I've decided this summer is not going to fly by without a little summer frolicking. I'm not talking about locking up and taking the summer off – although that idea does not sound unbearably oppressive. I am talking about little things. I have promised myself, I will listen to more music and less news radio. I will spend more time walking in the rain. I will pop popcorn from scratch and invite the family to enjoy the spectacular show of a summer storm from our front porch. I plan to spend more evenings rocking on our porch swing with Anna, possibly reading a book, and less turning on the television or settling into the couch. I am promising myself a few more early morning runs and promising my children a few more evening jaunts to the swimming pool.

I intend on grilling out as often as possible and if we can keep the bugs at bay, eating outside on our back deck. I plan to catch lighting bugs with Elliott and run through the sprinkler with Lauralee. I’d like to make my own lemonade from actual lemons, enjoy a rhubarb pie, cook with the herbs from our garden, entertain more, and visit more. I’d like to spend less time enjoying the benefits of air-conditioning and at least spend a night or two sleeping underneath the stars.

At times I feel we sprint through life, even if we are hardly moving. Our mind is filled with longing for days to come and then lament for days gone by. By the time we pack up the Christmas presents we tell ourselves we’ll hunker down and just wait until summer comes. Spring lets us know we are getting close. And then it is finally here. It’s summer time. But after a few days of sticky, hot, thick air, we move way too quickly indoors or to a new place in our mind. We close our eyes and picture the gently cool breezes of early fall, the first turning leaves, and we think not much longer till fall. At times getting through is all you can do, but as a rule I really don’t think life is about getting through. I think it is about living abundantly. God certainly calls us to give and to serve, but it is out of our gratitude that we give most freely. I intend on marinating in all those wonderful God given graces.

Live abundantly this summer. Enjoy the gift of being part of creation. Celebrate the people in your life. Feel, taste, experience life. Find that childlike wonder. And while you are at it, allow our liturgy to speak to the joy in your heart. Give praise to God for the grace of knowing that God created you out of love, filled the world with such beauty and wonder, and promises this is but a taste of that truly abundant life in God.

Ben+
Recently the church received a few letters expressing considerable apprehension to part or all of the proposed sanctuary renovation. These well-crafted letters reveal a great passion for this parish and its architecture, and considerable reflection upon the loss that would accompany the expressed benefits of the project. With permission, they among others will be posted at St. Andrew’s and on our website, and addressed in upcoming newsletter articles.

Before diving any deeper into the merits and concerns about changing our worship space, allow me a moment of reflection. I have been gifted over the past five years to lead worship at St. Andrew’s. To be honest, during that time, the space has marveled me with its sense of power and awe. On a sunny early morning I have felt the warmth of brightly colored light cascade across my face as I read the Gospel from the front of the nave. I have appreciated the dichotomy of intimacy and sprawling humanity as I have preached from high above in our colossal pulpit or celebrated from behind our set back altar. I also have to confess that at times I have wished the space were brighter, smaller, arranged differently, more accommodating, etc. I own all of these perceptions. Many of my feelings about the renovation that are just that – mine. Some of my views are objective (or at least I think they are), some are most definitely personal, some come from my perspective as a relative newcomer, a parent, as a celebrant, evangelist, pastor. Some of my sensitivities are at odds with one another.

Many of our opinions are formed out of nothing more than our particular aesthetic and pragmatic judgments. Other views reside much deeper. I realize there is no way to move through the listening process without confronting distinct differences in perspective. However, I do think we can honor the place from which these strongly held opinions form. For many of us, this is not the space our family has called their spiritual home for generations. The walls do not talk as loudly to us. The value of the space’s history individually and corporately cannot be measured or easily weighed against specific benefits.

I remember my parents driving my sister and me through the town of Chazy, New York. This little town of around 4,000 served as rearing ground for my mom, her brother, and two sisters. I can close my eyes and still see the look on my usually stoic mother’s face as she reveled in the landmarks from her childhood, her old neighborhood, the pond that would freeze over and become the neighborhood rink. She also visibly lamented the loss of the old Chazy Central Rural School which of her 31 classmates she was the Valedictorian. Their local hangout, a Chazy institution, Dick’s Lunch, was gone. The most startling reaction was reserved for the drive by her old house. In a house that conserved water like it was gold (showers were banned, bath water was rationed, dishwater was collected in a basin and never run down the drain) there now sat in the back yard an in-ground swimming pool. The horror! She could hardly imagine what her father would have thought. Places become more than their materials, they become the backdrop of our lives and thus part of our story.

Interestingly, just the other day, a woman in town for a high school reunion, stopped by the church for the first time in at least 50 years. She wanted to reconnect with part of her story’s backdrop. She came down to the office and asked rather sharply when did they put those murals and stained-glass windows in there. Perspective cannot be discounted.

For some the murals and windows are revered because of loyalty to the leadership that welcomed them into this church. Conversely some saw them as an affront to a previous chapter in our unfolding history as well as the to Georgian Revival architecture.
(continued from previous page)

Some, who were not participants in the story that our current sanctuary tells, feel the excitement of, in some concrete way, deepening their connection to this place. Allowing the chapter they represent to resonate through the space. Not a powerful congregation gathered in mass behind a larger-than-life intermediary, but a gathering of friends excited by the possibility of sharing the grace they have found and inviting others to gather with them at the Lord’s table. This change feels authentic to their experience, and is thus a place they can own and grow.

I imagine for a few of us the church at large has been moving with a gale force wind. Blowing prayer books and hymnals out of hands and replacing them with “more appropriate language and theology for the current age,” amending or at least bending long standing teachings, continually begging people to stretch, and stretch some more. Walking into a familiar space, sitting in that same pew, facing that familiar chancel, it just about makes the other changes tolerable. And then the church wants to change that familiar space to correspond with that new theology in that new prayer book.

These are not the arguments for or against, this is the subtext, the way all of us bring a little of ourselves to the table. One of St. Andrew’s greatest treasures is not its architecture or artifacts, it is our ability to love one another despite and because of our differences. In the face of a lengthy season in the larger church in which theological and political differences have been magnified, we have grown closer. I pray in confidence that we can see where this conversation takes us, listening to one another and open to the movement of the Spirit.

THE DETAILS – We continue to solicit your feedback. If you have not yet commented we would love your thoughts (and please be specific). We want to hear from you. By you I mean our long-standing members, our youth, our new members, and anyone else invested in the future of our parish. Once we have received and shared the parish’s feedback, we intend on holding a couple of listening sessions to share ideas. Following the sessions we will distribute surveys. The vestry and building committee (currently in formation) will take all of your thoughts, ideas, and concerns and bring forward a final assessment. Concurrent with this process, an additional team will focus on cost, financing, and potential for necessary fundraising. Please plan on participating in this very important discernment.

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An invitation for Fellowship and Fun

You are Invited to a Picnic at the Rectors House

Sunday, July 19th at 4:00 P.M.
2115 Woodbourne Avenue

Please Bring Your Favorite Picnic Side-Dish and a Chair
Desserts and Drinks will be Provided by Parish Life
Hamburgers and Hotdogs will be Served

Please RSVP at the Parish Office 452-9581

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Our Deepest Condolences to the Families of

Dorothy Kingsley - Mother of Dorothy Brock
Fred Martin - Father of Anna Maas
Virginia Klink - Sister of Nina Tucker
Anne Hill - Daughter of Martha Ballard
Our prayers for healing are asked on behalf of:


We pray for those who have died:
Anne Hill, The Rev. Alfred Martin

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:
Damon Matthews, David McGarvey, Blake Settle, Trey Whitworth, Josh Matthews, Jordan Shepler, Donald Declue, Chris Chrusciel, Jeremy Shepler, Terry Triplett Jr.

We pray for those who have died:
Anne Hill, The Rev. Alfred Martin

JUNE / JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

June 7 Marci and Jay Dickinson anniversary #40
June 11 Terry and Sue Zimmerman anniversary
July 1 Callie McCrocklin
July 3 Donna and David Pigram anniversary
July 4 Harry Simon
July 6 Rick Stoll
July 6 Casey Simon
July 6 Rob and Suellen Nolan anniversary
July 18 Nathan Short
July 19 Becca Rauh
July 21 Tom Strohmeier
July 21 Scott Parker
July 23 Abel Martinez-Orrego-
July 24 Tacky Fishback
July 29 Martha Holland
July 31 Jeff Echelberger
Claire Meena-Leist

Congratulations to Emily Neubauer and Barry Smith on their Wedding.

Vacation in Rome:
(At Vacation Bible School)

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Monday, July 20 to Friday, July 24

Several Episcopal churches collaborate in presenting an exciting Vacation Bible School every summer. This year we will gather at Christ Church Cathedral (425 S. 2nd Street) to learn about Rome in the days of St. Paul. Children will have a short visit with St. Paul and his jailer before their daily visit to the catacombs. They will play games that Roman children enjoyed, taste Roman food and learn 1st century crafts like basket weaving and jewelry making.

Children age 4 through rising 5th graders will participate as members of Roman “families.” Childcare will be provided for younger children of volunteers. Adults and youth (middle and high school students) are needed to volunteer – Would you like to get to know a particular group of children? Sign on as a Family Leader. Would you like to see all the children for a while each day? Offer to be a member of the Underground Church or help with games, snacks or music. Do you only have one morning to share? Help teach a craft while leading a Marketplace Stall.

There is a registration fee of $10 per child – but don’t let that stop you, scholarship money is available, just talk to Martha. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or at our web site, www.MySaintAndrews.org.

Attendance 8:15  9:30  11:00
May 31 13  144
June 7 19 30  43
14 19 26  71

Thanks for the Books:
Martha thanks those who donated books to the Children’s Ministry book drive. Special thanks to Barrett Collins, who arranged for us to pick up a truckload of books after the public library sale. The Children’s Ministry budget is now richer by $300, so there’s money available to fund new Catechesis materials and Camp Scholarships.

If you drive to All Saints along 62, stop at the Book Spine west of Shepherdsville for used book bargains.
WELCOME OUR NEWEST CITIZEN

Congratulations to Rafael Yanes-Fonseca, our sexton. He was sworn in as an American Citizen on June 5.

Have you ever been to a citizenship swearing in? Like our family service it combines profound ceremonial statements with laughing children and crying babies. The excitement of the new citizens, and the pride their families and friends clearly demonstrate the hard work and dedication necessary to transplant oneself to this place. For those of us who were just lucky enough to be born here it is hard to imagine promising to “absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty . . .”

One of the more moving moments of Rafael’s swearing-in ceremony came before it started, when we were settling into our seats and looking through the short bulletin. Fr. Ben read the following quote, by George Magar Markidian, an Armenian-American who was awarded the Medal of Freedom by President Truman. On Sunday, Fr. Ben read it again, as part of his sermon, saying that these new citizens truly know what it is like to be “born again.”

“You who have been born in America, I wish I could make you understand what it is like not to be an American — not to have been an American all your life and then suddenly, with the words of a man in flowing robes to be one, for that moment and forever after. One moment you belong with your fathers to a million dead yesterdays; the next you belong with America and a million unborn tomorrows.”

FAMILY SERVICE AT 9:30 A.M. SUNDAY

Our 9:30 family service is off to a rousing start. The service has been well attended and full of spirit. Only two parishioners have truly lived into the invitation to come in pajamas and both are under three and a half feet and bear a slight resemblance to the rector. Consider starting your week with thirty minutes of festive thanksgiving to God. It promises to fill your sails and keep you connected to your spiritual family. The invitation stands, come as you are, whether just rolling out of bed or already dressed for the rest of your day, and don’t forget to invite a friend. You are welcome to come earlier to have breakfast with the 8:15 congregation or stay late and enjoy whatever treats remain and the guarantee of fresh coffee, tea, and great fellowship. The service, which takes place in our downstairs chapel, includes one reading, a few familiar songs, opportunities for our children to participate all in thirty minutes. See you there.

ALL SAINTS’ SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp is off and running. The High School and Middle School camps were enjoyed by all. After the Fourth of July break the 5th and 6th Grades gather from July 5-10, followed by the 2nd through 4th Grades, meeting July 12-17. If you want your children to experience the joy and growth of a week at All Saints, please register now. If you didn’t get a brochure in the mail, contact Martha (452-9581, mholland@mysaintandrews.org) or download the form at youth.episcopalky.org. Scholarship money is available, so don’t let finances deter you.

WISH LIST

You can help the camp keep prices down by donating needed items that are new or in good working condition. There are posters of the complete Camp Wish List in Collins Hall and across from the Nursery. If you bring items to St. Andrew’s Martha will make sure they get to All Saints. Thank you!

AUTHOR: GREG GARRETT

St. Andrew’s will host guest preacher and author Greg Garrett at the 11am service on July 19th. Garrett penned the The Gospel according to U2 among other works. Please come and welcome him to our parish and enjoy his insight.
THE PARISH PICNIC WAS FUN FOR EVERYONE

Whatever their age or agility, everyone had fun at the picnic. Accompanied by lilting Celtic music some people zoomed down the water slide or splashed in the wading pool, some played corn hole, some sat and talked. Some tried all three – and everyone ate. Then we all ate some more.

THANKS TO ALL WHO WORKED TO MAKE THE PICNIC SUCH A SUCCESS
People made delicious food, supervised the water play, set up, cleaned up, and generally helped one another have another fun afternoon at St. Andrew’s.

THANKS FROM LIAM’S FANCY

To Everyone at Saint Andrews,
Thank you for hosting Liam’s Fancy with John Skelton. It was an honor to be part of the Pentecost services, and a distinct pleasure to work, albeit briefly, with such quality music professionals.
We are especially pleased that our picnic music was received so warmly by a wide range of parishioners.
Thank you and may God bless St. Andrews.
Sincerely,
Dan Cummins
for Liam’s Fancy
Much of the wonderful music we hear and sing along with every Sunday is made possible by Marci Dickinson’s incredible mastery of the organ. She is a talented musician whose gifts greatly enhance our worship.

Marci was born and raised in Modesto, California when the area was primarily a farming community. Modesto was known for its good music and arts and Marci participated fully. She began playing piano at age 8 and flute a year later. By the time she entered Modesto Junior College she was playing with the Modesto and Stockton symphonies. She is from a musical family. Her mother’s family had a number of musicians including her mother who played piano. Marci’s sister played piano and violin. While Marci’s father was not a musician he developed a great knowledge of and appreciation for music following his daughters through their instrumental success.

When Marci went off to Modesto Junior College her mother encouraged her to learn to play the organ relating “if you learn to play the organ you will always have a place to play.” The pipe organ on which Marci learned to play was very different than the organ she had heard in her Methodist Church growing up. After two years at Modesto Junior College, Marci came across the country to attend the highly acclaimed Indiana University School of Music. She earned a Bachelor in Music Education with a concentration in flute. Marci stayed at Indiana and later earned a Master’s in Church Music with a concentration in organ.

It was about the time Marci was entering graduate school that she met her husband Jay. Jay was born in Harvey, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, and later moved downstate to Springfield where he spent most of his youth. At Southern Illinois University Jay earned a Bachelor’s degree in Communications with a concentration in photography and later a Master’s degree in Instructional Assistance and Technology. Jay and Marci met at a university sponsored activities fair. Marci was exploring opportunities for involvement in campus activities and Jay was staffing a booth for a university Christian organization and as he fondly remembers, “flirting for Christ.” The two got to know one another and the rest is history. Marci and Jay were married in the chapel on the IU campus on June 7, 1969. Our heartiest congratulations on their fortieth wedding anniversary!

Jay and Marci had an exciting beginning to their married and professional lives as they experienced a number of opportunities in different locations. From Indiana University they went to Kansas State, and Idaho State for academic and music positions before landing for two decades in Morgan Hill, California. Morgan Hill is a suburb of San Jose and made a wonderful home community while Jay was teaching at San Jose City College and Marci at Gavilan College. In nearly every community the Dickinsons have lived Marci has held a church position playing organ. One of her more interesting church engagements was at St. Paul’s Episcopal in Salinas, California where John Steinbeck had been a member.

Around the time their son David was entering high school, Marci and Jay made a decision to return to the Midwest. Jay took a position with the Clarksville, Indiana school district where he remained until his retirement in 2008.

Marci serves as adjunct faculty at Indiana University Southeast where she teaches music fundamentals and piano in the degree program as well as private piano lessons through the University’s Arts Institute.

Marci joined our staff at St. Andrew’s in February, 1997 after a few engagements as a substitute organist. In addition to playing the organ, she routinely plays the piano and flute and leads our bell choirs. Through her leadership with the bell choirs many of our parishioners have been able to learn to play and share their gifts of music. Marci is incredible to watch as she manages many bells at one time. She also writes music and would like to do more of that when time allows.

Away from her work at the University and St. Andrew’s Marci enjoys gardening and hiking. The new love of her life is grandson Will who was born May 5th. Will lives in Charleston with Marci and Jay’s son David and his wife Christina. David too is a graduate of IU, with a bachelor’s degree in computer science and a juris doctor. David is a captain with the United States Air Force. He and his family will soon relocate to San Antonio where David will serve as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for the 65th Network Warfare Wing at Lackland Air Force Base. Christina is an attorney in private practice.

Music is such an important part of our worship at St. Andrew’s. We are fortunate to have someone of Marci’s talents and commitment as an integral part of our music program and are grateful that she continues to grace us with the gift of song.
ST. ANDREW'S
Parish Office
2233 Woodbourne Avenue
Louisville, KY 40205
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Fax: (502) 452-9582

Office Hours
Tuesday-Friday, 9:30 am-3:30 pm
Visit Us on the Web
www.MySaintAndrews.org

Worship Schedule
Sundays
8:15 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
9:00 am Breakfast
9:30 am Nursery until 1:30 pm
9:15 am Adult Choir
10:00 am Children's Church in the Chapel
11:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
12:15 pm Coffee & Conversation in Collins Hall

Wednesday
5:30 pm Worship in the Chapel
6:00 pm Dinner in Collins Hall
6:30 pm Jr. Choir Practice / Adult Ed.

Contact the Staff
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Children’s Minister
Martha Holland ext. 224 mholland@mysaintandrews.org
Parish Administrator
Bridgett Hard ext. 210 bhard@mysaintandrews.org
Music Director
David Brown ext. 223 dbrown@mysaintandrews.org
Organist/Handbell Director
Marci Dickinson ext. 212 mdickinson@mysaintandrews.org
Bookkeeper
Ruth Kempf ext. 211 rkempf@mysaintandrews.org
Sexton
Abel Martinez-Orrego and Raphael Yanes

Recycle this newsletter. Give it to a neighbor.