

# The Communicator

The monthly newsletter of  
Calvary St. Andrew's  
Presbyterian Parish,  
Rochester, NY

January, 2012

Volume 12, Issue 1

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## In the Christmas spirit...



Xavier was one of the youth who helped to pack the 58 Christmas baskets that went to needy families. Read about this effort inside on page 3.

## CSA Receives Special Gifts

In November, after careful deliberation and thought, **Kay Burnett** made a decision to move from her beloved home in the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward to the River Edge Apartments at the Episcopal Church Home. Daughter Kitty Porterfield was in town to take Kay to see the apartments and to help her think through options for the future. Those two crafty women surprised our pastor who had taken them lunch. Kitty turned to her mother and said, "Do you want me to tell her or should I?" "I guess if I have to", Kay replied. "I've decided to gift the house to the church." Yes, Calvary St. Andrew's, there is a Spirit alive and well that supports our ministry! Thank you, Kay Burnett, for your wisdom, generosity and major gift.

The session accepted the intent of the gift and its custodial responsibility. Through mutual agreement with our lawyers, Kay will maintain ownership of the property, CSA will get it ready for sale and work with a relator to market the property by mid-February. At the time of the sale, Kay will turn proceeds to the parish. By handling the gift in such a manner, CSA eliminates having to gain trustees, Presbytery and Supreme Court approval to sell the property. Elder Ben Munson is completing a Comparative Market analysis of the house in relationship to the community. The house has three bedrooms, inlaid floors, a pantry, one and half baths, a new roof and original woodwork. Please be on the lookout

for family or friends that might like to live in the 19<sup>th</sup> Ward. Houses sell for under \$70,000, so it can be a good deal for interested parties. Kay's



grandchildren arrived from North Carolina and Washington to pack up the house, move Kay to the new apartment, and dispose of household items. Nestled into her new apartment (pictured above), Kay has "slept like a log"—a tribute, she says, to having made the decision to move on her terms.

In addition to the gift of the house from Kay Burnett, we received other special gifts for the general mission of the congregation from **Amy Hay, Cheryl Kauffman, Dr. Lois Nelson, Gary and Marjorie Robison, Katherine Porterfield** and the **Gates Presbyterian Church**. Thank you for your commitment to our mission and ministry.

## Save the Date: January 29: Annual Meeting and Brunch

Each year the session creatively presents the ministry of the congregation in song, drama and of course the regular business meeting and worship. The festive day begins at 9:15 with a brunch, so bring a dish to pass. Following the brunch we begin our combination of worship and annual business meeting.

We'll pass the 2012 budget, elect officers and celebrate all the wonderful ways God has blessed our community this year. Especially we remember the gift of \$90,000 from the Presbytery for the mortgage on the roof and the sale of 136 Averill Avenue.

If you are interested in being on session, Partners In Ministry or Hospitality please contact a member of the Nominating Team: Rev. Hay, Maureen Metzler, Nancy Straub or Vera Mascaro.



## Pastoral News and Notes

We received the unfortunate word that former CSA parishioner **Rebecca Garrison** 34, died. Rebecca grew up in the parish, lived on Averill, the daughter of Christine and Wayne Garrison. Her obituary reads: Rebecca Garrison-Sokoloff 34, of Hemstead, NH died after a long illness on Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup> at her home. She is survived by husband: Dale Sokoloff, Parents Christine and Wayne Garrison, of Baltimore, Md. Contributions can be made in Rebecca's memory Cambodian Children's Fund at [cambodianchildrensfund.org](http://cambodianchildrensfund.org) or Melanoma Research Fund at BIDMC c/o Dr. Michael Atkins, Masco Bldg. Room 412, 375 Longwood Ave, Boston, Ma 02215. Please keep her family in your prayers.

**Norma Kennedy** has been diagnosed with bladder cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy. Please keep Norma and Andy in your prayers during this stressful time of health related issues.

## Youth Corner

"Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow..." the refrain is a mantra by eager youth ready to test their sledding acumen. Hopefully **January 8<sup>th</sup>** after service the youth will have their way and enough snow will have fallen to warrant testing out our sledding abilities at Highland Park.



**January 22<sup>nd</sup>** interested youth and adults will go bowling at Empire Lanes in Webster. Sign up to attend this annual event with Patty Singh.



CSA welcomes the new co-owners of the Coffee Connection on South Avenue, the **Jimmy Reeder and Joy Bergfalk**. We look forward to new potential ministry opportunities and partnerships.

CSA sends warm wishes to Marsha Reed and Ginny Weisel as they begin a new chapter in their lives as foster parents.

The choir under the direction of **Don Tirabassi**, accompanied by **Brian Soule** performed "Lead Me Back To Bethlehem" by Pepper Choplin. The church was decorated in beautiful fashion



as the choir brought the spirit of the season into worship with their beautiful music. Sandra Ehaman served as narrator. The following week, Don led the congregation in a carole-sing during coffee hour. Thank you, choir and musicians, for your dedication.



## An 80th Birthday Surprise for Mildred Anderson

The room was filled with family and friends; excitement was in the air, now all that was needed was the guest of honor. Suddenly word spread throughout the room---"she's here." As she walked down the stairs and into the room the familiar reframe echoed, "Surprise, Happy Birthday". Surprise registered on Mildred Anderson's face that the well-worn words were meant for her on the 80<sup>th</sup> year of her birth.

Mildred's children and sisters were behind the surprise event that brought everyone together to honor her. Several people gave testimonies that shared similar themes: sacrifice to raise her five children, dedication as a teacher at Baden Street Settlement House, service to Christ in her volunteer work at the church in packing bags

for the food ministry, generosity of heart and soul, and Mildred's keen intelligence, to name a few examples. Mildred is a scholar of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Civil Rights movement. Calvary St. Andrew's members and friends know the astounding role model she

has been for children and adults.

On Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> Mildred received a standing ovation from the congregation and a bouquet of flowers. The Food Cupboard staff also celebrated on Tuesday, December 20.

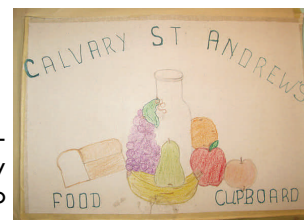


*Mildred Anderson at her surprise party with Ron and Norma Maier.*

## News from the Emergency Food Cupboard

The Huffington Post in a September 28, 2011 article entitled "Food Cupboards Become A Mainstay," cites the recent plight of the poor, the unemployed and disabled. It states, "A report released by Feeding America, a hunger-relief organization, finds that food banks that were originally created to serve as stop-gap emergency food providers are now taking a long-term, chronic role for Americans turning to them routinely to get enough to eat." The organization's study, "Food Banks: Hunger's New Staple," analyzed data compiled in 2009 as part of the group's "Hunger in America 2010" report. The latest analysis showed that 18 percent of those surveyed said they used food pantries six to 11 months of the previous year, while 36 percent said they used them every month. The survey also found that among those 65 years and older, 56 percent went to a food pantry every month. And even those receiving aid in the form of supplemental nutrition money still needed more help, with 58 percent of them being frequent or monthly users.

Calvary St. Andrew's sees first-hand the impact of not having enough to eat caused by the economy and the stress it has on family systems. Through mid December 2011 the Food Ministry served over 5,000 people. Volunteers move hundreds of pounds of food a week for emergency bags, and to stock the shelves. The Tuesday Produce Day has increased from twice a month to weekly distribution. Foodlink brings a truck load of baked goods and produce early on Tuesdays which is distributed by volunteers to serve 60-80 families. We could not administer this program without the help of Robert Lauterbach, Sharon Hoffman, Joan Hendrick, John and Elaine McCorry, Robert Trotter, Dave Junot, Jim Willmott, Diane Szczerbacki, Mildred Anderson, Dallas Anderson and Judy Hay. On any Tuesday we invite you to stop in the church from 9-11 a.m. to see your ministry in action. Jesus' commandment was to feed people and CSA takes that commandment to heart.



## 58 Christmas Baskets!

**Barbara Mitchell** did an outstanding job of coordinating the generous Christmas food baskets by purchasing items not already donated. Beginning in early October, Barb (checking her figures in the photo right) screens families and individuals in the 14620 zip code for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. David Junot, James Robison, Robert Lau-

terbach, Pat Soule, Jim Willmott and Hugh Mitchell played significant supporting roles to ensure that 58 baskets went to deserving families. That translates to 89 adults and 52 children that received extra support due to everyone's generosity.

In addition to the baskets December is a heavy time that clients use the

emergency food cupboard. For example Jim Willmott handed out in one day food for over 20 families or individuals. That meant Mildred Anderson, our primary food packer, assembled 150 bags of groceries—THAT WAS IN ONE DAY.



## A Tribute and Thanks to Joan Hendrick

Joan Hendrick, one of our major Food Ministry volunteers, underwent hip surgery in late December. Due to her physical changes she has decided to shift her ministry to concentrate on the Blessed Sacrament Feeding Program. Robert Lauterbach sums up how important Joan has been to our volunteer staff: "I think I will start the process off by telling you that you will be missed by me and everyone else who you have dealt with in the Food Cupboard over the past 4 or 5 years! Why?...It is simple...you have the ability to bring compassion to people who need our services and also bring compassion to the people at Foodlink so we might actually get more. You know people and how to deal with them, you know what should get done, and you have solutions to problems as they arise. On a personal note, you have been my co-leader of the food cupboard for several years. With your larger van, and dedication to finding appropriate food either at the public market, or ordering at Foodlink, or attending their annual meeting, you have personally added a huge spark to making our cupboard what it is today. You have been the leader of the "downstairs" team and as their leader, have spent hours moving can goods around to make sure Mildred will have stuff ready when she needs it." On behalf of the whole Food Ministry staff we pay tribute to Joan Hendrick for her amazing contributions.

## Thanks to our Food Cupboard Donors

In our November newsletter several people were named as givers to support the Food Ministry including holiday baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas. In late November and December the Food Ministry received additional financial gifts, food donations and food drives to fund the Christmas baskets, Emergency Food and goods to stock shelves so people in need could access the cupboard to assist them during the holidays.

We pay tribute to our special angels with a hearty **thank you!** God is smiling at your generosity. The following people have given food, led food drives or supported holiday baskets:

Robin Comstock and Tom Arena, Episcopal Church Home Food Drive, Lynne Mitchell, Chester & Muriel Northhard, Florence Cufari, Daniel Harrison & Jeanette Henderson, Susan Henderson, Brenda & William Hay, Judith Trabert, Premier Pastry, Cheryl Stevens & Doug Root, Harry G. Lang and Bonnie Meath-Lang, Eva Wilcox, Everest Institute Food Drive, South Wedge Business Association, Linda W. Davey, Robert F. Sykes, Jean O. Brown, James & Dorothy Pink, Peg Donaghy & Jackie Trobia, Ann & Mark Haefele, Ellen & Edwin Kinnen, Anne B. Francis & Charles Francis, Miriam Hargate, Dennis & Marilyn Wienk, Advanced Glass Industries, Jill Kelly, RJ Kievit, V. Cooper, TJ O'Connell, Susan Feasy, Elaine & John McCorry, Beverly

Nies, Highland Park Neighbors, Rob and Karen Rhoades, Marsha Sundman & De Murphy, James and Pamela Metzler, Katrina Rex and Neighbor Works, Mohammed Zargar, Webster Presbyterian Church, and Pittsford Presbyterian Church.

Calvary St. Andrew's appreciates **every gift** made to the Food Ministry! Together we are following Christ's example to feed our neighbors.



## More Thank you's...from School 12 and to SWBA.

Dear Reverend Hay and member of Calvary St. Andrew's,

Thank you for your coat and clothing donation. Your generosity has made a difference to everyone here at School 12. Thank you so much!

Susan Allen, Parent Liaison  
James B. Duffy, School 12.

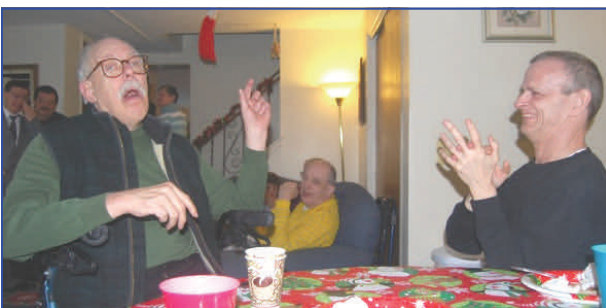
CSA takes this time to **thank the South Wedge Business Association** for co-sponsoring the Clothing Drive with us. Through parish appeals Dorrie DeVito and Angela Yost solicited clothing for the students at School Twelve. Additional clothing was brought to South Avenue with the **Business Association** at the holiday celebration "It's A Wonderful Life." CSA volunteers staffed a booth telling about the minis-

try of the food cupboard and the purpose of the clothing drive. The drive was so successful we filled the back of Net Officer Nancy Price's pickup truck.

This year **John Calvin Presbyterian Church** entered the partnership with us and added to the drive through their own solicitations. **Together we are making a difference!**



The annual STAR group Christmas party was a huge success. Below left John Burnett and Jeff Beers help to lead the group in Christmas Caroles. On the right, Tommy poses with Vera, Jackie, and Ty.



## Start the New Year in Community with Adult Ed at CSA

The new year is chock-full of great opportunities for small group discussion and education at Calvary St. Andrew's! Mark your calendar and don't miss out on the chance to get to know your neighbors better and deepen your own spiritual understanding.



January starts out with "Faith and Doubt at Ground Zero," presented by Pastoral Associate Kathy Madigan after church on Sundays, Jan. 8 and Jan. 15. The group will view a PBS film and discuss the issues it raises about the profound role of faith in confronting catastrophic events like 9/11.

Prepare for Lent by joining seminarian Diane Ellis after church on February 5, 12, and 19 to learn about, practice and discuss Spiritual Practices. The group will explore a number of different practices, including observing Sabbath and build on the work previously done at CSA around Wayne Muller's book.

Celebrate the Lenten season by participating in "Listening for God," a three-part program after church on Sundays, March 4, March 11 and March 18. Kathy Madigan will lead the group in reading a series of short stories and watching videotaped interviews with authors such as Alice Walker, Frederick Buechner, Flannery O'Connor, Annie Dillard, and Gail Godwin as they discuss how their faith has informed their work.

## Urban Presbyterians Together Hosts January Events

The education team is reading the book "Hope and Despair in the American City", a study of the Raleigh school system. That team is charged with finding ways for our ten Urban Presbyterian congregation to impact the city school district. Some churches are already involved in tutoring and after school activities. There's always room at the inn for more

folks to tutor, or be involved on the taskforce.

CSA needs a representative. The next meeting is January 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at Calvary. If urban education interests you and representing CSA seems like a natural fit please speak to Rev. Hay.

The other place CSA needs representation

is on the core planning team for UPT. The role is a lay liaison between UPT and Calvary. Presently only the pastor has been our link, so let's expand that contact and get a lay member on board.



## Scenes from our Christmas Pageant.....see more on page 6!



Reminder!

The deadline for the February issue of  
The Communicator is Sunday, January  
15. Please send your news items and  
photos to [lvicker@sjfc.edu](mailto:lvicker@sjfc.edu). Thank you!



## BLESSINGS TO OUR JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Maya Shermer
- 3 Jackie Trobia
- 8 John Robinson
- 10 Ginny Weisel
- 14 Paul DiSanto
- 15 Jeff Beer
- 16 Brendan Chapel-Mullins
- 18 Marlon Reid; Peg Rubley
- 20 Nicole Rivera
- 22 Chris Patti
- 28 Laura Parker
- 31 Deborah Swift, Janet Troicke



*If you don't see your name on our birthday list,  
please let Rev. Hay know so we can recognize your  
special day!*

**Thank you to all the youth, adults, and those behind the scenes who helped to make our pageant so special. Your creativity and patience were on full display as you told the story of Christ's birth.**



# URBAN PRESBYTERIANS

Reverend Tom Yorty

2012



## A Church Active In The Community

*Economic Development, after school tutoring, micro-loans, spirituality and the arts, interfaith partnerships, housing rehab...hear more about Rev. Yorty and Westminster's dynamic urban ministry in Buffalo, NY.*



January 30, 2012 At Brighton Presbyterian Church  
6:00 p.m.

Reverend Yorty is pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church Buffalo, NY