

# GRAINS OF SAND

## The Episcopal Mission of St. Andrew's By-The-Lake

# Logoi from Theo



January 2013

*Lo-gos* (*lo'gos*; n. pl. *lo'goi*) [Greek: speech, word, reason]

As I write this, it is still the fourth week of Advent, but soon, soon it will be Christmas, the Feast of the Nativity, the birth of "God with us." Then we shall have twelve days of rejoicing and celebration, one for each month of the year, a cosmic representation of wholeness and completion. For that is what this birth means. And after Christmas, Epiphany, the time of the manifestation, the showing forth of the glory of God.

In this birth the light has come to us, though it is still dark in the world, though evil and death still has its time. But the light cannot be contained; it will burst forth like the sun breaking over the mountains and glory will stream across the earth. It is time for us to stand and lift our faces to the light, to the Son of Justice, and let the face of God make our faces radiant and set our hearts throbbing with life and hope. One day all the world will see and know what has entered the world and human history in the presence of this child born of Mary.



For now there are strangers, Wise Ones from the east who have seen the signs and caught sight of a star, a portent of another power now on earth. They come searching, wanting to offer gifts and homage and to align themselves with the future and what is a-borning on the earth. They stumble into Herod's palace, into the domain of those who care only for their own life and place in the world, and their good news disturbs those who make the world secure only for those who hate and destroy.

But as soon as they leave, the star finds them again and leads them home. It stays where the child sleeps with Mary his mother. They kneel and worship and give over their hearts. And as soon as they do, they too begin to have dreams and to recognize evil and know wisdom. They are given gifts and they learn to go home by another way.

Another way—that's what Advent and Christmas are all about—another way to live, another way to love, another way to belong.

Some years ago, every primary (grades k-6), middle (grades 7-9) and secondary (grades 10-12) school (including home schools) around the world was invited to submit, via e-mail, two lines of poetry about peace to the United Nations. Submissions were limited to one per school and school level. Poems came in from 38 countries around the world. Once collected, the lines were collated together into one long *Peace Poem*, and redistributed to all participants as well as posted on the Web.

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I offer a selection below; you can find the whole project here: [www.un.org/cyberschoolbus/peaceday/poem.asp](http://www.un.org/cyberschoolbus/peaceday/poem.asp).

Peace is an eternal dove,  
Just like ever-lasting love.  
*Escanaba, MI, US*

Peace is as good as a grain of oats,  
war is as bad as the nose of a wolf.  
*Oulu, Finland*

If there is no peace  
there will be no future  
*Firenze, Italy*

Hands for love, eyes for help,  
heart for care and evil will melt.  
*Buenos Aires, Argentina*



I help other people.  
I make peace in the world.  
*Överkalix, Sweden*

We want a world where lots of people are talking  
together. We want a world where people are  
working together.  
*Lusaka, Zambia*

Friendship, our personal stepping stone to peace,  
hard to find, easily lost, never forgotten.  
*Spittal, Austria*

Peace is like a butterfly, flying on a very thin line,  
If it faces winds of war, it will fall and live no more.  
*Collingwood, Ontario, Canada*

As followers of Christ we are summoned to honor  
a child, born Peace, who is the embodiment of the  
new way. He will grow up to show us the way of  
compassion and justice for all creation. Peace  
dwells among us, hidden and growing stronger.  
Keep your eyes open and you will catch a glimpse  
of the glory of God who stays at home with us  
now, until forever.

Blessing to you and yours this Christmas, this  
Epiphany, and throughout the new year.

*Theo+*

## January/February Calendar of Events

(Greater details of these events are  
on following pages)

JANUARY							2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				

- 1/4 Readers Choice Book Club of St. Andrew's
- 1/6 Feast of the Epiphany, Holy Eucharist and Pageant
- 1/9 Bishop's Committee meeting at 5:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's
- 1/10 New Adult Book Study Begins
- 1/11 Friday Morning Prayer Group
- 1/11 Mark Russell at UMD
- 1/13 CHUM Bag Lunches
- 1/15 Discovery Team Meeting
- 1/20 Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
- 1/22 CHUM Dinner prepared and served
- 1/25 Grains of Sand Deadline
- 1/26 SABTL Saturday Stitchers
- 1/27 Holiday Service Project Ends
- 2/2 TEC Wisdom Team Overnight
- 2/3 Assemble Life House Kits
- 2/10 Share the Love Fundraiser
- 2/17 Annual Meeting

## St. Andrew's Youth Group News and Events

### Calendar of Events:



### January 2013

#### Sunday 1/6

9:45 a.m. Worship and Epiphany Pageant,  
12 p.m. to 2 p.m. meet at Incline Station for Bowling. \$7.00/ person includes two hours of bowling and pizza.

#### Wednesday 1/9

6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Baking at St. Andrew's. Bake bars and cookies for Coffee Hour on 1/13.

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## Sunday 1/13

9:45 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m. Host Coffee Hour and help make bag lunches for CHUM.

## Sunday 1/20

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser**  
(50% of the proceeds go to Life House and 50% go to youth programming at St. Andrew's.)

## February 2013

### Saturday 2/2

1 p.m. Saturday through  
9 a.m. Sunday morning,  
**TEC WISDOM TEAM**  
(overnight planning  
meeting at St. Andrew's.)



### Sunday 2/3

10:45 a.m. Assemble Life Aid kits for Life House during Coffee Hour.  
Video presentation for Life House.

### Sunday 2/10

9:45 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Host Coffee Hour and help make bag lunches for CHUM.

### Sunday 2/17

12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Bon Fire, hot dog roast, winter games at St. Andrew's.

As you can see by the schedule, we have discontinued trying to meet on Wednesday nights. Many youth are busy with school and other commitments and are finding it difficult to gather for an evening during the week.

## Talking to Your Children Following a Tragedy

I am still in shock and disbelief following the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut. The first thing I did was call my daughter Alyson and tell her that I love her and then gave her a big hug when I saw her. Tragic events like the one in Sandy Hook, Columbine or even on 9/11 leaves me with the question, *"How do I talk to young people (as a father, adult and youth leader) about the tragic event?"* One of the hardest questions we sometimes face is "Why?" I came across an article by Dr. Robin Gurwitch who is a psychologist and professor at Dukes University and studies the impact of trauma and disasters on children. I thought this was an excellent article and offers some very good tips on talking to your children about the tragedy at Sandy Hook. I took a few excerpts from the article and there is a link to the entire article below.

Dr. Gurwitch stresses that no matter how difficult communication may be for some parents; a conversation about the Connecticut shooting must take place.

*"If kids know and you won't talk about it, it takes on a life of its own,"* Dr. Gurwitch explained. *"They'll think, 'It must be so horrible and so unbearable to talk about, that my parents can't even talk about it.' or 'My parents don't know and I don't want to upset them.' It's one of the hardest conversations to have with a child, anytime you talk about a tragedy. It's not easy for anybody. And if you wait for them to bring it up, it's often unlikely they will."*

Ultimately, the first step towards healing is simple, said Gurwitch, *"I will echo what I heard in President Obama's news conference: 'Go home and hug your children.'"*



Read more: <http://www.voxxi.com/connecticut-shooting-talking-to-children/#ixzz2FMQusBiB>

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## **SABTL Pilgrims: Where are they and what are they doing now?**

Look for updates on the St. Andrew's youth who have graduated from high school in a new segment called SABTL Pilgrims: *"Where are they and what are they doing now"* to begin in the February Grains of Sand.



Peace!

Brian

## **Christian Formation for Children and Youth**

The Christian Formation for the children of St. Andrew's By-The-Lake begins a new session on January 13 following the Pageant on January 6.

**We have a teacher opening for middle and high school.**

A schedule of lesson plans and activities are provided using the Reform videos and discussion. Please consider signing up for a 2-month segment or split 4 months with someone and divide the schedule as convenient.

Thank you to Karen Nichols for teaching the middle and high school the past two months.

The elementary school children are a creative group and enjoy interpreting the bible stories with pictures and crafts! Cameron Hubley will teach the elementary class the next session.

Peace,

Sally Buck



## **Discovery Team Update**

December 2012

As we approach the New Year my **sincere thanks** goes out to both the Discovery Team and all of our church members who took the time to participate in this Discovery Process. Many of you have attended meetings, completed the survey and recently participated in the Focus Group meetings.

The Discovery Team has taken all of the input, reviewed it and compiled it. At our last meeting, December 18, we completed the initial draft of the "Ministry Profile." The draft will be refined and includes both an overview of who we are, what we are looking for in a new "Priest in Charge" and what we can offer in terms of salary and benefits to our new Priest. The compiled information going into the "Ministry Profile" has come from both the Discovery Team and the Bishop's Committee.



Once the "Ministry Profile" has been completed it will be approved by the Bishop's Committee and then sent on to our Bishop for approval and any suggested changes. The final "Ministry Profile" document will be circulated throughout the Episcopal Church letting Episcopal Clergy know that we are in the search process. Along with this the Discovery Team is also drafting a summary document further describing St. Andrew's. It will provide an overview of our history and a more detailed profile of whom we are today touching on the make-up of our membership, our common ministries, beliefs and our passions and priorities. This document will be sent to any one indicating an interest in looking at the position St. Andrew's is offering.

When the Discovery Team completes the "Ministry Profile" and the overview of St. Andrew's the Discovery Team will have completed

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the work it was charged to do. The St. Andrew's "Search Committee" will then take over the process of interviewing and finding our new spiritual leader.

We are on track and hope to have both documents at the St. Andrew's annual meeting on February 17. The next meeting of the Discovery Team is on January 15, 2013. Again, my thanks to all who have shared their thoughts and participated in the Discovery Process.

Submitted by Mark Bovee

## Reader's Choice Book Club of St. Andrew's January 4

We will have our first monthly meeting for 2013 on Friday, January 4 at Noon at Porter's. Join us to eat a great lunch and to hear about many exciting books that you may want to read. Share an hour with friends from St. Andrew's.

Submitted by Sandy Carlson

## Adult Formation January 10

Starting January 10, we will read and discuss Elaine Pagels' fascinating new (2012) take on the **Book of Revelation**.

Entitled *Revelations:*

*Visions, Prophecy, and Politics in the Book of Revelation*, Pagels' book is described as accessible and powerful, appealing to both religious history buffs and spiritual seekers attracted to mystic Christianity. She brings her impeccable scholarship to bear, detailing the social and political forces that were most likely in play when Revelations was written, and what the symbolism within it would have meant to readers at the time. She



also explores the way it has been interpreted over time, and how different groups have used it at crises points in history to assert they are on the "right" side of God, while their enemies are not.

(For more, see [www.amazon.com/Revelations-Visions-Prophecy-Politics-Revelation/dp/0670023345](http://www.amazon.com/Revelations-Visions-Prophecy-Politics-Revelation/dp/0670023345).)

Please sign up in the Mission Hall for either morning or evening session and to order a book. Cost of the book is \$18 but no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

## Friday Prayer Group January 11

We will meet at 9:30 in the Mission Hall. Our format will be a short meditation on the Gospel for the coming Sunday and prayer for the world, the church universal and our parish. Special needs and requests for prayer are invited.



Submitted by Joanne Blyler

## Mark Russell's Midwest Appearance at UMD January 11

Rarely has one person made such an impact on American politics in the late twentieth century than satirist Mark Russell. Before Jon Stewart, before Stephen Colbert, Mark Russell tickled our funny bones while attempting to untangle the mess we lovingly call Capitol Hill. While TV Guide once referred to him as "*the funniest man on television*," Mark Russell disagrees. For him, "*the funniest guys are always on C-SPAN*."



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UMD School of Fine Arts and Office of the  
Chancellor present: **MARK RUSSELL**

To Benefit UMD Theatre Scholarships  
Hosted by Tom & Pat Isbell

Friday, January 11, 2013 @ 7 pm  
Marshall Performing Arts Center  
\$25 - admission (admission price is not a  
tax-deductible contribution)  
Tickets: 218-726-8561 | [www.tickets.umn.edu](http://www.tickets.umn.edu)  
[Buy Tickets Now!](#)

## Peace and Justice January 22

We are on CHUM's  
calendar for January 22  
to make and serve dinner  
again. Please watch for  
sign-up sheets in the  
Mission Hall. Ginny Berger will lead the cooking  
crew and Margaret Handley will help with the  
serving crew. We'll need help with cooking, trans-  
porting and serving the dinner, and donations of  
dessert bars (fruit, too). January is a cold month  
and the hot meal is much appreciated at CHUM.



Submitted by Margaret Handley

## SABTL Saturday Stitchers January 26

Our next meeting is Saturday, January 26 from  
9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Mission Hall. Sandy  
Carlson will host the gathering and provide the  
main dish. If you haven't joined us, please consider  
doing so. (Make coming to Stitchers, as often as  
possible, one of your New Year's resolutions.)

Submitted by Sandy Carlson

## Share the Love February 10



St. Andrew's Peace and Justice  
Committee is pleased to announce a return  
concert with Bill and Laurie Bastien for our  
"Share the Love" fundraiser.

This year's music will be on Sunday, February 10,  
beginning with delicious desserts at 6:30 p.m.,  
followed by great music at 7 p.m.. Tickets will be  
available soon for this free concert. There will be a  
free-will donation.

This year we are also planning to have a silent  
auction with a variety of white elephant gifts. Sign  
up sheets will soon be available in the Mission  
Hall to volunteer to donate desserts, help with the  
set-up/clean-up and donate those "special" gifts  
with which you are willing to part. Please help  
support this activity to raise funds for St.  
Andrew's programs that benefit CHUM and other  
outreach activities.

Submitted Ginny Berger

## Annual Meeting February 17

We will gather following the regular 9:45 a.m.  
service to approve the minutes of last year's  
meeting; elect new wardens, Vestry members,  
and regional delegates; receive the treasurer's  
report; consider the adoption of new by-laws;  
and entertain any new business that might arise.  
All are invited to stay for a potluck luncheon to  
follow. Sign up soon in the Mission Hall,

PS: We're still looking for a  
few good candidates. If it's  
your time to step up, please  
speak to Ellen Pillsbury. Check  
the job description pamphlet  
on the table in the Mission  
Hall.



## Friday Prayer Group Outreach

This is a note of thanks to everyone who supported the Friday Prayer Group in our Advent and outreach activities. We began our program by visiting the Seafarers' Center where we decorated the Christmas tree and packed gift boxes for seafarers visiting the port. We left boxes of cookies for treats for visitors to the center. For men and women far from home these are welcome gifts of hospitality. We finished the day by sharing lunch at a West End restaurant.



We had asked for donations of cookies to augment our own baking efforts and we were richly rewarded. We visited Bayshore on December 14. We had a carol sing, a service of Eucharist, and shared treats with residents and staff. At least 40 residents and staff members attended the event. None of us came away untouched by some remark or gesture during the visit.

We continued our activities by creating baskets for several members of our parish community who can't join us in our worship on Sundays. The baskets were delivered and some of the group serenaded Bill Sharp and Gladys Nelson with carols.

No good deed goes unrewarded and we were able to share the remainder of our cookies at coffee hour on December 16. Talk about the loaves and fishes expanding to feed all who gathered—we had all we needed and some left over! Thanks to all who contributed to this set of miracle moments. Special thanks to Father Theo who, once again, by his lovely worship service made these moments particularly tender and intimate for all the participants.

Submitted by Joanne Blyler

## Photo Exhibit and Silent Auction



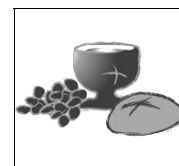
We want to remind everyone that almost all of the framed photos in our current history exhibit are available for purchase. This is a fundraiser for the church.

Each picture has a number that corresponds to a page in the "Silent Auction" book in the mission hall. Decide which pictures you would like and find the corresponding pages in the book. Write your name and how much you wish to bid. The minimum is \$5.00 for each picture. Bidding will end when the exhibit comes down after Easter and the framed paintings are distributed to the highest bidders.

If someone is not interested in buying a picture but would like to make a monetary donation, contributions can be placed in the collection plate labeled "Photo Exhibit Donation."

If you have questions ask Ellie Alsbach, Donna Grover, or Arlene Renken.

## Fr. Theo's Tenure Extended



At their December 12 meeting, the Bishop's Committee voted to extend Fr. Theo's Letter of Agreement on a month-to-month basis until such time as a new priest is called or Fr. Theo gives notice of his intention to leave.

## Membership Directory Change

Brian Lundberg has a new address:  
2534 Harvey St. Duluth, MN 55811

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of St. Andrew's  
By-The-Lake**

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*A People  
on the Way  
to  
knowing,  
loving,  
and  
serving God.*

We're on Facebook  
and the Web!  
[standrewsbythelake.org](http://standrewsbythelake.org)



## Holiday Service Project



We are continuing to seek monetary donations to make "Life Aid" kits for **Life House** through Sunday, January 27, 2013. We will be assembling the kits on Sunday, February 3, 2013 during Coffee Hour. Each kit cost approximately \$10.00. Our goal is to raise \$500.00 to make 50 kits. To date, we have raised \$230.00 towards this effort. **Thank you** for your generosity of time and money.

On Sunday, December 9 many of you wrote out positive sayings or Bible Verses on cards to go into the Life Aid kits during the Homily. Thank You!

Submitted by Brian Lundberg



Friday, January 25 is the deadline  
for the February Grain of Sand.