

The CATHEDRAL TIMES

The weekly newsletter of the Cathedral of St. Philip · Serving Atlanta and the World · July 12, 2026

FREE FROM KEEPING SCORE

by the Rev. Canon David Boyd, *Canon for Pastoral Care*

I have an apology to make.

On May 24, I declared from the pulpit that the Braves were the best team in baseball. I still believe this in my heart, but the superstitious sports fan in me has to reckon with the possibility that I put a vexatious curse on my beloved Braves the moment I said it. If so, I am sorry!

After an incredible April and May, June was a regression to the mean. Our double-digit division lead has dwindled to a few games. Drake Baldwin was out, Acuña's injured, the pitching has been frustrating, and we can't seem to win in extra-innings. It's been a rough stretch of below .500 baseball.

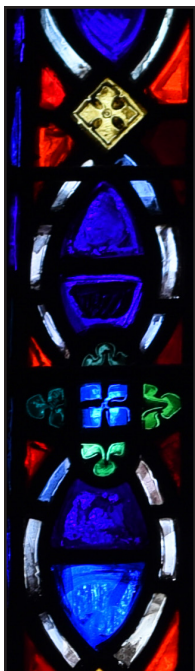
I do not want to be a fair-weather fan. Yes, it's very fun to support a team when winning feels almost guaranteed. It's also very hard to watch the team you love get batted around by bad teams like the Mets and the Giants. I confess, I've found myself tuning in to watch more World Cup soccer than Major League Baseball in the last few weeks, though it seems Belgium has cured me of that in 4-1 fashion. But it still makes me pause: am I more loyal to the idea of winning than I am to the team itself?

One great temptation of life is keeping score, tracking the various wins and losses of our lives. In the wins column: good health, loving family, devoted friends, financial security, etc. In the loss column: difficult diagnoses, fractured relationships, persistent loneliness, financial hardship, and the rest. On the whole, we assume a well-lived life should finish above .500. Anything less than that, we run the risk of developing resentment, frustration, and apathy.

And yet, enjoying a life of faith is so much more than evaluating outcomes. As much fun as statistics can be, baseball is more than sabermetrics and box scores. Even in the midst of a slump, there is beauty all around the diamond, if we have eyes to see beyond the scoreboard. The pop of the glove and the crack of the bat, a diving stop, a leaping catch. The bombastic excitement of the long ball, the sneaky strategy of a well placed bunt. My team or their team, a great play is a great play. There's ritual and tradition, the awareness of a much larger story being written pitch by pitch. Win or lose, the game is beautifully wondrous.

As Canon for Pastoral Care, it is a privilege to witness with you the many graces found amidst the hardships of life. Healing, reconciliation, peace, and joy abound in your homes and hospital rooms, even to the very end. I give thanks for your resurrection hope and your boldness to proclaim Alleluia at the graveside. Thank you for blessing this community with your faith and your perseverance.

I do not want to be a fair-weather fan. When life gets hard and it feels like the losses are piling up, I do not want to tune out and miss out on the beauty and wonder God gives us through the grace of the Holy Spirit. If you find yourself in the midst of a summer slump, this is my prayer for you: May God free you from keeping score and open your eyes to the wonder right in front of you, the ordinary graces of this day, whatever this day holds. Amen.



This SUNDAY

JULY 12, 2026 • The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 10, Year A

Isaiah 55:10-13 • Psalm 65: 1-14 • Romans 8:1-11 • Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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 David Boyd

Preacher: The Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener

Cathedral Choir:

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

Spiritual, arr. Dale Adelman, *Steal away to Jesus*

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

Officiant and Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Iñaki Guevara-Cuence

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 provides 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 occurs 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.

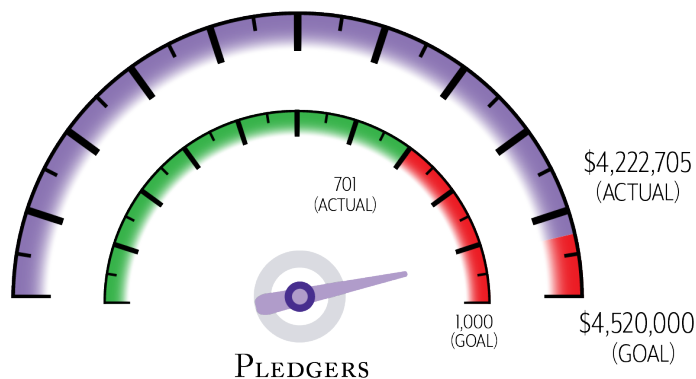
BOTTLED WATER DRIVE

Sunday, July 2–Sunday, August 16

Did you know that asphalt can reach 150°F in the summer? That kind of heat makes being outside in the city unbearably hot. Help us keep our neighbors cool by donating cases of bottled water to Crossroads Community Ministries for them to distribute through their street outreach teams! We'll collect water in the Atrium starting Sunday, July 12 through Homecoming Sunday, August 16.

STEWARDSHIP

PLEDGES



PLEDGERS

ABOUT \$300,000 TO GO FOR ANNUAL PLEDGE CAMPAIGN!

Pledgers: 701

Dollars: \$4,222,705

The Cathedral community continues to respond positively to the financial needs of the church. So many wonderful things are happening at the Cathedral this summer—Lunch Together with our neighbors, blessing runners, patriotic musical concerts, new services in the Good Faith Chapel! Your financial support helps support this incredible work. In the past month, almost \$150,000 has been pledged and we are now about \$300,000 from our budgeted amount for annual pledges. Thanks to the almost 700 households that have already made a pledge! And if you haven't yet, please visit cathedralATL.org/pledge.

PRAYER *List*

FOR THOSE WITH IMMEDIATE NEEDS: Lucy Draper • Lisa Krysiak • Millicent Miller • Patricia Payne-White

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 • Jeff Bonnell • Lawrence Booker • Stacy Boyd • The Bryant Family • Don Cameron • Alex Cann • The Crossley Family • Rita Daly • Jerri Darnell • Jean Davis • Laura Demo-Anderson • Debbie Dewees • Sharon Douglas • Janet Harrison Estes • Max Ferguson • Phoebe Forio • Brad Foresythe • Susan Gavalis • Jenny Ham • Heather Huber • Melanie Johnson • Bennie King • Karen Klein • 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 • Mercy Elyon • Marilyn Epstein • Elaine Escher • 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 • Victoria Leigh Hartness • 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 • Paul Reeves • Hugh Ripps • Charlie Roberts • Mr. and Mrs. William Rowe • Einar Sagstuen • Don Saliers • Ernest Sandoval • Krista Sandoval • Patricia Schooley • Pam Shannon • 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: Christopher Hudson

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, JULY 19** ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, JULY 8**. FOR THE **SUNDAY, JULY 26**, ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, JULY 15**.

TO RECEIVE THE TIMES BY EMAIL:

CONTACT LIZ AULL, LAULL@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST:

CONTACT DAN MURPHY,
DMURPHY@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

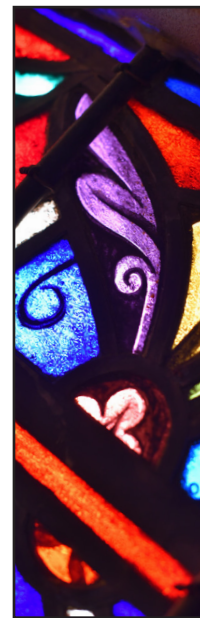
404-365-1000 | cathedralATL.org

pastoral care emergency line:

404-365-1003



CATHEDRALATL



WORSHIP



CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE

Wednesday, July 22

6 p.m., Good Faith Chapel

On July 22, the Cathedral will host a contemplative service of Evening Prayer honoring the life and ministry of St. Mary Magdalene. Known as the “Apostle to the Apostles,” Mary was entrusted to bring the news of Jesus’ resurrection to the other disciples and to share her experience of meeting the risen Christ outside the tomb.

We will gather in the Good Faith Chapel at 6 p.m. If you would like, wear red, and feel free to bring a friend. Afterwards, on the patio outside the chapel, we will enjoy fellowship over spice cakes and tea. Have questions? Please contact the Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener, julia.mitchener@cathedralATL.org.



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Adult EDUCATION

THIS SUNDAY, JULY 12

Summer of Hope

10:10 a.m., Child Hall

Join us in Child Hall on Sunday mornings for the second annual “Summer of Hope.” This speaker series sponsored by the Outreach Ministry will focus on the Cathedral’s many new and continuing ministries offering relationship, encouragement, advocacy, support, joy, and purpose in partnership with our most vulnerable neighbors.

Speakers will range from Cathedral clergy and lay leaders to representatives from our outreach partners in the wider community and others who strive to make Atlanta an ever more just and peaceful place to live.

Come to listen, learn, ask questions, and be inspired. Find out how, yes, you can make a difference in the midst of a world facing seemingly insurmountable challenges. Come to dream; come to hope!

This Sunday, July 12: Just Because Something is Impossible Doesn’t Mean You Shouldn’t Do It! Join the Rev. Julia Mitchener, Canon for Mission, for an overview of Outreach Ministries at the Cathedral, including updates on several exciting new programs. Topics will include how the Cathedral is addressing the dramatically increasing hardships experienced by so many these days and updates on several newly endowed outreach funds.

Godly Play Parents

10:10 a.m., Treehouse Playground

Sunday School in the Shade! 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.

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.

The fifth annual Cathedral of St. Philip
PARISH BBQ
August 23
5:30 p.m.
Live Bluegrass Music
Ages 12+: \$12 / Ages 4-11: \$8
Ages 3 and under are free.
Please do not let financial constraints prevent you from attending. Contact Ashley Carr at ashley.carr@cathedralATL.org for confidential financial assistance.