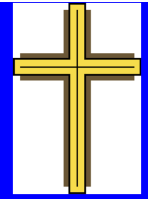


Vestry *Initiatives*



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Summer 2011



ST. ANDREW'S CONGRATULATES MARY LENN DIXON, NEWLY ORDAINED DEACON

Mary Lenn Dixon was ordained on June 18, 2011 in Houston.

Her main parish will be St. Francis Episcopal Church. She will be with us at St. Andrew's once a month, preaching, and continuing her ministries, to include programs such as Hispanic Ministry, Immigration Ministry and Restorative Justices.

Also, part of her assignment as deacon for this area is to help the three local parishes strengthen our outreach efforts by recognizing our common ground with each other and with the communities we seek to serve.

We look forward to having Mary Lenn with us this fall.

The Vestry would like to share with the parish a few of our current projects and initiatives. As always, parishioners are welcome to attend vestry meetings, or contact any vestry member for more details. The Vestry meetings on the third Thursday of the month, at 6:00 p.m. for prayer and 6:30 p.m. for business, and are open to all parishioners who would like to attend. Please take a look at some of the highlighted projects this summer:

Strategic Planning and Future Goals

An update of the St. Andrew's Church strategy has been under discussion by the vestry for several months. The intent is to build on the previous strategy, the Vestry Retreat held in January 2011, and the Mutual Ministries Review now being initiated, among other inputs to create the new plan. The overall goal is to have a living document that provides an ongoing method for creative thinking, setting goals and objectives, developing or continuing ministries, measuring progress and maintaining ongoing communication and involvement among and across members of the parish. Some of the specific goals include:

- **CONDUCTING THE MUTUAL MINISTRY REVIEW:**

The first step of the MMR involves a **Parish Survey**. This survey is being conducted this month to provide an opportunity for all parishioners, 15 and older, to share thoughts and perspectives about our church and where we see our congregation now and in the future. This survey was developed by the Diocese of Texas, through the facilitation of a consultant. Parishioners will be asked to provide responses to the categories including:

Welcome and Community, Engagement, Prayer and Spirituality, Programs and Ministry, Vision and Mission, Resources, and Future State Objectives

The Diocesan consultant will be retained for both the survey and the facilitated retreat with the Vestry and rector later in the fall.

We need your support by responding to this survey as soon as possible! The survey is available online, as well as in the form of printed copies, which can be mailed in to the consultant or dropped off to the church in the survey box. All surveys are anonymous.

Please respond to the survey by August 5 in order to be included.

Ministry Reports

Spiritual Development

Kathleen Phillips organized a well-attended spiritual retreat in early June on *Dreams and Christianity*. The next spiritual retreat is on **Praying with Personality** - September 10, details to be announced in upcoming publications. Additionally, parishioners are invited to participate in the Soul-Full book club, which offers online and face-to-face meetings to discuss a variety of books on spiritual development. Contact Kathleen Phillips for more information.

—————> Continued on back page...

2011 Vestry

JIM KRACHT
SR. WARDEN

JIM MILLER
JR. WARDEN

CHUCK GLENEWINKEL
COMMUNICATIONS

ROLAND SEARCY
STEWARDSHIP

NEVILLE CLARKE
CLERK AND STRATEGIC
PLANNING

ALMA PRUESSNER
OFFICE LIAISON,
WELCOME TEAM

KATHLEEN PHILLIPS
SPIRITUAL
DEVELOPMENT

CINDY PEASLEE
HOSPITALITY

STEVEN CARR
PRISON MINISTRY

JEANNINE NETTERVILLE
PASTORAL CARE

CAROL YATES

CLIFF TICE
TREASURER

WAYNE ETTER
ASSISTANT TREASURER

Vestry Notes

- We are pleased to announce that Kathleen Phillips will serve as Senior Warden in 2012.
- To access current Vestry minutes and reports, go to our website, click on the "Resources" link and view *Internal resources*.

Christian Formation

The Christian Formation Committee met to develop the goals and approaches for the programs associated with the various seasons of the church calendar for 2011 and 2012 as they pertain to adult forum, Sunday school, and other activities. The overall theme this year will relate to exploring our mission, exploring the mission of Jesus and of the church, and preparing for future mission opportunities. One of these opportunities involves a Mission trip planned for next summer: **Mission with Meaning – a Journey of faith to the Navajo Nation**. Fr. Sean presented to the vestry the concept of a mission by parish members to the Navajo Reservation in Fort Defiance, Arizona in the summer of 2012. Located within the Navajo Reservation, the Good Shepherd Mission and Church of the Good Shepherd are integral to the Episcopal Church in Navajoland. The proposed themes of the ministry would be education and agriculture, including an animal health check and vaccination clinic, as well as an educational mission related to preparations for school.



Church of the Good Shepherd

A *Celebration of Giving* fundraiser event is being planned on November 5 to support this mission trip. We will have more information on this exciting project in the newsletter, e-news and the bulletin.

Facility Projects

There are several current renovations and summer projects that are part of our campaign and overall facility repairs:

- The first stage of the fire suppression system will begin this summer, which involves installing the water pipes in the nave and in the basement. Please note that while this work is being done, we will be having our Sunday services in the Parish Hall. The exact dates of the work are not confirmed, but we expect that the fire suppression will begin late July and extend into August and possibly September.
- It is our intention that once the fire suppression system is complete, we will proceed to the nave interior repairs, which include replastering, painting and refinishing the pews.

Treasurer's Report

Capital Campaign Report: The current capital campaign fund balance is \$14,000. These Capital Campaign dollars will enable the church to complete the nave repairs and other pending Capital Projects.

Outreach Report: An update of our Church's local outreach as of 5/31/11 indicated receipts of \$10,270 and disbursements of \$7,500. Some of the recipients were: Camp Good News, Church Food Pantry and Neal School Fund (among others). The remaining funds for local outreach will be disbursed on a monthly basis. We also raised money for outreach through the March *Spring Festival*, "*Growing Hope for the Community*".

For questions or more information on our financial operations, contact Cliff Tice or Wayne Etter.

Vestry 2012 News & Upcoming Elections

The process of identifying Vestry members for service beginning in 2012 is beginning. Those interested in serving on the Vestry should contact Father Sean, Jim Kracht, or Kathleen Phillips. Parishioners interested in nominating individuals for the Vestry beginning in 2012 should follow a similar procedure. Thank you for your prayerful discernment and consideration of serving on the Vestry.