



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



It's Time to Fill the Backpacks!!

St Andrew's Current COVID Status

THE PARISH IS OPEN. At its meeting on 16 May, the vestry decided, in accordance with the latest guidance from the CDC and at the recommendation of the priest-in-charge and the wardens, to more fully open the parish for worship, as follows:

- If you **are** fully vaccinated, you may attend worship without wearing a mask or maintaining social distancing, but you may do so if you choose to
- If you **are not** fully vaccinated, we request that you *either* wear a mask and maintain social distancing *or* attend our outdoor worship (Sundays at 12:30)
- Congregational singing has now resumed, at the 10:30 service only
- **NOTE: Our 12:30 Eucharist has been discontinued**

In addition, it is no longer necessary to sign-up in advance to attend worship, but we will record the names of those who attend, in case contact tracing becomes necessary.

We will continue to livestream our 10:30 liturgy on Sundays and our mid-week services, as there are parishioners who are choosing not to be in group settings at this time—a decision the parish fully honors and supports.

THIS JUST IN: Help Fill Backpacks for Kent Center School Students!

We have just received an exciting invitation to help those in our Kent community. I met with Leah Pullaro, Kent's director of social services, this week, and she asked whether St Andrew's would be interested in helping **fill back-to-school backpacks for KCS students who are in need**. This project is a collective effort of the Kent Community Fund, St John's Church (New Milford), High Watch ... and now, St Andrew's, too!

Other groups have donated backpacks and gift cards for back-to-school clothes, so we've been asked to donate all sorts of supplies to fill up those packs:

School Supplies

- 1-subject notebooks
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Crayons
- Pens and pencils
- Colored paper
- Glue sticks
- Loose leaf paper
- 1" binders
- Dividers
- Pencil cases

Personal Hygiene Items

- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Hair accessories

Please bring your donations to the church on Sunday, 25 July, 01 August or 08 August; or drop them off in the office by Monday, 09 August. Everything we collect will be blessed at the 10:30 Eucharist on 08 August ... and then distributed at the Kent Food Bank on Friday, 13 August.

Saint Andrew's has such a loving, caring tradition of giving to those in need: eggs, candy, hats, scarves, shoes, socks – you ask for it, we'll provide it. Let's all pitch in and send these students back to school fully prepared for a great year!

-- Fr Douglas

From Randy DiPentima, Junior Warden

As preparations for the tag sale bring more of us together, I am struck by how working communally raises spirits and makes us aware of the needs of others. The pandemic deprived us of this opportunity for so long.

Thinking about that and other things brought me to consider a story from Luke that continues to speak to me each time I read it. At Luke 10:38-41, we meet Mary and Martha, sisters, whom Jesus and his followers visit on their way to Jerusalem and the cross. Martha goes about being the perfect host to her visitors while Mary sits and listens to Jesus. When Martha complains to Jesus that Mary ought to be helping her, our Lord essentially tells her that now is not the time for her to be busying herself with hospitality tasks and that Mary has in fact got it right: When Jesus comes to visit, it is time to sit and listen.

I know that sometimes I am like Martha for the wrong reason—busying myself to avoid sitting and listening to things difficult or tiresome to hear. Maybe that is part of what the story is about. Mostly though, as the Reverend Peter Gomes in his sermon "Sisters – Mary and Martha" tells us, it is about "life, about giving and receiving, about doing and being, about the presence of Jesus in the midst of the ordinary that becomes extraordinary." Which is to say, as myriad ordinary things begin again or anew at St Andrew's we, amidst the ordinary, may feel the extraordinary presence of Jesus.

Weekly Calendar

Friday, 23 July	Prayer & Meditation (<i>Nave</i>)	5:30 pm
Friday, 23 July	Vestry Potluck (<i>Rectory</i>)	6:30 pm
Saturday, 24 July	Choir rehearsal (for fall music) (<i>Choir Room</i>)	9:30 am
Sunday, 25 July	Holy Eucharist: Pentecost 9 (spoken) (<i>in person only</i>)	8:30 am
Sunday, 25 July	Holy Eucharist: Pentecost 9 (with music) (<i>in person and live-streamed</i>)	10:30 am
Sunday, 25 July	Coffee Hour (<i>outdoors</i>)	11:35 am
Monday, 26 July	Holy Eucharist: Feast of St James the Greater (transferred) (<i>in person and live-streamed</i>)	6:00 am
Wednesday, 28 July	Racial Reconciliation Study Group (<i>Old Vestry Room</i>)	4:00 pm
Wednesday, 28 July	Mid-week Holy Eucharist (<i>in person and live-streamed</i>)	6:00 pm
Wednesday, 28 July	Visioning Team (<i>Nave</i>)	7:00 pm
Wednesday, 28 July	A.A. for Women (<i>Zoom</i>)	

Wednesday, 28 July	<i>meeting; email us for info)</i>	7:00 pm
	<i>A.A. meeting (Parish House)</i>	
Thursday, 29 July		7:30 am
	<i>Al-Anon (Old Vestry Room)</i>	
Thursday, 29 July		7:00 pm
	<i>Prayer and Meditation (Nave)</i>	
Friday, 30 July		5:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE: Welcome Home Sunday, 18 September



It is always a good feeling when we re-gather after a summer season that's taken many of us in so many different directions and at different times. And this year, that celebration will be greater than ever, as we also continue to emerge from the constraints of COVID and return to living together in community once more.

We're planning a wonderful homecoming celebration on Sunday, 18 September, at 10:30, with hospitality and plenty of time for catching up afterwards. Please save the date, and look for many more details to follow!

READY...SET...: Tag Sale 2021

It's back!! Here is everything you need to know:

- The Sale is **Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 6, 7, and 8**
 - 8 am - 4 pm Friday
 - 10 am - 4 pm Saturday
 - Noon - 2 pm Sunday
- Items for sale will be under a tent on the lawn, in the Parish House and the Rectory Garage.
- Masks and social distancing are requested

For those wishing to donate:

- Donations are being accepted in the Parish Hall, **through Saturday, 31 July**. Donation hours are 9am-2 pm M-F and Saturday 9 am - noon.
- No mattresses, books, clothing, toys or computers can be accepted.
- Please be considerate with donations. If you would not buy it, we cannot

sell it. Items should be clean and unbroken.

- Those wishing to have larger items picked up should call Bob McDowell (860-488-1635) to arrange a time for pick up.
 - All items must be outside for the volunteers to pick up.
 - Items must be of a size and weight that can be lifted by not- so-young volunteers.
 - No upholstered items can be accepted.
- Those who went to help with pricing, cashiering, wrapping and all the other things that happen before and during the Tag Sale should call Marel Rogers (860-364-0635). Hours are flexible.
- The POD will be unloaded and furniture placed under the tent on Wednesday evening, August 4th, starting at 4:30 pm.

FIRST MEETING, 27 JULY: Local Food Insecurity Task Force



Did you know that in Litchfield County, a little more than 10% of the population—almost 19,000 people—are food insecure? This means that they lack consistent access to enough food for every person in their household to live an active, healthy life. And those data are from *before* the pandemic. Undoubtedly, food insecurity is an even worse problem now.

At St Andrew's we are forming a task force of people who would like to roll up their sleeves and do something about this. Our first step will be to quickly learn more about where the critical needs are and what's already being done to address them. Then we will decide what we will do to help: start a new effort of our own ... join in some ongoing programs ... partner with other local churches and charities. What's called for now is a desire to help, a willingness to commit and a dash of imagination! If you are interested in learning more, **please come to our first meeting on Tuesday, 27 July, at 7:00 pm, in the Parish House.**

THE MISSIONS WE SUPPORT: Educare Africa



Perhaps you would like to know more about the charities and agencies that St Andrew's helps fund? Perhaps you might even want to get involved with one of them? Well, in each edition of the E-pistle, we will be highlighting some of the charities and agencies that our parish supports via the Mission & Outreach Commission. This week, we feature Educare Africa, a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) that assists students and teachers in Cameroon so students can complete their education and begin helping their country. In addition, Educare seeks to promote peace, cross-cultural understanding, love and unity of all people.

This spring the parish donated funds to help veterinary student Banadzem Nicholas Ngonbi complete his studies, and we recently received [a thank you note](#) from him, which we will publish in next week's E-Pistle.

To learn more about Educare Africa, click [here](#).

All Recovery Meetings Are *Resuming*

As the parish has re-opened, all recovery groups (AA and Al Anon) have been invited to resume their meetings. Please check with their organizers or the parish office for details.

Computer Help is Available



If you or someone you know is having difficulty accessing our online services, the weekly E-pistle or our web site ... or who would like to participate in our Zoom offerings but don't know how ... please let Fr Douglas or KC know. We

have parishioners who are willing to help you and also make sure your equipment and internet connection are working properly. We don't want anyone to miss an opportunity to be part of the life of St Andrew's!

Kent Food Bank



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

Kent Community Fund
P.O. Box 262
Kent, CT 06757

*Remember to put Food Bank in the memo of your check.

These funds will be used to purchase vouchers for local families in need, under the direction of our town's Social Services Director, Leah Pullaro.

The Kent Food Bank is also taking food donations during this difficult time.

The Kent Food Bank is especially in need of:

Staples such as beans, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, nuts, hot & cold breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jellies, jams and tuna

Please remember that the Food Bank accepts pet foods as well!

Make certain that the 'Best by ...' dates are not past!

You may drop off food items on Thursdays
from 9.00 to Noon
*in the back of the Community House
on Main Street.*

*Please DO NOT come into the Food Bank, but leave
outside the door.*

Lections for this Week

The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Year B

2 Samuel 11:1-15;
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21;
John 6:1-21



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-

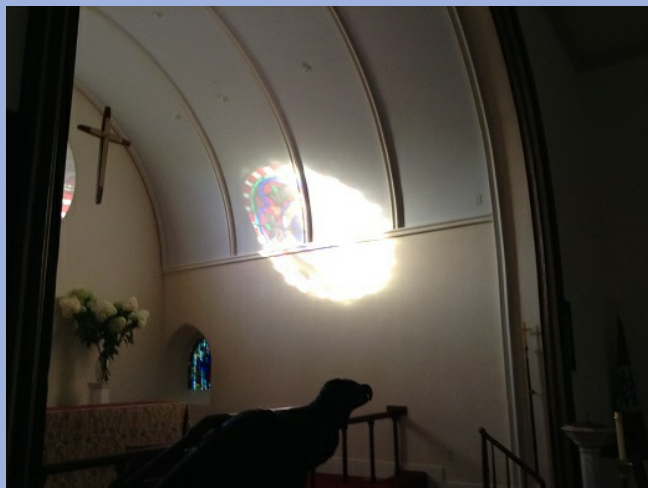
Prayer & Meditation

5.30 p.m.

-Holy Days-

Holy Eucharist

6.00 p.m.



12 Step Meetings

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)

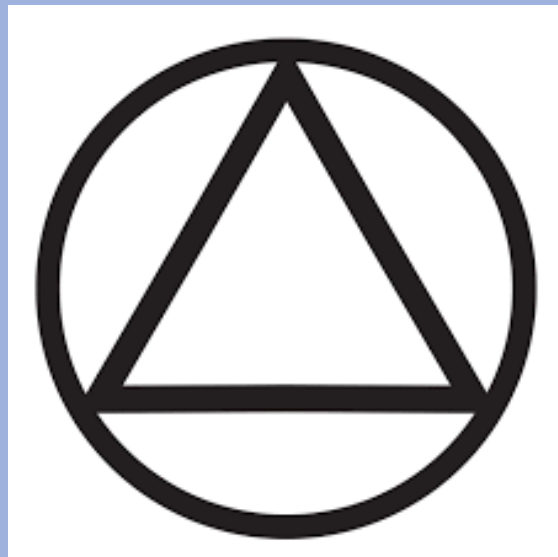
resumed

Fridays

A.A. at 8 p.m.
(Great Room)

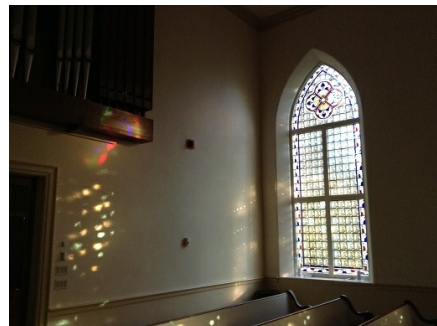
temporarily until First Church opens

resumed



Parish Staff

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

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www.standrewskentct.org

The Episcopal Church in Connecticut
www.ctepiscopal.org

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