

St. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Stewardship 2010

This is the eighth in a series of stories about how we, at St. Mary's, are living into the theme of "*Using the gifts God has given us....to do the work He is calling us to do.*" One of the many blessings we count at St. Mary's is having an extremely active chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. The Brotherhood is a world-wide ministry to men and boys in the Episcopal and Anglican Communion. It began in the United States in 1886, spread first to the United Kingdom, and now there are chapters worldwide. The St. Mary's chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew was chartered just 27 years after the founding on January 19, 1913. You guys need to start planning now for a festive 100th anniversary!

Our very strong chapter welcomes all the men of the parish to participate in its "fundraising" and "fun raising" activities. This dedicated group is busy. They sponsor the annual Lobster Fest which will be held this year on Saturday, September 25th, and they sell pine needles in the spring and fall. Just a few Sundays ago they had a cookout after church to raise money for the ABC Scholarship Fund which enables children from low-income families to receive lessons at the St. Mary's Music Academy. You'll see them hard at work on Sunday, September 12th, as they prepare the entrees (hotdogs, hamburgers, BBQ, and chicken) to be served at our annual Parish Picnic. Also, don't miss their out-of-this-world hushpuppies!

The money they raise is used both inside and outside the parish. The Brotherhood supports the EYC (youth group), they maintain the church van, they purchase uniforms and supplies for our Latina and Latino Scout troops, they sponsor 3 children in a Ugandan orphanage, they contributed to the Land Development Fund and they support scholarships for the pre-school program at First Methodist and a home for veterans on English Road. The list goes on and on. The camaraderie among the group is plain to see as they work as servants of Christ and offer strength and support to each other. On the first Tuesday of each month they meet with the Rector/s for lunch at a local restaurant. This year's abbot, John Wall, keeps the men informed by email about volunteer opportunities as well as sad and joyful news that the men would like to share.

Once again, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is open to all men of the

parish. If you would like to “join” (no dues, mandatory meetings, or obligations) or just be included on the email list to receive news from the group, please contact John Wall at 454-4947 or JohnWall@northstate.net.

THE STEWARDSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE

These stories are archived on our website www.stmarysepisc.org.
Click the Stewardship link on the “About Us” page.