# St Andrew's

### December 2011 – February 2012



Magazine of the English speaking church in Gothenburg

#### New Bank Giro Number!

To avoid paying two sets of bank charges, we are in the process of moving our Giro account from Nordea (Plus Giro) to SEB (Bank Giro). Please make all Giro payments to Bank Giro 781-4015. This includes your magazine subscriptions: 50 kr for subscribers within Sweden.









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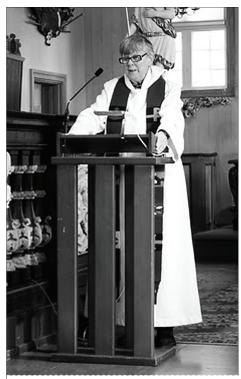
### Letter from the Chaplain

October was an amazing month. I knew, a year ago, that Synod would be in Gothenburg, and that the St Andrew's representatives would be the hosts. But I did not know that I would also be commissioned as Area Dean, and would therefore be responsible for organizing and chairing the business side of the meeting. It was a wonderful but exhausting weekend at Nordiska Folk High School in Kungälv, finishing with the Confirmation at St Andrew's.

Eight days later, I took off for England for another diocesan conference, this time a vocations conference for candidates for ordained ministry, where I was one of the two education advisors, interviewing eight candidates about their understanding of faith, mission and evangelism. This was the second year I had taken part, and I learned that some of the candidates we interviewed last year are now well on the way to ordination. A particular treat for all of us was a visit to Westminster Abbey with Choral Evensong for the feast of the translation of Edward the Confessor (i.e. the date when his bones were moved to the present shrine). We also saw the tomb of Mary Tudor and Elizabeth I, two sisters divided by religion but united in death,

Back in Sweden on the Friday night, I conducted a wedding on the Saturday, a funeral on the Monday afternoon, and a baptism visit on the Monday evening. Harvey Russell was baptized on October 30, in St Andrew's, where his parents Jason and Anna were married on February 14 2010.

So four of what are known as the Occasional Offices (Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, and Burial) all happened in the same month. The baptism and confirmation were part of our normal Sunday service, so that the whole congregation were able to celebrate, first with Molly and Natasha when they were confirmed by the bishop, and then with Harvey's family and friends at his



Leading prayers in Kungälv church during Synod

baptism, welcoming him into God's family. And let's not forget three sisters, Happiness, Blessing and Praise Ezeilo, who made their first communion at our Harvest Festival in September.

Gustav and Paulina, the couple who were married in October, live in Stockholm, but had come to our service when looking for a church for their wedding. They found it a friendly place, and decided they wanted to be married here. The family for whom I conducted the funeral had no link with this or any other church, and the service was at Östra Kyrkogård; but we prayed for them on the Sunday before the funeral and the Sunday afterwards.

Baptisms, weddings, and funerals, are all ways in which our church reaches out to the wider community – usually the English-speaking community, though Gustav and Paulina were both Swedish and most of their wedding service was in Swedish. We don't have so many confirmations, partly because only bishops can confirm in the Church of England, partly because many young people choose to take part in a confirmation programme organized by another church. This year, three teenagers linked to St Andrew's were confirmed elsewhere: Boye Ayoade at Västra Frölunda, Isabella Åbom in Fiskebäcks Missionskyrka, and David Wright's grandson Daniel in Uppsala. Eva Greer's son Alexander has now begun preparation for Confirmation in the Church of Sweden, so we shall be supporting him in our prayers, as we supported the others.

With so much happening in October, I was grateful not to have to preach every Sunday. In fact, the only Sunday I preached was 30 October. Bishop David was here on October 2, Andrew Wingate on October 9, and Jonas Eek, Canon Theologian from Gothenburg Cathedral, on October 16. On October 23 we made our annual visit to the German church for United Nations Sunday.

Barbara Moss



The three Ezeilo systers at their admission to Communion, together with their mother and younger brothers.





### Wedding

October 15th Gustav Kristian von Sydow and Maria Paulina Victoria Liffner at St Andrew's Church

#### **Funeral**

October 17th Margaret Olsson

### **Baptism**

October 30th Harvey Sol Russell

## Admission to Holy Communion

September 4th Happiness, Blessing and Praise Ezeilo

#### Confirmation

October 2nd Natasha Johansson and Molly Macgregor

### Who's Who at St Andrew's

#### Chaplain

Barbara Moss

Norra Liden 15, 411 18 Göteborg Tel: 031-711 19 15

e-mail address: st.andrews.got@telia.com

**Internet website:** www.svenskakyrkan.se/goteborg/st.andrews Bank Giro 781-4015, SEB account number 5001 1013370

#### **CHURCH COMMITTEE**

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Synod representatives Cecilia Klevedal Molly Macgregor	031 - 12 75 08 0762 - 341 818	Opeoluwa Adebayo-Omolade	0765 - 500 448
		Michael Schollin	0705 - 830 363
		Cristian Stoian	0720 - 083 892

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<b>Organist</b> Peter Hansen	031 - 97 28 67	Ladies' Evening Group Ann Gustafsson Gisela Bamard	031 - 42 38 64 031 - 14 71 01

### Services: December – February

Parish Communion every Sunday at 11.00 unless otherwise stated

**DECEMBER 4,** Advent 2

10.00 Holy Communion

11.00 Family Service: Advent

- getting ready for Christmas

**DECEMBER 11,** Advent 3

LA: Alan Taylor, Kristina Ayoade

**I:** Gillian Thylander

**DECEMBER 16** (Friday)

16.00 Carols round the crib

DECEMBER 18, Advent 4

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

I:Molly Macgregor

**DECEMBER 21** (Wednesday)

18.00 Service of Nine Lessons and Carol s

**DECEMBER 25** 

11.00 Christmas Day Family Communion

LA: Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

I:Ann Gustafsson

**JANUARY 1** 

11.00 New Year's Day Family Communion

LA: Alan Taylor, Ann Gustafsson

I:Barbara Moss

JANUARY 8, Epiphany

LA: Gisela Barnard, Göran Molin

I: Cecilia Klevedal

JANUARY 15, Epiphany 2

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor

I: Gisela Barnard

JANUARY 22, Epiphany 3

LA: Alan Taylor, Gisela Barnard

**I:**Kristina Ayoade

20.00 Taizé service in English at Haga Church

JANUARY 29, Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

LA: Gisela Barnard, Ann Gustafsson

I: Opeoluwa Adebayo-Omolade

FEBRUARY 5, 3 before Lent

Family Communion with Lars van der Heeg

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor

I: Gilian Thylander

FEBRUARY 12, 2 before Lent

LA: Gisela Barnard, Molly Macgregor

**I**:Alan Taylor

18.00 Evensong

FEBRUARY 19, Sunday before Lent

LA: Alan Taylor, Ann Gustafsson

I:Diana Walters

FEBRUARY 22, Ash Wednesday

19.30 Midweek Mass with Ashes

FEBRUARY 26, Lent 1

11.00 Solemn Eucharist with Ashes

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Kristina Ayoade

I:Amy Delmondo-Bock

MARCH 4, Lent 2

10.00 Holy Communion

11.00 Family Service - address Alan Taylor

MARCH 11, Lent 3

LA: Gisela Barnard, Göran Molin

I:Ron Jones

18.00 Exploring the bible + Night Prayer

Lent groups - to be announced

### **Chaplaincy News**

## Celebrating 400 years of the King James Bible

Sunday evening 18 September St. Andrew's presented *The Word Revealed*. It was inspired by and in part based on a 'festival service' with that name devised by the Royal School of Church Music to mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the King James Bible (also referred to as the Authorized Version and the 'King James Version' (KJV)).

Led by Barbara, and with Gillian and the Choir in finest voice, eleven readers delivering their words with great conviction, a haunting linking melody on the flute from Therese and a solo from Leif Sunesson, and with Lars van der Heeg enacting a scene playing bishop to Barbara's candidate for ordination, our version of *The Word Revealed* was part service, part public reading, and part dramatic reconstruction.



Emma and Ron Jones reading 'Sarah's Dinner'

Set between hymns and music, prayers and bible readings, a series of dialogues traced events from the beginnings of an English Bible in the late middle ages to the publication of the KJV and its subsequent global impact.

We concluded quoting from *The Book* of *Books* written by author and broadcaster Melvyn Bragg:

"(it) has driven the making of (the western world) over the last 400 years, often in the most unexpected ways....It was used by the enforcers of slavery, and later by the liberators of slaves, and transformed into liberation theology by the slaves themselves ... It has been and still is the book for peacemakers and the book for warmongers, ..., the book worshipped and the book scorned, but above all the book that affected minds, hearts and destinies profoundly over centuries."

Keith and Gisela Barnard

### Tenth Göteborg International Organ Academy – 15-18 September

St. Andrew's was included in this event this year, which was devoted to "The British Organ in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century". Our ladies were asked to provide afternoon tea on the Saturday at the beautiful Örgryte församlingshem, and they made an excellent job of it with traditional sandwiches and cakes. They earned quite a lot for our church funds as well!

Our lovely little Marcussen organ came into its own at a late recital on the Saturday evening. The organist was Professor Andrew McCrea from the Royal College of Music in London. Those who were lucky enough to attend were delighted to hear our organ at its best, and the recital, which included works by Keeble, S. Wesley, Adams, Elvey, Elgar and Stainer, was recorded by our friend, the organ-builder Herwin Troje.

Gillian Thylander

## What if there was no longer a St. Andrew's Church?

If you are a simple optimist you might be saying: 'there's been a Chaplaincy in Gothenburg since 1747, a St Andrew's Church since 1857 - surely it will always be there.'

But you don't have to be a pessimist, just a hard headed realist, to recognize that if present trends continue we won't always be here. Even now we may be living on borrowed time. If our present pattern of income and expenditure continues, every year there will be a deficit of at least SEK 50 000, and more likely SEK 70 000. On the expenditure side there is very little fat that we can cut, and our income continues to fall. In today's world of financial crises we have and can expect no special protection.

We have already survived one crisis point. When our last Chaplain John Askey retired it was already clear that we no longer had the funds to employ his successor. We were saved by the generosity and support of the Swedish Church who agreed to create a joint appointment with St Andrew's.

And so it has been that Barbara has been serving 50% as Priest in charge of St. Andrew's and 50% as a member of the team of University Chaplains. In that way we have had to pay only half of her stipend and related costs .We have been fortunate, too, that Barbara has been willing to carry the burdens of responsibility that go with two quite separate offices.

When Barbara retires, which we hope will not be for a few years yet, we cannot be sure that the Swedish Church will renew the present arrangement, or if they do, that we will find a person who is willing and has the qualities and skills to fulfil the dual role. In short we may not be able to employ a successor.

Of course we have been working very hard with our customary fund raising activities. These can be very enjoyable but the return they bring is quite modest. Moreover weekly giving has gone down considerably. We once had a system of 'pledged' giving (the envelope scheme). That initially increased giving but it also had its objectors. It now seems to have been abandoned by the congregation.

The Church Committee is agreed: we cannot carry on with business as usual'thinking. We need fresh ideas and new approaches to income generation and resource management.

Whether you are an active member of the congregation or one of the wider group of Friends of St. Andrews who read this magazine to stay in touch, and who look to St. Andrew's as a focal point of British culture and the English speaking community, we need your support, both material and moral, and we need fresh ideas as to how we can sustain our Church in these hard times.

No options are off the table. All ideas and suggestions are welcome. In this Magazine you have contact details of the Church office holders and Committee members. *Contact them!!!* 

Gisela Barnard

## Auction of Time, Talent and Treasures

It was a very entertaining evening at Haga Församlingshem when St Andrew's arranged an evening of Auction of Time, Talant and Treasure. With Jack Packer as our very able and entertaining auctioneer we managed to sell a variety of gifts as well as the talents of several of our members: making cakes, preparing dinners, driving people here and there as well as cleaning windows - the real and the computer kind. With some delicious food served by Ann and her team of trusted helpers everyone had a good time. In the process we managed to raise over SEK 10 000.--.

Gisela Barnard

#### Carols Round the Crib

An informal service suitable for young families, shoppers, etc.



Friday 16 December at 16.00

#### Nine Lessons and Carols

Our traditional carol service based on the service written for King's College, Cambridge

> Sunday 18 December & Wednesday 21 December at 18 00

Come early to get a seat!

#### Out of Town Carols

Hakarp Church, near Jönköping: Sunday December 4 at 18.00

Bäve Church, Uddevalla: Monday December 19 at 18.00

#### Pilgrimage Walks

One Saturday a month.

Half-day walks on
3 December: Vrångö
(meet Saltholmen, boat at 10.50)
28 January: Delsjön
25 February: Gunnebo

Please see our web site or Email st.andrews.got@telia.com for times/details.

#### Concerts

Friday lunchtime concerts
12.15-13.00
November 25
and December 2
Further concertswill be advertised
on our web site
when details are available.

#### Midweek Mass

A short simple service with bible reading and songs in English and Swedish, adjourning afterwards to a local café, on the following Wednesdays at 19.30

January 11 and 25 February 8 February 22 (Ash Wednesday) March 7

#### **Harvest Festival**

Saturday September 3<sup>rd</sup> turned out fine much to the relief of the members of the Ladies Evening Group who packed themselves into several cars to go out to Bärby Självplock to get a good supply of cabbages, beans and several enormous squash (squashes?), while Gillian and Rosa stayed behind to decorate the church, mostly with garden flowers. We were glad to get some colourful rowan berries from Nancy and Tore to brighten up the displays.

After the Sunday Service, when the choir sang "Look at the Earth" with gusto, we had a delicious ploughman's lunch in the church garden. When it was time to find homes for all the lovely vegetables, bread, jam and cake, Jack Packer was our excellent auctioneer as usual. We booked him, of course, for the Auction of Time, Talents and Treasures in October.

Gisela Barnard



Jack Packer sells the produce from the Harvest Festival Service, with the able help of Ann Gustafsson.

#### Below:

Our brave harvest gatherers taking a well earned rest after all the work at Bärby Självplock.



### For the beauty of the earth

Here are the words our choir joyfully sang with the German choir, some Icelanders and a Finnish lady, under the inspired leadership of Susanna Fredén, accompanied by Magnus Kjellson on the piano and Barbara Gerike on the flute at *Kristinae kyrka* on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. This was part of the "Ekumenisk festgudstjänst till FN-dagen 2011" a tradition started 20 years ago. It does not harm to read, learn and inwardly digest this beautiful song of praise. These words, written by Folliott S. Pierpoint around 1864, have a wide appeal in these worrying times of global warming and the threat to our planet and to our children.

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies,

Lord of All, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light, *Refrain* 

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild, *Refrain* 

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven, *Refrain* 

The verdict concerning this year's service was overwhelmingly positive. Not only were all the participants pleased, but visitors who had never entered the German church before were surprised at the warm and friendly atmosphere. I think much of this was due to the good relations we have established with the members of the German choir, one of whom, Gisela Barnard, has served us faithfully as churchwarden for many years.

Gillian Thylander

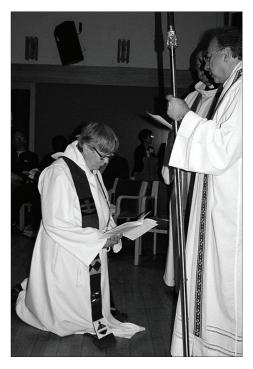


## The Nordic and Baltic Deanery Synod in Kungälv

The very first thing that the participants of the Synod had to begin with was to pick their name badges and a brightly colored folder made up of material ahead of this weekend synod. They were lying neatly sorted on the reception desk in the conference center. The two Synod representatives of St. Andrew's Church, Molly Macgregor and Cecilia Klevedal received and welcomed. Barbara Moss was involved from the beginning, but then went on to lead the Clergy Chapter Session One. The Nordic and Baltic Deanery Synod was held from Friday 30th September to Sunday, 2nd October 2011 in the Nordic Folk High School in Kungälv. It is a small, sweet, country town located about two Swedish miles outside Gothenburg and taking the bus works just fine. But most guests flew or went by train because they came from Denmark, Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Sweden and a total of 36 attended. The program was varied with the general business meetings of all such as Deanery Synod introductory meeting, individual meetings of the Clergy Chapter and meetings of the House of Laity. One of the highlights was the Canon Andrew Wingate, who spoke of "Porvoo in Practice: Meeting other faiths in Gothenburg". Andrew Wingate talked about the work he has been doing, as an example of co-operation between the Church of England and the Church of Sweden. Another highlight was the Commissioning of the New Area Dean, Reverend Barbara Moss on Friday evening. Bishop David Hamid and Ven. Jonathan Lloyd were doing the honors, and it was nice and touching. The Webmaster of the Diocese took photos as you can see. Friday and Saturday's sessions began with Morning Prayer and ended with evening prayers. Saturday's program was held in the same manner as those of Friday. The Dioscesan Communications Officer Paul Needle, spoke on "Effective Communications" which was very instructive and useful information. In the afternoon, Cecilia Klevedal led

a walk of six kilometers through the woodlands and old town to the castle. Afterwards a Mass in The Church of Kungälv was held by Barbara Moss. Then there was continuing additional annual meeting documents until evening devotions at 21.00. The participants had both lunch and dinner on both days and the food was Swedish which was much appreciated. Nordic folk high school had good accommodation and excellent meeting facilities. There was entertainment on Saturday night in the form of Cecilia Klevedal who gave a talk on Kungälv and its history and Barbara Moss sang her traditional song. The synod ended with a Service in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday and Molly Mcgregor was confirmed by Bishop David Hamid. It was really a high light indeed. To participate in a Synod is very interesting, useful and you get to know new people. This was my first time and I look forward to the Synod in Copenhagen in 2012 and in Trondheim 2013.

Cecilia Klevedal



## Seasonal greetings from the far North

There is a verse given to me as a blessing many years ago:

Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of him, and obey his voice. (Exodus, 23:20-21)

And so it happened that I am now living here in Neiden, a small village about 40 km west of Kirkenes in Northern Norway. From here it's about 50 km to the Russian border and 10 km to Finland. Our nearest grocery shop and gas station – well, they are in Finland, Kyllä. Yes, I am already learning Finnish.

Before I came I could never have imagined myself living here. But here I feel home —although I miss my friends in Gothenburg and my family at St. Andrew's. Living here in the North has given me a new perspective on life. My eyes have been opened to new worlds. Solitude and the rough environment present the biggest challenge in life: yourself! That can be hard sometimes, but I accept this challenge, and I can feel myself growing.

This will be my third Christmas in Northern Norway, Christmas with Polar night, lots of snow, and maybe Northern lights. (The snow came late this year. And we haven't had many days yet with crystal clear frost and spooky frost-smoke.)

Last year I planned to spend Christmas in London, go to church and sing my heart out. But the flight was cancelled. I did not even leave Kirkenes. Instead, I joined the annual military Christmas service at Grense Jakobselv, the most eastern part in Norway.

(To come to Grense Jakobselv one follows a small road along the Jakob River, the border to Russia and which in some places is only a few meters broad. At the end of the road is the most beautiful sand beach in Norway. There is also a small chapel from 1869 named after the

Swedish King Oscar II (Norway was then in Union with Sweden)).

It was an adventure. After the service there was a bonfire at the beach and some crazy young soldiers - as well as other crazy volunteers - went swimming. It is a tradition and I was happy to be there. It was different. It was special. And when I was told later how much it meant to some people that I was there, that I supported them and helped out with playing at the service - it made my day. And I was confirmed: there is a meaning behind everything. One just has to accept that not everything turns out as we wish. But God has a plan. And he knows what we need and what is good for us. In my case, the adventure, the crazy, extraordinary experience at Grense Jakobselv was worth much more then mourning a cancelled flight to London.

This Christmas I will take my time. I will try to listen, to see, to feel what is happening. I confess I believe in the Christmas miracle, happening in silence, inwardly. It is like a small candle pervading the darkness in our lives, giving us hope and warmth. It is happening every Christmas. Let's be silent and welcome



it. Aren't miracles happening inwardly so much more powerful than the biggest explosion?

About a year ago I discovered a beautiful piece of music for choir by Morten Lauridsen "O magnum mysterium". It is transparent like a thin cold breeze, sharp as ice and suddenly overwhelming warm harmony: *Alleluja!* But overall – it is composed quietness and slowlyness. Music like flowing time, slowly and silently. To me this music is a piece of heaven. Too often we are not able to see, to hear and to feel what is happening because there is too

much noise, too much hastiness and too much business around us and in us.

A merry silent Christmas to you all! May God bless you and be with you during the New Year 2012.

Yours Katharina Bartsch

#### Lessons to be learned

I hope the words in this song by Barbra Streisand give you as much comfort as they have given me on my spiritual journey.

Ann Gustafsson

They say there's a universal plan for every woman for every man I do believe there's a higher power but in our darkest hour it's hard to understand so we start to question start to doubt we lose faith in what life's all about why did the right road take the wrong turn why did our heart break why'd we get burned just like the seasons there are reasons for the path we take there are no mistakes just lessons to be learned don't give up keep on looking deep inside let your heartbeat

cause there's a gift
for those who keep believing
you'll find what you've been needing
is right before your eyes
you'll hold the answer
in your hands

and then you'll know you'll finally understand why

why did the right road......
take the wrong turn
no matter how many times
you stumble or fall
the greatest lesson
is loving yourself
through it all
why did the right road.....
just lessons
lessons
to be learned

be your guide

#### LOTTERY 2011

The following organisations or shops have very kindly given us their support:

Ekholmens Pensionat, Vessigebro Folkteatern Govindas Vegetarian Restaurant, Karl Johansg. Gunnebo slott o trädgårdar Göteborgs Operan Göteborgs-Posten Göteborgs symfoniker Hagabadet Hudspecialisten Mila Jamshdi Jane's Place Josefssons Glas o Porslin Lindbergs Kött&chark Ma Cuisine Marrakechdesign, Kaserntorget Pensionat Styrsö Skäret Pusterviksteatern \*\*\* Stadsteatern Stena Line Thai Oriental, Kaserntorget Thai Wok Sweden Västra Hälsokost

\*\*\* This particular prize came too late for inclusion, but as it was for a performance in early June, it has been given to two well-deserving members of the choir.

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The Anglo-Swedish Society Program is now on-line: www.angloswedish.se

Members of St. Andrew's community are invited to apply for membership of the British Club.

Membership is open to all British and Commonwealth citizens and spouses of citizens and others with strong British connections.

Membership benefits include an www.britishclub.se

active social programme, generous travel concessions as well as a lively quarterly magazine.

The annual fee per family is 100.00 SEK. Anyone interested should contact Gisela Barnard (031 147101) or Monica Edholm (031 293040)



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