

Good News

SEPTEMBER 2023

From the Rector

After a busy, fun, and productive summer at St. Andrew, we enter into a new season in the church-a season of reflection. What works well for us in terms of worship, music, fellowship, formation, and service? What might we change up a bit, to reflect who we are together in this season, and what we need today to give us spiritual strength for all the seasons ahead.

In our parish, most of our gathering together happens on Sunday and revolves around worship. Evening and weekday events, be they worship, fellowship or formation oriented, tend to be sparsely attended, for a variety of reasons. Attendance at our beloved noon contemporary Eucharist, which we have shared with the community for the last several years has decreased also in the last year, despite the enthusiasm of those who do attend.

We're a small parish, and while attendance numbers at worship, fellowship, and formation events do not necessarily reflect on the quality of the events, or even the desire of the community to gather, numbers should give us reason to consider together how we might change things up to increase participation by more of our community in the life of the parish.

Sunday continues to be the day when most of us set aside time to be together for worship and fellowship. It's also the time when we have the greatest concentration of people at church available to do service projects around church or in the community or to learn together. What if we dedicated one Sunday a month, perhaps the fourth Sunday, to learning, fellowship and service. I'm envisioning a simple Holy Eucharist at 8:00am, without music, followed by a potluck, musical brunch during our regular 10:30am worship time, transitioning into a simple service and/or learning project for the whole parish.

What are your ideas about how to enhance our Sunday worship, fellowship, learning, and service time? I'm going to send out a simple survey next week with a lot of space for you to

FROM THE RECTOR (CONT.)

share your thoughts and comments. Please think on this and share your ideas. We will find a way forward together and plan on a ministry experiment for the month of October!

INQUIRERS CLASS

A special class will be held in September for newer members and those looking to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church. The class will be held on three Sundays following the 10:30 am service on September 10th, 17th and 24th. We be studying the book *Unabashedly Episcopalian: Proclaiming the Good News of the Episcopal Church*, by the Rt. Rev. Andrew Doyle. For information, please see Rev. Lisa.

LECTORS NEEDED

Additional Sunday lectors are needed. If you would like to read for the Sunday or online services, please contact the Church Office.

FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

Summer fundraisers at St. Andrew have been a great success. Our newest fundraiser "Junk in the Trunk" brought in \$1467.50, the Bocce Grill netted us \$1124 and our Election Day Bake Sale made \$424! A great big Thank You to the new Fundraising Committee, our wonderful bakers and Rick and Andrew, the Bocce Grill Masters!



SARAH MCQUAID CONCERT

St. Andrew Fundraiser-Sunday September 24-Invite, Invite, Invite!

Cornwall, UK based singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Sarah McQuaid will perform at St. Andrew on

Sunday, September 24, as part of her US Tour. Doors open at 7 pm, concert at 7:30pm. Food and drink available on premises. \$10-\$20 suggested donation. All welcome! Sponsored by Folknet and St. Andrew. for more information call 440-255-8842, or visit sarah.mcguaid.com.

St. Andrew Family: We need you to attend the concert, and invite your friends and neighbors! We also need donations of sweet and savory bites to sell during intermission, and some volunteers to staff the door and the food tables. We will have a St. Andrew welcome table too, and need someone to staff this table as well!

Sign up to help by calling the office or at our sign-up page here:

https://standrewmentor.flocknote.com/signup/13485



ST. JAMES LUNCH

St. Andrew will be cooking and serving lunch on Labor Day at St. James Episcopal Church in Painesville. Additional help is always needed! It is a great way to serve our neighbors who are



homeless or just in need of a hot meal. For information, please contact Rev. Lisa or signup here: https://standrewmentor.flocknote.co m/signup/102081

CANDY APPLE CRAFT SALE



Saturday, October 14 10:00 AM — 3:00 PM

Join us for the fun!

- ✓ Chinese Auction
- ✓ A Carmel Apple Station
- ✓ Kids Activity Table
- √ Food, Bake Sale

St. Andrew Episcopal Church 7989 Little Mountain Road Mentor, Ohio

The fundraising committee has been very busy these last few weeks. We are looking forward to the Candy Apple Craft Sale, which is set for

Saturday, October 14th, but we simply can't do it without your help.

Please consider donating your time and talents to the project, dedicated to helping fund the daily operating expenses of our beloved church. This fund is responsible for keeping St. Andrew functioning so that we can continue to worship and serve our Lord.

We are hoping to have one of the tables at the sale be for homemade baked goods. We will need lots of homemade goodies to stock that table. Please consider baking something to offer that will boost our sales! If you start now, and bake a few at time and freeze them, it will be a huge blessing to our church community. Please remember to

label any items that have ingredients that someone could be allergic to such as nuts.

If you'd like to help out in some other way, please reach out to Mary Provins at 440-478-9120, as we would love to involve anyone from the parish! You can also check out our sign-up page at https://standrewmentor.flocknote.co m/signup/134858

As Uncle Sam would say, "We need you!" Please donate your time and talents so that St Andrew can continue to be our home as we worship and serve the Lord!

A NOTE FROM THE BENCH

Summer Greetings,

What a great summer of dreams in Genesis! We first hear the story of Jacob's dream at Bethel.

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on



it. There above it stood the Lord, and he said: "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

Genesis 28:10-19, NIV

This is perhaps the most familiar dream in the Bible. The Rev. Bob Haden, in his book *Unopened* Letters from God, reminds us that when we look at our dreams it is very important to be aware of what is going on in the dreamer's waking life (p.8). In Jacob's life at the time of the dream he had just lied to his father, and stolen his brother Esau's birthright. Esau was so angry that he wanted to kill Jacob and Jacob fled for his life. Prior to this dream, Jacob was roaming the desert, and his relationship with his family and with God had been broken. Haden notes that dreams have many layers. One layer of Jacob's dream demonstrates that communication is beginning again between Jacob and God.

How do we know that Jacob's communication with God is beginning? We notice that Jacob himself is not climbing the ladder. Angels, God's messengers, are ascending and descending the ladder, and Jacob received God's message.

Savary, Berne & Williams, (1984), note that Jacob was awakened and was deeply moved by his dream. Jacob becomes aware that God has visited him, and that he has slept on holy ground. Jacob realizes that the place where he slept is heaven's gateway. Prior to the dream, Jacob was unaware of the significance of this place.

Robert Johnson, a Jungian analyst, and colleague of Episcopal Priest John Sanford, writes in his book, *Inner Work: Using Dreams and Active Imagination for Personal Growth* (2010), about the importance of honoring our dreams in some way. This can be through ritual, poetry, art, song, or really anything to capture the essence of the dream.

Jacob honors his dream by creating an altar or sacred place of stone and anointing it. Jacob also renames the place *Bethel*, meaning *House of God*.

All of this is a wonderful reminder to us that God is revealed to us through visions and dreams. This becomes clear in Jacob's dream as God makes direct contact with him. God speaks to us through dreams as well. Unfortunately, we do not always take our dreams seriously, and has, at times, been discouraged in the Western World. In the Eastern Christian tradition, which continued with the Greek Bible, remained dedicated to their practice of honoring dreams.

Dreams and visions are often talked about together –

"When there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, reveal myself to them in visions, I speak to them in dreams.

Numbers 12:6

This passage from Numbers calls us to be open to God being revealed to us in dreams and visions. Our call is to connect with God. One way we can do this is through working with and honoring our dreams intentionally and regularly. The first way to be intentional about our dreams is to record them. When you first wake in the morning, lie in bed a few minutes to help you recall your dreams. (Often when we jump right up and begin our day, our dreams are lost.) After a few minutes of recalling your dreams, write the dream in a journal in first

person. This will help you begin to recognize God's voice and call as you journey through life.

As I thought about Jacob, I couldn't help but remember the African-American Spiritual, We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder, which is found in the Episcopal Hymnal, Life Every Voice and Sing II, as well as in the hymnal supplement, we have in our pews, Celebrate: Songs for Renewal.

We are climbing Jacob's ladder, We are climbing Jacob's ladder, We are climbing Jacob's ladder, Soldiers of the cross.

If you love Him, why not serve Him? If you love Him, why not serve Him? If you love Him, why not serve Him? Soldiers of the cross.

LEVAS, #220

May your dreams reveal God and God's call to you always,

John Spiesman, Organist

Some food for your dream journey: Haden, R.L. (2010). *Unopened letters from God*. Haden Institute Publishing, Flat Rock, NC.

Johnson, R.A. (2010). *Inner work: Using dreams and active imagination for personal growth*. Harper Collins.
NY.

Lift every voice and sing II. (1993). The Church Hymnal Corporation, NY.

Savary, L.M., Berne, P.H. & Williams, S.K. (1984). *Dreams and spiritual growth*. Paulist Press, NJ

PRAYER CALENDAR

Let's Pray for Each Other!

Introducing the Prayer Calendar, which will come to you each month in your newsletter. You'll note that there is a parish member designated for each day of the month on the calendar. Please take a moment to pray for that person on the day indicated, whether you know them or not! Prayer blesses the one who prays and the one who receives prayer, so incorporating this prayer calendar into your daily devotions is a win/win situation!

"Prayer is standing in the presence of God with the mind in the heart; that is, at that point of our being where there are no divisions or distinctions and where we are totally one. There God's Spirit dwells and there the great encounter takes place. There heart speaks to heart, because there we stand before the face of the Lord, all-seeing, with us."

— Henri J.M. Nouwen, The Way of the Heart: The Spirituality of the Desert Fathers and Mothers

September 2023 Prayer Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	rioliday	racsaay	reanesday	mursday	1 Louise Hassink	2 Wayne & Christine Heim (Nicholas, Samantha, Ivy, Emma)
3 Ted & Kim Herczog (Tim, Ben)	4 Dorothy Hickey Shirley Poitras(B)	5 Tina Hill (Lorenzo, Sophia) Judy Cudnik (B) Samia Bishara (B)	6 Wendell & Abby Hitsley	7 Paula Kahl Meg Nemeth (B)	8 Kathy King Frank Fecser (B)	9 Don & Sharon Koehler
10 Kevin & Erin Koehler (Bryson, Dalton, Teagon)	11 Barb Kovacs	12 Tom & Joan Lally	13 Betsy Lee	14 Kake & Victoria Leitch (Addalyn Vernon)	15 Lis Leitch	16 Mark Lemieux Jackson Frantisak (B)
17 Myrna Luskin	18 William Kenneth Maloney	19 John Marrelli (Meg)	20 Eunice May Dorothy Hickey(B)	21 Sandra Mazelis Heather Catlett(B)	22 Candace McCready	23 Laurie Miller Richard Ezzo(B) Michael A230290 Bailey (B)
24 Michele Miller	25 Sherrie Miller	26 Cliff & Janet Miskiman Candace McCready(B)	27 The Rev. Dawson Moorer Debra Perse(B)	28 William & Meg Nemeth	29 Jenna & David Neuman	30 The Rev. Lisa O'Rear

LECTOR AND VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Volunteer Schedule for September 2023

	Altar Guild	Coffee Hour	Sunday School	Chalice Bearers	Lectors	Acolytes	Ushers/ Greeters	Counters
September 3 The 14 th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 17	June Webb	TBD	TBD	Barb Sopko	Randy Pengov, Dona Currutt, Barb Sopko, Kim Herczog	C-Dona Currutt	Andy Spiesman	Andy Spiesman, Kim Herczog
September 10 The 15 th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 18	Mary Provins, Margaret Sinclair, Brianna Rotz	TBD	TBD	Judy Cudnik	Judy Cudnik, Bonnie Seminek, Ed Bridge, Brian Sandacz	C-	Andy Spiesman	Brian Sandacz, Andy Spiesman
September 17 The 12 th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 19	Carol & Randy Pengov, Susan Zuber	TBD	TBD	Mary Provins	Peggy Sturm, Dona Currutt, Barb Sopko. Debbie Pullman	C-Dona Currutt	Andy Spiesman	Kim Herczog, Jack Semenik
September 24 The 16 th Sunday after Pentecost Proper 20	June Webb	TBD	TBD	Judy Cudnik	Peggy Sturm, Micki Rotz, Ed Bridge, June Webb	c-	Andy Spiesman	June Webb, Brian Sandacz,
					rayous of the Bookle			

^{+ 10:30} am only lector order= 1st-OT, 2nd-Psalm, 3rd-Epistle, 4th-Prayers of the People

If you need to reschedule, please make arrangements with someone else and let the office know of the change.

Also, please check for your coffee hour Sunday.

PARISH CALENDAR

10:30 am 2nd & 4th Sunday Online Worship with music 10:30 am Eucharist Service with Music

St. Andrew Episcopal Church

7989 Little Mountain Rd Mentor, OH 44060 (440) 255-8842 standrewmentor@gmail.com

September 2023 Parish Calendar

If there is a pastoral emergency, contact The Rev. Lisa O'Rear Cell: 216-402-9860 Parish Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 9am to Noon (440) 255-8842

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Due to rain-Fit4Mom's will meet **6:30-8a Fit4Mom's	**8:30-9:30a Fit4Mom's **6-8:30p Fit4Mom's	**5-6a Fit4Mom's	**8:30-9:30a Fit4Mom's **6-7:30p Fit4Mom's	**5-6a Fit4Mom's	**8:30-9:30a Fit4Mom's **7-8:30p Fit4Mom's	
					1 12:15 p AA	Ping Pong 10-12:30Thai Chi 1-4 Recovery Intnl 2-4 Truth & Love 7:30 Sat Nite Live AA
3 10:30a Eucharist w Music 1-3 Choice Pantry-Need Help 6-8 Joe & Charlie AA	4 10:30-2:30 St. James Lunch Bunch/Holiday Meal-Need Help 6:30 Women in Recovery 7:30 12X12 Little Mountain AA	5 12:15 AA	6 8-5 Chris-W.R. 10:30-12:30 Thai Chi 7:30p McD AA	7 10-Calling Hours- Marilyn Pastor 11am-Funeral NO Food Bank Delivery	11 12:15p AA	Ping Pong 10-12:30Thai Chi 1-4 Recovery Intnl 2-4 Truth & Love 7:30 Sat Nite Live AA
10:30a Eucharist w Music Online service 6-8 Joe & Charlie AA	14 6:30 Women in Recovery 7:30 12X12 Little Mountain AA	15 12:15 AA 1-3 Choice Pantry Need Help 7-8 Augustine Flwshp	16 8-5 Chris-W.R. 10:30-12:30Thai Chi 6:00 p Fundraising 6:30 p Finance 7:30p McD AA	17 8-5 Chris-W.R. 11a Food Bank Delivery	18 12:15p AA	19 Ping Pong 10-12:30Thai Chi 1-4 Recovery Intnl 2-4 Truth & Love 7:30 Sat Nite Live AA
20 10:30a Eucharist w Music 6-8 Joe & Charlie AA	21 6:30 Women in Recovery 7:30 12X12 Little Mountain AA	22 12:15 AA 7-8 Augustine Flwshp	23 8-5 Chris-W.R. 10:30-12:30Thai Chi 6:30p Vestry 6-8 Choice Pantry 7:30p McD AA	24 8-5 Chris-W.R. 7p Choir	25 12:15p AA	26 Ping Pong 10-12:30Thai Chi 1-4 Recovery Intnl 2-4 Truth & Love 7:30 Sat Nite Live AA
27 10:30a Eucharist w Music Online service 6-8 Joe & Charlie AA	28 6:30 Women in Recovery 7:30 12X12 Little Mountain AA	29 12:15 AA 7-8 Augustine Flwshp	30 8-5 Chris-W.R. 10:30-12:30Thai Chi 6-8 Choice Pantry 7:30p McD AA			