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# St. Andrew's Chronicle

June, 2011

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## *The Challenges and Blessings of Being a Father*

*On June 19<sup>th</sup> Father's Day will be celebrated across our nation. This holiday was first celebrated in 1910 to honor fathers. In the way that God designed the family the father has a very significant role—a role only a father can fulfill.*

*In March 1999, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services launched a nationwide public service campaign challenging fathers to remain emotionally and financially connected to their children even if they do not live with them. The campaign's tag line was, "They're your kids. Be their dad," and stressed the importance of fathers by showing the consequences for children when fathers do not have a positive role in their children's lives.*

*More than a quarter of American children—nearly 17 million—do not live with their fathers. Girls without a father in their life are two-and-a-half times as likely to get pregnant and 53 % more likely to commit suicide. Boys without a father in their life are 63 % more likely to run away and 37% more likely to abuse drugs. Both girls and boys without father involvement are twice as likely to drop out of high school, twice as likely to end up in jail, and nearly four times as likely to need help for emotional or behavioral problems.*

*What greater evidence do we need that a father is crucial in the lives of his children? The challenge presented is a clear and important one: "They're your kids. Be their dad!" Paul makes a similar challenge to fathers in Ephesians 6:4 when he writes "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."*

*In essence, Paul is saying that fathers should have a positive relationship with their children and raise them in such a way that they come to know the Lord and follow Him in their lives! Of all the things that a father might do to be a positive influence in his children's lives there is nothing greater than guiding and influencing them spiritually.*

*How does a father influence his children in such a positive way? By being a spiritual example or mentor in their lives! Children watch their parents and listen to what they say. They observe their behavior and draw conclusions based on what they see. A child should be drawn to the Lord through every aspect of a father's life. What he says, where he goes, how he acts, when he prays, how he treats their mother, how he treats them, when and how he worships, when he reads the Bible—all factors which serve to mentor children in the faith!*

*A father's relationship with the Lord becomes the basis for everything else in his life. It is God's plan that we glorify Him in everything. In Isaiah 43:6-7 it is written "Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by My name, whom I created for My glory." Paul wrote "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (I Corinthians 10:31). John Piper in Don't Waste Your Life explains what it means to glorify God: "to live our lives in a way that makes Him look more like the greatness and the beauty and the infinite worth that He really is. In the night sky of this world God appears to most people, if at all, like a pinprick of light in a heaven of darkness. But He created us and called us to make Him look like what He really is."*

*It is only by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit operating in our lives that we can truly glorify God and live for Him in a way that not only touches and influences our children in a Godly way, but touches all the world around us for Him. It is an awesome and wonderful privilege to be a father and grandfather. By God's grace and power we can make an eternal difference in the lives of our children!*

*Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Larry*

## *Caring Letter*

A new ministry has begun at St. Andrew's UCC—a ministry of reaching out in love and care to others. **How is this being done?** Through **Caring Letters**.

These are letters which will be sent to various people each week.

**Who will be the recipients?** Members of our church family as well as those who are connected to us in some way such as family members, friends, etc. Recipients will be those, for example, who are ill, recovering from surgery, experiencing the loss of a loved one, are celebrating the birth of a child, are serving in the military, graduating from high school or college, or for some other special reason.

**How can you be involved?** By simply **signing the Caring Letters** which will be placed on a table in the Narthex of the church each week! You might even be moved to write a brief note along with your signature!

**The Caring Letters are a means for us to encourage others and touch their lives by sending the message that not only do we care, but God cares for them as well!**

## *Graduate Recognition Sunday*

On Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, the high school graduates in addition to those graduating from a continuing education level will be recognized at the 10 a.m. worship service. If you know of someone who will be graduating, please contact the church office at 426-8610 as soon as possible so that we can include them in the recognition. A special coffee hour to honor the graduates will immediately follow the worship service.

A complete list of the graduates who are being recognized will be printed in the July, 2011 edition of the *Chronicle*.

## *2011 Scholarship Award*

We are happy to announce that Austin Clark has received the 2011 St. Andrew's Scholarship Award this year. Austin will be attending Washtenaw Community College in the fall. He plans to major in Psychology and pursue a career in Social Work. Austin has stated that "helping others has given me great personal satisfaction and has helped me grow into the mature individual I am today. Social Work will give me an opportunity to give back to my mom and my community."

Funds for this year's award consist of donations from the congregation and funds from the Virginia Wilson memorial fund. Funds from the memorial fund have been used in loving memory of Virginia Wilson and Joann Bobo.

## *Congregational Meeting Scheduled*

A Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday, June 12 for the purpose of discussion and vote on installing a new church roof.

## *Rummage Sale, 2011*

The Annual St. Andrew's Rummage Sale will be held on **Friday and Saturday, June 10 and 11**. Rummage Sale times are 8 am – 6 pm on Friday and 9 am – 1 pm on Saturday. Your donations are appreciated and we are happy to provide you with a receipt for your donation if you would like one for tax purposes.

We are accepting items through Wednesday, June 8th. Donations will be accepted during office hours and by the following schedule the week of the rummage sale:

Monday, June 6	9 am – 5 pm
Tuesday, June 7	9 am – 5 pm
Wednesday, June 8	9 am – 8 pm

We need adult and children's clothing items in good, clean condition (especially baby clothes), shoes, purses, household items, dishes, books, tools, games, toys, trinkets, small working electrical appliances, yard goods, bicycles, outdoor furniture, end tables, desks, chairs, sofas, curtains, baby items, computers, printers, etc. No large appliances like stoves, refrigerators, washers or dryers, mattresses, box springs, doors, tires or propane tanks. We are also unable to

We also will be holding a Bake Sale and Luncheon. Baked goods may be dropped off Thursday, June 9 or early Friday, June 10. Please package items prior to dropping them off. *No cream pies please.*

In addition to treasures, we also would like people to consider volunteering to help out with set-up and during the sale. Many hands make for light work and fellowship. Times and sign-up sheets will be posted. We particularly need sorters and pricers Monday-Thursday of the sale week. Any time you have to donate will be appreciated.

## *Relay for Life Update*

THE SONSHINE WALKERS HAVE DONE IT AGAIN!! We have surpassed our goal -- our grand total for the 2011 Relay for Life is \$6,441.85.

I want to give you the figures for our fundraising endeavors here at the church.

1. Bake Sales - \$417.50
2. Passing the cans - \$524.35
3. Pancake Breakfast - \$242.00
4. Special Offering Sundays - \$383.00
5. Pizza Kits - \$505.00
6. Car Wash - \$925.00
7. Luminaries - \$111.00
8. Hope Bracelets - \$6.00

(Relay for Life Update Continued)

9. Footprints - \$43.00

10. Food Sales on site was \$1,527.21.

(We had one expense that was not covered, that being, the rental and cost of the concentrate for the slushy machine. All other food was donated from church members!!)

11. Our online donations (which consists of each team member's goal donations.)  
When added in, gave us our total of \$6,441.85.

Donations for Relay for Life will be accepted by the American Cancer Society through August 31, 2011. If you wish to make a donation, please contact Betty Davenport for additional details. Remember that all donations are tax deductible.

AS YOU CAN SEE, WE HAVE ALL BEEN VERY, VERY BUSY!! THANKS AGAIN TO YOU ALL! LOOK FORWARD TO THE 2012 RELAY FOR LIFE!!

Betty Davenport

### *8<sup>th</sup> Annual Quilt Show Report*

The Piece-makers held their 8th Annual Quilt Show at St. Andrew's United Church of Christ in Dexter on May 14th. This year featured "Grandma's Quilts" because all quilts speak of the time they were created and most of the quilters were introduced to the art by their grandmothers. In addition to the one hundred quilts on display, the event sported a scrumptious ladies luncheon, a raffle for an appliquéd child's quilt and many vendors selling quilting supplies and hand-made items.

Most of the proceeds from the show are used to purchase fabric, batting and other supplies to support the group's mission to provide quilts for patients at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Fourteen quilts destined for the sick children were prominently displayed on the altar rail and in the narthex of St. Andrew's UCC. The hospital only accepts 100% cotton quilts in crib to twin bed sizes. Co-founder Virginia Weber estimated that the small quilts destined to comfort the sick children at Mott will bring the delivery total to well over 400 quilts!

The Piece-makers are not all members of St. Andrew's, but come together for the love of quilting and a desire to be part of the quilt project for Mott Children's Hospital. If you are interested in helping with this project, you can call the church (734) 426-8610 or inquire by email: [standrews@provide.net](mailto:standrews@provide.net) to join this fun and caring group or to ask about donating quilts to be delivered to the right (little) folks.

### *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.

## Financial Report – April, 2011

### GENERAL

Mar. 31, 2011 Actual Ending Balance           \$ 16,675.42

#### March Income

Giving	\$ 12,165.20
Rental	1,200.00
Monthly Dinner	667.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	329.00
Sale of Chairs	300.00
Misc.	225.00
Interest	<u>12.08</u>
Total Income	\$ 15,358.28

#### March Expenses

Payroll & Mileage	\$ 5,146.34
Payroll Taxes & Processing	961.57
IRS Payment	500.00
Utilities	853.00
Repairs, Maintenance & Custodial	606.37
Office & Supplies	200.00
Health Department license	227.00
Miscellaneous	<u>184.96</u>
	\$ 8,679.24

Revenue less Expenses                           + 6,679.04

Ending Cash Balance	23,344.46
Checks outstanding	+2,899.15
Ending Bank Balance-General Fund	\$ 26,253.61

### OTHER FUNDS

Future Fund	-0-
Rental Escrow	1,000.00
Building Fund	5,220.02
Memorial	14,361.82
Organ Repair -1100.00	
Cemetery	11,112.35
Burial Fee 200.00	

Bank Account Balance 4/29/2011           \$ 57,947.80

Year-to-Date Totals                           General Fund

Income	51,156.59
Expenses	52,866.30

Revenue less Expenses                       - \$ 1,709.71

## *Consistory Highlights for May, 2011*

### **REPORTS:**

**Treasurer:** Carol reported in Barb's absence that we have more income in April than expenses, however, we have not received a bill yet for the last snow removal, the monthly dinners and we have not sent in the One Great Hour of Sharing money collected. We will see payments in May for work on the heating in both the parsonage and the church.

**Building & Grounds:** Dave reported on the issues with the furnace in the parsonage and the church and that they are now working properly. The big issue is the roof over the church and the leaking around the steeple. We have quotes for a new roof from Kleinschmidt Roofing and Mr. Roof and will check out others. This project needs to be done as soon as possible to avoid any further damage to the roof. Dave also reported on a water issue in the parsonage basement and he has fixed the problem.

**Outreach:** Betty reported on a very successful Relay and will have a report on Sunday, May 22 for the Congregation.

**Old Business:** We have no new updates on our Tax Resolution

**New Business:** The Consistory has requested that we hold a Congregational meeting on June 12 for the purpose of discussing a new roof for the sanctuary. It was also brought up that our cleaning service for the church would like to re-look at the current contract (the last one was signed in January, 2009). Rev. Van Slambrook explained the use and purpose of the Caring Letters that will begin on Sunday, May 22.

### *Worship Service Attendance Report*

May 2011	May 2010
101	81
131	108
96	85
131	81
80	72

### *Church Picnic Planned!*

GOOD FOOD, FUN, LAUGHTER, FELLOWSHIP. Join us for an ALL CHURCH PICNIC POTLUCK---JULY 17, 2011 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. Ice 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.

## *June, 2011 Stewardship Article*

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 *Count Your Blessings and Count your Cash*.

### 3. LEARN TO BE CONTENT

Learning contentment is one of the most significant disciplines we can achieve. Many have amassed large debts chasing their dreams only to find that their latest purchase provides only fleeting fulfillment. Contentment reduces our desire to spend. This brings about the ability to save or purchase something special. Over the past few years Church spending was ahead of income thus creating debt. Debt can be difficult to manage, but if we are content when our needs are met rather than our wants, we can move forward as a Congregation with our eyes to the future.

### 4. CHOOSE A SIMPLER LIFESTYLE

During this time of recession and downturn, it is a good time to take stock of our lifestyle and spending as a church. Now is the time to slow down and reassess what is important to us. Cutting back may have a negative feel to it, but any gardener will tell you that pruning is a vital part of encouraging healthy growth. We as a church need to be fiscally responsible.

### 5. KEEP ON GIVING

It is vital that we continue to give during economic downturn, and not only because our faith communities and charities depend on our giving. We give because we need to give. As we give we experience the Holy Spirit at work shaping and growing our hearts and leading us to reflect on the generosity of God.

Lord, you taught about building treasure in heaven rather than on earth and granted us the wisdom to be your faithful steward. Remember the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will reap bountifully.

### *We all fall short*

Remember that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...”(Romans 3:23, NRSV). Nevertheless, when we truly repent and ask for forgiveness, we should accept it fully. After all, God doesn't keep score. He accepts us and offers us grace without measure.

God's grace is greater than any or all the sins we commit. It's not necessary to keep beating ourselves up over our shortcomings. That is painful scrupulosity and negative thinking. Focus instead on God's love, which is greater than any human mind can fully fathom.

## May Birthdays

2 Dick Berner  
3 Joshua Gustafson  
4 Jeff Bourdon  
Kelly Chalou  
5 Eva Slavik  
12 Shawna Shafer  
13 Erika Ganzhorn  
15 Margaret Gilbert  
16 Sherie Stacey  
18 Martha Krips  
Denise Marshall  
Julie Nixon  
21 Phil Hampton  
Frank Slavik  
22 Gerri Sharrar  
23 Carol Breuninger  
24 Donna Gregory  
May Hardy  
Melissa Stapish  
27 Sarah Scherdt  
31 Terra Even

## June Birthdays

4 Ruth Gustafson  
Betty White  
5 Jacob Even  
Tim Guenther  
Crystal McCarter  
7 Barb Baldus  
8 Terry Mors  
9 Joyce Stacey  
12 Debbie DeGraff  
Tom Krips  
Courtney Krips  
13 Thelma Rice  
Stefanie Van Steenis  
15 Arden Shafer  
16 Jim Klumpp  
17 Ray Lowery  
23 Ben Stapish  
25 Bob Breuninger  
Bob Rose  
27 Pat Allegra  
29 Jane Finkbeiner

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

## Thank You For a Memorable Concert!

To all the St. Andrew's Family,

Just wanted to say *thank you* to all of you for your warm fellowship and tremendous help in putting together our "Festival of Hymns." It was a wonderful afternoon, and a memorable concert that I know will be something that none of us will forget. I will look forward to any pictures or videos that come through. Will think of you all fondly as I pass your church enroute to St. James!

Alice Van Wambeke

## *Thank you, Deb!*

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

## *You are Wonderful!*

The cards and phone calls I've received during my recent and totally unexpected hospitalization were wonderful. The several visits to the hospital by Pastor Larry and Pastorette Cora were also wonderful. This church is **wonderful!!!** Thank you so much for helping me to return to good health through your prayers and concerns.

The way you make a person feel through your concern is fantastic. Until you have experienced the compassion shown by this group of folks, you haven't "lived."

Thank you very, very much for helping me in my return to good health.

Betty Jo Stendel

Thanks for the cute Easter card, candy and the plant from the Sunday school class and the members of the Good Shepherds group. I especially appreciated the card from the children and it is wonderful to see them brightening the day of others in our congregation. Thank you for the continued support of the church through the Good Shepherds. I am touched and thankful to you all. God bless,

Alta Frey

## *Note of Appreciation*

We would like to thank everyone in the Congregation for all the prayers, cards and goodies that have been sent in the past few months and, of course, the birthday cards. We would also like to thank Larry and Cora for the visits they have made and prayers. It certainly has helped Selma pass the time. Selma also appreciates those who have come to visit her.

Bob and Selma Mast

## *Your Care and Concern Appreciated*

Dear Friends, I just wanted to say a big thank you for all the thoughts and prayers for my surgery and recovery. The cards were very appreciated as well! We are so blessed to be a part of the St. Andrew's family. Thanks again,

Earl Affholter  
(Barb says thanks, too!)

We would like to thank everyone in our St. Andrew's family for the lovely flowers on the altar and for sharing in the celebration of our 50th anniversary. You made it a very joyful experience for us and we appreciate each and every one of you.

Bob and Carol Breuninger

# June 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00 a.m. Quilting  7:00 p.m. Honors Convocation @ DHS	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>  <b>Graduate Recognition</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc.  <i>Holy Communion Received</i>	<b>6</b> 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Rummage Sale Set Up	<b>7</b> 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Rummage Sale Set Up	<b>8</b> 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Rummage Sale Set Up 1 p.m.:Church Staff Meeting  7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b> 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Rummage Sale Pricing Day	<b>10</b> 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Rummage Sale	<b>11</b> 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Rummage Sale
<b>12</b>  <b>Pentecost</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc. 11 a.m. Congre- gational Mtg.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	<b>15</b> 1:00 p.m.Church Staff Meeting  7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b> 7 p.m. Finance Committee Meets	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Private Baby Shower
<b>19</b>  <b>Father's Day</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc.	<b>20</b> 6:00 p.m. Elders Meet 7:00 p.m. Consistory  <i>July, 2011 Chronicle Items Due</i>	<b>21</b> 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	<b>22</b> 1:00 pm Church Staff Meeting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m. Worship Svc.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10:00 a.m. Gentle Pilates	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>		

## Thank You, Chronicle Contributors

Many thanks to all contributors to this issue:

Bob & Carol Breuninger	Lil Burby	Alta Frey	Carol Jones
Ray Lowery	Bob & Selma Mast	Betty Jo Stendel	Joanne Arft
Rev. Larry VanSlambrook	Alice Van Wambeke	Pati Wheeler	Elaine Owsley
Bob & Carol Smith	Betty Davenport	Eva Slavik	Ginny Weber
Marie Pleuss	Earl & Barb Affholter		



### *Coming Up in the July, 2011 Chronicle*

A list of the graduates honored at the June 5<sup>th</sup> worship service.  
Outcome of Congregational Meeting to be held on June 12, 2011.  
Rummage Sale Outcome and Wrap Up Report.  
Additional Information about the Church Picnic.  
Plans for the annual Ice Cream Social to be held on Thursday, August 4, 2011.  
Statistical Report for April, May and June, 2011.

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### **St. Andrew's United Church of Christ**

7610 Ann Arbor Street  
Dexter, Michigan 48130

Phone (734) 426-8610                      Fax (734) 426-8620

email: [standrews@provide.net](mailto:standrews@provide.net)

website: [www.standrewsdexter.org](http://www.standrewsdexter.org)

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.