

LIFELINES

Heart to Heart

With Pastor Jim Hazelwood



The above photo connects to our October 31 Confirmation. On that day, we confirmed nine of our youth. They are now 14 years of age, but in the above photo they are around age seven. I was reminded on this day, that confirmation is not anyone event, class or program. It is the

culmination of all that we do to prepare young people to claim this faith as their own. ALL THAT WE DO – Affirm, Summer Camps, Faith in Action, Retreats, SPARK. It all contributes to shaping their faith. In this issue, you can read a few of their speeches.

Christmas Eve Worship

Friday, December 24

3:00 p.m.
Christmas Worship for Families
with Young Children

4:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve worship with SOL
Music Christmas Carols

7:30 p.m.
Candlelight Christmas Eve
Worship

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
15 East Beach Road
Charlestown, RI 02813
(401) 322-0088
www.STandrewRI.org

Advent Family Event – Dinner, Crafts & Christmas Carols

On Sunday afternoon, Dec 12 starting at 3:00 p.m. our SPARK Team will be hosting an Advent Family Workshop. Come when you are able:

3:00 p.m. Advent Family Craft making
5:00 p.m. Italian Supper
6:00 p.m. Christmas Carol Singing in the Worship room

A great event to invite your friends. There is a \$5 charge for the supplies for the craft project. For more information contact, the church office at 401-322-0088 or email Pastor Lisa at lisastoenhazelwood@gmail.com

S-H-A-P-E

What are your strengths? What passion speaks to your heart? What are your God-given abilities? What's your personal style? Which life experiences are key to what you want to do and how you want to do it? Pick up a Strength Finder survey at the information table in the church lobby and sign up for one of three January follow-up sessions to get clear on your **SHAPE** and why it matters.

SHAPE will be a three session series on:

January 11th,
January 18th,
January 25th

For more information contact Lisa Dahl, chair of the Spiritual Formation team at soulcook@cox.net.



*How has God Shaped you?
What are your talents, skills
and abilities.*

Senior Lunch – Great food and friends

SENIOR LUNCH SCHEDULE

Lunch: 12:00 ~ Bingo: 10:30 ~ Pre-Schoolers sing at 11:20

- **December 16, 2010** Christmas Pot Luck.
- **January 20, 2011** M-m-m Good Soup

Please call the church office, 322-0088, FOR RESERVATIONS and if you NEED A RIDE. Come and enjoy good food, meet friends old and new. Not a senior? Come anyway, give a helping hand.

Dawn Horstmann, Carol Lundgren - Fellowship Coordinators





St. Andrew Preschool

St. Andrew Preschool serves children three to five years old. The children attend school from 8:45-11:30 or 1:00. We are very excited that many of our current and past families are attending Sunday Camp and a few have become partners at St. Andrew Lutheran Church. Many of our families helped out with our Faith in Action Day. They painted a house as well as cleaned trails at Trustom Pond. We hope everyone enjoyed listening to the Preschool children sing with Pastor Lisa during the October 24 worship service.

Everyone has acclimated to their school environment and are enjoying our many activities. In October the children helped make centerpieces using pumpkins, leaves, apples and gourds. They used them to decorate the tables at the Senior Luncheon. The children also had fun singing for everyone at the Luncheon.

We would like to thank Dottie Zuercher and Kathy Stedman for letting us help with the pie making for the Hope Circle Fair. Dottie gave each of the children a turn to crank the apple peeler and Kathy taught the children about how she was going to reuse the peels

by feeding the deer in her back yard.

We are fortunate this year to have four interns from URI. As part of their program in Early Childhood Education, St. Andrew Preschool serves as a mentor to these students.

A special children's worship service will be held December. The service will be held at 11:00 during school hours. All families are invited. More information will be available at a later date.

We would like to thank everyone for their generous donations in memory of Florence Hoffman. These donations have been put towards our scholarship fund. If anyone is interested in donating to this fund, please make the check payable to St. Andrew Preschool.

Kerry Gallup, Director



Confirmation Class 2010

Left to Right – Pr. Lisa, Cameron Millar, Ian Hiltz, Joshua Hedin, Vinny Kubicsko, Pr. Jim, Kerrin Kubacki, Danielle Kubicsko, Indra Boving, Haley Tweedell, Carly Persson, Gail Langanke.

See Page 5 for a selection of the essays from Confirmation Sunday

Upcoming Affirm Events

Sunday, December 12 9:45 a.m. Parent Meeting

Sunday, January 9 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning Affirm

Sundays mornings in January include Jan 16, 23 & 30

January Evening Affirm Supper Sunday, Jan 30 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 22 Winter Hammonassett Event

Concert and Festivities for Youth Grades 8 to 12

See Pastor Jim or Greg & Diane Posemmatto

Plan now for Mission Camp 2011

First Meeting Thursday, January 13 7:00 p.m.

St. Pat's Day Fundraiser Sat. March 12



Winter Schedule

December 5 SPARK
Christmas Choir

December 12 SPARK
Christmas Choir

December 19 SPARK
Christmas Choir

December 26 – Jan 2
NO SPARK

January 9
SPARK RESUMES

SPARK CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Singing at the
10:30 a.m.
Worship Service
on December 19

Three Essays from our 2010 Confirmation Worship on the subject:

Why Am I a Christian?

By Indra Boving

Why am I a Christian? That is a rather hard question to answer, to pinpoint that one reason why I believe in God's glory, why I come to church, why I am standing here right now. But as I thought about it, I couldn't help but be reminded of something I did last year, something that was, at the same time, one of the most exhilarating and most terrifying experiences of my life.

Our goal was simple, really... get harnessed in, climb up a tree, jump down. Easy, right? No, I soon learned...not easy at all.

As I was getting harnessed into the ropes, I began to question their strength...and my sanity. But, crazy or not, I began to climb. Up and up and up, clutching desperately to little ridges in the bark, my feet often scrambling to get a hold, I made my way up. Somehow, I managed to finagle myself onto the platform, already congratulating myself on making it up alive – but now I had to get down. 30 feet, you might say, is not that far, but standing precariously on a ledge, my toes hanging off the edge, I would beg to differ. But somehow I knew what was to come, those seconds of weightlessness, of flying ahead of me, and, throwing caution to the wind, I let loose...I jumped off the ledge into the open space, praying the ropes would catch me....and now that I think back, that God would if those ropes failed.

Now, while at the time I can assure you my thoughts were more along the lines of “Why am I doing this?” or “Somebody get me down!” than anything spiritual or religious, but I see now that that experience, being forced to have faith that you would be safe, embodies what it means to me to be a Christian. Developing that relationship with God, having that faith, that trust, in God to be there for me, to forgive me, to help me find my way out of any trees I climb too high into; to find my own way down. That is why I am a Christian –my faith in God to catch me when I fall.

By Josh Hedin

Why I am a Christian is because when I was 3 months old I was baptized in the Lutheran faith. Then when I was 12 months old, my family started to go here, to St. Andrew Lutheran Church. Then I started to go to Sunday school and when I was 7, I had a spiritual experience; I had a dream I was running in a field playing soccer with Jesus and that dream felt so real it gives me goosebumps to this day. And when I woke up, I knew that dream meant two things, I should keep playing soccer and secondly, that I should deepen my faith. Then when I started to go to Affirm, I learned more about how God, how our religion was made, and I made some friends along the way. Then when I went to Mt. Camp my first year, I thought it would be like any other camp I have been to; but when I got there I experienced things so wonderful that I am sure I will have those memories forever. When I was at camp, I knew it wasn't about the games or the other things we did when were there. It was about uniting the congregations all over New England and together worship the Lord.

And now, I realize I have many people to thank, Gail Langanke, for leading me through Affirm, making it fun and exciting; and Pastors Jim and Lisa for their guidance. Then I knew what I wanted to do. I wished to be a Pastor and spread the word of the Lord and his teachings. So when I turn 18, I plan to attend the Philadelphia Seminary and to teach and guide others, and that is why I am a Christian.

Why Am I a Christian?

By Karly Persson

“Search me, oh God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offense in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23-24

As the apostle Paul put it: “It’s not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.”

After coming home and reflecting on what we did during Mt. Camp; it wasn’t canoeing across Lake Ossipee or climbing up a mountain, not even the late nights staying up talking for hours on end that were the most impressionable memories to me. It was the time spent all together, the full camp; all of us gathered in one place, believing in the same thing, every one of us together in union praising and worshipping the Lord. It felt right standing there. It was a new experience for me, having so many people my own age, side by side and rejoicing in the greatness of the Lord. That changed something inside me. Something grew in me. A spirituality that I never could have guessed was ever there, and maybe I would have never found if I hadn’t gone to Mt. Camp with a group from St. Andrews’.

I wasn’t sure of whether I wanted to go that summer, I was nervous about going to a camp for a week without knowing anyone. I guess that’s part of faith though; believing in something and knowing God will be there to guide me. Taking that leap of faith, putting my trust in the Lord.

This is a verse I came across while searching through the Bible, it’s from Hebrews 11:1. “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain in what we do not see.

It’s Jesus’ compassion for the weak, His grace toward sinners, His hatred of injustice and religious pomposity, His offer of forgiveness for all, His teaching of love and remorse. That makes me the Christian I am.

There are things I still don’t understand and won’t ever; but I am willing as a young Christian to start this journey of walking with him and see where it takes me.



How's your Marriage?

Interested in some practical ideas for improving communication? Want some new thoughts on conflict? Improved Sex life? Better Dinners? More money? OK, we can't promise everything, but here is a start.

Two part Introduction to a Better Marriage

With Pastors Jim & Lisa Hazelwood – a couple who have learned almost everything – well, not quite.



Sunday, January 9 9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Adult Lounge

Wednesday, January 12 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Session

This two part series will explore the differences between people and their personalities. For instance, Lisa is a planner and likes to be organized. Jim is spontaneous, and likes to figure things out as he goes along. How in the world would they plan a vacation together without fighting. We will present in a light hearted but sincere manner how we have benefitted from the language and theory of Personality Type. On Sunday, we will explain the theory and distribute a questionnaire. On Wednesday, you come for a potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. and bring your completed questionnaire. At 7:00 p.m. , we will lead a session that includes helpful ideas, practical advice and some ways to work together as a couple. Hey, it can't hurt.



St. Andrew Green Team

Help is needed for planning and preparations for our second annual EARTH DAY celebration. This event is being planned for:

SATURDAY, MAY 14TH
Kettle Pond Visitor's Center

If you want to help,
contact Richard Brakenwagen or Patrick Orabone
or the church office.

This year we are working together with Dunn's Corner's Presbyterian Church, Kettle Pond, The Salt Pond Coalition and Save the Bay as well as additional South County churches.



Gifts in Memory

In Memory of Casey Hibbard

Robert & Lillian Anderson
William & Clare Blackmon
Elaine & Ty Briggs
East Beach Garden Club
William and Janet Burke
Eliseo & Barbara Carrozzi
Paula & Richard Crook
Thomas & Elizabeth Finn
Brian & Robin Finn
Patricia Gamwell
Jim & Lisa Hazelwood
Susan Howe
Richard & Glenda Hutchins
Jen Hylander

Janis Lorensen
Carol & Jack Lundgren
Graeme & Beryl MacLetchie III
Jean Mase
George & BetteJane May
Louis & Estelle Misto
Concetta Nicolosi
Peter & Susan Ogle
William & Karen Sample
Sara Stelzner
John & Sue Wheeler
Donna & Robert Zuffelato
Frances Bade



*Faith is the assurance things
hoped for, the conviction of
things not seen.*

Memorial gifts are financial contributions made to the church in memory of a family member or friend who has passed away.

If you would like to make a memorial gift, you may send it to the church, or if you would like more information please call or email the church.

In Memory of Barbara Kingman

Raymond & Eunice Carlson
Conrad Swanson
Mildred Gaskell
Jen Hylander
Linda & G Wallander
Herbert Wylie
Jennifer Manning
Robert & June Fraser
Margaret Bellucci
Ken & Phyllis Carlson
William & Marian Clarke
Alice & Robert Suglia
Lois & Goody Lovvoll
M/Mrs Linton Nelson
Mildred & Lennart Johnson
Harry & Seline Peterson
Richard & Lee Theike
Charles & Anne Murphy
Evelyn & Earl Mann
Richard Abramson
Roy & Elizabeth Grenier
Janice Abramson
Linda McLintock
Stanly & Jean Larson
Marion & Susan Kullberg
Eunice Tuckerman

Eunice Tuckerman
Joseph & Gloria Dawson
Barbara Hahne
Mary Kegley
Karen Soderberg-Gomez
Ina Bischoff
Lisa Johnson
Richard & Glenda Hutchins
Mildred Morse
Diane Homsany
Carol Kingman
Eugene & Verna Confreda
Rosamond Jettinghoff
Susan Nettis
Beverly & Charles Cokely
Margaret Coldwell
Krystyna Tuckerman
Glenna Louis Giordano
Jim & Lisa Hazelwood
Carol & Jack Lundgren
Carol & Glenford Shibley
Fred & Marsha Weber
George & Judith Armitage
Charles & Joan Lamendola
Carol & Maurice Mahoney
Richard & May White

Anna & Harry Prince
Sycamore Cove Associates
Robert & Loris Carlson
Frederick & Sara Kearsley

COMMUNICATIONS WITH PUBLICITY

I don't know if the majority of St. Andrew know about this. I volunteered my services to provide publicity to help out the church. I decided to do this after the group meetings to upgrade the different ministries of the church.

I have had a lot of experience and successful for many years providing news to the newspapers for the Grange. It has been work in progress and at the mercy of some newspapers in trying to get news for the church. Also with one newspaper, trying to separate church news from Grange news.

I was successful in providing news for the Faith in Action Weekend in October. Since I am doing Publicity, I served on the Faith in Action Committee in helping to plan for this event.

As of this writing, I have sent news to the newspapers on the Holiday Craft Fair in November. Has been seen in at least 2 newspapers about this event. I have also attempted to send news to the newspapers about the new worship schedule.

I have also sent news about the Food Pantry and Personal Needs Closet. Also sent news about the series on Islam and Christians.

Also as of this writing, I am prepared to set up a Communications Table for Sunday November 14th in between the 2 worship services. I would display what I do with sending news for both the Grange and the church.

I am hoping that through some of these activities that have taken place, that people will know that I am helping the church with this ministry.

For more information about this ministry, you can contact Howard Paster at 401-295-8381 or can send an e-mail paster_howard@cox.net.



From the Property Crew

Dan' Cans: We no longer accept aluminum cans and recyclable materials. Please continue to recycle at home. Thank you to those who diligently saved the cans over the years.

Trash Bins: Three 90 Gallon trash containers will replace the bins at the rear of the building. All trash must be in plastic bags and tied off. Please make every effort to leave the trash area clean. If your group meets at the church, please take out your own trash.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Looking to mentor a young teenager in State Foster Care? Real Connections Training is scheduled for Monday, December 6th and 13th, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm at St. Andrew for anyone interested in mentoring a teen in state care. Participants must complete an application and bring a copy of their driver's license and proof of auto insurance to the training. Contact Barbara Geleney @ bgeleney@yahoo.com to register and pick up a mentor application.

Operation Holiday Cheer 2010 is collecting donations to send a care package this holiday season to every deployed military member from RI. If you would like to help, items will be accepted at St. Andrew through December 2nd. A list of suggested items can be found on the table in the Narthex or on the Lt Governor's website at <http://www.lt.gov.ri.gov/ohc/>. Please contact Barbara Geleney @ bgeleney@yahoo.com for more information or if you are available to deliver the donated items from St. Andrew to the North Main Street Armory on December 11th.

Are musicals, plays and live concerts your idea of a great outing? Would you be interested in going to such events with some St. Andrew members? Sue Morley would like to hear from you! Singles, couples and families are all welcome! Please contact her at suenotebook@yahoo.com or 539-7823 evenings or weekends. Depending upon interest, this could be just a few times a year or more often. Your thoughts and ideas concerning matinees, dining (in conjunction with an event), carpooling, etc. are most welcome.

**South County Habitat for Humanity
20th Anniversary Celebration
Sunday, December 5, 6:30pm at St. Andrew**

Music, food, and fun for the whole family! Please join us to celebrate 20 fantastic years of building homes for South County families in need. We'll reminisce, tell stories and share photos. Rhode Islanders' support over the years have made it possible to build 44 homes. Come join the celebration!

