

THE DAILY LECTIONARY

The Week of the First Sunday of Advent • Nov. 29 - Dec. 5

Sunday, Nov. 29 — Psalms 146, 147/111, 112, 113; Amos 1:1-5,13-2:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Luke 21:5-19

Monday, Nov. 30 — Psalms 1, 2, 3;4, 7; Amos 2:6-16; 2 Peter 1:1-11; Matthew 21:1-11

The Feast of St. Andrew — A.M.: Psalm 34, Isaiah 49:1-6, 1 Corinthians 4:1-16
P.M.: Psalms 96 & 100, Isaiah 55:1-5; John 1:35-42

Tuesday, Dec. 1 — Psalms 5, 6, 10, 11; Amos 3:1-11; 2 Peter 1:12-21; Matthew 21:12-22

Wednesday, Dec. 2 — Psalms 119:1-24/12, 13, 14; Amos 3:12-4:5; 2 Peter 3:1-10; Matthew 21:23-32

Thursday, Dec. 3 — Psalms 18:1-20/18:21-50; Amos 4:6-13; 2 Peter 3:11-18; Matthew 21:33-46

Friday, Dec. 4 — Psalms 16, 17/22; Amos 5:1-17; Jude 1-16; Matthew 22:1-14

Saturday, Dec. 5 — Psalms 20, 21:1-7(8-14)/110:1-5(6-7), 116, 117; Amos 5:18-27; Jude 17-25; Matthew 22:15-22

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

Christmas Flower Memorials & Thanksgivings

The Altar Guild is now accepting contributions toward flowers and greens to decorate the altar and sanctuary for Christmas Eve. If you would like to make a gift in any amount in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for a loved one, an event or a blessing, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate along with your check made payable to St. Andrew's Anglican Church. Please note Altar Guild in the memo section of your check. Cash gifts should be placed in an envelope, along with this form.

Enclosed is a gift of \$_____ toward altar decorations for Christmas Eve.

Please print all information exactly as you would like it to appear in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

This gift is given by (please print):

Please contact me at the follow e-mail address or phone number with questions:

In memory of (please print):

In thanksgiving for (please print):

For more information, please contact **Ellie Schramm**, 614-846-0711 or ellieschramm@insight.rr.com. **Deadline: Sunday, Dec. 20.**

December Birthdays

Parker Elder
Christie Gales
Sarah Fabian
Marcia Johnson
Lissette Estrada
Larry Harper
Austin Stout
Pam Dunlap
Harlie Moreland
Burton Otani
Avril Darke
Aiden Darke
Chris Haines
Jean Falor
Alan Seitz
Deryck Richardson
Quinlan Fitzer
Carey Rabold
Barbara Lake
Robert Williams
Benjamin Haines
Steve Sattler
Don Bender
Hope James
Kristin Lowery

December Anniversaries

Jason & Trina Anthony
Bill & Debbie Sterling
Shawn & Mandy Dunn
Steve & Jan Zacharias
Bob & Alex Seyerle
Frank & Jo Edda Habeker

Help sought to clean nursery, classrooms

Pam Dunlap is seeking volunteers to help with the ministry of cleaning and sanitizing the nursery and classrooms at church. Volunteers would need to come in either after the 11 a.m. service on Sundays, or some day during the week. If you are interested and willing to help us keep the classrooms clean and safe for the children, please contact Pam at 614-776-1385.

Pam also reminds parents that if their children bring toys from home, they remember to take them home. There are currently several miscellaneous toys in the Nursery, which we would like to see returned to their owners. Also, if you have toys you would like to donate to the church, please contact **Marty Scott** at mscott@standrewspolaris.org or 614-901-0564 to make sure they meet safety requirements.

St. Andrew's Net

December 2009

Monthly Edition

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Prepare ye the Way of the Lord

In this Advent season, prepare a place in your heart and life for the coming of God in the flesh: Emmanuel! Make a commitment to yourself and to God to come to church each and every Sunday in Advent, to confess your sins, to hear his Word preached and to receive him into your very life in the Holy Sacrament of the Body and Blood.

By keeping a Holy Advent we open the way to make a joyful Christmas for ourselves. It serves to keep the hustle and bustle of December and the commercialism with which the world hypes Christmas in perspective.

It serves as a reminder to us that Christmas is not about presents under a tree, but about the greatest gift the world has ever been given: The gift of the Son of God enfleshed by power of the Virgin Mary. Emmanuel: The gift of God with us. The salvation of the world! This advent let us heed the cry of John the Baptist and of the prophet Isaiah before him: Prepare ye the way!



The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath dates back to ancient celebrations of the Winter solstice - that time of year when the sun reaches its Southern-most point in the heavens and the days are darkest and most gloomy. Because they longed for the return of the sun's light and life,



the ancients stopped all usual activity, sacrificed the use of their wagon wheels and hung them up, festooned with lights and greens, in their celebration hall.

There they awaited the return of their sun-god, thinking of the warmth and life he brought. Celebrations culminated in the "nativity" of the sun — the turning point of the year.

As Christians, we use the same meaningful custom to anticipate the feast of light and life: The nativity of the Savior. We add one light on the wreath for each Sunday in Advent. We think of the darkness after Adam's sin and watch the growing hope and light as the prophets and the Virgin help us prepare for the saving birth.

Pledge drive nears \$450,000

One hundred and twenty-nine (129) families have responded to the 2010 General Fund Stewardship Drive, pledging \$449,361 to date. We are still waiting to hear from about 17 families. Our goal is \$459,000, which means we have \$9,649 yet to raise.

If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please do so today so the Vestry can finalize the 2010 budget.

In This Issue

Myers family to return to Mali | 2
A death in Liberia | 2
Christmas outreach to soldiers | 3
Stephen Ministers among us | 3
Dec. 6 deadline for Christmas outreach to American soldiers | 3
Christmas Memorials & Thanksgivings Form | 4

Myers family to return to Mali in December; parish asked to help provide baby packs

Submitted by Nanci James, Seminarian from St. Andrew's

At church we have a family – the Myers: the Doctor Steve, the wife Beth, Aaron the seminarian and Stephanie the college graduate. They volunteer in Mali, West-Africa in Koutiala Women's and Children's Hospital. All of them are returning at the end of this year to Mali to work for the Kingdom of God. (I don't know how many trips this makes!) Below is Beth's brief explanation of what they will be doing. As you can see it is very important work.

One thing they need is little "outfits" for the hospital newborns.

That's where you all come in. I know your generous hearts, your love for Christmas and for babies. I am asking for your help. Would you please help provide these gifts of love in support of new life?

Each gift set contains: A baby hat; a cute little top (it could even be a t-shirt, a little dress or a top for a little boy); socks, and a light blanket. Each one can be placed in a zip lock bag to make it easy for the hospital. If you want to add a little note with a prayer, that would be a blessing. Remember, Mali is longitudinally about equal with the Bahamas' so no winter wear. And you can make as many as you like!

So here are the delivery options: Bring or mail them to the church, and I'll pick them up; drop them by my house (see address on the Member Connection), if I'm not home it is safe to leave them on the porch, or mail them me so they arrive before Dec. 27. However they come, I will personally see that they get taken/shipped to the hospital in Mali.

Hi Nanci, Thank you for your kind words and for your willingness to pray for us. It is something that I cherish mainly because I know I cannot do this kind of trip without God's help. As it stands right now, we have four from our family going, Steve, Aaron, Steph and I, plus a friend from college, Wally Moses. I don't remember if I told you that we will have to wait a year to do the electrification of the girl's school. This year, Wally and Aaron will be helping to raise a new building at the hospital along with a team from Toledo, Ohio. Steve, of course, will be doing any operations needed; Steph will be working on her micro finance project she named Kumabo, helping women make an income from fabric made in Mali. She would also like to assist a Ph.D. nurse researcher on (the issue of preventing) female mutilation. I will be helping feed the three teams that are coming. Our flight leaves on Dec. 31 and arrives in Mali the evening of the 1st of January. Please pray that we will be able to prepare well with the busyness of the holidays and that we will not forget anything needed for the trip: Medicine for us and the hospital patients, food items...

In His Love, any help would be appreciated. Blessings, Beth

I know this is a short time frame but I know we do this with joy and generosity (You can see their work on the internet at www.koutialahospital.org)



2001

2006

Rebecca Sippley dies in Liberia

It is with great sadness that we share with you news of the death of 9-year-old **Rebecca Sippley** in Robert's Port, Liberia on Nov. 5. In 2001, members of our congregation were instrumental in bringing Rebecca, along with her mother, **Josephine**, to Columbus, where Rebecca underwent life-saving spina bifida surgery at Nationwide Children's Hospital. Rebecca and Josephine returned to Liberia, where she entered school as scheduled. In a letter shared by Fred Shirley, Mother Abby Flemister of Partners in Ministry in Liberia, expressed her appreciation to all those participated in the "compassionate ministry played to prolong the quality of Rebecca's life for as long as she lived."

While the cause of her death was not reported, Mother Abby indicated Rebecca had been in failing health since 2008.

Please keep Josephine and the rest of Rebecca's family in your prayers as they mourn her death. May Rebecca rest in peace in the arms of her Savior, and may the light of Christ shine eternally upon her.

St. Andrew's contributes 27 boxes to 'Christmas Child'

The Girard Life Group collected 27 boxes filled with gifts for children overseas from the members of St. Andrew's, and four from outside sources. **Barbara Girard** extends the group's appreciation to all those who participated in Operation Christmas Child this year.

Women's Bible Study moves to Mondays

The Woman's Bible Study small group led by Sue Bell has changed its meeting day from Tuesdays to Mondays. The group meets at 10 a.m. at the Tiffany Lake Club House, 6345 Cooper Rd., Westerville. For information, please contact Sue at 614-882-0392 or SBell002@insight.rr.com.

What is a Stephen Minister like?

They are among us

No, we're not talking about angels or aliens (although some people have considered their Stephen Minister as an angel). We're talking about individuals who care about others. If you or someone you know wants to do more as a Christian caregiver, consider Stephen Ministry. This is our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry. Stephen Ministers bring distinctively Christian care to those in need. They use both words and deeds to express Christ's care for others — listening and comforting, calling on the training they have received and employing the tools of faith.

Stephen Ministers care

When was the last time someone really listened to you? We're talking about that un-distracted, full attention kind of listening. That's one of the ways Stephen Ministers care for others. Stephen Ministers share the warmth of God's love with those who need it most: the lonely, the depressed, the grieving, one who has lost a job, long term illness, or any other life crisis.

They grow in the Lord

The more you focus on the Lord and do God's work, the more satisfaction you will find. Are you looking for more satisfaction in your life? Consider serving our congregation as a Stephen Minister. By helping others, you will help God's kingdom grow - and you will grow too. A training class for Stephen Ministry will be starting in February. For more information, contact one of the Stephen Ministry Leaders: **Brenda Bender**, 614-865-4565, bender@att.net; **Sarah Fabian**, 614-895-6745, sarahgf@sbcglobal.net; or **Kathy Summers**, 614-939-1649, ktsummers@sbcglobal.net. God has plans for you to grow!

Deadline nears for outreach to soldiers

With about 80 cards already taken from the three "Christmas Trees" set up by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew for their Christmas outreach to American soldiers, the remaining 20 cards have been consolidated onto the tree in the Narthex. The deadline for returning packed boxes is Dec. 6, so if you've not yet returned your packages, or want to help make Christmas a little brighter for soldiers serving overseas by taking a card off the tree and filling a box, please do so as soon as possible.

This project will touch U.S. Army soldiers from North Carolina who were deployed to Iraq in September, and are expected to be away from home for a year. The cards on the tree are for a male or female soldier, and a suggested shopping list is provided next to the trees. Items that would be appreciated include non-perishable snacks, toiletries and, for their down-time, reading materials, games or CD/DVDs. Whatever you send will be appreciated!

Please place your gifts inside a box about the size of a shoebox, and feel free to wrap your box with Christmas paper. Please also place the index card you took from the tree on the front of the box. We also suggest you include either a Christmas or thank-you card. Our military contact suggests including your e-mail address if you have one. Sometimes, the soldiers have easier access to the Internet than a post-office. You may also choose to buy items on the shopping list in bulk, rather than buy for an individual soldier. The Brotherhood will take the bulk items and package up individual packages.

There will be large shipping boxes in the Gathering Area in which to place your individual package or bulk items. The Brotherhood will be working the following week to finish packing and shipping all the Christmas Boxes. We would appreciate any extra shoeboxes you might have so we can box up the bulk items. Packages will be mailed directly to the unit's chaplain, who will distribute the individual boxes to the soldiers.



Patti Lucas Styles receives honors from Professional Society

The Public Relations Society of America's (PRSA) Georgia chapter, the society's second largest, named **Patti Styles**, daughter of **Jane** and **Bill Lucas** (pictured above with Patti), the 2009 Luminary Star during its annual awards ceremony in October. The award recognizes a chapter member with from 13 to 19 years of experience who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and contributions to the profession of public relations through their work experience.

The internal communications manager also received a Phoenix Award for a video she produced to educate more than 8,000 Children's Healthcare of Atlanta employees and physicians about an upcoming electronic medical record implementation.

Patti has helped guide thousands of the hospital system's staff members through large change initiatives since joining the organization nearly six years ago. Prior to joining Children's, she was communications manager for a medical society in Fairfax, Va. She also has worked for several Atlanta-based PR and advertising agencies.

Patti's involvement with PRSA | GA began early in her career. She was part of the Professional Development Committee for three years, chairing it for two them and during which time she oversaw a Web writing seminar that was one of the chapter's most successful to date. She later served on the Strategic Plan Committee, Web Site Committee, and Nominating Committee. She most recently co-chaired the chapter's 2009 Annual Conference.

Patti graduated from Westerville South High School in 1990 and attended Kent State University.

Choir to present cantata Christmas Eve

St. Andrew's Choir has been busy practicing a cantata, "Noel, Jesus Is Born", by Lanny Wolfe, Don Marsh and Bob Benson, which will be sung on Christmas Eve at 10 p.m., prior to the 11 p.m. service. Their guest narrator will again be **George Girard**. "Come and Hear"!

Services will also be held at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Save the date for New Year's Eve!

Save the night on Dec. 31! St. Andrew's is hosting its first New Year Eve's Party, from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m. For more information, to join in this adventure or help, please contact **Ann Schnapp**, 614-890-5896 or acbs2@hotmail.com or **Marty Scott**, 614-284-0182 or mccott@standrewspolaris.org. A planning meeting will be held in December.