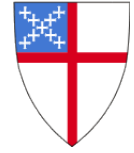


# St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

## Parish Chimes



An Ancient Faith for a Modern World

December 2021



### From the Rector

Dear Friends,

I love the season of Advent, don't you? It has that New Year sort of feeling, fresh start and all of that. We have the beautiful blues for our Advent church altar hangings and vestments. We have the Advent candles and we begin the slow count-down until Christmas. It really is a great way to begin another Christian year. Unlike our society's new year which is a one night's party and then back to life as usual; we ease into our new year slowly. As the season progresses we have the time to consider our lives, what we want out of the rest of our life, who we think we are, and where we want to go, spiritually, this year. We even have the time to consider this past year. How did we do? Was there an event that really changed my life and how will that affect my life this coming year?

As many of you know, the term 'Advent' means coming and it actually refers to the second coming of Jesus, not Christmas at all. This is why the beautiful blue is a somber color because if we imagine Jesus arriving tomorrow, then our immediate thought is, "Am I ready? Am I ready to actually see Jesus alive and in the flesh? What will he say to me? How will he react to how I have spent my life so far?" These are the questions that come to mind when we consider seeing Jesus for the first time. And these are sobering questions. They are actually the type of questions that we are supposed to be asking ourselves as we ease into a new year. I encourage you to do just that. This Advent season, enjoy it and savor it like a great cup of hot coffee on a cold morning. Spend time considering the important questions of life. Write down your thoughts and save them for review in six months or next year at this time.

The month of December is a busy one for most folks. At church we expect to move more back into 'pre-covid' worship. I am anticipating that we will once

again serve the host during Holy Communion at the altar rail. We will remove the tape between the pews, although there will be a section of pews by the organ that will still be taped off. In December the Order of St. Luke will once again begin their ministry of anointing and prayer during Holy Communion. There were some changes made in how they will be praying and anointing which were covered in their training meeting. We have begun to have Sunday School and pre-school classes once again. And we are expecting the choir to be able to sing on Christmas Eve.

Rose Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent (December 12), is the day we begin to turn from looking for Christ's return to remembering his first coming, hence the rose color of joy. Then on Friday, December 24 we have our two Christmas Eve services, the family service which features a special appearance of St. Nicholas at 6 pm and the candlelight service beginning at 9 pm. Each of those services are preceded by 30 minutes of Christmas carols (5:30 and 8:30)! On Christmas Day at 10:30 we have our Rite One Christmas service. It will be glorious! All through the month we will continue our regular Sunday School and Adult Formation classes. The Belles will meet December 4 and the men's group will meet December 3. The Thrift Shop is still open and the backpack and food pantry are still going to hand out food to the needy.

It will be a busy time here at church and no doubt busy for you as well. Still even though it is a busy time, I encourage you to find some time to be quiet and enjoy this season of Advent!

Warmly in Christ,  
Fr. Lance+

#### Inside this issue:

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## Sr. Warden's Remarks

Mike Ludwell, Sr. Warden

Thanks Mickey

The year was 1818, Father Joseph Mohr was walking the long way home after attending a Christmas program that had to be held in a private home as the organ in the church was inoperable. You see, Mickey and his friends were looking for someplace warm to spend the rest of the winter. Fortunately, for the world, they decided to gnaw through the bellows of the St. Nicholas organ rendering it inoperable. In those days, no organ meant no music. Anyway, as he was walking home, Fr. Mohr looked down on the town and reflected on Luke 2:8 "And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night." It reminded him of a poem he had written a couple of years earlier. But what about a tune without the music? After all, the next day was Christmas Eve and mass. He turned to the church organist, Franz Gruber. Franz Gruber worked all of Christmas Eve on a melody. Finally, he was ready and the two sang a duet of the song with a guitar as accompaniment. As they say, the rest is history. "Silent Night" has become one of our most beloved hymns.

Silent night! Holy night

All is calm, all is bright,

'Round yon virgin mother and child!

Holy infant, so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace,

You can almost feel the emotions of Father Mohr as he was looking down on his peaceful village on that walk home. And to think it occurred all because a mouse decided to make a new home in an organ. God truly works in wondrous ways!

Kathy and I wish you a very blessed Christmas season,



## Ministry News

### Altar Guild

Glee Gates, Director  
Patti Werner, Assistant Director



Hello Everyone and a joyous holiday season to you all!

Your Altar Guild, and other volunteers, have been busy preparing for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. As you entered the church the last weekend of November, we hope the first thing you noticed was the transformation and intensity of the dark indigo Altar colors! Below is a brief review of our upcoming liturgical seasons.

Advent, the first season of our church year is a season of hopeful anticipation of God's breaking into our world and our time. It is composed of four Sundays prior to Christmas Day, beginning around the first of December.

Liturgical colors are used for vestments and altar decoration (frontals) to mark the seasons and to symbolize the themes. Blue represents the water over which God's Spirit moved in Creation (Gen. 1) to begin the process of life and the water of Baptism which is the starting place for all Christians who anticipate the coming of Christ into their lives.

The liturgies of Advent are characterized by a sense of the majesty of the God for whom we wait. We use the Advent Wreath with five candles, lighting one additional candle each week to mark the time of waiting.

On Christmas Eve, the white candle is lit, called the Christ Candle. The altar colors will be changed from blue to white to represent the life of Christ. The color white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Savior. Christmas is the Season when we proclaim the nature of our God that He fully enters into our lives.

We welcome you to celebrate this holy season with us and may you be filled with the love of God and His presence in your life.

### Pastoral Care

Janet Crisfield

Pastoral Care Team visits continues to be on hold for hospitals and some extended care facilities due to the current Covid precautions. Fr. Lance is able to visit in these places and continues to do so.



We were able to visit people in some extended care facilities; however, these places have differing guidelines. All the team has been vaccinated and we call for any changes before we visit upon request of the patient or family. We also can visit the homebound who are vaccinated. We will continue to offer cards, prayers and phone calls to the homebound as well as all those in extended care facilities that we are not able to visit.

We are currently welcoming new team members for training in order to be prepared as restrictions ease up. Fr. Lance and I are willing to talk to any of you who feel called to or are considering this ministry even at this time.

**A reminder: We cannot be in touch with you if we do not know of your needs. We are able to do some home and extended care visits if you are vaccinated. If you need our prayers and support you must contact the office and let them know. Lisa is very faithful in communicating with Fr. Lance and myself.**

I and the entire Pastoral Care Team wish you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and offer you this meditation for the season:

"God so it seems inserted Himself in our own and often exhausting journey and became a fellow traveler..... he revealed what it means that God is a God with us." Henri Nouwen

### Men's Group

Craig Gates



To the Men of St. Andrew's Church,

I am excited to see that our church ministries are now restarting. This means that our men's group will have our first meeting on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at 9:00 am in the Side Chapel. Studying scripture, praying for our needs and the needs of others, discussing topics important to us and good fellowship have been missing from our spiritual lives.

We welcome all men who may find joy or benefit from this fellowship.

Please contact Craig Gates, Hal Smith or Fr. Lance (all in the directory) to let us know if you will be attending this first gathering. We will prepare the

room for those of you who are continuing to practice social distancing. Coffee/tea and snacks will be provided.

## New Bunco Group Starting in January

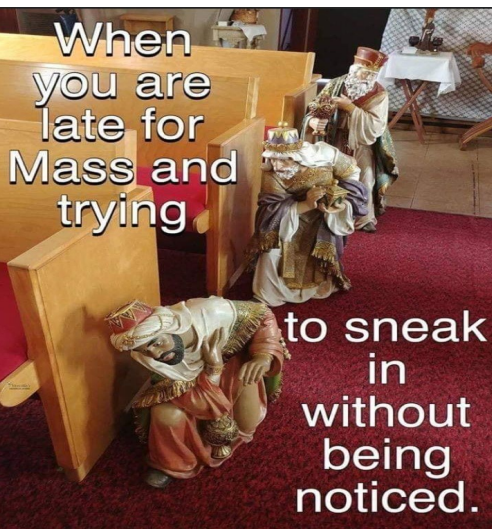


All members of the church are invited to come to play Bunco in Krysher Hall. We will play on the second Tuesday of every month at 1:00 pm. The first meeting will be January 11, 2022. If you have never played Bunco, it is an easy game to learn and to play. Come out to play and be with other members of the church! For more info, contact Connie Mehr.

## Women's Bible Study Starting in January



A Bible study for all women of the church is starting on the third Thursday of every month at 10:00 am beginning January 20, 2022. This Bible study will use Elizabeth George's Experiencing God's Peace. Through the book of Philippians, women will discover God's perfect and lasting peace in every area of their lives-no matter how turbulent. This study especially focuses on helping Christian women know how God desires for them to live. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex during the month of December. If you plan to attend, please sign up so that we can get the appropriate number of books. For more info, contact Connie Mehr.



## The Belles of St. Andrew's



Patti Werner

The Belles of St. Andrew's, our church's single women's social group, invites you to enjoy a stroll through the Nature Coast Botanical Gardens on Parker Avenue in Spring Hill. Our decorated tree and all of the others that have been decorated will be on display for the whole month of December. The gardens are lovely and free. The gardens are maintained by volunteers. The decorated trees all have a placard with the name of the group/family that sponsored them and at the donation boxes are envelopes for voting for your favorite tree with your cash and include the tree number. We look forward to meeting and socializing in 2022 and hope that more single ladies in our church family join us. We like making new friends. Wishing you all a happy and blessed Christmas. If you would like more information about our group, please call Patti Werner.

## Crafters' Group



Patti Werner

St. Andrew's Craft and Social Group is open to all parishioners and friends. If you enjoy doing crafts, bring them to our group and let's do them while socializing. If you don't enjoy crafts, come to socialize. Maybe you prefer games and or cards, so bring them. Word search books are fun and allow for conversation. Our last meeting for this year will be Wed. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm in Krysher Hall. We look forward to meeting in 2022 and I'd like to discuss what day of the week and time of day would work best for the majority. Bring your ideas of things we can do together. I hope you all have a very wonderful Christmas. If you have any questions about the group, please call Patti Werner.



Honor a loved one or give thanks by purchasing a Christmas Poinsettia. Envelopes with poinsettias on them can be found in each pew pocket. The cost is \$15 and the deadline for orders will be December 19th.



## Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve (Friday):  
 5:30 pm Caroling  
 6:00 pm service  
 8:30 pm Caroling  
 9:00 pm service  
 Christmas Day (Saturday):  
 10:30 am  
 Sunday: 8:00 am and 10:30 am



## VESTRY QUESTIONNAIRE: SHERRI HAUN

Why do you want to serve as a Vestry member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church?

St Andrew has given me so much that I would like to give back by being on the Vestry. I also have the time. I don't know what all the Vestry does but I would like to learn. If I could be the liaison with the Thrift store, because I work there and feel it is so important, I would be so happy. But is this isn't possible, I'll be will work with whatever area I'm am assigned.

What are your qualifications for this position?

I can be a people person when needed. I also have organizational skills. I have the time and desire to work on the vestry.

Tell us a little about yourself and your faith:

I grew up in the Methodist Church as did my husband. We became Episcopalians in our 30's. My religious journey has gone through many twist and turns but I'm still learning. I guess because I'm older, I feel that I might be getting the message. The one thing I know is that St. Andrew's is helping me get the message. I consider myself very lucky.

What do you love about our church?

I like the feeling of friendship when you enter the church and all the outreach programs, we have. With these programs a person can find something that can pique their interest. A person can do nothing at all which is alright. We accept each person as they are, which I think is great.

Are you able to be present for Vestry meetings on the third Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m.? (this is our current schedule)

Yes

Are you able to be present for the Vestry Orientation Retreat the first weekend in February, Friday from 6 – 8pm and Saturday from 9am -3pm?

Yes

## VESTRY QUESTIONNAIRE 2021 : JANET CRISFIELD

Why do you want to serve as a Vestry member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church?

I served on the Vestry several years ago. During that time I developed an appreciation for the many aspects of caring not only for the people of Christ who worship here but the logistics and administrative duties required to keep our beautiful campus and ministries functioning. Having had this experience I feel more confident to fulfill these duties.

What are your qualifications for this position?

Have experience serving on Vestry. Lifelong Episcopalian. Was a group leader for an Alpha program. Am a trained Stephen's Minister. Regularly attend the 4 pm service. Currently am facilitator / coordinator for the Pastoral Care Team. Church office volunteer. Member of the Daughters of the King . Served in various capacities in community groups/school activities while raising my children. I am a retired ARNP with a BS and MS in Nursing. My career experience involves caring for patients, management and administration, staff training and education, program development and research.

Tell us a little about yourself and your faith:

I was raised in the Episcopal Church. Worked for over 40 years in the Nursing Profession. Through life experience, my vocation and church life I have developed an awareness of God's presence in all things and situations. I have had the privilege to witness God's miracles at births, during crisis and joys and finally at the end of life on this earth. For this I am thankful and this sustains me.

What do you love about our church?

The parishioners and clergy. The energy and potential for growth. I feel we are now in a good position to continue to expand our knowledge and love of Christ to our community and those around us.

Are you able to be present for Vestry meetings on the third Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m.?  
(this is our current schedule)

Yes

Are you able to be present for both the Vestry Orientation Retreat the first weekend in February on Friday from 6-8pm and Saturday from 9am to-3pm?

Yes

## VESTRY QUESTIONNAIRE 2021 : DONNA DeCOSA

Why do you want to serve as a Vestry member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church?

I am hoping to serve in the vestry because I am interested in the church as a whole. Now that I volunteer for various responsibilities during the services, classes and being a DOK, I would like to participate in the continued growth of our church in years to come.

What are your qualifications for this position?

I care about others and reach out to people that I feel may need/ or I can see are in need of some comfort or attention. I've always done this; even when I was a teen.

Before moving to Florida, I was a part-time college Algebra instructor; I can work with others to achieve a common goal. Prior to academia, I worked in managerial positions in many different fields; this has given me a wealth of varied experience. I am proficient in streamlining procedures. I aim for consistency and quality.

Tell us a little about yourself and your faith:

I have always believed in GOD. Even from childhood, when life for me and my family was difficult, I prayed to GOD. I knew HE wouldn't ever leave me; he never has.

I NEVER LOST HOPE.

HE has filled my life with beautiful people.

I am interested in any thought, word or deed that places me in service to HIM.

I was born into the Episcopalian church, I expect to remain...cradle to grave...

What do you love about our church?

THE IMMEDIATE WELCOME, from a very friendly congregation!

Fr. Lance's homilies. He is the Captain of the motivation platoon!

I finally feel like my church is my family. Thank you.

Are you able to be present for Vestry meetings on the third Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m.?  
(this is our current schedule)

Yes, available

Are you able to be present for both the Vestry Orientation Retreat the first weekend in February on Friday from 6-8pm and Saturday from 9am to-3pm?

Yes, available

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity,

Donna Caram-DeCosa

## VESTRY QUESTIONNAIRE 2021 : MARK TRAUDT

Why do you want to serve as a Vestry member of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church?

Contribute more to the Church.

What are your qualifications for this position?

I've been a member of the buildings and grounds committee for St. Andrews. I presently handle Security for the Church.

Tell us a little about yourself and your faith:

I've always had faith, a relationship with GOD and JESUS. I am also a former Boy Scout ( Asst. Scoutmaster). Also former Military. Now I've been a truck driver for 31 years.

What do you love about our church?

I love the people. I also love a small congregation. It reminds me of my family's church when I was a kid.

Are you able to be present for Vestry meetings on the third Sunday of the month at 12:15 p.m.?  
(this is our current schedule)

Yes

Are you able to be present for both the Vestry Orientation Retreat the first weekend in February on Friday from 6-8pm and Saturday from 9am to-3pm?

I work M-F nights. But I can request that Friday off in February. Weekends are fine.

# Gathering with Thankful Hearts





# Christmas Blessings Mix



**Bugles:** Bring us the joyful message of the Heavenly Host, announcing peace on earth, good will to men.

**Pretzels:** Symbol of a mother's loving arms; as Mary wrapped her Son in swaddling clothes and laid him in the manger.

**Red Hots:** Red berries that decorate the holly plant, a reminder of eternal life and Christ's redemption.

**Nuts or seeds:** Promise of a future harvest, one we will reap only if seeds are planted and tended with diligence.

**Dried fruits:** Remind us of the rich gifts brought by the Wise Men.

**M&Ms:** Memories of those who came before us to guide us to a blessed future.

**Hershey's Kiss:** The love of family and friends that sweetens our lives.

**Candy Canes:** Represents the shape of the shepherd's crook, used to bring lost lambs back to the fold.



# DECEMBER

### EVENT KEY

**AF** = Adult Formation      **OSL** = Order of St. Luke  
**BP** = Back Packs          **SS** = Sunday School  
**DOK** = Daughters of the King      **YI** = Youth Inquirers  
**FOL** = Friends of the Library      **YM** = Youth Ministry  
**GS** = Grief Share  
**HE** = Holy Eucharist  
**JrI** = Junior Inquirers

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 9 am Backpacks	3 Office Closed  9:00 am Men's Group (SC)	4 10 am Belles' ornament hanging (Botanical Gardens) 2:30 pm Christmas Choir 4 pm HE II 5 pm AF (SC)
5 8 am HE II 9:15 am AF (SC) 10:15 am SS 10:30 am HE II	6 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	7 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	8 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	9 9 am Backpacks	10 Office Closed	11 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop 10:30 am—DOK (Jeri Mikosz' house) 2:30 pm Christmas Choir 4 pm HE II 5 pm AF (SC)
12 8 am HE II 9:15am AF (SC) 10:15 am SS 10:30 am HE II  <b>Deadline for Angel Tree Donations!</b>	13 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	14 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	15 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	16 9 am Backpacks	17 Office Closed	18 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop 2:30 pm Christmas Choir 4 pm HE II 5 pm AF (SC)
19 8 am HE II 10:15 am SS 10:30 am HE II 12:00 pm Vestry Mtg  <b>Christmas Poinsettia orders due!</b>	20 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	21 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	22 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	23	24 Office Closed 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Service HEII 8:30 pm Christmas Eve Service HEII	25 10:30 am Christmas Day Service HEI
26 8 am HE II 9:45 am Jr. I 10:30 am HE II	27 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	28 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	29 10am - 2pm Thrift Shop	30	31 Office Closed	



## TREASURER'S REPORT

*Connie Mehr, Treasurer*

As of **October 31, 2021**

	This Month	Year to Date	2021 Budget
<b>Revenues</b>			
Core Church	29,142.47	301,833.33	327,044.00
Thrift Shop	1,488.11	11,706.71	30,150.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>30,630.58</b>	<b>313,540.04</b>	<b>357,194.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Core Church	33,340.73	274,399.62	340,170.00
Thrift Shop	1,670.54	15,042.54	17,024.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>35,011.27</b>	<b>289,442.16</b>	<b>357,194.00</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss</b>			
Core Church	<b>(4,198.26)</b>	27,433.71	(13,126.00)
Thrift Shop	(182.43)	(3,335.83)	13,126.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>(4,380.69)</b>	<b>24,097.88</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Investments</b>		<b>Bank Accounts</b>	
SSGA	111,795.19	Sun Trust	
Alliance Bernstein	30,703.56	Unrestricted	31,333.68
		Restricted	152,036.09
		Discretionary	343.57
<b>Total</b>	<b>142,498.75</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>183,713.34</b>

### November Attendance

Week Ending Sat./Sunday	Oth- er	Sat. 4 pm	Sun 8 am	Sun 10:30 am	Total
Nov. 6/7	*76	46	36	91	<b>249</b>
Nov. 13/14		60	28	85	<b>173</b>
Nov. 20/21		47	36	83	<b>166</b>
Nov. 27/28	*55	43	34	90	<b>222</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>810</b>
<b>AVERAGE</b>		<b>49</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>202</b>

### November 2021

Transfers in: 0

Transfers out: 0

Deaths: 11/28/21 Carolyn Hamilton

Funerals: 11/5/2021 Elke Mullen

Baptisms: 0

Weddings: 0

Anointings: 0

WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ALL ABOUT



And, lo, the angel of the Lord  
came upon them...And the angel said  
unto them, Fear not: for, behold,  
I bring you good tidings of great joy,  
which shall be to all people.  
For unto you is born this day  
in the city of David a Saviour,  
which is Christ the Lord.

LUKE 2:9-11



## Stranded on a desert island



## ... Still makes an Advent Calendar

# St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

2301 Deltona Blvd.  
Spring Hill, FL 34606  
Phone: 352-683-2010  
E-mail:

schurch22@tampabay.rr.com  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5026  
Spring Hill, FL 34611

The Rev. Lance Wallace, Rector  
Cell 352-515-8657  
Email: Fr.Lwallace@gmail.com

### Sunday Services

8 am Service (no music)  
9:15 am Adult Formation  
10:30 am Service (music)

### Saturday Services

4 pm Service  
5 pm Adult Formation (via Zoom)

### Parish Office Hours

Mon. - Thurs. 9 am – 12 pm  
(Closed Friday)

### Diocese Website

[www.episcopalswfl.org](http://www.episcopalswfl.org)

### The Parish Chimes Editors

Lisa Jackson & Debbie Smith  
Email:  
schurch22@tampabay.rr.com



# December

## BIRTHDAYS

- |                   |                        |                     |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Shirley Coomes  | 11 Mark Lillpopp       | 22 Barbara Brown    |
| 2 Diane Wallace   | 13 Joyce Bartholomew   | 23 Margie Burton    |
| 4 Diane Casey     | 16 Gregory McDougal    | 23 Shirley Phillips |
| 4 Danny Fernandez | 17 Harry Campbell      | 27 Mary Ann Arnold  |
| 6 Deven Carlsen   | 17 Gary Haas           | 28 Dave Newman      |
| 6 Dave Hamilton   | 18 Carol Drummond      | 28 Carolyn Small    |
| 6 David Lightburn | 18 Savannah Hutchinson | 29 Anthony Dunbar   |
| 6 Karen Walrath   | 18 Fr. Lance Wallace   |                     |
| 7 John Follansbee | 19 Zachery Meissner    |                     |
| 8 Bridie Klein    | 20 John Spreccacener   |                     |
| 10 Aiden Lewis    | 20 Karen Visnaw        |                     |



### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN SERVING



#### IN THE ARMED FORCES AT HOME & OVERSEAS:

*Keith Barroncini, Julian Barry, Joseph Beatty, Martin Clausen, Krista Crosetto, Jason Daniels, Olivia Clair, Warren Fedoryk, Daniel Fitch, Shawn Fitch, Howard Gidden, Sean Gilbert, Dwayne Hamblin, Roger Handy, Doug Henderson, Joseph Kee, Amy Kelly, Kristina Langley, Skip LaPointe, Karen Monday-Gresham, Rhett Roy, Christian Stridiron, Tracy Thomas, Courtney Foster McCorvey, Peter Turner, & Mary Turner.*

**Please call the office with updates to this list.**

We're on the web!  
[standrewschurchsh.org](http://standrewschurchsh.org)  
Like us on Facebook at  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church



# December

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Rosamund & Maurice Stewart
- 9 Mervis & Fred Lewis
- 12 Laurine & James Smart
- 16 Kristina & Harold Hutchinson
- 19 Merope & Robby Noel
- 24 Donna & Charles DeCosa
- 27 Liz & Dave Hamilton
- 29 Barbara & Calvin Ingram