

# THE GREETER

February 2017

## Vision Statement

**We are a Christ centered community,  
joyfully making a difference by....**

**Worshipping, Loving, Welcoming, Including, Supporting**

### **FROM THE RECTOR**

Annual meetings are usually boring affairs that are considered to be long, sometimes contentious and a necessary evil. That has never been my experience at St. Andrew's. We always start by sharing a meal together and our meetings tend to last no more than an hour or so. This last annual meeting was one full of joy and surprises. Yes, you all surprised me with your genuine affection and gathering of quarters to celebrate my 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary to the priesthood. Everyone, including my lovely spouse, Margaret, never let out the secret of what was going to happen. I was surprised to see my son in church, but merely assumed he was there because he was coming to our home later that day. The video produced by my daughter and the talk given by my son brought tears to my eyes. To hear your children reflect on your impact on their lives is very moving! Thanks to everyone who made the occasion such a joyful one. My love for this parish remains strong!

At our annual meeting we elected new vestry persons; Nancy Ponec as senior warden, Lee Hammond as junior warden, Eric Rodawig, Lauren White and Roxi Adams to three year terms and Taryn Smith to a one year term finishing the term vacated by a vestry member who had resigned. We have a strong and vibrant vestry, and I look forward to continuing to working with them. Andy Hawekotte, our outgoing senior warden, has agreed to chair our "Welcoming and Incorporating" committee. As I have stated before in word and print, it's vital that we continue welcoming our guests who come to St. Andrew's, and more importantly, incorporating them into the life of the parish so that they will stay with us and feel included in the life of the parish.

I want to say how pleased I am with the addition of Diane Pike as our associate rector and more recently with our transitional deacon, Steve Karcher. Both of them have filled a void in ordained leadership. I am under no illusions that I can or could do it all, and I welcome their different personalities and perspectives that they bring to the parish.

I hope that in the near future, I will be able to share some more good news with the parish, but final details are being worked out, and I am not yet in a position to share, but please know that more exciting news is on the way!

As we move from the holidays into the more mundane winter month of February, let us never lose sight of who it is we serve, Jesus Christ. We come to worship and to work out in our day to day lives what it means to be a Christian. Let us each be evangelists of the Good News. Our saying at St. Andrew's is that "God welcomes everyone!" I invite each of you to do your part in inviting and welcoming people to our church. Most people come to church because they are invited. Be fearless! Hand out those cards we had printed! (They are in the back of the church and chapel). A simple invitation is all that is needed. No pressure, just an invitation. If each one of us gets into the habit of doing so, we can't help but see our church grow. We have a lot to offer at St. Andrew's. We are friendly, we are open and we are a caring community. This is a great and healthy parish! Why not invite others to share in the joy we have found here?

Fr. John+

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

Thank you for joining us for the annual meeting on January 22. If you were unable to attend, copies of the Annual Report can be found at the back of the chapel and in the nave.

## **MINISTRY NEWS**

### **BIBLE STUDY-GENESIS**

The Bible Study on Genesis led by Rev. Diane is continuing on Monday evenings at 7pm (with the exception of Feb 20. We will not meet that day) and Tuesday mornings at 10am. Check the Weekly Bulletin to see what chapters we are currently studying and join us at any time.

### **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER AND ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE TIMES**

It is hard to believe that Ash Wednesday is coming up, but this year it is Wednesday, March 1. We will have services with ashes at 7am, 9:30am, 12pm, and 7pm (with choir). Please join us Tuesday, February 28 5pm-7pm for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper sponsored by our Youth Group as a fund raiser. Suggested Donation: \$5/adult, \$3/child, \$15 family maximum.

### **LENTEN EVENSONG**

The combined choirs of All Saints Episcopal Church, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, and Trinity Cathedral offer the traditional service of choral Evening Prayer on the First Sunday in Lent. The annual service, which rotates between the three parishes, will be held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church this year, Sunday, March 5 at 4pm.

### **UNITED THANK OFFERING**

We will be celebrating a United Thank Offering kickoff on February 26, followed by an ingathering of gifts on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The United Thank Offering is an Episcopal ministry that nurtures the spiritual discipline of being thankful by encouraging us to recognize and name our many daily blessings. The donated money supports mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion. If you are interested in helping plan the kickoff or ingathering, please contact Lisa Aguilar ([lisakp.aguilar@yahoo.com](mailto:lisakp.aguilar@yahoo.com), [402-312-8190](tel:402-312-8190)).

### **United Thank Offering Grants**

Applications are now being accepted for the 2017 United Thank Offering grants. The focus for the 2017 United Thank Offering grants is *Evangelism – Reconciliation: Following Jesus' way of creating loving, liberating, and life-giving relationships with God, each other, and all creation*. Known worldwide as UTO, the United Thank Offering grants are awarded for projects that address human needs and help alleviate poverty, both domestically and internationally in the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. United Thank Offering was founded to support innovative mission and ministry that the Episcopal Church budget has not yet expanded to fund and to promote thankfulness and mission in the whole Church. The funds are not permitted for the continuation of ongoing ministries. Grant application forms are due March 3 and can be found here:

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/uto-grants> .

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The people who donated Altar Flowers last year have been contacted and based on their intentions, a 2017 schedule has been set up. It will be posted shortly, so please verify that your selection is correct. Current open dates include June 25, August 20, November 5, and December 10. If you would like to designate your own specific date to have a celebration or memorial noted in the Sunday bulletin for one of these dates, or any other, please call Mina Witherspoon at 402-965-9795 or Erin in the church office at 402-391-1950 ([erin@standrewsomaha.org](mailto:erin@standrewsomaha.org)). We ask for a \$45 donation to the Altar Guild Flower Fund.

About the Altar Flowers: We have a contract with Bakers Flowers at 132 and Maple to supply, arrange, and deliver two flower arrangements each week (their choice of flowers). Bakers orders all of their flowers at the beginning of the week without knowing exactly what their needs will be. By allowing them to use the flowers they have in stock, they pass that significant saving on to us. For that reason, we cannot request specific flowers, however they will try to accommodate our need for a specific color. Their arrangements are beautifully presented and I often get compliments on them. If you are in their store, stop and thank them, and maybe buy some flowers, it will lighten your shopping chores.

Thank you. Mina Witherspoon.

### **ALTAR GUILD DATES**

The Altar Guild will meet on Wednesday, February 1, at 9:30 a.m. in the chapel followed by a meeting in the conference room.

### **WEEKLY PLEDGE ENVELOPES**

If you would like a set of weekly pledge envelopes for 2017, there are some located at the back of the chapel and in the Nave.

### **2017 COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE**

The 2017 Coffee hour schedule is posted in Engle Hall's kitchen. Please look and see when your ministry group is scheduled.

## **FUN CLUB NEWS**



### **FUN CLUB BINGO NIGHT**

Join us February 17 at 6:00 pm for Bingo Night Featuring Pizza, Pop, Popcorn and Prizes. Open to All ages for fun and food.

## **OUTREACH NEWS**

### **OUTREACH MEETING**

The next outreach meeting will be Saturday, March 11 at 10am. Please join us.

### **55<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ANTIQUE SHOW APRIL 21-22**

Please join us **Saturday, February 4** at 10:30am if you can be on the Antique Show Committee. There are a lot of decisions to be made, so your input will be helpful.

### **DEAN FRICKE FOOD PANTRY**

VEGETABLES, FRUIT AND SOUP – donations of these categories are very welcome right now; and as always, large brown paper sacks like those from Baker's or Hy-Vee, not the shorter ones from Trader Joe's. Just as scripture tells us "you will always have the poor with you", there will always be the hungry here in Omaha. A big, big thank you to those of you who have consistently made monetary and non-perishable donations. We also appreciate all the volunteers from St. Andrew's and other area Episcopal churches who have been dedicated to this cause.

Thanks again, Tim and Noreen.

### **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FUNDRAISER**

Join us May 22 5pm-9pm at the Pizza Ranch at 84<sup>th</sup> and Center in Frederick Square. All you have to do is order and enjoy your food, and we receive 10% of the proceeds to help fund our mission.

## POP TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

We are collecting the aluminum tabs from aluminum cans again. Please save these, bring them with you to church, and place them in the jar in Engle Hall. These will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House in memory of Lou Gates.

## UPCOMING RETREATS

### CENTERING PRAYER RETREAT

**Have you wondered what centering prayer is?** Want to know more about it? Struggled with it? Looking for a new and meaningful prayer practice? On **Saturday, February 11th**, 9am-12pm, Br. James Dowd, our monk in residence, will present a seminar and workshop on Centering Prayer at Holy Trinity in Lincoln (6001 A St). Br. James has practiced for many years as a contemplative in the Order of the Holy Cross and he will share his wealth of knowledge and experience with us. This is open to everyone; ALL are invited to this special event.

Following the morning presentation, Br. James will be available for personal consultation (spiritual direction) in the afternoon. We may also do a group spiritual direction session. For those unfamiliar with spiritual direction, the practice allows you to examine how God is moving in your life, and how to discern this movement so you can follow God's gentle promptings. If you have any questions please contact Holy Trinity at [402-488-7139](tel:402-488-7139).

### MEN'S RETREAT

The 2017 DioNEB Men's Spirituality Retreat is at the St. Benedict Center, Schuyler, NE from 5:00 PM Friday, Feb. 17th to 12:00 noon Sunday, Feb. 19th. Join Fr. Randy Goeke and Fr. Jerry Ness as we explore God's call to deeper relationship with Christ and each other.

Register at <http://mensretreat.episcopal-ne.org/retreat-registration.html> The Cost is \$140 for a single and \$120 for a double, per person, includes 2 night's stay and 6 meals. **The Registration Deadline-** February 1st, 2017. Please visit <http://nebraskaepiscopalian.org/?p=3856> for more information.

### SAVE THE DATE

Women's Overnight Retreat March 3 and 4 at the Benedictine Retreat Center in Schuyler, Nebraska. Additional details to follow.

### FROM THE DESK



January was National Mentoring Month. I had the privilege of meeting with a volunteer coordinator with a group in town called Partnership 4 Kids. My contact (Kris Morgan, whom some of you know) works with the elementary school division where they send goal buddies to 12 OPS schools to meet with students seven times a year. The goal buddies meet with students to talk about their reading, math, and life skills goals. The fact that the same adult will show up each month to spend a few minutes with them to think about their futures is huge, as this may be one of only a couple of steady adult presences these children have in their lives. For this reason,

Partnership 4 Kids asks for a one-year commitment. Each quarter a celebration takes place to honor the students that have met their goals and the students have chances to earn prizes in a raffle. The programs for Middle School and High School Students are a little more time consuming on the part of the mentor, but are also very rewarding. This is something that I believe I will begin devoting some of my time to in the future. If you would like more information on the group, being a Goal Buddy or Mentor, or other ways they can use volunteers, please feel free to contact me at

[erin@standrewsomaha.org](mailto:erin@standrewsomaha.org), visit their website at <http://p4k.org/> or contact them at [mentor@p4k.org](mailto:mentor@p4k.org)  
**Articles for the next edition of the Greeter are due Tuesday, February 21. Thanks, Erin Sloan**

# FEBRUARY Birthdays and Anniversaries

Blake Rider	2/1	Donald Burrell	2/2		
Sandy Lipschultz	2/2	John Schaefer	2/2		
Kathleen Kauth	2/3	Andy Ketterson Jr.	2/3		
Langdon Caverzagie	2/4	Chris Kircher	2/4		
Roxi Adams	2/5	Charlotte Austin	2/5		
Sarah Black	2/7	Jeff Dunic	2/8	Stephen Haakinson	2/8
Jarrold Olson	2/8	Lee Hammond	2/9	Donna Burrill	2/10
Carol Casper	2/10	Loren Ditsch	2/10	Juleen Olson	2/11
Lucy Puls	2/11	Kelly Dornan	2/12	Jeremy Lipschultz	2/12
Braxton Rife	2/12	Jay Adams	2/13	Lisa Aguilar	2/14
Whitney Gustin	2/15	Eileen Hansen	2/15	Nathan Ladenson	2/15
Ron Dunic	2/17	Henry Hallgren	2/17	Terrie Saunders	2/17
Steve Gottschalk	2/18	Taylor Markoff	2/18	Susan Menter	2/18
Dan Coonce	2/19	Christian Harter II	2/19	Kevin Henry	2/20
Hope Kircher	2/20	Kevin Wagner	2/20	Paula Wallace	2/20
Madison Markoff	2/26	Theresa Huss	2/27	Brenden Adcock	2/28



James and Terrie Saunders	2/2	Bill Jr. and Jody Smythe	2/2
David and Denise Telford	2/14	Matt and Lisa Aguilar	2/18
John and Carolyn Curtis	2/29		



**Ministry Schedule**

	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26	March 4
<b>Acolytes</b>					
9:00	Paige Rife	Lauren Sitzman	Connor Smith	Taryn Smith	Anna Kay Sitzman
10:30	Jim Hallgren	Laura Dodge Eleanor Dodge	James Henry Nate Gottschalk	Ron Dunic	Jim Hallgren
<b>Altar Guild</b>					
S	Carolyn Curtis/Jane Hoover	Polly Goecke	Sue Hillman	Polly Goecke	Carolyn Curtis/Jane Hoover
E	Gretchen Gottschalk	Karen Ekholm	Terrie Saunders	Liz Bourne	Susie Trupp
L	Mina Witherspoon/Mary Schreiber	Aileen Henry	Mina Witherspoon/Mary Schreiber	Jan Buhr	Christina Harter
<b>Healing Prayer</b>					
7:45	Lois Westfall	Lois Westfall	Lois Westfall	Lois Westfall	Lois Westfall
9:00	Jamie Baker/Andy Hawekotte	Andy Hawekotte/ Karen Ekholm	Andy Hawekotte/Lance Baker	Jamie Baker/Karen Ekholm	Karen Ekholm/Andy Hawekotte
10:30	Janice Nelson	Janice Nelson	Janice Nelson	Janice Nelson	Janice Nelson
<b>Lay Readers</b>					
7:45	Lois Westfall	Keith Ross	Lois Westfall	Jordan Hankins	Keith Ross
9:00	Camille Culp Sharon Kryger	Don Peeler Ben Bryan	Jenny Else Don Peeler	Cathy Rife Karen Conrad	Fred Gottschalk Taryn Smith
10:30	Bert Van Blerk Lee Hammond	Ken West Tara O'Shea	Andy Ketterson Elizabeth Hallgren	Lee Hammond Benji Pettiford	Kelly Bourne Bert Van Blerk
<b>Ushers</b>					
7:45	John Mabry	John Mabry	John Mabry	John Mabry	John Mabry
9:00	Linda Kay-Einerson Burke Smith	Stephen Haakinson Andy Hawekotte Dan Coonce	Don Peeler Barb Jackson	Kim Johansen Liz Orrick Karen Quintana	Shaun Rife Susan Menter
10:30	Lee Hammond, D.J. O'Shea, Ron Dunic	James Schreiber, Dave Gambal, Scott Nelson	Charley and Nancy Pugsley, Dave and Ann Gambal	Lee Hammond, D.J. O'Shea, Scott Nelson	James Schreiber Dave Gambal
<b>Greeters</b>					
7:45	John Mabry	Laraine Crane	John Mabry	Laraine Crane	John Mabry
9:00	Lisa Aguilar	Dana Coonce	Lisa Aguilar	Tom and Jean Sitzman	Todd and Cathy Engle
10:30	Lisa Hammond	Kelly and Liz Bourne	TBD	Janice Nelson	TBD
	Lay Readers Liturgy Team	St. Monica's ECW Board	Ushers Outreach	Altar Guild Nearly New Shop	Vestry Finance

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**  
**Minutes for December 20, 2016**

**Attending:** Ben Bryan, Andy Hawekotte, The Rev. Diane Pike, Nancy Ponec, Shaun Rife, Jim Schreiber, The Rev. John Schaefer, Lois Westfall, Sue Woodson

**Guest:** Kate Eytalis, Sales Consultant, Paychex

**Opening Prayer:** John opened the meeting with prayer and a reflection.

**Approval of the Vestry meeting minutes:**

*The minutes for November were moved for approval by Lois and seconded by Shaun. The vote was unanimous.*

**Presentation of the Payroll Services offered by Paychex Corporation by Kate Eytalis:**

Kate explained exactly what Paychex will be doing for us during the year while handling each bimonthly payroll processing, tax deposits, quarterly tax reports, and W-2 production at year's end. They will be submitting reports to the Financial Administrator and the Treasurer for them to check for correctness and to enter into our own ledger system. Because they do this for the Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska as well as many other churches around the country, they are familiar with IRS rules concerning clerical taxation and requirements. Their services are already included in our budget for 2017.

**Finance Report:**

The **finance reports for November and the end of our fiscal year end** were given. The year was positive as had been predicted all along and there were no last minute surprises.

**Proposed 2017 Budget:**

A slightly revised budget was presented as an error had been discovered when reviewing the budget for one last time it was revealed that the Paychex costs were included twice. Removing one of those inclusions increased our Margin gain to \$6,180 for the anticipated 2017 year.

*Shaun moved and Sue seconded that the 2017 budget as presented with the correction be approved. The vote was unanimous.*

**Rector Report:**

In spite of our new furnaces, the Rector's office remained very cold and Jim Saunders was called in to solve the problem. Baseboard heat was installed, and a new thermostat will be added to that heat source. Problem solved.

Wednesday nights have not been the huge success hoped for (maybe 12 people showed up) and it has been decided that during the Lenten season there will be 5 or 6 weeks of Wednesday programs but we will not be returning to regular meals and programs.

**Associate Rector Report:** To date the number of Pledges submitted for 2017 are slightly less than for 2016, but the total amount pledged is above the amount pledged for 2016. Diane feels that Stewardship should be a year round conversation and focus.

**Senior Warden Report:**

Reported that food left over from the Thanksgiving Dinner went to Youth Emergency Services. There was also a conversation about the Discretionary Fund and how it might be sustained.

**Junior Warden Report:**

No report.

**New Business:**

**Designation of housing allowance for The Rev. Diane Pike and The Rev. John Schaefer:**

**For Diane:**

The following resolution was duly adopted by the vestry of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church at a regularly scheduled meeting held on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, a quorum being present: Whereas, the Reverend Diane Pike is compensated by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church exclusively for the services as a minister of the gospel; and Whereas, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church does not provide The Rev. Diane Pike with a rectory; therefore, it is hereby Resolved, that the total compensation paid to The Rev. Diane Pike for calendar year 2017 shall be paid \$64,200, of which \$26,400 is hereby designated to be a housing allowance; and it is further Resolved, that the designation of \$26,400 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2017 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

**For John:**

The following resolution was duly adopted by the vestry of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church at a regularly scheduled meeting held on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, a quorum being present: Whereas, the Reverend Otto John Schaefer, III is compensated by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church exclusively for the services as a minister of the gospel; and Whereas, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church does not provide The Rev. Otto John Schaefer, III with a rectory; therefore, it is hereby Resolved, that the total compensation paid to The Rev. Otto John Schaefer, III for calendar year 2017 shall be paid \$90,000, of which \$30,000 is hereby designated to be a housing allowance; and it is further Resolved, that the designation of \$30,000 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2017 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

*The resolutions were moved by Jim and seconded by Lois. The vote was unanimous.*

**Other new Business:** None

**Old Business:** None

**Committee Reports:**

Lois reported for House & Grounds that the Roll-up door to the shed by the Nearly New Shop has been installed. The sprinkler system has been drained and turned off. Many other repairs have been attended to.

Lois reported for the Altar Guild that they gave their annual stipend to Fred Plater for his many extra services to them. The poinsettias will be delivered on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a Baptism on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at the 10:30 service.

**Closing Prayer:** Andy closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny Winsor