



# st. andrew's episcopal church

## Shining the Light

*Welcoming. Growing. Caring. All with Joyous Hearts.*



April 14, 2021

Dear ones,

Building on the joy of our Easter celebration, the vestry and I are committed to a regathering plan for St. Andrew's that offers safe opportunities for in-person worship and fellowship. Though some opportunities may remain virtual indefinitely, such as compline, our goal is to slowly incorporate more in-person gatherings into the life of our church. You'll notice that some of our upcoming events, such as the *Your Faith, Your Life* series I am leading, will be held outdoors (weather permitting, with masks and distancing protocols in place). If you are part of a ministry that currently meets virtually and would prefer to meet outdoors, please contact your vestry liaison for more information.

We will hold another outdoor service on **Sunday, May 2**. This time, our worship will take place on the east lawn of the church. Please read all information and [register in advance for the service on our outdoor worship sign-up page](#). May 2 is also Annie Jung's last day with us as our seminarian. Annie will return to St. Andrew's next fall to support liturgy and continue to develop her skills for ministry, but she will do so in an unofficial capacity. I hope you'll join us for worship and stay for fellowship as we give thanks for Annie's presence with us this past year.

This mix of online and outdoor gatherings will be part of our life for a while, at least until we are able to resume indoor gatherings. Even then, we will likely continue to rely heavily on Zoom as we ease our way into the next phase of the pandemic. You'll see in the vestry summary note below that the vestry is working on our application to the diocese for permission to gather indoors. The application requires that we have certain processes and procedures in place to ensure safety, and we may be turning to all of you for assistance. We will need volunteers who can attend trainings and adapt to changing guidelines. As our needs and expectations become clearer, expect to hear much more from your vestry.

I give thanks for all the creative, varied ways we are able to be the Church these days. Your resilience and joy shine through your video screens and your masks, and it is an honor to navigate these strange times with you. Thank you.

Love,  
Rev. Dorota+



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### ***This Sunday at St. Andrew's***

**Sunday April 18, 2021**

*Third Sunday of Easter*

10:00 a.m. Virtual Service

**Readers:** Susan Thomas, Jean Lynn and Carol Kiranbay

**Readings for this week:**  
[Acts 3:12-19](#) and [Luke 36b-48](#)



[Click here to Join Worship on Sunday](#)

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### **YOUR FAITH, YOUR LIFE: AN INVITATION TO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

If you are seeking to begin or enrich your faith journey in the Episcopal Church, join Rev. Dorota for a series of conversations in which we will discuss scripture, church history, governance, theology, and worship. These sessions are open to all but may be especially appropriate for those who are new to the Episcopal Church.

Sessions will be on May 2, 16, 30, and June 13 and 27 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Weather permitting, we will meet in person on the church lawn. Our text will be [Your Faith, Your Life: An Invitation to the Episcopal Church](#). To join, [email Rev. Dorota](#) by April 25 and order a copy of the book.

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### **Pathways of Prayer - Final Session April 21**

On April 21, the Pathways of Prayer group will gather for a closing reflection to process the experience of the varied paths they have explored together through Lent and Easter. This session will be from 7:30-8:20pm (Zoom link opens at 7:15pm), followed by 8:30pm Compline. [Join the session by clicking this link.](#)

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## Office Hours with Annie

Annie Jung, Seminarian would love to get to know you more and offer "Outdoor Office Hours" to enjoy conversation together. Bring your coffee and we can sit and sip, or if you are up to it, walking shoes for a lovely stroll in the neighborhood.

To sign up, [email Annie](#).

**Fridays:** April 23 and 30 from 10am- 2pm

**Saturdays:** (Before or after the Garden Shift) Apr 24, May 1

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## April Vestry Meeting Summary

The Vestry met Tuesday night and discussed the following areas:

**Outdoor Worship:** Vestry reviewed and critiqued Outdoor Easter celebration with live-streaming and plan to host outdoor in-person services the first Sunday in May and June. The plan is to move to the church lawn by the Nave to take advantage of the shade with the increasing temperatures.

**Regathering inside the Church:** A dedicated group of volunteers led by Mark Seip are working a plan to submit to the diocese to allow regathering indoors for worship. Dates to resume indoor worship are still to be determined and will require approval of the Diocese. Volunteers will be needed to help as ushers, greeters, and guides to navigate safety requirements.

**Finance Report:** Pledge fulfillments are on track...thank you! Great news, we ended 2020 with a substantial surplus.

**Memorial Garden:** Vestry agreed to review the space and look at potentially hiring a landscape architect to examine updating and refreshing the space.

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## Garden of Hope

On Thursday April 8, Annie and Doris watered a thirsty garden. And on Saturday April 10, 5 volunteers (including 1 student from Marymount University and 1 Arlington high school volunteers) worked in St. Andrew's Garden of Hope despite the wet weather. Doris, Annie, Allison, Christine and Dave planted romaine lettuce

seedlings and weeded. No need to water although we did fill the watering bags around the new Pear trees that are in full Bloom! Most of the work was completed just under an hour and the garden is looking great!

We will have another work day next **Saturday, April 17** starting at 9:00am (Sunday April 18 at 11:30am if delay due to rain).

If you have an interest in volunteering in the St. Andrew's Garden for Hope, please sign-up through [Sign Up Genius](#), and practice these procedures to ensure volunteer safety:

1. A maximum of 20 people may be in the garden at a time
2. Volunteers must sign up through [Sign Up Genius](#), in order to ensure that we are under our volunteer limit. Please contact [Emily Blecksmith](#), Parish Administrator, if you have questions.
3. Volunteers must wear a face covering that covers the mouth and nose
4. Volunteers must maintain 6' of distance from other volunteers while in the garden (exceptions made for volunteers from the same household)
5. Volunteers must bring their own gardening gloves
6. Other general materials volunteers should bring as needed: a water bottle, sunscreen, sun protection (e.g. hat, sunglasses, etc.)

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## Save the Date - Sunday May 16

Let's celebrate the anticipated arrival of a new addition to the Wright-Pruski family on Sunday, May 16!

Look for more information in the coming weeks.



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## Formation Opportunities Around the Diocese

### Begins April 15 | St. Michael's Arlington presents A Taste of Education for Ministry

Join St. Michael's Education for Ministry (EfM) team for a taste of EfM through an Easter Season virtual Book Study on *The Sabbath* by Abraham Heschel. The Sabbath is part of the EfM curriculum this year and introduces us to the importance of a sacred "architecture of time." We will discuss the book and reflect theologically on what it might mean in our daily lives over four weeks. All are welcome to participate in the book study. A commitment to EfM is not required.

Dates: April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2021

Time: 9:00am-10:00am

Discussion Leaders: Beth Cavey and Sandy Padgett

Please contact [Beth Cavey](#) to be added to the distribution list for this class.

Books can be [purchased through Amazon](#).

[Click here](#) for details about this class, and [here for information about EfM](#).

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### April 20 | VTS presents "Green Anglicanism: Understanding Ecological Justice Theologically": A Forum with Bishop Paul Sarker, Church of Bangladesh

12:45 p.m.-1:45 p.m. EDT via Zoom

[Click here to register](#).

Join the Center for Anglican Communion Studies (CACS) for "Green Anglicanism: Understanding Ecological Justice Theologically"—a virtual forum featuring Bishop Paul Sarker, former moderator of the Church of Bangladesh, in discussion with the Rev. Dr. Rachel Mash, provincial coordinator, [Green Anglicans](#). The forum will be moderated by Dr. Hannah Matis, VTS Associate Professor of Church History.

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### April 22 | VTS presents Just Faith Formation: Liberative Practices for Faith Communities with Justice at the Center

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (ET) via Zoom, variable pricing options (Free-\$25)

[Click here to register](#).

Sometimes our worship life and the ways we seek to do justice in the world are separate, but it doesn't have to be this way. In this webinar, panelists Francisco García and Jennifer McLaughlin will discuss concrete ways for incorporating justice into our life of faith and bringing our faith into our community organizing. Come learn about liberative practices for faith communities.

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### Begins early May | Bishop Porter presents Evangelism as storytelling

We are our story. Stories are how we make meaning. When people asked Jesus complex questions, he answered with stories. To that end, evangelism is about storytelling. We are commissioned to go and tell the Good News, which is the story of what God has done, is doing and has promised to do in us, with us and through us. This class will focus on sharing our stories with one another in a safe container. At the end of the course, discussions will include how evangelism as storytelling can be incorporated into a church's life in ways that draw people into a similar activity.

[Learn more about this class.](#) If you are interested, please contact [Anita Lisk](#). All classes will be virtual and will begin in early May. There will be a clergy class and a laity class.

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### Upcoming Events at Shrine Mont

Shrine Mont will be open for the 2021 season with additional precautions for COVID safety. View the [full list of 2021 upcoming events](#).

- **April 30 - May 2 | [Simply Yoga in the Mountains](#)** Devote a weekend to your well-being and practice active and passive yoga, including Hatha asana, gentle and Yin yoga.
  - **May 6-9 | [Digital Photography Retreat](#)** Learn more about how to use your digital camera and gain skills to take photos with better composition.
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### AFAC FOOD DRIVE

If you'd like to make an in-kind food donation, we invite you to drop off the following items inside the **plastic bin near the main church office entrance, by the red mailbox.**

- **NO GLASS CONTAINERS** -- AFAC is not accepting any items in glass containers
- Canned tuna or chicken
- Canned tomatoes or vegetables
- Canned soup
- Peanut Butter (in plastic jars only)

*Low items sodium preferred*



If you are interested in making a monetary donation to AFAC, you can do so through their website: <https://afac.org/donate/donate-give> or by mailing a check payable to the **Arlington Food Assistance Center** to P.O. Box 6261, Arlington, VA 22206.

Thank you to the **Ghosh family** for making the most recent delivery!

We are always looking for volunteers to drop off the in-kind donations. If you are able to drive the donations to AFAC for a contactless delivery, please contact the [Parish Administrator](#).

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### Glorious Companions

For our Zoom meeting at 10:30am on **Wednesday April 21**, please read part two, chapter 1 in *The Power and the Glory* by Graham Greene.

[Click here](#) to join us on Zoom, or dial in: (301) 715-8592 Meeting ID: 867 9811 7097 Passcode: 4000

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### Compline on Wednesday Evenings

Each Wednesday at 8:30pm members of St. Andrew's meet via this Zoom [Compline link](#) for a brief service of contemplative nighttime prayers. All are welcome to join. For those who do not have a copy of the *BCP* at home, you may download [this Compline booklet](#).

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