

“Follow me and I will make you
fish for people.” – Mark 1:17

The monthly newsletter of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Connecting us in community and in Christ



July 2023

Ordinary Pilgrimage

I recently preached about the pilgrimage with our Journey to Adulthood youth. The pilgrimage is an integral part of this program that seeks to incorporate elements of ancient societies' rites of passage. It is intentionally a pilgrimage, not a fun trip, not a mission trip, not an educational trip *per se*. It mimics the ordeal, or separation from one's family, that facilitates growing up and transitioning into adulthood from childhood. The program itself describes the experience like this: “They go in search of their own encounter with the divine, with Jesus Christ. And because God is good and loving, He is easily found on pilgrimage. The ancient Irish pilgrims say it is not how many miles we travel that makes the pilgrimage, it is the distance traveled by the heart.” We take the kids on a pilgrimage so they can have their own experience of the divine.

In the spirit of pilgrimage and because it is summer, the season of travel, I wanted to reflect on the idea of finding God as we travel, alone or with our family, for recreation or even for business.

Something happens when we travel, when we venture forth away from our home, away from all that is familiar, when we break our normal routines and embrace a spirit of adventure. Being removed from all that is familiar, we find that the normal context of our life is stripped away, and the things that help us know who we are, the places, the habits, the foods, the familiar people, are not present. Therefore, two things happen. First, we become more aware of our surroundings. We are all familiar with the effect of becoming blind to the wallpaper. Away from home, we tune in to what's going on around us, both because we have to—to get to where we want to go, or to make sure we are safe—and because we don't want to miss anything. This sensory hypersensitivity makes us open to our surroundings. It creates a unique spontaneity as we react to those new surroundings, and we are willing to try new things. Call this the vacation effect. It's why people end up going on zip lines or parasailing when they would normally never do something like that. It's why “what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.”

Second, being in unfamiliar surroundings makes us more vulnerable as well. It makes us more dependent either on a guide, an informational brochure or app, or a map or GPS. We literally don't know what is around the next corner. This unpredictability is actually always true in life, but as long as we are steeped in the routine and the familiar, we are shielded from this fact. Traveling underscores the randomness and fragility of life. This vulnerability combined with our openness to new situations can put us in a state of spiritual openness as well. It can help us discover the divine in the world around us, in nature, in a holy place, or in the most ordinary, unexpected places.

If we intentionally seek the holy, any trip can become a pilgrimage. It is often the people we meet while on a journey, the ones we didn't expect to meet, whom we will never see again, who reveal something about God to us. In brief, intense interactions we may find some surprising insight, some new perspective that opens our eyes and our hearts. When you travel this summer, pay attention. Expect to meet God while on the road, and you will. Sometimes it is the most simple and unexpected experiences, something we could never plan, that end up changing our lives.

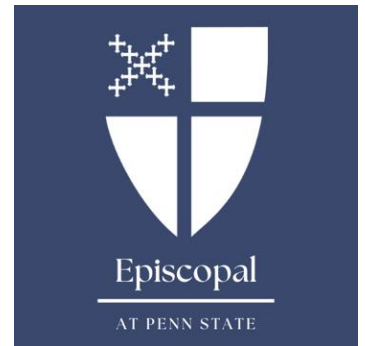
TED Talk

I have just returned from a wonderful and immersive three-day conference of the Young Adult and Campus Ministry council of the Episcopal Church, held this year at St. Paul’s Cathedral in the Diocese of San Diego. I attended last year’s conference in Minneapolis as a very newly minted deacon, preparing to commence with campus ministry in the fall. That conference introduced me to many wonderful leaders in our church, offered me valuable insight into campus ministry, and inspired me as I prepared to take those first steps. This conference was reconnecting and reaffirming. It was also my first as representative to the YACM council for Province III – and I am pleased to report that I was not the ONLY attendee from Province III (hooray!). I look forward to finding deeper and more fulsome connections with other leaders in Young Adult and Campus Ministry throughout our diocese and Province.

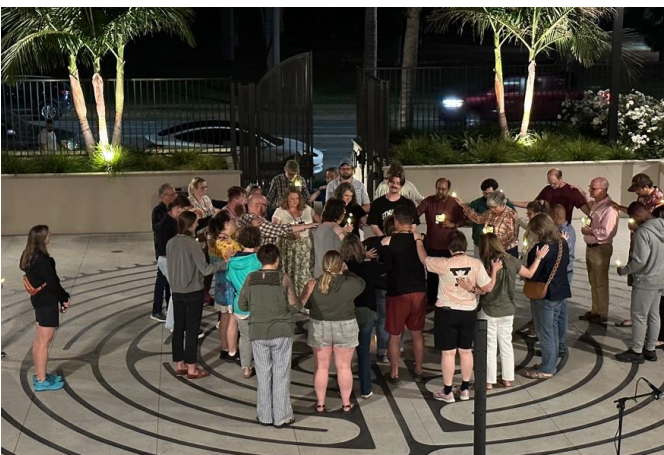
The keynote speaker at the conference was the amazing Becca Stevens. For those who don’t know much about her, you can learn about her background [here](#) and her amazing work with trafficked and vulnerable women [here](#)... suffice to say, her remarks were inspiring and her presence at the conference connected us to the mission and ministry of our church in such profound and meaningful ways.

There is much to unpack from this conference for me – unfortunately I spent the last day separated and quarantined with Covid (ugh!) and I remain in isolation – hoping to not disrupt upcoming family vacations. But I am hopeful and energized about the future of our Church and its ministry to Young Adults and Campuses. Here are some pictures of our YACM group. Laborers all, in the plentiful harvest!

Ted+



YACM conference attendees gathering at the beach for evening prayer



YACM conference attendees opening prayer at the Cathedral’s labyrinth



Keynote address by the amazing Becca Stevens



May 2023

	May	Year-to-Date	% of Budget	2023 BUDGET
Parishioner Contributions *	\$ 24,014	\$ 233,458	51%	\$ 454,500
Total Operating Income	\$ 26,411	\$ 250,534	52%	\$ 485,600
Total Operating Expense	\$ 40,416	\$ 216,810	41%	\$ 535,003
Surplus (Deficit)	\$(14,004)	\$ 33,724		

*Includes pledges, plate offerings, and special holiday offerings.



June 2023

The vestry met on June 13. Fr. Jeff announced that St. Andrew's has acquired two doses of Narcan, the anti-opiate overdose drug. The doses are in each of the AED device cabinets.

Parish donations were a little low in May, not totally unexpected for summer months. The painting of the stained-glass window frames is complete. The stonework at Trinity House is also complete.

Fr. Jeff led a free-flowing, productive discussion around welcoming newcomers to St. Andrew's and making them comfortable with our parish family. Post-pandemic, many families with children are looking for churches.

All the video equipment and sound system for Canterbury Hall has been installed and the first movie debuted on Friday, June 30.

Vestry meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month and are open to all parishioners. The next meeting will be held on July 11 in Room 324 at 7:00 p.m. and is open to all parishioners.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday Adult Forum Coordinator Needed



This is a volunteer position. We need someone to take charge of planning, scheduling, and coordinating the Sunday Adult Forum, 9:00-9:50 a.m.

Are you interested in adult Christian formation? Would you like to be involved with others who are too? This could be for you. We have much talent within our congregation and often invite people from other organizations to make presentations.

Speak to Father Jeff if you are interested or have any questions.

Virtual Introduction to Godly Play

Monday, July 17

7 p.m., online



What is Godly Play? How can I learn more?

Godly Play: Making meaning through story, wonder, and play.

Would you like to learn more about Godly Play and how we tell the stories of the Bible in our Godly Play Classroom?

The children's ministry received a donation to pay for four people to attend this virtual conference to learn more about teaching in our classroom.

St. Andrew's has an abundance of Godly Play resources and materials. We would like to invite you to learn more!

- Godly Play is a creative, imaginative approach to Christian formation and spiritual guidance.
- Godly Play allows participants to make meaning for themselves by inviting them into stories and providing space to connect Scripture with personal experience and open-ended response.
- Godly Play nurtures us to larger dimensions of belief and faith through wondering and play.
- Godly Play values process, openness, discovery, community, and relationships.
- Godly Play models the worship life of Christian congregations through deeper understanding of stories, symbols, and rites. <https://www.godlyplayfoundation.org/>

If you are interested, please contact Robin children@standrewsc.org to register for this conference. Thank you!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

NEWS FROM OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

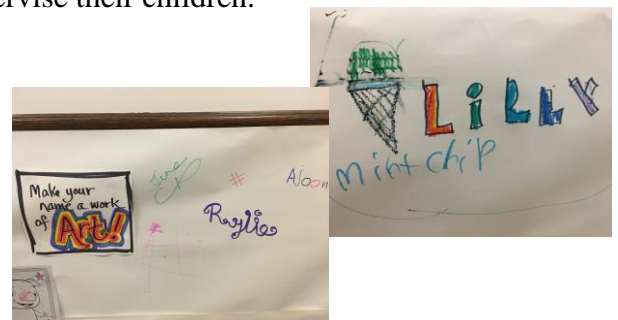
Cool Kids Oasis at the Arts Festival:

Friday and Saturday, July 14 and 15

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Canterbury Hall



Families who need a break from the heat during the Arts Festival are invited to visit our **Cool Kids Oasis** during the **Community Café Pie Sale** again this year. We will have a kid-friendly area set up in Canterbury Hall where kids can enjoy a wall mural, coloring books, and toys. And everyone can enjoy the delicious pie and air-conditioning! This area will not be staffed; visitors must supervise their children.



Donations for our program appreciated!

Our children's program is looking for:

- Child sized tables with chairs
- Fisher Price sets
- Cars (not real)
- Puzzles (any puzzles - we will share with other groups).



If you are cleaning this summer and would like to give any of these items a new home, please write to: children@standrewsc.org

Thank you!

CENTRAL PA FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS AT ST. ANDREW'S

SCHEDULE CHANGE for Arts Festival

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, July 16

9 a.m. – ONE SERVICE ONLY

On the Sunday of the Arts Festival, July 16, we will have only one worship service at 9 a.m. There will not be a Fellowship Hour.

Hydration Station

Thursday, July 13 – Saturday, July 15

9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Front Lawn

The Community Café will offer Free ice water, lemonade, and iced tea to hot and thirsty festival-goers on the front lawn. (Hours subject to change without notice.)

Community Café Pie Sale

Friday, July 14 – Saturday, July 15

9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Canterbury Hall



The Community Café will host its annual pie sale again this year at the Arts Festival.

Delicious pies of all varieties will be available! We will sell substantial slices for \$4 or add a scoop of ice cream for only \$1 more. Whole pies will also be available and priced individually. Coffee and lemonade will be complimentary along with air conditioning or shelter depending on the weather.

Your donation of a pie will help make the event a success. The Café plans to make apple and pumpkin pies but would appreciate contributions of premium sellers like berry, pecan, key lime, peach and other fruit pies, whipped cream, and a few sugar-free or gluten-free pies. You can drop your pies off any day the week of July 10, including Friday and Saturday, in Canterbury Hall.

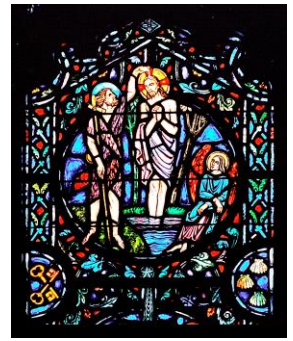
If you have any questions, please call Sharon Rovanssek at (814) 574-4708. Thank you in advance and see you at Arts Fest.

Stained-Glass Window Tours

Friday, July 14 – Saturday, July 15

10 a.m. to Noon, Church

Guides Cathy Dauler and Jason McCloskey will provide guided tours of our stained-glass windows that focus on the history, meaning, and artistry of these beautiful works of art. Even if you see the windows every Sunday, you are sure to leave with more information and an increased appreciation. The tours are free of charge.



Cool Kids Oasis

Friday, July 14 – Saturday, July 15

9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Canterbury Hall

A kid-friendly environment and calm activities for when everyone needs a break from the heat and crowds. This area will not be staffed – parents are responsible for their children. (See “Children and Youth” section for more details.)

Festival Parking

Wednesday, July 12 -

Saturday, July 15

The business of the church does not stop during the Arts Festival and requires much of our limited parking, especially on Wednesday and Thursday. If you need to use our parking during the Festival (or any other time except Sundays,) please place a Sunday bulletin on your dashboard to identify your car as belonging to a parishioner. Pick up a copy at a Sunday service or in the church office. Parking is also available in the Trinity House parking lot (excepted where indicated as “Tenant Parking”) and courtesy of our neighbors in the KCF parking lot (at the intersection of F Alley and Nittany Avenue) and night after 6 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays.

Performances at the Arts Festival

Any visit to the Arts Festival should include catching some of the great live performances that are part of it. For a complete list of performers, visit the Festival website at <https://arts-festival.com/>, but be sure to look for these talented members and friends of St. Andrew's when making your plans.

Wednesday, July 12

1:00 p.m. Festival Shell Stage

Central PA Dance Workshop (Ruth Packard, Haylei Libran)

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Allen Street Stage

North by Southwest (Stacy Anderson and John Ochoa)



Thursday, July 13

6:30 p.m. Sidney Friedman Park Stage

Zerpoint Big Band (Kevin Lowe, Rick Hirsch)

7 p.m. Allen Street Stage

Callanish (Louisa Smith - daughter of Teri and Steven Smith)

Friday, July 14

8 p.m. & 10 p.m. Blue Brick Theater
Happy Valley Improv (Andrea McCloskey)



Saturday, July 15

11:30 a.m. Allen Street Stage
Cat's Eye (Kevin Lowe)

12:30 p.m. Festival Shell Stage
State College Municipal Band
(Melody and Andrew Chisholm)

8 p.m. & 10 p.m. Blue Brick Theater
Happy Valley Improv (Andrea McCloskey)

OUTREACH

Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, July 21
11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Canterbury Hall

Schedule online at redcrossblood.org or
Call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)



Don't be cold-blooded — help us avoid potential summer shortages and share this exciting offer with your donors to help us ensure blood is ready at a moment's notice. We can't let the national supply dip too low.

Donate at St. Andrew's on July 21 and get a **FREE SHARK WEEK T-SHIRT**, while supplies last!

UPCOMING

Picnic and Prayer in the Park

Sunday, August 20
5 p.m., Tudek Park, Pavilion #1

On Sunday, August 20, we will hold our 5 p.m. Holy Eucharist outdoors at Tudek Park with a potluck dinner following. More details to follow, but mark your calendars now.



GROUPS, MINISTRIES, & COMMITTEES

This is not a comprehensive listing; regularly scheduled meetings and events are included only if they submitted an item for publication. For complete and updated listings, please check your Sunday bulletin or weekly email.

KNITTING MINISTRY

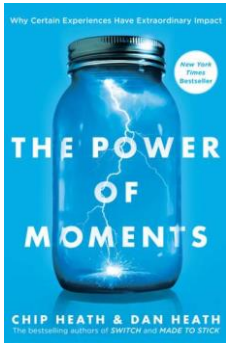
The next scheduled meeting of the Knitting Ministry is Sunday, September 10 following the 10 a.m. service.

For more information contact Anne Hoag, anne.hoag@gmail.com



BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, July 25
7 p.m., Room 324



The St. Andrew's Book Group will meet Tuesday, July 25, to discuss *The Power of Moments* by Chip and Dan Heath. In the book, they discuss why certain brief experiences can jolt us and elevate us and change us—and how we can learn to create such extraordinary moments in our life and work.

Visitors and newcomers are always welcome!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! If you have a July birthday and do not see your name listed, we probably do not have that information in our records. Please contact the office – we may be missing other information, too.



- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Kathy Hickner | 10 Patricia Jackson | 20 Dee Pawling |
| 1 Roxi Thoren | 10 Julianne Ohashi | 21 Jeanette Sabre |
| 2 Linda Wallace | 14 Melissa Anderson | 21 Linda Selzer |
| 3 Linda Mace | 15 Kelley Paulsen | 24 Carolyn Bechtel |
| 3 Anne Jones | 16 Anna Jones | 24 Lisa Hopkins |
| 3 Michele Diaz | 17 Steven Smith | 25 Denise Person |
| 4 Sheryl Stout | 17 Mary Andrew | 26 Penny Blasko |
| 4 Davis Pagett | 17 Sebastian Mainzer | 27 Dave DonTigny |
| 4 Mackenzie Pagett | 17 Jordan Williams | 27 Russell Vaught |
| 6 Robin Bagby | 18 Nicholas McNutt | 28 Robyn Newton |
| 6 Julie Breuninger | 18 Ryan Couch | 30 Michael Petrarca |
| 7 Sarah Skvarla | 19 Meira Minard | 30 Bennett Marini |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! If you have a July birthday and don't see your name listed, we probably do not have that information in our records. Please contact the office – we may be missing other information, too.

Those for Whom We Pray

Sandy, Mavis, Erica, Garrett, Kevin, Diane, Frank, Sarah, Emily, David, Vicki, Donna, Robbie, Joan, Don, Jane, Garrett, Jessica, Dennis, Bryan, Michael, Joanne, Robert, Harry, Tara, Todd, Maddy, Joan, Ty, Jordan, Isa, Ivonne, Meira, Joe, Chuck, Kevin, Molly, Alex, Tsültrim, Gordon, Alma, Dave, Victor, Amy, Magen, Tim, Amanda, Kaitlyn, Kathryn, Jack, Elle, Roger, Ulicia, Laura, Robin

Those in the Armed Forces and First Responders

Zach, Christie, Sean, Matt, Eric, Andrew, Amy, Zachariah, Cameron

SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

208 W. FOSTER AVENUE
STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801.

OFFICE: 814-237-7659

FAX: 814-867-7959

EMAIL: office@standrewsc.org

WEB PAGE: www.standrewsc.org