

# The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

April 3, 2011

## Vestry sub-groups to address parishioner recommendations

The St. Andrew's Vestry, responding to recommendations from parishioners who gathered in small groups at the Annual Parish Meeting at the end of February, has formed two sub-committees charged with developing a plan of action that will involve the congregation in addressing issues related to some of those recommendations.

One of those committees, led by **Fr. Ron Baird**, with Vestry members **Steve Sattler, Ed Summers, Austin Stout, Sarah Fabian, Patrick Giese** and **Dan Brill**, will look at options for worship to accommodate our limited space and the fact that our 9:30 a.m. Sunday service is nearing capacity. A review of area families who have visited with us over the past several years also indicates that most of those families come to the 9:30 service.

The other sub-committee, comprised of Vestry members **Donna Gough, Alan Seitz, Brenda Spradling, Bill Lucas, Wini Cloran** and **Jackie Menke**, will look at how our parish can increase opportunities for members to come together more often in fellowship.

Both committees will report back to the Vestry in April with their

recommendations.

Vestry members asked three questions of parishioners at the annual meeting:

- What would help you feel more connected?
- How can you help promote and accomplish our ministry goals?
- How can you help us encourage an atmosphere of genuine welcome and inclusion for everyone at church?

On the question of helping people feel more connected with the parish and with one another, responses ranged from encouraging members to wear their name tags; encouraging all members —not just the scheduled greeters — to seek out visitors and warmly welcome newcomers, and perhaps providing some training for doing so; providing easier entry into small groups; more parish-wide social activities; mentoring for new members, and posting pictures of members. Other communications issues were discussed, including training for using the church web site, and featuring news on what groups and ministries at the church are doing, as well including more information about church families and children in *The Net*.

In terms of individuals contributing to the promotion and accomplishment of the parish's ministry goals, recommendations included offering community outreach events; programs for children; opportunities to communicate our Anglican traditions and values to newcomers and leadership training and resources for small groups, and personally inviting people to join in small groups and ministries.

To encourage an atmosphere of genuine welcome and inclusion, parishioners discussed issues from warmly greeting our guests to keeping hallways clear and quiet during services to rearranging the Gathering Area to enhance the flow of traffic.

You'll be hearing more in the coming weeks about how we are addressing many of these issues, as well as how many of them are already being addressed.

A more complete listing of the small group discussion items was placed in individual mail slots in the Gathering Area last week, and may be downloaded from the Member Connection of our web site, [www.standrewspolaris.org](http://www.standrewspolaris.org). If you don't

## Val Bowser's employment extended; small groups get new coordinator

Please join us in celebrating the extension of **Val Bowser's** employment as Director of Children's Ministries. At the beginning of the year, Val was scheduled to be with us through April. Thanks to generous and unsolicited pledge increases by several parishioners, **Fr. Ron Baird** and the Vestry announced at the Annual Parish Meeting that Val will remain on staff for the remainder of the year. We rejoice in this news, and look forward to Val's continued ministry to our children and their families.

We also welcome **Tally Whitehead** as volunteer small groups ministry coordinator. Tally earned her Masters Degree in Practical Theology, with a major emphasis in spiritual formation, from Ashland Theological Seminary last August. She has been involved in many areas of ministry over the years, including Women's Ministry Coordinator for seven years at the church she and her family attended before joining St. Andrew's a year-and-a-half ago. She currently works part-time doing media research for Christian author/speaker Shaunti Feldhahn.

In a letter to small group leaders, Tally said, "My number one passion is to help people grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.

— Please turn to back —

## Donations for April 23 Easter Egg Hunt sought

Don't miss the annual St. Andrew's Easter Egg Hunt on the morning of Saturday, April 23.

Further details will be announced next week, but in the meantime we are accepting donations of small individually wrapped candies or small Christian-themed items such as stickers to place inside the eggs. These may be placed in the basket in the Gathering Area marked "Easter Egg Donations." If you would like to help with the Easter Egg Hunt, please contact **Judy Baird** at [jbaird@standrewspolaris.org](mailto:jbaird@standrewspolaris.org) or 614-423-4250, ext. 103.



## Membership orientation April 10

Class 101: Discover St. Andrew's will be offered Sunday, April 10 from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Gathering Area. Class 101 is an orientation to St. Andrew's, and covers the benefits of belonging to our parish, our purpose, mission and beliefs. The class is taught by Fr. Ron Baird, our rector.

Please let us know by Sunday, April 3 if you'd like to attend so that we can provide you with an advance copy of the membership orientation manual and other materials so you will be able to come prepared with any questions you'd like to ask. You may register by contacting Judy Baird, 614-423-4250, ext. 103, [jbaird@standrewspolaris.org](mailto:jbaird@standrewspolaris.org) or online on the Member Connection of our web site, [www.standrewspolaris.org](http://www.standrewspolaris.org). Child care will be provided for those families who need it, but we do ask that you let us know when you register so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

## Val

— Continued from front —

"My heart is to continue the foundation that has already been set at St. Andrew's; to build strong small groups, overflowing with the love and grace of Christ."

Tally gave birth to her fourth child, a daughter, on March 15, so will ease into her new role in the parish over the next several months.

Watch *The Net* for more news from our Children's and Small Group ministries.

## PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

Following the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, please pray today for the bishop-to-be-elected and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Multan, Pakistan. The Church of Pakistan (United) was formed in 1970 by the union of Anglicans, Presbyterians, Methodists and Lutherans. Some 800,000 strong, the Church, along with other Christians, still endures significant persecution, as witnessed by the assassination last month of the only Christian in Pakistan's governing body. Along with the persecution, however, are glimpses of God's grace in cordial working relationships between Christians and the majority Muslims. As the church in the early centuries endured and overcame Roman persecution, please pray especially that the church in Pakistan will be strengthened and nourished by the in-dwelling Holy Spirit to continue walking the pilgrim's and martyr's path with joy, grace, and the hope that does not disappoint.

Following the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, please pray today for Fr. Chuck Conover of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Greenfield, Ind., and his wife Bonnie.

## THE DAILY LECTIONARY

Week of the Fourth Sunday in Lent • April 3-9

**Sunday, April 3** — Psalms 66, 67/19, 46; Jeremiah 14:1-9, 17-22; Galatians 4:21-5:1; Mark 8:11-21

**Monday, April 4** — Psalms 89:1-18/89:19-52; Jeremiah 16:10-21; Romans 7:1-12; John 6:1-15

**Tuesday, April 5** — Psalms 97, 99, [100]/94, [95]; Jeremiah 17:19-27; Romans 7:13-25; John 6:16-27

**Wednesday, April 6** — Psalms 101, 109:1-4(5-19)20-30/119:121-144; Jeremiah 18:1-11; Romans 8:1-11; John 6:27-40

**Thursday, April 7** — Psalms 69:1-23(24-30)31-38/73; Jeremiah 22:13-23; Romans 8:12-27; John 6:41-51

**Friday, April 8** — Psalms 95 & 102/107:1-32; Jeremiah 23:1-8; Romans 8:28-39; John 6:52-59

**Saturday, April 9** — Psalms 107:33-43, 108:1-6(7-13)/Psalm 33; Jeremiah 23:9-15; Romans 9:1-18; John 6:60-71

**Note:** *The first set of Psalms and readings are intended for the morning, and the second set for the evening.*

## 'Dinner-to-Go' April 10 to benefit third-world children

The St. Andrew's Youth Group will host its annual Italian Dinner To-Go to raise funds for World Vision's "30 Hour Famine" on Sunday, April 10.



Parishioners may stop by the Gathering Area after the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services to pick up dinner to take home, and treat yourself to a day off from cooking!

The youth themselves will be participating in the "30 Hour Famine" on Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30. Last year they raised \$1,400 for children in third-world countries, and this year they hope to raise even more.

During the famine, the youth and adult chaperones will abstain from eating for 30-hours. (Plenty of liquids will be provided.) During this time, the youth will engage in a number of activities to learn about hunger throughout the world and possibly some service projects as well.

Youth will be seeking sponsors for this event throughout April.

Youth Group advisor Karen Osmond is also looking for adults to chaperone this year's event. If you'd like to help, please contact Karen at 614-975-0878 or [khosmond@gmail.com](mailto:khosmond@gmail.com).

For more information, please see [30hourfamine.org](http://30hourfamine.org).

## Altar Guild meeting April 9

The St. Andrew's Altar Guild will meet Saturday, April 9 at 10 a.m. for new member training and orientation. Anyone with a dedication and desire to serve the Lord at his altar is welcome to attend Saturday's meeting.

Altar Guild members prepare the altar for communion, care for the sacramental vessels and altar linens, and otherwise assist in the care of the sanctuary. Guild members serve in teams of two approximately one Sunday a month, plus for special services as assigned.

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Wini Cloran, 740-657-1209 or [wcloran@gmail.com](mailto:wcloran@gmail.com).