



**A Letter of Introduction**  
**Rev. Radha Kaminski, Deacon-in-Charge**

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Dear St. Andrew's,

I am delighted to be called as your new deacon-in-charge and soon-to-be rector. I have enjoyed getting to know St. Andrew's through the search committee. I look forward to meeting each of you and joining in ministry alongside you.

I was raised in North Central Florida. I joined the Diocese of Western Michigan as a Hope College student in 2008, where I earned a BA in Classical Studies. I was ordained as a Deacon on July 12, 2020 after receiving my Master of Divinity from Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, TX. Before seminary, I worked as the Youth Coordinator at St. John's Episcopal Church and as a medical technician at Christian Haven Home, both in Grand Haven, MI.

My husband Matthew and I have one dog, Mara Joy, and two cats, Bob and Shirley. In my spare time I enjoy knitting, board games, baking, and exploring the great outdoors with Matthew and Mara.

I will serve at St. Andrew's on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. As a deacon I will serve alongside supply priests for Holy Eucharist and assist in leading morning prayer.

I will be in the office on Thursdays and the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. I am also available for zoom and phone meetings. You can reach me at [rector.cmec@gmail.com](mailto:rector.cmec@gmail.com) and 352-727-8927.

In Christ,  
Deacon Radha

*Rev. Radhajyoti Kaminski*

The Rev. Radhajyoti Kaminski  
Deacon-in-Charge, Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant  
She/Her/Hers

## **Our Journey**

**Isabel Kempton, Senior Warden**

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Almost three years ago, the people of St. Andrew's started on a journey to search for a priest. The Search Committee developed the necessary paperwork to begin the process but realized that our resources would not support a full-time priest. This was a sobering realization but we took a right turn and began exploring a relationship with St. Mary's Episcopal Church of Cadillac. That exploration resulted in the development of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant, a joint 'parish'.

The speed limit on our road was lowered. The search was proceeded slowly as the Diocese restructured and the Canon Missioners defined their new roles. The regional location of St. Andrew's also had to be resolved as we were in the Central Region and St. Mary's was in the Northern Region. We were effectively moved to the Northern Region under the leadership of Canon Anne Hallmark. Once that was done, our journey speeded up and we were blessed to be able to call The Reverend Radha Kaminski, who is introduced earlier in the newsletter.

This journey has started but it is not over. Under the direction of Rev. Radha, we will be fully entering into the Covenant with the development of a Leadership Council and further growth as a Covenant Parish. It will be a period of change but it should be an exciting time. And I, for one, am excited to see what lies on the road ahead.

I can't end this my final column without thanking those who have been key players in this journey. First is the Joint Search Committee (Matthew, Coleen, Marlene and Mark from St. Andrew's). They did a wonderful job during all the ups and downs of the search process, ending with a positive result. The Vestry is also to be thanked for their leadership during the long period without a rector. They were willing to make decisions for the health and well-being of the Parish including moving ahead with the Covenant Agreement and much needed maintenance to the Church. Just think about our new parking lot! I want to thank The Rev. Bob Garrels and the pastors at Immanuel Lutheran Church for helping us to be able receive the Body and Blood of Christ each week. It is hard to express the depth of my gratitude to The Rev. Jim Martin who so willingly moved from a pew to the pulpit. He enabled us to celebrate the Holy Eucharist each week. His sermons were pertinent, humorous and full of story-telling. He was the glue that helped hold the Parish together. Thanks also go to Mary, Jim's resident theologian, who shared him with us.

As I stated earlier, our journey together has started but is not ended. It will be exciting to see what the road ahead brings. It will be a time of adventure and change.

**Re-opening Plan**  
**Isabel Kempton, Senior Warden**

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1. In-person services at St. Andrew's Church will not be held until clearance is received from the Bishop. Prior to opening, the sanctuary, parish hall and the offices will be cleaned and disinfected by a commercial cleaner.
2. The CDC and Diocesan guidelines in regard to social distancing will be followed.
  - a. Masks must be worn and will be provided for those who do not have them.
  - b. There should be no physical contact – hugging, kissing, hand-shaking
  - c. Social congregating will be highly discouraged within the building.
  - d. Singing is not permitted but there will be instrumental music.
  - e. Family groups will be seated 6 feet apart in all directions. Approved seats will be indicated.
  - f. Hymnals, prayer books and Bibles will be removed from the pews. The service will be printed in the bulletin as usual including hymns when singing is no longer prohibited.
  - g. The service will be morning prayer.
3. Hand sanitizer and masks will be available at the entrances.
4. Parish members will enter through the front doors and leave through the courtyard doors. Only those with a physical handicap shall use the door accessible from the ramp.
5. The ushers will keep a log of visitors and their contact information.
6. Parishioners will pick up the bulletin as they enter. The usher will not hand it to them.
7. There will not be a collection during the service. Collection plates will be placed at each door so that we can continue our support of the church.
8. Outside groups will not be permitted to use the church until social distancing guidelines have been lifted.
9. There will not be a coffee hour following the service.
10. Signs about masks and no-contact greetings will be posted. Announcements will remind parishioners not to congregate at the end of the service.
11. The ushers will wipe down door handles as part of the closing process.
12. The sexton will clean and disinfect the building weekly.
13. Children's activity bags and nursery services will not be available.
14. Efforts will be made to stream the services to those who cannot attend.

## **Manna Pantry News**

**Coleen Dice**

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Manna Pantry is continuing operations with curbside pick-up to serve clients during the Covid-19 situation, but with many older volunteers staying home to protect their health, the pantry is down to a skeleton crew. Hours are 1 to 4 pm Monday through Friday. If you or anyone you know is willing to help out, please call the pantry (408-2940), Executive Director Bonnie Clark (796-0644), or Geri Hanna (796-8376) for more information.

### **Thank you to the following people!**

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- Beth Hamelund for her commitment to leading Morning Prayer
- The Rector Search Committees and Vestries of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant for their diligent service in finding and hiring a new rector to serve both parishes
- The Altar Guild for their cleaning of the sanctuary
- The Rev. Jim Martin for leading us in worship for the last several years
- Matthew and Rachel Adeyanju for their service to St. Andrew's
- Julia Reges for her service to St. Andrew's

Contact the Parish Office if there is someone you believe deserves acknowledgement in the next Pen & Praise!

### **Birthdays**

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August 5<sup>th</sup>—Diane Wesp

August 10<sup>th</sup>—Kevin Westgate

August 15<sup>th</sup>—Julane Quick

August 19<sup>th</sup>—Rev. Nan Peete

### **Anniversaries**

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None reported

## Meetings/Events

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All gatherings at St. Andrew's—including Knitting Circle, Sisters of St. Andrew, Vestry meetings, and Alcoholics Anonymous—are suspended until further notice. Please stay home unless absolutely necessary and practice good hygiene to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

First Service Led by Deacon Radha—Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>

Eucharist Led by Rev. Anne Hallmark—Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>

Vestry Meeting—Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

### **Please keep the following individuals, churches, and groups in prayer:**

**The Church:** Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Bishops of Michigan, Bonnie and Rayford; Moisés, the Bishop of the Dominican Republic; Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Craig, Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the ELCA; Immanuel Lutheran Church, Big Rapids, and Jack, their Preacher; St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Cadillac, and Nancy, their Senior Warden; St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Isabel, our Senior Warden, and Jim, our Preacher; and the rector search committees of both St. Mary's and St. Andrew's.

All those in our Diocese who are discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our Diocese who are preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Radha, Derek, Eileen, Philip, Paul, Tom, and Harold. We pray also for those in our Diocese who are preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including Michael, Elizabeth, Wendy, and Trish. We give gratitude for all retired clergy.

**Comfort and Healing:** Doug, Kevin, and Kim; Bill; Lucille; Troy; Marga; Doug, Jodi, Marty, Rachel, and Doreen; Chris; Mary; Wesley; Brook; Michael; Krystal, Mekail, and Karleigh; Melissa, Justin, and Matthew; Eileen; Sharon; Sharyn; Jim; Tina; Kevin; Mark and Kim; Jason and family; Alex and Carolyn; Jan; Matt; Schuyler "Pete;" Sherry; Helen; Bleu; Julia and family; Mary and family; Julie and family; Howie; Whayne and Dana; Kristopher; the Beattie family; Kevin; Jim and Mary; Chuck; Judy; and Lilah, Aishah, Yusuf, and family.

**For all who have died,** especially Milford, and all who mourn their passing.

**Government:** our local, state, and national legislatures.

**Those serving in harm's way:** Corey, all members of our armed forces, all first responders, and all veterans.

**Community: Our outreach ministries;** Manna Pantry, WISE, Our Brother's Keeper, DSAGA, AEGIS, and AA.

Please pray for the Standing Committees and Canons of the Episcopal Dioceses of Western Michigan and Eastern Michigan as they provide leadership in these troubling times. Let us remember that we are a church of forgiveness and love as we try to deal with the aftermath of the suspension of our Bishop.

Please pray for public school feeding programs, Angels of Action, Project Starburst, Manna Pantry, and volunteers of these organizations.

If you wish to have yourself or a loved one added to the Prayer List, contact the Parish Office at (231) 796-5473 or [standrewsbr@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsbr@gmail.com). Please provide the first and last names of the person you are requesting prayer for, as well as the category they should be listed under.

## **A Prayer for Health Care and Essential Workers**

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Lord, please place a shield of protection around our families and friends, especially those working in health care facilities:

John, a physician's assistant  
Suzy, a nurse in a nursing home  
Tony, a physician's assistant  
Anjum, a doctor  
Liz, a nurse in a hospital  
Jeff, a doctor  
Kim, working in a doctor's office  
Lindsay, a cancer nurse  
Angie, a nursing home receptionist  
Ashley, a nurse

as well as those working in essential businesses:

Mark, a postal service worker  
Heidi, a bank worker  
Corey, a state policeman  
Eileen, a grocery store worker  
Mandy, a postal service worker  
Lily, a grocery store worker  
Zachery, a retail pharmacy manager

Let no harm come to them. Bless them as they go about their days in this time of pandemic. Amen.

## Bible Quiz

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What tribe was Paul from?

The answer will be in next month's Pen & Praise!

In July, you were asked, "What is the shortest book in the New Testament?" The correct answer is *3 John*.

## Cartoon of the Month

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Kids' Corner

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Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” Come to our aid now, that we may experience your healing love.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

August 2020

Service Date	Time	Altar	Acolyte	Cantor	2nd Rdg.	Ushers	Counters	Flowers	Lucille	Open/Clos	Music	Officiant
August 2nd Pentecost 9	10:15 AM Morning Prayer	Anne	Bob S.	Beth	Anne	Isabel Anne	Isabel Anne	Altar Guild	Betty	Beth	Alex	Beth
August 9th Pentecost 10	10:15 AM Morning Prayer	Coleen	Coleen	Coleen	Coleen	Isabel Beth	Isabel Beth	Shinn	Coleen	Isabel	Beth	Radha
August 16th Pentecost 11	10:15 AM Morning Prayer	Janie	Bob S.	Beth	Janie	Janie Betty	Isabel Betty	Altar Guild	Beth	Janie	Bob	Beth
August 23rd Pentecost 12	10:15 AM Eucharist	Beth	Beth	Beth	Isabel	Isabel Beth	Isabel Beth	Altar Guild	Betty	Isabel	Beth	Anne H. Radha
August 30th Pentecost 13	10:15 AM Morning Prayer	Coleen	Coleen	Coleen	Coleen	Chris Betty	Chris Betty	Altar Guild	Coleen	Chris	Bob	Beth

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**  
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**Beth Hamelund, Junior Warden**  
beacondeacon52@hotmail.com  
(231) 349-1203

**The Rev. Robert Garrels**  
**Director of Music**

**St. Andrew's Vestry**

Rachel Adeyanju, 2021

Beth Hamelund, 2023

Isabel Kempton, 2022

Dianne Lauzon, 2022

Chris Lisuzzo, 2023

Janie Shepherd 2021