

The Newsletter of Saint Andrew's United Methodist Church

1230 Townsend Avenue, New haven, CT 06513

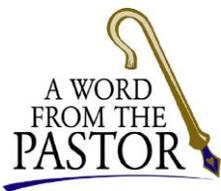
Phone: (203) 467-0117 E-mail: office@standrewsnh.com

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Jorge, Javier and I traveled to Texas last month; we actually drove there, yup, 25 hours from Derby, CT all the way to Plano, Texas. I know that some of you are sickened at the idea of such a long trip, but we actually love road trips, and this was not our first rodeo. Overall it was a great trip!

While in Texas on April 4th, the news reminded us that it was the anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Images of the Lorraine Motel prompted me to remember that it was located in Memphis, and guess what? It was on our way back! So we planned a stop at the National Civil Rights Museum.

I was in the parking lot when my heart started pounding; as frequently happens to me when I am in front of such historic places, I stood in front of room 306, a reminder of the high price someone paid to proclaim the Good News in a broken world.

The museum was not too big, and it displayed a historical timeline beginning with the slavery trades all the way to the room in which Dr. King spent his last hours. The way the museum was set up felt almost like we were part of the crowds; as we walked through it, highlights of the most powerful moments in our history were portrayed. I sat next to Rosa Parks on the bus, and I stood on the school marked "color only." I saw the burned bus from Freedom Rides; I walked through the Bridge of Selma. It was a very moving experience. I sat on the bed of the replica of the Birmingham Jail while listening to the voice of Dr. King reading his letter. That letter starts with "My Dear Fellow Clergymen"; even though I had read that letter before, for the first time I heard it with my heart, it was talking to me. Tears began flowing, each step became heavier. As I experienced history, listened to stories, saw pictures, I realized that this history was still present and alive.

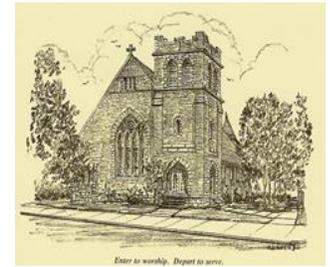


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We live in a world that still condemns, discriminates and uses the Gospel to justify horrors. Daily in the news we are called to hate: hate the poor, hate the Muslim, hate the homosexuals, hate the undocumented immigrant, just to name a few. We are bombarded by fear, news exploits lies to sell, many areas in our country continue legally to discriminate and take away the same civil rights that so many died for.

As I walked through the museum, I felt that we have not progressed much, the players are different but the tune is somewhat the same. I wept, but with my tears came a reminder of my part in history, as I believe in a God that is more powerful than any oppression, and wiser than any culture, government or man-made law; a God that calls every person sacred, every life important, where there are no second class citizens, we are all called to be resurrected with Christ. That is the Good News of the resurrection, and I am called to make sure that that Good News is louder than any worldly news.

Friends, in the upcoming month many important events will be happening in our lives as United Methodists and as US citizens.

From May 10 to May 20, our denomination will have our General Conference, which is an international body of nearly 1,000 delegates that meets every four years. The delegates are elected by the Annual Conference to attend, representing all Annual Conferences around the world. Half of the delegates are laity, half are clergy. During General Conference, delegates discuss and vote on petitions and resolutions proposed by individuals, agencies, Annual Conferences, and other groups within the denomination. These actions result in a revision of the Book of Discipline, the denomination's book of law, the Book of Resolutions, and policies of the denomination on current social issues.

We will also have the Jurisdictional Conference where delegates (Laity and Clergy) from the Northeastern Jurisdiction will meet from July 11 to 15 and, with other business, elect a new Bishop (maybe 2). Our own Annual Conference will be assigned a new Bishop, as the term for Bishop Middleton will be over by September.

These two conferences will inform many of the way we do church, but above all will give witness to our faith in a broken world. We are called to be the church and transform our world in Jesus' name. In the words of Dr. King, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." It is our responsibility to protect and defend the ones who have no voice in our communities. Jesus reminded us that our job as Christians is to love God with all our hearts, and our neighbors like ourselves. This commandment is lived out in all areas of our life, not only on Sunday, which brings me to another important event, our presidential elections. I urge you not only to vote, but prayer-fully consider who is the best candidate for our country in such times as the ones we are living.

Friends, the world is broken, but you and I are called to be the hands and feet of Christ on earth; we are called to bear witness of the Good News, to heal the broken, reach out to the lost, and care for the least and last. We are called to bring light into the darkness, not because of who we are but because of who we belong to.

I invite you to join me in prayer for our beloved United Methodist Church and the work of the General and Jurisdictional conferences and all the delegates, as well as for our Nation, all its leaders, and future leaders. Prayer must precede any and all we do; prayer is the first step to living out our faith. It is in prayer that God changes our hearts and directs our actions to transform our world.

May the Good News of the resurrection give you strength for your journey.

Ximena.

IMPORTANT NEWS



Love. Grow. Serve.

We serve God by serving others; here is what you can do:

Connectional giving — all of us giving together — allows United Methodists to do together what we cannot do alone. We join in with United Methodist around the world in 6 special collections through the year. The money collected goes 100% to a specific mission designated by the general church. For more information, go to UMCGIVING.com.

Every first Sunday you can donate to the **Pastor's Discretionary Fund**; this money is used by the pastor to help with immediate needs in the community.



Food Pantry Collection, non-perishable items are collected during the month. Every first Sunday of each month all the collected food items will be taken and be delivered to a local food pantry. Fall and winter months are always difficult and food pantries are always empty!

Food Pantry
Donations Needed



U.M. ARMY is an acronym which stands for United Methodist Action Reach-Out Mission by Youth. U.M. ARMY's mission is: "To provide Christ-centered missions that serve people in need and promote spiritual growth and leadership development in youth and young adults."

A team from Saint Andrew's UMC college students and the pastor will be going to the young adult camp from May 29 to June 4, 2016. For more information, please go to: ne.umarmy.org/ or ask anyone of our team: Charlene Tobias, Moises Varas, Ximenita Varas and pastor Ximena.

A note from Claire Webster

Claire Webster's children are both back in college. Erica is studying at the University Of Connecticut School Of Medicine and her son Eric Roberts is studying culinary arts at Gateway Community College.

Wishing all of our college students well!



Clean up Day every First Saturday of the month

Administrative Church Council, May 2, 2016 7:00pm at the parsonage

Mother's Day, May 8

Pastor on vacation, May 9-May 16; for emergency call Philippa Blake or Ralph Pickup

United Methodist Church General Conference, May 10-May 20, Portland, Oregon

Pentecost Sunday, May 15

UMARMY mission trip to Amityville, May 9-June 4

New York Annual Conference, Hofstra University, June 8-11

Father's Day, June 19

Pastor on vacation, June 20-July 3



Are you interested in becoming a member of our church, or do you want to learn more about us?

Please contact the pastor!



Here at St. Andrew's, we believe in the power of prayer! If you or someone you know needs to be prayed for please contact pastor by phone or email.

MORE IMPORTANT NEWS

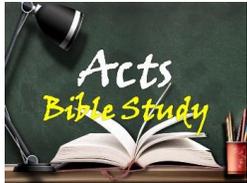


Children 4 years old and older are invited to join Sunday school class the second, third and fourth Sunday of each month.

Nursery available for Children under 4 years old

Adult Bible Study Discovering the Book of Acts

Join us every Tuesday night at 6:00pm for fellowship and learning at the parsonage. We will be looking at the Book of Acts, learning about the early Christians, their struggles and joys, and the lessons we can apply today in our church. Can't make it? no problem let the pastor know if you want to join the email group.



Thank you to all our wonderful teachers who worked on our faith formation, specially thank you to Carol Tripp, Diana & Ross Grippen, Brenda Burgos, Lucille Clancy, Joan Gans, Norma Ryan, Jorge Varas, Philippa Blake.

Thank you Jamie Lawson for cooking a wonderful Saint Patrick dinner and pasta dinner for us, and all who participated on this fundraiser.

Blessings to Junette Cole on her new journey, we thank you for your service as Lay leader and for being part of the mission and ministries of our church for over 18 years. We will miss you!!



Pastor Ximena is available for a talk, prayers and visits, in fact she will love for you to invite her to visit. Please call the office, pastor's cell phone or email to set up an appointment.



Receive updates, prayer requests and what is happening in worship every week, subscribe to our mailing list by emailing us!

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Rhythms of Grace to Go

Worship Service for

People with Special Needs and their Families

Saint Andrew's UMC

1230 Townsend Ave,

New Haven, CT

**3rd Monday of each month at
5:30 pm**

**Next Service: Monday May
16, 2016, 5:30 PM**

For more information visit

www.SpecialNeedsROG2GO.com



MORE IMPORTANT NEWS



The mission of The United Methodist Church is to "Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" (Matt. 28:18-20; Matt. 22:36-40). This mission is achieved through vital congregations that equip and empower people to be disciples of Jesus Christ in their homes and communities around the world.

Our Vital Signs

The Vital Signs Dashboard is a tool developed by Brick River through GCFA. This tool allows you to track your weekly worship attendance, professions of faith, small group participation, missional participation and financial giving for your congregation. It is a tool designed to help congregations follow their progress on the goals that they set for each year, based on the goal-setting challenge initiated by the Vital Congregations work. It is in response to the Call To Action to focus on fostering and sustaining an increase in the number of vital congregations effective in the mission of The United Methodist Church.

Date	Worship Attendance	Small Groups Attendance (week)	Pledges & Offerings	Charitable Giving	New Members
4/10/15	38	5	1332	335	0
4/3/16	31	7	458	22	0
3/27/16	80	8	1302	200	0
3/20/16	55	22	746	10	0
3/13/16	38	24	1061	195	0
3/6/16	36	10	962	172	0
2/28/16	42	17	1176	25	0
2/21/16	39	15	1017	70	0



A pledge is your commitment to make a financial gift that supports the mission and ministries of Saint Andrew's UMC. Pledging is a response to God's call and abundance in our own lives: it is a statement of thanksgiving. The single most important source of funding for our ministries comes from the payment of pledges made during our annual stewardship campaign, the Finance Team make our budget trusting on the fulfillment of these pledges, that is why is so important you keep up with your pledge or let someone in the finance committee know as soon as possible if you cannot fulfill your promise. If you don't remember how much you pledge last year or wants to know your balance please talk to Lucille Clancy, she can clarify any question you may have; you have May and June to catch up before our next financial year cycle.

Sunday school News

The Sunday school had a nice Easter season as we reviewed the Easter story and sang Easter songs. On Easter Sunday, three of our girls presented a lovely song, called Alleluia. Cathalene, Destiny and Haydyn sang beautifully and everyone enjoyed their music. We are now studying the lessons Jesus taught as he traveled around, such as the importance of loving your neighbor as yourself and the need to forgive. Our nursery meets every Sunday, except the first Sunday of each month. Classes are held for children ages 4 and older, on the same Sundays as the nursery. All children attend the church service on the first Sunday of the month. Thank you, Carol Trip

Easter Flowers

Many thanks to everyone who purchased flowers for Easter Sunday. The Sanctuary looked beautiful. Thanks also to the people who gave their time to do the many tasks necessary to pull it all together. It was a real team effort. Thank you, Carol Trip

Time away with the Lord is fundamental for our Christian Journey. Here are some opportunities:

Tres Dias for Adults- Tres Dias is a community of Christians, from many denominations, supporting one another in our faith journey. On a Tres Dias weekend you will find yourself being drawn into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. What's more, you will be empowered to make an impact in your church, your home, even your workplace! A weekend retreat is a full three-day (typically Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon) experience which includes fellowship, music and activities to help strengthen your relationship with your fellow Christians, the Church and Jesus Christ. A wonderful thing you will discover about the weekend is that it takes the basics of Christianity and makes them personal for you. The opportunity to focus on Christ, for three days, in a loving and open environment, makes your faith come alive! Upcoming Weekends



Women's 102 May 19-21 at Our Lady of Calvary in Farmington. **For more information, talk to pastor**

Prayer for Our Congregation- Dear God, I thank you for all the ways you are present in my life, especially today I thank you for Saint Andrew's United Methodist Church and all the ways you are present among us.



Lord, I ask for all the leaders of my church today, I ask that you guide us to be the church you want us to be. Transform us oh Lord, so we can truly be your hand and feet on earth.

Lord, I pray for the health and growth of Saint Andrew's UMC, I ask that you heal our hearts and give us a courageous spirit so we can reach out to the ones that need to hear the Good News.

Lord, I ask for my brothers and sister who are not yet in our midst, Lord, send us all the people who no one else wants but you are calling to follow you and help us to welcome them as you have welcomed us.

Send your Holy Spirit to us so we can transform the world in Jesus name, give me the strength to love you with all my heart soul and mind and to love my neighbors as myself. In Jesus, I pray. Amen

Journal of John Wesley

By Norma Ryan



Week 18: May 1, 2016: (Continued from last week.)

"In order to form the minds of children, the first thing to be done is to conquer their will and bring them into an obedient temper by slow degrees as they are able to bear it. For by neglecting timely correction, they will contract a stubbornness and obstinacy which is hardly ever conquered; and never, without using such severity as would be as painful to me as to the child." In today's society, it truly is a battle for the mind. When a parent works together with God to form a child's mind, we can agree with Susannah that "self-will is the root of all sin and misery and whatever cherishes it insures wretchedness and irreligion. This is still more evident if we further consider that religion is nothing else than doing the will of God and not our own.

This week's Lesson: So...Who or what controls your children's/grandchildren's minds? Who or what has control over your mind? Philippians 4:8 says: "Whatever things are true, noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report... if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. (NKJV) It is very important that we watch what our eyes look at, and take heed to what we listen to. The Word of God also says, "a little leaven (which represents sin) leavens the whole batch of dough." (I Cor.5:6) In other words, as Christians we need to be careful what we look at and listen to as that directly affects our minds.

Week 19: May 8

The following is Wesley's entry at the building of the first Methodist Meeting room. "And thence it might be that on Sunday December 13, 1742 that strength was withheld and I felt what it was to be troubled about many things. I was so ill in the morning I was obliged to send Mr. Williams to a merchant in the town, Mr. Stephenson, who had a passage through the ground we intended to buy. I was willing to purchase it (The right of way). Mr. Stephenson and I signed an article and I took possession of the ground.

Monday, December 14, 1742: "We laid the first stone of the house. Many were gathered from all parts to see it. We praised God and prayed that he would prosper the work of our hands upon us. It being computed that such a house as was proposed could not be finished under f700, many were positive the work would never be finished at all. I was of another mind; nothing doubting but, as it was begun for God's sake, He would provide for the finishing of it."

This Week's Lesson: Wesley had a deep faith in a God of the impossible---Do we trust that same God do the impossible for us? Remember what Pastor taught us in our Sunday messages? We belong to the God of the Resurrection. He has already broken all the chains that have held us captive. Ephesians 3:20 tells us God does exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think. Isaiah 65:64 says "It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear." Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." Is there something in your life that only God can do? Then ask Him and believe!

Week 20: May 15

Saturday January 5, 1745: Wesley writes: "I had often wondered at myself, that ten thousand cares of various kinds were no more weight and burden to my mind than ten thousand hairs to my head. Perhaps I began to ascribe something of this to my own strength. One and another hurrying me continually, it seized on my spirit more and more till I found it absolutely necessary to fly for my life, and that without delay."

Wesley lost his bearings and began to operate out of his own strength. For some unknown reason, he didn't acknowledge God's hand in his life and now all he could do was to run. However, God in his mercy and grace

intervened and sent Wesley to a very sick couple and he prayed for them. He wrote, "I found him and his wife sick in one bed, and with small hopes of recovery of either. Yet after prayer, I believed they would not die but live and declare the lovingkindness of the Lord.' (Psalm 118:17 NKJV) A while later Wesley stopped by again to find the couple totally healed!

This Week's Lesson: Here is another story from Wesley's life. He was running from God---maybe like Jonah ran --- and the Lord of the Resurrection stopped him in his tracks to send him to two very sick people. Our God can raise people from the dead and the almost dead and he did just that through Wesley's believing prayers! The Lord may stop YOU in your tracks at any time and use YOU to help others in need.

. God is always in control and has good plans for our lives. There are so many people who are sick physically... emotionally... spiritually. Do not be afraid to pray for them even if it might be something you have never done before. Give them a call. Send a prayer card. Make sandwiches or a meal with a healing scripture attached. Then... believe for the answer and leave the rest to God. Exodus 15:26: "For I am the LORD who heals you."

Week 21: May 22

"Prayer Fasting". ---Wesley did have something to say about many things---As to government, he wrote this entry to Alderman Ridley on September 26th 1745: "My soul has been pained day by day...at the senseless, shameless wickedness, ignorant profaneness... the continual cursing and swearing... Can any that either fear God, or love their neighbor, hear this without concern? Especially if they consider the interest of our country. For can it be expected that God should be on their side who are daily affronting Him face to face? And if God be not on their side, how little will either their number, or courage, or strength prevail?" In another entry to the Mayor of Newcastle he writes: "All I can do is this..."I cry out unto God day by day, in public and in private... and I exhort all who hear me to do the same."

This Week's Lesson: It does not seem that politics has changed very much in three centuries. Do we pray for those in authority over us? Do we pray for our country and other nations in our world? People of God we need to pray without ceasing and cry out to God day by day as Wesley did for his generation. "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence." (1 Timothy 2:1-2) It is a good thing when people put their individual preferences aside and implore God to give us who and what we need --- not our individual preferences and 'wants'.

Week 22: May 29

Faith Healing--- Dated Monday, March 17, 1746: "...my horse was so exceedingly lame that I was afraid that I must have lain by too. We could not discern what it was that was amiss; and yet he (the horse) would scarcely set his foot to the ground. By riding thus seven miles, I was thoroughly tired, and my head ached more than it had done for some months. (What I hear aver is the naked fact: let every man account for it as he sees good.) I then thought, "Cannot God heal either man or beast, by any means, or without any?" Immediately my weariness and headache ceased and my horse's lameness in the same instant. Nor did he halt anymore either that day or the next. A very odd accident this also!"

This Week's Lesson: "Now faith is the assurance that what we hope for will come about and the certainty that what we cannot see exists." (Hebrews 11:1) Do we live life expecting God to do the unexpected? Do we use our faith every day? Do we dare to believe God to do something that to us would be impossible? We need to put into practice what the Bible teaches. Miracles do exist. Do we believe in miracles? Do we expect miracles? Wesley did!

Remember --- a tiny mustard seed of faith can move an entire mountain!

Week 23: June 5

On Wednesday, October 25, 1749 Wesley describes preaching to a noble congregation after just the day previous he was in the market place "proclaiming the name of the Lord to a huge, unwieldy, noisy multitude... that covered over with dirt many that were near me." He asks, "How does a praying congregation strengthen the preacher?" He answers, "Such a congregation I never saw there before: not a scoffer, nor a trifler, not an inattentive person, so far as I could discern, among them; and seldom have I known so deep, solemn a sense of the power, and presence, and love of God."

This Week's Lesson: If Wesley were to visit St. Andrews what would he write? Would he find a "solemn sense of the power, presence and love of God?" To be a friendly congregation is a good thing --- but to be a congregation that experiences the power, the presence, and love of God is in Wesley's words more "noble."

Pray for the holy presence of God to be with us each time we meet to worship. Pray that love grows stronger each time we gather. Recognize that He is the Alpha and the Omega, the Lord God Almighty, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty God, the Prince of Peace, Our Father, Our Healer, Our Savior, Our Wonderful Counselor---"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" (Revelation 5:13)

Week 24: June 12

Tuesday December 23, 1755: "I was in the robe chamber, adjoining the House of Lords, when the King put on his robes. His brow was much furrowed with age and quite crowded with care. And is this all the world can give even to a king? All the grandeur it can afford? A blanket of ermine round his shoulders, so heavy and cumbersome he can scarcely move under it! A huge heap of borrowed hair, with a few plates of gold and glittering stones upon his head! Alas, what a bauble is human greatness! And even this will not endure."

This Week's Lesson: In his life time Wesley saw not only extreme poverty but also great wealth. But how does earthly, material wealth compare to the glory of the Resurrection? The answer is there is no comparison. We are Resurrection people. We are called to live the Resurrection life and show others they can too. 2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. We do not need the cumbersome trappings that material wealth can bring. Luke 12:27 Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. And Revelation 3:5: "The one who conquers through faithfulness even unto death will be clothed in white garments, and I will certainly not erase that person's name from the book of life. I will acknowledge this person's name before My Father and before His heavenly messengers." Is abundance of wealth really so important?

Week 25: June 19

Although Wesley was not a doctor he did have rare insight into possible causes of disease.

On Saturday, May 12, 1759 he writes: "Reflecting today on the case of the poor woman who had continual pain in her stomach, I could not but remark the inexcusable negligence of most physicians in cases of this nature. They prescribe drug upon drug without knowing a jot of the matter concerning the root of the disorder. And without this, they cannot cure, though they can murder the patient. Whence came this woman's pain? (Which she would never have told, had she never been questioned about it) From fretting for the death of her son. And what availed medicines while that fretting continued? Why then do not all physicians consider how far bodily disorders are caused or influenced by the mind, and in those cases, which are utterly out of their sphere, call in the assistance of a minister; as ministers, when they find the mind disordered by the body, call in the assistance of a physician? But why are these cases out of their sphere? Because they know not God. It follows, no man can be a thorough physician without being an experienced Christian.

This Week's Lesson: Sometimes pastors can be our best physicians. "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." (3 John 1:3 NKJV) Never be either afraid or ashamed to ask for help.

Week 26: June 26

Wesley was predominantly a "field preacher". On Friday, November 23, 1759 he writes: "The roads were so extremely slippery that it was with much difficulty we reached Bedford. We had a pretty large congregation; but the stench from the swine under the room was scarcely supportable. Was ever a preaching place over a hog-sty before? Surely they love the gospel who come to hear it in such a place. (Writer's interjection--- Surely they love the gospel who preach it in such a place.)

This Week's Lesson: Mark 16:20: "And they went out and preached everywhere..." How much do you really love the Gospel? Enough to go anyplace to tell someone how much God loves them? Would you go to prison? Would you go to dirty, garbage filled streets? Would you go in bad weather? Would you go to your next door neighbor? Would you go to a Jewish friend? Expecting people to come to you probably isn't realistic. So... how much do you really love the gospel? Just how far would you go?



WORSHIP THE LORD WITH GLADNESS,
COME BEFORE HIM WITH JOYFUL SONGS

JOIN US

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

10:30 AM

Easter Worship Series Resurrection Stories

"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

The Easter Season is a time of celebrating all the ways in which resurrection is possible in our lives. We can be in need of rising out of the depths of imprisonment, addiction, poverty, illness and oppression—not just physically and literally, but also spiritually. What holds us back from the joy of life? What binds us, keeping us from the fullness of who God created us to be? What keeps us down? Join us for powerful testimonies—Resurrection Stories—from those who have found "resurrection" in their lives. It might just inspire you to your own rising up!

Join us every Sunday at 10:30 to discover stories of resurrection and to praise God for all the blessings we have received

Submitted by Yvonne Lynch

**Food for thought
Try not to judge**

A doctor entered the hospital in a hurry after being called in for an urgent surgery. He answered the call asap, changed his clothes and went directly to the surgery block. He found the boy's father pacing in the hall waiting for him. On seeing him, the dad yelled: "Why did you take all this time to come? Don't you know that my son's life is in danger? Don't you have any sense of responsibility?" The doctor smiled and said: "I am sorry, I wasn't in the hospital and I came as fast as I could after receiving the call.... And now I wish you'd calm down so that I can do my work."

"Calm down?! What if your son was in this room right now, would you calm down? If your won son dies right now, what will you do??" said the father angrily. The doctor smiled again and replied: "I will say what Job said in the Holy Book, "From dust we came and to dust we return, blessed be the name of God." Doctors cannot prolong lives. Go and intercede for your son, we will do our best by God's grace. "Giving advices when we're not concerned is so easy," murmured the father. The surgery took some hours after which the doctor went out happy.

"Thank goodness! Your son is saved!" And without waiting for the father's reply he carried on his way running. "If you have any question, ask the nurse!!" "Why is he so arrogant? He couldn't wait some minutes so that I could ask about my son's state," commented the father when he saw the nurse minutes after the doctor left. The nurse answered, tears coming down her face: "His son died yesterday in a road accident, he was in the burial when we called him for your son's surgery. And now that he saved your son's life, he left running to finish his son's burial." Moral – Never judge anyone....because you never know how their life is and what they're going through.

Article and poem submitted by Yvonne Lynch was published in KAIETEUR NEWS, Georgetown, Guyana

**FUN with POETRY
Praying**

Praying is a medicine
That makes you feel so well;
Make sure you take It daily
To keep you free from hell.

Do it most sincerely
If you need results,
And watch yourself get better,
From all serious faults.

For God is there to help you,
Watching from His heaven up above,
You only need to talk to Him
To receive His protection and love.

**Poem/ My Best Friend
by Diana Grippen**

Buddy was young, he was joyously living,
Black curly hair and deep sparkling eyes
A glimpse of him playing was fun undisguised.

He played in the sand and dirt under the tree,
Digging and building, constructing was he.
He wasn't a youngster you could easily scold;
We'd known him since he was six months old.

He adored our daughter and she was his friend.
A big brother, he teased and protected her;
His love had no end.

When we played inside it happened
We sometimes got too rough;
His soul of boundless energy
Never learned when enough is enough.

The time he bumped a favorite plant,
Surprised he was, but not sorry.
He listened politely, while inwardly
His heart rejected mom's angry story.

Buddy helped with the kids
Who often played in our yard.
He was strong and athletic and big.
When they raced, who could tell if he followed or led?
Sometimes they ran into each other,
As children like to do;
He always kept running, so happy was he,
Ears bouncing, tongue flapping, tail wagging, you see

**Saint Andrew's United
Methodist Church**

1230 Townsend Avenue
New Haven, CT 06513

PHONE:
(203) 467-0117

E-MAIL:
office@standrewsnh.com

Visit us on the Web at:
standrewsnh.com



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May

10 Sandra Guthrie
16 Charlene Tobias
29 Ximena B. Varas

June

03 Irene Bailey
05 Dorey Boutwell
07 Ross Grippen
10 Junette Cole
12 Evanasha Kidd
12 Trinity Kidd
16 James Lawson
17 Richell O'Hara-Milano
18 Jennifer Miessau
27 Jean Smith
28 Archie Guthrie Jr.

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May/June 2016