

Sabbatical Planning

Sabbatical Planning Open Forum Sunday, April 10, 9:30 am in the Rectors' Lounge

It seems hard to believe, but in October, 2005, The Rev. Karla Woggon will begin her seventh year of service at St. Andrew's. When we called her to serve as our Rector we made a commitment to provide for a sabbatical after 5-7 years. At that time we also began a savings program to make it possible. A committee has been formed to help her plan a sabbatical that will be a time of renewal and discovery for both Karla and the parish.

To provide additional funds for education and travel, Karla will be applying for several grants. One of these comes from the Lilly Foundation. On their website Lilly has a wonderful description of a sabbatical for clergy.

At the center of the congregation is the pastor. Spiritual guide, scholar, counselor, preacher, administrator, confidant, teacher, pastoral visitor and friend, a pastor has a privileged position and performs many roles. In season and out, a pastor is called upon to lead communities to the life-giving waters of God.

The job is demanding, and pastors perform their duties among a dizzying array of requests and expectations. Congregations are not always easy places, and the responsibilities can sometimes wear down the best pastors. It is not a job for the faint-hearted, but requires a balance of intelligence, love, humility, compassion and endurance.

Most importantly, it demands that pastors remain in touch with the source of their life and strength. Like all people of faith, good pastors need moments to renew and refresh their energies and enthusiasm to determine again "what makes their heart sing."

Lilly Endowment seeks to strengthen congregations by providing an opportunity for pas-



tors... to step away briefly from the persistent obligations of daily parish life and to engage in a period of renewal and reflection. Renewal periods are not vacations, but times for intentional exploration and reflection, for drinking again from God's life-giving waters, for regaining the

enthusiasm and creativity for ministry...

Life-giving experiences: strengthening relationships, renewing a sense of call, meeting and serving neighbors in a new way, finding joy and purpose in a simplified life, traveling to new lands and unfamiliar territory, creating opportunities where members of the congregation can exercise their gifts for ministry...

An important part of our planning is informing the congregation of sabbatical plans. We need and want your thoughts, questions, concerns, and ideas for the sabbatical. The sabbatical committee at St. Andrew's (Senior Warden David Carpenter, Kay Gilcher, Mal Niedner, Don Perkinson, Walli Stevens, and Russ Little) have been working with Karla to plan the sabbatical. The initial plan is for Karla to take her sabbatical over the course of two summers: May, June, and July of 2006, and May, June, July, and August of 2007.

To make this a sabbatical that renews both Karla and the parish we need and want feedback from the congregation as a whole. We are holding an open forum on Sunday, April 10, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. in the Rectors' Lounge to present our initial plans. Please make every effort to attend the forum and ask questions, raise concerns, or offer feedback on areas of renewal and learning that you think would benefit Karla and St. Andrew's.

April 2005	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						April 1	2
							NCAA Finals 10:00am Needlework Outreach (RL)
Easter 2	8:00am HE Rt I (Sanct) 9:30am Adult & Youth 10:15am Godly Play 10:30am HE Rt II (Sanct) 12:30pm Loaves and	3	4	5	6	7	8
		NCAA Finals 1:00pm Staff Meeting (RL) 7:00pm Shalem Listening Group (Rectors' Lounge)	6:30pm EFM (Rector's Lounge)	12:00pm HE Rt. II 7:30pm Bible Fellowship (mbr home)	8:30am Thrift Corner 7:00pm Thrift Corner 7:30pm Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	7:00pm AYM HS Coffee Hour	9:30am DOK Meeting (RL)
Easter 3	8:00am HE Rt I (Sanct) 9:30am Adult & Youth 10:15am Godly Play 10:30am HE Rt II (Sanct) 7:00pm Book Club	10	11	12	13	14	15
		1:00pm Staff Meeting (RL) 7:00pm Jubilee Ministry Meeting	6:30pm EFM (Rector's Lounge)	12:00pm HE Rt. II 7:30pm Bible Fellowship (mbr home)	8:30am Thrift Corner 7:00pm Thrift Corner 7:30pm Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	7:00pm AYM MS Gathering	
Easter 4	8:00am HE Rt I (Sanct) 9:30am Adult & Youth 10:15am Godly Play 10:30am HE Rt II (Sanct) 11:45am Seminarian	17	18	19	20	21	22
		1:00pm Staff Meeting (RL) 7:00pm Stewardship Meeting (RL)	6:30pm EFM (Rector's Lounge)	12:00pm HE Rt. II 7:30pm Bible Fellowship (mbr home)	8:30am Thrift Corner 7:00pm Thrift Corner 7:30pm Choir Practice (Sanctuary)		9:00am Bike/Hike & Dinner
Easter 5	8:00am HE Rt I (Sanct) 9:30am Adult & Youth 10:15am Godly Play 10:30am HE Rt II (Sanct)	24	25	26	27	28	29
		1:00pm Staff Meeting (RL) 7:00pm Vestry Meeting (RL)	6:30pm EFM (Rector's Lounge)	12:00pm HE Rt. II 7:30pm Bible Fellowship (mbr home)	8:30am Thrift Corner 7:00pm Thrift Corner 7:30pm Choir Practice (Sanctuary)		

RL = Rectors' Lounge
S=Sanctuary
PH=Parish Hall
K=Kitchen

HE = Holy Eucharist
AYM=Area Youth Ministry
UMD=University of MD