

Stone by Stone

Volume 20 Issue 4

STEWARDSHIP

EDITION

October-November 2009

Clergy Corner:

I have been reflecting much lately on the deep sense of gratitude that I continue to experience as your priest and pastor at St. Andrew's. Over the course of this year, and especially through the summer months just ended, so very much has been accomplished by so many faithful people that has glorified God and has built up this body of Christ. I have been filled to overflowing as I ponder these things on my bed, as the Psalmist says.

The rehabilitation of the rector's office, in particular, has filled me with joy and has reminded me yet again what a wonderful congregation I have been privileged to serve. So much beautiful craftsmanship done by so many giving hearts and hands! The office is now such a lovely, peaceful, comfortable place in which to work, pray, counsel and share. The transformation of this space is just amazing-- come and see! Also, our volunteer corps of office workers and schedulers continues to be so astoundingly faithful and joyful in the execution of their duties. There is not a soul among them who does not go above and beyond the call of duty, giving freely out of their own sense of gratitude for what God is doing in their lives through their association with this wonderful parish.

In this, our annual Stewardship issue, you will see so many signs of the Holy Spirit's ongoing activity at St. Andrew's, and of the loving fellowship that we share in Christ that I am certain that youR hearts will be filled with gratitude as well. As you ponder these things in your hearts remember that we are all in this great

enterprise together with Christ for the transformation of the world. Each one has a gift to offer and every gift is received with gratitude and used in such a way that God is glorified and his Son made present again in the lives of his people.

Still-especially in these trying economic times-it takes the offerings of every one of us to keep our little ark afloat. Therefore, it is extremely important for each of us to communicate with our Vestry representatives and to prayerfully consider how God may be asking us to commit financially to the ongoing life and ministry of St. Andrew' s-on-the- Hill. The 2010 budget cycle will be a very important one as together we discern what level of ministry, mission and program is sustainable in our parish. The important question that each of us must ask is, "What level is God calling us to attain and how will my gift-whatever its size-help us to achieve and sustain that level of ministry, mission and program?"

Together we can be all that God is calling us to be-but we can only do it together. As your rector I know-indeed, I have seen with my own eyes over and over again-how this amazing community can pull together and work in unity when we are convinced that God is calling us to new and greater heights. Because our hearts are filled with gratitude for his manifold blessings we can do it again.

Senior Warden:

As a wise person said the other day, "My body is no longer my friend!" My body has gotten totally out of shape! Evidently, eating everything I can get my hands on to fill out the wrinkles is not a wise plan. So to Haywood Fitness Center I went to start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I lunged, bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and sweated for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over! It was not a sacrifice for me to give up this part of my weekly routine.

There are many parts of our everyday life that we all have had to give up in the last year that have created hardships. I think everyone has been affected in some way by the economy.

This affect has been felt at St. Andrew's also, as in almost every church that I have read or heard about. As your Senior Warden, I can assure you that your Vestry has done everything in their power to be good stewards of our parish. We have made many cuts and have tried to handle projects in-house as much as possible.

However, there are things that make us a welcoming parish that we do not want to do without. We want to continue enjoying our air-conditioning in the hot summer months (especially since the windows will no longer open) and we enjoy the warmth in the winter without having to depend entirely on Shadrack and Abednego --the two old furnaces in the undercroft. We want to enjoy a cup of coffee or juice after our services to catch up with friends that we may only see on Sundays.

Many of us feel fortunate to be led in more knowledge and understanding of the Bible and the History of Christianity through Bible study and EFM classes each week. We don't want to give up Holy Week services, Advent suppers/programs, Pancake Day, Healthy Living

classes, Nimble Fingers fellowship, choir and yes, we don't want to give up full-time clergy.

In order for us to continue doing the work God wants us to do in this time and place, we must have your help. We need for you to continue offering your time, talent, and treasure to God. It takes almost \$14,000 a month to have the parish that I described previously. We are not big and fancy--we are just ministers trying to do God's work to the best of our ability.

Contact your Vestry representative or any Vestry member to let them know how you can serve. Fill out our bright yellow financial commitment form with the amount that you can give back to God for all the blessings you have received.

My body is still a mess, but I am so happy to be a part of the body of St. Andrew's church
Carole Talman

Why Pledge?

Tis the season for the people of St Andrew's to be asked to make a financial pledge for the coming year. One of the reasons for doing so this time of year is for the fiscal ministry team to develop a spending plan for the next year. Planners want to learn what resources our church as available. I expect we'll find we have two fish and five loaves of bread. I'm not advocating pledging for the sake of a budget. Still, I do encourage each of us to pledge treasure, time and talent to God. A yearly reevaluation of the "gifts God has given us" and of the "work God is calling us to do" allows us to see how in (or out) of balance those parts of stewardship are in our lives. It reminds me of Father's Day. That observance has been criticized since we could celebrate fathers any (or even all) days of the year. Sure, but its easy to let time go by without doing so. Likewise, each of us could be constantly aware of how

much God has entrusted to us and of how we can share those blessing to represent Christ in the world. Such thoughts aren't always at the front of our consciousness. Let's use this time each year to stop and reevaluate.

Another reason that I pledge is to help me follow the biblical direction to give to God first. We're talking about God here – the creator of all good things, our Redeemer and Sustainer. I want to make sure that I give to God before I start buying what's-its and thing-a-ma-jigs, or even groceries and school supplies. I hope that pledging money to God now, before I receive the first bill for next year, will help keep my spending in line with my priorities. I will thereby be able to live a more balanced life.

I hope that turning in a pledge card will help me be accountable for what I want to do. Quarterly giving statements help us keep our giving plan on track. Even if our circumstances change we always have an opportunity to adjust our giving up or down.

I will make an annual pledge and I encourage you to do the same. Please share your time and talent. Please share your treasure. God Almighty can multiple those gifts like the loaves and fishes, to do more than we can even imagine. How much will you share in that miracle?
Anna Catherine Super

Parish Life and Pastoral Care

In our new Adult Sunday School class we are studying *A Blessed Life: Benedictine Guidelines for Those Who Long for Good Days*. One of the characteristics of Benedictine spirituality is that God can be glorified in everything. A STEWARD bears the responsibility of ALL of the monastery's utensils and possessions as vessels dedicated to the alter service. Nothing is neglected. Washing dishes and peeling potatoes deserves as much respect as do the chalices.

Each of us is a steward of St. Andrew's. Doing God's Work in ourselves, our families, and our community requires each of us to take

responsibility for of our shared spiritual home and family. There are many opportunities to contribute to the life and work of this wonderful parish on Sundays, through the week and for seasonal / special programs. Some folks vacuum or scrub what the rest of us didn't even realize that we left dirty, haul off our trash, and polish the rails we kneel before each Sunday morning. Some cook, serve, make coffee, empty the dishwasher and take home the dirty dish towels to wash. Others represent all the rest of us to the sick, homebound, bereaved. In the last four months at least 150 cards have been lovingly sent among us to convey delight and concern for one another. The list goes on and on.

We need to remember that each of us is a steward and actively contribute in the life and work of St. Andrew's. If you haven't been all that active, maybe you will try to get more involved.

Remember that everything we give deserves as much respect as do the chalices.

Karen Hall

Holy Smoke

Fall is here. Church Street Art and Craft Festival, Oct. 10, in Waynesville and Apple Harvest Festival, Oct. 17, Waynesville, here we come. Hopefully we can get the mortgage under 160,000 this month. Wouldn't that be exciting.

Also with Fall here Thanksgiving and Christmas are just around the corner. We will be smoking for Thanksgiving on Nov. 25, and for Christmas on Dec. 23. We will offer Turkeys, organic if special ordered, Turkey Breasts, Whole Chickens, Sides of Smoked Salmon, Stuffed Pork Loins, and Beef Briskets. It is never to early to give us your order. Just call Nancy or Terry Rice at 646-9695. We can accept orders until one week prior to the smoking date.

In January, Holy Smoke is going to have it's first

open to the public "Bring a Friend BBQ Pork and Chicken Dinner" at St. Andrew's in the Undercroft. Just think of how many people we could feed if everyone of us brought a family with them. We will have publicity for these dinners. Take-out dinners will be available, pre-orders also. All profits will go to the general fund for these special dinners. We will also have ones in April, August and December of 2010. We are working on menus for the other three, we are considering smoking other items, such as Beef Brisket for one and maybe (if feasible and profitable only) fish or seafood. We approached the Vestry with this idea to help the General Fund and it was received with appreciation. All other Holy Smoke Event profits will continue to go to the Principle of the Mortgage.

Huge Thank You to all who have made this year possible. We will get rid of this Mortgage yet!!!!!!

Holy Smoke Ministry Team
God's Peace,
Nancy Lee Rice

Bedtime Song and Stewardship Opportunities

At our house, Paul and I alternate which child we tuck into bed each night. He tucks one child in, while I tuck in the other. The next night, we switch. Our bedtime routine includes reading, praying and singing. One of the songs that I often sing is an adaption of God Has the Whole World in God's Hands. I insert names of family member, friends and neighbors. Frequently, I include the verse:

*God has St Andrew's Church in God's hands.
That's right; St Andrew's Church is in God's hands.*

*Oh, yes St Andrew's Church is in God's hands.
The whole world is in God's hands.*

I find the thought of our church being in God's hands very comforting. Recently, I've also been thinking about what it means for our church to be the Body of Christ. I love the fact that God

became incarnate in the person of Jesus and that while Jesus is ascended, we have a chance to embody Christ in the world. It's our turn to continue God's work on earth.

Of course, God could manage without us. Isn't there a verse about God being able to raise up rocks to do whatever God's children won't? How much better for us to be open to the Holy Spirit and to participate in God's work. To me, that's what stewardship is.

Stewardship allows us to use the gifts God has given us to do the work God is calling us to do – to be the Body of Christ. St Andrew's Church is in God's hands and we have an opportunity to serve as those hands. What will you give towards that service?

Anna Catherine Super

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October & November Anniversaries

10/1 Nancy & Terry Rice
10/4 Deener & Rev. Dan Matthews
10/15 Marjorie & Carl Farrington
10/21 Deborah & John Schaefer
10/24 Katherine & Walter West
11/18 Nicole & Andy Revis
11/23 Rose & Michael Rich

October Birthdays

10/2 Jon Corbin
10/2 C. B. Finger
10/3 Nathalie Allison-Knox
10/3 Kate Mathewes
10/4 Bridgette Farrington
10/5 Carol Cagle
10/5 Allison Rose Kaserman
10/6 David Rose
10/9 Jonathan West
10/11 Sally Creech
10/12 Ray Escott
10/13 Charles Talman
10/14 John Sanderson
10/17 Kayia Belle Smith

10/19 Beth Sanderson
 10/19 Joyce Sherrow
 10/21 Judy Steffen
 10/27 Gerri Staley
 10/28 Martha Graves
 10/28 Kitty Williams
 10/29 Elizabeth Swanger
 10/31 Tricia Hinshaw

November Birthdays

11/1 Wendy Curley
 11/7 Jeanne Morton
 11/7 Michael Rich
 11/7 Rose Rich
 11/8 Jo Ann Stilley
 11/9 Mary Ann Enloe

11/9 Micah Whited
 11/10 Mark Phillips
 11/11 Vicki Shuler
 11/14 Gary Morehouse
 11/14 Allison Hinshaw
 11/16 Richard Lance
 11/16 Patrick Sanderson
 11/17 Ray Sherrow
 11/22 Jacqueline Willis
 11/25 Robert Beasley
 11/25 Jim Matthews
 11/27 Brian Byrd
 11/27 Joan Garland
 11/28 James Arrington
 11/28 Nancy Rice
 11/29 Marjorie Farrington

CALENDAR

10/04 Volunteer Social, 4:00 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
 10/08 Finance Committee, 7:00 p.m.
 10/10 Church St. Arts and Crafts Festival
 10/11 Fellowship Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.
 10/15 Vestry, 7:00 a.m.
 10/17 Apple Harvest Festival
 10/19-21 Fr. Tim at Fall Clergy Conference
 10/24 Halloween Game Night, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

11/01 Annual Parish Meeting, 10:30 a.m.
 11/07 Mystery Dinner, HonkeyTonk Homicide, 6:00 p.m.
 11/12 Finance Committee, 7:00 p.m.
 11/13-14 Diocesan Convention
 11/19 Vestry, 7:00 p.m.
 11/21 Acolyte Training, lunch, 10:00-12:00
 11/22 St. Andrew's Day
 11/26-27 Thanksgiving, Office Closed

New Service added

*Starting the first Thursday in November, there will be a weekday Healing Eucharist at 11:30 each Thursday.
 This service will follow Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10am.*

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND MEETINGS

Eucharist	Sunday	8:00 AM
Sunday School	Sunday	9:30 AM
Eucharist	Sunday	10:30 AM
EYC	2 nd & 4 th Sundays	
12:00 AM		
Healthy Living Support Group	On Vacation until Fall	7:00 PM
Healthy Living Support Group	On Vacation until Fall	5:00 PM
Education for Ministry	Tuesday	6:00 PM
Choir	Wednesday	4:30 PM
Morning Prayer	Wednesday	9:00 AM
Bible Study	Thursday	10:00 AM
Finance Committee	2 nd Thursday	7:00 PM
Vestry	3 rd Thursday	7:00 PM
Nimble Fingers	2 nd Saturday	10:00 AM
D o K	3 rd Saturday	10:00 AM

YOUR ST. ANDREW'S-ON-THE-HILL VESTRY

2006-2009	2007-2010	
Carole Talman, Senior Warden	Kathy Beck	Joe Branson
Nancy Rice	David Clark, Junior Warden	Stephanie Dennard
Terry Rose	Karen Hall	Bob Klettner
Jean Santucci, Clerk of Vestry		John Donnelly, Treasurer

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