



# The Companion

March/April 2025

 **ST. ANDREW'S**  
Episcopal Church  
Waterford, Michigan  
[standrewswaterford.org](http://standrewswaterford.org)  
248-673-7635

## In this issue:

Giving is us!



From the Back Pew



Daughters 101



Come and play Euchre



Building and Grounds



Endowment News



Lent/Easter Schedule



## Sharon Just Sharin'

Here we are, well into the new year. The snow comes, the snow goes, the snow comes, the snow goes.... We smile, we grumble. We look forward to the spring: the warmer temperatures, the fresh air, a new beginning. And I wonder...why doesn't the new year begin in the Spring??"

This new year has certainly had a unique beginning... something we've never experienced before. I promise that my message will not be political...we all have our opinions and we are entitled to them. And we must respect them and not be judgmental. My message is this: Peace. Currently our country is in turmoil, not knowing what will happen next within our leadership. I pray that common sense and the concern for the welfare of every human being will prevail.

We are a divided people right now and I pray that we will come together as a Christian family and live the life that Jesus taught. "Peace I give to you, my own peace I leave with you." It is possible for us to live in peace and finding peace begins with ourselves. Let's take an inward look at ourselves to discover where chaos and drama and stress and worry survive. Are there situations that we could resolve and remove from our lives? Can we mend broken friendships?  
continued.....

**Do we spend too much attention on things that are really not that important? Do we unnecessarily involve ourselves in things that are none of our business? Do we find ourselves contributing to chaos because we feel we need to be recognized? I'm sure we all have roadblocks that stand in the way of our personal peace, but we must work to eliminate them and concentrate on giving peace to ourselves as well as to others.**

**There's an old saying, "If you're not part of the solution, you must be part of the problem." In seeking peace, this statement rings very true. God certainly wants his children to seek and live in peace...as individuals and as in community. Yes, peace is elusive, but we should never stop seeking it. Peace is like a breath of fresh air...like the emergence of Spring following a long Winter.**

**And, speaking of Spring, Lent is coming! Lent is coming! Again this year, we will participate in Lent Madness, a fun, thought-provoking study/social gathering where 32 "saints" will face off in an elimination tournament. The winner will receive the "coveted" Golden Halo. Please join us on Thursdays beginning March 6 at noon in the choir room. Bring your lunch!**

**"My friends, life is short and we don't have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel on the journey with us. So be quick to love, make haste to be kind."**

*Mother Sharon+*

## **MOTHER SHARON WANTS TO KNOW..**

**What was the most embarrassing thing you ever did on New Year's Eve?**

**As a teenager, how many times did Dad catch you doing something he told you not to do? Did the punishment make an impression?**

**When did you show up for an appointment on the wrong day?  
Is there a story about this?**



**What was the worst haircut Mom or Dad ever gave you?**

***(All replies will be confidential***

***unless hilariously funny...I need some sermon "fodder")***



# Pawprints *Left By Gracie Anne*



Hi Everyone...


Gracie Anne here! I'm loving all this cold, white stuff outside. It's great to snowplow through the yard and get it all over my face and head...and then I sneeze it all off as soon as I get back into the house. Mom always has a comment about that!

Sorry to say that I haven't done very much to be proud of this winter. In fact, I haven't done much at all except play with my toys with Mom and I've really enjoyed it! But don't think that I have been a total sloth...I still have my job as Parish Pooch. Mostly I have to watch the door at the office and let Mom and Emily know when someone is coming. I love that and can't get enough of greeting people when they come in!

I think I need to go back outside...again.....

See you next time!

Barkingly yours,

 *Gracie Anne*

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## Apigian Scholarship

It's that time of year when we should think about applying for our children grandchildren and other family members who need financial assistance for higher education. For an application please click on our website :

**[www.standrewswaterford.org](http://www.standrewswaterford.org)**

Then click: Church Business, then at the bottom of the page, you'll see APPLICATIONS: Download the Apigian Scholarship application.







# St. Andrew's Endowment Committee Report

On Tuesday, February 4th, the Endowment Committee held their first quarterly meeting of 2025 which it used to get organized for the coming calendar year. Due to term expirations, this was the last meeting for Francine Klein, Committee Chair and Rob Stevens, Committee Treasurer. During the meeting, it was approved that their positions would be replaced by John Ferris Jr. and Margaret Neuman.

Marie Vanerian, Managing Director and Wealth Management Advisor from Merrill Lynch, called in and gave a historical update of the stock market performance as well as various 2025 stock market projections. Her graphs and documentation demonstrated that over the years, the Endowment Committee's portfolio has done very well and permitted us to fund numerous charitable initiatives over the years.

Maggie Raymer presented the minutes of the November 5th Quarterly Endowment Committee Meeting. She confirmed that the following funds were distributed by the committee during the 2024 calendar year:

*continued next page....*



# St. Andrew's Endowment Committee Report continued.....

**Waterford Senior Center \$3000**  
**Open Door Outreach \$2000**  
**The Church at Crossroads \$1000**  
**Daughters of the King \$1000**  
**Baldwin Center \$1000**  
**St Andrew's Animal Ministry \$1000**  
**OATS \$1000**  
**Waterford Youth Assistance \$500**  
**St Andrew's Choir Robes \$400**  
**Total 2024 Distribution \$10,900**



The 2025 Endowment Committee

Reverend Sharon Volker (Priest in Charge)

<u>Vestry Appointment</u>	<u>Board Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Maggie Raymer	John Ferris Sr.	Feb 2026
Dianne Hammond	Pat Kent	Feb 2027
Dana Griffin	Worley Smith	Feb 2028
Margaret Neuman	John Ferris Jr	Feb 2029

Finally, the following 2025 Committee Officers were elected:

John Ferris Jr.	Chairperson
Worley Smith	Treasurer
Maggie Raymer	Secretary



Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Stevens



# Did You Know?



Almonds are a member of the peach family.

The shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.



A shrimp's heart is in its head.

The cat has 32 muscles in each ear.



A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.







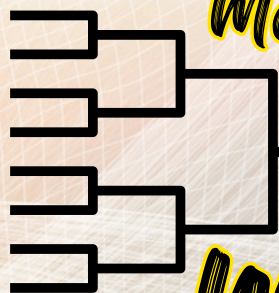
# Shrove Tuesday on March 4th from 5pm to 7pm

Held in Hunt Hall, our chefs will be serving pancakes, bacon, sausage, syrup, applesauce, coffee, and juice. You may bring a food item to contribute if you wish, otherwise, donations will go toward a new stove for the church kitchen. There is a sign-up sheet in the Richardson Room.



**ASH**  
Wednesday

March 5th at Noon & 7pm



Mother Sharon's  
**Lent**  
**Madness**

Starts  
Thursday, March 6  
12 noon- bring a lunch!



## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**PALM SUNDAY**  
10am

**ST. ANDREW'S**  
Episcopal Church  
**MAUNDAY THURSDAY**

**GOOD FRIDAY**  
12 Noon Liturgy  
7pm Stations of the Cross

**EASTER VIGIL**  
7pm

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
10 am  
Easter Potluck Brunch  
following 10am service





There will be an in-person Safe Church training day facilitated by The Rev. Cn. Ellen Ekevag on Wednesday, March 19 from 1:00pm to 5:00 pm. The training will be here at St. Andrew's in the Richardson Room. Everyone (all Vestry included) who has any interaction with children or vulnerable adults is required by the national Church to take this course. This course is open to all who wish to learn more about this sensitive subject. Please sign up in the Richardson room. Snacks will be provided!

**EUCRE NIGHT**  
**7PM**  
**SATURDAY, MAR 29**  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 25**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 30**  
**CASH PRIZES - PUBLIC WELCOME!**



50% of the door awarded to 1st, 2nd, & 3rd.

Proceeds to fund replacement of our ancient kitchen range.  
 \$20 donation at the door. Food & Beverage Provided

**\$1 Dollar 50/50 Raffles**

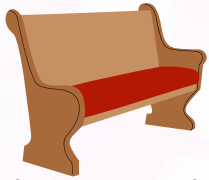


# St. Andrew's Campus Update

## 2025 to be a game changer

- The new shed has been electrified and we have lighting and plenty of plugs for any activities that will be held at the shed. When the weather breaks I look forward to building a work bench with storage. If you know anyone getting rid of kitchen cabinets or any cabinets worth preserving, please let me know.
- Wood we had milled for shelving in the shed and benches on the grounds are drying nicely. Utilization of these resources from our property will depend on how fast and thoroughly they dry.
- Our fire extinguishers have been inspected for the year and I have replaced several EXIT sign batteries.
- After those pesky flying ants returned, Orkin's Service Manager came and guaranteed them to not return. (At least this season.)
- The elevator was having issues closing to the point of operation and they found that there was a little "gunk", or dirty buildup that prevented the door from totally closing to make the "ok" signal to the equipment to operate. The service tech cleaned all 3 doors then performed routine maintenance.
- Greg from Aggressive Carpet Cleaning came out and cleaned all of our cushions on both sides. Should be good for another 15 years.
- Finally, Todd from Rite-Way has been working with me closely to plow only when absolutely needed and salting the property sparingly to help us with our budget.





# FROM THE BACK PEW

-Greg Walter

Well, here we are starting our Lenten journey with hopes we can abstain from whatever makes us happy. We can only hope our fish on Friday includes lobster and all the other goodies from the sea. Maybe not for some of us, but hey, I love shellfish. Nevertheless, my wish for you all is that we tighten up your relationship with Jesus Christ. He is why we're family.

My latest venture at St. Andrew's is a collaboration with Francine Klein to raise funding for a new stove/oven for the kitchen. Euchre night is officially a thing at St. Andrew's. With the public invited, we can only hope that we can attract up to 40 players per event. That would produce generous cash prizes for first, second, and third prizes that would attract those who love euchre and be competitive. 50/50 raffles will also be a component of the competitions. There will be pizza and beverage. I know \$20 is a chunk of change for all of us, but over time we'll be able to replace the relic that occupies the centerpiece currently in our kitchen and improve our overall effectiveness in our community. Euchre night is guaranteed to be a good time with activity and fun food and awesome fellowship for us.

I would like to thank Andrew Przytulski for stepping up to help us with our YouTube streaming. I think Logan Hack is just a little too occupied to step in just now. It is nice to have backup in giving this service to our members and to those others that are tuning in. We were averaging 7-9 viewers and we are now up to 10 per Sunday. Since starting this service in mid-August of 2024, we have had over 500 views!

We are looking forward to 2025 as a year of local community outreach. We will be hosting some events that are designed to attract residents from our surrounding neighborhoods onto the property and mingling with local families. This includes Vacation Bible School which is being planned for the summer starting in 2025. This effort is helped by a grant from the diocese. If you have any ideas for outreach please leave your ideas in the suggestion box at the back of the church.

You'll notice we have included our preferred vendors in this edition of the Companion. These folks have given St. Andrew's Waterford the best of their talents at the best price. We wish to acknowledge these businesses that truly care about our property and congregation with professionalism and care. They will be included for the remainder of the year. Then, we will ask them for a few dollars to continue as or Preferred Vendors next year.

I would like to thank you all for the love and appreciation for all that God has called to do at St. Andrew's. It has truly been a blessing to come here and use my talents that He has given me. This has been what I have been praying for, for about 18 years. God's timing is impeccable, isn't it? Thank you for the trust you put in me in service to God, Jesus, and you, my family.

**Greg**





## *Who We Are*

What exactly is Daughters of the King? Well, to put it in easy to understand language, we are an order of the Episcopal Church. We are not just an organization of women but rather a group of Christian women of the Episcopal church who take the vows of the order whose mission it is to be dedicated to prayer, service and evangelism. We gather each month to find ways in our chapter to enrich and share our faith lives through praying for one another and others in our church family and the community. Our chapter is especially active in our St. Andrews church family to being of service to our parish and the community in any way we can. We are also ready willing and able to evangelize about our church and our faith within our community. The Esther/Margaret of Scotland chapter here at St. Andrew's is alive and well and we have the excitement of being an integral part of our church community and helping to create new ways to help reach out to the surrounding community.

We always want to encourage other women to join us at our meetings just to see who we are as a group of faith filled women who support one another. We have fun and have been enriched by our relationships. If you are reading this...please consider coming to one of our meetings that are held on the last Tuesday each month. We meet for fellowship and chit chatting at 1:30PM and our meetings begin at 2:00PM.

Blessings,

Pat Kent  
President





## 2 Corinthians 9:7

*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”*

### Outreach Update

Thank you to everyone for the gifts and money towards the Pierce student and the Veteran family at Christmas! Unfortunately we don't have any pictures to share this year but we did receive an email from the Veteran family.

*“Hello St. Andrews, I want to thank you for helping me and my family in this time of need. It is greatly appreciated. I just can't explain how much we needed this help.”*



During the November Vestry meeting, there was a discussion of how to use the remaining \$2,682.98 from the Flint Water Fund. Scott Slocum suggested that we send \$682.98 (includes a transfer fee) to North Carolina to help the hurricane victims. Here is a card that we received back:

*“Dear Judy & brothers & sisters at St. Andrew's, We are overwhelmed with joy and gratitude for your generous gift to the recovery efforts in Hendersonville. Your gift will go a long way in the midst of a recovery for people with many needs. You are an inspiration and source of hope that proves we are all in this together. With thanks, Donalee Wermeister, St. James Episcopal Church - Hendersonville, NC”*



In January, Scott Slocum decided to give the American Red Cross of Los Angeles, California \$1,000 to help aid all those who's lives were shattered by unprecedented wildfires in the first hours of the new year. The funds came from a grant for the Flint Water Ministry that was discontinued as the church that was receiving Scott's generosity had to stop it's mission due to budget constraints. Since there are funds left over, it is hard to ignore this need on the west coast.







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*St. Andrew's Waterford Preferred Vendors*












# April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Happy Birthday Pat Kent	3 Happy Birthday Margaret Neumann Lent Madness- noon Yoga - 3:30pm	4	5
6 Happy Anniversary Sheila Cassell & John Markham	7 Mahjong- 1:00 pm AA & Al Anon- 8:00 pm	8	9 Happy Birthday Laura Petar	10 Lent Madness- noon Yoga - 3:30pm	11	12
13 Palm Sunday Service @ 10:00am 	14 Happy Birthday Leslie Richardson Mahjong- 1:00 pm AA & Al Anon- 8:00 pm	15	16	17 Maundy Thursday Service @ 7pm Prayer Vigil @ 8-11pm Lent Madness- noon Yoga - 3:30pm	18 Good Friday Service @ noon Stat. of Cross @ 7:00pm	19 Happy Birthday Sheila Cassell Easter Vigil Service @ 7:00pm
20 Easter Sunday! Service @ 10:00am  Happy Birthday Bill Foster	21 Mahjong- 1:00 pm AA & Al Anon- 8:00 pm	22	23 Happy Birthday Judy Stevens Char Wall	24	25 Euchre Night! @ 7:00 pm 	26
27	28 Happy Birthday Christine Saiter Mahjong- 1:00 pm AA & Al Anon- 8:00 pm	29 Happy Birthday Bob Wollard Daughters of the King - 1:30pm	30 Happy Anniversary Glenn & Pam Morrison			



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Submissions to this newsletter are gratefully accepted by email, snail mail, in person, or by leaving articles in the mailbox on the office door.

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