



Above: Bishop Bonnie Perry visits St. Andrew's - October 6, 2024 - K. Riedel

Dear friends,

Happy Thanksgiving! An odd holiday, if you think about it. Grounded in gratitude, a central religious practice, but not rooted in a particular religious tradition. A national holiday that is not particularly patriotic. At its heart is a meal with family and friends, and the holiday seems to easily collect other rituals: televised parades, football games, the start of the holiday season and shopping, and other family traditions. The week can be disorienting: pushing to get everything done early even as offices empty out, then not being sure what day it is because of the change in routines. And it somehow serves as a 'practic' holiday, coming as it does so close to Christmas.

At St. Andrew's on Thursday morning our Breakfast Program will serve a special Thanksgiving menu, following the custom of making sure on this day that everyone should share in the bounty of the harvest. We'll gather in the sanctuary at 10 am for a celebration of the Eucharist, from the Greek word meaning 'thanksgiving.' Some of us will travel to see family, some will host a meal with a menu well-defined by tradition, some will be grateful for quiet and solitude. Whatever your plans, I hope you find them life-giving, and that you take some time to reflect and give thanks.



Thank you to Irene Butter for her meaningful and impactful presentation on November 25.

[Watch Irene Butter's "From Holocaust to Hope" Presentation on our YouTube](#)

One of my favorite prayers of gratitude is by the 17th century English poet and priest George Herbert. The prayer is an extract of the first and final lines of his poem "Gratefulness" from The Temple, published shortly before his death:

Thou hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more, a grateful heart:
Not thankful when it pleaseth me,
As if Thy blessings had spare days;
But such a heart, whose pulse may be
Thy praise.

- George Herbert
(1593-1633)

Peace,
Paul



Lessons & Carols

4:00 pm
December 15

Services will be held as regularly scheduled December 27 + 29.

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm
Family Service

9:00 pm **NEW TIME!**
Choral Eucharist

Christmas Day

10:00 am
Holy Eucharist

The Church Office will be closed December 24 through January 1.



Advent + Christmas Events

65th Annual Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 15

4:00PM | CHURCH

Our tradition of alternating lessons with hymns, voluntaries and carols for Christmas continues! All of St. Andrew's music ensembles are involved: the Adult, Junior and Cherub Choirs, and the St. Dunstan Junior and Adult Handbell Choirs.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Reception

Tuesday, December 24

5:30PM | PARISH HALL

As part of our traditional Candlelight Reception following the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve service, there will be a meal of baked ziti, salad, rolls, and cookies. Everyone is invited but **please RSVP by Tuesday, December 17!** When making a reservation: please include your name, how many people, and whether you need dairy-free or meat free or gluten free. To RSVP: text 734-665-8112, email slhastings@standrewsaa.org or call the church (734-663-0518).

If you would like to donate cookies for the Candlelight Reception, please text 734-665-8112 to say you'll be bringing cookies. Thank you!

Christmas Eve 'Late' Service Time Change!

Please note that the musical prelude for the 'late' service on Christmas Eve will begin at 9:00 pm this year. The prelude (Benjamin Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*) will last approximately 30 minutes, with the service starting around 9:30 pm.

Church Office to Close for the Holidays

The Church Office will close and remote work will be paused from Tuesday, December 24, 2024 through Wednesday, January 1, 2025.

New Year's Day Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, January 1

10:00AM | CHURCH

Start the New Year with St. Andrew's! Join us for worship at 10:00 am on New Year's Day.

Christmas Flowers

To make the church especially festive for the season, you are invited to contribute toward greens and flowers in memory of or in thanksgiving for the special people in your life.

Dedications deadline: Wednesday, December 18





Parish Briefs

New Online Giving Platform

We've made it easier than ever for you to give to St. Andrew's! We've switched to Realm eGiving, which allows you to give online. Make a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts, and consider covering the processing fees so your gifts go even further for our ministry. Check out our new giving form at <https://onrealm.org/standrewsaa/give/now>. If you currently have recurring gifts set up in WeShare, we will email you on December 2 with instructions on how to migrate to Realm eGiving.

Newcomers Gathering

If you are new to St. Andrew's, we hope you'll join us for a Newcomers Gathering on Sunday, December 8 in the Chapel following the 10:00 am service. At this gathering you will meet other Newcomers, meet key members of the various ministries, meet our rector, Paul Frolick, and get a brief tour of the building. Please RSVP to Jonathan Gardner (jgardner@standrewsaa.org, 734-663-0518) so we can plan accordingly. -Marty Gillen, Newcomer 2022

Special Meeting of the Congregation

Please plan to attend a Special Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, December 15 to vote on changes to our nominating and electing process for vestry members and delegates to diocesan convention. You can vote after the 8:00 or 10:00 am service. For details, visit standrewsaa.org/specialmeeting.html

Annual Giving Update

Many thanks to everyone who has made a pledge of support for next year - your generosity is inspiring!

The Stewardship Committee is hard at work following up with parishioners who have not pledged yet for 2025. If you are planning to make a pledge, please do so today by turning in a pledge card, emailing office@standrewsaa.org, or completing our [online pledge card](#). This will save the Stewardship Committee time and effort during this busy season, and will help the Vestry develop a responsible budget to fund our mission and ministry in the year ahead. Thank you for your consideration.

P.S. Please know: the vestry, wardens, clergy, and staff are grateful for every pledge of support, no matter the size. And, if your financial situation is such that you cannot pledge this year, please know that we are grateful that you are here, grateful for the many ways you support St. Andrew's, and grateful for your prayers.

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 2025

The Annual Parish meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on January 26, 2025 immediately following the 10:00 am service.

Services will be held as regularly scheduled.

Annual Parish Reports

Due by Wednesday, January 15, 2025

If you are a group or committee chair and you would like to have a report included in the Annual Report, email it to communications@standrewsaa.org by Wednesday, January 15, 2025.

Paper copies of the parish financial report, the 2025 budget, and all items of business requiring a vote will be available for all parishioners at the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Report will be posted on the parish website (standrewsaa.org) on Friday, January 24, 2025.

Children's Chairs for Sale!!

Here's a wonderful gift idea for children ages 1-8, and a means to support the St. Andrew's Youth Program.

The Youth are selling 30 of these solid hardwood chairs that have been collecting dust in the undercroft, with all proceeds going to their programs. So, for \$30 (or more) each, they hope to raise \$1,000.

If interested, see Steve or Linda Hastings or Fr. Paul. There is one in the office if you'd like to see what they look like.



Christmas Adopt-A-Family

Gift Ingathering: Sunday, December 15 | ALL SERVICES

As we have for many years, St. Andrew's will again support the adult and child clients of the Ann Arbor Community Center this year through our Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program. To give a gift, do one of the following:

- You can **pick up a gift tag** which indicates the age and gender of a preschool or grade-school child, then buy and wrap an appropriate gift of your choice for the child attaching the gift tag provided.
- If you prefer, the Community Center is asking for donations of **\$50 gift cards to Meijer, Walmart or Target** for older children and adults. You can pick up a gift tag, then purchase a gift card and place it in a sealed envelope with a greeting if you like, and attach the tag to the envelope.
- You can also make a cash donation online <https://bit.ly/StA-Christmas> or simply bring or mail a check to the church, payable to St. Andrew's with "Community Center Christmas" written on the memo line by Tuesday, December 10.

Tags and written instructions for gifts and gift cards will be available for pickup in the lobby outside the chapel on Sunday, December 1 and 8. **The ingathering of gifts and gift cards will be during services on Sunday, December 15.**

Hats, Mittens, Gloves, and Socks!

Collection Ends: Wednesday, December 18

Help keep our Breakfast guests warm during the winter with donations of new, adult-sized socks, as well as hats, mittens, and gloves. A basket for donations will be outside of the church office through Wednesday, December 18. Thank you!



Rice for Widows and Children

Collection: Sunday, December 15 | ALL SERVICES

Dear St. Andrew's,

Greetings! Again, I thank God for his continued healing hands on me. Slowly, I am getting better although I cannot yet write or do minor things. I thank St. Aidan's and St. Andrew's for your continued prayers for my recovery. Thank you very much and may God provide for you in your time of need.

It is Christmas time again. Every year before my ill health, I conducted Christmas SERV/V/Sales of my African artifacts at St. Andrew's and St. Aidan's and they sustained my mini-project of providing rice and beans to the widows, orphans, and the poor elderly of my village during Christmas. And every year, you have supported me and chipped in to help the project. But over the years, I have seen the number of widows increase exponentially. Most of them are young widows with little elementary school children. But with your help, I have sustained the effort every year.

This year, my inquiry has informed me that the bags of beans and rice we bought last year have doubled or tripled in price, worsening the situation for the hungry mouths that increasingly yearn for food. For instance, a bag of rice (50kg) that we bought for N48,000 last year is now N105,000 while a bag of beans that was bought for N85,000 is now N250,000.

You have been the reason these poor and indigent women and orphans have food on their tables at Christmas! Thank you for supporting this project by chipping in. I no longer conduct the sales because of ill health. Once more, can you please help to put "food" on their tables this Christmas? God willing, I will send them the collected message for Christmas on Monday, 16th December 2024. May God bless you!

Sincerely, Stephen Uche, PhD



Sunday School

Support Our New Foster child!

\$420 a year supports her education, protection and health through Plan International

During Advent, please save your coins for our new foster child, Emmanuella Jaica, a 7-year-old girl who lives in Haiti. Bring your container of coins to the 4:00 pm service on Christmas Eve (or anytime that's convenient for you! Emmanuella lives with her parents and 12-year-old sister in Sud-Est, which is south of Port-Au-Prince.

Upcoming Events

December is always busy and this year is no exception!

December 1 – ADVENT I *Combined Classes* (Thanksgiving Break)

From Isaiah, we will talk about waiting for the Messiah, and Jesus coming again. We will be making Advent wreaths. High School volunteers at Breakfast Program at 7 am.

December 8 – ADVENT II

Pen Pal Ministry - each classroom will work on making Christmas cards for our at-home parishioners.

December 15 – ADVENT III

Regular classes except high school is serving in church.

December 22 – ADVENT IV

Christmas Store for all ages in place of Sunday School classes. Come “Buy” (free) gifts and make gifts. Get help wrapping them up to take home.

December 29 – *Combined classes* (Christmas break)

We'll make creche dioramas.

January 5

Yes, there is Sunday School although technically it is still Christmas break!

January 19 – high school in service.

January 26 – ANNUAL MEETING

Children will be entertained in the Preschool Room with snacks and working on the Alleluia Banner for Lent.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Reception

See page 2 for more information on this fun annual festivity! And please! **DONATE COOKIES FOR THE RECEPTION!** Text 734-665-8112 to say you'll be bringing cookies. **THANK YOU!**

In faith, hope and love, LINDA HASTINGS



Theater

On Sunday, November 10, *A History of our Church---in Four Scenes* was staged as part of the 10:00 am service. It marked the 197th anniversary of St. Andrew's and was a bit of a warmup for our bicentennial in 2027. It was a wonderful performance, offering, with humor, glimpses of our past at St. Andrew's. There is some comfort in knowing that issues such as money have always been with us. Our history says that with commitment and dedication we can get through any difficulties that arise in the church. My hope is to stage this play again in 2027, as part of a gala year of celebration.

Next in line for theater is the Christmas pageant. This year we are putting on *Outside the Inn*, last done as a virtual theater production in 2020. We just held our first meeting, but there are still parts for all ages. We can't have too many angels! Please contact me today to join in on the fun.

I am still meditating on the spring musical. *Oliver!* was wonderful, last May. We have a lot of theater talent here at St. Andrew's, but I am always looking for new faces, of any age, to bring into the fold. Theater is a great way to meet some people, around a common purpose. At the heart of theater is storytelling, and stories are at the core of our faith, in particular, and our humanity, in general. Theater can be a lot of work and commitment, but at the same time, it is fun. One of the great things about theater is that when an actor is speaking, no matter whether they are in a starring role or have a part with one line, whether they are 5 or 85, they are the most important person in the show. Listening is nearly as important as speaking. We work hard on mutual respect. Everyone brings something different to a production, but we do our best to work as equals.

There is an email list of all those who are interested in being part of the plays at St. Andrew's. If you are not already on it (or if you don't know), let me know at nrichert@comcast.net.

NORM RICHERT
Theatre Ministries



Report of Convention

The 190th Convention of the Diocese of Michigan was held on October 18th and 19th in Novi. There were close to 200 clergy, lay delegates, and special guests attending. The Diocese continues to focus energy on the critical issues of Reparations - "Repairing the Breach", Gun Violence, and Creation Care.

The Rt. Rev. Eugene Sutton, retired Bishop of Maryland, conducted a workshop on the topic of Reparations on Friday. He delivered a sermon at the Saturday Eucharist. His presence was a gift for us all. He is a powerful voice for 'repairing the breach' in our society caused by our country's history of slavery. Attendees were able to participate in thoughtful discussions about the impact of racism on our lives and ways to work on this critical issue.

Young people in the diocese were also an inspiring presence. They shared information about Campus Ministries in the Diocese - particularly Canterbury House in Lansing and in Ann Arbor. They also shared personal stories about the impact of gun violence in their lives.

Convention, of course, included three business sessions and approval of the dates for next year - October 24th and 25th. The budget for 2025 was approved and all were thanked for their contributions to the diocese. Various resolutions and amendments to the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan took up most of the business meeting on Saturday afternoon.

- Lorraine Field
Liz Halgren
Lucy Richert

*St. Andrew's Delegates
to Diocesan Convention*

Staff Spotlight



Coming into St. Andrew's Church is a welcoming, comforting, uplifting experience. Many people work devotedly to make sure everything about the building and grounds look their best, are cleaned, polished, and appropriate for the worship and activities that takes place here.

One major reason everything is so welcoming is that everything works. The plumbing and electricity work, the lawns are cut, the snow is removed, the parking lot is clear. The care and effort that make this happen are invisible. You only see things when there are problems. Small examples could be a leaking faucet or a light bulb that won't go on. But large or small, you won't find many of these problems at Church because of the effort and attention from our long-time Sexton, Matt Marsh.

Sexton originally meant "grave digger" and Matt is, indeed, the person who creates and then back fills the interment sites in the Memorial Garden. He also often tolls the bell during a funeral. That is just the start.

Matt is what you can think of as the facilities manager. He takes care of everything from the lightning grounding cables on the peak of the roof of the sanctuary, to the integrity of the almost 200-year-old walls of the basement, making sure there are no leaks. And everything in between, including making sure the bathrooms are working properly (all 14 of them). Matt either repairs things himself or, with the approval of the Church administration, works with an outside contractor to repair everything from the plumbing and wiring, to leveling any heaved pavers, resealing and painting the parking lot and much more. He unplugs drains both inside and outside of the buildings and calls the contractor when it is time to grind down the face of the stone wall in the Memorial Garden walkway to accommodate each new memorial plaque.

Matt knows who to call to get broken stained glass windows repaired. And when a slate comes loose on the roof and slides out of place, Matt is the one to see to its replacement. In addition, Matt is sometimes called upon to set up the tables and chairs for various meetings, and put them away and vacuum the floor when the meetings are over.

When you see the lawn looking beautifully cared for any time you come by, you can thank Matt for his devotion to the grounds, in addition to the building. He makes sure the sprinkler system works, the lawns and trees are fertilized and supervises the trimming of the trees. He works with the Garden Ministry to assist with tasks they cannot manage themselves.

Matt loves his job. He looks forward to coming to work every day, and often comes in early, at 4 or 5 am, to get started while things are quiet. He is always busy and has a list of things he is taking care of. He enjoys the work he does, the people he works with and the parishioners he serves.

Please take the time to introduce yourself to Matt if you happen to run into him. Let him know how grateful we are to have him looking after St. Andrew's.

- Julie Ritter



Outreach

Habitat for Humanity Build

Saturday, November 16

Thank you to our amazing Habitat for Humanity volunteers John Burhenn, Ron Burkman, Betsy Henrichs, Matt Jorgensen, Brennan Lafferty, Phil MacBride, Leslie Piper, Kevin Ross, and Jim Wortley. And special thank you to Ginger Kinney for coordinating our volunteers, and to Jeanie and Dennis Powers for providing lunch for everyone.



Social Justice

Social Justice Ministry at St. Andrew's

Mark your calendar for January 19

Last April at Fr. Paul's invitation, about 30 people gathered in the Chapel to share thoughts about the most pressing social justice issues we wanted to work on as a parish. This fall, current events took our focus. We hosted several workshops about "depolarizing" our political conversations, strengthening our sense of community with all people, and getting through the election.

As we look to the new year, we invite you to join us on January 19, after the 10:00 am service in the Lounge, to gather again and direct our energies toward what our focus will be for the coming year. St. Andrew's has a long standing commitment to social justice and we want to hear all voices. Please join us.

As Christians, we are called to love our neighbors, and to continue to ask for God's will to be done in and through us... To be fully engaged citizens we are asked to remain steadfast in building a world of justice and peace even if we have yet to see the fruits of our labor. Together, we have proven time and time again that progress is possible, even in the face of unimaginable suffering. It is a comforting thought to know that the future is in God's hands.

- Marcus Lewis, Advocacy Intern at the Episcopal Public Policy Network



Music Notes

St. Andrew's to host University of Michigan Organ Recital Series

Thursdays from 12:15 - 12:45 pm, January 16 - April 10

Beginning on Thursday, January 16, the University of Michigan Organ Department will use our organ to host weekly 30 minute organ recitals every Thursday from 12:15 - 12:45 pm. We hope you can come support these young musicians as they prepare for careers in organ and church music; you are sure to hear some glorious music!



Breakfast Updates

We have been busy in the St. Andrew's kitchen! We have gotten into a routine with our cooking sessions, and we are thrilled to be able to regularly serve homemade chili, soups, stew and other comforting dishes as the weather gets colder. And we continue to look for other ways to support our guests. The medical students at Wolverine Street Medicine are now offering a foot care clinic twice a month. Unified Vibrant Health provides toiletries every Thursday. And I recently met with teachers from Community High School to discuss ways we can work together. We are looking forward to having students serve breakfast, play music in our dining room, and organize drives for items our guests need.

Thank you for the donations! Many thanks to all of you who brought in blankets, sleeping bags, backpacks and warm clothing for our guests. These gifts make a big difference as the weather gets colder and so many of our guests are struggling to stay safe and warm outside.

And the winner is....

Groundcover News recently announced the [winners of its Choice Awards](#), and we are delighted to announce that the Breakfast Program won "Most Supportive Faith Community." Lindsay Calka, the *Groundcover* managing director came to breakfast with two *Groundcover* vendors to present the award certificate.

We work hard to create a safe comfortable environment where our guests can relax, enjoy the company of others, and be treated with dignity and respect. And we make it a priority to visit with our guests, listen to their concerns, and help in any way we can. We are proud to receive this award, and delighted to know that our guests think of St. Andrew's as a place to receive not only food, but kindness and support as well.

Holiday Sock, Glove and Hat Drive

We are planning to host a Christmas party for our guests again this year.

In preparation for the festivities, we are collecting hats and gloves to give away. This year, we would also like to give our guests new socks.

If you would like to contribute, please bring your donations to the bin inside the Memorial Garden entrance by Wednesday, December 18. Your gifts will help lift the spirits of those who are struggling this holiday season!

If you are interested in getting involved with the Breakfast Program, please email Susette Jaquette at standrewsbreakfast@gmail.com and she will send you the links to our SignUpGenius pages. If you are having trouble finding open slots on the sign up, please email me at breakfast@standrewsaa.org, and I will help you find a time to join us. We are always happy to welcome new volunteers to the team.

SUE NISHI

Director, Breakfast at St. Andrew's
breakfast@standrewsaa.org



FALL 2024

Parish Life Highlights

PHOTOS COURTESY OF: Sarah Baird, Carol Ferguson, Deborah Friauff, Ally Norris, Dennis Powers, Lucy Richert, Kate Riedel

Send your photos of parish life at St. Andrew's to communications@standrewsaa.org!





Above: Bishop Perry and Fr. Paul gather with members of St. Andrew's who were confirmed or received on October 6, 2024 - K. Riedel

Weekly Events

Get Involved!

Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist (C)
9:15 am Family Eucharist (Cpl)
9:45 am Sunday School
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (C / YouTube)

Wednesdays

7:00 am Holy Eucharist (Cpl)
4:30 pm Cherub Choir (CL)
4:30 pm Junior Handbell Choir (C)
5:15 pm Junior Choir (CL)
6:00 pm Evensong (Cpl)
6:30 pm Handbell Choir (C)

Thursdays

10:00 am Bible Study (Zoom)
12:15 pm UofM Organ Recital (C)
7:15 pm Adult Choir (CL)

Fridays

12:15 pm Holy Eucharist (Cpl)
7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous (PH)

ROOM LEGEND
(AC) Acolyte Room (L) Lounge
(C) Church (LEd) Lower Education Room
(CL) Choir Loft (Cpl) Chapel (PH) Parish Hall

Christmas Pageant

REHEARSALS

10:00 am – 12:00 pm in the Church
Saturday, November 30
Saturday, December 7
Saturday, December 14
Saturday, December 21
Monday, December 23

PERFORMANCE

Tuesday, December 24
During the 4:00 pm service

December 2024

Sunday, December 1 *Advent 1*

10:00 am Holy Eucharist +
O Antiphons (C)

7:00 pm *Music for Meditation:*
Organ Students (C)

8:00 pm Compline (C)

Tuesday, December 3

3:00 pm Glacier Hills Service
5:30 pm Prayer Vigil (Cpl)

Saturday, December 7

10:00 am Pageant Rehearsal (C)

Sunday, December 8 *Advent 2*

11:15 am Newcomer Gathering (Cpl)

Saturday, December 14

10:00 am Pageant Rehearsal (C)

Sunday, December 15 *Advent 3*

Gift Ingathering

11:15 am Special Meeting
of the Congregation (C)
4:00 pm Lessons and Carols (C)

Tuesday, December 17

6:00 pm Finance (Z/L)
6:30 pm Vestry (L)

Saturday, December 21

10:00 am Pageant Rehearsal (C)

Monday, December 23

10:00 am Pageant Dress Rehearsal (C)

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24

4:00 pm Family Eucharist +
Christmas Pageant (C)
5:30 pm Candlelight Reception (PH)
9:00 pm Choral Eucharist (C)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (C)

January 2025

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Wednesday, January 1

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (C)

Sunday, January 5

8:00 pm Compline (C)

Tuesday, January 7

3:00 pm Glacier Hills Service

Wednesday, January 15

Annual Reports Due

Sunday, January 19

11:30 am Social Justice Meeting (L)

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Sunday, January 26

8:00 am Holy Eucharist (C)
9:15 am Family Eucharist (Cpl)
9:45 am Church School
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (C)
11:30 am Annual Meeting (PH)

Music at St. Andrew's

65th Annual
Festival of

Lessons & Carols

featuring the
St. Andrew's
Choirs

**Sunday,
December 15**

4:00 pm

St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church
Ann Arbor, MI

standrewsaa.org



To make the church especially festive for the season, you are invited to contribute toward greens and flowers in memory of or in thanksgiving for the special people in your life. These dedications will be included in the bulletin on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Please **print clearly** so that we are able to acknowledge your request correctly.

Your Name _____

In Memory of: _____

In Thanksgiving for: _____

Please place your contribution and this form in an envelope and:

PLACE it in the collection plate;

MAIL it to the church: 306 N. Division St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104;

EMAIL your information to communications@standrewsaa.org, or

USE THE QR CODE to give online via the *Christmas Flowers Fund*



The **DEADLINE** for receiving names is: **Wednesday, December 18**

[Click here to give Christmas Flowers online with Realm eGiving](#)

Select the *Christmas Flowers* fund; your memorials can be typed in the Memo line or sent to communications@standrewsaa.org