

Congregational Communications

...keeping in touch with each other

page 1

IMPORTANT DATES

4/5/15

•Easter Service,
Mastic Beach 9am
Yaphank 10:30am

4/15/15

•ECW Meeting, 7pm

4/20/15

•Bishop's Committee
Meeting 7:30pm

5/2/15

•Basket Auction,
noon

5/10/15

•Confirmation
Mastic Beach 10am

5/17/15

• Bishop's Pascal
Visit
Yaphank, 10:30am

5/18/20

•ECW 7pm

From the Bishop's Committee

He Has Risen, what a wonderful message those three words convey. Those words tell us that love conquers all, especially God's love. God loves us, that same love that God had when he sent His Son to save us, is still there today. St. Andrew's is working on ways to tell our community of that Love that God has for us.

The Bishop Committee has decided that the 2015 goal will be growth. Focusing on growth does not mean just focusing on one type of growth. In order to physically grow our congregation, we need to look into ourselves and grow too. Grow spiritually and in our mission. Growth has to be holistic, not in just one area. This type of growth will allow St. Andrew's to share God's Love.

Brothers and Sisters, St. Andrew's is a vibrant community of the faithful. As we focus on growth this year we will be trying lots of new things and trying to incorporate them into our rich traditions. One of those focuses is communication and as you can see in this newsletter – the first of our "So, what's your story?" interviews. So if you are asked for an interview, please accept the invitation to share your story. Also, if you have talents you would like to share, callings, or ministries you'd like to start or participate in, please speak to any member of the Bishop's Committee. He has risen, but needs to work through you!

He Has Risen, tell it out with joyful voice! (He is Risen, 1846).



What is Cursillo & Ultreya?

Cursillos in Christianity (in Spanish: **Cursillos de Cristiandad**, short course of Christianity) is an apostolic movement of the Roman Catholic Church. It was founded in Majorca, Spain by a group of laymen in 1944, while they were refining a technique to train pilgrimage Christian leaders. Cursillo is the original three day movement, and has since been licensed for use by several mainline Christian denominations, some of which have retained the trademarked "Cursillo" name while others have modified its talks/methods and given it a different name.

The *Cursillo* focuses on showing Christian lay people how to become effective Christian leaders over the course of a three-day weekend. The weekend includes fifteen talks, some given by priests and some by lay people; those talks are called "rollos." The major emphasis of the weekend is to ask participants to take what they have learned back into the world, on what is known as the "fourth day." The method stresses personal spiritual development, as accelerated by weekly group reunion (after the weekend). Ultreya" is a Spanish word, derived from the original Latin, meaning Onward! It was in common use by pilgrims to greet and to encourage one another along the way. This word is now used by the Cursillo community to signify the meeting which is held after a Cursillo experience. This meeting may be between Cursillistas from one or several communities.

The Ultreya gathers together groups from a particular region and provides continuity by contributing to the maintenance of the Cursillo spirit and by revealing the reality of the living Church.

In a climate of friendship, members share their life experiences based on the three tenets of Cursillo life: i.e.: Prayer, Study and Action, or based on a passage from Scripture. This sharing can be contemplative in nature or may deal with an evangelizing experience. These sharings from real-life experiences serve as examples to all of us of the challenge which Jesus lays before His followers: "Go and do likewise."

As its name implies, the Ultreya, is a call to move forward and to keep the flame of the Cursillo burning brightly. ☩

So, what's your story?

Welcome to our new feature! In January Father John Jeffery & the Bishop's Committee thought it would be a good idea if we used this newsletter as a way for everyone to learn about the various ministries and those called to run and work in them. This month we are featuring Jennifer Hovestadt and Bill Jablonsky. I'd also like to thank Bill for coming up with the catchy title for this feature! I hope you enjoy the articles. If there is a ministry or person you feel should be showcased, please let one of the members of the Bishop's Committee know. ~Sue Fischer

So, what's your story, Jennifer?

Talking to Jennifer Hovestadt about the Prayer Shawl Ministry

~ By Donna Ohlsen

Setting up the new Prayer Shawl Ministry is Jennifer's calling. Jennifer, the mother of two beautiful girls, Gabriella and Isabelle, was brought up Roman Catholic. She was looking for a new denomination and after passing St. Andrew's on many occasions, she decided to give us a try. She enjoyed the service and welcoming atmosphere and decided to stay. Jennifer was received into the Episcopal Church shortly thereafter and has been a vital part of our church ever since. Jennifer chaired the Annual Bar-B-Que for a few years, tried her hand as a Sunday School teacher, has served on the Bishop's Committee and is currently the Vice-President of the ECW.

While attending a Cursillo Weekend, Jennifer heard someone speak about their Prayer Shawl Ministry and it resonated with her. Then at an Ultreya Meeting she heard someone else speak about the same ministry in their church. Jennifer also met someone from Episcopal Charities who told her about grants for starting up new ministries. Now she had a calling!

After some preliminary research, Jennifer brought it up to the ECW. It was received with a lot of enthusiasm and accepted as an ECW function. Since that January meeting, Jennifer has spoken to members of other Prayer Shawl Ministries and researched it on-line. She also wrote a grant application (Jen adds, "with the help of Sue Fischer's expertise") for 75% funding in our first year, which was submitted on March 1st. We should hear about the grant by mid-April and announce the meeting dates after that.

Jennifer loves this new ministry and sees it as a way to help herself and others grow spiritually. She hopes that the ministry will grow from within St. Andrew's, and that it will also attract men and women from our church community and maybe even the local community. Hopefully, this ministry will make a positive change in the life of our church, because it will allow the many talented people in our congregation to share their gift with others, both through teaching a skill and creating a loving gift. (Yes if you don't know how to knit or crochet, you can learn here). It will benefit both the maker and the recipient of the shawl. "When people work together for a common goal, they form bonds, they feel love. That love will be passed on through the gift of the prayer shawl," Jennifer.

There will be monthly meetings where the participants can knit or crochet the shawls in a serene atmosphere. (to be announced after hearing about the grant) These shawls will be distributed by Fr. John Jeffery to those in need of a spiritual hug.

Footnote: There is an article about Cursillo & Ultreya in this newsletter. Anyone wanting more information can see Jennifer or Father John Jeffery.

So, what's your story, Bill?

Talking with Bill Jablonsky about his Communications Ministry.

~ By Edward Rambarran

As in the Body of Christ metaphor, Bill Jablonsky is an integral member of the St. Andrew's family, "spreading the Word." In addition to serving as a lay reader, usher, and counter, he especially enjoys his ministry of being webmaster and putting his multimedia skills to work for the Church. He is constantly updating the website with current and upcoming events; he also keeps us connected to and in contact with each other. Bill gives St. Andrew's a voice in the diocese and the greater worldwide Church.

Thanks to Bill anyone who would like to hear Father's sermons again or perhaps missed it can tune in online anywhere, anytime for the recorded audio of the Sunday sermons. Last December for the celebration of the Installation Ceremony, he expanded to video recording for all to see. *Stayed tuned for future recordings such as the upcoming Bishop's visit in May.*

Through volunteer experiences, lots of reading, online classes, conventions and certifications, he gained his current skills and knowledge. Bill's passion to serve a greater constructive purpose for "spreading the Word" is similar to a reader who is an instrument of peace and the Truth. Growing up Episcopalian, he served as an acolyte in his native Long Island parish. He was inspired by both his parents who were very active in the vestry and altar guild. So it was like "coming back home" when about four years ago, Bill, along with his wife Heather, were warmly welcomed to St. Andrew's. They were looking for a new place of worship, eventually taking their marital vows in this quaint setting of Little Suzy's Church, which they felt was filled with the Holy Spirit. They both enjoy the inspirational tradition and music, both of which keep them coming back for more....as well as the friends they've made.

As Bill fulfills his own purpose, he shares this sense of community with others, enabling them to gain their own fulfillment by keeping them up to date with church happenings. As a member of the Bishop's Committee, he embraces the challenge to welcome newcomers to feel more included in our parish family. Bill thinks about how he was asked to run the website and eventually be a member of the Bishop's Committee, part of that "whole notion of the 'They' who take care of the church and keep it going". He asks "But really, who are the they?" Then smiling says "We are the they!" So consider yourself asked to explore your own calling. Bill encourages everyone to explore their skills and talents, in order to participate in their own ministries in Christ. From my observation, Bill certainly lives the Word by example, heeding his favorite inspirational calling attributed to St. Clare to "go in peace to walk the good path."

FYI-our newsletter will be going paperless eventually – Please make sure we have your e-mail address!

Is your information up to date? Does the Church have your birthdates, anniversary dates, address, phone number, cell phone number and e-mail address?

Talk to Bob Williams

Altar Guild

April

Jenelin Chin Suey
& Olive Archer

May

Heather Jablonsky
& Donna Trusnovac

June

Judy Seif

Coffee Hour

April 5 ... Donna Ohlsen

April 12 ... Tara Mooney

April 19 ... Debbie Archibald

April 26 ... Mary Henning

The ECW's 15th Annual Theme Basket Auction

Saturday, May 2nd. Doors open at noon. Drawing begins at 1:30pm.
Admission is \$8.00 - includes a Door Prize Raffle & Refreshments

Readers' Schedule

Reader's Schedule:

If for any reason you are not available for the designated date or would like to volunteer to read, please contact Edward Rambarran at (631) 448-2006 to reschedule. Thank you.

God bless you!
~Ed

April		May		June	
05	Karen DeVries Bill Jablonsky	03	Youth Sunday	07	Youth Sunday
12	Cali Douglas Jen Hovestadt	10	Ed Rambarran Olive Archer	14	Ed Rambarran Olive Archer
19	Donna Trusnovac Bill Jablonsky	17	Karen DeVries Cali Douglas	21	Karen DeVries Daniel Molloy
26	Daniel Molloy Jenelin Chin Suey	24	Jen Hovestadt Donna Trusnovac	28	Cali Douglas Jen Hovestadt
		31	Bill Jablonsky Jenelin Chin Suey		

YOUTH SUNDAYS

The first Sunday of every month will be dedicated to our youth. They will be participating in the service.

(except April 5th, which is Easter)

This is what a 5th grader thought when asked to use a commercial to communicate God to others:

**GOD IS LIKE:
HALLMARK CARDS
HE CARES ENOUGH TO SEND
HIS VERY BEST.**

Please see Olive Archer, Sunday School Superintendent, for more information

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Vicar:
Fr. John Jeffrey Purchal

Bishop's Committee
Richard Ohlsen, Senior Warden
Susan Fischer, Junior Warden
Judy Seif
Mike Seif
Donna Ohlsen
Heather Jablonsky
Bill Jablonsky
Lesly Gallaway
Ed Rambarran

I'd like to share with you one of my favorites ~

Jesus said:

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbors as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

(Book of Common Prayer)

So please:

Love God.

Love everyone near and far (even if you don't like them).

And remember to love yourself as well.

God Bless you!

Your editor ~Sue Fischer

Sunday Services: & Sunday School at 10:30AM

St Andrew's Church
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