



# The Epistle

A Newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Church Office: 102 North Main St. Manchester, NH 03102

Telephone: 603-622-8632

Air conditioned for your comfort

[www.standrewsmanchester.com](http://www.standrewsmanchester.com)

Email address: [standrewsmanchester@comcast.net](mailto:standrewsmanchester@comcast.net)

Reverend Daniel R. Collier, Rector

**July ~ 2010**

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, the windows are open, and although it is still rather early in the day, the moist warmth of summer air is already making itself wonderfully present. And I hope that, as we begin this season of rest, recreation, and outdoor activities, it finds you well.

As part of my work in Lynn, Massachusetts, I do outreach with the faith communities – churches, synagogues, and temples – in the area around elder care issues. And recently, I was visiting the website of a local Lutheran Church, and on their website there was quotation that caught my attention. It was a brief and simple statement of the great 20<sup>th</sup> century theologian, Karl Rahner: "*The Lord gave himself to us precisely as food to be enjoyed.*" The words captured my imagination and led me to think about you, the people of Saint Andrew's Church.

So much of the life of the parish revolves around food – ice cream socials, Thanksgiving Dinners, Pot-Luck Suppers, summer barbecues, Sunday morning donuts and pastries, pancake suppers – and even pancake races. Renaissance evening meals that feature things like roasted pork, incredibly steamed root vegetables, and "Sopp" – the rustic chicken leg in gravy. Men's Cake Auctions which are calling forth an increasingly amazing level of baking creativity and diversity – with footballs and goalposts skillfully placed atop lush frosting. People at Saint Andrew's love talking about food. Even when recounting the parish's history, the stories frequently involve food – like the mind-stretching amounts of food prepared for the Horse Shows for so many years. Saint Andrew's parishioners love to tell where they bought their food and the very best ways to prepare it. And you also love to share it with others.

Given all this, it is no surprise that one of the core ministries of the parish is the Food Pantry. And when I think about this ministry so many images come to mind, including the dedicated people who do the heavy work of going to the Food Bank to pick up chock full containers before each pantry – and the joy they express at a big haul. I also think about the generous commitment of all the volunteers who show up to work each Pantry – their hospitality and sense of community. There are images of a red pick-up truck full of turkeys and a storeroom packed so full that you can barely get in it. And there is the excitement and happiness that people experience in giving it all away. "It just feels good" is the way one parishioner once described this experience.

We follow a Savior whose ministry revolved around food. Jesus' parables are filled with images of food, meals, and banquets. Through these parables he tries to provide us with a sense of God's great hospitality, God's deep longing to invite everyone to the table. And Jesus tried to provide us with a vision of this gracious and generous hospitality by the way he lived out his ministry – eating with Pharisees and outcasts, with those considered to be pure and those deemed to be impure, and with persons having significant resources and power as well as those having nothing. He also described himself as food – as

bread and water and wine – food to nourish the soul, to strengthen the heart, and to provide sustenance for the journey. Taken, blessed, broken, and given away.

In your life together as a parish community, you live out and express this hospitality in so many ways. And with gratitude in my heart for your witness, I invite you to enter in an ever deeper way into the ministry and mystery of the One who gives himself to us as food to be enjoyed.

I wish you and all those you love a Wonderful July.

Peace,  
Dan

### Inquirers' Conversations

Saint Andrew's Church will be offering space this summer for adults wishing to learn more about the Episcopal Church. These conversations are offered in response to those expressing interest in Reception or Confirmation.

The conversations program will include prayer, reflection, study and discussion to support people on their particular journey. The program's meetings are scheduled for four Sundays after the celebration of the Eucharist. The first meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 13th. This meeting will provide a general overview of the inquirers' program and offer an opportunity for people to identify questions that they hope can be answered through the program's conversations.

The schedule will continue on July 11th, July 18th and July 25th. The meetings will begin at 10:30 after the Eucharist service in the church and should finish by 11:45 a.m.

If you have any questions, please email Dan at [daniel.collier@comcast.net](mailto:daniel.collier@comcast.net)

### COMING ATTRACTIONS

»»»»Fisher Cats Game & Fireworks Show Thursday -August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. ««««

### Confirmation and Blessing of the Cupola

Wednesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Bishop Robinson will confirm Logan & Leah Gabriel and receive those who wish to join the Episcopal Church. And he will Bless & Rededicate our recently renovated cupola

Please plan to attend this evening event.



### Annual Ice Cream Social

Members of AA and all parishioners are invited to an ice cream social Monday evening, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

This will be held, weather permitting, in the courtyard between the parish hall and Founder's house

### **Parish News**

#### Special Olympics Update

Mae Williams participated in the New Hampshire 2010 Summer Olympics. On Friday, Mae was entered into the 50m race in which she came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place to win the Silver Medal in her heat. Later on in the

afternoon Mae warmed up for her second event of the day, the Javelin Throw. It is said that Mae's dad (Andrew) stood at the end of the pit where Mae was told that she must throw her Javelin and was nearly hit by the rod as "I only expected her to throw it a couple of feet" admits Andrew. "I couldn't believe it when she threw it nine ft further than she's ever thrown it before". Mae received a Gold Medal for the throw.

On Saturday, Mae went on to her first event of the day the Running Long Jump. She made three attempts at the event and made the longest jump but was disqualified for stepping past the launch point. She received 6<sup>th</sup> place in this race. We will work on this. Mae's last event for the day was the softball throw, where the athlete's must throw a softball as far as they can within the area designated to them. At her first attempt in this event in the ball slipped out of her hand and went into the foul zone (due to the grass being wet) disappointed, Mae did not give up. Mae had a terrific come back, in which she threw her last 2 balls directly where she was supposed to, and better than she had at the S. O. N. H. Regional Games in Londonderry earlier this year. After three attempts Mae was rewarded with the Silver Medal for the event.

This ended the events for Mae and most of the athlete's for this year. They all practiced very hard and waited all year for these games to take place. Please join us as we congratulate all of these great people. 'Way to Go' all who participated!

### Coffee Hour...

Please take a moment to check our sign up sheet and fill in a week - refreshments need not be elaborate, but clean up is required.

Coffee Hour gives us time to come together as a community and catch up on one another's lives. It's a time when we welcome newcomers to church and is a very important ministry in our church. Please consider signing up for a week this summer or plan it for the fall. Help those who clean up frequently by default and give them a break. Thank you.

### *Youth Education*

On June 13<sup>th</sup> we finished our second year of youth education. We had a successful year with a varied number of children attending. We were able to collect food for a Thanksgiving Dinner for a family in need. We worked hard to bring the gift of children's voices to Christmas with the help of John Spring. The children also participated in the Easter service in great numbers. All in all it was a success.

We are seeking volunteers for teaching, assisting, and planning for next year. We are including a survey for the whole parish so that all can share their thoughts on what they would like St. Andrews to offer for the youth of the parish. Even if you don't have children attending please share your thoughts and perspectives.

Youth education is a ministry of the parish. We are all part of the educational process for our young parishioners. Please consider volunteering.

### Reader and Eucharist Minister Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FIRST READER</u>	<u>SECOND READER</u>	<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER</u>
July 4	RP Hale	Phil Petts	Jeff Riley
July 11	Kara O'Connell	Logan Gabriel	Pat Koller
July 18	Pat Koller	Phil Petts	Yvette Desindes
July 25	Logan Gabriel	Kara O'Connell	Jeff Riley

Please note: First Readers say the First Lesson and the Psalm.

Second Readers say the Second Lesson and the Prayers of the People.

If you cannot make your turn in the schedule, please see Pat to make substitutions.



## The Birthday Corner

### **July Birthdays**

Birthstone: Ruby

Flower: Larkspur

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ryan Devine
4 <sup>th</sup>	Brian Sullivan
16 <sup>th</sup>	Emily Spring
18 <sup>th</sup>	Deborah Anderson
20 <sup>th</sup>	Lynn Tomasetti Sr.
21 <sup>st</sup>	Beverly Brown
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Kara O'Connell
31 <sup>st</sup>	Thomas Malone

### **July Anniversaries**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kenneth & Kimberly Carlton
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Andrew & Pattie Smellie
13 <sup>th</sup>	Pat & Cathy Heffernan

*Wishing you all joyful celebrations*

Remember that our side door is locked during the church service beginning at 9:00 a.m.  
If you arrive after that time, please come to the front of the church and enter through the red doors.

## Vestry Meeting Minutes Highlights May 10, 2010

Present: The Reverend Dan Collier, Barbara Hickok, Fran LaSalle, RP Hale, Jack Koller and Jean Aspinwall

Absent: Kara O'Connell, Matt Swank, Phil Petts and Mariette Roux

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Fr. Dan.

The April 12 meeting minutes were reviewed and a correction was made for the amount of the Diocesan pledge which should be \$15, 851.00. A motion for approval was made by RP and seconded by Jack, all approved.

#### ~Treasurer's Report:

° Jack distributed and reviewed the report, Fran made the motion for approval, seconded by Jean, all were in favor.

#### ~Jr. Wardens Report:

° In the absence of Matt, Dan reported that Blue Ribbon Fence Company will begin the fence installation for the Founder's House area and the Conant St. border within the week.

~Sr. Warden's Report:

- The management company is still in the process of finding a tenant for the Conant St. apartment.

~Priest's Report:

Dan attended the refresher session of Safe Church training that is required for clergy. He distributed the document from the diocese for guidelines regarding social networking websites.

~Faith Education & Formation:

- The youth education is hoping to have a dinner to celebrate the children in church. Further information will be gathered from Kara.
- Adult education continues through the month of May.

~Diocese:

The Reverend Charles Lafond will be available to assist with Stewardship. Dan will contact him to set a mutual date for a visit to St. Andrew's.

~Safe Church:

A draft of the Safe Church report has been submitted to the diocese. Jean is attempting to contact a person at St. Matthew's to meet with the St. Andrew's group to review our report.

~Capital & Property Projects:

- The cupola rehabilitation and church painting has been completed.
- Parking signs will need to be installed for the Conant St. parking area, Jack will follow up with this request.

~Calendar Review:

There were no changes to the upcoming calendar.

~Old Business:

- The organ repair subcommittee is in process. More updates to come.
- The locking of the ramp door before the church service seems to be working well.

~New Business:

- In the absence of Mariette for a few months Jean will take care of writing the parish thank you notes as needed and Barbara will coordinate the coffee hour hospitality volunteers
- There are two people wishing to be confirmed at St. Andrew's and since it is not the year for Bishop Robinson to visit, a special service will be set for a weekday evening in July or August. It is hoped that the visit can be combined with a blessing and dedication of the cupola. Dan will contact the Bishop's office to coordinate this and set a date.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer and the Night Prayer.

The next vestry meeting is June 14, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jean Aspinwall, Vestry Clerk

## *Thrift Shop*

-News from Conant Street-

It is finally summer and we are getting ready for a little rest, Donations will still be accepted after Sunday service or you can see me for arrangements. All of us need this time off to rejuvenate. I am sure when we come back in August we will hit the ground running.

The St Andrew's community is growing and changing and the thrift shop needs to reflect that. A rest will give us time to look at everything with fresh eyes. If you have any ideas please let us know.

Enjoy the season with friends, family and the Community of St. Andrews.

Lisa

### A Closing Note...

Recently Fr. Dan gave a sermon based on the day's reading about Jesus bringing the son of a widow back to life. I sympathized with her for the loss of her child and Fr. Dan mentioned how devastated that woman was, and with reason. Fr. Dan explained that since the woman's husband had passed away and now the son had too, that she would be totally dependent upon the charity of others. In particular, all and any wealth, property or possessions would revert back to her late husband's brother. She most certainly faced an uncertain future surrounded in fear.

That caused me to stop and think since I am a widow but am fortunately not dependent in that way at all. Although I have sons who would care for me in heartbeat, I do not have to rely on them to exist day-to-day. I'm thankful to be living in a country *and a time* where women can now be empowered of their own being. And they can make their way in the world being free to do as they need or wish. It is a gracious God who has over a very long time, encouraged mankind to recognize a person based on their own value. Not to interpret this as monetary worth, but on the person's talents and abilities, not their gender or other characterization.

Even in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century women could not embrace the world as they do now. It was still a 'man's world' and please gentlemen....I am not a feminist and I do not wish to take anything away from men in general, but it so nice to considered an equal. While there are still many pitfalls for women....such as equal pay for equal work and/or title we are certainly in a far better place in society and the work place today than it was for the poor woman in Dan's sermon.

I'm also pleased that in the Episcopal community women have been recognized and allowed to pursue their calling to serve the Lord as deacons, priests and bishops...and are considered worthy to work in these and other ministries. *Praise God for the insight of those responsible.*

As Fr. Dan continued I could not help but think that we must remain diligent; simply because we are accustomed to things being the way they are, we should not become complacent. It would be very difficult if some adversity were to happen and we found ourselves in different circumstances. Would we be able to cope? Could we rely on our faith and adjust to the changes that occur even if we are less than pleased with the outcome? Would we accept the situation as this woman did without complaint?

And so as we approach our 'Fourth of July' celebration where we honor the birth of this great nation, freedom and all that the Constitution stands for....perhaps we could pause giving thanks for what we do have and pray for the people who still struggle throughout the world including here in our own 'free' country. May they attain the right to become all that they can be.....

Happy Birthday America!!

Fran



### Food for thought:

No one ever injured their eyesight looking on the bright side of things.

# 4 KIDZ ONLY

(And those who are young at heart)

To help solve the puzzle, the passage from which the clues are taken is listed on the first line. Reading it with your family may help you to solve it more quickly. Good Luck!

Crossword Puzzle: The Golden Calf from Exodus 32										
All puzzles published created by Vickie Save										
ACROSS					DOWN					
1	Moses' brother who made the gold calf					4	To break God's law is _____			
2	A false God					5	A baby cow			
3	Moses _____ the stone tablets when he saw the people worshipping the golden calf					6	The people's sin made God _____			
Clue: rhymes with cloak					7	The _____ calf				

The completed puzzle can be found on the table in front of the church after the newsletter is received.

### *Did you know?*

It took 13 years to complete the Brooklyn Bridge. It opened in 1883 with a toll of one cent, which was eventually raised to three cents before they dropped the toll completely in 1911.