

# CTK: November News 2018



**I know you're busy. You know I'm busy.** I think busy-ness is so central to many of our lives that it can take over our identity. Think of it this way. When was the last time you had a conversation with a person who said, "I wish I was busier." More often than not, many of us feel pressure to stay busy or at least look busy. Don't get me wrong, there can be joy found in hard work and dedicating ourselves to challenges that demand our best efforts. Hard work is a good thing. But like all things, moderation is key. I think the problem comes when we try to fill our hearts or base our self-worth on how busy we are.

On my recent Sabbatical I noticed this tendency in myself. While I found it easy to preach about the concept of Sabbath, I found it harder to actually rest than stay busy. In the moments when I wasn't busy on Sabbatical, I would impose pressure upon myself.

So rather than relaxing and rejuvenating, sometimes I would seek out busy-ness. Perhaps that dusty closet needs more organizing. Perhaps the baby made another mess. I was literally looking to stay busy, when I could have enjoyed the moment of rest. Is there any escape from this madness?

I think the part of the obsession with busy-ness is really a spiritual problem. Rather than filling our hearts with our daily bread, as Jesus prayed, we fill our hearts with constant action and anxiety in hopes that we will do enough or be enough. The assumption becomes that one's self worth is based on what they do with no reference to God or anyone else.

One way to help slow down is to develop a spiritual practice of saying thanks to God and each other. Our worship service is full of prayers and scripture that focus on saying thank you to God. When we say thank you to God we are acknowledging that we are not the center of the universe. God is. With God at the center suddenly our busy-ness can look a bit more like silliness. In November we will have our annual stewardship campaign, asking for annual pledges for 2019. We will have members share their testimonies of stewardship. At the heart of stewardship is saying thank you to God. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow" —as we sing each Sunday.

May God help us to center our lives not on how busy we are, but on the awesomeness of God. May God give us grace to slow down long enough so that we can celebrate these blessings each day.

Yours in Christ,

*Fr. David*

# The Second Page



**No Pilgrims, no feast, no pumpkin pie—and not an Indian in sight!** Yikes! What kind of Thanksgiving is that?

Not much by modern standards, but apparently what the first one was like. To begin with, you should know there were no pilgrims in Plymouth. The colonists called themselves (as did everyone else) *Separatists* to denote their objection to the Church of England. They didn't pick up the sobriquet, pilgrim, for another few centuries. And the first Thanksgiving was a religious event rather than a harvest festival. You see, the pilgrims...I mean, Separatists, recognized only three Holy days: Sundays, Days of Humiliation and Days of Thanksgiving. Days of Humiliation and of Thanksgiving were special holidays called by the community in response to specific needs or occurrences and were both commemorated in the same way—very, very long worship services.

By the summer of 1623, Plymouth was in serious trouble. A relief ship was months overdue and supplies were nearly exhausted. What's more, a severe drought was devastating the crops. Things couldn't get worse and so the community decreed a Day of Humiliation. After nine hours of prayer, the Separatists stumbled into bed and awoke the next morning to a gentle rain. A few days later Miles Standish spotted the missing supply ship. A Day of Thanksgiving was certainly in order! And so on a seasonable day in late July of 1623, the colony celebrated their first Thanksgiving with another nine hours of prayer followed by an evening meal of, "a piece of fish without bread or anything else but a cup of fair water." (Is anyone surprised that the Indians didn't show up?)

And what about the pumpkin pie? The creamy confection we know and love was still several decades from discovery. Besides, on that July afternoon, there was no flour, the pumpkins weren't ripe and sugar remained a luxury not found in the pantry.

While the details have varied over the years, the twin impulses of Thanksgiving have remained the same. People come together with glad hearts to give thanks for what they have and happily share their bounty—whether humble or grand—with friends and family alike. It's a day on which fellowship takes center stage—when simply being with people you care about is all that truly matters. There really isn't any other time of year when we thankfully reflect on what we've got. Taking stock of the good things in your life is one of the most energizing things you can do for yourself. It's a healthy counterbalance to the negatives that tend to crowd our waking moments and trouble our sleep.

Wherever life finds you this Thanksgiving, take time to reflect. Count your blessings and enjoy every one of them. Have fun. Celebrate and share! —*Ebert*

# What's Happening in November

4

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music and Children's Chapel

4

- 9:30 Breakfast with Santa Volunteer Meeting

5

- Noon, Ladies Lunch Bunch, Marsalas, 5324 Atascocita Rd.

6

- 8:00 Breakfast Brothers, Atascocita IHOP

6

- 9:30 Red Hat Society
- 5:00 PM Kingwood Memory Cafe

8

- 7:00 PM Daughters of the King

10

- 8:30 Brotherhood of St. Andrew
- 9:30 Choir Practice

11

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music and Children's Chapel

11

- 6:00 PM — 7:30 EYC

18

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music and Children's Chapel

25

- 8:00 Holy Eucharist (Spoken)
- 10:30 Holy Eucharist with Music and Children's Chapel

# FYI



## Food for the Hungry

This year, in preparation for the holidays, **HAAM** has asked us to provide **400 cans of fruit** to help stock the food pantry. **Sunday, November 4**, is the last chance to bring your donation to the church. Please help out!

## Stewardship

The CTK Stewardship Campaign begins **November 4<sup>th</sup>**. **The Episcopal Church** explains stewardship as being grateful, responsible stewards of the gifts we receive from God. The tradition of giving back to God and to the church comes from the Biblical practice of “tithing,” which means to give back a tenth of our earnings to God (Numbers 18:26). The Episcopal Church sees stewardship as more than simply contributing money to the church; it’s also about contributing time and talents, and volunteering for ministry and mission. It’s about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity.



## EYC Meeting

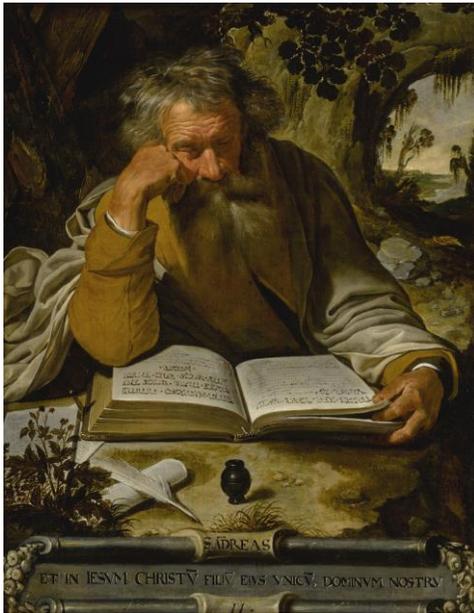


Our regular **EYC** meeting is scheduled for **November 11** between **6:00 and 7:30 PM**. Don't miss it!

FYI

## Saint Andrew the Apostle

### November 30



**Most biographical notes on this Apostle** begin “Andrew was Simon Peter’s brother,” and he is so described in the Gospels. Identifying Andrew as Peter’s brother makes it easy to know who he is, but it also makes it easy to overlook the fact of Andrew’s special gift to the company of Christ. The Gospel according to John tells how Andrew, a disciple of John the Baptist, was one of two disciples who followed Jesus after John had pointed him out, saying, “Behold the Lamb of God” (John 1: 29). Andrew and the other disciple went with Jesus and stayed with him, and Andrew’s first act afterward was to find his brother and bring him to Jesus. We might call Andrew the first missionary in the company of disciples.

Though Andrew was not a part of the inner circle of disciples (Peter, James, and John), he is always named in the list of disciples, and appears prominently in several incidents. Andrew and Peter were fishermen, and Matthew’s Gospel records Jesus’ calling them from their occupation, and their immediate response to his call. Andrew was the disciple who brought the boy with the loaves and fishes to Jesus for the feeding of the multitude.

We hear little of Andrew as a prominent leader, and he seems always to be in the shadow of Peter. Eusebius, the Church historian, records his going to Scythia, but there is no reliable information about the end of his life. Tradition has it that he was fastened to an X-shaped cross and suffered death at the hands of angry pagans.

Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland.

*From Lesser Feasts and Fasts*

FYI



## Breakfast with Santa!

December 1, 2018

9:00-12:00

Santa Arrives at 9:00 am with the  
Atascocita Volunteer Fire Department

## Call for Volunteer Elves!

We need elves! Breakfast with Santa is coming up fast and we need plenty of elves to make this 8th season the best ever.

Sign up early to work in the area in which you are most comfortable. (But keep in mind that Santa may need to move you other areas as well!)

There will be a meeting of volunteers on Sunday, **November 4 at 9:30.**

You can sign-up here: [Volunteer Elves](#)

# Time to Celebrate!



*November 4* Rollins Dalles-Joiner

*November 6* Valerie Bonnie

*November 7* Vivian Maende

*November 14* Rice Aston

*November 15* Tracey Bulau

*November 15* Martin Reyna

*November 15* Sofia Reyna

*November 16* Madelynn Clevenger

*November 17* DeDe Holbrook

*November 23* Logan McNeil

*November 26* Xavier Goudeaux

## Happy Anniversary!

*November 4* Alan and Fiona Aston

*November 7* Burge and D'Andra Darwin

*November 12* Terry and Eva Green



# Who's Doing What?

## Vestry Member of the Day and Counter

*November 4* – Bruce Newport, Barbara Spence

*November 11* – Barry Rought, Edie McDaniel

*November 18* – Shawn Sanders, Larry Lentz

*November 25* – Rachael Shedeed, John Dowell

## Usher Schedule

*November 4*

- 8:00 – Robert Lunson and Rachel Shaye
- 10:30 – Bruce and Diane Newport

*November 11*

- 8:00 – Henry Lee and Robert Keller
- 10:30 – Caren Thomas, Alan Aston, Phoebe, Michael McNeil

*November 18*

- 8:00 – Rod and Anne Rodriguez
- 10:30 – George and Barbara Spence

*November 25*

- 8:00 – Leon and Connie Brashier
- 10:30 – Mike and Edie McDaniel

## Lay Reader and Chalice Bearer Schedule

*November 4*

- 8:00 – Debbie Lee
- 10:30 – Fiona Aston (LR), Valerie Bonnie (CB1), Rice Aston (CB2)

*November 11*

- 8:00 – Deb Tisch
- 10:30 – Julie Langler (LR), Lynda Rought (CB1) Dan Langler (CB2)

*November 18*

- 8:00 – Theresa Reed
- 10:30 – Barbara Spence (LR), Susan Lunson (CB1) Shawn Sanders (CB2)

*November 25*

- 8:00 – George Ebert
- 10:30 – Rosalie Pyle (LR), Rice Aston (CB1) Lesley Exum (CB2)

# Staff, Vestry and Contacts

## Our Staff

Reverend David Nelson, Rector [bgchaplain@gmail.com](mailto:bgchaplain@gmail.com)  
Edie McDaniel, Church Secretary [ctkhumble@gmail.com](mailto:ctkhumble@gmail.com)  
Drew Balog, Organist [dbalog@hotmail.com](mailto:dbalog@hotmail.com)  
Tracey Bulau, Youth Director [tabulau@gmail.com](mailto:tabulau@gmail.com)  
*Staff Members may also be reached via our main phone line: (281) 852-1990*

## Our Vestry

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Vestry Appointed Positions:

Rachael Shedeed, *Clerk of the Vestry*  
Bill Williams, *Treasurer*

## Where to Find Us and How to Contact Us

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*Facebook:* [facebook.com/ChristTheKingEpiscopal/](https://facebook.com/ChristTheKingEpiscopal/)

# The Back Page

## Vestry's Financial Summary as of September 30, 2018

Revenues and Expenses Year-to-Date	
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$217,204</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$224,189</b>
<b>Total Revenue Less Expenses</b>	<b>(\$6,985)</b>
<b>Cash Accounts</b>	
<b>Operating Account</b>	<b>\$63,633</b>
<b>Capital Campaign</b>	<b>\$33,440</b>
<b>Reserve</b>	<b>\$3,845</b>
<b>Building</b>	<b>\$1,092</b>
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$102,010</b>

## Concealed Handgun and Open Carry Restrictions

### NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (Trespass by License Holder with a Concealed Handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Handgun Licensing Law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun.

### NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (Trespass by License Holder with an Openly Carried Handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (Handgun Licensing Law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly.

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Got something for the Newsletter? Send questions, comment or news to the editor at [ebertg@gmail.com](mailto:ebertg@gmail.com)