



Meet Andrew Kreckmann, our new Director of Music Ministries



It is a pleasure to announce that Andrew Kreckmann has accepted St. John's offer to become the church's next Director of Music Ministries. Andrew was selected from a pool of outstanding candidates in a process that involved pastors, choir members, Worship Committee members, and SPRC members.

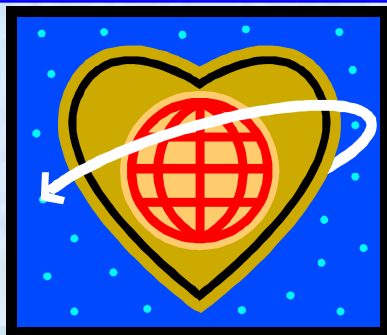
In addition to being an accomplished conductor, vocalist, and pianist, Andrew is an energetic and dynamic person. He understands and appreciates the kind of sacred music that is so dear to St. John's and he also, in the spirit of our Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations, seems well-positioned to enhance our pursuit of passionate worship and intentional faith development.

Andrew is currently pursuing a doctorate in choral conducting at Texas Tech. He earned his undergraduate degree in choral music education from the University of Delaware and his master's degree in choral conducting from Michigan State.

Andrew has had a wide variety of conducting, performing, and teaching experience in churches, communities, and schools. He was Teacher of the Year at Morris Knolls High School in Rockaway, New Jersey, where he was Director of Choral Activities from 2004 to 2008. He was Director of Music for St. Michael Parish in Grand Ledge, Michigan from 2008 to 2010. He has also led choral camps, taken choirs on tour, given private voice lessons, and accompanied and directed various secondary and collegiate choirs.

This summer, Andrew will be fulfilling prior professional commitments on the east coast but will be participating in our search for an organist and will be working with Archie to prepare for musical offerings after the choir returns from its usual July break. We look forward to welcoming Andrew in person during the month of August.

Mary Jane Hurst
SPRC Chair



*Open hearts,
Open arms,
Open minds*

*With open hearts, open arms and open minds,
we welcome you to St. John's United Methodist
Church and invite you to join our community
of faith, for a day, a week or a lifetime.*

**Weekly Sunday
Opportunities**

- 8:15 a.m. Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Hour
- 10:15 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 5:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth
(Senior High)

1501 University Ave.
Lubbock, TX 79401
806-762-0123
fax: 806-762-0130

Email: openminds@stjohnslubbock.org

Web: www.stjohnslubbock.org

Saint John's Staff

Senior Pastor: Archie Echols
Associate Pastor: Daniel Echols
Associate Pastor: Ann Akin
Pastor Emeritus: Ted Dotts
Minister of Christian Ed.: David Cameron
Business Manager: Dennis Howard
Facilities Supervisor: Cedric Robins
Childcare Director: Trisha Castillo
Youth Summer Intern: Matt Bell
Admin. Asst./Editor: Mary Ruth Thurmond



PASTOR'S NOTE

Christ is Risen! We have heard the good news, and have celebrated Eastertide for the last few weeks. As the Church, we are called to proclaim this good news to a world that longs for healing, and to a people who hunger for love and acceptance. Last weekend at Annual Conference, I was reminded of our calling as the people of St. John's.

A resolution had been submitted by St. John's to further promote intentional dialogue within the conference around homosexuality. The resolution was beautifully written. I found myself hopeful. As the discussion on the floor of the Conference progressed, the tension in the room escalated. Several people came to microphones and presented their opinions as to why this dialogue was unnecessary. But then, something wonderful happened. One of our delegates, Jeff Watson, approached microphone #1. With his gentle spirit and articulate words, he told his own story of Easter. He shared how he had always felt unwelcome in the Church. He shared how deadly the silence can be, and how he had even considered taking his own life. He told about how he found hospitality and welcome in a United Methodist Church – St. John's. For the first time in his life, he could be honest about his identity, and openly proclaim himself as a child of God. He showed by his testimony and example just how important it is that the silence around homosexuality is broken. He gave thanks for the hospitality and love he has felt from St. John's.

One could have heard a pin drop in that room. Here was a *person* – Jeff. For the first time in the history of the Northwest Texas Annual Conference, a gay man had come forward with a personal message of justice, hope, and healing. "Those people" now had a face and a name. Courage was born out of love.

I cannot describe the gratitude I feel for St. John's. I am so honored to be able to serve in a church whose mission is to bring the message of reconciliation for all people. Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

Ann Akin

Lectionary Scripture Readings

June 19: Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8;
2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

June 26: Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13;
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42

**If you know of any St. John's church
members going into the hospital,
please contact the church office at 762-0123
or openminds@stjohnslubbock.org.**

**If you have changed your phone #, home or
e-mail address, call the church office.**

From the Editor: Thanks for this issue go to Mary Jane Hurst, Ann Akin, Leslie Cranford, Craig Rutherford, Leilani Fillhard, David Cameron, Gloria Hille, VelvetLee Finckbone, Larry Howard, Daniel Echols, Mary Vines, Roy Goodloe, Nancy Cammack, Donna Echols, and Matt Bell. Eternal thanks go to St. John's own answer to the Energizer Bunny, the Merry Mailers (they keep going and going)! Please send me lots more "stuff" to include next time. (Apologies to any USPS personnel about the phrase "snail mail" in the last issue. No slight was intended.) **Next newsletter deadline: June 24.** Later! mrt



Spirit Wind Concert (and Ice Cream Social)

Spirit Wind is the official Youth Choir of the Northwest Texas Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church and these youth share the word of Christ through music while building Christian community through fellowship. The 2011 Spirit Wind Music Director is Dr. David Wallis, Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at McMurry University.

**Spirit Wind will perform here
Friday, June 17, at 6:00 p.m.
All are welcome to attend!
Ice cream social following the concert!!**

Search Opens for St. John's Business Manager

Dennis Howard, who has served as Business Manager over the past six years, has decided that he would like to spend more time with his family and with his growing business. Therefore, the SPRC is beginning a search for St. John's next Business Manager. At this time, we especially encourage inquiries about the position from interested individuals at St. John's, and we also welcome suggestions about appropriate candidates inside or outside the congregation.

The Business Manager is responsible for day-to-day financial management of the church. The position is budgeted as part-time and reports to the Senior Pastor but also works with the Finance and Endowment Committees, the Trustees, and others. Essential duties include, for example, receiving, posting, and tracking all accounts receivable as well as receiving, posting, and making disbursements for all accounts payable; handling payroll; and managing records using a standard software package for churches.

In addition to being responsible for the essential duties of Business Manager, Dennis has also attended to internet/computer issues as well as some building/facilities issues. While it would be an asset for candidates to have experience in those areas, applicants who are well qualified for the essential duties will be considered with or without such additional expertise.

For more information or to express interest, contact one of the pastors or any member of the SPRC (Sally Abbe, Mary Bailey, Mary Jane Hurst, Sally Kennedy, Joy Lawson, Johnny Poff, Jay Sedberry, Darrell Vines, and Jeff Watson).

Mary Jane Hurst, SPRC Chair
maryjane.hurst@gmail.com

Important News from the Missions Committee

Prayer Vigil

We will have a prayer vigil in protest of the death penalty for Milton Mathis on Tuesday, June 21, 5:45-6:15 p.m., in the parking lot.

Fiesta Domingo

Fiesta Domingo is coming up on Sunday, July 3. We need cooks and servers. We will be serving 50 pounds of potato salad (if ten people could bring five pounds each, or five people could bring ten pounds each, that would take care of it). Please call Craig Rutherford at 317-0058 if you can help. We are also serving hot dogs and chips.

HOPE Shalom and Pantry food



June is peanut butter month for our food collection for HOPE Shalom. Thanks to all who gave in May! Our collections were way up!

NOTE: Food donations will go to St. John's food pantry as needed before HOPE Shalom, so we are able to help the people coming to our church in need. Remember, faith without works is like a screen door on a submarine!

Check the Missions bulletin board in the southwest corner of the church for updates and more information!

**VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE
HYMNS THIS SUNDAY AND
EVERY SUNDAY IN JUNE!**

OLD MOTHER HUBBARD WENT TO THE CUPBOARD...

...But when she got there the cupboard was bare... St. John's emergency food pantry is looking a lot like Mother Hubbard's cupboard! This pantry, which provides food for hungry families on a daily basis, needs to be restocked. Needed are canned foods (soup, stew, tuna, meat products, vegetables, fruit), crackers, peanut butter, dry foods, such as spaghetti, noodles, etc., and the sauces to go with them, cereal, and any non-perishable food products.



If you can make a contribution of food, please bring the items to the church. Thank you for your faithfulness in providing for this ministry. Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)

Summer Rotation Sunday School Schedule

For children completing Kindergarten through Fourth Grade
(Fifth Graders are meeting with Junior High for the summer)

Love Your Enemies (June 12-July 17)

Main Idea: Jesus tells us to love and pray for our enemies. It is easy to love people who are nice to us and who love us. Jesus told us to do something harder, to love people who do not show love to us.

Bible Verse: "Treat others just as you want to be treated."
Luke 6:31 (CEV)

- Objectives:** Children will have the opportunity to
- ◆ Explore what Christ said about loving enemies
 - ◆ Consider nonviolent ways to stand against injustice
 - ◆ Practice responding with forgiveness rather than revenge
 - ◆ Consider the impact of praying for one's enemies

Peacemakers (July 24-August 28)

Main Idea: Throughout the Bible we read stories of people who tried to bring peace and justice to all of God's people. Their stories inspire us and help us learn how to be peacemakers today.

Bible Verses:
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Matthew 5:9
"Let justice roll down like waters." Amos 5:34

- Objectives:** Children will have the opportunity to
- ◆ Explore how, even in Bible times, being a peacemaker often took courage and skill
 - ◆ Learn that peacemaking is based in fairness, justice, equality, and love
 - ◆ Make a commitment to being peacemakers in their own homes, schools, and communities

Acolytes Wanted!

Students entering Fourth or Fifth Grade this fall are invited to join Acolytes this summer. See Mrs. Hille for enrollment and making appointment for training. Students entering Third Grade this fall will be invited to join Acolytes in August.

Children's Summer Musical Auditions

(Children completing Kindergarten-5th Grades)

"The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit"

Auditions in the choir room on...

Friday, June 24, Noon-2:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 25, Noon-2:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 26, following the late service

Rehearsals: August 1-5, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Musical Presentation:

Friday evening, August 5, 6:00 p.m., Garden Room

For more information contact Coleen Sedberry.

Opening for Sager Brown Volunteers in Mission Team

September 11-16, 2011

Work in the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Depot sorting and packing supplies for shipment to persons in need because of natural or human-made disasters.

UMCOR serves in 81 countries of the world.

Each year more than 3,000 volunteers go to Sager Brown to give of their time and talents, making this worldwide outreach possible.

Volunteers also needed to help with community projects, provide maintenance around the campus, or work in the sewing room making needed supplies.

Registration deadline: July 1

For more information contact David or Sarah Cameron.

**VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS
THIS SUNDAY AND EVERY
SUNDAY IN JUNE!**



Vacation Bible School

VBS is next week! Help is still desperately needed!!

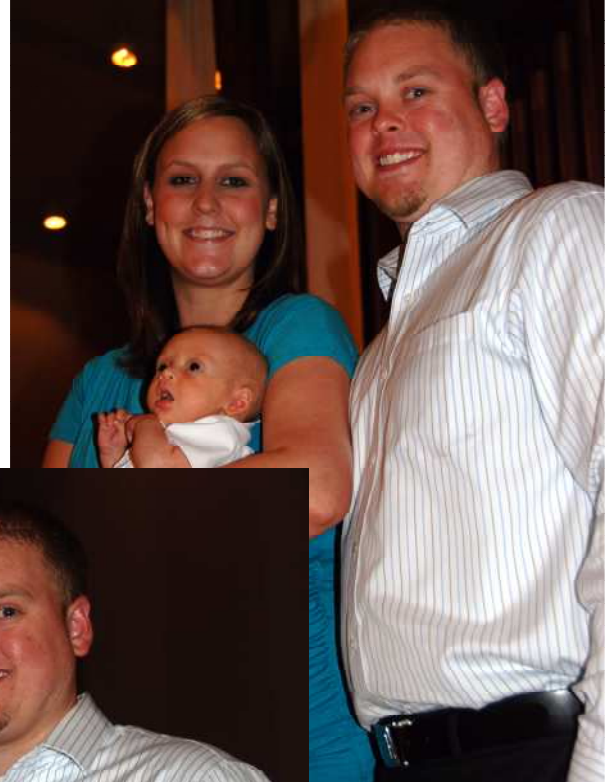
Ways you can help:

- 1) Volunteer to be a station leader or shepherd - this is our most crucial need at the moment. We still need a recreation leader, a music leader, a preschool helper, and at least three shepherds. Even if you can only do it for one or two days, we can work with your schedule.
- 2) Register your children/grandchildren as soon as possible. The first 100 kids to register will get a free t-shirt.
- 3) Invite your family, friends, neighbors.
- 4) Prepare one of our snacks or donate towards our supplies.
- 5) Donate towards our VBS Mission Project: Canned Food Drive to benefit our own St. John's food pantry.
- 6) Come help serve lunch to the kids and clean up.
- 7) Pray for VBS and all the kids we minister to during the week.

Thanks so much for all your help and support,
VelvetLee

Ethan Warren Lindley, our newest member!

Photographs by Larry Howard



All-Church Discussion on Reconciling Ministries

Sunday, June 26, 1:00 p.m.,
in the Garden Room

The Reconciling Committee continues our church-wide discussion on the possibilities for expanding our ministries with gay and lesbian persons in the Lubbock area.

Our commitment to this ministry stands in accord with St. John's Statement of Reconciliation and our long and faithful ministry to persons or groups that have been marginalized by the church and/or society. It has inspired St. John's to welcome PFLAG groups, to receive many gay and lesbian persons into membership, and to baptize their children.

We ask ourselves now to consider what else we are called to do, including the possibility of offering marriage ceremonies within the bounds of United Methodist Church law. Such ceremonies are being offered more each year from churches across the nation and world.

Every voice is welcome and important in this "conferencing Methodists" tradition of discussing faithful ministry responses to the social issues of our day.

So grab some lunch after worship and let's gather as church family on the 26th! Childcare will be provided.

Rev. Daniel Echols, Sharla Boyd,
and the Reconciling Ministries Committee

**VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS
THIS SUNDAY AND
EVERY SUNDAY IN JUNE!**

The Wesley Foundation at Texas Tech Presents:



METHODIST MASTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

In partnership with the Lubbock District of the Northwest Texas Conference, Saturday, July 9, 2011, 8:00 a.m., at Shadow Hills Golf Course, Lubbock. For more information, please call 762-8749 or go to www.ttuwesley.org.

UMW June/July Events

The Dorothy Manning Circle meets
Thursday, June 23, at 6:30 p.m.,
at 50-Yard Line Restaurant,
2549 South Loop 289.



The United Methodist Women and
the United Methodist Men will be teaming up to
provide a meal for the Ronald McDonald House on
Wednesday, July 6.

The School of Christian Mission is in Abilene,
at McMurry University, from July 14-17.

St. John's Neighbors gather at the Cammack A report by Nancy Cammack

It was a real pleasure for us to host the "Neighborhood Gathering" for South Central Lubbock on Sunday afternoon, May 1. It was a nice opportunity to meet with a group ranging from long-term members to folks who were not members at all.

After a few minutes of getting to know each other, we began our guided discussions. What emerged were our statements about our pride in and support of St. John's being affiliated with the Reconciling Ministries Network with its values of tolerance, acceptance and inclusion, and how it lay at the core of our faith, binding us together and to St. John's. We were also in agreement as to the importance of our Sunday school classes in fostering a sense of community and supporting interpersonal relationships in a small group setting. Our group would like to continue these neighborhood gatherings, as it is another way of connecting directly with a diverse group of church members.

After our discussion, we were finally "allowed" to sample the wonderful food we had brought to share, and to enjoy some social time with each other.

Soul Sisters Opportunities

The Thursday group meets June 16, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Margie Sorley, 3312 55th St. The program is "Patience," led by Mary Ruth Thurmond.

The Tuesday small group will meet June 28, 7:00 p.m., at the home of Lynette Moore, 3905 75th St. The program will be "Character," facilitated by Sally Kennedy.



IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Harvey Morton and Brian Shannon were recognized at the MHMR Annual Employee and Volunteer Recognition Awards Ceremony held on June 7, as members of the Lubbock Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Center Board of Directors. Brian was also recognized for having served twenty years as a member of the board, serving eight terms as chairman of the board during that time.

Congratulations to Justin Patrick and Amber Ward! They were married in the sanctuary on June 11. The proud family includes his mother, Kathy Evans and the whole Krebbs clan!

From Craig and Norma Rutherford: To our St. John's family: Thanks for all for the calls, cards, food, and love during my surgery and recovery. We are thankful each day to be a part of this church.

Congratulations to new members Paige Furgerson and Rick Sawyer as they get married this Saturday, June 18!

TENANT WANTED: Share private residence with disabled person. Complete master suite with studio/office space. Lots of closet space. Totally accessible. Nicely furnished or unfurnished. Access to shared kitchen/dining room/living area.. Covered parking. Safe, close-knit neighborhood. No children or pets. Rent negotiable for individual or couple willing to share in assistance. Ideal for senior or disabled person needing 24-hour assistance. References, background check required. 806-790-3190.

Yuccas! Yuccas! Get your yuccas here!!! The strip of land in front of the church will be graded and leveled off at the end of August. Anyone wanting the yuccas (any or all of them) may come dig them up before then. They would be most excellent for xeriscaping or xerigardening.

Coming Up at Youth!

Friday, June 17, 6:00 p.m. ALL YOUTH Spirit Wind/Ice Cream Social

Sunday, June 19, 5:30 p.m. NO Sr. High UMY (Father's Day)

Wednesday, June 22, 5:30 p.m. Jr. High UMY Huddle Time at the home of Amy Johnson Rubio

Friday, June 24, UMY at Tech Leisure Pool

Sunday, June 26, 5:30 p.m. Sr. High UMY

Wednesday, June 29, 5:30 p.m. Jr. High UMY Huddle Time (Location TBA)

Potential service project site: St. Benedict's

Volunteer host homes are always welcome!

Contact Matt by calling or texting (241-6430), e-mailing (bell.matthew@mcm.edu), or on Facebook!

Church Calendar

Sunday, June 19, 2011

- 8:15 a.m. Communion Service
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 5:30 p.m. NO Sr. High UMY (Father's Day)

Monday, June 20, 2011

- 5:30 p.m. Literacy Lubbock
- 7:30 p.m. Scouts

Tuesday, June 21, 2011

- 8:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School
- 8:45 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:45 p.m. Sanctuary Time for FV Clients
- 1:30 p.m. Food Voucher Program
- 7:00 p.m. PFLAG II

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

- 8:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School
- 5:30 p.m. Jr. High UMY Huddle Time
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:00 p.m. Chrismon Workshop
- 6:15 p.m. Theology Group
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, June 23, 2011

- 8:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School
- 9:30 a.m. Quilters
- 5:30 p.m. Finance Committee
- 6:30 p.m. UMW Dorothy Manning Circle at 50-Yard Line, 2549 South Loop 289

Friday, June 24, 2011

- 8:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School
- 5:30 p.m. UMY at Tech Leisure Pool

Sunday, June 26, 2011

- 8:15 a.m. Communion Service
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 5:30 p.m. United Methodist Youth (Sr. High)

Monday, June 27, 2011

- 5:30 p.m. Literacy Lubbock
- 7:30 p.m. Scouts

Tuesday, June 28, 2011

- 8:45 a.m. Monthly Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Interfaith Dialogue
- 12:45 p.m. Sanctuary Time for FV Clients
- 1:30 p.m. Food Voucher program
- 5:30 p.m. Legal Clinic

Wednesday, June 29, 2011

- 5:30 p.m. Jr. High UMY Huddle Time
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6:00 p.m. Chrismon Workshop
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, June 30, 2011

- 9:30 a.m. Quilters
- 1:30 p.m. Merry Mailers

Friday, July 1, 2011

- 5:30 p.m. UMY activity



Spirit Wind/Ice Cream Social

**Spirit Wind is here tonight
(Friday, June 17)
at 6:00 p.m.**



**The concert will be followed by an
Ice Cream Social. Please join us!**

**VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS
THIS AND EVERY SUNDAY IN JUNE.
VOTE EARLY, VOTE OFTEN!!
(Vote for *Be Thou My Vision!*)**

*The mission of St. John's United Methodist Church is to worship and
serve God with open hearts, open arms, and open minds. To respond to this
calling, we will nurture each other in the Christian faith, we will work so
that all people can experience God's love, and we will examine critically
and respond prayerfully to the difficult issues that face us.*

**St. John's United Methodist Church
Mission Statement**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**St. John's United Methodist Church
1501 University Ave.
Lubbock, TX 79401
(806) 762-0123**

THE EXPLORER

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #513
Lubbock, TX**