



September 2010

A Faithful Church for Today's Vermont

"Sunday worship is something that has always been a part of my life, but here at St. Andrew's, something is different for me, something in the air. I always feel as though someone is taking a windshield wiper and cleaning my heart as our congregation gathers to sing and give praise to God."

Elly's Story-

When my family first started visiting St. Andrew's about two years ago, we were looking for a church that truly worshiped God and did not do the "Sunday-Show." The church where I mainly grew up was Mars Hill Bible Church. This church is a huge congregation made up of different types of people of all ages. After being a part of the community at Mars Hill for several years, circumstances sent my family to North Carolina in search of a church that had as much purpose and devotion as Mars Hill. We then stumbled upon Warehouse 242, a smaller congregation of around 750 people, which really impressed upon us how meaningful church should be and how important it is that we fit with the church's mission. For a second time, my family was uprooted, and we came here to Vermont where we were once again searching for a church to call home... a place where my sister, Claire, and I could grow with other youth spiritually and a place that was very devoted to community and worship.

Sunday worship is something that has always been a part of my life, but here at St. Andrew's, something is different for me, something in the air. I always feel as though someone is taking a windshield wiper and cleaning and replenishing my heart as our congregation gathers to sing and give praise to God.

LOOKING FOR GARDEN INTERN:

For the past 2 summers, our church community has managed a garden together, growing food for the local food pantry and free meal programs.

In 2011, we are looking to take our garden program to a new level, opening a second location and more effectively partnering with other non-profits in the Burlington area. In order to expand this program, we will need a staff coordinator for the summer months.

We aren't yet ready to hire for this position, but if you're excited about serving the poor, organic gardening, and building community, we'd love to hear from you, as we work toward putting this job description together.

If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Kevin Fitton at Kevin@StAndrewsVt.org or (802)922-3569.

The sense of community that we have is also breathtaking; St. Andrews has given me the opportunity to grow through and alongside many types of individuals with whom I probably would never have interacted with otherwise. It is these two strengths that have molded my perception of St. Andrews and particularly our weekly Sunday worship.



Elly (far right) and friends from the St. Andrew's youth group.

For more information about St. Andrew's, please visit our website: www.standrewsvt.org.
Or feel free to contact Kevin Fitton at Kevin@standrewsvt.org or (802)922-3569.
Checks are payable to St. Andrew's Christian Church and are tax deductible.

St. Andrew's
81 St. Paul Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401

Another reason St. Andrew's has become so important to me is the bonding and sense of comfort that is found within our youth group. One of the many changes in St. Andrews in the past few years was the development of this group. Claire and I wanted to have a place within the church where we could connect with Christians our age and so we worked to establish a small youth group.

"When you are in a dark tunnel, you don't want someone standing in the light waiting for you, you want someone walking beside you in the dark."

I do not think that anyone expected it to so quickly become what it is today. We are so blessed to have a support group where we can grow alongside and draw others into a life that follows Christ. I could go on for a full essay describing how much this group means to me, but something my friend, Elijah, said at our last meeting really stuck with me. He said, "When you are in a dark tunnel, you don't want someone

STAFFING CHANGES at ST. ANDREW'S:

This summer, our leadership team made the difficult decision to change our staffing team, ending Brian and Janet's employment at St. Andrew's this August. We appreciate all of the work the Barclays have put into the ministry of the church but felt it was not, ultimately, the best fit for them. Of course, changes like this are always hard. We've been blessed that our church community has been supportive of the leadership team and displayed great trust, as we try to follow God's direction for the future of our church. We would appreciate your prayers for our church, our leadership, and the Barclays in this time of transition.

standing in the light waiting for you, you want someone walking beside you in the dark. And in the same way you want someone to walk with you through the light when you are there." This idea is really what gives identity and foundation to our youth group and because our youth group has that mentality, for me, St. Andrew's as a whole has it as well.

My experience of St. Andrew's has changed a lot over the last couple of years, and I'm sure it will continue to change. Because the church is still developing, and I'm changing and growing as well. But I'm thankful to be a part of this church community. It's not what we thought we'd find when we came to Vermont from North Carolina, but it has been an important part of my life, and an important part of our transition to a new place. Thank you for supporting St. Andrew's and making this place a reality!

-Elly Colwell



The St. Andrew's youth group gathered for a farewell party for Sarah Heim, one of our founding leaders. Sarah is now studying law at Cornell University.