

THE PIPER

July 2026



In This Issue

A Message from Father Martin	2-3
Garden of Eatin'	4
St. Andrew's Ministries	5
A Thought for the Month	6-7



A Message From Father Martin

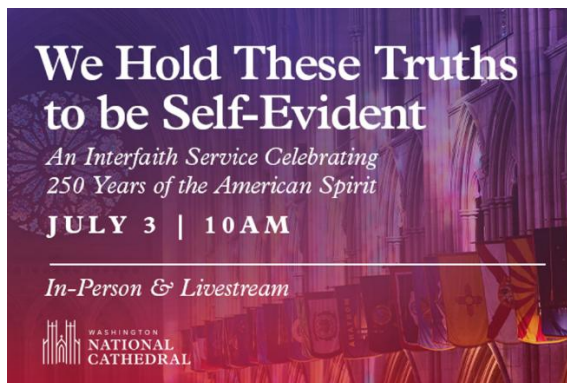
Dear Friends,

This month we pray for our nation on its 250th anniversary. As Episcopalians, in the Anglican tradition, we love and serve God first and foremost, and we love and serve all God's people, as Jesus teaches us. Therefore, we pray for the leaders of all nations, including our own, that they may seek justice and peace for all. We work through our civic participation to care for all people and to seek the common good.

Our Prayer Book has a number of prayers and litanies for our nation, for sound government, and for the unity of our community. We will share many of these on Sunday, July 5 in church. I commend these BCP resources to you. (See me if you need a Book of Common Prayer.)

On July 4, St. Andrew's will be in the Boulder Creek July 4th Parade! Join in the festivities. See Jane Pomeroy for details.

I recommend the online service at the National Cathedral:



It will be livestreamed and then on the Cathedral's YouTube channel. Here is the link: <https://cathedral.org/calendar/service-250/>

Coming up on Saturday, July 13, 1-4 pm, we are hosting the Santa Cruz Baroque Festival's fundraiser: "Boomeria Revisited". See me if you would like a free pass as a Church Host.

Preparations are underway for our own 125th Anniversary Celebration of St. Andrew's dedication by Bishop Nichols in 1901. It will be on Saturday, September 12. See Rochelle Kelly and Jane Pomeroy to join in the planning.

And mark your calendars for our Celtic Sunday activities on October 18. A bagpiper has been confirmed!

Our Vestry is updating our policy on donating Stained Glass windows. Draft copies are in the Parish Hall. The next vestry meeting will be on August 4 at 1 pm. (No July Meeting)

Here is the **Litany of Thanksgiving for the Nation** in our Prayer Book (p. 838f)

Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

Heal us.

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

Forgive us.

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

Inspire us.

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

Enlighten us.

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

Renew us.

*Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. **Amen.***

Faithfully yours,
Martin+

Garden of



Eatin'

MINESTRONE SOUP

This is a very healthy and tasty soup. It contains no animal fat and only a trace amount of salt; it is vegan.

Heat 1/4 cup oil in soup pot.

Saute –

1 - 10 oz. package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained well

1 ½ cups sliced zucchini

1 ½ cups sliced carrots

¾ cup sliced celery

½ cup diced onion

1 teas. garlic powder (or use fresh garlic)

Add –

1 ½ quarts water

1 - 15 oz. can garbanzo beans, drained

1 - 15 oz. can kidney beans, drained

2 - 6 oz. cans tomato paste

1 cup uncooked elbow macaroni

5 veggie boullion cubes

1 teas. parsley flakes (or fresh parsley)

½ teas. dried basil

pepper to taste

Simmer for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally.

HeeHeeHee!! A religious education class was almost finished making their models of the nativity scene and one little boy had done a lovely job. Some animals, Mary, Joseph, three wise men, and shepherds were all there. However, the teacher noticed an extra, rather overweight man in the scene as well. "Who is that person?" she asked. "Oh, that's Round John Virgin."

St. Andrew's Ministries

The Women's Circle

Dear Friends,

Women's Circle will meet July 9, 6:30pm at Ann Moyer's home, 305 Eleana Drive.

Make sure you come to the basement entrance on Morningside drive.

Women will meet on July 22 at 10:30am at the parish hall. Anyone wish to lead that meeting? For questions, contact Ann Moyer at 619-321-8596.

Men's Circle

The Men's Circle will meet on Wednesday, July 14 at the home of John Woolliscroft in Boulder Creek. Questions? Call Brad Moyer, 619-321-7316.

Prayer Team

We have an active prayer team at St. Andrew's led by Sue Roe. When a prayer concern is made known to Sue, she sends it out to the group so they can be praying for you. Please contact Sue if you would like some prayers.

Also, if you would like to be one of the pray-ers, let Sue know and she will be happy to add you to the group.

Please contact Sue at 562-243-4080, or by email suemhr@aol.com

Outreach Committee

If you know of or support a non-profit organization and would like it to be considered for a grant from St. Andrew's, please provide information on its programs to the Outreach Committee. The members of the committee are Laura McLain, Joan McVay, Janet Parske, and Ray Rischpater. We are looking for additional committee members, so if you are interested, please contact Joan, Janet or Ray.

LOSS (WINGS) Associated with Suicide Prevention Services of the Central Coast, it is a support (not therapy) group for anyone who has lost someone to suicide, years ago or recently. They meet on the 4th Tuesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. For more information, contact Julie Cory at 831-246-8750.

ACA (Adult Children of Alcoholic and Dysfunctional Families) meets every Wednesday evening upstairs.

Mens AA meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm upstairs.

Thought for the Month

This thought was written by Steve LaFever in June 2023 for that July's Piper.



(The following is the record of the first general convention of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America - 1785)

On motion, Resolved, That the fourth of July shall be observed by this Church forever as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God, for the inestimable blessings of religious and civil liberty vouchsafed to the United States of America.

WHO SHALL WE BE? (A Good Question!)

This week I had an occasion to correspond with the Public Policy office of the Episcopal Church. Later this week I was notified by the House of Deputies that our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry had been released from the hospital. This all led me to watch an online sermon he preached titled, "Who Shall We Be?" The entire experience compelled me to write an article for the July Piper. We celebrate the Fourth of July every year with parades, picnics, fireworks, and other celebrations as a reminder that we live in a free country. That freedom cost us dearly and continues to do that. We are not a perfect nation. We still have wounds to heal, problems that bind us, and forgiveness to impart. However, as we ask the question, Who Shall We Be? The answer is what will keep us a free nation under God with liberty and justice for all. One answer is found in the prayer Pastor Martin reminds us of, The Lord's Prayer. This perfect prayer says, "thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven." Who shall we be? God calls us to love our neighbors and create a paradise of love on Earth. Everyday something happens to deter that ideal world.

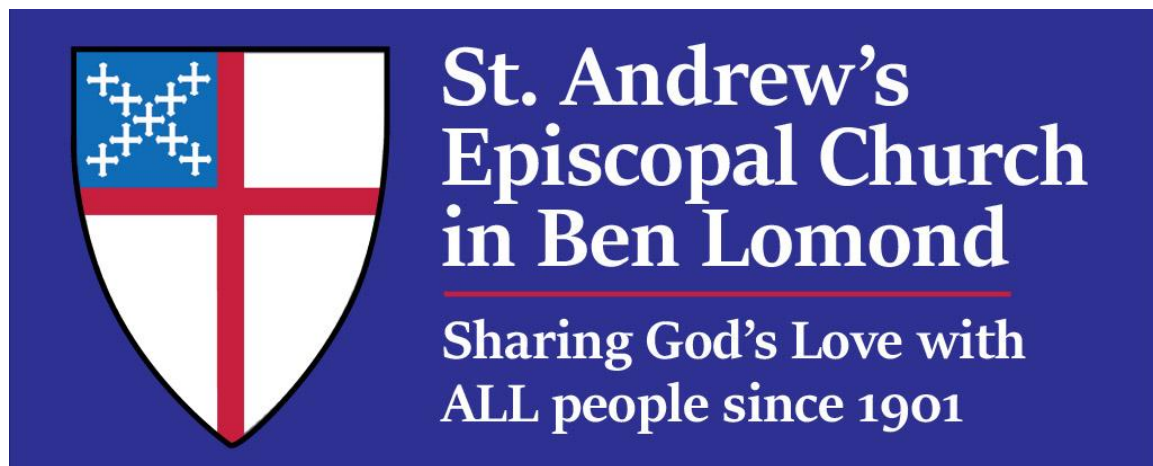
Laws are passed all the time. Enforcement of those statutes attempts to legislate behavior. However, laws are broken every day --- some are small infractions, while others result in death, mayhem, and chaos. Nations fight, kill, and attempt genocide. Hate groups march while singing Glory Glory Hallelujah.

Robin Williams wrote a humorous yet true ten reasons to be an Episcopalian. I only have one reason to be an Episcopalian. It is the Episcopal Church where the Lord's Prayer is a model for the answer to the question of "who shall we be?" The Episcopal Church accepts all people, our communion is open to all, we are one church that loves, heals and forgives. We have our problems too. Wherever there are people, there are

problems. However, and that is a big however, we move forward in our love and acceptance of all people. "Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven." Without the churches teaching the way of love, the world would sink farther into the abyss of chaos and anarchy. We have but one ruler – Almighty God! We have but one commandment, "Love thy neighbor." As this church brings people to the cross, to the joy of God's love, more and more people find acceptance better than hate, love better than indifference, and peace better than violence. Who shall we be? We shall be and will be a beacon of hope in this fragile world! Glory, glory hallelujah. His truth is marching on ... and on ... and on!

Happy Fourth of July.

Steve LaFever



This is the banner to be displayed on each side of St. Andrew's 'float' in the Boulder Creek July 4 parade.



Join us for Worship Services on Sundays at 10 a.m. and the social hour after. The sermon may be watched on St. Andrew's Facebook page, if you are not able to attend in person.