



SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

306 N. Division Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 • (734) 663-0518 • www.standrewsaa.org

Sunday, June 13, 2021

Proper 6



Our heartfelt thanks to our volunteer teachers and the gifts they bring to the Church School program, especially during this unparalleled year. They honor the call of their Baptismal Covenant, doing God's work, generously sharing their time, talents, and nurturing the children and youth of St. Andrew's.

The poem "The Calling" by Roger Fields embodies their dedication: "They minister to children. It is who they are, and it is what they do."

Each and every week, sharing their gifts, seeing God in all things and always having our children's best interest at heart!

Thank you to our rock star team!

Morning Glories Preschool:

Jessica Beemsterboer

Grades K / 1 / 2:

Liz Halgren, Steve Guest, Kyle Halgren (*assist*)

Grades 3 / 4 / 5:

Linda Hastings, Melissa Atienza, Sandra Murchison, Michelle Evans (*assist*)

Middle School:

Sarah Inwood, Lucy Richert, Mil Taylor (*assist*)

High School:

Steve Hastings, Carol Ferguson

Capstone/HS Seniors:

Monica Dering, Jeanine Diller

In faith, hope and love,
CAROL ANDREWS FERGUSON
Director of Children and Youth Ministries

The Calling

by Roger Fields

I am a minister.

I minister to the largest mission field in the world.

I minister to children.

My calling is sure. My challenge is big. My vision is clear. My desire is strong. My influence is eternal. My impact is critical. My values are solid. My faith is tough. My mission is urgent. My purpose is unmistakable. My direction is forward. My heart is genuine. My strength is supernatural. My reward is promised. And my God is real.

In a world of cynicism, I offer hope. In a world of confusion, I offer truth. In a world of immorality, I offer values. In a world of neglect, I offer attention. In a world of abuse, I offer safety. In a world of

ridicule, I offer affirmation. In a world of division, I offer reconciliation. In a world of bitterness, I offer forgiveness. In a world of sin, I offer salvation. In a world of hate, I offer God's love.

I refuse to be dismayed, disengaged, disgruntled, discouraged or distracted. Neither will I look back, stand back, fall back, go back or sit back. I do not need applause, flattery, adulation, prestige, stature or veneration. I do not have time for business as usual, mediocre standards, small thinking, outdated methods, normal expectations, average results, ordinary ideas, petty disputes or low vision. I will not give up, give in, bail out, lie down, turn over, quit or surrender.

I will pray when things look bad. I will pray when things look good. I will move

forward when others stand still. I will trust God when obstacles arise. I will work when the task is overwhelming. I will get up when I fall down.

My calling is to reach boys and girls for God. It is too serious to be taken lightly, too urgent to be postponed, too vital to be ignored, too relevant to be overlooked, too significant to be trivialized, too eternal to be fleeting and too passionate to be quenched.

I know my mission. I know my challenge. I also know my limitations, my weaknesses, my fears and my problems. And I know my God. Let others get the praise. Let the church get the blessing. Let God get the glory.

I am a minister. I minister to children. This is who I am. This is what I do.

To Our 2021 Graduates:

It has been a wonderful journey with God's guidance that has brought you this far and a privilege and honor for all of us to share in this moment with you. Our hope is that we have had a role in helping you to understand and strengthen the wonderful assurance that comes with God's love.

We often hear "be the change that you wish to see in the world." We truly need you to courageously embrace this time in your lives as a defining moment and show the world how to live a meaningful life, grounded in the solid footing only your faith can provide.

The clergy, staff, parishioners, and your entire church family stand with you at this significant time in your lives. We pray that you enjoy a quiet confidence in knowing that St. Andrew's will always be your home. We hope too, you remember your time here and carry these memories with you. You are so loved and cherished and we are eager to hear of your new adventures as your life story unfolds.

With grateful hearts we give thanks to the parents and families that have given us this chance to be a part of the journey.

We are thankful for the support and guidance of all our Church School teachers but especially your youth leaders along the way; *Monica Dering, Jeanine Diller, Andy and Ransom Duncan, Julie Merz and Chris Watson.*

A gift bag with a few memorable items including a handmade prayer shawl was given to the graduates. A special thank you to our prayer shawl makers: *Alison Cooper, Susan Darrow, Lorraine Field, Barbara Mackey King, Julie Lewis, Elaine Mouradian, Lucy Richert, Donna Wessel Walker, JoAn Wetzel, Carole Wortley*

Their gracious and generous labor of love is an extension of warmth, care and prayers woven into this personal gift for you. We hope you treasure the shawls and shawl makers whose hearts reflect great love from the whole of St. Andrew's for our graduates.

We wish you hope and happiness this day and pray that God's goodness will follow you throughout the promising years ahead. Congratulations and God bless you on this wonderful achievement.

In faith, hope and love,
CAROL ANDREWS FERGUSON
Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Congratulations CLASS OF 2021!



Gab Nemecek

Gab's plans for the fall are still undecided - still waiting to hear back from schools in Scotland or planning to take a gap year.



Eleanor Niman

Eleanor will be attending the University of Michigan. She is interested in studying nursing or psychology.



Ben Duncan

Ben will be attending the University of Michigan. He plans to study environmental science and economics.



Noah Jackson

Noah will be attending the University of Michigan.



Anders Ruiten-Feenstra

Anders graduated with High Honors with Distinction from the Interlochen Arts Academy as a doublebass major. He will attend Juilliard, joining the studio of Rex Surany, Principal Bassist of the Metropolitan Opera.



Temidun Kolawole

Temidun will be attending Johns Hopkins University, majoring in molecular biology.



Vincent Tremonti

Vincent will be attending Kalamazoo College, studying business and economics and playing lacrosse.



Henry Lukela

Henry will be attending Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He really appreciated his time in the St. Andrew's Youth Group and the friendships he made.



Taisiya Tworek

Taisiya will be heading to Rhode Island to attend Brown University.



Grant Murphy

Grant will be attending the University of Michigan Ross School of Business. He's interested in a career at the intersection of finance, math and public policy.



Andrew Zwolensky

Andrew will attend Western Michigan University to study business. He thanks the parish for supporting him over the years, especially during pilgrimage.



Prelude: *Sarabande (English Suite VI, BWV 811)* Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Hymn: *How Wondrous and Great Thy Works* Hymnal, no. 533

1 How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise!
2 To nations of earth thy light shall be shown;

How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!
their worship and vows shall come to thy throne:

O who shall not fear thee, and hon - or thy Name?
thy truth and thy judgments shall spread all a - broad,

Thou on - ly art ho - ly, thou on - ly su - preme.
till earth's ev - ery peo - ple con - fess thee their God.

Opening Sentences Book of Common Prayer, pg. 77

Grace and Peace

Preces

Hymnal, no. S-33
Book of Common Prayer, pg. 80

Invitatory: *Venite*

Hymnal, no. S-35
Book of Common Prayer, pg. 80

Psalm 92:1-4,11-14

- 1 It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, *
and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;
- 2 To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning *
and of your faithfulness in the night season;
- 3 On the psaltery, and on the lyre, *
and to the melody of the harp.
- 4 For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; *
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.
- 11 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, *
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
- 12 Those who are planted in the house of the Lord *
shall flourish in the courts of our God;
- 13 They shall still bear fruit in old age; *
they shall be green and succulent;
- 14 That they may show how upright the Lord is, *
my Rock, in whom there is no fault.

First Lesson: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Ann Garvin

Thus says the LORD God:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.
I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.
On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.
Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest

winged creatures of every kind.
All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD.
I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.
I the Lord have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

Canticle 16: *The Song of Zechariah*

Hymnal, no. S-248
Book of Common Prayer, pg. 92

The Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Ann Garvin

Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Sermon

Eric Braun, Seminarian Intern

In the Name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Start Small

If you were to ask me: “What do you do for a living?” there are several answers. I’ve been a teacher, a writer, a DJ... I worked backstage at a theatre, I even sold “the best knives in the world”. But if you ask me: “What do you do?” You’ll get a very different answer. I’m a story-teller. In just about every way you can think of, I’ve spent a large portion of my life studying how and why people tell stories. We use everything we have, because stories are the currency of culture. They are how ideas get passed back and forth, and ideas beget more ideas.

We pass them on in word, in song, in poetic verse, in pictures, and more recently, in a combination of all of those forms. You know humanity has adapted an art form, when we use it to tell a story. Sometimes, the art behind a civilization outlasts the culture that created it, leaving us with more questions than answers. But who doesn’t love a good mystery? The stories we tell let others know what drives us, what we’re about, and the ideas that those stories communicate also take root in us as we keep searching for answers to the big questions that stories help us answer: Who am I? What should I do? Why am I here?

When it comes to actually telling a story, there are many different ideas about what makes a good one. You might have heard a few of these: It should be relatable, it should be short. It should be about something other than the action in the story itself. These are all important things to keep in mind, but I will never forget the advice I got from one of my professors at Eastern. “Start smaller,” he said. “This story needs room to go somewhere, and right now, it’s too big.” It took me a while to fully understand what my professor meant, but over time, I’ve come to accept the wisdom of this idea. Even the biggest, most revolutionary story starts small. That’s not as easy as it sounds, and it can be deceptive, because the natural conclusion you might draw is that small stories mean small ideas. But nothing could be further from the truth. Everything starts small.

In the biblical tradition, all of creation starts with a ripple on the water, as the Holy Spirit moves over the face of the deep. If you’re more astronomically inclined, then consider that, as near as we can tell, the universe itself was at one time compressed to the size of a single atom. Even the biggest things start small, but that leaves them with room to grow.

In our gospel story today, that’s the whole point; God starts small. Jesus... like any good story-teller, uses imagery his audience understands to illustrate the meaning of a bigger idea. Here, it’s the example of the mustard seed... as we’re told the smallest of seeds, growing into something truly impressive, useful, even beautiful. As metaphors for the kingdom of God go, that’s a pretty good one, and it’s rich with potential meaning not only to the disciples, but the people that they, in turn, will tell these, and many other stories to.

Not all the parables that Jesus uses are as easy to grasp as this one is, but what they all do is invite us to put ourselves in the narrative. Just as we’re now considering how something wonderful can grow from the tiniest of seeds; from the smallest of beginnings... it’s only natural to wonder: What work has God started in me? What story does my life tell?

There's more than one answer of course. None of us is just one thing, but everything we are starts with something simple and small, and that's where the story lives. Each kindness that we offer to one another, especially to neighbors we don't yet know, or are afraid to approach is another part of our story. Another verse in our song. Another line on our canvas.

Too often, I look at the state of the world, all of the causes and problems that cry out for my attention, and I want to throw up my hands. Because it's all too big, and there's nothing I can do... but then there's the Holy Spirit, as that still, small voice, to give us direction. Just imagine what you can do with one new connection. That's the difference. You are not a single voice shouting into the wilderness. You're part of a chorus of infinite diversity in infinite combination.

The world is not always changed by grand, impressive gestures. The world is changed by the billions of us who make connections with each other through small, intentional interactions that remind us who we are, and who we can be. And if we invite others to share in our story, then it grows exponentially, just like a particular desert shrub. What seems simple or easy to me can have an amazing effect over time, and it's that all but limitless potential that makes the difference. I find that amazingly exciting and inspirational, and I think that's a big part of who we as a people and community of faith, are called to be. Don't be afraid to tell your story, and don't leave it to someone else.

Start small. That's how we tell our story. That's how we change the world. -Amen-

Apostles Creed Book of Common Prayer, pg. 96

The Prayers

Collect of the Day

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Anthem: *Zu uns komme dein Reich (Vater Unser, Op. 2)* Peter Cornelius (1824-1874)

Alan Gibson, Baritone

*There's a golden path in heaven that descends from God on high.
When to Thee in love and mercy one of pure heart drawest nigh.
There's a crown that waits for them in that realm wherein Thou rulest,
Near the throne where on Thou sittest, In Thy heavenly majesty.
Ah, my heart is full of error Thou will find no crown for me:
But my soul will fill with healing speakest Thou one word to me.
God of kindness, God of mercy, make of me one pure in heart.
Come, oh come to me below, down that golden path of heaven.*

General Thanksgiving Book of Common Prayer, pg. 101

Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Concluding Versicle Hymnal, no. S-54

Closing Hymn: Almighty God, Your Word is Cast Hymnal, no. 588



1 Al - might - y God, your word is
2 Let not our self - ish - ness and
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful



cast like seed up - on the ground, now let the dew of heaven de -
hate this ho - ly seed re - move, but give it root in ev - ery
cares the ris - ing plant des - troy, but let it yield a hun - dred -



scend and right - eous fruits a - bound.
heart to bring forth fruits of love.
fold the fruits of peace and (joy.) joy. _____

Postlude: Allemande (French Suite IV, BWV 815) J.S. Bach

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-718890.

Calendar



Sunday, June 13

**CHURCH SCHOOL + HS GRAD
RECOGNITIONS**

Morning Prayer

10:00 am on YouTube

Virtual Coffee Hour

10:45 am on Zoom

Sunday, June 20

FATHER'S DAY

Morning Prayer

10:00 am on YouTube

Virtual Coffee Hour

10:45 am on Zoom

*Masks are required for
all in-person events*

Upcoming Events

Pow Wow in Monroe

Saturday, June 26, 10:15 am

Join members of the Social Justice Ministry as we caravan in private cars to the "Healing of the Nations" Pow Wow hosted by the Turtle Island Dreamkeepers. Music, dancing, vendors, and exhibits will be featured at this free indoor event at the River Raisin National Battlefield (333 North Dixie Highway, Monroe). COVID safety cautions will be in place (masks, hand hygiene, social distancing).

We will drive in our own cars, but you can join the caravan - we'll meet at the church parking lot at 10:15 am to depart at 10:30 am. We plan to stay at the event for about 2 hours. For more information contact Paul Wise (wisepaul65@gmail.com)

"Forward Day by Day"

The August - October "Forward Day by Day" booklets are available. If you would like one mailed to you, please send a message to kmcperson@standrewsaa.org or leave a message for Kathy at 734-663-0518, ext. 200. Copies have already been mailed to those who requested a booklet in the past. Let Kathy know if you have not received it.

Directory Updates Needed!

In the last year, did you or members of your household...

Move to a new house,
apartment, or condo?

Disconnect your landline?

Switch your cell phone number?

Have a child?

Change your
preferred email
address?



**If you need to update any part of your directory listing
please email Kathy at kmcperson@standrewsaa.org.**