
St. Andrew's Chronicle

July, 2011

The Price and Blessing of Freedom

Soon we will be celebrating the 4th of July which is Independence Day. The reason for this celebration is the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Prior to July 4, 1776 brave people had left everything behind and crossed the Atlantic Ocean to come to this land where they sought freedoms and rights which were not available to them in their homeland. It was in this land that they formed settlements and colonies with their own local laws and rules, while still under the authority of the King of England. There was growing unrest in this country because of the tyrannical rule of the King of England and it resulted in the drafting of several statements declaring independence from Great Britain.

The vote to become independent of Great Britain actually occurred on July 2, 1776 by the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Congress formally approved the document, the "Declaration of Independence" on July 4, 1776. This was the final break with Great Britain and expressed the united view of all of the colonies to become independent. This was, however, just the beginning point of establishing freedom in our land for the Revolutionary War was to follow in which many lives were lost fighting for freedom.

Through the centuries since the signing of the Declaration of Independence the battle to maintain freedom in our land has continued. We honor those who have given of themselves for the sake of our freedom! It has been said "*All gave some, some gave all.*"

We enjoy freedom today because of the commitment and sacrifices of the men and women who have gone on before us. There is an even greater freedom than that which we enjoy in this country—it is the freedom that we have in Christ who gave of Himself for us!

In the temple Jesus read from Isaiah 61 "*The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release the prisoners.*" When we invite Christ into our lives and allow Him to move and work within us He sets us free! Through Him we're freed from the law of sin and death—freed to live and become all God has created us to be!

According to John 8:31-32 it is written that Jesus said "*To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, 'If you hold to My teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'*"

Paul wrote in Romans 8:2 "*...because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.*" Peter writes in I Peter 2:16 "*Live as free men....*"

There is great joy and blessing in living in a free country! There is even greater joy and blessing in living in the freedom that we have in Christ!

*Yours in Christ,
Pastor Larry*

Church Office Closed on Monday, July 4th

The church **office will be closed on Monday, July 4th**, in observance of Independence Day. If a pastoral emergency should arise, please contact Rev. Van Slambrook at (734) 878-3937 or Elder Rudy Gustafson at (734) 665-3014. The church answering machine is also available for non-emergent business and will be checked remotely throughout the day.

2011 Graduate Recognition

We were thrilled to congratulate the following graduates at the June 5th worship service. We were especially proud that they were all able to join us in worship, despite the fact that the graduation services at DHS were at 2 p.m. that afternoon! The graduates were as follows:

Dexter High School Graduates

Ethan Breuninger

Austin Clark

Nicole Swisher

Graduating from Institutes of Higher Education

Matthew Lanter, Washtenaw Community College

Neil Scherdt, Ferris State University

We also want to thank the St. Andrew's Piecemakers Quilting Group for providing a quilt to each of the graduates. This was a wonderful way to remind them that they are part of our family and will be kept in our thoughts and prayers as they pursue their future plans.

Memorial Services Planned

We have two **memorial services planned** in July that you may wish to take note of:

On **Saturday, July 9th** at 11:00 a.m., a memorial service will be held in the Sanctuary for Ruth Elda Koch who passed away on June 16, 2010 at the age of 96. A luncheon will follow the service in the fellowship hall.

On **Saturday, July 16th** at 11 a.m., a memorial service will be held in the Sanctuary for Norman Wilson who passed away suddenly earlier this month. A luncheon will follow at the Eagle's near Ann Arbor.

2011 Rummage Sale Wrap-Up

The 2011 Rummage Sale was a huge success. Thanks to the donations of everyone's treasures and baked goods we made \$3982.78 before expenses. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to this success. Some of our members donated many hours of their valuable time to make this event happen and it is greatly appreciated.

Bob and Carol Smith

Church Picnic Planned

Please join us for an afternoon of GOOD FOOD, FUN, LAUGHTER, FELLOWSHIP at the ALL CHURCH PICNIC POTLUCK on JULY 17, 2011 beginning at 12 NOON. Becky and Arnie Deanhofer will again this year host the all church picnic at their home, 6575 Dexter Ann Arbor Road (2 miles East of Dexter on the south side of the road). There will be a tent. Iced tea and lemonade, along with table service will be provided. The pool will be available for swimming, along with games such as horseshoes, Bocce ball, etc.

This is a potluck--please bring a dish to pass. It is a good opportunity to share food, fun and laughter with fellow church members and guests.

Notes of Thanks and Appreciation

I would like to express to everyone how much I appreciated all your prayers, kind thoughts, and the hugs you had for all my family while Bill was in the hospital and after he died. It is a time like this that makes you realize how important a "Church Family" is to you.

Thank you Pastor Larry and Cora for all the support you gave us during this time.

The Family of Bill Marshall

I would like to thank my church family for helping me celebrate my birthday in May. Thanks for all the cards and well wishes.

Margaret Gilbert

Dear, dear St. Andrew's Church Family,

"Thank you" for your continued love and prayers as I recover from pneumonia, as well as for the many thoughtful cards and phone calls. A special "thank you" for the wonderful caring letter with so many personal notes of encouragement. It meant a great deal to me.

With love,
Cora

Office Help Appreciated!

I want to convey my sincere appreciation to the following individuals for covering the telephones and office while I enjoyed some time away from the office with my daughter, Emily, as we prepared for a baby shower to celebrate the pending arrival of her first child (and our first grandchild!). It was great to know that the office was in the very capable hands of: Joanne Arft, Lil Burby, Barb Affholter, Betty Davenport, Shirley Cobb, Ginny Weber and Margaret Barrett. Thank you to each of you for your time.

With Deep Appreciation, *Pati Wheeler*

Consistory Highlights from May, 2011

REPORTS:

Treasurer: Great news, our deficit for the year had been reduced to only \$660.06 at the end of May (from over \$10,000 at the end of January). Barb also shared the yearly Budget versus Actual report through May.

Building & Grounds: Dave reported on the costs involved with adding additional insulation during the roofing project. Cost would be \$4500 to add an additional 1" over the sanctuary and \$13,500 to add 2". Consistory moved not to spend additional money on insulation as it was felt that we could not recoup the difference in energy saving. Dave also reported that we are on the calendar with Kleinschmidt Roofing for the end of July.

Youth/Christian Ed: Betty Jo reported that the Youth (grades 9-12) will begin meeting over the summer with activities and fellowship.

Outreach: Betty reported that the amount raised to date for Relay for Life is \$6441.85.

Technical: Larry raised the question if others are having difficulty in getting the sermons online.

Old Business: Since the last meeting, the Church has received a notice from the State of Michigan for penalties and interest in the amount of \$290.31 for 2010 and \$1330.78 toward IRS penalties and interest. Barb is contacting our IRS Rep to set up a meeting in order to go over figures to determine our current balance owed. We hope to have an accurate balance by next month.

New Business: The Consistory discussed various options for funding the new roof. We will be asking members for donations in order to *RAISE THE ROOF*. The goal is \$15,000 in order to cover the new roof and any repairs that may be needed. Currently the Roof Fund has \$3535. Consistory also reviewed the goals set for the year and found that we are doing well on each one of them. It was decided by Consistory to continue to meet on the third Monday of the month through the summer.

Worship Service Attendance Report

June 2011	June 2010
96	75
72	100
95	90
73	77



Financial Report, May, 2011

FUNDS AND BALANCES	MAY 2011
GENERAL	
Apr. 29, 2011 Actual Ending Balance	23,354.46
May Income	
Giving	11,130.00
Rental	1,150.00
Flowers & Lilies	125.00
Misc.	57.00
Interest	<u>14.51</u>
Total Income	12,476.51
May Expenses	
Payroll & Mileage	4,985.40
Payroll Taxes & Processing	1,200.14
IRS Payment	500.00
Utilities	1,407.18
Repairs, Maintenance & Custodial	2,393.75
Office & Supplies	215.38
Flowers & Lilies	304.72
Miscellaneous	<u>88.29</u>
	11,426.86
Revenue less Expenses	+ 1,049.65
Ending Cash Balance	24,404.11
Checks outstanding	+5,065.39
Pass Through	<u>473.00</u>
Ending Bank Balance-General Fund	29,942.50
OTHER FUNDS	
Future Fund	-0-
Rental Escrow	1,000.00
Building Fund	5,220.02
Memorial	13,648.27
Marshall Memorial + 1130.00	
Hurricane Katrina - 1843.55	
Cemetery	11,112.35
Bank Account Balance 5/31/2011	60,923.14
YEAR-TO-DATE TOTALS	GENERAL FUND
Income	63,633.10
Expenses	64,293.16
Revenue less Expenses	- 660.06

July Stewardship Corner

I recently found an article from the Office of Stewardship of the Episcopal Church titled *Seven Spiritual Practices: A Faithful Steward's Guide* and would like to share some of the key thoughts over the next few months. Last month we looked at *Learn to be Content, Choose a Simpler Lifestyle and Keep on Giving*. This month we will be looking at two areas that fit into what is happening in our Church at present.

6. REBUILD GENEROUS COMMUNITIES

Times of recession bring people together – those with physical, spiritual, and emotional needs meeting those with a willingness to share whether it is financially or personally. Today many neighborhoods are less strong than they used to be. We need to have a stronger sense of community as well as Church at work. One sign of commitment to our community and our Church is our willingness to sacrifice something to meet the needs of others. We all need to share our Outreach and Stewardship with each other as well as the community. We need to spend some time getting to know the needs of our neighbors and find out what we can do to help them.

7. A FINANCIAL DOWNTURN CAN BE A SPIRITUAL UPTURN

This is something at St. Andrew's we can really attest to – how tough times within the Church have brought us all closer together and closer to God. With God leading, we can come out stronger; as individuals, as a Church, as a community, and as a nation. We have faced adversity and are still able to move forward as a Congregation. Grant us the desire to transform our Church and community, that we might reflect your love, grace, and generosity as we minister to others in your name.

St. Andrew's Angels

Please take a look at items needed for the church on the *Angel Board* just outside Pastor Van Slambrook's office. Your contributions benefit the church as well as the church finances. If you wish to have a receipt for your donation, please check with Pati.

Annual Ice Cream Social *Thursday, August 4 from 4-8 p.m.*

The Annual St. Andrew's Ice Cream Social will be held on Thursday, August 4th, from 4 PM - 8 PM in the Fellowship Hall at the Church. The menu will consist of Sloppy Joes, Hot Dogs, Knockwurst with Kraut, German and American Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Fruit Cups and beverages. And what would an Ice Cream Social be without plenty of Ice Cream complete with all of the toppings, and of course FREE cake!

In order to make this a successful event, we will be asking for food and/or cash donations, as well as preparation help before the social and serving help during the social. Sign up sheets will be out in July, and you are encouraged to sign up and help out.

RAISE THE ROOF!

As most of you know, we need a new roof at St. Andrew's. There have been issues for a long time with leaking around the steeple in a heavy rain. Some repairs were made this spring, but it has not completely solved the problem and the existing shingles have exceeded their lifetime. In order to completely remedy the problem, a Congregational Meeting was held on June 12 with a vote to proceed with a new roof. Building and Grounds Chairman, Dave Schmoekel, solicited bids, and the bid from R.D. Kleinschmidt was selected at a cost just under \$13,000 with additional cost if boards under the present shingles are damaged. At this meeting, additional insulation was also discussed and the Consistory was given the authority to look into this.

At the June 20 Consistory Meeting, Dave presented the costs for additional insulation. It would be \$4500 for an extra one inch and \$13,500 for an extra two inches (due to more work to cover). The Consistory voted not to proceed with the additional insulation as we would not be able to recoup the costs over a reasonable length of time. After communicating with Kleinschmidt's that we would accept their bid and use the six months as cash option, we found out that this option would not apply to a church. They will work with us with 1/3 down (approximately \$4,300), the balance of the first 50% due at completion (\$2,200) and finance the remainder (\$6,500) at 5%. The final amount could be higher if there are damaged boards that need to be replaced.

We are on Kleinschmidt's schedule for replacement at the end of July and they will be matching the color of the shingles to what we currently have in place. They anticipate that the project will take three days.

Thus, we need funds to *RAISE THE ROOF!* Through the month of July, we will be asking you for contributions to meet our obligation. The good news is that we already have \$3535 in contributions that are set aside in a roof fund. Each week at church there will be an update and with your donations we can *RAISE THE MONEY TO RAISE THE ROOF!*

Greet new members, Bill and Donna Sumner

Bill and Donna attend the early service and have been coming to St. Andrew's for some time at the urging of Ginny Weber and other members of the Piece-makers, which Donna joined three years ago. Bill is employed at Edwards Brothers and Donna is retired. They've been married for two years and live here in Dexter. Bill likes the informality of the first service and they both appreciate the "family" feel of St. Andrews. They enjoy golf (they met at a golf outing) and travel.

Please make them welcome.

Interview by Elaine Owsley

July Birthdays

1 -	Gladys Booth	19 -	Ron Klumpp
3 -	Amy Baldus	-	Brandon Otto
6 -	Betty Davenport	-	Betty Jo Stendel
8 -	Joel Slavik	20 -	Erwin Egeler
9 -	Gale Cobb	-	Kathy Koch
10 -	Donna Kaercher	-	Marie Proulx
-	Brendan Chalou	21 -	Glen Geer
11 -	Norma McCallister	25 -	Paul Scherdt
13 -	Judie Dioszegi	27 -	Carolyn Dancer
-	Michelle Oberholtzer	-	Bill Gilbert
-	Joe Owsley	28 -	Scott Marshall
-	Bill Sumner	29 -	Mary Anne Jaeger
18 -	Bob Burby	30 -	Allan Elsasser

Please inform the church office if we have forgotten any members by calling 426-8610.

Thank you, Deb!

We want to offer a special thank you to Debbie Phillips for preparing and donating the cakes that we enjoyed on graduate Sunday and on Father's Day at the 8:30 a.m. coffee hour. Debbie has a special way of making these coffee hours ones we all look forward to. None of us went home hungry!

July, 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc. <i>Holy Communion Received</i>	4 Church Office Closed <i>Independence Day</i>	5 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	6 1 p.m.:Church Staff Meeting	7 9-11 a.m. Piece- makers Quilting Group	8	9 11 a.m: Memorial Service for Ruth Koch
10 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc.	11	12 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	13 1 p.m.Church Staff Meeting	14 6 pm: Finance Comm. Meets	15	16 10 a.m. Visitation 11 a.m. Memorial Service for Norm Wilson
17 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc. Noon: Church Potluck Picnic	18 6:00 p.m. Elders Meet 7:00 p.m. Consistory	19 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	20 1 p.m. Church Staff Meeting <i>August, 2011 Chronicle Items Due</i>	21	22	23
24 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc. ----- 31 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc.	25	26 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	27 1 p.m. Church Staff Meeting	28	29	30

Thank You, Chronicle Contributors

Many thanks to all contributors to this issue:

Margaret Gilbert
Elaine Owsley
Cora Van Slambrook

Carol Jones
Marie Pleuss
Pastor Larry Van Slambrook

Audrey Marshall
Bob and Carol Smith
Pati Wheeler



Coming Up in the August, 2011 Chronicle

Ice Cream Social Information Update

“RAISE THE ROOF” Update

St. Andrew's United Church of Christ

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email: standrews@provide.net

website: www.standrewsdexter.org

The Reverend Larry Van Slambrook, Interim Pastor

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 **Will Resume in September, 2011**

Nursery Available During both services

There is a Coffee Hour following both services.