



THE CROSSROADS

From the Desk of the Rector

The Kingdom of God is Bigger Than My Idolatry

On the night before he was crucified, Jesus prayed to the Father, "As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent [the apostles] into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." (John 17: 18-21)

Jesus prayed this prayer as he looked around the Upper Room and saw his disciples with him. Among others, he saw a despised tax collector, radical zealots, dirty fishermen, and defiled women. All of them came with their own baggage, agendas and understandings of who Jesus is. Many of them would just as soon kill some of the others in the room as eat with them. And yet in the presence of Jesus, they somehow got it together enough to ultimately establish the Christian faith throughout the world. It wasn't just because it was a nice thing for his followers to get along that Jesus prayed that they may all be one. He prayed that because he knew what the impact of a unified community would have on the rest of humanity. He knew that not only would this community have more resources when they worked together, but that the rest of the world would look at this rag-tag group of folks and be intrigued by how people who were so different from each other could come together and call each other brothers and sisters. Their fidelity to Jesus would breed a generosity of spirit

among them that the world did not know and could not understand.

This week St. Andrew's Episcopal Church shared in Vacation Bible School with members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Emporia Presbyterian Church and First Baptist Church. As part of our time together, while the children did all of the regular crafts and activities that go with V.B.S., adults from our four churches met for conversation. We discovered that the emergence of each of our denominations occurred in different places for different reasons. We discovered that some of our theology, worship and piety vary a great deal from one another. And yet we were all able to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord. We were able to share and recognize stories of God's love and redemption among our church communities and begin to see that indeed we recognize one lord, one faith, one baptism, even if the details of our theology were different from time to time.

More and more, we live in a world of extremes. It is a place where one faction of people will oftentimes rebuke and reject another faction because they don't hold the same position and social views. This has created a toxic culture with an all-or-nothing approach to many things. It is a culture that if left unchecked, will ultimately lead to the downfall of our society.

When Christians engage in such behavior it becomes a form of idolatry because it makes a political or theological agenda the thing that decides whether or not another group is worthy to be seen with us. It is an idolatry that assumes that because a church takes a

August 2011

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

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Don't go back to school with an unblessed backpack!

Yes, the first day of school seems to roll around earlier every year and this year, Emporia's kids will head back to the classroom in mid-August. St. Andrew's will continue our tradition of blessing backpacks and bookbags, sending children back to school with prayers for a successful year.

The blessing will be part of the 10:45 a.m. Eucharist on Sunday, Aug. 14, so bring your children – and their friends – to take part. Teachers and parents, you're included, as you're a vital part of the school experience.

The Parish Life team has planned a special coffee hour with old-fashioned sack lunches for everyone. If you'd like to help with coffee-hour preparations – sandwiches, cookies, apples and such – let David Mai know. Your help is welcome!

'Church keys' can be conversation starters

So you'd like to tell a friend about your Christian experience and why St. Andrew's is the only church home for you ... but it's hard to find a way to open that conversation? We now have a couple of handy props that may make finding an opening just a bit easier.

For starters, we have "church keys," the name some of us are old enough to remember for the device that's now properly known as a bottle opener. They carry the St. Andrew's name and distinctive logo – and they're a great way to open a conversation, perhaps over a bottle of something cold. Your friend can pocket the church key as a reminder of your talk.

For the more conventional among us, a new shipment of ballpoint pens is available. Pick up a couple so you have one at hand when someone asks to borrow a pen. Again – a way to start that conversation.

You'll find pens and church keys on the table in the foyer outside the parish hall.

Wednesday suppers mark students' return

Emporia State University will be back in session in August and we'll be inviting students to join St. Andrew's parishioners for Wednesday evening Eucharists and suppers.

A core group of parishioners who have been sharing the responsibility for providing suppers will welcome assistance from the parish at large. If you're willing to help out with stocking the freezer, providing casseroles regularly (or occasionally), get in touch with Donna Eudaley or Sue McKinney. (They're probably too polite to tell you, but cash donations are also welcome.)

Of course, the best way to participate in our campus outreach is to join the fun and attend the informal 6 p.m. Eucharist and bring a dish to share. The outreach program has been a great success, leading to baptisms and confirmations and introducing new members to our parish family. Those who've graduated and left us consider St. Andrew's home and those who've stayed in Emporia after graduation have become active members of our parish.

Plan to drop in on a Wednesday evening and see what's going on at one of the most exciting ministries at St. Andrew's.

Talking Christianity in social settings

Two-session workshop will meet here

St. Andrew's will be the site for a two-part workshop on "Conversational Evangelism," sponsored by the diocesan Congregational Development. Clergy and lay leaders will gather from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22, and Saturday, Feb. 4.

Participants will learn the fundamentals of engaging non-churched people in environments such as social gatherings or the workplace. The speaker will be Margaret Lawrence, a member of the faculty of Bishop Seabury Academy in Lawrence and the former director of worship arts for Menlo Park Presbyterian Church in Menlo Park, Calif.

Costs and registration forms will be available in coming weeks. Because these get-togethers are at St. Andrew's and won't involve any driving, mark your calendars now and plan to join the conversation.

Looking ahead

- Sunday, Aug. 7 Loose change and designated checks in the offering will help support Jeze Marie, our “adopted” child in the Philippines.
- Thursday, Aug. 11 The vestry meets at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room. All parishioners are welcome to attend vestry meetings.
- Sunday, Aug. 14 It's Bless the Backpacks Day! Bring backpacks and bookbags for a special back-to-school blessing. Parents and teachers, you're encouraged to participate, too. Parish Life members will have a special coffee hour to remind us all of school days.
- This is also the second Sunday of the month, when Fr. Kelley celebrates the Eucharist at 2 p.m. at Emporia Presbyterian Manor. All parishioners are welcome to join in the service, which helps us keep in touch with St. Andrew's members who live at the manor.
- Sunday, Aug. 21 Loose change and designated checks in the offering will help support St. Andrew's outreach in the community and beyond.
- Tuesday, Aug. 23 The women's luncheon, at which men and children are welcome, will begin at 11:30 a.m. Listen during announcement time for information about the luncheon site.
- Saturday, Sept. 10 St. Andrew's will again be participating in the Great American Market in downtown Emporia.
- Wednesday, Sept. 21 Family portraits will be taken for the new parish directory. Check your calendar and plan
& Thursday, Sept. 22 to schedule an appointment between 2 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. one of those days.
- Friday, Sept. 23 The diocesan convention in Topeka is early this year. Although Lynn Bonney and Sue &
Saturday, Sept. 24 McKinney are our delegates, all parishioners are welcome to attend the exhibits, worship and some sessions.

Morning Prayer is read at 7 a.m. each Wednesday. Evening Prayer is read at 5:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. A casual Eucharist begins at 6 p.m. each Wednesday, followed by fellowship.

It's time to think 'garage sale' *Great American Market set for Sept. 10*

Most of us have been thinking that we need to clear out some clutter, whether we're downsizing or just making room for new clutter ... and now's the time to get busy and pick out some offerings for the annual St. Andrew's garage sale. OK, it's in the parish hall, not a garage, but it's coming up on Sept. 10, as part of Emporia's Great American Market.

Ross and Ali Crofoot and Grant Geis and Melissa Coleman are teaming up to lead this year's effort and they'll have more details coming about when and where to get your donations to the parish hall. There'll be plenty of opportunities to lend a hand, whether in preparation, pricing or assisting on sale day. If you want to help out, let one of these four leaders know what you can do and when you're available to do it.

This sale has been a good fund-raiser in previous years and our budget can certainly use the boost this year. Start filling your donation box (or boxes) so we have a selection of items to offer to eager shoppers.



When shall we see a life full of steady enthusiasm, walking straight to its aim, flying home, as that bird is now, against the wind — with the calmness and the confidence of one who knows the laws of God and can apply them?—
Written by Florence Nightingale, pioneer in the nursing field and hospital care, as well as an accomplished statistician who invented pie charts. She is honored on August 12.

Milestones

*In our daily prayers
we celebrate*

Births

Aug. 4 Nancy Pontius
 Aug. 6 Kegan Moore
 Aug. 7 Ruthann Resch
 Aug. 13 Barry Romine
 Aug. 15 Gay Barnes
 Aug. 16 Tammy Davis
 Aug. 21 Kira Williams
 Aug. 24 Brianna Dougherty
 Don Glasgow
 Aug. 30 Don Bailey
 Larry Eudaley
 Lee Fowler
 Abigail Jacob

Baptisms

Aug. 10 Eddie Gilpin
 Aug. 31 Kelley Fowler

Confirmations

—none—

Marriages

Aug. 1 Lee and Kelley Fowler
 Aug. 5 Barry and Nancy Romine
 Aug. 7 Millard and Onnalee
 Harrell
 Aug. 11 Lawrence and Donna
 Eudaley
 Aug. 12 Bill and Ann North
 Aug. 18 David and Susan Mai
 Aug. 26 Don and Dobby Bailey

We remember

Aug. 3 Lorelei Ann Hicks
 Jenette Tomlinson
 Aug. 5 Bettie Cuff
 William John Gunkel
 Eleanor Craig Jones
 George E. Noce
 Donald David Resch Sr.
 Larry Valentine
 Aug. 7 Bobby Jo Dehler
 Aug. 11 Winfield S. Hancock

Aug. 12

Constance Allen
 Ann Louise Jones James
 Phil Martin

Aug. 16

Gladys Peart
 George Newman Sprague

Aug. 17

Kathrine K. White

Aug. 18

Karl Bruder

Aug. 20

Herbert Ritterhoff

Aug. 21

Cordelia Gladfelter

Aug. 22

Rex Jones

Aug. 25

Laura McWilliams

Aug. 26

Frederick Higbee

Aug. 27

Harry McClure

Aug. 28

Gertrude Unger

Aug. 31

Gertrude Henning

If a date that's important to you hasn't been included in this calendar, please notify the church office at office@standrewsemporia.org or (342-1537).

August Server Schedule

	August 7	August 14	August 21	August 28	September 4	September 11
Chalice bearer	J. Runge	G. Garcia	P. Davis	R. Mitchell	J. Runge	P. Davis
Priest server	R. Mitchell	S. McKinney	P. Kelley	S. McKinney	P. Kelley	P. Kelley
Crucifer	J. Runge	P. Kelley	P. Davis	R. Mitchell	J. Runge	P. Davis
Torch 1	S. Harbaugh	C. Amend	C. Lackey	C. Amend	-open-	C. Amend
Torch 2	A. Mitchell	G. Mason	C. Amend	A. Mitchell	G. Mason	J. Crofoot
Lector	B. Clamurro	J. Brownlee	J. Runge	B. Clamurro	M. Amend	J. Brownlee
Inter-cessor	B. Barnes	N. Romine	L. Bonney	B. Barnes	L. Bonney	J. Runge
Greeter 1	B. Clamurro	A. Brownlee	N. Romine	B. Clamurro	J. Hubert	A. Brownlee
Greeter 2	-open-	-open-	-open-	-open-	-open-	-open-
LEV 1	B. Barnes	G. Mason	J. Hubert	B. Barnes	G. Mason	J. Hubert
LEV 2	-open-	-open-	-open-	-open-	P. Kelley	
Altar Guild	Gilpin/Basler /Weidert	Mitchell /Mitchell	Garcia/Barnes/ Bailey	Pontius/Mai	Gilpin/Basler /Weidert	Mitchell /Mitchell

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

From the Rector, cont.

contrary position on a complex issue from the one my church takes, then they obviously do not understand the will of God and are therefore not Christian. It is a position that rebukes one community of Christians' form of offering of worship and prayer to God because it is not like my own church's worship and prayer. The idolatry of factionalism in the church leaves no room for the Holy Spirit to move among God's people and open new possibilities for an in breaking of the Kingdom of God among us. It leaves no room for the grace and generosity of God.

When Christians engage in such factionalism against other Christians, not only do they engage in idolatry, but they reject Jesus' most earnest prayer that they all may be one in him. Most tragic of all is that we become a sad example to the world of a people who have rejected God's invitation to the Kingdom of God in Jesus Christ for the same idolatrous factionalism that is part of the kingdoms of this world. When our four churches gathered this week, we may not have changed the world in any significant way. But we did proclaim to each other and to anyone else who may have witnessed us that God's Kingdom is bigger than any of our denominations, political agendas or doctrines.

Pax,
Kelley+

'Making All Things New' *Diocesan Convention convenes in meetings open to all*

Diocesan Convention is usually an October event, but this year's convention comes up on Sept. 23 and 24 at the Capital Plaza Hotel and Maner Conference Center in Topeka.

The theme of this year's convention is "Making All Things New." Sue McKinney and Lynn Bonney will attend as voting delegates for St. Andrew's, but all parishioners are welcome to attend the Friday morning Eucharist, check out the vendors, and hear the keynote address on Saturday by the Rev. Bob Honeychurch, the Episcopal Church's missionary for congregational vitality. Anyone wishing to attend the workshops can register for the convention; the \$130 fee includes sessions and meals.

Sue and Lynn will go to Topeka on Aug. 20 to represent St. Andrew's at a pre-convention meeting with the Council of Trustees.

New parish photo directory coming this fall

A new photo directory of parishioners will be available late this fall—with your help.

First, you need to set aside about an hour during the afternoon or evening of Wednesday, Sept. 21 or Thursday, Sept. 22, to have your picture taken here at St. Andrew's by the Olan Mills company. Sign-up sheets will be on the table soon.

Second, you need to verify that the name and contact information we have for you is correct. Karen will send you the latest information the office has so you can make your changes or confirm the information.

Each family (or individual if you have a solo picture) that Olan Mills photographs is entitled to a free print, 8x10 or other size, in addition to a copy of the directory. You can order additional prints (for Christmas presents?).

Vestry members want to hear from you

What do you think of St. Andrew's? What do we, as a parish, do well? How could we improve? What would you like to see our parish doing in 5 years ... 25 years ... even 50 years?

Members of the vestry want to hear your ideas, your praise or criticisms, your hopes and dreams. If you haven't visited with one of the people you've elected to help shape St. Andrew's now and in the future, please corner one at coffee hour or in the grocery store. Call or email – write a letter if you wish.

Vestry members are: Nick Jacob, senior warden; Rick Mitchell, junior warden; Brian Dyer, Jacque Heckman, Patrick Kelley, Jordan Kline, Sue McKinney, Nancy Pontius and Sue Wilson.

Summer reminder

Need for pledges continues

Church expenses do not take a summer vacation. Please remember to send in your pledges if you are away this summer.

Vacation Bible School was fun for kids and adults



The Big Jungle Adventure, aka Vacation Bible School, ran July 24-27, with 43 kids and 26 volunteers from four churches participating. The churches involved were Emporia Presbyterian, First Baptist, St. Andrew's, and St. Mark's Lutheran. Emporia Presbyterian hosted and Susan Brinkman chaired the event. David Mai provided decorative wildlife. St. Andrew's provided food for the kick-off potluck.

Youth participation included beautification projects, like pulling the weeds from our flower beds, and collecting food every evening to take to the Salvation Army pantry.

(Photos courtesy of Patrick Kelley.)

A way to help St. Andrew's and yourself

This item was written by and reprinted with permission of Kevin N. Tucker and appeared in the July 2011 PlanWise newsletter.

What if doing one thing would help you fulfill three separate goals? If you're required to take minimum withdrawals from your individual retirement account (IRA) but don't need the income, you may be able to save taxes, help out a favorite cause [*think St. Andrew's*], and obtain estate planning benefits by giving IRA assets to a charity.

The Rules. For 2011, individuals age 70 ½ or older can donate up to \$100,000 to charity from an IRA without owing taxes on the distribution. This treatment is beneficial because it keeps the IRA distribution out of your income, which may help you qualify for tax breaks that depend on income level.

More Perks. Charitable contributions made in 2011 count toward your required minimum IRA distribution for the year. And, since it removes potentially taxable assets from your estate, making a charitable distribution may be a useful estate planning strategy.

St Andrew's Episcopal Church
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The Rt. Rev. Dean E. Wolfe
Bishop of Kansas

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

Members of the Vestry:
Nick Jacob—Senior Warden
Rick Mitchell—Junior Warden
Brian Dyer
Jacque Heckman-James
Patrick Kelley
Jordan Kline
Sue McKinney
Nancy Pontius
Sue Wilson

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.

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



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