



THE CROSSROADS

From the Desk of the Rector

Several parishioners have asked me to publish the sermon that I preached on January 11, the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. While several members of our congregation have increased their pledge to St. Andrew's significantly, many of our members have still not pledged anything to our common ministry. As things stand, we will still have to depend on more than \$20,000 from endowment earnings. In the current financial environment, that is \$20,000 that we are not guaranteed. Therefore, the message below is as relevant as it was a few weeks ago. If you are not currently pledging, or you are pledging below your ability to give to this parish, I challenge you to contact me or pick up a revised pledge card the next time you are at the church building. —Kelley +

A Sermon for the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord.

Today is the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. In the Gospel reading we recall Jesus' intentional act of baptism to begin his public ministry of proclaiming the Kingdom of God. Jesus rises out of the murky waters of the Jordan River and is met with the Holy Spirit and the proclamation from the Father that Jesus is his child and the Father is pleased with his choice to act upon that reality.

While this is a feast day, I must confess I have been in less than a festive mood for the past few days. I have been caught up in a darker spirit of fear and anxiety. This is because on Thursday evening the vestry reviewed our budget committee's report for 2009. Even with a tightened budget, that will be tightened even more, and the endowment earnings that will be available for general operating expenses, and with all of the skill Mary Mingenback brings as

treasurer in making the ends meet, we will fall short to the tune of well more than \$25,000 dollars.

That means that we, you as a parish and me as your rector, have come to a crucial point in our history where we must make some faith-filled decisions and act with deep commitment...or not. Our decisions are somewhat clear.

The long and the short of it is that this parish will not be viable for many more months if each and every one of us does not take our own baptismal covenant seriously and act on the will of the Holy Spirit in our individual lives for the sake of this whole Body.

I understand that most of the financial news has been bad. This is part of the darker spirit of fear and anxiety that has possessed most of us to a lesser or greater degree. And the reality is that the economy has taken a hit; otherwise, our endowments and pledges would be better. But remember that the media make a living by stirring up fear and anxiety.

But I want to know how many of you have actually lost your job? How many of you have lost your home? How many of you are threatened with malnourishment or starvation? How many of you have a warm bed and hot and cold running water? God has blessed the members of this congregation abundantly. God has made sure that each of our needs is met.

We must be very careful in a climate of fear and anxiety that we remember just how much we have been blessed. The reality is

February 2009

Inside this issue

Lenten observances	2
Parish Milestones	4
Servers' Schedule	5
Senior Warden's Column	7
Treasurer's Column	7



Fr. Kelley J. Lackey II,
Rector of St. Andrew's

(continued on p. 6)

Opportunities for Lenten Observance

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25

Imposition of ashes will be at 7:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Imposition of ashes and Holy Eucharist will begin at 6:00 p.m. On this day of fast, there will be no community meal.

Sung Evensong

Millard Harrell and Gary Mason will lead an Evensong service at 5:00 p.m. each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the chancel.

Stations of the Cross

Again this year, the parish is joining with Sacred Heart Catholic Church for the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. Fridays during Lent. The two churches will alternate hosting the Stations, beginning at Sacred Heart on Feb. 27.

Group book study

A group is forming to study Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams' *Christ on Trial: How the Gospel Unsettles Our Judgement*. Please let Karen know in the office if you are interested in participating. The group will meet during the Christian education hour, at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday, beginning March 1.

Bring in your palms

It's time to collect Palm Sunday palm branches and crosses, tattered Bibles and prayer books to be burned for Ash Wednesday's ashes. You may bring them in now and leave them on the table in the foyer outside the parish hall.

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper is Feb. 24

Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent begins, is marked by celebration before a period of penitence and preparation for Easter. It's also known as "Fat Tuesday," which is English for "Mardi Gras." The day was a time for clearing the pantries for Lenten fasting – using up fats and sweets, which led to the tradition of the pancake supper.

St. Andrew's Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be served from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Feb. 24 in the parish hall. Tickets – \$5 for adults and \$2 for children under 10 – are available at the office. Supper includes all the pancakes you can eat, sausage, ham and coffee.

A sign-up sheet for volunteers to set up, cook, serve and clean up is on the table outside the parish hall.

Lenten calendar will again include Evensong

During Lent, Gary Mason and Millard Harrell will lead an Evensong (Evening Prayer) service at 5:00 p.m. every weekday but Wednesday at St. Andrew's. They encourage people to stop by on their way home from work or to come to the church as their time allows to share in the traditional worship of the Book of Common Prayer.

Parishes will combine for the Way of the Cross

Again this year, St. Andrew's and Sacred Heart will share weekly services tracing the Way of the Cross. The service will begin at 7 p.m. each Friday, starting Feb. 27 at Sacred Heart, and will alternate between parishes. People who want to precede the Stations of the Cross with Evening Prayer will have enough time to attend the 5:30 p.m. service at St. Andrew's.

Rand Frew will visit for Palm Sunday

The Rev. Rand Frew, a friend of St. Andrew's, will be traveling from New York to his native Kansas again this year to share in Holy Week with St. Andrew's parishioners. Father Frew will be in Emporia for the Palm Sunday Eucharist.

Looking ahead

- Feb 12** The **vestry** will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. All vestry meetings are open and parishioners are welcome to attend.
- Feb. 24** The **women's monthly luncheon** will be held at Coburn's at 11:30.
- Feb. 24** The **Shrove Tuesday pancake supper** will be held in the parish hall. See article on facing page.
- Feb. 25** **Ash Wednesday**. See Lenten observances on facing page.

Budget wins approval

Annual meeting also sees vestry election

Acknowledging the effects of the national and international economic situation, St. Andrew's parishioners have decided to enter 2009 with a measure of austerity, but with determination that such a measure will not stop our striving to fulfill our mission as Christians.

At the annual parish meeting, convened on Sunday, Jan. 18, parishioners approved a budget of just under \$132,000 for the year.

Fr. Kelley told the gathering that a week ago, the parish was \$27,000 shy of meeting the budget. A number of parishioners increased their pledges and some submitted late pledges, making up the difference. He also noted that the budget total presumes \$20,000 in interest – not guaranteed – from endowment funds.

He encouraged parishioners to consider the need for increased giving, particularly to increase our outreach, which “lets us do good in the name of Christ.”

“Go outside your comfort zone,” he said. “You may be surprised at what happens. If we are faithful to God, God is faithful to us.”

Mary Mingenback, treasurer, presented the budget, noting that the parish used \$21,000 from the Larkin memorial in 2009 and that Jeff Hawes, vestry member, thinks that this year's earnings may be half that, “if we're lucky.” The vestry has determined not to spend the principal of the Behymer memorial and has relied only on interest income.

Mary thanked Clifford Stewart for the time he spent studying interest rates on certificates of deposit, allowing St. Andrew's to earn as much as possible from the CDs.

Also at the meeting, parishioners affirmed Sue Wilson and Eddie Gilpin to serve as senior warden and junior warden for the coming year. Cori Anderson and Nick Jacob were elected to terms on the vestry and Nancy Pontius was re-elected for a second term. Helen Call and Ann Jacob have completed their vestry service and chose not to seek re-election.

Voters also selected Lynn Bonney to serve two years as a convention-convocation delegate. She will join Jim Heasley in representing St. Andrew's at diocesan meetings. Trish Weidert and Patrick Kelley were elected to alternate positions.

Fr. Kelley introduced Andrea Faris, who is the parish's peer minister for Emporia State University. She receives a diocesan scholarship for her service.

Vestry to meet Feb. 12

The Vestry will hold its monthly meeting on Feb. 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room (note change of meeting place). All parishioners are welcome to attend.



*Come, my Way, my
Truth, my Life :
Such a Way, as gives
us breath :
Such a Truth, as
ends all strife :
And such a Life, as
killeth death.*

*Come, my Light, my
Feast, my Strength :
Such a Light, as
shows a feast :
Such a Feast, as
mends in length :
Such a Strength, as
makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my
Love, my Heart :
Such a Joy, as none
can move :
Such a Love, as
none can part :
Such a Heart, as
joyes in love.*

*—The Call by George
Herbert, 1593-
1633. His day is
celebrated Feb. 27.*

In our daily prayers we celebrate

Births

- Feb. 1 Allie Mitchell
- Feb. 5 Ray Call
- Feb. 11 Glen Gilpin
- Feb. 13 Colleen Mitchell
Bill North
- Feb. 17 Mike Weidert
Carolyn VanSyoc
- Feb. 21 Carolyn Lackey
- Feb. 22 Gloria Stewart
- Feb. 23 Leigh Lingenfelter
David Mai
Elijah Williams
- Feb. 27 Justin Davis
- Feb. 28 Barbara Walker

Baptisms

- Feb. 3 Zoe Elizabeth Varee Dyer
- Feb. 9 Gladys Azzun
- Feb. 11 Jaimee Foster
- Feb. 14 Will Dyer
- Feb. 27 Dave Hendricks
- Feb. 28 Ron Roerig

Confirmations

- Feb. 2 Nancy Romine
Jake McCracken
Jean Runge (received)
- Feb. 6 Douglas Amend
Marged Amend
Emily Ayers
Justin Davis
Chase Harder
Hannah Harder
Kelby Harrell
Jeff Hawes
Ashley Mitchell
Blake Mitchell
Jennifer North
Betsy Wright
- Feb. 23 June Hubert

Marriages

- Feb 3 Arnold and Linda Graham
- Feb. 28 Bob and Anna Basler

Milestones

We remember

- Feb. 1 Mabel Hagan Scott
- Feb. 3 Bernice M. Hagan
- Feb. 4 James F. Spears
- Feb. 5 William Lucas
Henry Yates
- Feb. 6 Lyman D. Thayer
- Feb. 7 Leo R. Conwell
Roscoe L. Mendenhall
Donetta Henning Resch
- Feb. 8 Robert Howell
- Feb. 10 Harry Higgins
- Feb. 11 Thomas McCullough
- Feb. 12 Ann J. Haywood
- Feb. 15 Nettie Resch
- Feb. 16 Maurine Webster Warren
- Feb. 17 Bill Miles
- Feb. 18 Clarence Smalley
- Feb. 19 Floyd M. Maker
- Feb. 20 Maurene Ore
- Feb. 21 Maurine Lauderback
James S. Wilson
- Feb. 23 Frank Adelbert Griffin
- Feb. 25 William A. Firth
- Feb. 26 Willa Ruth Storey
- Feb. 28 Clarence R. Kraum

Ordination to the priesthood

- Feb. 14 Kelley J. Lackey II

St. Andrew's Prayer List

Those needing strength and healing:

Reese Naylor, Briley Naylor, Bill North, Opal Glasgow, Terri Landeck, Tim Mai, Vazia and her family, Craig Marriott, Jud Lackey, Alphonso, Yolanda, Christine, Patricia, Mary Barnes, Donna Eudaley, Ron Roerig, Gerry Fletcher, Jim Williams, Jay Grant, Jack Kitchin, Jeremy Schadel.

Loved ones in the military:

Gregg Etter, Bob Garven, John, Eric Muecke, Molly, Christopher Little, Aaron Riley, Michael Flory, Daniel Pearson, Chris Milan.

*(As space permits, the current prayer list
will be included monthly.)*

February Server Schedule

	February 1	February 8	February 15	February 22	February 25 Ash Wednesday 6:00 p.m.	March 1
Chalice bearer	J. Runge	P. Kelley	R. Mitchell	J. Runge	S. McKinney	S. McKinney
Priest server	J. Davis	S. McKinney	J. Davis	P. Kelley	J. Davis	P. Kelley
Crucifer	G. Mason	J. Crofoot	G. Mason	J. Crofoot	G. Mason	B. Dyer
Torch 1	W. Dyer	P. Davis	C. Anderson	W. Dyer	P. Davis	W. Dyer
Torch 2	C. Anderson	J. Davis	A. Mitchell	B. Dyer	B. Dyer	C. Anderson
Thurifer	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Lector	M. Mingenback	M. Amend	M. Mingenback	L. Bonney	B. Clamurro	M. Amend
Intercessor	B. Clamurro	R. Call	B. Clamurro	B. Barnes	M. Harrell	B. Barnes
Nursery 1	J. Scheuerman	A. Jacob	L. Lingenfelter	A. Jacob	S. Brinkman	J. Scheuerman
Nursery 2	S. Brinkman	N. Jacob	J. Scheuerman	N. Jacob	C. Lackey	S. Brinkman
Greeter 1	N. Romine	T. Ulan	S. Mai	T. Ulan	J. Hubert	N. Romine
Greeter 2	B. Dyer	T. Ulan	D. Mai	T. Ulan	J. Runge	J. Hubert
LEV 1	J. Hubert	G. Mason	B. Barnes	J. Hubert	-----	S. McKinney
LEV 2	L. Bonney	S. McKinney	J. Hubert	G. Mason	-----	L. Bonney

Please remember that if you are not able to serve you are responsible for finding your own substitute.

FROM THE RECTOR, cont.

that things seem so bad now because we have just come off of 20 years of the most exceptional economic growth and prosperity in living memory. And we should remember that and respond to God's love and generosity in our lives accordingly.

I want to commend those of you in this congregation who have taken seriously the notion that your faith without your works is dead. You have risen to the challenge to go deeper into your relationship with Jesus Christ through this parish, and have committed yourselves to putting God first by tithing your time, talent and treasure to the up-building of the Kingdom of God through this parish.

Those who have done this see in a deeper way that the Holy Spirit sustains and transforms them in the face of all else. Those who have stepped out in faith by investing their time, their service and a meaningful amount of their finances understand that it all comes back...and comes back in more than adequate amounts.

Each of us in this parish must decide if we are to continue as a congregation to live and grow or if we will die. We must decide whether we are going to act upon the power of the Holy Spirit that we have received, and live into the faith that we proclaim in the Nicene and Apostles creeds — the faith that is nourished when we receive the Holy Eucharist. Each one of us must make a decision to commit ourselves anew to Christ and his Church and then act with conviction. The choice is ours. The choice is clear.

While the choice is clear, sometimes the way by which we live into that choice takes some practice. Sometimes it is hard to know how to live into the choice. A United Methodist classmate of mine uses the spiritual mnemonic aid of "Putting God FIRST." FIRST is an acronym that helps us remember the crucial parts of our lives where our primary loyalty is to God. In examining our lives and where we are spiritually, we should remember to put God first in

F - put God first in faith, family & friendships - our relationships must be based on the love of Christ and the model that he gives to us.

I - put God first in interests - if you can't find God there its not worth your time.

R - put God first in our resources - time, talents, service, witness, prayers, and money.

S - put God first in our schedules - we will not grow spiritually if we've all but worked God out of our daily living except for the sporadic Sunday morning.

T - put God first in our troubles, whether they be spiritual troubles, health troubles, marriage troubles, financial troubles or being troubled by fear and anxiety.

As Christians, we are called to put God first in our lives. We are to believe that the faith that we proclaim fundamentally transforms and enlivens us. We are to believe that it makes a life or death difference to who we are and how we live our lives and the life of the world to

come. If we have missed that message before, I pray to God that we hear it today. If you do not think that your commitment to put God first and act deeply on what you say you believe doesn't matter, then do nothing and you will see one manifestation of death when this parish dies due to a lack of serious commitment to the faith we proclaim.

The service bulletin that you received today was printed before Thursday's meeting and so has not taken into account the magnitude of this day for this parish. Since this is the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord it is appropriate that we forgo the Nicene Creed and reaffirm our own baptismal vows. But please, only stand and reaffirm these vows if you believe them and you intend to act upon them.

Furthermore, I want each and every one of us to take to heart Paul's admonishment to the Corinthians seriously as we approach the altar today. "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For all who eat and drink in an unworthy manner, eat and drink judgment against themselves. For this reason many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world."

When we approach the sacrament without any real commitment to be nourished so that we may act as the Body of Christ, we will be spiritually sick and this parish will be weak and ill due to our fundamental lack of examination and action.

The time of decision for real commitment to Christ and to his Body, the Church, is now. Carolyn's and my decision is to recommit ourselves to Jesus Christ through the ministry and fellowship of this parish. We will be increasing our financial commitment to this parish significantly because we believe that God is at work here and that he calls us to trust him even more deeply in the face of a darker spirit of fear and anxiety. I do not want to see us fail as a parish at a time when I think that God still has much for us to do together. Nor do I think that most of you want to lock the doors of this building and go on your own ways.

However, it is now apparent that we cannot continue on together unless each and every one of us makes the decision to put God first in our lives and commit ourselves to the life and work of this parish.

The reading from the Gospel concludes by giving us hope... and a challenge, as we are called to share in the ministry that Jesus began that day in the Jordan. Just as Jesus receives the Holy Spirit as he rises out of that murky river water, so God has given us the same Holy Spirit to invoke

From the Senior Warden

Words from the new senior warden

Thank you for all the “well wishes” on my becoming senior warden. I feel as if I have come full circle in my own family of Episcopalians. I remember Daddy going off to vestry in the evening and Mother working on the altar guild in the little red church in Fort Scott.

That church, where I was baptized, confirmed and married, is now – of all things – a bridal chapel. Rumor has it that the old folks couldn’t abide by a new female bishop and then news came that the rector became a Catholic priest in Fredonia (family and all!).

I’ve now attended St. Andrew’s longer than I attended the church of my childhood. Thank goodness, it seems to be on more solid ground. I couldn’t bear to lose another church home. The building in Fort Scott is usually locked, but “Adele’s” memorial window, by my family’s pew, is visible from the curb. To the south is the wing where we sat with my godparents during church dinners, while around the corner to the east are the basement stairs, leading to old Mrs. McLean’s preschool, where I helped with many lessons.

I am thankful to belong to St. Andrew’s now, where I am continuing to stow away more recent memories of family and friends. I am also grateful for the chance to help my church in any way I can.—**Sue Wilson**

From the Treasurer

The following pledge receipts have been received for January 2009.

Pledge Receipts for January 4	\$3,948.62
Pledge Receipts for January 11	\$3,167.80
Pledge Receipts for January 18	\$4,243.60
Pledge Receipts for January 25	<u>\$1,022.10</u>
Total January Receipts	\$12,382.12
Average Monthly Receipts	<u>\$11,591.00</u>
Needed to Meet Budget	
(\$2,897.75 X 4)	
Surplus for January	\$791.00

The surplus includes several pledges paid in full for the year. —**Mary Mingenback**

FROM THE RECTOR, cont.

against the darker spirits that possess us, so that we may rise in faith to meet each challenge that comes before us. And we can rejoice that just as God says to Jesus, “You are my child, the beloved; with you I am well pleased,” so God proclaims us as God’s children and rejoices each time we rise from the murkiness of the darker spirits.

Our decision to rise and live into our faith is one of life or death. I believe that God has called this parish to live, and live abundantly. Amen.



Fr. Kelley crowns Brian Dyer as King of the Epiphany Feast during the covered dish supper following the Epiphany liturgy on Jan. 6. As prince, Fr. Kelley was allowed some time to wear the tiara as well. Myrna Comstock was queen of the feast. Royalty was selected based on who found beans in their cake.

**St Andrew's Episcopal Church
828 Commercial
Emporia, Kansas 66801
(620) 342-1537**

**The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe
Bishop of Kansas**

**The Rev. Kelley J. Lackey II
Rector of St. Andrew's**

February 20 is the deadline for information to be included in the March Crossroads. Please drop off any information at the church office or e-mail it to office@standrewsemporia.net by noon that day.

**Visit the parish website at
www.StAndrewsEmporia.org**

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
828 Commercial
Emporia, Kansas 66801**