

The CATHEDRAL TIMES

The weekly newsletter of the Cathedral of St. Philip · Serving Atlanta and the World · June 21, 2026

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR THE JET SKIS

by the Rev. Canon Ashley Carr, *Canon for Parish Life*

One day this spring, I was gearing up for a pastoral visit at the Shepherd Center. Given that this hospital specializes in spinal cord and traumatic brain injuries, it's not a place that I often visit. Between you and me, I do not like going to hospitals. Eleven years a priest, and it's never gotten easier to walk into those buildings. I've never grown accustomed to the sights and smells, and the emotional toll, while worth it, weighs heavily on my heart. So, I was pre-sad before going to the Shepherd Center. I knew what I would see. I knew I'd see so many people with life altering injuries there with their families grieving a life that could have been. I knew I'd see sad souls whose bodies felt like strangers. I knew it was going to suck.

What I didn't know is that as I wound through the parking deck there would be jet skis (wave runners? What's the difference?). To my surprise, parked right there on level one were several jet skis, dusty from their winter slumber. What were they for? What water do they go in? Who uses them? I couldn't imagine their purpose, but the edges of my mouth tugged a bit and I found myself smiling.

Inside the hospital, as predicted, there were many people with life-altering injuries that incapacitated parts of their bodies and minds. But it wasn't sad. Here were these people in this immaculate facility smiling, joking, and being ushered around by cheerful medical professionals, sometimes four or five to one patient at a time. There were wild contraptions to lift and move, to encourage and heal like nothing I've ever seen in any other hospital. A pool, balls of all shapes and sizes, even a dog! Astonished, I remembered the jet skis and found myself smiling, again.

The situation with this friend I saw was difficult and sad, but we told jokes, prayed, and cried together, as we do next to hospital beds. I walked out of the room and down the hall, past all of these souls working so hard for their own lives and the lives of others, and through leftover tears, I found myself smiling. I was flooded with something that I can only now make sense of as hope. Not some theoretical nebulous idea of hope, but real God-given hope that assures us that come what may, life, or a bit more time could be possible and maybe even good.

Whether you think of hope as waiting, like in the Hebrew Bible, or as trust and confident expectation as in the New Testament, there are stories upon stories of the faithful grounding their entire beings on the idea that God will act, hope. Jeremiah, Isaiah, Paul, and Jesus himself encourage us to anchor ourselves in the assurance of hope. Things might still suck, but there might be unimaginable possibilities in God's handiwork.

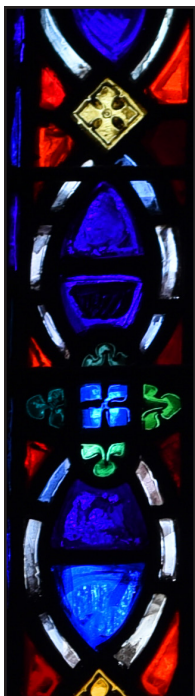
At the Shepherd Center, I figured that all hope was lost. Instead, I saw these lives that might have gone one way now going in a new direction, and while that may be difficult, and the outcome might not be the life one imagined, still the spirit of hope prevails. Because hope is strong enough to carry grief alongside the promise of newfound God-given abilities and strengths, or even a cheerful soul at the bedside. Alongside with the inevitable physical and emotional pain of dreams laid to rest is God's creative handiwork that puts us on jet skis when he isn't done with us quite yet.

I don't know the stories, the newly impossible dreams, or the pain of anyone at the Shepherd Center. I don't even have a clue what those jet skis are used for, and I don't really want to know. I do know a wonderful and creative God who acts in the most surprising and sometimes downright strange ways. To see hope alive in a place that, to an unknowing observer, might seem like a container for despair, reminds me that no matter where we are and what's happening, God is here and we can anchor our hope in that assurance, whatever the outcome may be. It sure is easy to lose hope in the grim realities of life, so thanks be to God for the jet skis that remind us.

This Sunday, June 21!

The Cathedral of St. Philip welcomes the Very Rev. Andrew Tremlett, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, to preach at the 8:45 and 11:15 a.m. services!

And, at a special Dean's Forum, Dean Sam Candler will talk about the Good Faith Chapel! He will review the vision for that glorious space, but he will begin with a brief history of the Cathedral of St. Philip and how we got to this place! (The Good Faith Chapel is on schedule to be completed this month, but we have already begun praying in it. Join us!)



This SUNDAY

JUNE 21, 2026 • The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 7, Year A
Jeremiah 20:7-13 • Psalm 69: 8-11, 18-20 • Romans 6:1b-11 • Matthew 10:24-39

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 David Boyd

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

Celebrant: The Very Rev. Sam Candler

Preacher: The Very Rev. Andrew Tremlett, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London

Cathedral Singers:

Paul Caldwell (b. 1963) & Sean Ivory (b. 1969), *Ain't no grave can hold me down*

Ēriks Ešēvalds (b. 1977), *Salutation*

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

Officiant and Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval

A CONCERT IN CELEBRATION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Friday, July 3, 7:30 p.m., Cathedral

The Chenault Duo

Chase Loomer & Nolan Anthony, organists

Revel in a night of American and patriotic music with performances by world-renowned organists The Chenault Duo, along with master improviser Chase Loomer and Cathedral organ intern Nolan Anthony. Admission is free and all are welcome.



STEWARDSHIP



SUPPORT CATHEDRAL CONCERTS

The Cathedral is renowned for its fantastic annual concert series. The 2025-2026 year included the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra, Polyphony, Atlanta Symphony Brass, VOCES8, the Choir of Westminster Abbey and multiple concert performances by the Cathedral Choir and Schola. These concerts and others would not be possible without the Cathedral Concert Series Endowment Fund. Thanks to generous donors, the Cathedral maintains a worldwide reputation for excellence in sacred music concerts. To help continue to bring extraordinary musical talent to the Cathedral, please contact David Rocchio at drocchio@cathedralATL.org or 404-365-1033.

NEW MEMBERS

Natasha Bardowell from Perth Amboy, New Jersey

John and Kathleen Larson from Arden, North Carolina and
Asheville, North Carolina

Whitaker Swann from Washington, DC

PRAYER *List*

FOR THOSE WITH IMMEDIATE NEEDS: David Fishburn • Victoria Leigh Hartness

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING:

LONG TERM PRAYERS: Randy Allen • R. Huntley Allen • Lucy Baker • Benjamin Bao • Ann and Frank Blackistone, Jr. • Larry Boggs • Ian Bond • Stacy Boyd • The Bryant Family • Don Cameron • The Crossley Family • Rita Daly • Jerri Darnell • Jean Davis • Laura Demo-Anderson • Debbie Dewees • Sharon Douglas • Lucy Draper • Janet Harrison Estes • Max Ferguson • Phoebe Forio • Brad Foresythe • Susan Gavalis • Jenny Ham • Heather Huber • Melanie Johnson • Bennie King • Karen Klein • Lisa Krysiak • Bonnie Lamberth • Charles Lane • Jill Mahaffey • Barbara Maples • Tommy Mason • Marlene Matthews-Muniz • Clyde May • Wynetta McNeill • Floyd McRae • Sally Menning • Glenn Miller • Susannah Morgan • Graham Mulling • Jim Myrick • Charlie Neal • Leo Ortiz • Lori Hegwood Owens • Marian Palmore • Patti Parker • Brenda Pruitt • Rubye Reid • Lorraine Reynolds • Barbara Rice • Lisa Rowe • Lisa Staats • Louis “Skip” Schueddig • Taylor Shailendra • Roberta Shields • Bronnie Smith • Fair Sutherlin • Richard Swanson • Tommy Truesdale • Art Vinson • Jim Wilson

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Frank Adams • Josephine Rose Adams • Frank Armstrong • Alexander Collins Astrop • Savannah Biven • Walter Boleman • Brenda Bootle • Marianna Bortner • Jason Brady • Trip Bray • Dennis and Robin Bridges • Saint Legend Brown • Beverly Brownlee • Geneveive Brownlee • Anne Bumbak • Grace Burnias • Lila Jo Callaway • Anna Clifford • Andrea Cody • Sally Coleman • Beatrice “Bea” Comstock • Linda Connelly • Inaam Copt • Ava Corroon • Barbara Daniel • Henry “Hank” Diversi • Marty Dunn • Nancy Ehringer • Mary Kent Ellis • Marilyn Epstein • Martha Flory • Pete Fonash • JT Foster • Kyle Garcia • Laura Gardner • Ann George • Emily Giesen • Alexis Grace • Peter Grandell • Nikki Greenaway • Thomas E. Glynn • Dub Gulley • Ted Hackett • Nicholas Hadden • Harold Ham • McKee Hamilton • Josh Hargraves • Shirley Helmke • Keith Hinze • Lisa Hoybach • Jane Hunnicutt • Cherish Huntley • Wayne Huerth • Beth Ingle • William Irwin • Richard Jacobson • Dilini Jayawardena • Rhett Jayne • Farley Jenkins, Sr. • Margaret Maples Jones • Woody Jones • Delores and Lee Josephs • Patricia Kasm • Christopher Keltz • Mary Weston Klein • Gary Laney • Doris Little • Pete Livezey • Henry Long • Lauren Makhlof • Dawn and David Mayers • Stephen McCain • Hailey McKeefry • Barry Miller • Iris Miller • Jon Moravec • Larry Mortimer • Tom Myer • Augusta Horsey Nash • Fred Neuschel • Linus Nickel • Ramona O’Neill • Jeff Pace • Alfredo Paniagua • Stephen Pararo • Anna Lilia Diaz Parra • Jacquelin Bennett Phillips • Kevin Race • Lisa Randall • Paul Reeves • Hugh Ripp • Charlie Roberts • Mr. and Mrs. William Rowe • Einar Sagstuen • Don Saliers • Ernest Sandoval • Krista Sandoval • Patricia Schooley • Lelia Sinclair • Alice Smith-Mather • Michael and Kathryn Snider • Laura Snyder • Doug Stapp • Izzy Straus • Dan Sullivan • Jan Swanson • Ted Tarantino • Pierson Thames • Cliff Thompson • Charles Vaughan • Angel Vega • Leopoldo Velita • Pat Volpicella • Dan Walls • Ron Winston • Cutler Woodfin • Sylvia Wright • Gordy Grayson Wyatt • Hollis Youngner

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Carol Kelley • Edwin Hernandez Mayen • Kari Pekar

FOR THOSE WHO WERE BORN: “James” Matthew Anthony III, son of Casey and Matthew Anthony, grandson of Beth and Matt Anthony, and great grandson of Tish Radford

The CATHEDRAL of ST. PHILIP

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

Dale Adelmann, 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*

Haven Long, *Senior Warden*

Mary Hall Perrin, *Junior Warden*

CATHEDRAL TIMES SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

FOR THE **SUNDAY, JUNE 28** ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17**. FOR THE **SUNDAY, JULY 5**, ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24**.

TO RECEIVE THE TIMES BY EMAIL:

CONTACT LIZ AULL, LAULL@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST:

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

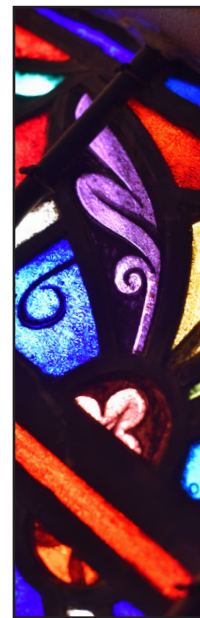
404-365-1000 | cathedralATL.org

pastoral care emergency line:

404-365-1003



CATHEDRALATL



This Sunday, June 21, we welcome the Very Rev. Andrew Tremlett, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London! Dean Tremlett will preach at the 8:45 and 11:15 a.m. services. At St. Paul's, he oversees a growing schedule of services and special events. Dean Tremlett was previously the Dean of Durham, and the Rector of St. Margaret's Church at Westminster Abbey. Earlier in his career, he served as a Curate in and then Chaplain to the Mission to Seafarers, and Assistant Chaplain to the Anglican Church in Rotterdam. He went on to serve in posts in the Dioceses of Portsmouth and Chichester, as well as Canon Residentiary and Keeper of the Fabric at Bristol Cathedral where he was Acting Dean. Welcome, Dean Tremlett!



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A Special Dean's Forum

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ALL GOD'S CHILDREN


The CATHEDRAL of ST PHILIP

Sunday June 28, 1:00 p.m.

Mister O1 Extraordinary Pizza Buckhead
3699 Lenox Rd NE, Ste 2

Join us to celebrate Pride 2026 with All God's Children, the Cathedral of St. Philip's ministry to support LGBTQ+ people and allies. Feel free to attend the 11:15 a.m. service then come to lunch after for fun and fellowship!

Please RSVP at cathedralATL.org/2026Pride.

OUTREACH



CAN YOU HELP THE HUNGRY?

Join your fellow parishioners in meaningful outreach to our neighbors facing food insecurity and/or loneliness

Through a new weekly offering called "Lunch Together," the Cathedral will provide a free nutritious meal to our neighbors each Friday. Volunteers are needed to serve plates in the buffet line as well as to refill drinks, assist with setup and cleanup, and show hospitality to our friends from the wider community.

Youth ages 11 and up are welcome to take part, as are children ages 8 and up when accompanied by a parent or guardian. Lunch Together will occur in the parking lot near the picnic tables each Friday from 12-2 p.m. through August 14.

Please sign up to volunteer at cathedralATL.org/lunchtogether and contact the Rev. Julia Mitchener, Canon for Mission, with any questions, julia.mitchener@cathedralATL.org.