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## St. Andrew's news for July 3 2020

1 message

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St. Andrew's Episcopal Church <john@standrewsomaha.org>

Fri, Jul 3, 2020 at 4:00 AM

Reply-To: erin@standrewsomaha.org

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St. Andrew's News You Can Use - now in a mobile friendly format!



### *St. Andrew's Vision Statement*

**We are a Christ-centered community,  
joyfully making a difference by....**

**Worshipping, Loving, Welcoming, Including, Supporting**

Visit our Website

Have something you want in this electronic newsletter? [E-mail Erin](#)

[Daily meditation: Forward Day by Day](#)

[Read through the bible, click here for a daily resource.](#)

**Please send prayer requests to [Erin](#). I will publish them in the service prayers of the people, and here, starting next week.**

Fr. John is on vacation from Wednesday, June 24th through Saturday, July 11th. In case of pastoral need, please contact Fr. Bob Gross.

Thanksgivings and prayers for this coming week:

Birthdays: Barb Jackson, Cindy Dornbush, Val West, Ella Haakinson, Bebe Miller, Lois Westfall, Karen LeClair

Anniversaries: Kelly and Liz Bourne

Prayers: John Mabry, Gregg Headrick, Sheila and Henry

Send prayer requests to Erin Rhian: [erin@standrewsomaha.org](mailto:erin@standrewsomaha.org)

**The Office will be closed Monday, July 6 in observance of Independence Day.**

It is as yet unknown when we will be able to return for public worship. All Episcopal Churches in the Diocese of Nebraska are under the same guidelines for re-opening. One guideline is that percentage of positive cases need to have decreased for two weeks in a row in the counties that your parish has members who attend. For us, that includes Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties.

It will be a joy to be able to worship with more than just a few and a camera. But when we return, you can expect the following based on the guidelines from the diocesan office:

Social distancing of six feet between persons or family units. This will, of necessity, limit the number of people attending a service.

Face masks will need to be worn. There may be an exception for a clear medical reason once seated, but coming in and going out, all must wear a mask. This is not negotiable.

No passing of the offering plate. No passing out bulletins. No physical contact during the peace.

Building use will be limited. Seats will need to be assigned. A reservation system may be used to limit attendance for proper social distancing. The used areas of the church will be disinfected between services which, to start, will only be at 5 PM on Saturday and 10:30 AM on Sunday. Both services will be in the main church.

There will be no "coffee hour" after the service and no food will be served.

There will be no group singing.

The distribution of the Eucharist will look different.

Hand sanitizer will be readily available.

The services will be broadcast online indefinitely.

Once we are closer to reopening, a letter will be sent to everyone in the parish directory outlining in more detail what to expect. Our reopening committee continues to work on best practices based on the guidelines.

This Sunday's complete service [can be found here.](#)

To view our service online [go to this link](#) and look for the word video on the left hand side. A reminder that you do not need a Facebook account to view the service. Also, the service is recorded, as are all of our services, and can be viewed at any time. We do hope you will join us for the live service that starts every Sunday at 10:30 am.

Your continued support of St. Andrew's is appreciated! Please continue to mail in a check, set up bill pay with your bank, call the office and have your donation taken out automatically each month and/or donate through [PayPal](#)

Looking for spiritual nourishment during the week? A variety of online services are offered by various Episcopal churches around the diocese from Morning Prayer to Compline. Enrich your soul! [Click here for a complete list](#)

Each Sunday from 9 AM to 10AM we host a virtual coffee hour. This is a chance to reconnect with people at St. Andrew's. There is no particular agenda, other than to reconnect and see one another. Here is the information you need:

**Consider joining even if you never have before. It's a good way to connect with our church members for an informal conversation.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/496764969>

Meeting ID: 496 764 969

You do not need these numbers below unless you intend to use a telephone.

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,496764969# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,496764969# US (Houston)

### **THIS IS NOT A TIME TO WORRY**

Today is Summer 2020 and things are different. The pandemic doesn't seem to be going away any time soon.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new." As I sit and ponder these words, they seem to take on a whole new meaning. A meaning I don't think even Paul anticipated. Now before the biblical police come after me let me clearly state that I understand the biblical interpretation of this scripture passage, but I also think that the spirit of it applies to what we are experiencing today.

There are so many conflicting reports that we begin to wonder what's truth and what isn't. Recently, I received an email from Br. Conrad Jones, President, Provence III, of the Brotherhood of St; Andrew and I thought you might like to read what he has to say.

#### **1. Worrying Accomplishes Absolutely Nothing.**

I don't know about you, but I don't have any time to waste these days. And worrying is a waste of very precious time. Worrying won't help us solve problems or bring about a solution, so why waste our time and energy on it? *Matthew 6:27-29*: Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. (NLT)

#### **2. Worrying is Not Good for You.**

Worrying is destructive to us in many ways. It becomes a mental burden that can even cause us to grow physically sick.

*Proverbs 12:25*: Worry weighs a person down; an encouraging word cheers a person up. (NLT)

### **3. Worrying is the Opposite of Trusting God.**

The energy that we spend worrying can be put to much better use in prayer. Here's a little formula to remember: Worry replaced by Prayer equals Trust.

*Matthew 6:30*: And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? (NLT)

*Philippians 4:6-7*: Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. (NLT)

### **4. Worrying Puts Your Focus in the Wrong Direction.**

When we keep our eyes focused on God, we remember his love for us, and we realize we truly have nothing to worry about. God has a wonderful plan for our lives, and part of that plan includes taking care of us. Even in the difficult times, when it seems like God doesn't care, we can put our trust in the Lord and focus on his kingdom. God will take care of our every need.

*Matthew 6:25*: That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life-whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? (NLT)

*Matthew 6:31-33*: So, don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. (NLT)

*1 Peter 5:7*: Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. (NLT)

So, my point is let's all respond to each other in love not hatred. Let's unite not divide. Let's do everything that we can to protect and keep each other safe and well. We can come together and hug each other when we have passed through this "valley..."

Blessings, Fr. Bob

**Please Join the Family of St. Andrew's  
In Omaha, Nebraska  
For 1 minute of Prayer from Anywhere**

**Every Monday at 12:00**  
**A simple, sincere, short specific prayer**

**Gracious God, guide our scientists to develop a vaccine for  
Covid- 19 Amen.**

**PRAYER CHANGES THINGS!!**

**UPDATE FROM ST. MONICA'S GUILD**

The Ladies of St. Monica's Guild want to thank everyone for their continued support for our Welcome Bag Project for the women entering substance abuse treatment at the St. Monica's Home in Lincoln. Due to the pandemic, we were unable to make a delivery of our filled bags in June like we would have in normal circumstances. However, our group is very committed to our ministry to help these women, and we have made a donation of \$500 from the St. Monica's treasury to the St. Monica's Home to help them purchase any items they need to fill in the bags until we are safely able to resume our deliveries. In the meantime, if you have any items collected for our Welcome Bags, please hold on to them until we are able to worship together again, at which time they can be placed in the St. Monica's bin outside the office. Thank you!

**UPDATE FROM ECW**

The St. Andrew's ECW is happy to announce that Camille Culp has taken over the position of our group President. She is taking over following the term of Mae Ahrendsen, who has done a wonderful job and we thank her for all her hard work for the women of St. Andrew's.

At this time, the ECW has three open positions which we are currently seeking to fill. Please read the following descriptions to see if you would be interested in volunteering in any of these roles. Please contact Lisa Hammond if you are interested or have any questions.

**Kitchen Chair** – the main responsibilities are ordering supplies for our kitchen areas and making sure that those using the kitchen are leaving the spaces clean and ready for the next group. Taking assessment of appliances, kitchen tools, and needed kitchen updates are also part of this role.

**Program Chair** – This is a fun position for someone interested in finding and providing entertainment and resources to the ladies of St. Andrew's at a few events throughout the year. This person would coordinate with the ECW leadership to find speakers and presenters that we can offer as a resource to connect and encourage the women of our church.

**Co-Chair of Reception Committee** – The reception teams are a very important part of our church, responsible for helping with events such as coffee hours, funeral receptions, receptions for Bishop visits, and many other celebrations here at St. Andrew's. These teams have been well organized by our Reception Committee Co-Chairs and serve on a rotating basis whenever their turn comes up. Lisa Hammond is currently chairing this committee, but we are looking for a co-chair to help her out as our reception teams involve almost all of the women of St. Andrew's in some capacity. If you would be interested in partnering with Lisa on this committee or would like to participate on one of our reception teams if you are not already assigned to one, please let us know.



**REFLECTIONS FROM THE PEW BY DAN SITZMAN** July 5

We were sitting on a friend's back porch last summer, celebrating a birthday party, when the conversation turned to Lauren's beekeeping. One of the party attendees said that he noticed that there are never butterflies or bees in his neighborhood. "Do you spray your yard for weeds and insects?" "Yes," he replied. "That's probably why you don't see them."

Dave Goulson, a professor of life sciences at the University of Sussex in England, notes that multiple stressors affect bees in complex ways. But, he argues, we don't need a full understanding of the problem to do something about it. "This is not an excuse for inaction while further research is performed. Common sense suggests that reducing pressure from any of these stressors will help." We know enough to act in specific ways to support the bee population: by providing landscapes with more flowers and nesting habitat, reducing pesticide use, and ceasing the long-distance transport of domesticated bees. Likewise, while it is difficult to understand everything that impacts our world today, we know enough to take some actions about disease transmission, environmental issues, oppression and suppression of groups of people, and other challenges in our society.

As our country celebrates its independence this weekend, move me, oh Holy Spirit, into act while I continue to better understand the impact of my actions.

*"And I say that if we will stand and work together, we will bring into being that day when justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream. We will bring into being that day when America will no longer be two nations, but when it will be one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."* Martin Luther King, Jr., March 10, 1968.

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