

# St Andrew

December 2016 — February 2017

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Magazine of the English speaking church in Gothenburg

# Who's Who at St Andrew's

## Chaplain

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 Heather Wray 031 - 14 47 73

### Secretary

Jeanette Munro 0709 - 876 581

### Treasurer

Steven Wray 031 - 14 47 73

### Synod representative

Jeanette Munro 0709 - 876 581  
 Cecilia Klevedal 031 - 12 75 08

### Ladies' Guild

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### British Factory Representative

Monica Edholm 031 - 29 30 40

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### Gardening Group

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### Safeguarding Officer

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### ID Checking

Heather Wray 031 - 14 47 73

### Ladies' Evening Group

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 Gisela Bamard 031 - 14 71 01

**Our Vision for St Andrew's**  
*Seeking God's will through  
 prayer and worship, outreach, and nurturing community*

# Our Church Committee Members



The cover picture of St Andrew is from a drawing by Lana Svirejeva

## Letter from our new Chaplain

Dear Family and Friends of St. Andrew's Göteborg,

Some years ago a friend of mine, Catherine, a priest of the Episcopal Church in Maine was serving as Interim Rector of my mother church in Bath Maine when the Parish was in between Rectors. One foggy Saturday evening she drove to one of the Coastal Inns to solemnize a wedding which was I was told a happy affair. At four am the next morning I was woken up by the telephone and when I answered it was the Sheriff, a member of the church, calling me to tell me that Catherine had drowned the previous night when she took the wrong direction in the fog and ended up driving off of the town pier in Five Islands Main. A witness said that it appeared that the driver of the car was unaware of where they were or what was about to happen.

Years later when I had returned from Okinawa a warden of a Parish about a four hours drive up the coast from where I live asked me to celebrate the services at the end of Advent and on Christmas. They were between clergy and I was happy to help out. I must admit I was apprehensive about the drive as it was on country roads and it would be after dark.

The week before the Christmas Eve Service I went shopping with a friend. In one store I was aware of the aroma of roses and wandered in the direction from where the odor originated. It came from a section where candles were displayed and in the back of the bottom shelf I found the rose scented eight day votive candle. It had an image of Mary and the infant Jesus on the outside so I brought it home and lit it placing it on the mantle looking forward to its light all that week. Burn it did but very dimly



with the tiniest flame so that I thought it might go out but it kept burning nevertheless.

Finally seven days later it came time for me to make the long drive «Down East» as we would say in Maine to Machias, to celebrate the Christmas Eve Mass. It was a cold, damp foggy night and before I left I checked the candle on the brick mantle still struggling to burn feeling that it would be safe so I turned out the lights and drove into the dark and foggy night. I remembered Catherine and the night when she passed away. As I drove Christmas lights lit the way and I took comfort from that. When it was time to drive home on that dark moonless night I noticed that the fog had gotten thicker. However all the way home the Christmas lights were bright with many colours and I could see people gathered in their homes and Churches and this gave

me a sense of hope and security. I passed a Lutheran Church and I could see the flames of candles being held by the worshipers which reminded me Christ the «true light that enlightens everyone» is born this night and it is his light in the darkness that guides me.

When I finally got to the country road that leads to my house in Brigham's Cove the pines were bent over and seemed to welcome me. Finally as I reached the top of the «Farm Hill» which slopes down to my house I could see my front door and window lights and I felt happy knowing I had made it home safely. I parked in front of the house the interior was dark except for what appeared to be a bright flickering light coming from inside. When I went inside I looked at the mantle and there was the candle which all week had struggled to keep burning shining with a radiant joyful light the house was permeated with the scent of roses which is one of the symbols of Mary.

Her image with her out stretched arms in welcome me and the baby Jesus his right hand raised in blessing seemed to be greeting me. Suddenly I was reminded of the real reason we celebrate this night. It is on this night that we welcome Jesus into our hearts as he welcomes us the wanderer home again.

That is one of many lessons this Advent and Christmas season has to teach us. Jesus is the true light born like us of a woman who gives us his true light to enlighten us on our way. He gives us life through which his light may shine and be a beacon to this sometime dark and foggy world. Let us be guided by his light and be reminded to let his light shine on our path and be a light to help others on their way safely home.

So dear sisters and brothers in Christ let us be a beacon to each other and be the light that guides each other on our way home. A Happy Christmas to you all.

David

### Christmas Services this year

Sunday December 18

18.00 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Wednesday December 21

18.00 Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Friday December 23

16.00 Carols around the Crib

December 25, Christmas Day

11.00 Family Eucharist

## Services: December — February

Unless otherwise stated, there is just one service on Sunday: Parish Communion at 11.00

### **DECEMBER 4**, Advent 2

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor  
Family Service

Prayers: Vongai Muyambo-Laasonen

### **DECEMBER 11**, Advent 3

Peace and Justice Sunday

LA: Gisela Barnard, Ann Gustafsson

Prayers: Gillian Thylander

### **DECEMBER 18**, Advent 4

LA: Alan Taylor, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Jeanette Munro

18.00 Nine Lessons and Carols

### **DECEMBER 21**

18.00 Nine Lessons and Carols

### **DECEMBER 23**

16.00 Carols around the crib

### **DECEMBER 25**, Christmas Day

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Ann Gustafsson

### **JANUARY 1**, The Holy One

Family Eucharist

LA: Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Clifford Elliott

### **JANUARY 8**, Baptism of our Lord

LA: Alan Taylor, Ann Gustafsson

Prayers: Charity Ezeilo

### **JANUARY 15**, Epiphany 2

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor

### **JANUARY 22**, Epiphany 3

LA: Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Keith Barnard

### **JANUARY 29**, Epiphany 4

LA: Gisela Barnard

Family Service

Prayers: The Willy Family

### **FEBRUARY 5**, Epiphany 5

Family Eucharist

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Gisela Barnard

Prayers: Happiness Ezeilo

### **FEBRUARY 12**, Epiphany 6

LA: Gisela Barnard, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Gisela Barnard

### **FEBRUARY 19**, Epiphany 7

LA: Alan Taylor, Ann Gustafsson

Prayers: Jennifer Abbås

### **FEBRUARY 26**, Epiphany 8

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Cecilia Klevedal

### **MARCH 1**, Ash Wednesday

### **MARCH 6**, Lent I

Family Eucharist

LA: Ann Gustafsson, Alan Taylor

Prayers: Alan Taylor

### **Midweek Mass/Onsdagsmässan**

19.30 Wednesdays

## Chaplaincy News

### Harvest Thanksgiving - September 18th



*Gillian and Heather busy decorating the church for the Harvest Festival Service*

### St Andrew's Day celebrations



*The Christmas Table with plenty of wonderful items to buy or win*



*The small children were enjoying the musical entertainment*



David and Irenè among the other guests, enjoying the delicious meal provided by many helpful hands



A big thank you to the Afro Vocals for entertaining us with so many wonderful songs, accompanied by guitar and drums. They created such a joyful atmosphere during the luncheon, making most of us move with the sound of the music

We were once again able to celebrate our patron saint with St Andrew's Day Lunch at the Haga församlings hall. We are always so thankful for their generosity in sharing their rooms with us. It is highly appreciated.

A big thank you to everyone who gave of their valuable time, in preparations and in making it all worthwhile; for the delicious food, for filling the Xmas table with lots of cake, marmalade, ginger bread house and

raffles. We have also been blessed with so many families with young children making our Father Christmas such a great success.

During our lunch we were entertained by the Afro Vocals, a group which created such a wonderful joyous atmosphere which stayed with us for a long time.

God Bless one and all.

Ann Gustafsson

## Young Communion



Younger members of the congregation were asked to help prepare the communion table at a Family Communion service

## Advent Sunday



Anita Mureithi and Daniel Åbom help to light the first advent candle



## Baptism

6 November 2016  
VIOLA CELESTINE AMES



## Nordic and Baltic Deanery Synod, 8th to 11th September 2016, in Riga, Latvia

Every year, representatives for each chaplaincy in the deanery send representatives as well as their chaplains to the deanery synod. This meeting is stipulated by the Church of England. The location is almost always at the place of one chaplaincy/church. We have Anglican churches in Norway, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Iceland.

The number of representatives sent by each church/chaplaincy is determined by the size of the church. Two of our church committee members, Cecilia Klevedal and, myself, Jeanette Munro represented St Andrew's as well as our Priest David Bruce. Every three years, the church committee representatives must be elected within their churches. The next election is for the deanery synods in 2017 -2019.

Unlike many any other deaneries, who have their churches situated relatively closely together, the deanery synod is one of the few contacts we have with our sister churches

throughout the year. It gives a chance "to touch base", to find out how the others are doing, their joys/successes and challenges and to hear about news in the Diocese of Europe as a whole. Examples: we have 2 other new priests (in Norway); the While Nile Church in Finland have converts from Islam; St Saviour's in Riga run a soup kitchen every Saturday with volunteers also from other churches.

The agenda

The agenda points of the synod are shown below.

### Synod – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September

14:00 Synod Opening Session

14.30 An Inclusive Church? – with Prof Dr Dace Balode and Nils Sakss Konstantinovs, following up the Inclusivity Questionnaire

17:00 Evening Prayer, followed by Group Photo

17.30 a) Lay Chapter Meeting

### Synod – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September

09:00 Morning Prayer

09.30 Bible Study (Rev April Almaas)

11:00 Safeguarding: an update (Ian Carter and Susan Boyd).

12:00 Eucharist

14:00 Bishop David brings us up to date with the life of the Diocese, Brexit etc.

16:00 Synod Business Session (separate agenda to be provided)

18:00 Evening Prayer

### Synod – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September

11:00 Eucharist at St Saviour's

## An Inclusive Church

This was tone of the main themes of this synod. We were asked to rate our churches concerning gender, sexuality and disability. There are 8 areas of inclusivity in total: Youth, Race, Poverty, Sexuality, Age, Gender, Disability and Mental Health.

We believed that St Andrew's rated quiet well when it came to gender. But when it came to disability, we rated ourselves much lower. For example, toilet access for less mobile is not up to standard, we do not readily offer large print and we don't offer hearing loop for the hard of hearing. We know that the toilet situation basically reflects the financially tight situation of our church to make improvements etc. With regards to sexuality, we don't state any stance; probably we consider it a non-issue.

There were two presentations around inclusivity:

The first discussed borders. Borders allow people, ideas, goods etc. access but they also act as barriers preventing access. Barriers are not necessary negative, sometimes it is important as protection. Borders can be expanded and contracted (confluence). This is analogy to the churches inclusivity.

Presently, sexuality is being discussed within the Anglican community, which does not allow same sex marriages unlike our Lutheran brothers and sisters.

A good piece of advice for us is that when we are looking at our disability inclusivity issues in our church, we should get help from the experts i.e. those who are less mobile.

The other presentation concerned the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia (ELCL) where women gained the right to become priests in 1975 but only to have it withdrawn in 1993 and the door fully closed in 2016. There is a lower post in the ELCL called evangelist who are partial priests who are not allowed to consecrate the holy communion nor carry out marriages and the female ones are really not allowed to preach either but do so.

## Safeguarding

The issue of safeguard children or vulnerable people is something that would affect basically the whole church. We are required to go on on-line training and background checks be done for many of the jobs required in the church. Those involved in Sunday school activities will obviously be affected but even side people who welcome and the director of music would be required to do some training.

Fortunately, we have Susan Boyd (based in Norway) as our deanery Safeguarding Trainer. In addition, we have Ian Carter, who is based in London, to advise us.

I will leave you with Bishop David Hamid's words: "There will never be a referendum on the inclusivity of the love of God!"

*Jeanette Munro*



## THE POPE VISITS LUND CATHEDRAL

Today, 31st October 2016, Tore and I had the joy of watching, on TV, the historic occasion in Lund's Cathedral of the meeting between Lutherans and Catholics who were joined together for the first time in a common united service. Pope Franciskus came from Rome to take part in the first joint service with both Catholics and Lutherans taking part.

The Lutheran World Association was founded 49 years ago – five hundred years after Martin Luther (1483-1546) had set out his 95 theses on the door of the Wittenberg church. Martin Luther criticized the Catholic sale of “forgiveness of sins” which he saw when he visited Rome and saw many examples of avarice and greed. The Lutheran World Association now has some 70 million members, which can be compared with 1.2 billion Catholics.

The church has considerable power and riches and Luther's warnings are still relevant today. Pope Franciskus met the Lutheran World Association in Lund Cathedral (Sweden's oldest cathedral) which has been catholic nearly as long as protestant.

Tore and I watched with great pleasure the



rehearsal of the service, as we remembered the similar, if somewhat smaller, rehearsal prior to our wedding in Lund Cathedral nearly 50 years ago. Time flies! We recognized quite a number of the participants such as Archbishop Antje Jackelén and the Catholic Archbishop Aurelius from Stockholm from SST and Bookfair meetings.

*Nancy Fjällbrant*

### St Andrews International Ladies Guild

There will be no meetings of the International Ladies Guild in December or January .

We will meet in 2017 on Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday March 9<sup>th</sup> in the café of the Smyrna Church near the Haga tram stop. I'll be there between 11 00 – 13 00 if anyone would like to drop in for a chat and a cup of tea/coffee.

Looking forward to seeing you and in the meantime a very Merry

Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Ladies Guild friends

Marie Lygonis Tel.0705 9208 77

Email [marie@lygonis.com](mailto:marie@lygonis.com)

## Peace in Columbia

**NOVEMBER 24, 2016**

After 52 years of civil war, in which 260, 000 were killed and millions displaced, and after four years of formal talks between rebel and government negotiators, Colombia's president Juan Manuel Santos and the leader of the FARC guerrilla Rodrigo Londono signed a peace agreement in Cartagena on 28 September 2016. They were observed by 2500 guests from all over the world, including the presidents of Peru, Mexico and Cuba and the Secretary General to the United Nations Ban Ki-moon. This led to the decision by the Nobel Committee to award the 2016 Peace Prize to President Santos. However, the president wished the people of Colombia to endorse the agreement in a referendum on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Imagine the consternation and despair of all those longing for a peaceful solution when the vote was “No!” The critics, among them the former president Uribe and his followers, declared that FARC was being treated far too leniently and “rewarded for murder”.

**However, after revising the terms of agreement ( See\*\*\*BBC news, Latin America), the President and the FARC leader were able to deliver a new document to the Colombian congress for approval just a few days ago, on November 24.**

These events are of particular interest to the former members of the church Amnesty Group, which was started by John Ashton in 1987 and lasted about 15 years, since one of our most interesting projects involved supporting human rights defenders in Colombia. We had a s.c. action file in 2000 on an association that was at first concerned with the education of workers, farmers and tradesman in a region called South Bolivar but

became increasingly involved in the human rights of those evicted from their land by guerrilla and paramilitary groups. After a massacre among farmworkers and miners, 5000 fled to another town, and the association had to set up their HQ in the capital, Bogota. We got to know a brave young woman lawyer there, who actually visited us here in Gothenburg and a parallel group in Holland.

December 10<sup>th</sup> is Human Rights Day and we shall celebrate Peace and Justice Sunday at St Andrew's just after that. This has traditionally been a day when we remember the work of Amnesty International and have sold their Christmas cards and candles. Amnesty members have baked and the coffee money has gone to the organisation. Their shop in Lund has a different range these days. but there will be a few things to inspect and maybe inspire some new people to take up the cause.

*Gillian Thylander*

former secretary to AI group 343

\*\*\*The five main points which have been changed are:

The Farc will have to declare all their assets and hand them over. The money will be used for reparation payments for the victims of the conflict

Concerns by religious groups that the agreement undermined family values have been addressed

A time limit of 10 years has been set for the transitional justice system

Farc rebels will be expected to provide exhaustive information about any drug trafficking they may have been involved in

The peace agreement will not form part of Colombia's constitution

## Concerts in Church

**RICCARDO GNUDI** has continued to give several organ concerts during the autumn on Friday afternoons.



On Friday November 25th a **TROMBONE ENSEMBLE CONDUCTED BY INGEMAR ROOS** filled the church with brass sonorities.



The Anglo-Swedish Society Program is now on-line:  
[www.angloswedish.wordpress.com](http://www.angloswedish.wordpress.com)

Members of St. Andrew's community are invited to apply for membership of the British Club. Membership benefits include an active social programme.  
[www.britishclub.se](http://www.britishclub.se)



The annual fee per family is 100.00 SEK. Anyone interested should contact Gisela Barnard (031 147101) or send an email to [membership@britishclub.se](mailto:membership@britishclub.se) to request more information.

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*Välkommen*



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