprofessional for the Oral Deaf Program at Shawnee Elementary School and a team member at Target. I am going through discernment.

I feel God is calling me to give of myself to help our parish community and have a chance to make a difference in my own life and in the church.

I humbly place my name on the ballot in the hope of becoming a contributing member of the Vestry so that I might assist the church in the spread of God's kingdom. In addition, I would like the opportunity to learn about the inner workings of the business of the church.

### Mary Simpson

St. Andrew's has been my families worship home for the last 12 years. I was raised in a very active Episcopal family and to this day God and the Church remains the important center of my life. Here, at St. Andrew's, I have taught high school classes on Sunday, been in various Bible study groups, and have been on the vestry serving 2 years as Senior Warden. I am excited to have been asked to serve again on the vestry. The business of the church is as important to me as the worship and outreach that we live out at St. Andrew's. I am likely to appear at any of the 3 services so that I can get to know the people and worship style of each.

Professionally I work full time at Metro Health Hospital as a Sleep Technologist, concentrating mostly on patient education and compliance. My husband, Chris, is the Executive Chef at the VanAndel Arena. Traverse City is home to both of our daughters, Abigail, Meridith and son-law Richard. We enjoy spending time with family and friends.

### Cynthia Thomas

Having grown up in the Reformed Church in Fremont, MI, I was confirmed in the Episcopal Church by Bishop Bennison in 1965 at Grace Church, Holland. I have been a member of St. Andrew's since 1990 when Father Thomas and I were married. I have not been around much until this year because I have been following Father Thomas around the diocese as he served as a supply priest. In 1996, I became a charter member of the Daughters of the King and a new member of the Altar Guild this year.

I'm very proud to be a part of a church family that is so involved in making a difference in Grand Rapids and beyond. From IHN to Thirsting to Serve, we all have a chance to participate in efforts to make the lives of others better because we care about them and through St. Andrew's we can show it.

### Jim Visota

54 years old.

Lifelong resident of Grand Rapids.

Attending St. Andrew's for the past 12 years

Married Barbara February 18, 2001 at a 10:00am Sunday service.

Served the past 2 years on the vestry.

Like to downhill ski.

### Acolytes

Acolytes are one of our most valuable resources. We are blessed to have many wonderful acolytes. We are grateful to all the parents who make sure they are here on time, and for bringing them to practice. Thanks also to those who have served as leaders of the acolytes this year.

The current acolyte roster: Rachel Koon, Alex and Dagan Kuhn, Ian, Nuala and Claire Richards, Nathan and Izaak Smith, Katie and Spencer Todd, Evan and Mia Wernette, So Yuet and Angel Witri.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karrie Koon*

### Altar Guild

The Altar Guild assists the clergy in preparation for services held in the church: Holy Communion, Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, Funerals, and any other special services held throughout the year. We arrange for the altar flowers each week along with special plants and decorations for Christmas, Palm Sunday and Easter services. We also care for the potted plants in the church and narthex. Your donated monies help to purchase these plants & flowers for these weekly services, and for the purchase of the candle oil refills, the torch candles, and new linens when needed. The Altar Guild members, along with the ECW members, provide an evening meal for the Family Promise (IHN) guests each time they come to St. Andrew's. Altar Guild meets quarterly for scheduling purposes and we have a cleaning session before the Christmas and Easter seasons. Altar Guild members for 2011 were:

Jane Koning - President	Laura Macalka	<b><u>New Members</u></b>
Carole Cothran - Secretary	Hilde Nunn	David Battjes
Helen Cameron - Treasurer	Mary Jo Owczarzak	Michael Woerner
Sally Fleming	Carole Skar	Deb Larson
Karrie Koon	Mary Jo Smith	Cynthia Thomas

Respectfully submitted,

*Jane Koning*

### Altar Guild Financial Report

Balance on hand (12-31-10)	\$ 397.10
Receipts	1941.00
Disbursements	<u>1763.35</u>
Balance on hand (12-31-11)	\$ 574.75

Respectfully submitted,

*Helen Cameron, Treasurer*

### Children's Ministries

First of all, I gratefully acknowledge the wonderful team of storytellers and volunteers in the Worship Center for 2011-2012:

*Preschool - Young Fives:*

Reanna Dawson, Sarah Hines, Brittney DeWitt, and Jillaine Pierce.

*Kindergarten - Second Grades:*

Mary Jo Smith, Lisa Campos, Rebecca Lyben, and Helen Scott.

*Third - Fifth Grades:*

Jon Bylsma, Nurya Love-Parish, Sarah Cullum, and Michelle DeWitt.

To begin with, we used the "One Room Sunday School" curriculum again from early June to the end of August, and we served children from four years of age through third grade. The children listened to bible stories, then through a simple activity or craft, they practiced their understanding of the scripture.

We began the Worship Center year with the "The Great Commandment" as our theme. It was a fantastic way to begin since it coincided with our week of hosting the IHN families. After a brief introduction to what it means to be homeless and introducing The Great Commandment to the children, we discussed with them the different ways the people of St. Andrew's serve the families who stay with us. The children were then eager to help to set up the rooms for the families that were going to stay for the week.

The stories for fall came upon us so quickly, as did the Advent and Christmas stories. We celebrated Epiphany in early January with a pageant and we had 22 children participate. Many hands made light work behind the scenes and parents helped to make the pageant a memorable event for all involved!

This is our fourth year for Oasis on Wednesday evenings. This year we have incorporated music into our hour for the children. Zachary Kolkman is teaching the children some beginning musical note reading, songs, and how to use the hand chimes. They really enjoy this time with him. The children even performed in the fall for the congregation! Children in preschool through fifth grades attend the class. They listen to or read a gospel story together and practice the focus for the evening through an activity. On special occasions, we are continuing to communicate throughout the year with the members of St. Andrew's who are no longer able to attend church by sending them cards.

Respectfully submitted,

*Christine Wernette, Director of Children's Ministries*

### Daughters of the King Chapter Ruth



**Vision statement:**

*As Daughters of the King we are women of courage who have made a commitment to serve God our King. We wear crosses as an outward and visible sign that we cannot live a day without Christ in our lives. We see our Order as a community of nurturing women, accepting all people, bridging differences and cherishing traditions. Moving forward through the years, empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision is to encourage and enable all to be reflections of God's love, reaching out through prayer, service and evangelism to spread His Kingdom.*

Chapter Ruth, the Order at St. Andrew's, is now entering its thirteenth year. We welcome all women who feel called to pray.

*Do you naturally turn to prayer, to conversation with God throughout your busy day?*

*Do others ask you to keep them in your prayers?*

*Do you yearn for a closer, deeper, richer relationship with God?*

If you answered yes to just one of those questions you are blessed and may be called to offer yourself to God in the service of prayer for the church and world.

2011 was a year of blessings to Chapter Ruth. Eight women began the course of study to become a Daughter. Our group of seven members has grown to fifteen. We continue to be strong in prayer in support of all that God presents to us.

Any woman of the parish that would like to know more about or is interested in becoming a Daughter, please contact any member of our Order.

**Current Members of Chapter Ruth**

Barb Allen	Diane Bouwknecht	Kathy Bush
Sally Crame	Colleen Curtis	Kathy Griffes
Pat Hall	Jane Koning	Ashley McCormick TerBeek
Mary Jo Owczarzak	The Rev. Nurya Love Parish	Linda Rice
Mary Jo Smith	Jeanne Snoeyink	Cynthia Thomas

*For His Sake...  
I am but one,  
but I am one.  
I cannot do everything,  
but I can do something.  
What I can do,  
I ought to do.  
What I ought to do,  
by the grace of God I will do.  
Lord, what will You have me do?*

For His Sake

Barb Allen, President

### Episcopal Church Women

**Purpose:** To promote fellowship and spiritual enrichment, and enhance financial outreach.

**Officers:**

President	Rotating chair.
Secretary	Hilde Nunn
Treasurer	Mary Jo Owczarzak

**Meetings:** Ten monthly meetings if enough members are present.

**Regular Activities:** Fall Second Best Sale  
Coordinate, shop, pack and assist in delivery of Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets  
Provide support in conjunction with the Altar Guild of IHN dinners  
Financial support for St. Andrew's Seminarians.

Respectfully submitted,

*Hilde Nunn*

## Greeters

The first impression of St. Andrew's is provided by our Greeters who offer a special welcome to all visitors and parishioners. That warm hospitality is conveyed with friendly conversation, a smile and a handshake or a hug. Our Greeters especially assist visitors by answering questions and providing directions, as well as asking visitors to sign our Guest Register and offering them each a name tag. Greeters also assist during the worship service by presenting the Bread and Wine at the altar in preparation for Holy Eucharist.

Evangelism takes many forms and we are thankful for all Greeters who contribute to this ministry through their sincere, warm hospitality. Thanks go to:

Marcia & Kevin Adams  
 Marcia & Keith Baker  
 David Battjes & Michael Woerner  
 Mary Jo & David Bultman  
 Jennifer Johnston & Jon Bylsma  
 Helen Cameron  
 Lisa & José Campos  
 Mary & Don Davies  
 Lynn & Dick Guider  
 BJ Heyboer  
 Mary & Jack Kastelin  
 Jack & Jane Koning  
 Beth & Greg McKee  
 Miyoko & Dan Potts  
 Jennifer & Mark Saelens  
 Rebecca English & Jim Schulz  
 Mary & Chris Simpson  
 Jacqui & Skip Smith  
 Gay Stockton  
 Amy & Dell Todd  
 Barb & Jim Visota  
 Chris Wolterstorff

Respectfully submitted,

*Skip Smith*

## Junior Warden's Report

St. Andrew's is definitely blessed with a beautiful, functional, and love-filled church. Our building is bustling with activity all week long, ministering to our own members and the surrounding community.

In 2011 the Vestry addressed many of the immediate building needs. Following is a list of repairs that were completed.

- A trench was dug, and two drainage tiles were joined to help direct water flow away from the SE corner of the building, where it tended to leak into the mechanical room, and parish hall.
- In response to water leakage in the basement Christian formation classrooms, we hired Boss Construction and Roofing to fix the issue. Outside this included: digging out the old basement windows and sealing the block, removing plants as needed, replacing three windows, cutting EPDM to expose the block wall, cleaning and drying the block wall, coating the block with Lucas coating, installing rubber patch on the wall, and filling in the hole. Inside this included: demoing the ruined drywall, spraying mold and mildew as needed, installing new drywall, finishing drywall, and clean-up and removal of all debris.
- Beautiful, new carpet was installed in the nursery.
- Kitchen repairs were made to keep our kitchen in working order, including repairing the dishwasher.

All of these repairs were immediate and necessary to the health and well being of our church and its occupants. A special thanks to Fred Nawrocki for helping us address each of these needs. The Vestry is also beginning to dream big dreams for the future of this congregation and the space we occupy. Many of these goals would affect the aesthetics and function of the building, to better meet the growing and changing needs of our congregation, and the community. We look forward to explaining more about this exciting vision in the months to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Beth McKee*  
 Junior Warden

### Knitting Ministry

"Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into a prayerful ministry and spiritual practice which reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. Many blessings are prayed into every shawl. Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls, Peace Shawls or Mantels, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Shawls can be given before undergoing medical procedures, as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress, during bereavement, prayer or meditation, commitment or marriage ceremonies, birthing, nursing a baby, bridal shower or wedding gift, during an illness and recovery, ministering to others, graduation, birthday, anniversary, ordination, holiday gifts or just socializing...there are endless possibilities!"

The ministry meets monthly. We begin and end each gathering with special prayers for ourselves as knitters and for those we will serve. We pray that as we gather in community to share our prayer, our stories, the work of our hearts and hands, we pray for God's blessing on our endeavors.

The Knitting Ministry is open to all who enjoy knitting or crocheting. Patterns/guidelines are available for those wishing to work at home. We've expanded into the creations of making white baby blankets, stoles/scraves/shawls for those being baptized reminding them that are enfolded and loved by God and their church family.

Shawls are not limited to members of St. Andrew's. If you know of someone you'd like to gift with a shawl or lap robe, talk to one of the groups members.

May our shawls be welcomed in the spirit in which it was knitted. May we become one with the One who knitted each of us in our mother's womb. We join our blessing, prayer and knitting with women all over the earth in this common effort to bring healing and wholeness, comfort and celebration. As each recipient is wrapped in comfort, may the Mother of Mercy, the Father of Faithfulness and the Spirit of Compassion wrap them in their all encompassing love this day. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barb Allen*

On behalf of group members:

*Jane Freer, Norma Fillman, Kathy Griffes, Cindy Matthews, Suzie Wardle, Betty Worst & those who have gifted shawls anonymously.*

### Memorial Garden Committee

The Memorial Garden Committee held eight formal work sessions, plus two hour weekly maintenance sessions by committee members.

As always special thanks to Fred Nawrocki!

Special gifts allowed the planting of daffodils, narcissus, and crocus plants. Since deer have become a problem in the spring, tulips were decided against.

The chapel wall needed repair and it remains to be seen what damage, if any, the planting suffered. More mulch will be needed in spring, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

*Linda DeRoos, Hilde Nunn and Mary Jo Owczarzak*  
St. Andrew's Memorial Garden Committee

### Organist / Choirmaster

In 2011 the St. Andrew's Choir again devoted a significant amount of time and effort in their work in the liturgy of the church. Several members have moved and we have had some members with serious health issues. We are always looking for a few good singers. The only requirement is your ability to match pitch and willingness to learn to sing a part as well as the commitment to the time required. We meet for rehearsal on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. for 1 and 1/2 hours and sing on Sunday mornings at the 10 a.m. liturgy as well as special services.

We have enjoyed the participation of guest instrumentalists through the past year including trumpet, flute, oboe, saxophone, viola, cello, and others. We intend to continue periodic additions to the musical forces at St. Andrew's.

The people who have participated in choir this past year include:

David Battjes	Lynn Guider	Suann Foust
Kris Brown	Teri Heacock	Kathy Longcore
Will Campbell	Mary Kastelin	Linda Rice
Ray Cascella	Sue Kohler	Christine Rockwell
Anna Collins	Zachary Kolkman	Becky Schulke
Bob Converse	Rick Landstra	John Smith
Carole Cothran	Sharon Lapp	David Wernette
	Irene Lau	Michael Woerner

Respectfully submitted,

*Dennis L. Buteyn*  
Organist/Choirmaster

**Outreach**

ACCESS	\$ 345.00
Back to School - North End Community Ministry (NECM)	1,403.00
Bishop's Special Needs Fund	107.00
Catherine's Care Center	800.00
Congregational Partnership Program	3,500.00
Diocesan Mission Trips	432.00
Episcopal Relief & Development	1,315.00
IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network)/Family Promise	4,090.00
Food for the Poor	446.00
Good Friday - Church in Jerusalem	477.00
GRACE	1,200.00
Hunger Walk	439.00
Kid's Food Basket	733.00
North End Community Minsitry (NECM)	1,000.00
Seminarian Support	9,470.00
Holiday Baskets (Thanksgiving & Christmas)	2,355.00
Thirsting to Serve	13,217.00
World Vision	378.00
Rector's Discretionary/Assistance	14,680.00
Associate's Discretionary/Assistance	2,666.00
Rev. Ambrose Discretionary/Assistance	2,203.00
Diocesan Fair Share	40,800.00

**Total Contributions & Budgeted Amounts used to support St. Andrew's Outreach Programs in 2011. \$102,056.00**

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret Stretton*

**Parish Statistics**

**BURIALS**

Doris May Blackmer  
Barbara Duston  
Mary C. Jones  
Stephen D. Kingwill  
Katherine E. Klein

Cherish Miller  
James Rich  
Gerald Sterken  
The Rev. Lester Brooks Thomas  
Carol Ross Yonkers

**BAPTIZED**

Alexandria Elizabeth Brown  
Sophia Elizabeth Even  
Lillian Marie Patterson  
Landyn Everett York  
Liv Julianne York

**REAFFIRMATIONS**

Laura Louise Macalka  
Mary Jo Hadley Smith

**CONFIRMATIONS**

Katelynn Marie Adams  
Eileen Carol Zimmer Allen  
Daniel Patrick Macalka  
Nathaniel Ervan Smith  
Abigail Joy VanSlooten

**RECEIVED**

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**TRANSFER IN**

David Bultman  
Jeff McDonald  
Paula McDonald  
Aremen Oumedian  
Kay Wietke  
Ted Wietke

**TRANSFER OUT**

Bud & Marjorie Roegge

**MARRIAGES**

Erik James DeRoos & Amy Catherine Hutchinson  
Brian Paul Lemin & Ashley Lynn Benedict  
Trevor Michael Kutzli & Jessica Robin Skar  
Clarence Millen & Kathleen Longcore  
Robert Lawrence Tupper & Janet Sue Strait

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathy Griffes*

## Senior Warden's Report

As we start a blessed new year, we look back at some of the highlights of our loving parish. In doing so, we acknowledge that all of this is only possible because of the support and passionate intentions of the people of St. Andrew's. This enthusiasm to serve God has made it a great year!

Most recently the Saint Andrews community has welcomed the Ordination to Priesthood of The Rev. Nurya Love Parish with ceremony and celebration, we are so lucky to have her here with us !

The teen program has great leadership with our new youth minister Jeff Brown.

Additionally, Jodi and Christian Baron are now residents of Austin, Texas attending Seminary of the Southwest. Awesome!

*Thirsting to Serve* is receiving 100 new water filters to help families and communities in need of clean water in the Dominican Republic. Because of your efforts, we met our goal to raise the necessary funds to do this, \$10,000.

*Oasis Wednesday* evenings helps us on our personal journeys with joy, learning and laughter to discover new opportunities for spiritual growth.

The information we need is gathered and available to us on the web, emails and bulletins voice mails, etc. thanks to Kathy and Margaret.

Outreach and the IHN program served local families in need.

We have visitors and new people attending and we offer our hospitality and gratitude.

Our building and grounds continues to be in great hands with Fred Nawrocki.

Dennis and the Choir and now Zach Kolkman are making beautiful music for our enlightenment.

Our Vestry has been planning ways to renovate and update the building and will discuss a 2012 Capital Campaign that will help us achieve our goals to keep Saint Andrews a safe and useful environment.

Continually we are all blessed and given new light by father Mike Fedewa with his insightful liturgy and transforming ministry.

With Gratitude,

*Gordon Finnie*  
Senior Warden

## Stewardship

Is there room for another "T" in our consideration of stewardship?

The three we've offered up for consideration over the years are Time, Talent and Treasure. If anyone knows what happened to my spare Time, I'd welcome its return, no questions asked. St. Andrew's parishoners are savvy in budgeting their time to benefit this church and the community in many ways.

Talent is often underestimated by those who have it. God has given us much, including an abundant spiritual reward when we offer talents willingly to this parish and to others. Our church building and its people working within and outside its walls are a great gift to many people in need. We pray weekly for the release of our potential as a parish. God, give us the strength to consider that call and how each of us might serve.

Treasure can be the "lightning rod" element of the Stewardship triad. A seminar in South Bend, Indiana last spring gave the committee good insights on the importance of clearly stating a parishoner's commitment to pledging their support to church ministry. It brought us the pledge form that was offered on Commitment Sunday, which included a request that those who pledge might acknowledge their commitment.

Here's this year's list...

Jackie Anderson	Jerry and Pat Hall
Donna Bacarella	Betty Hansen
David Battjes and Michael Woerner	Daniel Hefferan
Kelly Bearss	Jeff and Sarah Hines
Bob and Jan Bond	Stan and Susan Hone
Richard and Diane Bouwknecht	Fr. Joe and Jeanne Howell
Todd and Jackie Brayman	Jerry and Martha Ann Irwin
Marc and Kathy Bush	The Gary Johnson family
Jon Bylsma and Jennifer Johnston	Donna Johnston
The Campos family	Marty and Janet Carbonneau Jones
Tom and Patricia Cook	Abraham, Linda and Michael Joshua
Sally Crame	Katherine Karopczyk
Tom and Tracy Curran	Jack and Mary Kastelin
Roger Faber	Sharon King
Sue Fairbrother	Tim and Bev Kolkman
Fr. Mike and Linda Fedewa	Paul and Irene Lau
Bill and Norma Fillman	Anonymous
Sally Fleming	Amy Linde
Kate Griffes	Janice, Rebecca and Trinity Lyben
Kathy Griffes	Rick and Mary McNeece
Deb Grow	Betty Mills
Dick and Lynn Guider	Doris J. Mitchell

Dick and Margaret Moleski	Stan and Diana Sherman
Sharon Mossel	John and Lynn Sichelsteel
Fred and Cindy Nawrocki	Chris and Mary Simpson
Hildegard Nunn	Jerry and Carole Skar
Cameron O'Keefe	John and Mary Jo Smith
Sue Osmer	Jacqui and Skip Smith
Armen Ouemedian	Tisha E. Smith
Mary Jo Owczarzak	Jan Strait
Joe Parini	Roy Stram
David and Nurya Parish	Ashley McCormick-TerBeek
Ken and Elizabeth Patin	John and Carlynn Teremi
Ruth Pinder	Cynthia Thomas
Mark and Deb Posthumus	Dell and Amy Todd
Dan and Miyoko Potts	David and Janice Van Slooten
Lee Prindle	Ken and Robbie Van Solkema
Linda Rice	Jim and Barbara Visota
Helen Scott, Chip Richards and family	Ted and Kay Wietke
	Betty Worst

Allow me to squeeze in my thanks to all who serve as counters to keep track of the pledges and regular giving from the parish. New faces have agreed to join in on the fun, more would be welcomed.

That fourth T is Thanks, I offer it now as we enter another year of giving our personal and financial resources for the good of this parish.

Respectfully submitted,

*John Smith*

The Stewardship Committee

## Ushers

The Ushers are here every week greeting people, handing out bulletins, taking up the offertory collections, policing the pews after each service, and providing attendance figures for our record-keeping.

Clark and Ellen Grant and Mark Saelens resigned this past year and wish to thank them for their service as Ushers. As always, I am very grateful for their involvement as well as all of our members and I wish to say thank you to all who have served this past year as an usher and to those who have assisted them in one way or another. We are always in need of additional ushers for both the 8:00 and especially the 10:00 services. If you are interested, please contact myself, or any member of the Usher Committee.

### The Ushers for St. Andrew's in 2011 were:

Doug Aleski  
 Jon Bylsma  
 José & Sophia Campos  
 Gerrit Cates  
 Don Davies  
 Clark & Ellen Grant  
 Jerry Hall  
 Marty & Janet Jones  
 Michael Joshua  
 Jack Kastelin  
 Tony Krugler  
 Doug Kuhn  
 Greg McKee  
 Fred Nawrocki  
 Mark Saelens  
 Jerry Skar  
 Dell Todd

Respectfully submitted,

*Jerry Skar*

## Youth Ministry

**Mission:** To empower students under our care to know: 1) they are pleasing to God, and (2) God desires them to participate in the kingdom building happening here and now.

**Values:** We accomplish our mission through providing weekly spiritual formation programming that is fun, relevant, and inclusive; planning monthly social/spiritual events; participating in local and national mission projects; including ourselves in Diocesan & National youth-related activities such as Episcopal Youth Camps and Episcopal National Youth Events; prayer; and finally recruiting and training adults who believe the same crazy things to be co-ministers.

Our **Vision** is to **SEE** every student, in each participating parish, actively involved in the life, at some level, of their parish; to **HEAR** students talking, with each other & the ministers in their lives, about questions they are struggling with regarding their life and faith in a safe and open environment; to **TASTE** lots of pizza, pop, and other teenager-friendly cuisine; to **FEEL** the presence of the Holy Spirit, our advocate, ministering to these young people as they navigate the years of Junior and Senior High; and finally to **HOPE** for young people who will have God's eyes and heart as they become adults & life-long disciples of Jesus.

### What happened in 2011?

As of August, 2011 our former Youth Ministries Director and Interim Director Christian and Jodi Baron followed God's call to Austin, Texas to attend seminary. Before leaving Jodi shepherded the youth on a mission trip to East Moline, Illinois in July. We partnered with Heartside Ministries' in supporting their art program through the collection of art supplies which was inspired by an early 2011 "Urban Plunge" at their organization. Late February saw our participation in the 30-hour Famine or World Vision; raising awareness of the issue of hunger in our own community and around the world.

We continued to meet weekly on Wednesdays at St. Andrew's for Oasis. This program year we have been blessed with the support of David Wernette, Nurya Love Parish, Faith Tillman, Mary Wylie Simpson and Lisa Campos as our Oasis numbers have grown. New this fall, we've had the fortune of youth from St. Mark's Newaygo joining us regularly. The efforts of Ralph Gould and Mary Frens of that congregation, along with many chaperones and volunteers, have made this possible.

On a monthly basis we tried to provide either a social or spiritual big event: Beginning with our annual *Bigger or Better Event*, followed by our annual Cedar Point, and finishing off the year with an Advent Hayride on the Fettig Farm between Grant and Newaygo. We look forward to a pilgrimage this summer, a Chili Cook-Off midwinter and a February Caroling Party for our congregations' homebound. It is also hoped we can bring some of our youth to General Convention in Indianapolis this July.

### Goals for 2011:

- Sustain a vision-oriented youth ministry focused on its mission when making calendar/programming decisions.
- Nurture our youth to be able to articulate the Episcopal faith and become kingdom builders in their daily lives apart from our parishes.
- To assess and address issues that can be resolved either through programmatic changes or systemic changes in philosophy of Youth Ministry at the parish level.

#### Staff and Co-Ministers:

Jeff Brown  
Director of Youth Ministries

Nurya Love Parish  
Co-Minister

Faith Tillman  
Co-Minister

David Wernette  
Co-Minister

#### Youth Advisory Board:

Doug Aleski

Lisa Campos

Mike Fedewa

Mike Kivinen

Robert Schiesler

Mary Simpson

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jeff Brown