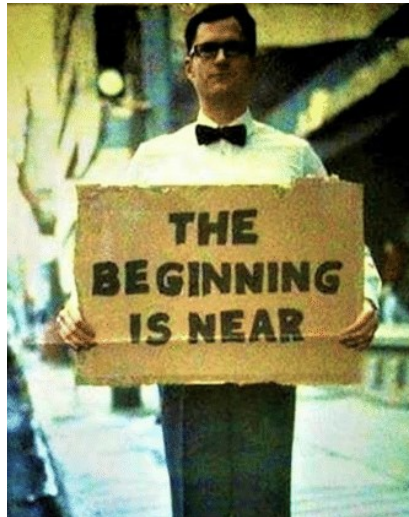


The Piper

December, 2016



An Advent message

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St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Ben Lomond, CA 95005

831.336.1069 staoffice@sbcglobal.net

~ Where God is worshiped and the people are fed ~

Ramblings in the Redwoods

What is your preferred terminology for the pursuit of your inner grail? Are you religious? Are you spiritual? Are you a seeker? A believer? A brother/sister of Christ? Are we members of a church, a congregation or an assembly? And while we are trying to name our behavior, how do we compartmentalize it, or universalize it?

The word “religious” seems to be suffering from the same reaction that the term “liberal” did a few decades ago. People who used to call themselves “liberals” now tend to call themselves “progressives” because of the connotations that conservatives successfully wedded to the word. People also find nowadays that the word “religious” has become a negative in the minds of a portion of the populace. It has taken on tones of authoritarianism, of a sense of being a part of often corrupt organizations and institutions. Priests are now identified in the minds of a portion of the population with the violation of altar boys, despite the innocence of the vast majority of priests of any such crimes; the institutional guilt gets attached to all members of clergy who use the title “priest” in the minds of much of the population.

My sense is that Jewish religious institutions have escaped that kind of notoriety, but they have to put up with the notoriety to which anti-Semitism has tried to wed them. Muslims are fearful of the presumptions that are laid upon them by the behavior of those violent groups that calls themselves by the name “Islam,” thus tarnishing the whole Islamic universe. But Christianity has been the religious focus of choice for most American religious people since the nation’s founding.

The persecution of witches, the Spanish Inquisition, the genocide of Native Americans and the religious justification of slavery are charges I have constantly heard from people who are opposed to Christianity as an institution. The participation in a belief system that defended the divine right of kings, burnings at the stake and other death-sentence responses to non-conformity are others.

One response of those who do not wish to be seen as assenting to those negatives, but who are not ready to go all the way to an atheist worldview, is to say “I’m not religious, but I am spiritual.” The advantage here is that someone who is spiritual does not have to be seen as being involved in anything organized or institutional, and if they are, they can claim that they are not there because of beliefs, history or practices. They are only there to get some kind of spiritual benefit.

One word that crosses between the two ways of thinking is “community.” Many of us are seeking community, a group of people which is committed to mutual participation in love and caring. Religious people can define what they are involved in as a community, and so can spiritual people.

Which goes to the question I posed about whether we are members of a church, a congregation or an assembly. The word “church” goes back to the Greek word “kyrios” which means “Lord.” It got into English through the Germanic word “Kirche” which is rendered in Scandinavian languages, and therefore Scottish, as “kirk.” So it means something belonging to the Lord. The usual word used in the New Testament, however, is “ecclesia,” which comes into English with such words as “ecclesiastical,” by which we usually refer to the administrative level or function of our institutions. “Ecclesia” is a word that used to be used for government councils, and meant those who are called out. So we belong to the Lord, and we are called out.

What is a congregation? It means people who “congregate” together, but we usually think of ourselves as a congregation whether we are all gathered together or not. The word “assembly,” as used, for instance, by the Assemblies of God denomination, likewise refers to our assembling together, but again in a larger sense refers to all of us whether we are assembled together at the moment or not.

Or, if you will, we are again talking about community.

The difference between the community that spiritual people are talking about and the community that Christian religious people are talking about has to do with that sense that we are called out for something. Looking for comfort, companionship, and assurance is not enough for this thing called Christianity. Our community has a purpose that is focused on the rest of the world as much as it is on ourselves.

We come together for a larger purpose. Those who have served in such things as the Peace Corps or the military have experienced a joining together of people for a larger purpose. The Church does so quite specifically as a response to God’s love. A religious community is able to comprehend that in ways that a spiritual community has more trouble with.

Avoiding the term “religious” by adopting the term “spiritual” does not actually solve the problem. Spiritual people have done quite a bit of damage also. The question is not what terminology you choose; the question is what you are doing here.

We have come into that part of the year we call “the Holidays,” in which the culture tends to see the main focus as family. The Christian faith sees the main focus as God joining the creation in order to serve it, and our gratitude and response to that. It is continued on next page —>



Who will be our next church treasurer?

Is it you? This is a job that can be done by one person or shared by two or more people. It is essential to maintaining our parish status. If you know something about bookkeeping, contact Fr. Blaine at 831.336.1069 or starector@sbcglobal.net



Two opportunities to give our time and talent

Who will be our next church secretary?

Is it you? Do you know your way around a pc? Could you spend a couple of hours a day answering the phone? Do you have some organizational skills? This is a job that can be done by one person, or by several people sharing in the tasks. If this could be you, contact Fr. Blaine at 831.336.1069 or starector@sbcglobal.net

learning how to both give and receive with love and humility, in the midst of whatever our circumstances are.

The focus on family is very difficult for some members of our society who have no family, or whose families are so dysfunctional and toxic that they cannot or dare not join them. Our religious and spiritual community can be a healthy and positive substitute, if we are willing to be joined together in love rather than divided over the many things we disagree on.

-Blaine



around the world wide Anglican communion...

Mothers' Union march on Downing Street [ACNS, by Gavin Drake]

Members of the Mothers' Union in Great Britain have delivered a petition to 10 Downing Street – the official residence of the UK Prime Minister – calling for changes to child support rules for victims of domestic violence. Current regulations say that unless child support payments are made directly to the parent with responsibility for bringing up the child, a four per cent levy is imposed under what is known as the “collect and pay” system. This “could force survivors of domestic abuse [1/3 of those receiving child support] to engage with a former partner, the very perpetrator who carried out the abuse against them,” the Mothers' Union said. *The Mothers' Union is an international Christian charity that support s families worldwide.*

around the ECUSA...

California: San Leandro church goes solar

In November, as part of a comprehensive greening project, All Saints Episcopal Church in San Leandro, California, had a 9.24kw solar power system installed on the church. This system includes 33 panels and will generate enough electricity to cover the church's entire electricity bill. This greening project at the church has also brought heightened awareness around recycling and other energy-efficiency improvements to the congregation.

All Saints is a member congregation of the Diocese of California and has embarked on this greening project through the support of the United Thank Offering. The solar panel system will be installed by SunWork Renewable Energy Projects, a nonprofit in California's San Francisco Bay Area that installs solar electricity systems on small-energy-footprint homes and nonprofit companies with the help of trained volunteers.

Episcopal News Service

around the diocese...

Zuniga is new rector at Grace Church

One hundred and one years after her great-grandmother was named St. Helena's Grape Queen in 1915, the Rev. Amy Denney Zuniga is taking on a very different leadership role as rector of Grace Episcopal Church. **Previously rector at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Hollister** (Diocese of El Camino Real), Zuniga came to St. Helena with her came

her husband Vince and their kids Jacob, 9, Lucas, 5, and Isabel, 2.

"This church caught my attention and caught my heart because of the leaders who are here and because of how engaged and energized people are," she said.

Although Zuniga grew up in the Central Valley, her family lived in the St. Helena and Rutherford areas going back to the 1850s. Her father grew wine grapes on the Central Coast, giving her another cultural link to the Napa Valley.

Zuniga didn't learn Spanish until college, but the years she spent in El Salvador in her 20s had a profound effect on her. She considers herself bilingual and bicultural, and "a part of me exists in Spanish," she said.

She maintains a strong connection to El Salvador, where her oldest son was born. She goes there at least once a year and serves on the board of a human rights foundation that's active there. She said bridging the divide that exists between human beings -- especially between the U.S. and Latin America -- has been an important part of her religious calling.

Amy will be greatly missed in the Diocese of El Camino Real!



Preschool News

The preschool is in transition, learning that autumn is changing very quickly into winter. Our families came in and shared a very heartfelt Thanksgiving potluck with us and we shared thoughts on what we were and are all thankful for. In recognition of St Andrew's we are very thankful for the Parish Hall, we call it, "Our School", and our families really appreciate the open space it provides for their children to explore and learn in a comfortable environment that welcomes love and opportunity. We thank you for sharing it with us.

Also, to all who brought in donations for the rummage we thank you. We had to cancel it and are going to reschedule it in the spring. On February the 11th we are going to host a ***Valentine's SOCK Hop Dance***, from 6 pm til 10 pm. No alcohol will be served, however snacks, soda, and punch will be. Once we find a band to donate their services, then it is ON! If you know of a band that might be interested, contact me at or stapreschool@sbcglobal.net or 831-336-5157

The Preschool would like to invite you to our ***Christmas Pageant*** that will be on the **16th of December at 6:30 pm**, inspired and taken from the classic television movie "A Charlie Brown Christmas" We will serve cookies and milk, coffee and hot chocolate and it should last about an hour and a half. Please come, I think it would be a great opportunity to meet and greet one another in love of the Holiday Spirit! Sherry Stone

Dangerous Cult

I have become aware that a dangerous cult is operating on campuses in the area. It comes in several forms, which don't necessarily get along, but they all operate in the same way.

Look for the letters ICC. They may mean "International Church of Christ" or "International Christian Church." They are split-offs from the Church of Christ (not the United Church of Christ; that is an entirely different group). The Church of Christ is a denomination which has been around for quite a while. It is a fundamentalist group which believes it is the only authentic form of Christianity. The ICC churches believe that about themselves, but also use cultic practices.

They like to catch students at a vulnerable time, such as when they are first away from their family at school, have not made new friends yet, and are lonely. They start with a friendly invitation to a Bible study.

If someone accepts the invitation everything will seem to go well for a while. But soon there will be pressure to drop other activities in order to go to the Bible studies which now seem to happen on a daily basis. Then will come the pressure to drop other relationships, and only to see people at ICC. Then come sleep deprivation and non-nutritious food, which put the brain into a tired and susceptible condition. Eventually the "church" will control all activities, including how you spend your money, where you live, and who you see. If you insist on seeing someone outside of the ICC, especially if that person is the opposite sex, they will want to send a person along with you so that you cannot have a conversation without their participation and oversight. They will tell you that your baptism is not authentic if it was outside of the ICC and insist that you be rebaptized in order to be saved.

I try not to be too critical of other forms of Christianity except when I want to argue with their doctrines. But this is not an authentic form of Christianity. They are predatory and dangerous; they will destroy your relationships, ruin your experience of faith and religion, and possibly destroy your life.

If you want to look further into this, Google these groups, and pay special attention to those websites made up of people who have left them. - Blaine



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St. Andrew's Women's Reading Group

When: December 16th , 2 pm

Where: Donna Brough's house

Book: Delicious, by Ruth Riechl

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Secret Santa drawing & appetizer feast!

Bring a wrapped book for the drawing.

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December	
Connie Free	17
Kathryn Free	20
Don Alves	23
Carol Free	25
January	
Christa Shanaman	4
Christopher Mello	6
Kim Rooks	10
Jaime Butler	11
Sandra Cadell	12
Larry Laufenberg	15
Sari Mitchell	17
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Sofia ,Victor Davidson	24





The Deacon's Bench

by Jim Lieb

This is the last Deacon's Bench for 2016. From the point of view of the liturgical calendar, we are already in 2017. Here we are in Advent in an uncertain world no matter where you are on the political spectrum. We have had an election "season" if that is what you would call these last few years, like no other. It makes me wish we had a parliamentary system regardless of that form's weaknesses for no other reason than its election "season" can only start once the Prime Minister sets the date for the next election, typically no more than six weeks. If you remember Jim Armstead who used to come to 10am during Keith's tenure. He was/is for a constitutional monarchy which amazed me at the time. But you know, he knows what he is talking about and he had a point. Give all the serious power to one person and then pass laws that prevents them from using it. What an idea.

Part of the problem with the political seasons is that everything in that world is about power. It does not matter which major party or which individual politicians are front and center, everything is about power. The power to deport, the power to make trade deals, the power to do anything. Behind the scenes (over there on K Street), money sloshes about to buy influence, AKA power.

Don't get me wrong, I am ok with power in the voltage-times-current or force-times-displacement-divided-by-time sense. Electrical power makes our car go and the spindle of my lathe go around. It is the other kind of power, as in domination over others, that I have a problem with.

Many years ago in a world far, far away, I took a political science class to fill my general education requirement. That too was in an election year and we learned some things about political power. It seems that there are two reasons for acquiring this kind of power. On the one hand, if one wanted to do good for others in a world changing way, you first had to get elected in order to gain the power to do that good. On the other hand, many acquired power for just the sake of having power. Power as a tool or power as a personal possession. On the one hand, the end to the evil of Jim Crow and on the other, the headlong plunge into the Viet Nam War.

Power, even when it is put to good use, is dangerous. There are very powerful motors on my machine tools and if you get your body parts into the wrong places, those motors will not slow down in the slightest. Political power, even under the best of intentions, does the same. Power in the hands of the careless is a hazard to everyone in the vicinity.

And then there is Advent. The theme of this season is waiting and ex-

pectation by the powerless for something better than the current situation. The natural inclination is to expect someone or something exuding power, power to change, power to move and shake. Instead, we get a poor kid, born in a barn far from home, slipped out of town to avoid the law, and spirited back home later by out of sight backroads to avoid the authorities.

The fact of the matter is that our faith is in a person whose only power was to speak truth and act as a person of truth and integrity. He was powerless to defend himself either as a peasant child fleeing to Egypt or as a teacher and healer before the tribunal of an empire. He died a criminal's death obviously innocent of anything resembling a crime.

Christianity has had a turbulent relationship with power. We moved from being torn apart by wild beasts for the afternoon entertainment of Rome to being the power needed to unite a crumbling empire. We had the Borgias poisoning rivals in the Vatican and Francis of Assisi feeding the poor and powerless. There are more than ample examples of this turbulent relationship throughout our history right up to the present day.

For the next months and years we will be bombarded by the spectacle of wanna-bes, has-beens, and never-weres fighting to get, keep, or regain the top of the power heap. We need to remember during this crazy time where we have come from. We started with a poor refugee family holed up in a stable among the straw and cow pies – a child born in squalor who changed the world with only the power of his committed love for the least of his brothers and sisters.

May God's peace and love be with us all this season and new year.



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or 831-336-5994.



Learning Together in Advent: The Value of Good Order

The Dalai Lama said, “Learn the rules very well, so you will know how to break them properly.” Similarly, the now very famous Marie Kondo, author of *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, notes: “Before you start, visualize your destination.” Kondo’s book on organizing one’s things and personal space has become household language, so to speak.

These two phrases have in common the value of living with intention and good order, and knowing the deeper meaning of why you do what you do. The Dalai Lama and Marie Kondo do not propose legalistic, superficial or blind following of the rules just for the sake of doing so. More often than not, rules and rituals have spiritual wisdom at their core. To follow them is to move more deeply into the wisdom they reflect.

Kondo’s method of organizing one’s physical space has been helpful to me personally as I have engaged the discipline of sorting through the physical stuff of my life -- as I once knew it. Michael’s death brought so much needed tossing and keeping; both physical and spiritual. Memories, clothes, memories, pictures, memories, books... the list goes on. Kondo’s question of “what are you keeping and why?” vs “what are you throwing away?” was such an important one for me as I prepared for life ahead – and continued to treasure the life that has passed. This time was deeply ritualistic for me and created space for thorough physical and spiritual engagement.

Kondo relates the story of asking one of her clients, “what do you want your space to be like?” The woman ultimately responds, “I want to fall asleep with a feeling of unhurried spaciousness.” Unhurried spaciousness. What a great pairing of words. What a great spiritual destination. What a great vision for church life, for liturgy, for friendship, for family, for the frenetic holiday season, for our inner life.

Advent begins our church year. It is akin to Lent in that it is a season of preparation. While it might correspond for us this year with a season of personal wandering (i.e., life is for whatever reason uncertain), it is a time of doing so with spiritual intention: attentive to God, watching for salvation, making ourselves vulnerable to its life-changing power.

In the coming weeks, even as we wander, we can light the Advent wreath, read the Daily Office (daily!), tend to our relationships and prepare for the feast of Christmas. As we are more mindful, engaging the rituals that hold us, we will see God more deeply. May these practices offer us not a legalistic, to-do list frenzy, but an inner space of unhurried spaciousness. In that open place we will find Emmanuel, God with us. And his name is Jesus.

May this Advent season be one of joyful and hopeful expectation! +Mary Gray-Reeves



Presiding Bishop to Speak at Winter Conference

We're excited to announce that Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will make his first visit to the Diocese of El Camino Real on Saturday, January 7, 2017. He'll join us at Sherwood Hall in Salinas for our Winter Conference, which will take place from 9:30 am to 3 pm. There's no charge to attend, but all must bring their own lunch. Each congregation is responsible for gathering a head count of those attending, and they must deliver it to the diocesan office by December 20. Watch for more details soon!

Evening Prayer Weds. 5:15 pm

It's spoken, brief & quiet. A wonderful way to slow down & be in the Spirit for a moment in the midst of our busy days. Join us.



JUST A REMINDER:



The date for our "In-Gathering" of gifts, tithes/pledge cards for 2017 has been moved to Sunday, December 11th. This date still gives our finance committee time to plan our budget for the new year, & its presentation at our Annual Meeting on January 29th, (no, it's not Super Bowl Sunday).

We appreciate so very much your support of our ministries at St. Andrew's, and pray that you will want to continue that support in the new year.

The level of programs and services that we can provide will depend on your response.

Gratefully,
Your Stewardship Committee





Angel in the Kitchen

*Feel'n good when cook'n
Sharing the love of God
through your love of cooking*



Blueberry Bran Muffins

2 cups wheat bran
1 cup oat bran
1 cup whole wheat flour
2 tsp baking soda
1 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
2 large eggs

2/3 cup milk
2/3 cup plain yogurt
1/3 cup melted butter
1/3 cup maple syrup
1/3 cup honey
1 tsp pure vanilla extract
1 1/2 - 2 cups blueberries

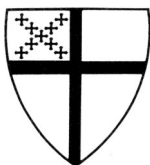
375 degrees

Combine the wheat bran, oat bran, whole wheat flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt in a large bowl and set aside. Combine the eggs, milk, yogurt, canola oil, molasses, and honey in a small bowl and mix well. (Note: you can use all honey or all molasses instead if desired.)

Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients and mix with a rubber spatula just until combined.

Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, about 20 to 25 minutes. Cool the muffins in the pan for 10 to 15 minutes, then carefully remove them and serve warm, or let them cool on a wire rack.

*Do you have a recipe to share? Contact
Janet Butler, hermph@comcast.net*



Why I Am An Episcopalian: Reason #56:

I like being an Episcopalian because I can be a mystic without anybody noticing.

*Suzanne Guthrie, Diocese of New York
from 101 Reasons to be Episcopalian*

Events in December

Here are some dates you should be aware of in the month ahead!

Sunday evenings in Advent: and we are changing from the first three Sundays to all four Sundays: 6:00 p.m. potlucks and report back from Blaine on sabbatical experiences and learning.

Sunday, December 4: Folk Eucharist, 10 a.m. (Folk Mass for our catholic tradition). The Little People's Repertory Theater has been practicing the Beatles' White Album in our Parish Hall on Sundays; they are performing at Don Quixote's on this date. Check with DQ's for time and cost.

Friday, December 9: I have signed up to work at Valley Churches United Missions at 11:00 a.m. We can make this a Saint Andrew's work experience. Let's not miss this opportunity to remember our identity as the origin of VCUM, and to participate in their mission to the overlooked in San Lorenzo Valley.

Saturday, December 10: The Men's Breakfast at Rocky's is at 8:00; we are joining together at Saint Andrew's for the calendar meeting at 10:30. If you can't make that meeting, but have events that should appear on the calendar, send an e-mail or letter to Blaine or Sharon.

Sunday, December 11: This is the Sunday we bless food offerings for VCUM. Let's overfill the basket! We will also have a Worship Committee meeting following the 10:00 service. Please bring your positive energy and ideas about the liturgy, and let's create services that inspire our faith! We will not be discussing music selections at this meeting; that happens at a different time & place.

Friday, December 16: Preschool Christmas Play, 6:30 pm, at St. Andrew's Church

Saturday, December 17: 3rd Community Clean Up to pick up trash along the streets. We will not do it if it is raining hard. Please offer your thoughts about where we should go. Fr. Blaine will buy the pizza afterwards!

Saturday, December 24: Our Christmas Eve Family Service at 4:00 p.m. Midnight Mass at 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 25: One service only, at 11:00 a.m.

Family Christmas Potluck at 3:00.

Bring games, food and music.

Let's have some fun!



Save the Date:

Friday, February 11, Valentine's Day Sock Hop, sponsored by St. Andrew's Preschool. Watch for details...

Spirituality has to do with the web of dynamic relationships that creates and nurtures health and wholeness, providing a balance within which life thrives. Theologically speaking, that which is spiritually good weaves wholeness, while what is spiritually evil provokes fragmentation.

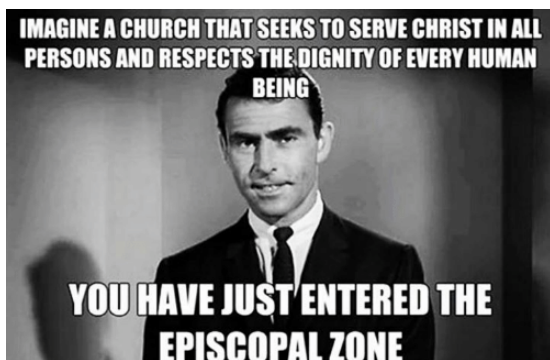
(from Cameron Miller, www.subversivepreacher.org)

Christians believe this cohesive power for good is the Holy Spirit. Our spirituality is one of community, of connectedness, of family. We *belong* to one another in Christ. We give to one another when there is a need and we gratefully receive what others offer to us.

We respect and honor the dignity of one another. Even when we disagree, we humbly acknowledge that the Spirit may be heard differently by others than by ourselves. We admit that our hearing is no more perfect than anyone else's. Today you may have better hearing than I do, but tomorrow it may be the other way around. On one issue I may be more in tune with the Spirit; on another issue you may be.

This does not mean we compromise the very values we promise to uphold at our baptism. It means we speak the truth with love (*Ephesians 4:15*), acknowledging the intention of one another to be true to those baptismal vows. That we feel free to voice our differing opinions is a measure of the love we have for one another here. St. Andrew's is a safe place to be who we are, to share our lives in the Spirit.

Let's walk the Way together, continuing in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Let's keep on resisting evil, seeking forgiveness and reconciliation when we sin. It is noteworthy that we promise to resist evil by repenting of it, not correcting someone else's evil. To do that, we proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ. (There is a place for the prophetic word, but it comes later in the vows.) Let's continue to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves. Then, let's strive for justice and peace among all people - this is where an insistent, corrective word may come - and respect the dignity of every human being. Only with God's help can we do these things. *Elizabeth Forbes*





Let's Bridge the Gap

I'm a 10 o'clocker because I prefer the modern language of Rite II and I need and enjoy the music. But last year I chose to attend the 8 o'clock service on a Sunday when we had Lessons & Carols at the 10 AM. I probably made a good preschool teacher because I have the attention span of a 4 year old. After the first lesson, I generally tune out, and everything thereafter becomes yadda, yadda, yadda. It happened that I lost my glasses upon entering the church that Sunday. The 8 o'clockers made a valiant effort to find them, but to no avail. I was a little lost and unable to participate due to my inability to see and the fact that the language used in Rite I is formal and unfamiliar to me. While I enjoyed the people, I happily went back to the 10 AM.

When Blaine was on sabbatical I discovered several things. One was how much our deacon, the Rev. Jim Lieb, does. I had a call for help from an agency. I called Jim and over the weeks discovered that he not only offers pastoral care, but counseling and even helping the person move.

Another thing I found out is that there is a communication gap between people in our 8 & 10 o'clock services. We had a parish meeting during the sabbatical time and it was mentioned that an 8 o'clocker had recently had surgery. Even though the 8 o'clock service folks laid on hands and prayed for healing, I did not know that the person was going to have surgery, and I didn't put them on the prayer list or follow up to find out how they were doing. As parish Secretary-Treasurer, I usually know what is going on, but this time I didn't.

We have had several parish members who have had a need for care recently - Tillie, Jerry, Mary Jo and Doreen to name the ones I know of for sure. Jerry and I experienced a lot of pastoral care. He had visits from Deacon Jim and Fr. Blaine. He received phone calls and emails from Randi Alves, Rochelle Kelly, Jennifer Kennedy and Elizabeth Forbes. I know that Blaine, Jim, and others have been checking up on Tillie, Mary Jo and Doreen as well. I also received a belated communication from Paula Jansen, apologizing for not getting in touch with us earlier because as an 8 AM person she didn't know and she hadn't looked at her emails before Jerry went in for surgery.

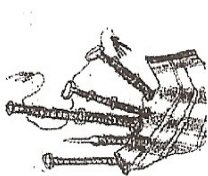
We really do have a lot of folks at St. Andrew's that care and pray and reach out to help those in need; but they need to know when there is a need. It is neither realistic nor fair to expect Fr. Blaine to carry this load. Unless we keep him informed, he cannot communicate with the whole congregation. Jerry and I are grateful for all the love and prayer we have received from all of you. It is our joy to share our love and prayers with you when you are in need - if we just knew about it.

Let's create and implement a plan to help us communicate better between services.



Piper

X



X

X

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
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