



www.standrewskentct.org * 860.927.3486 * st.andrew.kent@snet.net



Site thought to be the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus heals the paralyzed man

(John 5) :: Sixth Sunday of Easter

From Father Douglas

Dear People of St Andrew's Parish,

I hope you are doing well and enjoying a blessed Eastertide. I offer you an important update and a reflection this week.

First, **the update**. Unfortunately, *the Rev Canon Tim Hodapp will NOT be with us this Sunday*, as planned. Tim tested positive for COVID on Tuesday evening and is progressing through a typical merry-go-round of symptoms. I ask you to hold him, and all of the many folks who are suffering with COVID right now, in your prayers. Once he is feeling better, Tim will make plans to be with us sometime this summer.

Now, **the reflection**. It is in my nature to look for silver linings, and if there was an upside to having to work from the rectory all last week, as I isolated with COVID, it was the ability to sit at my desk in the study and gaze up at Segar Mountain all day, every day. For several of those days, spring had not made it to the top of the mountain. And then, one day, it seemed, the entire hill, all the way to the ridge, just erupted into all the brilliant greens of spring. I may still be adjusting to the slightly different timing of the seasons in northwest Connecticut *versus* New Jersey, but that was surely a sight well worth waiting for!

As I've mentioned before, many theologians argue that the sheer beauty and majesty of nature—superfluous; gratuitous—are evidence of the existence of

God and God's love for this world, and I wholeheartedly agree. So, too, the cyclicity of nature's beauty. This year's bursting forth of spring occurs amidst news of a protracted, evil war in Ukraine; renewed violence in and around Jerusalem; and almost unbelievable accounts of gun violence wreaked upon people shopping at a grocery store and, later, enjoying a church luncheon: expressions of the cold, raw, inhuman hatred harbored by those whose fingers are on the triggers. There are mornings when, listening to the news, I start to become overwhelmed; I'm overtaken by the neglect, brutality and hatred we're capable of inflicting—almost nonchalantly, it seems—upon one another.

And then ... the green suddenly springs forth on Segar Mountain ... I come out one morning, and flower stalks have burst forth on all the pachysandra, overnight ... and I'm reminded that this world *does, in fact, belong only to God*. We live in God's space, in God's time and in God's love. As dismal or disastrous as we sometimes make this planet, God's hope springs forth, again and again. However ugly, spiteful or outright evil we act toward one another, God's beauty will not—*cannot*—be cancelled or suppressed. Some in this world do not know that ... some do not believe it ... and some believe it but corrupt that belief to suit their own prejudices. But just as spring comes without regard to human effort (or intervention), so, too, does the love of God, in Christ, always abide with us, however winter-y we conspire to make the world. Amen!

Take good care, and may God continue to bless the work of the Kingdom you are doing.

In the peace and love of Christ,
Douglas+

Frdouglas.sak@gmail.com

860-592-0171 (rectory, and *also* rings on mobile)

This Week at St Andrew's

Friday, 20 May	Prayer & Meditation	5:30 pm
Saturday, 21 May	Special Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am
Saturday, 21 May	Special Election Convention for ECCT's Next Bishop Diocesan (Hartford)	11:00 am
Sunday, 22 May	<i>Holy Eucharist: Easter 6</i>	8:30 am
Sunday, 22 May	Choir Rehearsal	9:15 am
Sunday, 22 May	<i>Holy Eucharist: Easter 6 (in person and live-streamed)</i>	10:30 am
Sunday, 22 May	<i>Easteride Evening Prayer and Benediction</i>	4:30 pm

LGBTQ+ A.A.

Monday, 23 May	Midweek Holy Eucharist (<i>in person and live-streamed</i>)	8:00 pm
Wednesday, 25 May		6:00 pm
Wednesday, 25 May	A.A. for Women (<i>Zoom meeting; email us for info</i>)	7:00 pm
Thursday, 26 May	A.A. Meeting (<i>Parish House</i>)	7:30 am
Thursday, 26 May	Holy Eucharist: <i>Feast of the Ascension</i>	9:00 am
Thursday, 26 May	Thursday Afternoon Club (<i>Parish House</i>)	1:00 pm
Thursday, 26 May	Vestry Meeting	5:30 pm
Thursday, 26 May	A.A. Meeting (<i>Parish House</i>)	7:00 pm
Thursday, 26 May	Al-Anon Meeting (<i>Old Vestry Room</i>)	7:00 pm

Mark Your Calendars for These Events...

Details about many of these events can be found later in this issue of the *Epistle*

August 5, 6, & 7

The Tag Sale!

Spread the Word: Our Church School Reopens on 05 June



Under the capable and imaginative direction of Ron Marasco and Jane Farnol,

St Andrew's Church School will re-open on Sunday, 05 June. Every Sunday, during the 10:30 Eucharist, children and teachers will gather around a table in the Undercroft, with Bibles and books, maps and composition books, crayons and glue, to learn about Scripture; to learn about the Church; and, most importantly, to learn about Jesus. Some of our students may want to come each week, but we'll also welcome **drop-ins**: those who come only occasionally ... grandchildren or nieces and nephews visiting from out-of-town ... those who just want to come and see what it's all about. In addition, **parents are more than welcome to sit in on classes**, if they wish. Classes will run for about 35-40 minutes, so everyone can come up to the Nave in time for Holy Communion. Our program will be appropriate for **children ages 4 to 12**; our older students will 'buddy up' with our younger ones.

Re-opening our church school is an exciting, life-giving prospect – indeed, a resurrection, of sorts! How appropriate for us to begin on the last day of Eastertide! **Please share the word** with everyone you know who is looking for ... or interested in ... or just curious about ... Christian education for their children. Encourage them to come and try us on – no strings attached – no commitments implied! And if they have any questions, let them know they can be in touch with Ron and Jane via email at churchschool.sa.kent@gmail.com.

The Thursday Afternoon Club: A New Fellowship Group



Over the past couple of months, we have begun a new fellowship group at St Andrew's, called the **Thursday Afternoon Club**. This is an informal, unstructured time for women who have been widowed to come together to talk, to share, to laugh and, perhaps, to make some plans for an evening out or a walk in the woods. The Thursday Afternoon Club will now meet **every Thursday afternoon at 1:00 pm, in the Parish House Great Room**. If you are interested, please drop by any Thursday. There is nothing to prepare, nothing to bring and nothing you need to do. Just come by for some conversation, some caring and some great company!

A Local Need: Help a Family Stay Cool This Summer

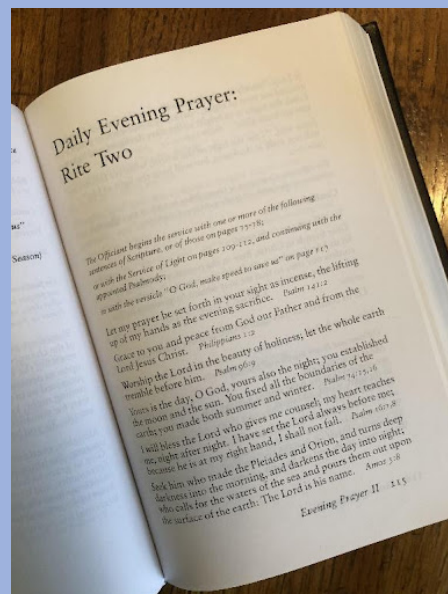


As you can read elsewhere in this issue, the Afghan family that St Andrew's has helped resettle in New Milford is doing very well. The recent few days of hot, muggy weather, however, have shown us that their early twentieth-century house could really use some window air conditioners, to keep cool this summer.

Each unit costs about \$350. If you can make a donation to help defray this cost, that would be wonderful. Please mark your check "Air conditioner." We'll bundle the donations together and use them to buy one or more units.

In addition to air conditioners, for those many warm-but-not-hot days, the family could also use some fans: tower fans that oscillate ... room fans ... window fans. If you have any you could donate, please let us know.

During Eastertide: Evening Prayer and Benediction



Each Sunday during Eastertide this year, we will be praying Evening Prayer at 4:30. Some think of this office as the quintessential Anglican liturgy: quiet in tone, relaxed in pace and reflective. On 15 May, we will hold the office of Evensong—*sung* Evening Prayer—led by the visiting ensemble Saecula Schola Cantorum.

Following Evening Prayer, we will offer the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, for those who wish to stay. This is a brief but powerful liturgy in

which we reverence and contemplate the Presence of Christ ... the Risen Christ ... in the consecrated Bread. We'll use a bit of incense during Benediction, but not during Evening Prayer.

We invite you to try on these liturgies ... and the practice of concluding your Lord's Day in some quiet, joyful worship ... during the season of Easter.

The Afghan Family Resettlement Update

The Washington Refugee Resettlement Project (WRRP), of which St Andrew's is a big part, recently provided this update on the family we're helping to resettle in New Milford. Read on to see how you may be able to help them directly.



Dear friends,

We want to give you, our supporters, an update on our refugee resettlement project. In particular, we want to share exciting news about the Awrang family, and also share ways that you can continue to help. Our online donation page even allows you to submit a note stating how you would like your donation to be used.

Mr. Alibaba Awrang is making great progress with his English! As you may know by now, he is a globally esteemed Islamic Calligrapher. His works have been exhibited and sold around the world. We want to:

- Help him establish U.S. connections to relaunch his career. If you or your circle of acquaintances have contacts in the art business (e.g., galleries, museums) or know of any teaching opportunities please email us info@wrrp.net.
- Additionally, we need funds to purchase specialized art materials for Mr. Awrang to resume his life's work.

You can also make a donation for the Awrang's art supplies by clicking on [this link](#).

Ms Gul Ziwar Awrang produces magnificent traditional Afghan needlework – in dresses, shirts, pillows, belts, bags, etc. Additionally, she is an expert weaver and produces beautiful decorative pillows. We would like to identify retail stores that may be interested in selling her beautiful products. Write us at info@wrrp.net.

Their four children (three sons, Armand, 15; Ali, 12; and Taha, 10; and daughter, Arezo, 14) are very happy to be in school again, after an eight-month hiatus. Last weekend, we presented each of them with a bicycle and helmet, all hand-me-downs from generous donors.

Summer is around the corner, and we hope to find summer programs for the children. If you have suggestions and/or contacts at appropriate summer programs or camps near New Milford, please let us know.

Upcoming Event

The New Milford Refugee Resettlement is resettling another Afghan family, the Maliksadas, just across the street from the Awrang family! Both families were evacuated together by [Turquoise Mountain](#), a non-profit that supports the preservation of historic sites and traditional crafts in Afghanistan. You can see some of their impressive art on the website.

Mr. Matin Maliksada, is a master ceramicist. Come see a demonstration and even consider a purchase and/or commission!

Sunday, June 5, 2022, 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Village Center for the Arts

12 Main Street, New Milford

\$10 Suggested Donation (all proceeds go to the Maliksada Family)

Coffee Hour: Hosts Needed!



Do you enjoy Coffee Hour? It's even more fun when you host! Please sign-up now to host a Sunday in May or June!!

St Andrew's Current COVID Status

THE PARISH IS OPEN.

We have now resumed all of our usual pre-COVID practices except the sharing of

the Common Cup; we distribute the Wine in pre-portioned.

We will continue to livestream our 10:30 liturgy on Sundays and our mid-week services.

Help Support the Kent Food Bank



Please help our parish family continue to support of the Kent Food Bank by sending a check in any amount to:

Kent Community Fund
P O Box 262
Kent, CT 06757
memo: Food Bank

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of Kent's Social Services Director. In addition, it is useful for the Director to have IGA gift cards to give to families who are in need. Please consider purchasing a card, for \$25 or \$50, and taking it to Town Hall or dropping it in the donations basket in the Narthex. (You can also place it in the offering plate, marked for the Food Bank.)

The Kent Food Bank also accepts food donations. They are especially in need of staples such as **beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna.** Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past! Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

You may drop off food items on Fridays from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon in the back of the Community House on Main Street. You may also place donations in the basket in the church Narthex or in the bin in the breezeway at the rear of the Rectory.

Lections for this Week

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Year C

Acts 16:9-15

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

John 5:1-9



Past Services and Homilies

Please click on the link below in order to view past services on YouTube and to read homilies from previous Sundays located on our website.

[Homilies and Past Services](#)

Worship Services

-Sunday-

Holy Eucharist

8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

Rite I at 8.30, First Sundays;

Healing Service at 8.30,

Third Sunday

In person

8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

(10.30 a.m. available live stream on YouTube)



-Wednesday-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.

-Friday-

Prayer & Meditation

5.30 p.m.

-Holy Days-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.



12 Step Meetings

Mondays
LGBTQ+ A.A. - **new**
(Parish House)

Wednesdays
A.A. for Women 7:00 p.m.
Zoom meeting
email us for info.

Thursdays
A.A. at 7.30 a.m.
(Parish House)
resumed
Al-Anon. at 7.00 p.m.
(Old Vestry Room)
A.A. at 7:00 pm - **new**
(Parish House)

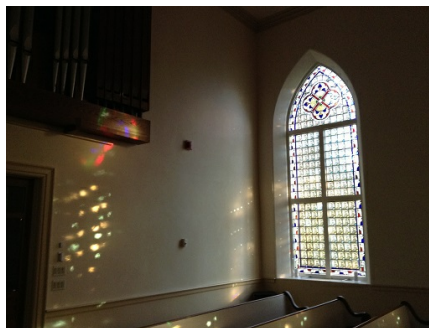
Fridays
A.A. at 8 p.m.
(Great Room)
temporarily until First Church opens
resumed



Parish Staff

**The Rev Douglas S
Worthington**
Priest in Charge
frdouglas.sak@gmail.com
860-592-0171

Susan Guse
Organist & Director of Choirs



Ron Masasco, Ph.D.
Director of Education

KC Compton
Parish Administrator

Jane Farnol
Church School Leader

Joan I Cassel
Financial Secretary

Randy Osolin
Verger

Gloria Contreras
Sexton



St Andrew's Church
P. O. Box 309
1 N. Main St.
Kent, CT 06757

860.927.3486
st.andrew.kent@snet.net

Parish office open everyday except Friday from 10 am- 5 pm
(2 pm on Thursdays)

Visit St Andrew's website at
www.standrewskentct.org

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.ctepiscopal.org

 Share This Email

Visit our website



[Unsubscribe st.andrew.kent@snet.net](#)
[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by st.andrew.kent@snet.net in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!