

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
Visit us on the web at: standrewsnh.com



www.facebook.com/churchofSaintAndrews



Believe it or not, one of the questions I am frequently asked as an immigrant is "Do you celebrate Thanksgiving in your country?"..... I try to be very polite and say, "No, that is an American Holiday," (even though in my head I am thinking, "Seriously?") My first introduction to Thanksgiving was when I was in my senior year of High School in Chile. My dad had traveled to MIT in Boston for a conference and was able to spend a week with his sister in Stamford Connecticut.

"A whole turkey? Really?" I remember asking him. He told us how he was invited to carve the first piece as a sign that he was the honored guest, and he told us that that day the family got together just to give thanks.

It really took nothing for us to engage in this beautiful celebration when we arrived in the U.S., granted we have Chileanized the menu slightly. We too meet every year with my parents, my sister and her husband, and my brother and his family. Each year we have so much to give thanks for. We start our dinner lighting a candle in memory of my daughter Carolina, and then we eat and eat and eat.

Few years back, we were all going through a difficult time, one of those years when several of our family members lost their jobs (including Jorge). It was just a gloomy day. To be honest, I wasn't feeling in the spirit of it. I thought, "This year just cannot get any worse, what's the point in celebrating?"

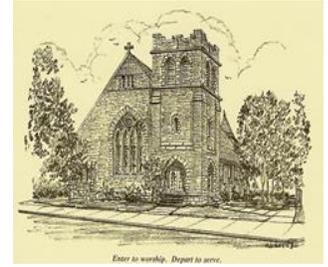


Table of Contents

Pages 1-2
Pastor's Message

Page 3
Sunday school
Missions
Dates to Remember
Directory update
Membership
Intercessory Prayer

Page 4
Bible Study
Sunday School & Nursery
South Central Emmaus
Rhythms of Grace to Go

Page 5
Vital Signals
Thank you!
Pastoral Care
Christmas Shoe Box

Page 6
Christmas Eve Service
Invitation

Page 7
Poetry and Music Corner

Page 8-9
Worship Schedule

Page 10
Birthdays!

I remember my mom, who always has the most beautiful table decorations, seemed to do an extra effort to make that table look amazing.

We sat, and this time Dad spoke. My dad does not usually pray out loud; that is my job when we are together as a family. This time he began giving thanks because we all had health and could be at the table together; then he gave thanks because the children were all in school studying and learning and getting good grades; he gave thanks, for even though things were tight, we had plenty. Finally, he gave thanks because although we were in a tough time, we were able to learn and stay together. That Thanksgiving he reminded me of what I had said so many times:

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"

1 Thessalonians 5:18

It is that attitude of thanksgivings that helps us to go through the dark times, the sad times and the time where health is not the greatest and the future is uncertain. Sometimes we get so down we forget, but if we are lucky, as I am, God will send us someone to remind us.

This Thanksgiving, as I sit at our family table and start doing our litany of thanks, I will be giving thanks for all of you who enrich my journey so much

Give thanks to the Lord! And happy Thanksgivings.

Ximena

everyone is
welcome

We welcome visitors and new families and children. Do you know someone who would like to visit us for Sunday Worship?

IMPORTANT NEWS



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 Methodists 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.

Operation Christmas Child, we will be collecting to fill our boxes to send the message of hope to kids all around the world. Our goal for this year is to fill 60 boxes. It cost \$7 to send each box, please consider donating for this ministry.



Food Pantry Donations Needed **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!



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 the pastor by phone or email.

Remember!

Clean-up Day 1st Saturday of the Month

Church Annual Conference November 3, 2015 7:30pm

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party November 15, 2015

Rhythms of Grace worship Service, November 15, 2015 1:00pm

Church Council Meeting November 17, 2015 at 7:00pm

Rhythms of Grace Worship Service, December 20, 2015 at 1:00pm

Christmas Candlelight Service December 24, 2015 at 7:00pm

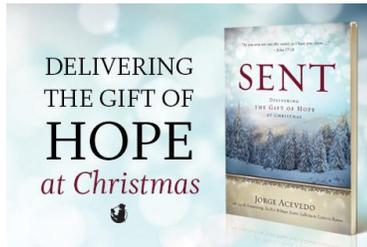


Our new Directory will be published in January. Please advise the office if you want to be included in it by contacting the pastor or filling out our membership update form at: standrewsnh.com/Resources.html



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

Please contact the pastor!



Bible Study

Starting on November 12, 2015, join us every Thursday at 6:00pm at the parsonage for learning and fellowship.

Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas

As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them . . . —John 17:18

God sent Christ into the world as our Savior. That's what Christmas is all about. In turn, Christ sends us into the world. But do we really understand how, where, and why we are sent? This five-week, Advent study challenges us through story, art, and Bible study to discover what it means to be Christ's hands, feet, head, and heart. Centered on a DVD with 8-10 minute videos created by a group of dynamic young pastors, *Sent* is appropriate for adults and youth.



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



Keep in your prayers the South Central Emmaus XXXIV team which is preparing for the next high school retreat on November 6- 8, 2015 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Seymour. Especially pray for Jorge Varas, who is the rector of the weekend, Moises, Javier, and the pastor, who will also serve on the team.



YOU ARE INVITED TO

Rhythms of Grace to Go

Worship Service for

Children with Special Needs and their Families

Saint Andrew's UMC

1230 Townsend Ave,

New Haven, CT

3rd Sunday of each month at 1:00pm

Starting October 18, 2015

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
10/25/15	35	13	\$933	\$99	0
10/18/15	43	16	\$824	\$97	0
10/11/15	44	13	\$1350	\$21	0
10/4/15	47	8	\$997	\$134	0



Since the last newsletter we have continued to add to our inventory of items for the shoeboxes of our Operation Christmas Child program. Our members have donated items for the boxes and some money towards the \$7.00 cost to ship a box. As we get close to the date for packing these boxes to send to children around the world, I am realizing that we have some distance to go before we can meet the goal of providing shipping for the 60 boxes we are trying to fill. There are envelopes on the side table for those able to put a few dollars in towards the shipping costs. Please put your name on the envelope so we can add your donations on your annual statement for income tax purposes. On Sunday, November 15 we expect to move coffee hour to the Parsonage in order to have a “packing party” where people will pack the boxes for the children. If you have any questions please call John at 203-248-1556.

Thank you and God Bless You.

The Quimby Family

Volunteers



*They don't necessarily have the time;
they just have the heart.
Thank You!*

A big thank you to Junette Cole for organizing our annual Heritage dinner. We appreciate all you do.

Thank you to our choir for blessing us with wonderful music each Sunday.



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

Christmas Eve Service Invitation

Join us on Christmas Eve for a Candlelight Service on December 24th at 7pm





Poetry

Thank You for the Music, Lord Submitted by Diana Grippen

Thank you for the music Lord,
Though it often hurts our ears
Cacophony of untamed rhythms
Inside outside hurts and charms.

Thank you, Lord, for music
Flat notes that play living loving living,
While the living mourn the dead with tears.
This goes on for years and years.

Thank you, Lord, for the red and green,
The rhythmic beat of the traffic scene,
That marks the time of the stop and flow,
To the counterpoint of car radios loud and low.

Thank you, Lord, for the music,
The kids who practice and make mistakes,
The folks who sing off key,
Without them the world would not better be.

Thank you for the music, Lord,
The brass and winds and drums of bands.
They stir our souls in all the lands.
Many come, it's oh – so – grand!

Lord, thank you for the music that makes us
want to sing,
The music of laughter, the wildness of dance,
Notes that burst beyond the doors
Music of love and life and laughter that lingers
and lifts above the land.



& Music Corner

Song: To Live is Christ
Artist: Sidewalk Prophets
From Album: Something Different



If I rise, let me rise on you
Not on all of my successes, my sting or my pursuits
If I lose, let me lose my life
Cuz if I belong to Jesus, the flesh is crucified
For me to live is Christ, for me to live is Christ,
for me to live is Christ, to die is gain

If I grow, let me grow in You
whilt the seeds of wanting more
ripped and pried out by the roots
and if I'm still, let me hear You speak
Not the tone of my transgressions,
but the song of the Redeemed

For me to live is Christ, for me to live is Christ,
for me to live is Christ, to die is gain

For me to live is Christ
for me to live is Christ
for me to live is Christ, to die is gain

My great desire is to be with You
But this is the place you chose for me
this is the place you chose for me
to lift my cross and give everything
this is the time you gave to me
this is the time you gave to me

For me to live is Christ, for me to live is Christ,
for me to live is Christ, to die is gain

I'll never be the same, I'll never be the same
for me to live is Christ, to die is gain

Worship Guide

(The Holy Spirit reserves the right to change the order of service, as the Spirit moves)

All Saints 11/1/15

Scriptures

Revelation 21:1-6a

Mark 12:28-34

Consecrating 11/8/15

The drama of deliverance in the Moses story soon gives way to the drudgery of "so now what?!" as the people wander the desert. There is only so much God can do for us without us doing our part. God can give us reason to trust God, God can bless us, protect us, prosper us, and deliver us. But if we are to truly live into our identity as God's precious and holy ones, we are called to make a commitment of our own free will.

Scriptures

Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17. "I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant ..."

Matthew 5:17

Serving 11/15/14

The people have now settled and prospered. But "settled and prospered" can be its own roadblock.

We begin to forget how we needed God's help before when things weren't so rosy. Joshua gathers up all the tribes and reminds them of all the ways God has served them well and encourages them to joyfully choose to serve God. We know that we have arrived at an important milestone in our journey, living the kind of life that we were created to live, when we can look back over all the struggles that have come before us and affirm that we would endure "the good, the bad, and the ugly" all over again in order to be in the place to which God has led us.

Scriptures

Joshua 24:1-15. "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Matthew 4:8-10

11/22/15

Christ the King/Reign of Christ

Scriptures

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

Sent: Delivering the Gift of Hope at Christmas
"As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them..."

John 17:18

God sent Christ at Christmas. In turn, Christ sends us into the world to be his hands and feet, head and heart

11/29/15

First Sunday of Advent

Jesus Reconciles

The word Advent comes from the Latin verb *ad venire*, which means "to come toward, to draw near, to approach." During Advent, we remember and celebrate God's drawing near to us in

Jesus Christ, but primarily in the promise of his second coming to bring the promise of the kingdom of God and the renewal of all things to culmination.

Scriptures

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Luke 2:8-10

12/6/15

Second Sunday of Advent

Jesus set us Free

Scriptures

Luke 3:1-6

Luke 4:16-19

12/13/15

Third Sunday of Advent

Jesus is God with Us

Scriptures

Isaiah 12:2-6

Matthew 1:21-23

12/20/15

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Jesus Bring New Life

Scriptures

Ezekiel 37:1, 3

Luke 47-55

12/24/15

Christmas Eve

Jesus Changes Everything

Scriptures

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2:1-7

Luke 2:8-14

Luke 2:15-20

John 1:1-18

12/27/15

First Sunday after Christmas

Covenant Sunday

Scriptures

Colossians 3:12-17

Luke 2:41-52

**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



[www.facebook.com/church
ofSaintAndrews](http://www.facebook.com/churchofSaintAndrews)



NOVEMBER

11 Yvonne Lynch
25 Lucille Drummond
26 Guillermo Morales

DECEMBER

12 Lois McDonald
14 Ximena Varas
19 Morris Pennington

**Saint Andrew's
United Methodist Church**

**1230 Townsend Avenue
New Haven, CT 06513**

November / December 2015