



Loaves & Fishes

SAINT ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

MAY 2019

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS MAY 21ST

An Audience of One

Rappin' with the Rev by Pastor Dave Milam



I've been able to speak at two vigils for Sri Lankan victims of mass bombings on Easter Sunday this past week. Both were somber affairs that grieved for the horror experienced by hundreds of Christians who were targeted. Nevertheless, the vigils also were interfaith gatherings that sought comfort for the victimized and peace and common life in the terrorized country. (I learned that Sri Lankans normally lived without anxiety or animosity to Sri Lankans whether they were Buddhist, Hindu, Christian or Muslim. Muslims and Hindus told me of being educated in Christian schools. Interfaith marriages were commonplace.)

The most grievous story came third hand from the St. Anthony Church in Colombo. The friend of an associate of the storyteller was a Sunday School teacher that Easter Sunday, teaching fifth graders, if my memory serves me correctly, about Jesus' resurrection in their normal, ordinary class that morning. Telling the kids that Jesus died for us as an act of God's love, she told of how God rewarded Jesus for his trust, raising him from death. Almost as an afterthought, the teacher then asked the children if, like Jesus, they would be willing to die for others. To a child, they all raised their hands. So, she ushered them into the sanctuary for the worship service and returned to her

classroom to clean up. In that moment the bomb was set off. Every child from that class was killed.

There is little that is more disconsolate than the loss of little ones. The story brings home the evil and horror of the unjustifiable act. It calls us to pray for the families of these and the other victims of this and other violence. But perhaps it also suggests something about the value of faith – that Jesus' resurrection could be held as a promise for these children over and against their heartless, cruel deaths. Indeed, the Easter message is that God alone is the one from whom we have life and hope.

Indeed, people have believed that every Sunday is about this message of love and hope. Often when we come to worship, we look to be inspired, to share quality time with friends, have our children learn lessons about our faith in Sunday School, gain a restart for the week to come and the like. As such we come as an audience to receive from those who offer themselves up front. And yet, having such expectations discounts what is the most important at our worship services – namely, that God is there to be met and worshipped and encountered.

Søren Kierkegaard, a crusty Danish philosopher from 150+ years ago, compared worship to a drama. He thought it should be per-

formed to the highest caliber. He believed that it should gladden the heart of the audience like little else. He expected that it would be the very best hour of the week. But he also said that it was for an Audience of One. Kierkegaard taught that the whole deal was aimed to bless God. He said that all of us who come to the worship service ought to be there with that cause to serve God in our worship.

I don't know if this is an idea that turns worship on its head for you or if it is already your firm conviction. Either way, I'd say that it works. If we come to give God our best as we worship together, it is there we find and remind ourselves that God alone is the giver and keeper of life. Of course, when we give that gratitude and love to God it usually gets returned to us. When we serve the Lord with gladness we come away from doing such with joy in our hearts. When we worship God alone with trust, we find our-

selves and those we love held by God's promise. When we are attentive to respond to others with justice, goodness, mercy and faithfulness as we have been taught by Jesus and by scripture, we find our families, community and world made stronger. Even in the face of acts of horror and atrocity, we find our lives in the God who is the author of life.

When you come next Sunday, to worship, come ready to put your best forward as an act of service, generosity and love to the God who is worthy of our best, of our praise. In Jesus Christ, God has already declared to be there for us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor David Milam



Pastor Dave took part in the National Day of Prayer.

Phoebe's Sisters

This women's group will meet next on May 4th, at Coney Island Diner, for breakfast and fellowship. If you are interested in joining them, contact Suzanne Wade at wadesuz@gmail.com.

The St. Andrew Book Club

This group meets monthly outside the church. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on May 25th at the home of Debra Gutenson. The book under discussion will be The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry by Gabrielle Charbonnet Zevin. The Washington Post calls the book "Entertaining. . . Engaging and funny. . . Marvelously optimistic." Please contact Zoe Sowers at 540 338-0999 or zsowers@gmail.com to join the discussion.

Lovettsville Group

This group meets every Sunday evening for Bible study and welcomes others to join in. The meeting place rotates among the members of the group. Contact Debra Gutenson at 540 882-3205 or gutenson50@loudounwireless.com for more information.

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 or Deborah Hill at 540 751-9818 or 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 May 4th. All men of the church are invited. To join, contact Chris Butkus if you are interested in joining (chrisbutkus@yahoo.com).

Brunch Bunch

This group meets the second Monday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 am in the church basement. The next meeting is May 13th and will continue to discuss lessons from God's Promise. For more information, contact Ann Paciulli at anpaciulli@gmail.com.

LOUDOUN INTERFAITH DAY OF PRAYER

A National Day of Prayer Observation

THURSDAY, MAY 2
10:00AM – 11:15AM
 County Administration Building
 Supervisor's Board Room

THEME: "Love One Another"

★LUNCHEON 11:30AM – 1PM★

Host: Leesburg United Methodist Church and graciously provided by the ADAMS Center. Rev. Chip Geissler will lead a discussion like those held at the "Facing Race Supper Clubs"

CAMP HIGHROAD
 CHRISTIAN ADVENTURE CAMP

All Church Spring Retreat
Camp Highroad,
Middleburg.
Friday May 31st through
Sunday, June 2nd
SAVE THE DATE!

Save The Date

MAY

ORDINATION SUNDAY
 May 5th at 10am

Mother's Day Service
 May 12th at 10:00am

All Church Retreat
 May 31st – June 2nd

JUNE

GRADUATION SUNDAY
 June 9th at 10am

Father' Day
 June 16th at 10am

Music with a Cause
 at Otium Cellars at 6pm.

SAVE THE DATE



VBS 2019

June 23rd - June 27th

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Open to kids 3yrs – rising 5th Grader
Opportunities available for volunteer.

We invite you to join us on a discovery of the wonders of God's universe. There will be dinner for all every night at 5:30 pm, followed by music and interactive activities for the kids.

For more information visit www.standrew-pres.org.

**SUNDAY
NIGHT
LIVE**

A fun gathering for
Middle and High School Youth!
Monthly on 2nd and 4th Sundays
from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

CONNECT COMMITTEE



**Pictures from the Seder Dinner on Maundy Thursday—
Communion, Washing of hands, and the elements of the Seder
dinner.**

MISSION COMMITTEE



**Serve Sunday projects at Mobile
Hope, Bob and Carolyn Bousman's
home, and Wheatland Farm.**



MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Happy Anniversary this month to:</i>	
1 Josh and Kirsten Shields	13 Thomas Ciolkosz
22 Jim and Suzanne Wade	14 Michael Reles
23 Don and Ally Fetch	17 Ralph Immel
Milt and Nancy Gilmore	Georgia McGranahan
24 Chris and Dee Treptow	19 Melanie Anderson
25 Tom and Deb Moler	20 Mike Wagers
31 Mike and Carolyn Wagers	22 Lindsay Semiao
	23 Leslie Dragon
	Eli Seipt
<i>Happy Birthday this month to:</i>	Kim Yager
3 Carl Christensen	24 Chris Henderson
Don Fetch	Davis Willis
Eric Groo	25 Carolyn Bousman
George Macdonald	Patience Garrett
5 Ray Marquardt	Matt Tinker
Donna Myers	26 Emma York
7 Beau Kadilak	27 Terrie Combs
8 Emily Groo	28 Caitlin Blake
Abigail Wilburn	Melanie Curtis
Josephine Yurish	29 Ann Gould
10 Susan Milich	30 J.C. Barnes
12 Lori Faubert	Ashley Lutz
Alexandria Greco	Bryan Lutz
Ryleigh Sullivan	31 John Barbagallo

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

We lift up our concerns

Congregation

The Thomas Family on the death of Helen Thomas. The Wissmath family. The MacWhorter family. Mark Rohrbaugh. June and Tom Hutchison. Tom Bolduc. Betty McNair. George MacDonald. Raye Ann Kauffman. Pamela Schmidt.

We continue to pray for

Friends and Family

Joanna Rich's daughter, Jessica recovering from back surgery. Laurie Barbagallo's mom, Barbara Coswell recovery from heart valve surgery and for friends, Joanne Wolfe's rare autoimmune disorder, and Bonni Broy's husband's recent diagnosis with a return of his cancer. Also, Bonni's recovery from injured rotator cuff. George MacDonald lost brother James Macdonald. Anthony Semiao's aunt Doreen, who passed away. Deb Hill for friend Debbie Hyatt, diagnosed with breast cancer. DeAnn Ashby for classmate Gabrielle with colon cancer. Kristin Westfall for two of her friends about to undergo gynecology surgeries. Suzanne Wade's brother, Randy Smith diagnosed with colon cancer. Geoff Kohl for Lottie's grandmother, Claire who has a heart issue and skin cancer. Kim Peele's brother Chip. The



Diehl's cousin, Pat Oest has breast cancer. Kate Rohrbaugh's dad, Donald Goddard with Parkinson's disease. Melissa Macdonald, for Clyde Law. Chris Butkus's coworker, Leah for brain tumor surgery. Kathi Hottinger for neighbor's mother, Diana who is undergoing cancer treatment. Former St. Andrew member, Jerry Frank, whose blood cancer is back after 13 years in remission. Albert Edwards (father of Cole Lucy and Thaddeus) in treatment for Myelodysplasia (MDS).

Joy

Successful Serve Sunday

Community/World

Recent shooting victims in synagogues and Sri Lanka.

MAY MUSIC REHEARSALS

Choir Rehearsals, Wednesdays at 7 pm
Contact Zack Henderson, zackh900@gmail.com

New Song, Sunday mornings before the service
Contact Laurie Barbagallo 540 454-8215 or lauriewm85@hughes.net

St. Andrew Bell Ringers, Thursdays 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

If you would like to provide flowers to decorate the sanctuary, please sign up on the Flower Calendar in the entryway. Purcellville Florist will deliver the flowers to the church in time for the Sunday service if you order from them. Of course, you are free to bring in your own arrangements or get them elsewhere. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Gilmore at 540-338-3154 or ngilmore5@verizon.net.



May Flower Calendar

5th	Wiley	12th	Shields
19th	Open	26th	Open

June Flower Calendar

2nd	Open	9th	Brenton
16th	Open	23rd	Shields
30th	Open		

Friends,

Our condolences to Gene Thomas, Nancy and Gene Thomas II and to the Myers family on the passing of Helen May Thomas of Round Hill. Helen's mother, Mary Myers, was a charter member of St. Andrew. As a member of the Myers family, Helen had been a long term member of St. Andrew. She has many friends here.

Helen passed away from cancer on Sunday, April 21, Easter Sunday. We entrust her to God's loving care, thankful for the witness of Jesus' resurrection on the day of her passing.

Helen's funeral service was held at Hall Funeral Home on Friday, April 26th. May God bring comfort to Helen's family as they mourn her passing and lean on their faith celebrating her life and love.

SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR MAY

Easter Season: Worship Give Glory to God and Shapes Us

May 5th (Second Sunday of Easter; Installation of Church Officers; The Lord's Supper)

Scripture: Revelation 1:4-8

Theme: Encountering the Eternal One as the Heart of Worship

Sermon: *"Alpha and Omega"*

Liturgist: Marcia Owens

Music: St. Andrew Choir

May 12th (Third Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day)

Scripture: Revelation 7:9-17; Romans 12:1-2

Theme: We find life in what we give of ourselves

Sermon: *"We Are What We Give Away"*

Worship Leader: Pamela Schmidt

Music: St. Andrew Choir

May 19th (Fourth Sunday of Easter; Pastor Michelle Thomas, preaching)

Worship Leader: Lorna Howard

Music: St. Andrew Ringers and Choir



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The Rev. Dr. David Milam, Pastor

The Rev. Jo Anna Rich, Children and Family Ministries Director

Kimball Peele, Clerk of Session

Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month

May 26th (Fifth Sunday of Easter; Memorial Day Weekend)

Scripture: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Theme: Our worship anticipates Eternity with God and God's People

Sermon: *"Heaven"*

Worship Leader: Deborah Hill

Music: New Song