



JULY 2017

## Appreciating Ten Years of Ministry

*Rappin' with the Rev* by Pastor Dave Milam



So, Pastor Jessica is leaving on Sunday, July 16. Even though this date is in the middle of summer, I'm hoping that many will be able to be present both for her last sermon at St. Andrew and the goodbye luncheon that will be given to bless her, as well as Andy, Evan and Camryn, as they head to Pittsburgh shortly thereafter. When we needed a youth director ten years ago, God blessed St. Andrew with a gifted, fresh and talented person to have a special place in our community and in our hearts. Saying goodbye and sharing our gratitude will be a difficult and yet good part of that wonderful journey and blessing.

Of course, I am one of the most blessed to have shared in pastoral ministry with Jessica. Someone recently said that we are a great team, making the pastoral ministry here work well. Indeed, Jessica and I have both done our best and have done so joyfully, as we have worked cooperatively, collaboratively and creatively. That said, I am delighted to see Jessica take a new step in her pastoral ministry, knowing that she will take what she has learned from her time with us to a new congregation who will benefit from the gifts she has to share, honed as she has done her work with us.

Here are a few things for which I am grateful about

Jessica's ministry. By her intentionality and commitments, Jessica has helped us grow. During her ten years, Pastor Jessica has challenged us to grow in many qualitative ways.

She asked us to think our calling is to people not only near but far away:

like in the DC TOP ministry she initiated with teens and adults having conversations with the homeless in Washington,

like in the mission trips that she (*la jefá*) led to communities in Appalachia, the northern plains, cities and to an outlying village in Belize.

These trips were life-changing in a couple of ways. They got those who went on them way beyond their comfort zones, but in ways that were personally transforming. The feared and avoided stranger became beloved as a sister or brother. The evidence of how deep this change can become may be seen in how some of our youth find themselves committing to careers in medicine, business or community organizing among peoples far away.

Jessica's open heart and hospitality are infectious:

St. Andrew can be a really fun place to be. There's usually too many things going on in the building (just ask our secretary who

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS JULY 21ST

## The Final Goodbye

*Ministry Musings* by Pastor Jessica McClure Archer



Well, this is it. My last newsletter article. I am writing this the morning of Day 3 of Vacation Bible School. It is late again, considering the newsletter deadline was nearly a week ago. Thank goodness for the generous grace of the newsletter editor, Sally Brenton, who showers forgiveness upon the pastor's tardiness.

We are in Rome this year for VBS. The decorations, so we've been told, are the most lovely of recent years. Just about 75 children have registered for the week. About 40 volunteers have made the week possible, too. Rumors have circulated that we have the best VBS in Purcellville, too. Truth be told, I tend to agree despite my bias.

This year when we close for the final night it will be really final for me. I am still trying to let that sink in. I wonder when I take down the last decorations whether a tear or two will run down my face, too. I look out the office window as I type, and I see VBS splattered across the fellowship hall, down the narthex and into the sanctuary. To me, it represents a beautiful thread of history of St. Andrew. Many of the decor, costumes and pieces are delightful hand-me-downs from VBS years of old. The volunteers and the families have been participating year after year. We have literally seen children grow up summer by summer. Some are children of the congregation and others from the community, all have

made St. Andrew their home this one week each year.

In some ways, VBS represents are our best selves as this body of Christ, known as St. Andrew. We have figured out how to get it right making this week a critical touchstone between the Neighborhood Learning Center and the church. We are really good at radical hospitality. We never charge for VBS (though we'd never turn away a donation). We open our kitchen and tables for families to have respite, break bread and to get to know their community a bit more. All kinds of folks get to serve here, too, in the kitchen, with the little ones, leading music, telling stories and more. I have yet not to find a job for a volunteer! We play and worship well, too. But, the best thing we do at VBS, through word and action, is to cause God's love to be shared, to be let loose in and out of this place.

People often ask how we can bottle up this VBS magic. Not sure the Spirit of God can ever be contained, but I wonder what it would be like if we lived like it was VBS week every week. Who would we invite to share this with? Where would you serve? What kind of gift would you lend? Who would unexpectedly show up to be with us? In what ways would God move and work in our midst? Dear Beloved Saints of St. Andrew, as we share our final

## RAPPING WITH THE REV (CONTINUED)

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tries to keep the calendar straight for the cleaning crew). But more than just activity, there's spirit here. Jessica lends that to us in the emotional health she embodies, but many have caught this spirit and are sharing it, as well.

Jessica's creation of the Wednesday Afterschool Café and her leadership of Vacation Bible School are where the open heart and hospitality are on full display.

Jessica has led us in loving our children and youth in exceptional ways:

As one who staffed the start-up group and as the chaplain of the Neighborhood Learning Center, Jessica has helped us grow a significant new ministry for St. Andrew that will continue to be a vital part of our congregation; Pastor Jessica has also cared for our children and youth (and their parents) in ways that the love of God both sustains them and stays with them. Quietly (which is remarkable for Jessica – that she does some things quietly!), she has also sustained some youth who are vulnerable and overlooked. She has also had wonderful relational ministry with many of our

adults bringing care at time of personal tragedy and crisis.

As a leader, Jessica has articulated visionary ideas that are shaping who we will be in the future. Her voice has spoken dramatically in sermon and prayers in worship, strongly and convincingly at Session and Ministry Team meetings and beyond.

I'm only touching a tip of the iceberg, of course, as to what blessings we have received as members and friends of St. Andrew and as a congregation together. In the last couple of weeks, please do everything you can to share a generous and grateful goodbye to this angel who has been such a blessing to our congregation. As we say goodbye, let us also trust that God is still in the business of blessing our congregation and its future. Let us be open to what God might do next with us as we bless Jessica and her family to go to a new place of blessing and ministry in Pittsburgh.

Yours in Christ,



## ADULT MINISTRIES

### Phoebe's Sisters

This women's group meets the fourth Saturday of the month from 8:30 to 10:30 am at a member's home for breakfast, fellowship and Bible study. All women of the church and friends are invited. For the 2016-17 session, the group is discussing Who is Jesus: What a Difference a Lens Makes. The next meeting is July 15th. If you are interested in attending the next meeting, please contact Bonnie Milam at 540 454-7816 or bonmilam@aol.com.

### The St. Andrew Book Club

This group meets monthly outside the church.. Please contact Zoe Sowers at 540 338-0999 or [zsowers@gmail.com](mailto:zsowers@gmail.com) to join the discussion.

### Brunch Bunch

This group meets the second Monday of each month from 10:00 am in the church basement. The next meeting is July 12th. For more information, contact Carolyn Bousman at 540 338-9508 or [bouser540@comcast.net](mailto:bouser540@comcast.net).

### Lovettsville Group

This group meets twice a month on Sunday evenings. The meeting place rotates among the members of the group. Contact Debra Gutenson at 540 882-

3205 or [gutensong50@loudounwireless.com](mailto:gutensong50@loudounwireless.com) for more information.

### Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Please join Pastors Dave and Jessica every Tuesday at 10:30 am as they take us through the passage that will be featured in the next week's services, and explore the deeper meaning of God's Holy Word. No reservations are required. All are welcome!

### FP4H

First Place 4 Health, a faith-based weight loss program, meets every Monday evening at 7 pm. Contact Ally Fetch at 336 508-2610 or [afetch@gmail.com](mailto:afetch@gmail.com) or Deborah Hill at 540 751-9818 or [momskulley@earthlink.net](mailto:momscully@earthlink.net).

### Men's Group

This group meets the first Saturday of the month in the fellowship hall. Coffee starts at 7:30 am and breakfast/fellowship at 8:00 am. The next meeting is July 1st. All men of the church are invited. To join, contact Jeff Kauffman at [jnk@thekauffmangroup.com](mailto:jnk@thekauffmangroup.com).



## SESSION REPORT

### Session Plans for Staffing After Pastor Jessica Leaves

It is generally assumed by Session that the Church's ongoing financial situation will not allow us to rehire an Associate Pastor at this time. We are in the process of exploring several alternatives. At present, the Session is scheduling two meetings in July in order to make a decision in time for the program year beginning in September.

The job duties/responsibilities of the Pastor and the Associate Pastor are being reviewed and

discussed to insure that all current areas of service will be covered in the future, as much as possible. Pastor Dave has already suggested some changes to his job description in anticipation of future needs. A recent survey/meeting of the Ministry Team resulted in gathering helpful information about concerns and directions for the Church when Pastor Jessica leaves.

Session members will meet on Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss and review our plans. The Session is committed to working towards fulfillment of staffing in the Fall.

## MINISTRY MUSINGS

"The Final Goodbye"  
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goodbyes in the next weeks, my hope is for you to remember who and whose you are and to be and seek to continue to become your very best selves, the kind of folk who put on the BEST VBS. It is in you. It, the power of the Spirit, has always

been with you and will be with you as you faithfully live out this call to be Christ's disciples sharing God's love in the world. And, I can't wait to read all about it!

In love and grace,

*Pastor Jessica*

*Mike continue to serve year after year, too. We quite literally couldn't do VBS without the Barbagallo family's dedication! Thank YOU!*

## YOUTH AND CHILDREN MINISTRY

### Summer Sunday School Begins July 9th!

Join us this Summer for Summer Sunday School beginning July 9th - August 27th. We will continue our exploration of the early church and the courageous disciples and apostles who persisted as the Body of Christ in the world. This year's curriculum, called Holy Moly, is video-based and includes biblical storytelling and exploration activities like games and art.

Summer Sunday School coordinator is John Barbagallo. Summer Sunday School needs a Family Helper each week for extra hands and a nurturing spirit. If you are interested in signing up, be on the look out for the online signup coming soon to your inbox and on the St. Andrew Facebook page. Please note, there is NO Sunday School the first Sundays of the month, Communion Sundays.

Fall Sunday School will kick off on September 10th!



As a thank you to the Children, Youth and Volunteers,  
Pastor Jessica will host a BBQ Bash at her home.

**Date: July 9th | Time: 4pm – 6pm**

Meat will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share.

RSVP required via evite.



Our 2017 high school graduates were honored during the church service on June 11th. Each was presented with a fleece blanket, to remind them that the congregation wraps them in love wherever they may go. Pictured from left to right are Ashton Wilson, Parker Gondella, Will Brown, and Madi Lutz. Not pictured is Corbyn Tabod. Here is a brief biography of each of our graduates.

**Ashton Wilson** has been active for many years in the Loudoun County soccer program, and was also on the varsity soccer team at Valley. This year he and one of his soccer friends were managers of Valley's girls soccer team. Ashton has been an active participant in St. Andrew's Youth Program and during summers has gone on four church-sponsored mission trips, including last summer's mission trip to Belize. After graduation, Ashton will be going to Oak Island, North Carolina to spend the summer with relatives and work at a restaurant at the beach. Ashton will be attending George Mason in the fall, where he has been accepted into the engineering program and intends to study electrical engineering. It is a five-year program, where he hopes to complete a Masters degree.

**Parker Gondella** is a dedicated musician who has spent much of his youth playing traditional American music. He has played and toured with multiple local and regional bands, playing guitar and mandolin. Parker has completed in and won multiple music competitions including winning the "All Around Youth" contest at the 2014 Murray



River Fiddlers Convention. As a 15-year-old, he won the 2-014 Watermelon Park Guitar Contest.

Parker has also been an active 4H member since he was eight and this year, along with five other from Loudoun County, was made a 4H All Star, the highest honor in Virginia 4H.

The fall Parker intends to take a gap year. He will apply for a program through National Outdoor Leadership School to work on wilderness leadership skills. He has also been invited to intern at Earl's Organic Produce in San Francisco to combine his passion for agriculture with marketing and business skills, while learning about a farm-to-consumer marketing model.

**Will Brown** has been a member of St Andrew his entire life. He says "I have watched it change and develop while I too have changed and developed." Will has participated in a variety of ministry programs at St. Andrew, including VBS volun-

teer, WAC, mission trips, and 3 in 1 Leadership Team. Will has been a part of Boy Scout Troop 163 and has been an NLC employee. He will be attending William and Mary in the fall to study business and is excited to start the next chapter of his life. He wishes to thank everyone who has supported his multiple endeavors at St. Andrew.

**Madi Lutz** is graduating for LVHS where she participated in soccer and Spanish Club. At St. Andrew, Madi has been part of Confirmation Class, the Philadelphia mission team and has served as a VBS volunteer. She plans to attend James Madison University in the fall where she will study business.

**Corbyn Tabod** (not pictured) is graduating from Woodgrove High School, where he was involved with the We are Human Club. He participated in Confirmation Class, High School Bible Study at WAC and 30-Hour Famine.



Grace Wagers is baptized and confirmed on June 4th.



On June 4th, MK Ntantang and Scottie Hill were installed as Youth Deacons with the laying on of hands of current and former church officers.

## JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Anniversary this month to:

- 6 Erik and Sarah Sassak
- 8 Manny and Susane Njomo
- 11 Ron and Angela Brown
- 19 David and Sandy Roberts
- 20 Bob and Mary Anderson
- 30 Mike and Laurie Barbagallo  
    Mitch and Clark Seipt

Happy Birthday this month to:

- 1 Mitch Seipt
- 2 Ron Carpenter  
    Kim Griffith  
    James Laybourne
- 4 Kitty Johnson
- 5 Ryan Moler  
    Kevin Rinek
- 6 Mark Broshkevitch
- 7 Adam Broshkevitch  
    Gabe Cassutto  
    Hannah Gehl
- 11 Olivia Butkus
- 13 Madi Lutz  
    Katie Schwieger
- 15 Lillian Brewer
- 17 Kyle Hottinger
- 18 Katherine Curtis
- 19 Lora Reles  
    Sam Seipt
- 21 Ray Anderson
- 22 Bernice Pull
- 23 Bonnie Milam
- 26 Petey Parker
- 30 Lizzy Hill  
    Michael Treptow
- 31 Anna Carneal  
    Marion Carneal

## LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

### We lift up our concerns

Malloch Henderson prays for students who will need to move schools following an end of Open Enrollment at LVHS. Kestina Carnal prays for her mom, Barb, who has an aortic aneurysm that is being controlled by medicine. Kate Rohraugh prays in thanksgiving for the life of her grandmother Kay. Charlotte Miller prays for Andy and his evaluation to come back to Meadow Glen. Chris Henderson prays for Tracy Zervakis who is undergoing surgery and thanksgiving for her daughter Victoria's response to chemotherapy. Marcia Owens' brother Jeff had triple bypass surgery. Jeff Kauffman's sister Amy in Bend, Oregon, dealing with a heart problem. The Willis family upon the death of Betty's niece's husband in a biking accident. Lorna Howard's aunt Sally on her open heart surgery. The Bury family as they mourn the death of Eloise Bury, a longtime member of St. Andrew. Susan Mason, NLC teacher's dad William Ledrich on surgery to amputate his foot up to the knee. Leslie Dragon's brother Todd, whose condition is worsening. Tom Hutchison. Steve Cahoon. Kathi Hottinger's grandmother, Leotta Exline, 92, in hospice. Mike and Sally Brenton's granddaughter, Madison, who received a double-lung transplant. Mike Brenton's sister Judy on a new round of chemotherapy for her leukemia.

### We continue to pray for

The Smith family. The Samson



family. The Diehls, for their grandson, Dimas. The Van Alstyne family. George Cassutto's sister, Hetty Haden, who lost sight in one eye due to glaucoma and who awaits a kidney transplant. Jim Wiley. Kristen Shield's friend's (from Peoria) three-year-old son, Jackson, who was diagnosed with cancer and is at St. Jude's. the Shields family friend, Catherine. Charlotte and Andy Miller. Owen Brown's cousin, Umberto Fiero. Lisa Garron. Mickey Rock. Russ Alizade. George Macdonald's dad, Allen. Terrie Combs' grandson, Mason. Mary Parker's mom.

### Joys

Anniversaries for Leslie and Randy Dragon (35) and Pastor Dave and Bonnie Milam (40). Congratulations to all 2017 graduates.

## JULY MUSIC REHEARSALS

**Choir Rehearsals**, Wednesdays at 7 pm

Contact Zack Henderson, zackh900@gmail.com

**New Song**, Sunday mornings after the service

Contact Laurie Barbagallo 540 454-8215 or

lauriewm85@hughes.net

**St. Andrew Bell Ringers**, Mondays at 7:15 pm

Contact Zoe Sowers 540 338-0999, zoesowers@gmail.com

**Children's Choir**, For Kindergarten through 5th grade.

Wednesdays at 6:15 pm in the Music Room.

Contact Zack Henderson, zackh900@gmail.com

## Flower Calendar

Please consider signing up on the flower calendar in the entryway to provide a floral arrangement for Sunday worship services.

If you have any questions, please call Nancy Gilmore (540-338-3154) or send an email to [ngilmore5@verizon.net](mailto:ngilmore5@verizon.net).



### July Flower Calendar

2nd	Open	9th	Open
16th	Open	23rd	Milliner
29th/30th      Harmony O'Banion			

### August Flower Calendar

6th	Macdonald	13th	Open
20th	Open	27th	Open

## MISSION COMMITTEE

Hunger doesn't take a vacation. Summer is one of the greatest times of need. Remember your food donations for Loudoun Hunger Relief!

Wishlist items include:

Beans

Pasta & rice

Fruits & vegetables

Cereal

Canned meats (for example, tuna & chicken)

Mac & cheese

Hearty soups

Cooking oil

The deadline for each issue of *Loaves & Fishes* is the **21st of each month**. The next deadline is JULY 21st. Please send your submissions to Sally Brenton at [Communications@standrew-pres.org](mailto:Communications@standrew-pres.org).

## LOAVES AND FISHES

JULY 2017

## JULY SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS

### July 2<sup>nd</sup> (Lord's Supper)

Scripture: Psalm 13; Mark 4:35-41

Sermon: *"Passing through the Storms"* – Pastor Jessica preaching

Worship Leader: Laurie Barbagallo

Music: VBS Band

### July 9<sup>th</sup> ("The Psalms as Tools of Prayer" Sermon Series)

Scripture: Psalm 3

Sermon: *"Authenticity in Prayer"* – Pastor Dave preaching

Worship Leader: Bonnie Milam

Music: New Song

### July 16<sup>th</sup> (Pastor Jessica's Last Day; Luncheon following)

Scripture: Numbers 13:25-14:10

Sermon: *"Conquering the Giants"* – Pastor Jessica preaching

Worship Leader: TBA

Music: St. Andrew Choir

### July 23<sup>rd</sup> ("The Psalms as Tools of Prayer" Sermon Series)

Scripture: Psalm 13

Sermon: *"Praying towards Peace"* – Pastor Dave preaching

Worship Leader: Dan Miner

Music: Zack Henderson and Anthony Semiao



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The Rev. Dr. David Milam, Pastor

The Rev. Jessica McClure Archer, Associate Pastor

Kimball Peele, Clerk of Session

The Gathering, Saturday at 5 pm

Blended Worship Service, Sunday at 10 am

Communion is celebrated on the first Saturday and Sunday of each month

### July 30<sup>th</sup> (National Capital Presbytery Associate Executive preaching)

Scripture: Genesis 29:15-28

Sermon: *"What I Did for Love"* – The Rev. Karen Chamis, preaching

Worship Leader: Clark Seipt

Music: Zack Henderson and Anthony Semiao