



March 2015

THE PIPER



A Monthly Newsletter of
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
West Vincent

Sunday Worship Services

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I, no music
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:00 am Church School
11:10 am Coffee Hour

The Reverend Elsa Hale Mintz, Rector
Kathy Dilenschneider,
Director, Children's and Youth Ministries
Zachery von Menchhofen, Organist, Choir Director
Henry Bernard, Parish Accountant
Karen Bernier-Shoneck, Parish Administrator
Phone: 610-458-5277
standrewsglenmoore@comcast.net
Web Site: www.standrewswv.org

OUR VISION

To be a beacon in the community, calling our members and our neighbors to:

Worship – Giving thanks for Christ's Love
Education – Learning about Christ's Love
Leadership – Demonstrating Christ's Love
Community – Coming together in Christ's Love
Outreach – Serving others through Christ's Love
Music – Glorifying Christ's Love
Evangelism – Spreading Christ's Love
Stewardship – Responding to Christ's Love

Our Mission: St. Andrew's is a joyful community of God's faithful people transforming lives by growing in Christ's love and shining His light into the world through prayer, worship and service to all.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1- SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Choir 9:00 am
Treble Choir 9:15 am

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 – THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Choir 9:00 am
Treble Choir 9:15 am
Outreach Mtg. 11am
Youth Sunday
SkyZone 4-5pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 15 – FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Choir 9:00 am
Treble Choir 9:15 am

SUNDAY, MARCH 22 – FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Choir 9:00 am
Treble Choir 9:15 am
Teachers Mtg. 11:15am
Dr Peter Stube Guest Speaker

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 – PALM SUNDAY

Choir 9:00 am
Treble Choir 9:15 am
Junior Church/Easter Egg Hunt 10am

From the Rector
The Rev. Elsa H. Mintz

Dear Friends,

As you look at our Sunday attendance numbers, you will notice that they are down from this time last year. Should we worry about this? Absolutely. Is it something that is happening only at St. Andrew's? Absolutely not. This is the trend across the country and across denominations.

Those who study such things have found that while Americans claim to be more spiritual than in the past, they also say they are less religious. Religious institutions no longer have the same importance as they used to in the community and in people's lives.

Diana Butler Bass describes the years from 2000-2010 as "The Horrible Decade" for the church. It started on September 11, 2001. At first, people flocked to churches to find meaning in the terrible events. Then, as religion began to be blamed, it made all religion look bad. Some, such as Pat Robertson, blamed American infidelity for the attacks, saying that we had become too tolerant of homosexuals and feminists. Other churches called for retribution. Christians who did not agree with this, quietly slipped away.

In 2002, the headlines were about the Roman Catholic sex abuse scandals. 2003 brought conflict over homosexuality when Episcopalians chose Gene Robinson, an openly gay priest with a partner to be a bishop. In 2004 with the second election of George W. Bush, the religious right began to reshape American politics, but many young adults began to leave the evangelical churches. In 2007 came what Butler Bass calls the Great Religious Recession. She writes, "When the economic recession hit in 2007, religious institutions were already struggling under the weight of the psychological, spiritual, and moral shocks that were already pressing on their communities. Although political leaders looked to faith-based organizations to help alleviate the suffering of the poor and unemployed when the stock and housing markets collapsed, churches were already woefully short on resources. The economic recession arrived at a moment when churches and denominations were already in a religious recession. The national economic crisis served to weaken embattled religious organizations, further marginalizing conventional faith institutions in a chaotic cultural environment. The economic crisis did not drive people to religion; instead, it drove religion further into irrelevance." (Diana Butler Bass, Christianity after Religion, p.82)

The church has survived for 2,000 years and is not about to disappear, but it is changing. It appears that we are in a time of a major shift in society and the church is struggling to survive and to stay relevant. The old models are no longer working. When I was first ordained over thirty years ago, I was asked to pray at city council meetings, at the Harrisburg Farm Show, at building dedications and other events such as those. This no longer happens. The church no longer has a public role, nor does it have much influence beyond its walls.

While this change is difficult for those of us in the "church business" and for those who love the church as it has been, it may not be a bad thing. Most change is for the good. The institutional church will look very different in the future; we just do not know what it will look like. Now, more than ever, is the time for us to be aware of the nudging of the Holy Spirit, it is the time for thinking outside of the box, for creativity. What is most important is that the church continues to proclaim its message. The church, in whatever form, is to heed the words of Jesus "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matt. 28:19-20)

Faithfully,
Elsa

• <u>Sunday Attendance</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
•		
• February 2/1	164	139
• February 9/8	153	111
• February 16/15	137	101
• February 23/22	155	100
• Ash Wednesday	57	42

Rector's Warden Margie Gebert

As Pastor Elsa emphasized in her annual report, it is the people that make St Andrew's, well, St Andrew's. I would like to acknowledge the work of four individuals this month. Kathy Dilenschneider, Zack von Menchhofen and our most recent staff additions Karen Bernier-Shoneck and Henry Bernard. Each have specific skills but they all have enthusiasm, exceptional work ethic, and demonstrate a spirit of giving.

We all appreciate the music that Zack brings to our worship services, but he does much more. He is a dedicated teacher to our choir and to the congregation. Additionally he arranges music, writes hymns and encourages any of us to write. If you have not taken advantage of what Zack has to offer, please take the time and realize his many gifts to this congregation.

Henry your expertise, organization and thoroughness have meant that financial bills and needs are promptly addressed. I know that all sounds rather dry but as we all can appreciate it is critical to a smoothly operating church and ensures we maintain our tight budget.

Wow does Karen know how to get something done! The church office, library, and I suspect many other areas have been cleaned out and organized. There are a few less cobwebs about and all sorts of administrative tasks have been streamlined.

Once Karen and Kathy join forces, watch out! Their creative minds have led to many adventures for us all from Pizza Bingo to an Italian night of music, food and wine. We should all look forward to what is coming next!

Kathy, all of us teachers appreciate your work week in and week out. As a parent I appreciate your genuine interest, care and spiritual education of not only my children but of all the children that participate in Christian Education. I feel very confident that with your example, guidance and organization you are helping St. Andrew's raise a slew of spirited and good children.

It is hard to imagine treasuring this staff any more than we do now, but suspect we will be so very grateful in the coming months.

Thank-you

**Accounting Warden
Chris Bastian**

January income statement:

- Total Revenue in January was **\$27,412**
 - \$27,610 was Giving
 - \$25 was Rental of church buildings
 - (\$223) was Investment Loss
- Total Expenses in January were **\$30,608**
 - \$23,170 was Personnel
 - \$4,943 was Building & Grounds
 - \$2,495 was Programs & Administration
- The monthly deficit (Revenue minus Expenses) was **\$3,196**
- This deficit compares to last year's January deficit of **\$11,663**

Please keep your pledges coming in so that we can close this deficit.

January balance sheet:

- Total Assets are **\$3,653,873**
 - \$56,400 in Checking
 - \$91,239 in Money Markets
 - \$754,037 in Long Term Investments
 - \$2,750,402 in Land & Building
 - \$1,795 in Pre-Paid Expenses
- Total Liabilities are **\$7,624**
 - \$1,091 in Accounts Payable
 - \$2,369 in Other Current Liabilities (e.g. pension withholding and accrued expenses)
 - \$4,164 in Memorials
- Total Fund Balance (Total Assets minus Total Liabilities) is **\$3,646,249**

Buildings and Grounds
Jeff Herrera

For anyone with oil heat, you have realized a little savings due to the falling gas and oil prices. Unfortunately the prices are going back up and this winter has shown us some very cold days and nights lately. The church and properties have held up well through the winter so far, but the frequent oil deliveries have caused some unexpected furnace maintenance needs to crop up. We continue to work with the service and delivery contractors to mitigate stress on the equipment and heating outages. Otherwise, with help from our congregation, we have continued to remove snow and ice from our pathways and steps. Thank you Henry for replacing the threshold leading into the sanctuary and performing many small maintenance repairs to keep St. Andrews running smoothly. As a reminder, we can always use more volunteers for the snow shoveling committee. Also we still have plenty of salt for sale at \$8 a bag. Please let me know if you are interested in either opportunity. The good news is that there are only a couple of short months until spring cleanup... Please let us know if you see anything around the church that needs our attention and we'll be sure to take care of it. *Thanks - Jeff*

Membership
Kimberly Camp

“February is FUN” Since the beginning of the year, I have been trying to develop a new strategy for Membership. For the past two years, this responsibility has been enjoyable and has given me the opportunity to work with wonderful members and meet and really get to know all the new members. However, I feel like I need to do things a little differently this year considering all of the difficult challenges we face with Elsa’s transition. I personally feel that it will be difficult to attract new members with an interim pastor in place. But, God has provided once again... February is fun! All I had to do was repeat what I have been saying all this time... our members are our most valuable assets. And that my friends, is what I will continue to focus my efforts on. We may be getting a new leader but Pizza Bingo will go on!

This past Sunday it became clear to me that not only does Elsa deliver heartfelt meaningful sermons, not only are we are involved in countless missions helping people in need not only do we provide enjoyment through books and lectures and carry out God’s good deeds on a daily basis, but we do all this while having fun and fellowship. Pizza Bingo was an awesome example of how we at St. Andrew’s have fun. Our members, notably, Kathy and Frank Dilenschneider, Karen Bernier-Shoneck, and Flip Britton put on a wonderful show. They are passionate about making us feel like we are really part of something great. To all of you...Thank you for all of your hard work, time and effort. It is greatly appreciated.

Having said that, my theme this year will be FUN. I will continue to focus on inviting Christians to join us but also inviting them to experience the kind of fun and fellowship that we have to offer.

I will combine efforts with our “Fun”draining team and our Fellowship team to host events and invite people outside of our community to our fun events, as well as, our services on Sunday. I have also put out an all points bulletin asking our members... “Who is with me?” I am in need of some people to help out with these efforts. Please contact me if you would like to be part of the Membership team. Kimberly Camp 610-937-5784 or by email the_camps@comcast.net. I promise to make it fun.

We on vestry have gone through a few changes with our members, as you know. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members, Annie Hurtt, Tiffany Zuch and Heather Kellogg. Thank you for making room in your lives to help us on Vestry.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our members for continuing to make St. Andrew’s such a special place. *Blessings - Kimberly*

Children's and Youth Ministry Kathy Dilenschneider

Youth Sunday

Please join us for Youth Sunday on March 8th when the 7th – 12th grade youth will lead the 10:00 a.m. service

St Andrews goes to Sky Zone – Parishioners of **all ages** are invited to spend an hour jumping their cares away at Sky Zone, an indoor trampoline park in Oaks, Pa.

Date: March 8th

Time: 4 to 5 p.m.

Cost: \$17 (incl cost of admission and sky socks)

Please make payment to St Andrew's by cash or check (payable to St Andrew's) no later than Sunday morning March 8th. In addition, each jumper regardless of age must complete a Sky Zone waiver either by downloading a waiver or electronically submitting it on-line <https://oaksstore.skyzone.com/waiver/>. Waivers are also available at sign up. Anyone under the age of 18 must have their waiver completed/signed by their parent or legal guardian. Please plan to arrive a half hour before our scheduled reservation (4 p.m.) in order to get maximum jumping time. Sign up today or contact Kathy Dilenschneider kathyjdil@comcast.net.



It's hard to believe at the beginning of March but summer is just around the corner. As you are making summer camp plans for your

children, don't forget to reserve the week of July 13-17 for Vacation Bible School (VBS). All children ages pre-kindergarten (4) through entering 5th grade are invited to attend. Registration begins in April. Once again, we will be sponsoring this event in conjunction with St Matthew's Lutheran Church and this year it will be held at St Matthew's.

Adults and youth are needed for all areas of our VBS team. Now is the time to volunteer. In particular, we are looking for individuals to lead the Snack and Games centers and teachers. Please contact Kathy Dilenschneider if you would like to part of this exciting event.



Easter Egg Hunt

St Andrew's annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on **Palm Sunday, March 29th**, during Junior Church. All children through 6th grade are invited to participate. As you can imagine, it takes a lot of candy to fill enough eggs for all of our children. **Donations of bags of wrapped candy (small enough to fit inside a plastic egg) would be greatly appreciated.** All donations may be dropped off in the Christian Education office no later than Sunday March 22nd. Thanks for your help.

Teacher's Meeting – There will be a meeting of all church school teachers, preschool through 6th grade, on Sunday March 22nd immediately after the 10 a.m. service.

Wednesday Night Book Group
Pam Bennett

We will spend the evening of March 4, 2015 discussing *the Zealot : the life and times of Jesus of Nazareth* by Reza Aslan.

Aslan brings a fine popular style, shorn of all jargon, to bear on the presentation of Jesus of Nazareth as only a man. What's more, as he pares the supernatural or divine away from Jesus, he refrains from deriding it. He isn't interested in attacking religion or even the church, much less in comparing Christianity unfavorably to another religion. He would have us admire Jesus as one of the many would-be messiahs who sprang up during Rome's occupation of Palestine, animated by zeal for strict adherence to the Torah and the Law, refusal to serve a human master, and devotion to God, and therefore dedicated to throwing off Rome and repudiating Roman religion. Before and after Jesus, such zeal entailed violent revolution, but Jesus proceeded against Rome in the conviction that zealous spirit was sufficient. It wasn't, and Rome executed him. This depiction of Jesus makes sense, as we say, though many Christians will find holes in its fabric; indeed, Aslan grants one of the largest, the fact that no one who attested to the Resurrection recanted. But you don't have to lose your religion to learn much that's vitally germane to its history from Aslan's absorbing, reader-friendly book.

Copies are available from the Chester County Libraries under Biography [B 232.9 Jesus Christ].

On April 1, 2015 we will discuss *Book of Ages ; the life and opinions of Jane Franklin* by Jill Lepore.

From one of our most accomplished and widely admired historians, a revelatory portrait of Benjamin Franklin's youngest sister and a history of history itself. Like her brother, Jane Franklin was a passionate reader, a gifted writer, and an astonishingly shrewd political commentator. Unlike him, she was a mother of twelve.

Benjamin Franklin, who wrote more letters to his sister than he wrote to anyone else, was the original American self-made man; while his sister spent her life caring for her children. They left very different traces behind. **National Book Award Finalist.**

Copies of *Book of Ages* are available from a Bayard Taylor Library Book Club Bag. Please contact Pam if you would like to borrow a copy.

Please forward any questions or comments to Pam prbcallig@verizon.net or Anne algayl@verizon.net, and we will look forward to seeing you at 7:00 pm in the Werner Room.

Outreach Bill Koch

Thank you for your generous response to the Outreach committee's request during January / February for office and personal items (including gift cards) for **The CLINIC** in Phoenixville.

Thank you for your continuing faithful support of our ongoing request for non-perishable food items for **The Lord's Pantry** in Downingtown.

Thank you to all who support the monthly meal outreach effort for the **Atkinson Center Men's Shelter** in Coatesville by hosting / supplying food the third Saturday of each month (sign-ups are currently needed – for specifics / information please contact Martha Thomae).

Response to Emergency Request: On Friday, January 31, St. Andrew's received a request from The CLINIC in Phoenixville for an emergency donation to help cover the cost of replacing their computer server that had gone down (and out) the previous day. "We need to ask for your help in meeting this unexpected financial burden. It cannot wait and it is not within our means to fund. We have a great deal to accomplish this year to meet the needs of our patients. As always, we operate on tight margins, and devote most of our funds to direct patient care. In this case we have to replace a non-negotiable item right away. We ask that you contribute whatever you can to assist us in this emergency". Our check for **\$500.00 payable to The CLINIC** (from the Outreach operating budget) was mailed on Monday, February 2, 2015.

During **March and April** the Outreach committee is again requesting ingredients for Easter dinners for **Bridge of Hope** (Downingtown) families and seeking donations of personal care items for **The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County** in West Chester – please refer to our weekly announcements for details / specific requests.

St. Andrew's Speaker Series – 2015: During the course of the year, probably quarterly, we will welcome a guest speaker from one of the organizations we support (financially and in other ways) through our outreach efforts. On **Sunday, March 22**, we will kick-off our 2015 season as we welcome the Reverend Canon Dr. Peter Stube, Executive Director of **The Seamen's Church Institute** of Philadelphia and South Jersey. Reverend Stube will speak at both the 8:00 and 10:00 services during the Sermon time. The following information is taken from the Institute's website: "The Seamen's Church Institute of Philadelphia & South Jersey is a non-profit, ecumenical service agency called by faith to provide for the human needs of seafarers and the well-being of the Delaware River ports, always without prejudice and in the spirit of God's grace. We recognize the invaluable service members of the maritime community provide for us and our region's economy, and we are proud to befriend and defend them in times of need or hardship".

St. Andrew's Lecture Series – 2015: The first lecture of the 2015 season – "**IMMIGRATION: Faces Behind the Headlines**" will take place on **Tuesday, March 24, at 7:00 PM**. Panelists will share the stories, the lives, the challenges and what we as a community can do to help with this complex situation. The Lecture Series focuses on timely topics and speakers in and around the community. Refreshments and fellowship follow the lecture. ***PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION***

St. Andrew's Lecture Series Presents

**Immigration:
Faces Behind The Headlines**



How can we help children and families facing the challenges of a new life? What services assist them? Join us for a panel discussion followed by questions and answers.

**Bethany Children's Home - Womelsdorf
El Centro Cultural Latinos Unidos – Pottstown
La Comunidad Hispana – Kennett Square**

***Tuesday, March 24, 2015
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.***

Light Refreshments

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

For more information: www.standrewswv.org or call 610-458-5277

Worship Leaders - March

	<i>March 1</i>	<i>March 8</i>	<i>March 15</i>	<i>March 22</i>	<i>March 29</i>
Acolytes	Trevor Butch Ben Mason	Hannah Elliott Luke Najim	Emma Campagna Hannah Elliott	Julia Berutti Charlotte Camp	Audrey Farnham Jane Farnham
Chalice 8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Dave Killingbeck Frank Dilenschneider	Adam Rogers Ezekiel Najim	Bob Bardwell Bill Koch	Dave Killingbeck Burt Todd	Jackie Irey John Wenner
Lectors 10:00 AM	Frank Dilenschneider Martha Thomae	Wilson Camp Eloise Gebert Maddie Gebert	Bill Koch Burt Todd	Burt Todd John Wenner	John Wenner Ken Werner
Ushers 10:00 AM	CiCi and Tim Lebling	Sean Spencer	Ci Ci and Tim Lebling	Lee Erickson John Baur	Chris Bastian John Rieder
Altar Guild	Marth Thomae Mary Volk Lynn Elliott Julie Geer	Connie Happersett Nina Baur Charlotte Griggs Margie Gebert	Dottie Atwater Joan Bradford Kathy Cobb Christine Whaley	Kathy Hassinger Judy Erickson Dru Kring Jennifer Hillegas	Martha Thomae Mary Volk Lynn Elliott Julie Geer
Coffee Hour	Badalamenti Family	Youth	Najim Family	Outreach Committee	
Counters	Geoff McConnell Jackie Irey	Lee & Judy Erickson Geoff McConnell	Jackie Irey Lee & Judy Erickson	Lee & Judy Erickson Jackie Irey	Geoff McConnell Jackie Irey

*St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
7 St. Andrew's Lane
Glenmoore, Pennsylvania 19343*



Mark your calendars –
March 29, Palm Sunday 8:00am/10am
April 2, Maundy Thursday 7:30pm
April 3, Good Friday Stations of the Cross 11:30am- Liturgy 12 Noon
April 5, 2015 Easter Sunday 7:30am/9:15am/11:00am