

St. Andrew's Anglican Church
18001 94th Ave., Tinley Park, IL 60487
(708) 614-7404 www.andrewrec.org

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**JULY
2015**

The Very Reverend
Frank M. Levi, M.A.
Rector

The Rt. Reverend
Franklin H. Sellers, D.D.
Rector Emeritus

Rev. Derrick Hassert,
Ph.D. Curate

Rev. Phil Tjoelker,
M. Div., Assisting Minister

Mr. William Nash,
Lay Reader

Mark A. Levi, Webmaster
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**"FROM THE
BEGINNING":
GOD'S DESIGN FOR
MARRIAGE**

*A Statement from the Anglican
Church in North America*

The Archbishop and Bishops of the Anglican church in North America have received the recent ruling by the Supreme Court of the United States of America and are deeply grieved by the stark departure from God's revealed order. We are concerned for the inevitable results from this action to change the legal understanding of marriage and family life.

While this decision grieves us, God's truth and the goodness of the order established in creation have not been changed. The kingdom of God cannot be shaken. We pray with confidence that God will reveal His glory, love, goodness, and hope to the world through His Church as we seek to follow Him in faith and obedience.

Jesus Christ teaches that God is the author of marriage from the beginning of time (Matthew 19:4-6). God's design for marriage has always involved a man and a woman: "a man shall leave his

father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). These truths have ordered civilization for thousands of years. Where God's designs are followed in any society, including His designs for marriage and families, the result is the greatest possible blessing and abundance of life.

The Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is often summarized as, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Because of His love, we love and care for all those who experience same-sex attraction. The Anglican Church in North America continues to welcome everyone to experience the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

Marriage is established by God for the procreation and raising of children and for the good of society. For this reason, governments have an interest in marriage and have delegated authority from God to protect and regulate it. But no court, no legislature and no local magistrate has the authority to redefine marriage and to impose this definition on their citizens.

The United States of America, so its founders believed and taught, is a nation under God whose

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citizens' fundamental rights are derived from the Creator. There is no right to a relationship which is contrary to the Creator's express design. We cannot accept the Supreme Court's decision purporting to find a fundamental right to same-sex "marriage" any more than we can accept its claim to have found a right to destroy human life in the womb. We will work with others to overturn this decision, and we pray that others will join with us in this effort.

Meeting this week in Vancouver, British Columbia, we are reminded that our Canadian members have been living under a similar legal standard for the last ten years. Their situation includes minimal legal protections for those who in good conscience cannot recognize this redefinition, and it is our prayer that stronger protections will be put into place and honored in the United States.

In the meantime, we shall continue to exercise our religious freedom to perform marriages for those who come for holy matrimony as defined by our Church. The Anglican Church in North America only authorizes and only performs marriages between one man and one woman. We respect the consciences of those clergy who may decline to perform marriages as agents of the state.

We ask our churches to respect such decisions and help make arrangements to minister to those seeking to be married. We are also well aware that this ruling may create difficulties for our lay members and Christian institutions as they seek to be faithful in upholding God's design for marriage, and we will make every effort to find ways to support and stand with them.

The Church bears witness to the truth of God's Word and God's design of marriage. When government oversteps its rightful authority, "we must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

Today there is no place for either triumphalism or despair, so we prayerfully and sincerely urge a spirit of charity by all. We speak out of a concern for the consequences that our people and our neighbors will suffer from an unjust and unwise decision by five justices of the Supreme Court. We call those justices to repentance, even as we echo Jesus' words, praying for God the Father to forgive them, for they know not what they have done.

We call our people to a season of prayer for marriage and offer the accompanying Litany and Prayer to guide us.

Unanimously adopted by the College of Bishops of the Anglican Church in North America. June 26, 2015

CONGRATULATIONS

To Toluwa Balogun on his graduation from Junior High School. God's bless you!

PARISH NEWS

Many thanks to all who helped bag and box the rummage this past week.

Thank you to those who went to the Taste of Tinley Churches in support of Love INC on June 27th. Thanks also to those who made cupcakes.

COMING EVENTS

YOUTH MEETINGS

Aug. 2, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6

EPISCOPAL VISIT

Bishop Royal U. Grote will be with us for the Annual Episcopal Visit on Sunday, Sept. 6, 2015.

"Rally Day" **CHURCH PICNIC** is Sept. 6th when Bishop Grote is here.

WORK DAY Sept. 19, 9 a.m.

CHURCH FUND-RAISER
Sat., Sept. 26th (See insert)

RE MISSION PARISHES

Pray for the parishes in Sweden.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Tayo Balogun, Yinka Onayemi, Susan Levi, Dr. Funmilayo Onayemi, Adeola Oluwole, Jennifer Domato, Vicky Cullen, Tomiwa Osilaja, Juwon Oluwole, Thomas Nash, Sue Horosinski, Nike Osilaja, Yemi Onayemi, Veronica Harrison, Sara Levi, Jeb Nash

HOG HAVEN FUND-RAISER



For: **ST. ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

Saturday, September 26, 2015 beginning at noon

"Best Pork Chops!" from Hog Haven, Dyer, IN

**Adults pick "Famous Huge Pork Chop or Chicken"
Includes Three Sides.**

**With \$25 Adult/Youth Tickets you get FREE
Hamburgers & Hot Dogs for children (under 12). [But,
\$25 if children want chicken or pork chop instead.]**

with

Live Musical Entertainment

**Pal & Family "Serving Jesus In Song"
Featuring, Singer/Guitarist, William Ray Garrison**

**Sign sheet TODAY to commit to \$25 Tickets!
Need enough commitments to make the Fund-Raiser
profitable. Get friends and family to buy tickets, too.**

**Make checks to: ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
Specify for: Hog Haven Fund-Raiser**

Need total ticket count by Sept. 5 of \$25 Tickets & Free Tickets

JULY 2015 CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2		3 Independence Day
5th Sunday after Trinity MP 9:30 a.m. HC 10:30 a.m.	6	7	8	9	10	11
6th Sunday after Trinity MP 9:30 a.m. HC 10:30 a.m.	13	14	15	16	17	18
Coffee Hour						
7th Sunday after Trinity MP 9:30 a.m. HC 10:30 a.m.	20	21	22	23	24	25 St. James the Apostle
Vestry Meeting						
8th Sunday after Trinity MP 9:30 a.m. HC 10:30 a.m.	27	28	29	30	31	