



## *The Parish Messenger* *August 2017*

*The Newsletter of the People of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, State College, Pennsylvania.*

*With God's help, we the people of St. Andrew's seek to know and accept God's love in Jesus Christ for all people and to witness to God's love in word and action.*

### **THE SIXTH RECTOR OF ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



The Vestry of St. Andrew's has called The Reverend Jeffrey A. Packard to be the sixth Rector of our parish. He will join us in mid-October. Father Jeff has served the last 17 years as the Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Spotsylvania, Virginia. Many of you may recall that the beginning of his ministry began right here at St. Andrew's. He is a child of this parish; he was a curate in this parish in the mid-1990s; he was ordained in our parish. This is his dream job, to return home to this parish that he loves.

Father Jeff and his wife Sian will be returning to State College with their three children (Ruth 22, Aaron 19, and David 17) and several animals. He is a graduate of State College High School and both Sian (pronounced "Shawn") and he are graduates of Penn State. They will be welcomed here by our parish family and his own family.

This has been a very long process and many people have given of themselves to get to this point. Thank you to the Profile Committee, the Search Committee, and to Vestry for their efforts and to former Senior Wardens Kevin Barron and Wendi Keeler for their leadership during our transition.

We can all look forward to welcoming Father Jeff and his family to our parish and to our lives.

Sincerely,  
Linda Mace- Senior Warden

# **EPISCOPAL YOUTH EVENT**

By Anna Kwasnica



Just recently, I had the opportunity to travel to Oklahoma for EYE, a gathering of Episcopal youth groups from across the country. I went with a group of 12 youth and 3 adult leaders from my diocese, and Bishop Audrey also went with us. Upon arriving at EYE, I was immediately surprised by the amount of people that were there. There were over a thousand youth from churches across the United States, Guam, Central America, and even a few from Europe. It was amazing to see such a large number of people my age with the same faith as me. Each day at EYE would begin with a short worship service where everyone would gather in a large room to sing songs, dance, and pray together. The Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, even came to give a sermon. Then, we would break into groups based on our diocese for different activities each day.

One of my favorite parts of EYE was the Oklahoma City tour. All in the course of one day, we visited the Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial Museum, the Oklahoma City Art Museum, Oklahoma History Museum, and two different churches where we did small community service projects. In the evening, we stopped by the Red Dirt Carnival for dinner and fun with friends. To end the day, we walked back to the Bombing Memorial where we sat on the grass outside the museum for a church service. Another thing I loved about the experience was how kind and friendly everyone was. It was truly amazing to see thousands of people from all around the world who, although they had never met before, welcome each other's cultures and become friends. EYE was an incredibly fun experience that I will remember for a lifetime.



## **MISSION TRIP 2017**

By Marc Rigas



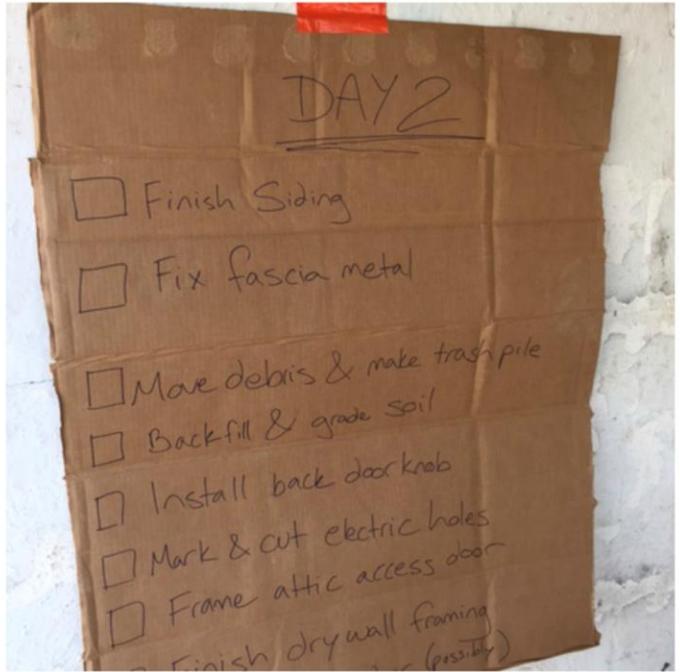
From July 16 – July 21, St. Andrew's sent 7 adults and 6 youth to Rainelle, West Virginia for the annual all-parish mission trip, partnering with the Fuller Center for Housing. Rainelle is about a 5 ½ hour drive from State College in the rural Appalachian Mountains. Rainelle was devastated by a 1,000-year flood in the summer of 2016, leaving businesses shuttered and homes uninhabitable. Estimates are that six people in Rainelle died. But the town has tremendous community spirit.

With generous support of groups like the Fuller Center and armies of volunteers from groups like ours, the town has persevered. From our temporary home in a church gymnasium, we spent our week building four homes, and we observed green shoots of growth from the destruction. Our tasks for the homes were to put on the last finishing touches of construction before dry walling and painting so that their new owners can move in soon.

One house is for the five-member Nutter family. Travis Nutter is in his 30s and has a job in coal mining, which provides a solid income for his family. In the 2016 flood, even though his house had been affected, Travis spent his time rescuing neighbors and saving their property. After the flood waters had receded, Travis learned that the damage to his home was too severe, and the authorities condemned his home and threatened to shut off the utilities. We met Travis and spoke with him a few times, and he lent us some of his tools to use at other houses. This month, his family is excited to be moving into their new home that our congregation helped finish. After not having a functional kitchen in over a year, they especially look forward to cooking a meal in their new kitchen.

In addition to working on homes for 6 hours most days, we had some time for rest, relaxation, and spiritual reflection and rejuvenation. Some of my personal spiritual growth came from talking to the very gracious people of Rainelle. While we were there, we ate at a small Café, one of the businesses that has emerged on Main Street among buildings abandoned in the flood. The Fruits of Labor Café supports through jobs and finances people suffering from or at risk of drug addiction. They make their own delicious baked products and use ingredients that are locally grown and produced. They have been rated as one of the top 100 restaurants in WV. Also while we were there, the town of Rainelle hosted a large Boy Scout event at their municipal pool.

I feel pleased and privileged to have spent the week with the people of Rainelle West Virginia and to be representing St. Andrews among the hands that are helping to rebuild this town.

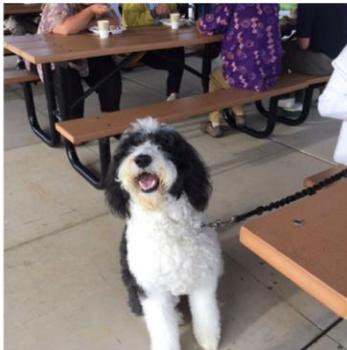


# **CHURCH & POTLUCK PICNIC IN THE PARK**

By Darlene Nordoff



The 5 PM Holy Eucharist was celebrated on Sunday, August 6, at Circleville Park. The mystery and awe of the Transfiguration was reflected in God's creation -- the nature surrounding us, the heartfelt and sacred music offered, the Christian community shared in the Holy Eucharist and potluck meal, the Peace.



## CHILDREN'S COMMUNION CONNECTION



On Saturday, June 10, six children participated in Communion Connection, a class designed for children who were receiving or not receiving communion and had never attended a preparatory class, and children who had attended a class previously. Children made connections amongst the Old Testament Passover story, Jesus' celebration of the Last Supper with his disciples, and the Holy Eucharist we celebrate each Sunday today as Christians. They talked about the outward and visible sign in the Eucharist (the bread and wine), and the inward and spiritual grace given in the Eucharist (the body and blood.) The children all helped to make communion bread that was offered, blessed, and consumed at the 10 AM and 5 PM worship services on June 11. They also helped to set the table and make the food for their lunch! Many thanks to Pam Couch who joined Darlene Nordoff in leading the class; Pam took the children through the Sacristy and explained the preparations for communion and how the altar is set. Thank you to Gwen Catchen who played the organ while the children knelt at the altar rail to sing "Let Us Break Bread Together on our Knees."



## YOUTH CHOIR AT ST. ANDREW'S



September is almost upon us and it will soon be time to resume Youth Choir activities. The Youth Choir is open to all children ages 7-14, boys and girls. Children participating in worship is a tradition that dates back to at least the 4th Century, where we discover the earliest records of children singing during worship. Young people leading in worship serves as an important reminder that we are all children of God and that God has blessed the youngest among us with gifts for ministry. The Youth Choir is the earliest opportunity for the young people of St. Andrew's to become involved in a worship leadership ministry. Singing in the Youth Choir gives our children a gift that keeps on giving. Singing helps us to connect with our faith, and with a community of singers that forms strong bonds both with each other and with the church.

The objectives of our Youth Choir include teaching sound musical skills including note and rhythm skills and singing techniques while singing music in a variety of musical styles, but also include developing leadership skills through training children to lead our congregation in our worship services. These are skills that pay huge lifetime dividends, and help our children find their place in our world. Singing helps children be a part of a group and helps make new friends. Singing in the choir also gives the children a well-balanced experience and education in the church. Aaaaaaand..... singing in the Youth Choir is fun!

Rehearsals are held from 4:15 PM-5:15 PM on Thursday afternoons. The first rehearsal is September 7. The children may come at 4:00 PM for a snack beforehand. The choir sings for the first Sunday of each month, October through May. Other services include Lessons and Carols in December and the early service on Christmas Eve, plus the middle service on Easter Day. The Youth Choir has been a vital part of St. Andrew's for years and years. Please come help us continue to make that happen.

**Oh sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth!  
Sing to the Lord, bless his name;  
tell of his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all the peoples!**

## **MUSIC NOTES**

The Adult Choir sings year-round for the worship at St. Andrew's, one of the few parish churches anywhere that does so. The choir sings for the second service every Sunday, plus special services, including:

Evensong October through May  
Lessons and Carols in December  
Second Service on Christmas Eve  
Ash Wednesday  
Maundy Thursday  
Good Friday  
Easter Vigil  
1st and 3rd services on Easter Day

We rehearse on Thursday evenings in the church from 7:00 PM-9:00 PM. Our first rehearsal is September 7. New members, especially tenors, are always welcome

Why come sing? Well.....

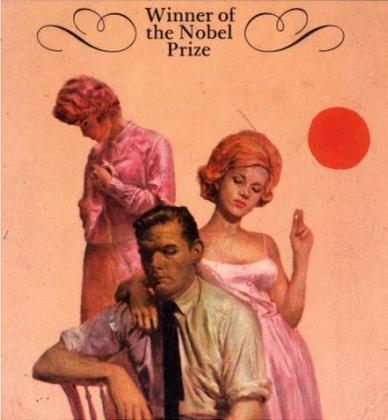
1. You never have to worry about what to wear.
2. You have excellent seats and a reserved seat on all major holidays—including Christmas Eve and Easter!
3. Offering plate is never passed to the choir.
4. It's exactly like singing in the shower, except you're wearing a robe and people are actually listening.
5. Sitting with a group in the chancel every Sunday is excellent practice in case you're ever called for jury duty.
6. Serving others--you are leaders in the worship services of the parish.
7. Singing is therapeutic. It is a time to put aside the pressures and concerns of the day.
8. Intellectual Stimulation—when you make music, you are using both sides of your brain simultaneously.
9. Singing in choir allows us to participate in something that is so much bigger than our selves.
10. Serving the Lord—considering all God does for us, it's a way to give something back in service.

Perhaps numbers 9 and 10 are the most important from that list. Ponder what St. Andrew's means to you, all the joy it has given you and what you can give back. If you are interested or have question, please feel free to contact the music staff:

Walter Wells [waltermolly@gmail.com](mailto:waltermolly@gmail.com)  
Gwen Catchen [gdcatchen@gmail.com](mailto:gdcatchen@gmail.com)

**The LORD is my strength and my song;  
he has become my salvation.  
Glad songs of salvation  
are in the tents of the righteous;  
therefore my heart dances for joy.**

## **ST. ANDREW'S BOOK GROUP**



The St. Andrew's Book Group has selected an American classic, *The Winter of Our Discontent* by John Steinbeck, as its selection for August. First published in 1961, Steinbeck's final novel is the story of grocery clerk, Ethan Hawley, a man known for his honesty and integrity, who chooses to use dishonest means to restore his family's faded fortunes. A novel dealing with morality and corruption, it has recently been called "a philosophical text for our times . . . as impressive today as when it was written." Steinbeck was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature the year after the book's publication. The Book Group will meet on Tuesday, August 22, at 7 PM in the library. All are welcome to read the book and join the discussion.

## **COMMUNITY CAFÉ**



During the Arts Festival, the Café sold pies and ice cream in order to raise funds for new commercial grade chest freezers and an ice maker. The sale was a great success as we raised over \$2200! Therefore, two new chest freezers have been ordered and are due for arrival at St. Andrew's this week. The ice maker is also in the works once we take measurements and decide on which model will best suit our needs.

We would like to thank everyone who baked crusts and pies, donated ingredients, worked the sale or bought our sweet treats. Special thanks goes to Trader Joe's and Cold Stone Creamery for providing us with apples, strawberries and sweet cream ice cream. Also, thanks must certainly go to: Scott 'Hard Hat' Luzier, Ron 'Rubber Duck' Rovansek, Paul 'The Professor' Hochreiter, Betsy 'The Gambler' Llewellyn, Andrea 'Andi Mac' McCloskey, Jason 'Red Beard' McCloskey, Kathryn 'The Inquisitor' Yahner, and Doug 'Pie Taster' Dailey.

If you were out of town, but would still like to contribute to the Café, please send a check made payable to St. Andrew's with the Café/Pie Sale in the subject line, to the church office.

## **PROPERTY COMMITTEE**



The members of the Property Committee would like to invite all who are interested to attend the next committee meeting on August 9 at 7:00 PM for a tour of the facilities, and to learn about both ongoing projects and future work. The tour and discussion should take between one and two hours. We will gather at the back of the church and walk the property including both inside and outside of the church, as well as the grounds of Trinity House.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Rovansek at (714) 514-8875.

## **NOTES FROM THE VESTRY**

**July 2017**



Vestry met on Monday evening, July 17. The Finance Committee reported that expenses for the month of June exceeded income by a little over \$3,000. Although the overall year-to-date operating income is still positive, please continue to meet pledge commitments by either placing them in the collection plates, or if out of town, by sending them directly to the church office. Your continued support is needed and much appreciated. The pie sale during the Central PA Festival of the Arts raised \$2,200 for the Community Café. Sincere thanks to all who helped

with this project! As part of its vigilance in maintaining a safe environment, the Property Committee presented and received funding approval for several exterior repairs. The vestry thanks the members of the Property Committee for the considerable time and work they dedicate to ensuring that St. Andrew's continues to be a safe, attractive, and sacred place of worship and service.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Hoover Clerk of the Vestry

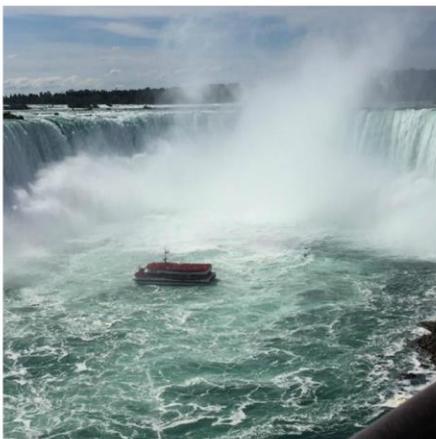
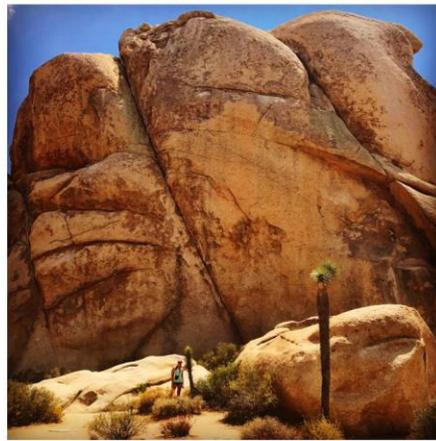
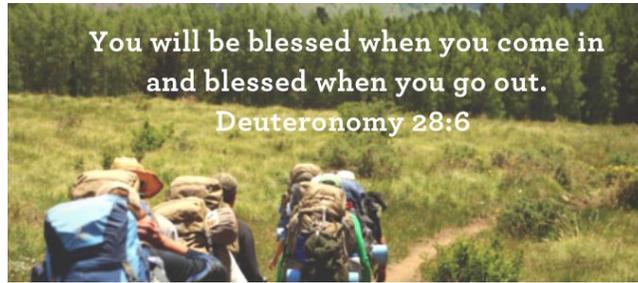
## **CHURCH SCHOOL, YOUTH JOURNEY PROGRAMS, & CHILDREN'S CHAPEL**



For Children, Youth, and Teens! Christian Education programs for children and youth will resume on Sunday, September 10, with an *Education Hour Kickoff Potluck Breakfast and Presentations* in Canterbury Hall. The class schedule for Godly Play, 5th/6th Grade Class, and Journey Youth programs begin the following Sunday on September 14 at 9:15 AM. Children's Chapel for three-year-old to second grade children will begin at 10:30 AM; children will return to their parents at The Peace. Stay tuned for more information! So excited to be seeing everyone again!

Children and Youth Ministry Opportunities! May you be blessed and be a blessing to others by volunteering as a church school teacher or youth leader. Contact Darlene Nordoff; she'll be happy to meet with you. Two male leaders are especially needed for the Journey 7th/8th/9th grouping - a lot of enthusiasm, excitement, and energy in this group!

# PRAYER FOR SAFE TRAVEL, BE IT NEAR OR FAR



Top Row: NYC, Joshua Tree National Park, Alaska. Middle Row: Harper's Ferry National Park, Standing Stone Trail, Puerto Rico. Bottom row: Niagara Falls, Palm Springs, Las Vegas.

## **AU REVOIR**

Father Doug completes his time as our interim rector on August 31 and begins service as the interim rector of St. John's, York on September 1. Please join us on Sunday, August 27th after the 10 AM service for a going away reception in Canterbury Hall. We will gather one final time with Father Doug, so we can express our appreciation and gratitude for his spiritual leadership, enthusiasm and joie de vivre.

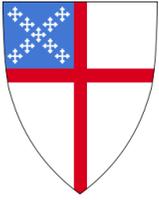
If you would like to help with the reception, please sign up below.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b4ba9ad2ea13-father>

Also, we are collecting donations for a going away gift from the parish. If you would like to donate to this gift, please write a check to St. Andrew's with 'Father Doug's gift' in the memo line, and deliver it to the office.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Rovanseck at [srovansek@comcast.net](mailto:srovansek@comcast.net) or 574-4708.





## ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Email: [office@standrewsc.org](mailto:office@standrewsc.org) Home Page: [www.standrewsc.org](http://www.standrewsc.org)

### **MINISTRY AT ST. ANDREW'S**

The Rt Rev. Audrey Scanlan

The Rev. Douglas Dailey

The Rev. Joe DeLauter

Bishop of Central Pennsylvania

Interim Rector of St. Andrew's

Deacon

### **ADMINISTRATION AND PROPERTY**

Allison Shea

Scott Luzier

Bill Donovan

Susan Stephenson

email: [treasurer@standrewsc.org](mailto:treasurer@standrewsc.org)

Mary Andrew

Gloria Meder

Parish Secretary

Sexton

Assistant Sexton

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Membership Secretary

### **EDUCATION**

Darlene Nordoff

email: [youth@standrewsc.org](mailto:youth@standrewsc.org)

Julie Kwasnica

Director for Children and Youth

Nursery Coordinator

### **MUSIC**

Walter Wells

Gwen Catchen

Choir Director

Organist

### **VESTRY**

Linda Mace

Sharon Rovansek

email: [wardens@standrewsc.org](mailto:wardens@standrewsc.org)

Rick Hoover

Senior Warden

Junior Warden

Clerk

Rose Bohn

Ted Christopher

Medora Ebersole

Kate Freeman

Sandy Schwartz

Peter Chamberlain

Tom Dauler

Marisa Ferger

Beth Jones

Steven Smith

### **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

Holy Eucharist

Holy Eucharist

Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 12:15 p.m.

Holy Eucharist

Seasonal and special services as scheduled;  
consult this newsletter and the weekly parish email for information.