

The Net

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

May 16, 2010



Planting seeds

Dan Brill and his team of willing workers came together last Saturday morning to plant grass seed, spread straw and otherwise spruce up the church grounds. The work day coincided with Rogationtide, traditionally a time when prayers are offered for God's blessing on the land, livestock and crops in the hope of a good harvest. Clockwise, from upper left, are Joe Nelson; Dave Patton, left, and Dan, and one of our youth, with flag football fans behind him. Great job, Dan and company!

It's not too late to make a difference!

Stephen Ministry training classes will be starting soon, but it is not too late to become a Stephen Ministry recruit. Spiritual gifts are gifts to give away. God gives them to us, and we use them to serve others. How are you using your gifts right now? Are you looking for a new way to use them? If your spiritual gifts include one or more of the following — faith, mercy, encouragement, listening, caring — consider Stephen Ministry, our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry. This may be just what you've been looking for!

Stephen Ministry has been in operation at St. Andrew's for many years. The ministry of the Stephen Ministers has been a blessing to individuals, to the lay ministers themselves, and to the whole congregation. In order to continue and expand this ministry of care, we will be starting another Stephen Ministry training class. Take advantage of this opportunity to share the love that God has given you. If you've ever thought about finding ways to bring Christ's love to those who are hurting, you need to learn more about Stephen Ministry. You will find that being a Stephen Minister will not only be helpful to others, but it will be one of the most fulfilling and joyful experiences that you have ever had. The new class will be starting in the near future.

— Please turn to back —



Youth Group to sponsor Max & Erma's fund-raiser

St. Andrew's will be the "Church of the Day" at Max & Erma's, 1515 Polaris Parkway, on Sunday, June 6, with 20 percent of the proceeds generated from parishioners dining there, or ordering carry-out, on that day going to our Youth Group. Watch for a flyer in your church mailbox with all the details!

Family movie night June 12

The Daughters of the King, with assistance from the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's is sponsoring a Family Movie Night on Saturday, June 12 at the church. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m., with the movie "Bruce Almighty" showing at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Parents, bring your children in their PJs and their favorite snack to share. We will serve coffee, tea, juice and, of course, popcorn!

Christ's Ascension: The ultimate vindication!

By Fr. Ron Baird

Ascension Day falls 40 days after Easter. On this day, which was this past Thursday, and is celebrated today, we remember Christ's ascent into Heaven to be seated at the right hand of the Father. Ascension Day is more than just a remembering of the soles of Jesus' feet as he drifted up into the clouds! It is the fundamental Christian acknowledgment of the vindication of Jesus by God the Father.

He is vindicated from the sentence of treason and death that was laid upon him by Pontius Pilate in his trial.

He is vindicated from the charge of blasphemy that the high priests laid upon him.

He is vindicated and restored to his rightful position as King of the Universe, Ruler of all of Creation.

He is given power to rule and sit over creation as Supreme Judge, the Prince of Peace.

We might wonder why Jesus waited 40 days before ascending into Heaven. What did he do for those 40 days? It is important to note that in Scripture "40 days" is a catch phrase. It is not necessarily meant to be taken literally. Rather, it means "a long time." The fact that Jesus ascended into Heaven 40 days after his resurrection is meant to signify that he remained with his disciples for a long time before he returned to the Father.

This 40 days was an important time for the Church. During this period, Jesus taught the disciples concerning the Scriptures, that they might more fully understand their meaning and the implication of them upon the experience of his incarnation, earthly ministry and his death and resurrection.

The disciples learned so that others might understand and come to know the saving grace that is Jesus Christ.

We might wonder, "Why did Jesus ascend into Heaven as all? Why didn't he just remain here?" He ascended because the Resurrection is more than the resuscitation of his corpse. He was given a new spiritual body in the Resurrection.

He appeared to the disciples that they might know the love and forgiveness of the resurrection. He remained for 40 days that they might comprehend its impact upon their lives and the lives of the people of the whole world.

He ascended into Heaven in order to prepare a place for us that we, too, might come to share in his Heavenly Kingdom.

He does not leave us alone, however. He sends the Holy Spirit into our lives and hearts through Baptism, that we might never be separated from him, but always connected to him through the Holy Spirit.

"Lo I am with you even to the end of the ages."



Congratulations, graduates!

Congratulations to **Joe Worthington**, son of **Jim** and **Julie Worthington**, who will graduate from the School of Ministry of Valley Family Church (VFC), Kalamazoo, Mich. in June.

Joe joined the staff of VFC as Kids Ministry Director in June 2009, after working nine years for Stryker Corporation in various Operations and Engineering leadership positions, and serving for a decade as an officer in the United States Navy. He also serves as a Commander in the United States Navy Reserve. He is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a B.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering, the Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program, and the Stryker Leadership Course at Harvard Business School. Joe and his wife Melissa have four children.

THE DAILY LECTIONARY

Week of the Seventh Sunday in Easter • May 16-22

Sunday, May 16 — Psalms 66, 67/19, 46; Exodus 3:1-12; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 10:17-24

Monday, May 17 — Psalm 89:1-18/89:19-52; Joshua 1:1-9; Ephesians 3:1-13; Matthew 8:5-17

Tuesday, May 18 — Psalms 97, 99, [100]/94, [95]; 1 Samuel 16:1-13a; Ephesians 3:14-21; Matthew 8:18-27

Wednesday, May 19 — Psalms 101, 109:1-4 (5-19) 20-30/119:121-144; Isaiah 4:2-6; Ephesians 4:1-16; Matthew 8:28-34

Thursday, May 20 — Psalms 105:1-22/105:23-45; Zechariah 4:1-14; Ephesians 4:17-32; Matthew 9:1-8

Friday, May 21 — Psalms 102/107:1-32; Jeremiah 31:27-34; Ephesians 5:1-20; Matthew 9:9-17

Saturday, May 22 — Psalms 107:33-43, 108:1-6(7-13); Ezekiel 36:22-27; Ephesians 6:10-24; Matthew 9:18-26

Eve of Pentecost — P.M.: Psalm 33; Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20; 1 Peter 2:4-10

Sterlings welcome granddaughter

Congratulations to **Bill** and **Debbie Sterling** on the birth of their first grandchild, **Grace Bayne Shogren**, this past week. Proud parents are Bill and Debbie's daughter, **Kim Shogren** and her husband **Grant**. Grace entered the world at 9 pounds, 12 ounces and 21 inches long. Mom and baby both doing great!

Graduating? We want to recognize you!

If you, a child or a grandchild is graduating this year, please contact **Judy Baird** at jbaird@standrewspolaris.org or 614-423-4250, ext. 103 or to be included in *The Net's graduation notes*. Please let us know the name of the graduate, their relationship to you, the school they are graduating from, and their plans following graduation. If they are a college graduate, please also include their degree. Pictures are also welcomed and encouraged!

It's not too late

— Continued from front —

If you are interested, please contact one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders soon to receive an application and set up a time for an interview, during which any questions you have will be answered.

And, remember everyone, Stephen Ministers are here for you. If you are going through a difficult time in your life, a Stephen Minister would be a good choice for you.

So if you are interested either in becoming a Stephen Minister, or in having a Stephen Minister to help you through your tough time, contact one of our Stephen Ministry leaders now!

Stephen leaders:

Sarah Fabian, 614-895-6745 or sarahgf@sbcglobal.net; **Kathy Summers**, 614-939-1649 or ktsummers@sbcglobal.net; **Brenda Bender**, 614-865-4565 or brenda.bender@att.net.

Remember to wear red next Sunday for Pentecost!