

The Piper

November 2024



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A Message from Father Martin

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1-2

We begin November with All Saints Sunday and our Celebration of the **Communion of Saints**. This mystery is very, very important for us with all the anxiety of our election season and all the rest going on in our lives and community. As we see in the vision (above) in Hebrews, we are not alone in our anxieties or the journeys of our lives. We live and serve in the company of all the people who have inspired our lives personally and historically, all those who have enriched our lives and world. We draw strength and courage from their witnesses. And we do not live aimlessly even in the chaos of these days, for we look to Jesus who leads us, who is a model and example for our living our days with faith and love and humble service, even in very difficult times.

This November we consider our stewardship of all that God gives us in our lives and our support for St. Andrew's in the coming year. On Sunday, November 10, a Stewardship letter and pledge / *giving estimate* card will be distributed in church and mailed Tuesday to those who were not present. Please read it carefully and contact me or Rochelle Kelly with any questions or concerns.

Sunday, November 17 we will have a **Harvest Potluck after Church** with an opportunity to share informally about the live and future of our parish. (You will not be asked to make a pledge at the potluck.)

Sunday, November 24— **Thanksgiving Sunday** — we are all invited to bring our pledges or giving estimates to church—please mail or drop them off if you cannot attend. The Vestry can then prepare a prudent budget and program for our ministries in 2025.

We had a wonderful October, beginning with the blessing of the Animals service out on the patio, then our Celtic / St. Andrew's Sunday with bagpipes and Celtic music, and ending with a great Halloween ministry to hundreds of people receiving candy and a large number coming into the

Church to see the *Ofrenda* and hear Jesse playing the pipe organ. Thank you to all who worked hard to bring all this month's events happen.

May God grant us the grace to be thankful for all our blessings and mindful that we do not live these difficult times alone. May we open our eyes and hearts to the great cloud of witnesses who are with us in our journeys.

Yours in Christ, Martin+



Everyone is invited to join **Election Night Virtual Prayers** hosted by The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations from 8 to 10 pm ET on Nov. 5. Bishop Sean Rowe, who will become presiding bishop on Nov. 1, will offer an opening reflection and prayer. Episcopalians from around the church will hold silence and lead participants in prayers together for peace, the nation, and all people and countries.

Join the event via Zoom by registering at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/event/election-night-virtual-prayers/> , or watch a livestream on The Episcopal Public Policy Network's [Facebook page](#) . (Note: If you would like simultaneous Spanish interpretation, please register for Zoom.)

- Register for Zoom: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_q4XtQDHLR8CU1gGUXspPaQ#/registration
- Watch on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheEPPN/>

St. Andrew's Vestry Members

Rochelle Kelly, Senior Warden	Sara Hector
John Woolliscroft, Junior Warden	Sheryl Mello
Susan Greer, Clerk	Judyth Suttle

(Cindy Garay resigned in May due to health and time commitments)

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, please forward them to any of the Vestry members. Vestry meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 1 pm in the Parish Hall.

Garden of



Eatin'

We like having these for breakfast on Thanksgiving Day. Sue Roe

Pumpkin Puff Pancakes

2 eggs
1 cup milk
1/2 cup cooked pumpkin
1 3/4 cups Bisquick baking mix
2 Tbsp sugar
1/2 tsp each of cinnamon, nutmeg,
and ginger
1/4 cup canola oil



1. Beat eggs in small mixer bowl until thick and lemon colored. Stir in remaining ingredients.
2. Spoon batter to make small pancakes onto medium hot ungreased griddle.
3. Bake until puffed and bubbles begin to break. Turn and bake other side until golden brown.

HeeHeeHee!!!

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, 'Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!'

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again!

As she ran she once again began to pray, 'Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!'

St. Andrew's Birthdays

November Birthdays

2	Pat Whitby-Strevens
11	Ben Rooks
15	Randi Alves
20	Stefanie Erdman

December Birthdays

7	Bob Wolfe
12	Madison LeRoux



**Honoring all who have served
and are now serving.**

Coffee Hour Organizers

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE YUMMY THINGS YOU BRING US

This is an updated list of folks who will bring Coffee Hour and the dates we anticipate they will bring it. If you are unable to bring coffee hour, please call someone else on the list and also please let the office know so we can put the correct provider in the bulletin.

Office Sharon Fishel 831-247-5572

Eve Yabroff	253-225-8683	November 3
Shirley Greenwood	423-8290	November 10
Jennifer Kennedy	251-1471	November 17- This is a pot luck
Rochelle Kelly	408- 691-2571	November 24
Susan Greer	207- 624-2569	December 1
Jane Pomeroy	408- 472-1586	December 8
Ellen Terry	415- 516-9123	December 15
Shirley Greenwood	423-8290	December 22
Barbara Banke	345-2992	December 24.....evening service
Jennifer Kennedy	251-1471	December 29

DREAMS



"The wheels on the bus go round and round, round and round, and round and round, all through the town."

I seldom remember my dreams, but do know that I have them. I remember waking up today and my dream in living color haunted me a little. It was about a bus load of students heading to school. Some were looking out the window, others were talking, some were plotting

how to prank the driver. Inwardly smiling, I remembered my experiences on the school bus in Middle School.

Then as if by magic another memory flooded my dream. It was a video of a young man on a bus singing "One Voice." The young man was Billy Gillman (11 years old) and the music video was nominated for a Grammy and reached the top 40 that year. It was about his observations while riding the bus home and the decisions he saw people making along the way. I don't know why I had that dream. I am sure that therapists would have an explanation for me. It was a vivid dream, I could see the faces of each child as the bus rolled by. Then after it passed, I wished it would go by once more in fifty years, so I could see those young people again and what they had done with their lives. I thought some would still be smiling and others still plotting a prank, and others just looking pensively at life. I also knew that some of the seats would be empty. Some of those people would have passed away for one reason or another. The song One Voice gave a message of hope and a message that dreams can come true. It is a message that is needed in every age and everywhere. When you're stopped behind a school bus and see the children get out, remember those innocent faces and wonder what life holds in store for them. More importantly, ask yourself how you can help others achieve their goals, fulfill their dreams, and remain those beautiful innocent souls getting off the bus. We talk a lot about original sin, but seldom talk about original

innocence. That is, after all, what children represent -- original innocence waiting to become an instrument of peace.

“Children are the hands by which we take hold of heaven.” – Henry Ward Beecher, father of Harriet Beecher Stowe.

The students on the bus will become the future. Their lives will shape the future. It won't happen by accident. It happens when adults support them, unconditionally love them, and tell them about hope and dreams. When young people hear prejudice at home, they will most likely will grow up hating and discriminating. The same is true for those who are brought up believing we are all equal in the eyes of God. When I taught High School English in the 70's, I gave an assignment to the class to write a short paper about Hippies. I read their papers. The next day in front of the class, I took their essays and dropped them all in the trash can next to the desk. I asked them how they had such uninformed ideas about a whole group of people. Parents and peers were the answer. I then asked them to write another paper about Hippies.

This time I told them to go to the library and do some research and thinking. I didn't want to know what their parents and friends thought, but I wanted an educated response from them. I wanted them to use their brains. When I read those new papers, it was so different. Some talked about people who were Hippies with PhD's, who were human rights activists, who were advocating peace and equality. I was proud of those students whose minds were opened a little, and who realized that not everything they hear is true. They learned to think! Yes, the wheels on the bus go round and round. They are full of the future of this world and it is up to us to support their dreams and give them hope. It starts with a single comment, and it starts today!

“If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.” – Albert Einstein

Thoughts from a parish member --- *Steve Lafever*

What to Know About the Investiture of Presiding Bishop-Elect Bishop Sean Rowe

Video of this moving worship service, reflecting the breadth of our Episcopal Church, and the worship bulletin (which is worth reading and reflecting on!) is posted on [The Episcopal Church's Facebook page](#) .



Announced in June , the simpler, scaled-down service to welcome the 28th presiding bishop is ordered around a smaller carbon footprint and increased churchwide virtual participation. Nearly all dioceses sent in video greetings for a special “roll call” that will precede the service at 9:30 am ET and be livestreamed on the event webpage and [The Episcopal Church's Facebook page](#) .

“This will be the first time in our history that we have installed a presiding bishop in this way,” Presiding Bishop Michael Curry notes in a [video invitation](#) to the church. “We learned through the pandemic how to be the church embodied physically and how to be the church embodied in cyberspace.”

The Episcopal Church website has a [Resource Page](#) which includes a media kit with photos, biography, and statements by Bishop Rowe, as well as [FAQs](#) .

“Episcopalians and friends can join together wherever they are via the internet,” Bishop Curry said. “We are the church because the Spirit of God can move wherever the people of God are.”

Read past releases about the election and planned investiture of Bishop Rowe by visiting The Episcopal Church website at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/category/sean-rowe/>

CONVERSION VERSUS COLLISION

This is the transcript of a radio conversation of a US naval ship with Canadian authorities off the coast of [Newfoundland](#) in October, 1995.

Americans: Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision.

Canadians: Recommend you divert YOUR course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.

Americans: This is the Captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert YOUR course.

Canadians: No. I say again, you divert YOUR course.

Americans: This is the aircraft carrier [USS Lincoln](#), the second largest ship in the United States' [Atlantic fleet](#). We are accompanied by three destroyers, three cruisers and numerous support vessels. I demand that YOU change your course 15 degrees north, that's one five degrees north, or countermeasures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of this ship.

Canadians: This is a [lighthouse](#). Your call.

Saul of Tarsus was born to a devout Jewish family between 5 B.C. and 5 A.D. He was a Pharisee and a Roman citizen which made him an unlikely candidate to convert to Christianity in the early days of the religion. In fact, Saul originally did far more than refuse to convert. Saul was known for actively hunting and persecuting Christians. He was the man who held the coats of the mob that martyred Stephen and later described himself as trying to destroy the young Church. Yet Saul would become one of the most devout Christians. On the way to Damascus, Saul was blinded by a great light and heard a voice asking him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Saul of Tarsus at that moment became the Apostle Paul. As a Roman citizen, Paul was essential in establishing Christianity in Rome, and the story of his conversion to Christianity, from persecutor to apostle, continues to move Christians to this day.

Constantine's soldiers carried shields painted with an unfamiliar sign: the Greek letter Chi traversed by Rho. This symbol was carried by Constantine's forces as a result of a dream or vision he received that told him to carry the unfamiliar sign. Constantine vowed that if he won the battle he would follow the unfamiliar god speaking to him, the God of the Christians. Constantine won the battle and became the first Roman emperor to convert to Christianity.

Following Constantine's conversion and his issuance of the Edict of Milan, Christianity could finally step out of the shadows and Christians could practice their faith openly. In addition, Constantine called the **First Ecumenical Council**, built a number of churches and over the course of his reign transformed Christianity from a hidden and outlawed religion to the favored religion of the most powerful empires in the world.

St. Augustine was born in 354 A.D. in Africa to a pagan father and a Christian mother. Augustine's father taught his son to concern himself with worldly pleasures, a lesson the young Augustine learned a bit too well. When Augustine was 16, he stole fruit from a neighbor's garden. The teen did not steal because he wanted the fruit, though, he stole because he wanted to feel the thrill of doing something forbidden. In his autobiography, "The Confessions," Augustine wrote that "it was foul, and I loved it. I loved my own error—not that for which I erred, but the error." At the age of 32, however, Augustine heard a voice tell him to read Paul's Epistle to the Romans. Augustine did so and converted. The man gave to the poor and became so devout that he was consecrated Bishop of Hippo in 295 A.D.

(Continued on page 11)

St. Andrew's Ministries

Prayer Team

We have an active prayer team at St. Andrew's led by Sue Roe. When a prayer concern is made known to Sue, she sends it out to the group so they can be praying for you. Please contact Sue if you would like some prayers.

Also, if you would like to be one of the pray-ers, let Sue know and she will be happy to add you to the group.

Please contact Sue at Phone 562-243-4080, or by email suemhr@aol.com



Outreach Committee

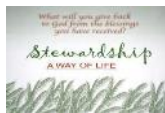
If you know of or support a non-profit organization and would like it to be considered for a grant from St. Andrew's, please provide information on its programs to the Outreach Committee. The members of the committee are Susan Greer, Joan McVay, and Ray Rischpater. We are looking for additional committee members, so if you are interested, please contact Susan, Joan, or Ray. The committee meets after Bible Study, generally on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. For a report of 2nd quarter grants, please go to page 11.

ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholic and Dysfunctional Families) meets every Wednesday evening upstairs.

LOSS (WINGS) Associated with Suicide Prevention Services of the Central Coast, it is a support (not therapy) group for anyone who has lost someone to suicide, years ago or recently. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the Parish Hall. The Facilitator is Dr. Joan McVay of St. Andrew's. For more information, contact Julie Cory at 831-246-8750.

Upcoming Events

November



17 — Stewardship Sunday / Potluck 10 am

December



8— Christmas Tea Party (following our Sunday service)



24— Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm

Conversion versus Collision (continued from page 9)

Some of the most famous and important converts were those whose names have been lost to time. These converts were the first Christians, and their stories are preserved in the Scriptures. Almost none of them are called by name. They are simply “a blind man,” “a Gentile woman” or “a rich man.” Yet these unnamed and seemingly meaningless converts were the beginning of Christianity. Without them, the religion may have never truly taken off. It was those nameless, faceless converts who began to spread the tales of the Messiah. They were the ones who convinced friends, family members and neighbors to go hear this strange new teacher speak. They were the ones who took in the Apostles after Christ’s death and kept them fed and watered while the Apostles set up the small home churches that would be the bedrock of Christianity for two centuries.

Converts have been the bedrock of Christianity since the days of Christ. Many of those converts have been forgotten over the centuries, but some are still remembered today. Those like Constantine and Paul, converts who shaped the future of Christianity in extraordinary and obvious ways, have some of the most famous conversion stories of all. Ironically enough, however, the best known converts are those who are nameless and faceless. The names of the people that Christ Himself converted have been lost to time, but their faith was honored, and their stories were enshrined in the pages of Scripture itself.

If your life is about to collide with something, remember the words of Matthew. “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all things will be added unto you.” Open your eyes and see the light.



Join us for Worship Services on Sundays at 10 a.m. and the social hour after. The sermon may be watched on St. Andrew's Facebook page, if you are not able to attend in person.