



The
CHURCH MOUSE

Through the Grace of God, the mission of St. Andrew's is to nurture each person's relationship with God through worship, praise, and study, to be a loving community, and to spread Christ's Kingdom.

Chronicle

October 2009

Come and *inquire* about St. Andrew's or the Episcopal Church

Past, present, future bring your questions,

Fr. Bob has the answers!



Our fall Inquirer's Class will be held on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m.

Everyone is welcome.

Class Schedule:

October 4 - Book of Common Prayer

"Common But not Ordinary" (BCP)

Before there was a Prayer Book

Development of the BCP

In the Colonies and USA

Our Current BCP

October 11 - The Anglican Story - Where We Came From

Overview

The Reformation

The Church in America

Oklahoma / Stillwater

October 18 - The Holy Scripture

Origins

The Story of Salvation: Old Testament, New Testament, Apocrypha

October 25 - Sacraments and Church Order

Major Sacraments

Lesser Sacraments

Church Order and Governance



At our house we can tell it is fall.

There are the things like football on TV just about every day (not much on Tuesdays, for some reason), and leaves are starting to blow up on the back porch!

And we can also tell fall is here because just about all the worthy causes in town (and beyond) are asking for donations!

There is the United Way, Friends of This and That, This and That's Foundation, and on and on.

In October you can add St. Andrew's to this list of those seeking support for the coming year.

Shortly our parish's annual Every Member Canvass will be addressing not only our church's needs but also our spiritual need as Christian stewards to share the gifts that God has lovingly given to us.

+++

There is a proposal being presented by the Bishop and the Diocesan Council to November's Diocesan Convention which would change the way congregations support the programs of the Diocese.

Currently each church pays an assessment to the Diocese of 21.5% of its operating income—minus a few deductions. These funds support about 50% of the Diocese's program budget—the rest coming from endowment income (which is currently in the tank).

In the proposed model the assessment rate (now called Mutual Ministry Support) would be paid at a lower percentage rate and the amount paid will be based on the previous month's income. As a result we will be dealing with real time circumstances not those from two years ago.

+++

Back to our church.

I would challenge each of us to prayerfully approach our church pledge in the same way the Diocese proposes to fund Mutual Ministry.

When you get your church pledge card this month determine a percentage of what God has provided—the 10% tithe is a traditional marker but may not work for you right now—and apply that percentage, whatever it may be, to your monthly income as your church contribution.

As your income rises (hopefully) or falls so will the monthly pledge payment. Less stress, less guilt in a bad month and a way to give additional thanks in a good month.

For budget purposes—yours and ours—on your pledge card we ask that you give a good faith annual estimate of what your prayerfully chosen percentage—1%, 3%, 5%, etc—would equal in \$\$\$.

By the end of the year that \$\$\$ may or may not be the end result but up or down your stewardship plan has been followed.

One last thing.

You might ask: "Church giving as a percentage of What!?" Before taxes or after taxes, before the United Way or after, before the house payment or after? That is between you and the Lord.

The stewardship principle of returning to God a portion of His gifts to us and the spiritually liberating and priority setting choices it gives us is the Church's teaching.

The parish certainly needs the \$\$\$ but really that is not all there is to being a Christian steward.

Fr. Bob

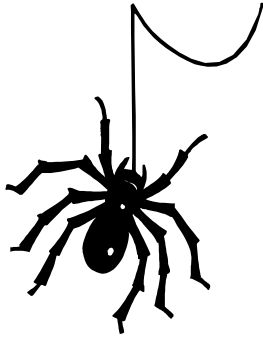


St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
516 West Third
Stillwater, OK 74074

The Rev. Robert Fellows, Rector
The Rev. Mary Hileman, College Chaplain
Debi Hodson, Office Administrator



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



You are invited to St. Andrew's
annual
FAMILY HALLOWEEN
PARTY !



Date: Sunday, October 25th

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Parish Hall and upstairs
in the Education Building

Trick or Treat

Join us for the
Haunted House
upstairs in the
Education Building



Creepy

Kids:

Wear your favorite costume
(and dress up your parents, too!)



There will be games for our
little goblins
fun, snacks, and of course,
CANDY for everyone !

P.S. Please bring a snack item (finger food) with you to share.

LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE -- OCTOBER				
	October 4 <i>18 Pentecost</i>	October 11 <i>19 Pentecost</i>	October 18 <i>20 Pentecost</i>	October 25 <i>21 Pentecost</i>
Vestry Person	Joyce Cox	Heidi Hoart	Valerie Bloodgood	Chuck Jones
Counters	Rusty Muns Greg Wilber	Scott Blackwell Alan Bodine	Heidi Hoart Angie Walter	Bill Armstrong Marlene Strathe
Acolytes	Adam Bracy Melanie Kiser Gwen Tipling Samantha Bracy	Atticus Mullon Chloe Cox Maggie Walter Bruce Jackson Maia Cruse	Miranda Eaton Maia Cruse Stella Frisby Stuart Blackwell Ethan Blackwell	Katie Lawlor Courtney Lawlor Claire Tipling Alex Boyington Chloe Cox
Greeters	Jeanne Schroeder Eric Lovelace	Bill Dunn Millie Naff	Charles Foreman Pam Altizer	Velma Sanders Art Crotzer
Lay Readers	Steve Miller Jay Boyington Edwin Sutherland	Pam Altizer Tommy Kiser John Irons	Ellen Ross Jack Knorr Leslie Baker	Jeanne Schroeder Brad Rickelman Lynn Franzmann
LEV	Bill and Roberta Armstrong	Velma Sanders	Susan Chinburg-Locy	Leslie Baker
After Church Snacks	Bond Family	Baker/Bracy Family	Jerry Sutherland Family	Farr Family



Attendance #'s

Date:	8:00 am	10:30 am
Aug. 2	26	80
Aug. 9	32	92
Aug. 16	29	104
Aug. 23	28	108
Aug. 30	34	92
Sept. 6	28	100
Sept. 13	30	107
Sept. 20	29	88
Sept. 27	32	102

Monthly Budget for:
Pledge: 16,464.58
Plate: 3,500.00



Pledge Offerings

Date:	Pledge	Plate
Aug. 2	6177.50	1113.00
Aug. 9	2008.00	503.56
Aug. 16	3672.50	298.00
Aug. 23	1417.50	350.90
Aug. 30	3111.50	639.81
	16387.00	2905.27
Sept. 6	5301.50	651.00
Sept. 13	3117.50	1964.50
Sept. 20	1130.00	572.25
Sept. 27	2905.00	534.83
	12454.00	3722.58

Why Do We Have Halloween

Halloween ORIGINS combines the Origins festival of the Druids. Customs were derived from people who celebrated the Sabbaths of the old religion. These Sabbaths existed in Europe before Christianity and Christian customs and beliefs. The festival once marked the beginning of the winter animal breeding season. The earliest celebrations were held in the open fields. The evening before the holiday, torches, lanterns and candles lit the way to the meeting place. Fall turnips, potatoes and other solid vegetables were hallowed out and used as holders to help carry the candles without dripping hot wax. Slits or faces were cut into the vegetables to let more light shine through.

Apples - still an important part of Halloween celebrations - were carried to eat, as were small packages of food. Great fires were lit and people often danced around the light. Animals were sometimes sacrificed in hopes of increased births in the season to come. In England, the ancient Britons celebrated their Druid New - Year on November 1st, so that the last night of October was New Year's Eve. The fires were meant to frighten off the spirits believed gathered to discuss who was to die in the year to come. People dressed as ghosts to fool the spirits of the dead into thinking that only a few living people were at the celebration.

Some believed that on New Year's Eve the souls of the people who had sinned passed into animals. Animals and even humans were sacrificed to keep the spirits too busy with the souls of the dead to bother with the living. When Romans invaded England and other parts of Europe, they stopped the sacrifices, but many of the other customs continued.

The holiday was adopted by the Christians in the 700's, as All Hallows ' Eve and All Hallows' Day - a time to honor all the Saints of the Church who were not honored by an individual day. The name of the Holiday we now celebrate comes from this Christian holiday, but most of the customs and superstitutions about Halloween are more Pagan than Christian.



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
516 West Third
Stillwater, OK 74074

standrews@brightok.net
www.saintandrewschurch.org

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Stillwater, Oklahoma
Permit No. 153

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

