



THE CROSSROADS

From the Desk of the Rector

"I'm a Quarterback But I Don't Play Football"

"I'm spiritual but I'm not religious." This is a phrase that has entered the English language in the past few years. People claiming to be Christian seem especially prone to use this expression. This article is not for generically spiritual folks who do not claim to be Christian. I will let folks who fall under another form of spirituality claim what they will. This piece is for that massive number of folks who claim to be followers of Jesus Christ but are unencumbered by religion.

The words "religion" and its cousin, "ritual," have gotten a bad rap in our culture. Too often they bring a plethora of negative emotions that touch one hot button or another. After all, "religion" has been a justification for all sorts of nasty, dehumanizing things that people have done to one another. And "ritual" seems to imply a lack of authenticity, or a simple process of going through thoughtless motions. I know these things because when people tell me of their spirituality unfettered by religion, it usually comes along with a list of what makes religion bad in their eyes.

Since folks are very willing to share these rather biased positions, I want to take this opportunity to also share some of the un-objective and biased opinions I have about being spiritual but not religious.

It seems to me that when one says that one is spiritual but not religious, it is kind of like

saying, "I'm a quarterback but I don't play football." It is like someone saying that they are an auto mechanic but they don't work on engines. After all, what is the source of spiritual teachings, especially Christian spirituality? The stories and doctrines of Jesus Christ have been handed down through the centuries by an organized religion known as the Church. And what is the goal of Christian spirituality if not to actually engage in Jesus' teachings about fellowship and prayer with each other? While the Church is far from perfect, it has been the religion that gives us the Bible that tells us the life and teachings of Christ. It has also been the vehicle for creedal doctrine such as the Trinity, the nature of Jesus Christ, and other basics of Christian spirituality. To adapt another well-worn phrase, "No Christian religion, no Christian spirituality. Know Christian religion, know Christian spirituality."

Oftentimes when people say to me that they are spiritual but not religious, what my ears hear is that they want to have all of the good feelings and self-justification of being able to invoke a deity without the real commitment, cost, and discipline that being part of an organized group of other human beings requires.

Perhaps this is a natural symptom of a hyper-individualistic consumer culture such as ours, where the needs and desires of the self far outweigh the needs and good of the larger group.

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February 2012

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**Fr. Kelley J. Lackey II,
Rector of St. Andrew's**

Pancake supper tickets available

Shrove Tuesday is Feb. 21 and once again we will hold our pancake supper—all the pancakes you can eat, beverage and a choice of sausage or ham. This is a major fund-raising event for St. Andrew's—invite your friends, neighbors and co-workers to join you! Pancakes will be served 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Tickets (\$5 for 10 and older; \$3 for children under 10) are available in the office (342-1537) and from Don Bailey (342-3993.)

Help is needed to set up, serve and clean up. Please add your name to the sheet on the parish hall doors if you can help.

Lenten observances begin Feb. 22

The ashes that are placed on our foreheads on **Ash Wednesday** as a reminder of our mortality are remnants of the palms of Palm Sundays past, as well as old prayer books and Bibles. There will be the Imposition of Ashes at 7 a.m. and noon. At 6 p.m., imposition of ashes will be included at the regular Eucharistic liturgy. On this day of fasting, there is no meal following the liturgy. (If you have prayer books, Bibles or palms to be burnt, please bring them to the church office so they can be reverentially burned on Shrove Tuesday. Items should be at the office or on the table in the hall by noon, Feb. 21.)

Beginning Friday, Feb. 24, we will have our annual **Stations of the Cross**, alternating Fridays through Lent with Sacred Heart. This year we will begin at Sacred Heart, 101 Cottonwood, at 7 p.m.

Thinking of a baptism?

Holy Saturday, which falls this year on April 7, is a traditional time for baptism. If you're considering baptism, now is the time to speak with Fr. Kelley, to begin plans for this important step.

Four set to serve at altar

Rick Mitchell, master of acolytes, has trained four young people to begin service as acolytes at St. Andrew's.

Lance and Jacob Moore, Ian Lackey and Abigail Jacob will soon be taking a more prominent role in our Eucharistic worship. Let's be sure to thank them for their efforts!

St. Andrew's thanks ...

... Parish Life members and others who prepared food for the luncheon that was part of the annual meeting, including David and Susan Mai, Sue Wilson, Marcia Law, Dobby Bailey, Helen Call, Nancy Pontius, Elaine Edwards, Ruthann Resch, Lynn Bonney and Patrick Kelley, Jacqueline Heckman-James, Gay Barnes, Pat Adams, Sue McKinney.

... Everyone who prepared food for the supper after the service celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, including Ruthann Resch, Pat Adams, Nancy Pontius, Carolyn Lackey, Lynn Bonney, Elaine Edwards, Sue McKinney, Sue Wilson, Gary Mason, June Hubert, Anna Brownlee, Nancy Romine and Donna Eudaley.

... Helen Call, who provided the special "charmed" cake for our Epiphany celebration.

Looking ahead

- Sunday, Feb.5** Fr. Kelley will celebrate the Holy Eucharist at 3 p.m. at the Holiday Resort nursing home. All parishioners are invited to join him there.
- Thursday, Feb. 10** The vestry will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room. As always, all parishioners are welcome to attend vestry meetings.
- Sunday, Feb. 12** The 10:45 a.m. service will be an instructed Eucharist. Fr. Kelley will be explaining what he does at the altar during the service. This is a great time to bring friends and family to learn about our traditions – and also a wonderful refresher course for everyone.
Fr. Kelley will celebrate the Eucharist at 2 p.m. at Emporia Presbyterian Manor. Everyone is welcome at this service to renew friendships with members who are not always able to be with us at St. Andrew's.
- Tuesday, Feb. 21** Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Our traditional pre-Lenten supper is coming! Tickets are available now in the office. Tickets are \$3 for children under 10 and \$5 for all others.
Bibles, prayer books and palms to be burned to make ashes for Ash Wednesday should be turned in at the office by noon.
- Wednesday, Feb. 22** Ash Wednesday. Imposition of Ashes at 7 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes at 6 p.m. There will be no community supper this evening.
- Friday, Feb. 24** Stations of the Cross are at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 101 Cottonwood, at 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 28** February's women's luncheon will begin at 11:30 at Amanda's, Seventh and Commercial. The luncheons are casual events, continuing through 1 p.m. Diners should feel free to come and go as their schedules allow. Men and Children are always welcome.

Recurring events

- Sundays** Holy Eucharist at 8:30 (Rite II said) and 10:45 (Rite II sung). Children's Sunday School and chapel at 10:45. Child care provided for children under 4.
- Mondays** Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- Tuesdays** Youth group at 7:30 in the "youth den" upstairs.
Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- Wednesdays** Casual celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and fellowship.
- Thursdays** Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- Fridays** Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- Saturdays** Loaves and Fishes ministry offers a no-cost lunch to the community from noon to 1 p.m. in the parish hall.
Children's choir practices 10-10:30 a.m.; adult choir practices 3-4 p.m.



The history of the world shows us, that the deliverance of the children of Israel from their bondage, is not the only instance, in which it has pleased God to appear in behalf of oppressed and distressed nations, as the deliverer of the innocent, and of those who call upon his name. —*From a thanksgiving sermon by Absalom Jones. Born into slavery in 1746, he became the first American-American Episcopal priest, founding a church in Philadelphia in 1794. The anniversary of his death is celebrated on Feb. 13.*

If a date that's important to you is missing from this calendar, please notify the office at office@standrewsemporium.org or 620-342-1537.

Milestones

In our daily prayers we celebrate

Births

Feb. 1	Allie Mitchell
Feb. 3	Jarrett Lockard
Feb. 5	Ray Call
Feb. 13	Colleen Mitchell Bill North
Feb. 15	Jared Kline
Feb. 17	Susan Brinkman Mike Weidert
Feb. 21	Carolyn Lackey
Feb. 22	Gloria Stewart
Feb. 23	David Mai Elijah Williams
Feb. 27	Justin Davis

Baptisms

Feb. 3	Zoë Dyer
Feb. 6	Patrick Davis
Feb. 14	Will Dyer
Feb. 28	Ron Roerig

Confirmations

Feb. 2	Jake McCracken Nancy Romine Jean Runge (received) Cyndi Valentine
Feb. 6	Douglas Amend Marged Amend Emily Ayers Justin Davis Chase Harder Hannah Harder Kelby Harrell Jeff Hawes Ashley Mitchell Blake Mitchell
Feb. 20	Daniel O'Rear Jake Petty Michelle Petty Amy Williamson Jacob Williamson
Feb. 23	June Hubert

Marriages

Feb. 10	Bob and Karen Henderson
Feb. 19	Chuck and Diana Moore
Feb. 28	Bob and Anna Basler

Ordination

Feb. 14	Kelley J. Lackey II
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We remember

Feb. 1	Mabel Scott
Feb. 3	Bernice Hagan
Feb. 4	Opal Glasgow James Spears
Feb. 5	William Lucas Harry Yates
Feb. 6	Lyman Thayer
Feb. 7	Leo Conwell Roscoe Mendenhall Donetta Resch
Feb. 8	Robert Howell
Feb. 10	Harry Higgins
Feb. 11	Thomas McCullough
Feb. 12	Ann Haywood
Feb. 15	Nettie Resch
Feb. 16	Maurine Warren
Feb. 17	Bill Miles
Feb. 18	Clarence Smalley
Feb. 19	Floyd Maher
Feb. 20	Maurene Ore
Feb. 21	Maurine Lauderback James Wilson
Feb. 23	Frank Griffin
Feb. 25	William Firth
Feb. 26	Willa Story
Feb. 28	Clarence Kraum

Sunday readings for Feb.

Feb. 5, Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Is. 40:21-31, Ps. 147:1-12, 21, I Cor. 9:16-23, Mark 1:29-39.

Feb. 12, Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany 2 Kings 5:1-14, Ps. 30, I Cor. 9:24-27, Mark 1:40-45.

Feb. 19, Last Sunday after the Epiphany 2 Kings 2:1-12, Ps. 50:1-6. 2 Cor. 4:3-6, Mark 9:2-9

Feb. 26, First Sunday in Lent Gen. 9:8-17, Ps. 25:1-9; I Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15.

February Server Schedule

	Feb. 5	Feb. 12	Feb. 19	Feb. 26	March 4	March 11
Chalice bearer	J. Runge	S. McKinney	J. Runge	R. Mitchell	P. Davis	P. Kelley
Priest server	R. Mitchell	P. Kelley	R. Mitchell	P. Kelley	S. McKinney	R. Mitchell
Crucifer	R. Mitchell	P. Kelley	G. Mason	R. Mitchell	P. Davis	P. Kelley
Torch 1	C. Lackey	A. Mitchell	I. Lackey	A. Mitchell	C. Amend	A. Mitchell
Torch 2	--open--	C. Amend	C. Lackey	C. Amend	J. Moore	A. Jacob
Lector	M. Harrell	M. Amend	J. Runge	M. Harrell	J. Brownlee	N. Romine
Intercessor	S. McKinney	L. Bonney	B. Barnes	--none--	B. Clamurro	B. Barnes
Greeter 1	--open--	D. Mai	N. Romine	D. Mai	A. Brownlee	N. Romine
Greeter 2	--open--	S. Mai	J. Hubert	S. Mai	B. Clamurro	J. Runge
LEV 1	G. Mason	P. Kelley	--open--	B. Barnes	J. Hubert	B. Barnes
LEV 2	S. McKinney	L. Bonney	G. Mason	P. Kelley	--open--	S. McKinney
Altar Guild	Garcia/Barnes/ Bailey	Pontius/Mai	Gilpin/Basler/ Weidert	Mitchell/ Mitchell	Garcia/Barnes/ Bailey	Pontius/Mai

Please remember that you are responsible for finding a substitute if you are unable to serve

From the Desk of the Rector, cont.

When I am spiritual without the benefit (or hindrance) of an organized religion where I must consider the larger teachings and well-being of a group, I can come to any conclusion or self-justification that I want. I can demonize whom I will because I never really have to engage them as another human being and follower of Jesus.

We are a society that increasingly does not have a regard for commitment to and relationship with each other; We will not give our resources to others who otherwise do without and we will demonize any such thing as Socialism. Divorce is easy to obtain and marriage and remarriage seem to be done on a whim. People are ultimately judged by the over-simplified labels we put on them. Workers' dignity and basic needs are seen as an enemy of the greater good of the free market. Children are often aborted as an after-thought and inconvenience. Our sexism, racism, classism, and homophobia are justified by our individual right to hate whomever we want.

I will concede that religion in general, and Christian religion in particular, is a far from perfect endeavor and has its share of moral failings and historic atrocities. Sometimes religion becomes a justification for a group of people to do some horrendous things. But religion is by no means the only offender in justifying bad human behavior. Political ideologies, economic doctrines, and the basic human inclination to fear people different from ourselves, need to line up with religion as justification for human cruelty.

However, religion is also ultimately the vehicle for the spirituality that so many folks seem to embrace. Religion is the structure for the community of relationships that Jesus began with his first church leaders, the apostles, and the masses of followers. It gives us our common identity and holds us accountable for our responsibility to exercise compassion to the others in our community. Religion is also the space in which ongoing engagement and deepening of spirituality occurs. It is the way that human beings continue to support and challenge each other's spiritual assumptions and doctrinal positions so that we don't become our own little isolated deities and demagogues.

If you claim to be Christian and spiritual, thank the religious people who preserve and practice the teaching that is the basis of Christian spirituality. Better yet, join in the Christian community and see the ways religion may actually strengthen your spirituality.

**Pax,
Kelley+**

We have an online calendar!

Now you can see what's going on at St. Andrew's just by clicking on the online calendar. See the menu for the Loaves and Fishes meals on Saturdays, check when the parish hall is available, see who's using our building for meetings, be sure not to miss choir practice or youth group meetings.

Link to the calendar through the St. Andrew's Facebook page.

You can also go straight to it by clicking on <https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=standrewsemporia%40gmail.com&ctz=America%2FChicago>.

If you have items for the calendar, send them to Karen at office@standrewsemporia.org or post a message on the St. Andrew's Facebook page.

Patrick Kelley will serve as senior warden

Three vestry members elected at annual meeting

Patrick Kelley will begin a one-year term as senior warden at this month's vestry meeting. At the annual meeting on Jan. 22, St. Andrew's parishioners confirmed his selection and confirmed the vestry's choice of Rick Mitchell for another term as junior warden.

Don Bailey and David Mai are new members of the vestry and Brian Dyer was also elected to a full term. He had stepped in to complete a year of a vacated term.

Jean Runge will join Sue McKinney as the parish's convention delegates. Anna Brownlee is a new alternate, a position Dyer will also hold for another year.

Members who completed their terms of vestry service were Nick Jacob, last year's senior warden, and Nancy Pontius, who had served two full terms. Lynn Bonney and Trish Weidert retired as convention delegate and alternate.

Parishioners approved a bare-bones budget for the 2012 year. Fr. Kelley discussed the trusts that have been a cushion to help cover parish expenses, saying that the people who left bequests to the parish are keeping it afloat – decades after their deaths. The Larkin Trust, which provides interest although the parish does not have access to the principal of the account, relies on oil proceeds and will not last forever. Today's parishioners are asked to tithe, or at least to increase giving as they can, and to make their pledges in support of St. Andrew's, not to rely on support from dedicated Christians who have gone before us.

Note: This is a summary of the meeting from Lynn Bonney. The full minutes, subject to approval by the annual meeting next January, are available in the office.

Kings' arrival and cake mark Epiphany festivities

St. Andrew's celebrated the Epiphany of Our Lord on Jan. 6 with a Eucharist and an Epiphany cake. The Magi arrived at the crèche, taking their place to mark the sharing of the good news of Jesus' birth with the world beyond Bethlehem.



Parishioners and guests examined their pieces of cake carefully, looking for "charms" that – supposedly – indicate the finder's fortune during the coming year. If there's any truth to the predictions, here's what folks can look forward to:

Ian Lackey and Kassie Fritz will be – we hope – gracious and circumspect as our prince and princess.

Mary Mingenback (coincidentally our parish treasurer) and Chuck Moore will win the lottery.

Elaine Edwards, Keegan Moore, Nancy Garcia and Kassie Fritz will be sporting new wardrobes.

Gould Garcia and Gay Barnes will be preparing for weddings important to someone in their lives.

It's easy to joke that these lucky finds are merely coincidence, but Gay and Bill Barnes will have a family wedding on the calendar in the future: Their son and his fiancée will marry in Florida, although they haven't set a date.

St Andrew's Episcopal Church
828 Commercial
Emporia, Kansas 66801
(620) 342-1537

The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe
Bishop of Kansas

The Rev. Kelley J. Lackey II
Rector of St. Andrew's

Members of the Vestry:
Patrick Kelley—Senior Warden
Rick Mitchell—Junior Warden
Don Bailey
Brian Dyer
Jacque Heckman-James
Patrick Kelley
Jordan Kline
David Mai
Sue McKinney

Visit the parish website at
www.StAndrewsEmporia.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday, 9-noon
other hours by appointment

You may contact the secretary at (620) 342-1537 or
office@standrewsemporia.org. You may also leave a
message through our website at StAndrewsEmporia.org.

February 20 is the deadline for
information to be included in
the February Crossroads.
Please drop off any
information at the church
office or e-mail it to
office@standrewsemporia.org



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