

The CATHEDRAL TIMES

The weekly newsletter of the Cathedral of St. Philip · Serving Atlanta and the World · July 6, 2025

THE DAY THE WIND DIED: NATHAN LAUBE AT THE CATHEDRAL

Meeting limitation with presence and grace

by the Rev. Canon George Maxwell, Vicar

On June 11, the Cathedral of St. Philip hosted Nathan Laube for a recital as part of the Atlanta Summer Organ Festival. On the surface, it was a beautiful evening of music. But beneath the performance was something more subtle, more real—a quiet invitation to notice how we meet life when it doesn't go our way.

Nathan arrived late Monday, coming directly from a family funeral. He began practicing immediately. His program was both technically demanding and musically complex, requiring long overnight hours to register each piece on the Cathedral's organ. (For those unfamiliar, registration is the detailed process of selecting and balancing the organ's stops to suit the music. It's exacting and personal.)

After nearly 20 hours of preparation, and just hours before the recital, something broke. A valve failed in the Solo division of the organ—the section responsible for some of its most expressive voices. Wind couldn't reach most of the pipes. And the repair couldn't be made in time.

I can imagine how I might have reacted. I can hear the thoughts rising: This shouldn't be happening. This isn't fair. All that work for nothing. I can feel the impulse to distance myself from whatever has gone wrong—to explain it, resist it, or shift the blame. Anything but simply face what is.

But Nathan didn't resist. He didn't complain. He didn't look for someone to blame. Instead, he paused—and began again.

For four hours, he re-registered his entire program—hundreds of adjustments, reorganizing which keyboards to use, rebalancing stops, reshaping what the music could become now that the instrument had changed. We delayed the start of the recital by thirty minutes to give him just that little extra bit of time.

And then he played.

What followed was not just a display of mastery. It was something quieter and more powerful. The music, limited by the broken section, had a new kind of depth. A presence. Not in spite of the problem, but because of it.

Contemplative writers often remind us that our difficulties are not obstacles to the path of our spiritual growth—they are the path. That night, Nathan walked the path that showed up, not the one he'd prepared for. And he walked it with steadiness and grace.

I often mistake success for getting what I want—or thought I wanted. But the deeper invitation of the spiritual life is to meet reality as it is, not as we wish it were. Nathan did just that.

I imagine he had hopes for how the evening would go. But when those hopes dissolved, he didn't react with resistance. He responded with care. With adaptation. With a kind of dignity that comes not from control, but from letting go.

In my experience, this level of equanimity doesn't just happen. It comes from an inner life cultivated in awareness. It grows through the willingness to feel disappointment without being consumed by it. It takes root when we stop needing life to match our preferences in order to be at peace.

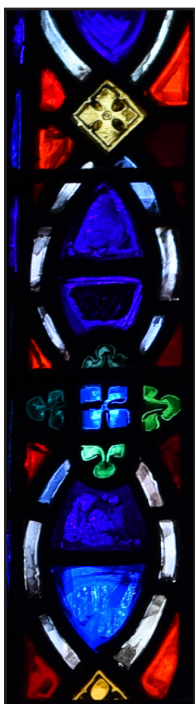
And those of us who were there—we were changed. The music didn't just fill the Cathedral. It settled into us. It showed us something true: that when things fall apart, we can still make music with what remains.

Nathan's recital wasn't exactly as he'd hoped. But it was honest. And maybe that's what makes it unforgettable. It didn't shine with brilliance alone—it radiated presence.

Sometimes we imagine grace to be something rare or supernatural. But grace can be as simple as not turning away when things are difficult. Grace can be the willingness to stay open, even when the wind dies.

And perhaps, in the end, this is the heart of spiritual practice: to be with whatever comes—without needing it to be different—trusting that even in limitation, even in loss, we can still take the next right step, and let it be enough.





This SUNDAY

JULY 6, 2025 • The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 9, Year C

Isaiah 66:10-14 • Psalm 66:1-8 • Galatians 6:7-16 • Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

8:45 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M. IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

CATHEDRALATL.ORG / THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PHILIP APP / FACEBOOK / YOUTUBE

7:45 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST, MIKELL CHAPEL

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST, CATHEDRAL

Celebrant: The Rev. Canon Salmoon Bashir

Preacher: The Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener

Cathedral Choir:

Harold Friedell (1905-1958), *Draw us in the Spirit's tether*

Thomas Dorsey (1899-1993), *arr. Arnold Sevier* (b. 1949), *Precious Lord*

11:15 A.M. LA SANTA EUCARISTÍA (SPANISH), MIKELL CHAPEL

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Thee Smith

Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval

ADULT *Education*

THIS SUNDAY JULY 6

The Summer of Hope: A Sunday Morning Series Featuring Cathedral Outreach Ministries, *Child Hall, 10:10 a.m.*

Feeling low on hope these days? Wondering what any of us can do to make a difference in our broken and troubled world?

Join us in Child Hall at 10:10 a.m. to hear from representatives of some of our Cathedral outreach ministries. **This Sunday, July 6**, Joe Iarocci, Interim Executive Director, and David-Lee Mattison, Chief Program Officer of Emmaus House will explain how Emmaus House benefits the community of Reynoldstown and discuss the importance of the Freedom School summer program and its long-term impacts on students' literacy levels.

This series will feature education, inspiration, good fellowship, and an invitation to take heart! For more information, please contact the Rev. Julia Mitchener, Canon for Mission, julia.mitchener@cathedralATL.org.

Sunday School in the Shade!, 10:10 a.m., *Treehouse Playground*
During the summer, join Godly Play Parents and their children on the Treehouse playground! The Treehouse playground is on the first floor, to the right of the elevators off of the Well.

Hispanic Bible Study

10:10 a.m., *Room 120*

Join the Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval for Bible study in Spanish.

Enjoy Biblical Greek! 1:15 p.m., *Room 239 and on Zoom*

Open to beginners, this class includes long-term members who translate using grammar aids, lexicons and commentaries, enjoying how the Greek text reveals nuance and depth in scripture.

PARISH *Life*

Ice Cream Social!
AUGUST 9
\$25 ADULTS | \$10 KIDS
KIDS 4 AND UNDER ARE FREE!
TWO SEATINGS: 11 A.M.-12 P.M. & 1230 P.M.-1 P.M.
GET TICKETS AT [ONECAUSE/ICECREAM](https://onecause.org/icecream)

SOFTBALL PLAYERS WANTED!

The Cathedral men's softball team is looking for new players and talent for the upcoming season. Games are played weekly in Buckhead during the summer and fall, usually on Monday or Wednesday evenings. The team has won many championships in the past and looking to add another this season. Open to men ages 15 and up, all levels are welcome—from novice to ringers! Please visit cathedralATL.org/softball to indicate interest or contact Warren Barnes with questions. Play ball!

PRAYER *List*

FOR THOSE WITH IMMEDIATE NEEDS: John M. DeBorde IV

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING:

LONG TERM PRAYERS: Harris Allen • R. Huntley Allen • Betsy Bacon • Lucy Baker • Ed Black • Ann and Frank Blackistone, Jr. • Larry Boggs • Ian Bond • Lawrence Booker • Cheryl Bryant • The Bryant Family • The Crossley Family • Heather Cummings • Rita Daly • Jerri Darnell • Debbie Dewees • Mary Wayne Dixon • Sharon Douglas • Phoebe Forio • Brad Foresythe • Carolyn Foster • Tom Frolik • Susan Gavalis • Heather Huber • Gena Inman • Jane Jones • Bennie King • Lisa Krysiak • Bonnie Lamberth • Virginia LaMon • William Lane • Liza Lanier • Robert Lewis • Stewart Long, Jr. • Jill Mahaffey • Kit Mason • Tommy Mason • Floyd McRae • Sally Menning • Graham Mulling • Jim Myrick • Charlie Neal • Lori Hegwood Owens • Marian Palmore • Patti Parker • Jim Powell • Robert Garry Pryor • Nancy Qarmout • Amelia Randall • Buddy Redd • Rubye Reid • Lorraine Reynolds • Barbara Rice • Bob Riggins • Agnes Elizabeth Robertson • Bill Roth • Kay Sanders • Nancy Sanders • Elizabeth Sandoval • Louis "Skip" Schueddig • Roberta Shields • Bronnie Smith • Tommy Truesdale • Art Vinson • Susan Wilson

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Josephine Rose Adams • Layen Adelman • Carrie Andrews • Ray and Pat Bell • Jason Borland • Marianna Bortner • Jason Brady • Trip Bray • Dennis and Robin Bridges • Saint Legend Brown • Chaz Brownfield • Beverly Brownlee • William Brownlee • Anne Bumbak • Memory Calame • Lila Jo Callaway • JoAnn Carrin • Roanne Chandraratna • Stephen Chaussinand • Anna Clifford • Linda Connelly • Ellen Cordova • Ava Corroon • Bob Coatney • Joseph DeWeese • Leigh Eigel • Mary Kent Ellis • Marilyn Epstein • Adam Freeman • Kyle Garcia • David Garlock • Ann George • Terry Gilliam • Nikki Greenaway • Kerry Gresham • Ted Hackett • Harold Ham • Ryan Hamilton • Joanne Dopp Hamlyn • Carole Ann Harris • Shirley Helmke • Keith Hinze • Lisa Hoybach • Jane Hunnicutt • Beth Ingle • William Irwin • Jane Jackson • Farley Jenkins, Sr. • Curtis Jones • DaNae Sobeautiful Arzelia Jones • Margaret Jones • Delores and Lee Josephs • Patricia Kasm • Mary Weston Klein • Charles Lewis • Pete Livezey • David Lowry • Carolyn R. Lusk • Lauren Makhoulf • Charles Robert Marsh, Jr. • Elaine Metcalf • Iris Miller • Jon Moravec • Tom Myer • Augusta Horsey Nash • Fred Neuschel • Linus Nickel • Alfredo Paniagua • Stephen Pararo • Andrew Pittman • Melonnye Puckett • David Raj • Hugh Rippes • Terri Robertson • Sandra Schrauf • Einar Sagstuen • Ernest Sandoval • James Sands • Patricia Schooley • Lelia Sinclair • Alice Smith-Mather • Michael and Kathryn Snider • Izzy Straus • Cleary Tanner • Pierson Thames • Anthony Torre • Debbie Trawick • Leopoldo Velita • Pat Volpicella • Alex Wade • Suzette Walling • Thomas Watford • John Wilmer • Cortney and Carey Woodall • Christie Woodfin • Cutler Woodfin • Hollis Youngner

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Lucy Horne Leath • Cassandra Morris

The CATHEDRAL of ST. PHILIP

The Very Rev. Samuel G. Candler, *Dean*

Dale Adelman, Ph.D., *Canon for Music*

The Rev. Canon Salmoon Bashir,

Canon for Liturgy and Ecumenism

The Rev. Canon David E. Boyd III, *Canon for Pastoral Care*

The Rev. Canon Ashley Carr, *Canon for Parish Life*

The Rev. Canon George M. Maxwell, Jr., *Vicar*

The Rev. Canon Julia B. Mitchener, *Canon for Mission*

The Rev. Deacon Linda Rosengren

The Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval,

Deacon for Hispanic Ministries and Pastoral Care

The Rev. Theophus "Thee" Smith, Ph.D., *Priest Associate*

Geoff DeLong, *Senior Warden*

Mary Hall Perrin, *Junior Warden*

CATHEDRAL TIMES SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

FOR THE **SUNDAY, JULY 13** ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, JULY 2**. FOR THE **SUNDAY, JULY 20** ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, JULY 9**.

TO RECEIVE THE TIMES BY EMAIL:

CONTACT LIZ AULL, LAULL@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST:

CONTACT SARA CRAIG-GOODSELL,
SCRAIGGOODELL@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

404-365-1000 | cathedralATL.org

pastoral care emergency line:

404-365-1003



CATHEDRALATL



12-STEP GROUPS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Open AA Meeting

Lanier House, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Lanier House Library, Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

New Beginnings: Family Al-Anon

Room 120, Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

Families Anonymous

Lanier House and on Zoom, Thursdays, 7 p.m.

Peachtree Al-Anon Family Group

Lanier House, Fridays, 10:30 a.m.

All 12-step groups at the Cathedral are free and open to the public. For more information or questions, please contact the Rev. Canon David Boyd, david.boyd@cathedralATL.org.



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OUTREACH

SUMMER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Want to make a difference in the life of neighbors in need during the hot and challenging days of an Atlanta summer? Looking for a bonding experience for your family or small group? Have kids looking for service hours for school? There are many flexible options for volunteering with our Cathedral outreach partners this summer. Several, like Intown Cares and Open Hand Atlanta, have last-minute opportunities for which you can sign up online. For more information or to get on the schedule to help, please contact the Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener, julia.mitchener@cathedralATL.org.

GOOD FAITH CHAPEL



In the past month in the Good Faith Chapel, new boilers have been installed, steel work completed, and the chapel roof and outside walls have been sheathed. In addition, mechanical, electrical, and sprinkler work has commenced in earnest. Off-site, the fabrication of the altar, dais, and clergy seating continues. The chapel space is now clearly defined and it all looks beautiful!

In July, we are excited about the “topping out” of the Chapel with the installation of the oculus, one of the defining features of the Good Faith Chapel. Dean Candler notes that the oculus will serve as “an eyepiece to the heavens, the transcendent, and to God.” Over the past several months, the twenty-foot wide, 3-inch thick, lens shaped oculus has been manufactured in western Colorado. In the next few days, it will be transported across the country and delivered to the Cathedral just after the 4th of July, with installation planned for **Wednesday, July 9**. In addition, installation of the slate roof, exterior stone, and interior walls will continue in July.

The 4th Annual Cathedral of St. Philip
★ PARISH BBQ ★

August 24
5:30 p.m.

Live Bluegrass Music

Ages 12+: \$12 / Ages 4-11: \$8
Ages 3 and under are free
Registration coming soon!