



Kelly and I are overjoyed at being called to join our family to the St. Andrew's family! When we got the news, and were asked to be your next rector, we both had already spent countless hours in prayer for everyone at St. Andrew's and we had already felt our hearts being knit together with you. So, when the call and invitation came we knew that it was right and from the Lord.

Naturally, you'll want to know a bit about us. Here are some of the details:

Kelly and I have been married for 28 years and we have five children. Our oldest, Ezra, is 26 and lives in Nashville. Rebekah is 25 and married to Aaron and they live in Atlanta. Asher is 20 and he married Marissa this past January. They live in Bozeman, Mont., and are students at Montana State. At home is Elias, who is 17, and Alethea, who is 13. We have two dogs and two cats, and Alethea has a ferret. Kelly and I have our degrees in zoology and botany and have worked together as wildlife biologists early in our married life. I went to seminary in 2001 at Trinity School

for Ministry in Pennsylvania and earned a Master of Divinity in 2004. Since then we've had the privilege to work in many different places, from New Mexico to Ireland, and most recently, Canada. We are looking forward to being in Fort Worth and being here a long time.

I've been a Christian for 29 years and was sensing a call to ministry early on. I became an Anglican, first because I believed that was where I was being called, and also because of Anglicanism's rooted tradition, evangelical identity and classical Christian foundation. A few of the Anglican theologians I admire are Thomas Cranmer, Hugh Latimer, J.C. Ryle, John Stott, and Ashley Null.

I place a priority on expository preaching, discipleship, biblical teaching, and developing a grace-filled community where we encounter the living Christ. I believe in every-member ministry and look forward to what the Lord does through us all.

There is a lot more, and I would love to sit down with any and all to get to know you and share our story and our lives with you.

This week, Kelly and I were reading the Word together, and we began in Paul's letter to the Philippians, chapter one. I think what is written there is for us at St. Andrew's as we begin our walk together. This is what he said, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 4 always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. 7 It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1.3-11)

There is so much here that can be fruitful teaching, but I want to draw our attention to the content of Paul's prayer, specifically. He prays that their love for each other would abound more and more - but with knowledge and discernment. This is the grace-filled community I mentioned earlier. In love, they fellowship and live their lives together as they are growing in and understanding Christ together. The result of that is that they will know and approve of what is excellent. In other words, he prays that they would know the things that really matter - and then live in that knowledge in practicality with grace and love for each other. And as a result there is righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ.

I believe St. Andrew's future can be amazing and full of the Lord's blessing as we walk close to him, trusting his Word, and loving each other and those he puts in our path. Paul's prayer for the Philippian church is my prayer for us.

Yours, in Him,

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