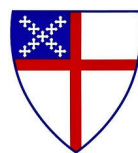


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A Voice in the Desert - Vol. 2020 Issue 11

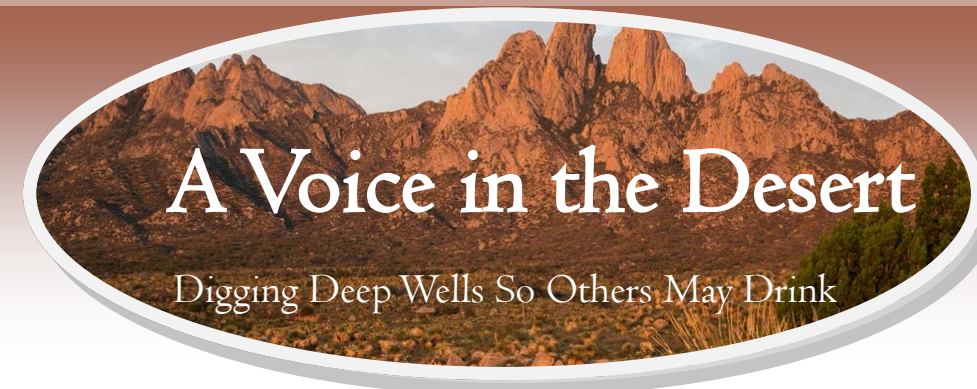
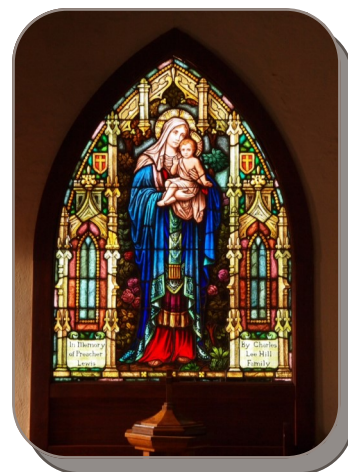
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Digging Deep Wells  
So Others May Drink

A Voice in the Desert is published monthly for the parishioners and friends of  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Las Cruces, New Mexico

## Giving Thanks By Mother Jan

Volume 2020, Issue 11

November 2020

*Oh give thanks, Oh give thanks, Oh give thanks unto the Lord,  
for His Mercy endures forever.*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Both Psalm 118:1 and Psalm 136:1 begin with these words. I remember teaching this as a song in Children's Chapel. What a perfect beginning for November 2020; Covid November. During these difficult times we have to consciously remember to give thanks. Give thanks to God always and in all things. I know that is hard to give thanks when we are stuck in the rollercoaster of change and uncertainty, and it is for our spiritual, mental and psychological health that we MUST do so.

I give thanks for all of you; for the opportunity to serve you. I give thanks for a great place to live and minister. I give thanks for your generosity in pledging and giving of yourselves and the first fruits of your work. I give thanks for a caring vestry, committed outreach volunteers, altar guild, Daughters of the King, Men's group, the Search Committee and all of you who so tirelessly do God's work in our community.

As we give thanks, let us remember those who have fallen ill to this dreaded disease, to those who are experiencing homelessness, to all those living on the margin. We give thanks for the many blessings that God pours out on us daily.

In the true spirit of an Attitude of Gratitude let us continue to walk in the belief that God has given us all special talents which we must share for the building up of His Kingdom. Thank you for sharing your special gifts with our faith community. St. Andrew's is a cornucopia of fruitful spirits.

God Bless all of you. I am truly blessed and grateful.



We regret that because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have cancelled all church building activities until further notice.

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## Stewardship Campaign Update

**“The Joy of the Lord is our Strength.”**

*Nehemiah 8:10*

Once again COVID has caused a change in plans at St. Andrew's – but we are persevering with faith! Our planned Ingathering Service on October 25<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. Instead of physically returning your pledge on the 25<sup>th</sup>, please return it by:

Mailing it to      St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Attn: Fran Chavez, Bookkeeper  
518 N. Alameda Blvd  
Las Cruces, NM 88005

Dropping it off at the church office during office hours, Tuesday through Friday from 9 to 2; or dropping it in the mail slot near the front door

Emailing your pledge to [franceschavez@aol.com](mailto:franceschavez@aol.com)

You may wish to fill out your pledge card during our 10:00am Sunday service on Facebook and then return it as quickly as possible the following week. Your pledge is an integral part of your Christian life and is an acknowledgment of your spiritual growth. Together, the pledges of our entire congregation answer an essential call of our Christian life and reflect our mutual commitment to grow together in sharing the gifts God has given us.

Please contact the Stewardship Committee if you wish to discuss stewardship, your pledge, or need more information – or another pledge card! You may call the church office at (575) 526-6333 or call a member of the committee:

Chuck Booth	Priscilla Parrish	Wendy Beserra
Christine Courtney	Pat deVarenes	Norm Todd

**Thank you for your prayer and discernment!**



Please remember St. Andrew's in your estate plans.

You might consider leaving a percentage of your estate or an actual dollar amount. This can be done in a simple codicil to a current will. If you would like to discuss options further, please contact Mo. Jan+

## SOCKTOBERFEST

report from the Daughters of the King



During the month of October, the Daughters of the King took on a service project where we gathered white socks for Camp Hope. We joyfully gathered white socks all month long, with the help of the congregation, and were pretty “darn” successful, given the fact the Church closed down again and there were no in-person announcements from me to really ramp up the enthusiasm. However, I want to thank all the people who participated in this service project of the DOK as you will certainly make a difference in the lives of many at Camp Hope.

Nancy McMillan was the speaker at our October monthly Zoom meeting and she told us in depth how she was inspired to begin Camp Hope and everything she went through from its inception. We learned a lot from her but the one thing I walked away with was how one person can make a difference in our world. She is a God-send to St. Andrew's and the City of Las Cruces.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

**"The Knit Wits"**

There are blessed prayer shawls available for those in need. They are not in the church as of yet, but if you know of someone who could benefit from a shawl, please contact Mo. Jan.

Also, if you would like to learn how to knit or knit with us, please come to the next gathering on November 9th. For more information please contact Candace Fitch at 210-248-7374.

## Seeking Volunteers

The Vestry is looking for volunteers to fill several vacancies: Vestry Clerk; one unexpired Vestry term, and delegates for 2021. If you're interested, please contact Mo. Jan or David Lutz no later than November 15.



## The New Website is Coming! The New Website is Coming!

The Communications Committee is pleased to announce that the new St. Andrew's website will be going live early in November. If you visit <https://saintandrewslc.org/> after October 29th, there may be a short time where the site is either unavailable or doesn't function properly. This is all in preparation for unveiling our new home on the web! We've provided a slice of the new Home page as a preview of what's coming soon.

The new St. Andrew's website is the culmination of months-long discussions and review by members of the Communications Committee, the Vestry, and Mo. Jan. The old website served St. Andrew's well for many years, and until recently, Vestry and Communications Committee member Doug Paczynski maintained it on his own.

We are excited to move into a new era with more images and media, as well as expanded features such as:

Ministry Pages with descriptions and contact information for the many opportunities to participate in service to our parish and to the wider community.

Blog pages that will be updated weekly and will contain news and Special Feature articles of interest to St. Andrew's members, potential members, and visitors.

Information for Newcomers, including our worship style and service, and an FAQ.

Those are just a few of the features we are excited to provide to everyone, and we hope that over time, you will visit our new website and participate in making it a living, evolving place to share, enjoy, and receive information.



## UPDATE ABOUT RE-OPENING

Our plans to begin re-opening the church have been changed because the COVID infection rate has been increasing in Dona Ana County. We have rolled back our situation to Phase I as defined by the Diocese. We will keep you informed as the situation improves. Until then, stay safe and wear a mask!

### Until further notice:

**All St. Andrew's worship services will be offered only via live stream.**

**There will be no drive-through Communion.**

**There will be no small group gatherings or meetings at the church.**

## From the Search Committee

The St. Andrew's Rector Search Committee has just concluded gathering input from the congregation about our priorities in selecting a new rector. We held a congregational zoom meeting, an in-person congregational meeting, and we have followed up with personal phone interviews. The search committee will now assemble all of that information into a "Ministry Portfolio" that will serve to introduce our congregation to prospective candidates. The Search Committee wishes to thank everyone for their participation in this process.

## A Prayer for the Search of a New Rector

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. Andrew's. Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our church. We ask your direction and guidance for those who shall choose our new spiritual leader, that we may receive an upright and faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries. Grant us perception, faithfulness, and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations. Grant us also the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those who have entrusted us with this process. Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us.

Come Holy Spirit.

We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



November Birthdays

Mark Hammersmith	11/5	Sharon Bond	11/18
Nathan Lowe	11/5	Mary Gail Gwaltney	11/19
Robert Phillipson	11/5	Georgette Malooly	11/20
Marianne Manderbach	11/6	Andre Richmond	11/23
Russ Elgin	11/8	Anita Himes	11/24
Jane Lamb	11/8	Hollis Fitch	11/25
Benjamin Taylor	11/8	Alex Lenzo	11/25
Michaela Law	11/11	Jordan Denninger	11/26
Karen McGuire	11/12	Colt Haynie	11/28
Kirk Neff	11/13	Kathryn Phillipson	11/28
Catherine Lemons	11/14	Leah Ruthven	11/28
Missy Wortman	11/15	Lita Miller	11/29
Jane Peacock	11/16	Donna Richmond	11/30

December Birthdays

Yvonne Duhigg	12/1	Bruce Hosea	12/19
Arlo Albers	12/3	Jan Russell	12/19
Sean Duhigg	12/3	Maryellen Lafave	12/20
Eric Luschei	12/4	Chelsea Pohl	12/20
Carolynn Lewis	12/8	Lillia Taylor-Montoya	12/20
Jan Hosea	12/9	Brian Knight	12/21
Penny Salome	12/9	Daniel Miller	12/21
Vance Saige	12/11	Carol Richmond	12/24
Sara Orton	12/12	Silvia Schavz	12/24
Elizabeth Miller	12/17	Tim Chavez	12/31
Virginia Beckworth	12/18	Kevin Knox	12/31
Fran Black	12/18		
Laura Self	12/18		

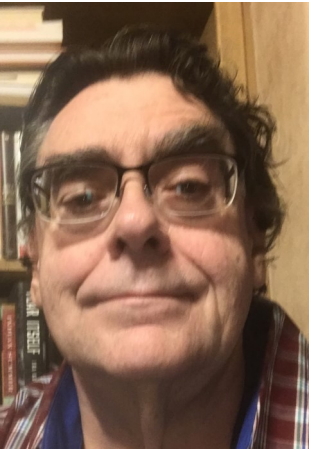
November Anniversaries

John and Pat Nance	11/18
Bill and Peggy Dettmer	11/25

December Anniversaries

David and Dixie Johnson	12/6
Don and Conchita Jones	12/7
Dick and Sandy Hiss	12/19
Bruce and Lita Brown	12/21
Bob and Kathy Phillipson	12/23
Ron and Marianne Manderbach	12/27
Karl and Sharon Rysted	12/28
Richard and Catherine Lemons	12/29
Jim Kimball and Wendy Beserra	12/31

Introducing Our New Treasurer



Interim Rector, Mo. Jan Hosea, and the Vestry have selected Norman Todd to serve as our parish treasurer. The previous treasurer, Debbie Frazier, retired from the position after years of volunteer service.

Norman and his wife, Georgette Malooly, have been members at St. Andrew's since 2017. He is a lifelong Episcopalian and native New Mexican, born and raised in Deming and living in Las Cruces since 1982. Georgette owns Malooly's Flooring Company and Norman is property manager for Kairos Properties.

As treasurer Norman will work with Fran Chavez, the parish bookkeeper, to oversee financial affairs and reporting for the church. The treasurer and vestry are currently working on a proposed budget for 2021, which will be presented at the annual meeting in January.

*On behalf of the Vestry, I would like to thank Debbie Frazier for her service as Treasurer. She did a fantastic job and left everything in very good order for Norman to take over. We were very fortunate to have her as Treasurer.*

David Lutz, Sr. Warden



Reflections During Election Time

As we are reminded in the Book of Sirach, may our hearts and minds be led as we enter a time of the election process:

- "A wise magistrate educates his people,  
and the rule of an intelligent person is well ordered.*  
<sup>2</sup> *As the people's judge is, so are his officials;  
as the ruler of the city is, so are all its inhabitants.*  
<sup>3</sup> *An undisciplined king ruins his people,  
but a city becomes fit to live in through the understanding of  
its rulers.*  
<sup>4</sup> *The government of the earth is in the hand of the Lord,  
and over it he will raise up the right leader for the time.*  
<sup>5</sup> *Human success is in the hand of the Lord,  
and it is he who confers honor upon the lawgiver."*

A Prayer for an Election

*Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States (or of this community) in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP)*