

JANUARY



**THE BROTHERHOOD OF  
SAINT ANDREW Province II**



**Happy New Year & Greetings, Brothers Andrew, in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!!!**

A New Year represents a new beginning, a chance to reflect on the days that have passed into history as we chart a course for the days ahead. Nearly everyone starts out the year with the best intentions of making a change for the better – the plan is the same for millions of people – lose those extra pounds, save money, go back to school, get a better job, fix up the house, go to church more, etc. etc. But, how often do these well intentioned plans fade into a distant memory only to be resurrected at year's ends for another try – next year. Too often we fail to meet our own expectations, not to mention the expectations of others.


Scarcely two weeks have passed since this year began; if you find yourself already falling behind on the promises that you made to yourself – take a moment, right now to recommit yourself to what you set out to do when the year began. Through our Lord Jesus Christ the world has been changed, certainly if we allow him to strengthen our will, we can do anything that we desire (Phil 4:13).

Today we honor a remarkable man who believed in the power of the Holy Spirit – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Here was a man thrust into greatness by circumstance, a man who willingly gave his life, like Saint Andrew, in the service of mankind. Let us renew our commitment to our New Year's resolutions following the example of Dr. King. What we have promised with our lips, let us perform in our daily life, as we promised upon joining the Brotherhood. Let us march on until victory is ours.



*For by grace you have been saved through faith;  
and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God;  
not as a result of works, that no one should boast.  
For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah/Christ Jesus  
for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk  
in them. Ephesians 2:8-10*

## **Faithful, Available and Teachable, Continued from Page 2**

 Pray about being faithful, available and teachable. Ask family and friends to pray for you, and pray for the members of your chapter and the leadership of the Brotherhood. I believe God has a plan for each one of us, but first we must be F.A.T. This is calorie free and good for you! This may sound a little silly, but it is good advice. As we lift each other up in prayer, we are asking God to enter into our lives and to help us through the trying times, and to thank Him for the many blessings we have received.

The Brotherhood is about men who have developed a bond of friendship, and who fellowship together on a regular basis. My challenge to the reader is to ask you to pray about being faithful, available and teachable. If one of the mentioned areas needs more attention, then please focus on it. Our theme has been "Disciples Making Disciples" the last few years, and this theme will continue on. It is answering the Great Commission that Jesus gave us to "Go therefore to all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and teach them to obey all that I have commanded you". Being faithful, available and teachable will answer His call to us, as members of the Brotherhood.

## ***Fishers of Men***



- **Mark 1:14** Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the

kingdom of God,  
**1:15** And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

**1:16** Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother **casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.**

**1:17** And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.

**1:18** And straightway they forsook their nets, and followed him.



**Did You Know?** *Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible & Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter.*

## **When God Becomes Real for Us**

The Jewish scholar and Rabbi Dr. Abraham Joshua Heschel (1907-1972) once said that God was either everywhere or nowhere. He meant that God was either in our world, in every aspect of our lives, jobs, homes, schools, entertainment, etc – or God was nowhere. In short, he believed that we must live in the presence of God in the most complete way or suffer the consequences of turning away from God in our daily life and work. To God we must give the glory and in so doing glory will be magnified in our lives and in all that we touch, see or do.

## **It Was a Very Good Year!**

The Calvary Burnt Hills (NY) chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew has been busy in 2006 with various ministries of service.



The brothers raised funds by clearing land and selling firewood. The funds were dispersed to help sponsor the diocesan Father-Son Retreat at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center (CTK/SLC) in Greenwich, NY. Funds were also used to provide scholarships for children to spend a week at Beaver Cross, the diocesan summer camp, also located at CTK/SLC. Brothers felt led of the Lord to give approximately four full cords of wood away for free, first to a needy widow, then to several other folks in the community.



In July, Brother Don Rohr and son Alex, Brother Dave Ruetsch and friend Steve Warne went to the flood ravaged Southern Tier of New York State to help a farmer clear his corn field of fallen trees. The next weekend, they helped an elderly couple who lost their lawn to the flood waters by raking and re-seeding. The grateful couple offered to pay, but they were told that it was a service of love from God through the Brothers – no charge!

Brothers Dave Stender, Fr. John Scott, Ron Edwards, Don Rohr, Deacon Peter Sweeney, Dave Ruetsch and friend Charlie Merriam cleared a huge downed maple tree from another elderly couple's lawn, yielding a cord and a half of firewood after splitting.

When the summer heat made woodcutting and splitting too uncomfortable, Brother Dave Ruetsch received an inspiration from the Lord to “cool down” by power washing houses. Together with Brother Dave Stender and Steve Warne, this warm weather enterprise raised \$2600 in a matter of two months!

Fr. John Scott suggested purchasing a sailboat/dinghy for CTK/SLC, and it was so! Now children of all ages can sail the 34 acre lake on “The St. Andrew”, a fine boat from Walker Bay.

Finally, the Calvary chapter is preparing to give a Christmas gift to CTK/SLC's dedicated buildings and grounds crew by providing heat for their maintenance barn, by way of a wood burning furnace and two full cords of wood to fuel it. The brothers are committed to “stoking the fire” with wood gleaned from CTK/SLC's vast supply.

The brothers at Calvary Burnt Hills rose close to \$10,000 in 2006 by selling firewood and power washing houses to the glory of God and in service to His people. It was a very good year!

Brother Dave Ruetsch



Following in the "Footsteps"  
of our Lord...  
"FOOTSTEPS"  
The Province II Newsletter

**SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 27, 2007 – SATURDAY 9AM – 2PM**  
**Church of the Holy Comforter, Rahway, New Jersey**

We will be focusing on the Brotherhood Rule of Life, which is the three disciplines of prayer, study and service. Lunch will be served Contact our Province II President – Bob Dennis, for more information -- RDENNIS4@NYC.RR.COM

## F A A and T

Bob Dennis, Province II President

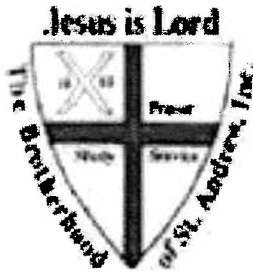


I read about this catchy acronym recently in an article from Man in the Mirror, and I believe it has a lot of meaning and significance for me. It not only makes you think about the words, but more importantly to answer the question, are we faithful, available and teachable? Think about it for a moment or two!

Are we faithful? Are we faithful to our Lord and Savior? What about to the Brotherhood, your ministry to men, your families, parish and friends. Most men may say yes, and that is great. If we are as faithful as we believe then continue to pray about it, and ask for guidance.

Are we available? Not just to attend meetings, or other events, but available to be a disciple for Christ? That is a tougher question to answer. How often do we make ourselves unavailable? Does it seldom happen or happen too often? Only you can be the judge of that.

Are we teachable? The resistance to this question usually comes in the form of a response saying I don't need any training, or I don't have the time for this. We are never in a position to say we are not in need of training! I have heard men often say, "been there, done that, and I have forgotten half of it". That's fine, but which half have you forgotten? I know that we need to study the Bible regularly, and as often as we can on a daily basis for instruction. We must be open to reading other books and articles about men's spirituality, and to attend workshops and seminars that will equip us to do the work Jesus has called us to do.



Why are we members of the Brotherhood? Why, because we are Disciples of Christ who believe in making new disciples, today, tomorrow and always. We should adopt this acronym and try to

live up to it, by making ourselves more faithful, available and teachable. No it's not tough! We call ourselves a band of brothers, and we are! So, we must band together to support one another in our daily walk. Our walk is typically full of challenges, distractions and temptations that lure us off the path and make it difficult to stay on course. Encouraging one another gives us the fortitude to continue on, and help us mature in Christ.



THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT ANDREW  
Province II

### Service among the Brotherhood

Brother Canon Matt brings word that a generous vendor has given Spiritual Life Center (SLC), in Greenwich New York, a chimney for the Brother's Furnace project. Praise God!



**B. U. I. L. D.E.R.S.** by Bob Dennis, Province II President  
**Brotherhood**-Is our men's ministry in the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion  
**United**-In our vision and mission objectives to bring men and boys to Christ  
**In**-Providing opportunities for men and boys to grow spiritually and mature in Christ  
**Leading**-By example through mentoring men for positions of challenge and responsibility

**Disciples**-Making new disciples to lead others to Christ through prayer, study and service

**Evangelizing**-The men and boys, both church and unchurched in our communities

**Renewal**-For the men to learn and grow through spirituality and worship opportunities

**Service**-To bring people nearer to Christ through His church, in our communities and the world

### **READ, MEDITATE AND PRAY FOR THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**

Jesus said to him, "Thomas because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen yet have believed." John 20:28

The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew founded in 1883



[WWW.BROTHERHOODSTANDREW.ORG](http://WWW.BROTHERHOODSTANDREW.ORG)

Check the website for current Brotherhood news and information