
St. Andrew's Chronicle

November 2010



A Technical Change or an Adaptive Change?

In the autumn of 1621 the new settlers to our country gathered with some native Indians for a three-day thanksgiving feast to celebrate a good harvest. This is probably why pilgrims and turkeys have become so attached to Thanksgiving Day. This event in 1621 was not a holiday, but a simple gathering to express thankfulness and share in the Lord's bounty. Thanksgiving Day as a holiday dates back to 1863 when President Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving Day as a national holiday on the last Thursday of November as an encouragement for Americans to give thanks to God for His provision. Since then Thanksgiving Day has remained a national holiday.

As Christians we rejoice that our nation observes a national day of thanksgiving. However, Christian stewards may very well question whether our current Thanksgiving Day celebration is a technical change or an adaptive change. What's the difference between a technical and an adaptive change? Actually, there is a big difference! If the celebration of Thanksgiving is simply one day to pause from the busyness of life and work and give thanks in whatever way people wish to express thanks, and then get back to the regular swing of things, it becomes a little more than a momentary technical change. We do it for one day and then get on with life as usual. If, however, Thanksgiving Day provides us with the opportunity to express our thankfulness to God for all of His blessings, and then continue to express our thankfulness on an ongoing basis it is more of an adaptive change. Simply put, a technical change is a once a year event, but an adaptive change is a change in behavior that continues throughout the year.

Jesus taught us to pray saying, "give us this day our daily bread." Martin Luther in his explanation of his petition indicated that "daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body" and that we as God's people "receive our daily bread with thanksgiving."

Happy Thanksgiving Day and may your celebration be another reminder that thanksgiving is meant to be a daily response for all that God so richly provides. All good gifts come from God and He intends for us to receive them with thankfulness and use them in ways that honor Him and bless others.

November Monthly Dinner

The November monthly dinner is planned for **Thursday, November 4th** and will feature turkey and all the fixins'. Serving will begin at 5 pm. Tickets for both dine-in and carry out meals will be available at the door for \$8 for an adult meal, \$5 for youth ages 5-12 and free for children 4 and younger.

November, 2010 Guest Pastor Schedule

Our guest pastors for the month of November will be as follows:

Sunday, November 7, 2010	The Rev. Reginald Lancaster
Sunday, November 14, 2010	Paul Tomshany, L.L.M.
Sunday, November 21, 2010	The Rev. Larry VanSlambrook
Sunday, November 28, 2010	The Rev. Liz Hoban

Daylight Savings Time Ends!

Just a reminder that daylight savings time ends November 7th. Don't forget to fall back an hour!



Memorial Sunday Observance

On **Sunday, November 7th, 2010**, we will remember those who have left the Church Militant and entered the Church Triumphant. During this observance, we will honor those who have passed away between November, 2009 - October, 2010. A complete list of those who are remembered will be printed in the December, 2010 Chronicle.

Harvest Celebration Potluck

A Harvest Celebration Potluck Dinner is being hosted by the Fellowship Committee on **Sunday, November 7th**. You are invited to join us after the worship services for the meal. We will have pork prepared by the Lighthouse Café and ask members of the congregation to bring a dish to pass. Donations will be gratefully accepted to help defray the cost of the meat. Beverages including cider will be provided by the Committee. The Committee is preparing many dishes using vegetables from the garden harvest this fall. A video will be playing from our 125th Celebration Day.

Thank You, Veterans!

On **Sunday, November 14th**, we will have a very special worship service. We will be paying tribute to all Veterans, past and present. Plans are still developing, but we will have a Color Guard and perhaps someone to play the trumpet at the conclusion of the worship service. In the past, this has been a very moving and special service.

If you know of anyone who might enjoy and find special meaning in this worship service, please invite them to join us. This is our time to say "thank you" to those who so bravely defend the freedom we often take for granted.

Pledge Sunday

Sunday, November 21 will be Pledge Sunday. It will be your opportunity to complete your Time and Talent card for the church and fill out your financial Pledge for 2011.

We Need Your Help "Hanging the Greens"

Before we know it, Advent will be upon us, and that means it's time to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas! We are looking for individuals who are interested in helping on **Saturday, November 27th** from 10 am - noon. The decorations have already been purchased and need to be set up. We have always had an outstanding "Christmas Crew" that helps with the ladders and to decorate the Christmas tree.

We would welcome any comments or ideas to enhance the Sanctuary during this very special time of the year. Some funds are available to purchase items that would enhance the atmosphere during this joyful time of the year.

If you have additional questions or ideas, please contact the church office as soon as possible.



Consistory Highlights from October



Treasurer's Report: Barb Affholter reported on our current financial status. The final payment to Dr. Summers was made on October 6, 2010 which included medical insurance through October 2010, annuity payment which was pro-rated for the 6 days in October, the balance of the \$6000 flex medical fund, and the pro-rated housing and salary for 6 days in October. We are over our budget on spending for guest pastors but we hope to see a change in the bottom line next month.

Barb also mentioned that she and Carol Jones participated in a web-conference with the insurance company and have learned many things that are recommended in handling money that may reduce our insurance costs. We will be looking at these as we re-write the By-laws.

Barb handed out the proposed budget for 2010/2011 for review. This will be discussed at next months meeting. It was decided to call for a Congregational Meeting on December 12 for the budget.

Committee Reports:

Youth - Currently there is not a youth representative on Consistory. We would like to fill this position.

Building & Grounds – Dave Schmoekel reported on a general clean-up on air vents around the church and fellowship hall, furnace check-up for the parsonage, and the snow plowing contract will be the same as last year. There are some lights out in the sanctuary, but a taller ladder than we have is needed to reach them.

Christian Ed. – Betty Jo Stendel reported on a Christmas project that the children will be doing.

Outreach – Betty Davenport reported that Jane Finkbeiner will be in charge of the Thanksgiving Baskets this year.

Constitution & By-laws – The changes in the Constitution were reviewed and will be voted upon at the Annual meeting in February.

Old Business: Discussion was held on possible candidates for Interim Pastor. We hope to have a candidate soon. Time and Talent sheets were also discussed and this will be the Stewardship Moment in November.

New Business: Phil Stendel will be our representative at the Covenant Association Meeting on October 30 in Lansing. Discussion was held on the use of drapes in the Fellowship Hall to help absorb the sound. We had burgundy drapes that were taken down when the blinds were installed and wonder if anyone knows their whereabouts.

Financial Report

In order to keep the congregation abreast of the financial situation of St. Andrew's, we will be reporting the financial report that the Consistory sees each month as well as the year to date totals.

September Financials

Budgeted Income	\$13,218.43	Budgeted Expense	\$22,277.86
Actual Income	8,909.05	Actual Expense	18,746.76
Budget vs. Actual	4,309.48	Budget vs. Actual	3,531.10
		Overall for September	- 778.38

Year to Date

Budgeted Income	\$129,864.59	Budgeted Expense	\$140,276.95
Actual Income	96,753.95	Actual Expense	132,966.52
Shortfall	- 33,110.64	Budget vs. Actual	7,310.43
		Overall to Date	- 25,800.21

Sauerkraut Supper Update

Another sauerkraut supper is complete, and once again we sold out of tickets (660 this year)! Since we still have some advertising expenses to pay, we're going to hold off on providing the exact profit figures until the December *Chronicle*. So stay tuned.

We'd like to express a heartfelt **THANK YOU!** to all who participated and made this event such a huge success. As in the past, the congregation of St. Andrew's stepped forward to work in selling tickets, advertising the event, purchasing and preparing the food, setting up, seating dinner guests, serving the meal, preparing take-out meals, cleaning up... the list seems almost endless of all the hard work that goes into our yearly miracle. And a congregational thank you to Judy Even and Pati Wheeler for co-chairing this event and making it all possible.

We would also like to thank Regis Proulx, who played the hammer dulcimer upstairs for those buying from the country store or waiting to be seated. Thank you for sharing your beautiful music!

If you were gracious enough to put a sign in your yard to advertise the dinner, please return it to the church or call the office to make arrangements for pick up. Thank you for your effort in this regard.

Last but certainly not least, we want to thank the following local businesses for their generous support:

Dexter Busch's
Chelsea Jiffy Mix
Ruhlig's Farm Market
Dexter Pharmacy II (for advance ticket sales)
Dexter Card and Gifts (for advance ticket sales)

Thanksgiving Baskets Collected Again in 2010

The annual food drive will be held from **October 31 – November 21, 2010**. Donations of non-perishable food items and paper products will be collected in the narthex. Cash donations are also needed to complete the baskets that will be given to four families in the Dexter area in time for Thanksgiving.

Please take advantage of sale items that could be used to complete the Thanksgiving baskets as you do your routine shopping. Serving needy families at Thanksgiving has been a long running tradition here at St. Andrew's Church. Please do what you can to continue to reach out to the needy in our area.

We want to thank Jane Finkbeiner for coordinating this outreach effort this year.

Adopt a Family at Christmas Time

St. Andrew's United Church of Christ will be adopting families again this year who are in need of assistance for Christmas. The number of families we will adopt this year has not yet been determined. When this information is available, we will also have the specifics on each family persons needs. Additional information will be forthcoming in your December, 2010 Chronicle.

Worship Service Attendance Report

October 2010	October 2009
92	Not available
99	90
101	88
88	95

Christmas Mitten Tree



The “mitten tree” will be placed in the lobby to collect donations of mittens, scarves, hats, etc. We have also received a donation for children’s books in addition to mittens, etc. Unwrapped books for children up to the 6th grade level can be donated and placed under the tree. The mitten tree will be placed in the narthex beginning Sunday, November 28 through December 12. The items will be collected and distributed by Dexter Family Services.

Giving Statement Update

In an effort to keep postage costs to a minimum, giving statements are no longer being mailed. If you want to check on the amount of your giving to date, please contact the church office at 426-8610 and ask Pati.

Statements will be mailed at the end of the year for tax purposes.

November Birthdays

4 - Aimee Mesko	15 - Lisa McDonnell	22 - Marcia Rankin
- Ron Pettke	- Jacob Stoll	- Joyce Waggoner
6 - Ezekial Breuninger	- Kevin Wheeler	23 - Jane Ritchie
11 - Judy Even	19 - Linda Munson	25 - James Bradbury
12 - Michael Chabot	20 - Pam Munson	29 - Melissa Jaeger
14 - Nick Heller	- Nicole Oberholtzer	- Phyllis Ryan
	- Armona Pettit	- William Ryan

Please inform the church office (426-8610) if we have forgotten any members.

Thinking of You

St. Andrew’s received a lovely postcard of the Chapel of the Holy Cross near Sedona, AZ, sent by Catherine Graham. She said, “Took a trip with the Senior Center. The scenery was beautiful – from evergreen trees to red rocks to canyon streams. We are well.”

American Legion Auxiliary Craft Show

The Dexter American Legion Auxiliary is hosting their third annual craft show slated for **Saturday, November 13th** from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The show has experienced some growing pains, so the site was moved to St. Joseph Parish Hall located at 3470 Dover in Dexter.

Other than the change of location, the craft show will include many more crafters, a bake sale, and a raffle comprised of items donated by the show’s exhibitors.

Proceeds from the event will be used to support projects for the VA Hospital including clothing drives, BINGO, and a gift shop at Christmas where veterans can shop for their families.

They still have spaces available for crafters. If you are interested, or have questions about the event, you can contact Christine Gatward at (734) 426-2062.

November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates 7:00 p.m. Sauerkraut Supper Wrap- Up Meeting	3 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study 2:30 p.m. Staff 6:30 p.m. Adult Study Group 7:30 p.m. Choir	4 9:00 a.m. Quilting 11:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates 2:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Monthly Dinner	5	6
7 Memorial Sunday 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc. After: Harvest Celebration Potuck	8	9 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	10 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study 2:30 p.m. Staff 6:30 p.m. Adult Study Group 7:30 p.m. Choir	11 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers Quilting 11:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates 2:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	12	13
14 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc.	15 6:30 p.m. Elders 7:00 p.m. Consistory	16 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	17 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 1:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study 2:30 p.m. Staff 6:30 p.m. Adult Study Group 7:30 p.m. Choir	18 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers Quilting 11:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates 2:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study	19	20 Items due for Dec. 2010 <i>Chronicle</i>
21 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc. 11:00 a.m. Prayer Service	22	23 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	24 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	25 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	26 Cooking for Seniors Get Stuffed (food prepared at St. Andrew's to be served at the Senior Center)	27 10:00 a.m. Hanging of The Greens
28 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc.	29	30 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates				

Organ Concert at St. Joseph Church

On November 14th at 4:00 p.m., St. Joseph Church in Dexter will host an organ concert featuring Johnny Kash, the music director at Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral. Mr. Kash has performed concerts throughout the United States and Europe and holds a Master's degree in organ performance. St. Joseph music director Kendra Ritter will also play two classical pieces on the piano, as well as perform two organ/piano duets with Mr. Kash.

There is no cost to attend, but there will be a free-will donation which will be used for St. Joseph's music budget. A reception will be held after the concert. Please join them for an enjoyable evening of music and fellowship.

Note of Thanks

Gracie Willis would like to thank the Piecemakers Quilting Group for the quilt they donated and she won the in the sauerkraut supper raffle. She is delighted that the colors in the quilt match the décor of their home. Thank you for the excellent craftsmanship!

Thank You, Chronicle Contributors

Many thanks to all contributors to this issue:

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Catherine Graham

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The church office is open Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Our answering machine is always available to take a message.

Sunday Schedule

Worship Services 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School During 10:00 a.m. worship service

Nursery Available during both services

There is a Coffee Hour following both services.