

ST. ANDREW'S Lutheran Church

June 2020

Christians live not in themselves, but in Christ and in their neighbor. Otherwise they are not Christians. They live in Christ through faith, in their neighbor through love.

Martin Luther, "The Freedom of a Christian"
(Luther's Works, vol. 31, p.371)

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. (1 John 3:16-18)

You may choose to see the articles and letters in this newsletter as simply information that is being passed on and sometimes ministries passed over. OR you may see in these words stories of God's love poured out through the people and of your church. You may also see opportunities for you to grow in that same love. This is a love letter from your church.



A Word from Pastor Trump

What does the future hold?

This is another article that must begin by saying “we just do not know.” Your church staff, congregational council, and other leaders are working hard to arrive at answers. The world is going to be operating differently for some time and churches certainly will continue to be affected. There are many questions about worship.

When will we worship again in person? We do not know.

Who is making the decision? A task force with staff, doctors from our church, and the council president.

What factors are being considered? We are informed by Synod and ELCA recommendations, as well as information from DHEC, CDC and more. There is a lot of information out there. We have agreed that we will not worship in person before there is a 14 day “downturn” in the numbers. We have asked the doctors on the task force to help decipher the statistics.

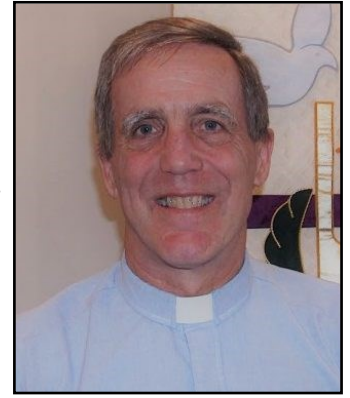
What will change in worship? Possibly a great deal. The following changes are likely:

- There may be an extra worship service, so that we can LIMIT the number of people in the sanctuary at any time. We will have to get people to “commit” to which service they plan to attend.
- Seats will be marked off so that we sit apart from those who are not in our families.
- We will ask people to wear masks.
- We will ask people to not gather and talk after church except at safe distances.
- We will not pass the peace physically.
- Offering will be at the door so that the plates are not passed from hand to hand.
- Everything will be in your bulletins so that we do not touch hymnals.
- Singing may be extremely limited if there is any at all. This sounds drastic but the statistics about the spread of particles while singing are significant.
- There will be no choir for now. Rehearsals are too risky.
- Communion will be in the aisle, one at a time with pre-poured cups.
- We must remind people that if they are uncomfortable taking communion at this time they are in no way required to do so. God is gracious.
- Surfaces that can be touched will be cleaned between services.

Will we continue to offer a recorded service? Yes. All people may not feel comfortable coming to worship in person. In fact, we hope to continue some sort of recorded service long term.

As your pastor I must stress that if anyone is uncomfortable coming to worship that we respect that decision, and in no way are pressuring people to do so. Help us to know who you are so that we can continue to reach out in other ways.

What about other activities in the church? Until we are worshipping in person there will be no other activities held in the church. What about other groups after we are in worship together? What about other groups then? Groups such as Lutheran Men, WELCA, and quilters may make their own decisions but are asked to follow all social distancing guidelines.



How Can You Serve?

There are many important things you can do to serve your neighbors and your church community at this time. This newsletter includes many of them.

- Watch your church's worship online via the e-news that you receive or simply go to the website.
- Tell others about the ways to see your church worship online. This is a TREMENDOUS opportunity.
- Continue to support your church through your faithful giving. You may give automatically or mail in a check.
- Join in one of the ZOOM faith sharing and learning opportunities your church is offering. There is no better time to do so. It is so easy.
- Call someone! Reach out just to say hello! Just as you would greet someone on Sunday, call them and say hi. Do not assume someone else is doing so. Do not just wait to BE CALLED.

Cares Act Support

We are pleased to report that St. Andrew's Lutheran Church has been approved to receive more than \$56,000 in funding through the federal government's Payroll Protection Program (the PPP). The PPP is a component of the larger Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES Act) intended to allow small businesses to retain employees during the economic downturn caused by the coronavirus and the related shutdowns. The proceeds come in the form of a loan, but, if the funds are used for payroll (i.e. employee retention), utilities, and mortgage interest during the eight-week period following the loan's inception, the full amount of the loan will be forgiven. Our intention is to keep all staff members on payroll for the time being and, accordingly, the loan should be forgiven, essentially making it a federal grant. Thanks to those involved in securing this funding for the church.

While we are grateful for the federal support, it does not cover all of our ongoing expenses. During this time please remember to continue to support your church. Your gifts make possible all the ways we are working to remain connected and offer worship, study, community, and care. You may give online, or simply mail in a check. It has never been easier to make your contributions electronically and you can set up automatic recurring gifts and review your online giving history from anywhere you have internet access. [Click here for more information and a link to the online giving portal.](#) Of course, if you have been directly affected financially by this pandemic, our prayers are with you, and your church understands if under those circumstances someone's giving must drop off.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Friends: I am a newspaper editor, but I wanted to write a "letter to the editor" for our church. I wanted to talk about what I am receiving from on-line Bible study at this time. Pastor Trump's Wednesday evening Bible study sessions create a needed respite for me from the anxiety and isolation of coronavirus. The weekly gatherings temper my obsession with the latest COVID-19 case numbers or alarming discoveries and remind me again of God's love and presence. The meetings also cause me to consider in new and deeper ways the scriptures I have read for years. Last week, one of the regular participants mentioned he had been nervous about the sessions because he doesn't have a scholarly understanding of scriptures. His words captured my apprehension and, I suspect, of others in the class. I have come to believe that we're all seeking the same thing, to hear what God may be telling us in this day and time. I find few silver linings in our global pandemic. But I have been able to walk more (I've lost 15 pounds!) and to finish a 1,000+ page book. I'm also able to participate in the 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible study. If I had to drive somewhere to attend, I couldn't make it. But now, I'm completing my workday just a few minutes before the study starts. It's been a blessing in these challenging times. - **Paul Osmundson**

Family Promise News

St. Andrew's Lutheran was scheduled to host families in the Family Promise Program the week of May 10 - 17. Obviously, we weren't able to host families, but Family Promise has continued to serve and help families experiencing homelessness and in need of support.

St. Andrew's has donated \$600 to Family Promise to help cover hotel and food costs for the families in the Family Promise Program. This represents what the church would have spent hosting the families had they stayed in the church during our designated host week.

Just like numerous other organizations, Family Promise needs financial assistance. They were able to qualify for the COVID 19 paycheck protection program, but their main fundraiser, the Family Promise Gala, was postponed. Many of us have been hurt economically during this time, but there are those of us who have not.

Please consider making a financial donation or donating gift cards from Walmart, grocery stores, gas stations, and restaurants to Family Promise. Donations can be made to the church or directly to Family Promise.

Congratulations!

Some of the best and brightest students in the Clemson University College of Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences received congratulatory packages in the mail this month, a recognition of their outstanding work in several areas, including academics, character, leadership and research. Tom Birdsong received the Samuel B. Earle Award.

Dr. Samuel B. Earle was director of the Engineering Department from 1911 to 1933 and dean of the School of Engineering from 1933 to 1950. The Samuel B. Earle Award is given in his honor to the most outstanding senior in engineering on the basis of scholarship and character.

Anand Gramopadhye, the college's dean, said the awardees represent the next generation of engineers and scientists who will take on the grand challenges of the 21st century.

In addition, Tom was recently engaged on May 16 to Ellie Hadden-Ford. Tom asked the big question in Chapel Hill, North Carolina where Ellie finished her degree in neuroscience and computer science as Tom completes his work at Clemson.

Congratulations Tom!



Yard Clean Up - Saturday, June 13 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Bring hand tools: rakes, loppers, gloves.

Bottled water will be provided.

Breakfast biscuits, OJ and coffee at 7:45 a.m.



Congratulations to Our Graduates!

Kaitlyn Berger graduates from River Bluff High School and will attend Winthrop University in the Fall.

Erin Daly graduates from AC Flora High School and will attend College of Charleston in the Fall.

Bailey Derrick graduates from River Bluff High School and will attend Lander University in the Fall.

Peyton Player graduates from Spring Hill High School and will attend Clemson University in the Fall.

Kaylee Schodowski graduates from Dutch Fork High School and will attend Anderson University in the Fall.

Ella Shealy earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of Illinois-Chicago.

Chase Paschal earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Presbyterian College and will be starting the Doctorate Program at PC School of Pharmacy.

Maddie Derrick earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a minor in Social Work from Winthrop University (She graduated in December, 2019)

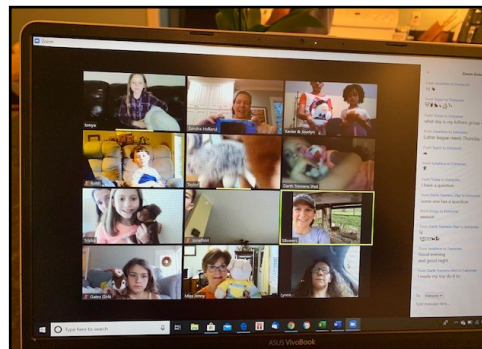
Samuel Trump graduated from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He will begin his residency at the Chicago University Hospital working in Internal Medicine.



Lots Going on at SALC via Zoom!

Pajama Time

Many of life's patterns have been disrupted for the past couple of months. We're thinking more than twice before we decide to venture away from home. We're spending far less time in the company of others. That can feel deeply isolating. So we are very grateful not only for the chance to hear God's Word sung and prayed and preached online from St. Andrew's each Sunday, but also for the weekly gathering of the "pajama time" kids from the congregation each Tuesday evening. Keith looks forward to that online get-together each week. When asked what he likes about that gathering, Keith said "I just like to see them, because I love them all. I like the stories and the funny puppet. I miss Sunday School, and maybe Pastor Trump." We are so grateful for all the adults and kids who make this weekly online gathering possible. It is keeping Keith and us better connected to a wonderful community of faith. — **Brian Peterson**



Prayer Group

Dear St. Andrew's Church Family,
Mike and I miss you all and are so thankful for the opportunity to connect in the various ways that our leaders have made possible for us. When I first read about the opportunity for the prayer group, it was before COVID-19 and was focused on prayer during Lent. I loved the idea as I thought how special it would be to take a few minutes in the middle of the week to connect with those who love and care about each other, in addition to giving us the opportunity to serve others through prayer. Each week that I have been able to join, those few minutes have reconnected me and grounded me in what is really important. I will compare it to understanding the importance of deep breathing, it calms and centers us - just as the opportunity to pray with others does for me. I am thankful that the prayer group is continuing especially during this unprecedented time in our history. - **James Ann Sheley**

Sunday School

The Grace Upon Grace Sunday School class, even though a virtual platform and not in person, has been a needed "constant" amidst all the changes that the pandemic has brought about. I'm thankful for the ability to connect with my church friends on Sunday mornings and discuss our faith, the gospel lessons, and just talk through some of the goods, bads, and uglies of everything that is going on in our lives right now. I long for the day when we're given the GO to be back together in our church home, but for now, sitting in my pajamas with my computer in my lap on Sunday mornings will have to do. And I feel blessed that we're able to still be "together" via virtual platforms like Zoom for Sunday School and other church activities. - **Paige Gates**

Youth Group

"I have really enjoyed the many ways SALC has been using zoom to keep us connected. I've been a part of the Bible studies on Wednesday, youth group on Sundays and the occasional girls group! I think Christine is doing an amazing job at keeping us all connected through the various activities she's planned such as a scavenger hunt and a movie night! I miss being at church but I've found a lot of comfort in having these zoom nights!" - **Kaylee Schodowski**



Mother's Day Craft

The Luther League (3rd-6th graders) met by Zoom the week before Mother's Day to make something special for their moms. Volunteers dropped off craft kits to the children and asked them not to open them until the Zoom meeting started. It was a fun way for the kids to see each other and also get to make something for one of the people who had been taking such great care of them throughout this crazy time.



Yoga

The St. Andrew's weekly yoga group is enjoying the move to Zoom. In fact, we are finding in some ways we like it better than our weekly class at church! We will probably have a Zoom option even after we are free to meet at church again. We are enjoying no rush hour commute to the church, and are even more appreciative of the opportunity to see and talk to each other in these isolated times. For others, it is less intimidating not being in the same room, or we are free to focus on our own practice. We have added a few new people for whom our class at church just didn't work. Our teachers incorporate our faith into the reflections, often designing the class around a particular theme or scripture verse. It makes the physical practice of yoga even more meaningful. Join us on Monday evenings at 6 p.m.

Here are a few thoughts from our "yogis":

"It gives me a chance to get to know a few church members better, in a relaxed but purposeful setting. I also like saving the travel time, having more time for family." - **Linda Anderson**

"What I always enjoy about yoga is the opportunity for mindfulness. My mind is very busy and I have a hard time trying to meditate or clear my mind, but when I fully engage with the yoga postures it focuses my mental energy so completely on my body in space that all other thoughts are put aside. Right now – living in a pandemic when there are so many unknowns and anxieties, my busy mind really needs opportunities to let go, relax, and reset. I appreciate the mindful practice of yoga more than ever!" - **Georgia Godfrey**

"I enjoy being able to connect with the yoga group while staying safe. When I have been out of town I can still stay connected and do the class, too." - **Kaye Clay**

Kaitlyn says "It's relaxing and I enjoy the time I get to spend with my mom during yoga."

Mom says "Spending time during our Zoom yoga has been a sanctuary for me. I'm able to stay connected in fellowship which feeds my heart and able to center and stay rooted in God's love and grace. It's been a blessing to share the time in yoga with Kaitlyn. Thank you to our yoga leaders!!" - **Anna and Kaitlyn Berger**

Social Crafting

I had the idea to start the social crafting group at the beginning of the quarantine. Since I was spending more time at home, I had to find things to pass the time instead of going out, and for me that was crafting. I started to feel lonely and wished I had some friends to chat with while I worked and that's where Social Crafting came in!

This has been a great opportunity to meet and socialize with people who I sometimes don't see or normally talk with at church. It is also fun to see what crafts others have been doing; we've seen knitting, painting, cross stitching, and tatting. We'd love for you to join us! All crafts are welcome! - **Kasarah Boiter**

Gathering Online Through Zoom

Since we are unable to meet in person right now, it's wonderful to have the technology available through Zoom to be able to gather online.

Deacon Sandra sends out a new Zoom Schedule every Monday morning in an e-news. To access a Zoom meeting by video you will need to use a laptop computer, tablet, smartphone or a desktop computer that has a camera and microphone added.

You can also access the meeting by dialing in by phone (either mobile or land line). The phone number and Meeting ID is listed next to each event. Please enter the meeting ID when prompted.

If you have any other questions, please contact Sandra Holland at 803-269-9659 or sholland@salutheran.com who will be happy to help you get connected.

Regular Weekly Zoom Gatherings:

Sunday

9:45 a.m. – **Grace Upon Grace Sunday School** (for those parenting young children).
Taught by Sandra Holland

9:45 a.m. – **Zoom into the Bible** led by Trent Shealy. A time of sharing and exploring the bible takes place on Sundays at 9:45 via the Zoom link. Each week we examine the lessons for THAT SUNDAY, making your worship experience that much richer.

Monday

6:00 p.m. - **Yoga** Vicky Henderson and Linda Anderson will be leading a weekly yoga class for all levels.

Tuesday

7:15 p.m. - **Pajama Time with Church Friends** (Toddlers- 6th graders)

Wednesday

12:15 p.m. – **Prayer Group**

6:00 p.m. – **Bible Study** led by Pastor Trump. There is no prior experience and knowledge required. As of this writing we are looking at First Peter. The “classes” last for one hour.

8:00 p.m. – **Youth Group Meeting** (for 7th - 12th graders)

Thursday

4:30 p.m. - **Social Crafting** – (Join this weekly group to share craft ideas and visit while you create)

St. Andrew's Weekly Prayer Meeting

The St. Andrew's weekly prayer meeting is an opportunity to gather with one another, sharing and reflecting not only on our personal needs, but those of our church family and community. Coming together in prayer is a powerful way to show our love and support of one another during this uncertain time in our world. Even though we may be isolated from one another in person, we can continue to lift our prayers to God, with the faith that He walks with us on this journey. This prayer time has given me hope in the quiet stillness of prayer to release my concerns and challenges of the day to God's hands. He will comfort us and give us peace, even in the midst of this outward turmoil. It is the inner calm of the spirit that helps us to live a purposeful and meaningful life. For me, prayer is this path. —**Mary Lynn Fulmer**

Church Council - May 14, 2020

Opening

Curtis Amick called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Council met via Zoom.

Council approved the minutes of the April 16, 2020, meeting.

Council approved the agenda as amended.

Whanna Bouknight shared a devotion.

President's Report

Curtis Amick, Council Chair, reported that he and church staff, the worship team chair, and Drs. Claire Birdsong and Donna Ray have been meeting to discuss factors involved in deciding when to open the building for in-person worship and subsequent safety measures. He reported that the group agrees that when we are able to gather again, worship and music will look and feel different in ways that are meant to ensure the safety of worshippers and staff. Upon advice from this advisory group, Pastor Trump has determined that no small or large groups will gather at the church at least until the congregation is worshipping in the building again, at which point individual groups will decide whether or not they feel safe meeting in person.

Pastor's Report and Deacon's Report

The Pastor's report and Deacon's report were accepted as presented.

Both Pastor Trump and Deacon Holland have continued to lead/attend many Bible studies, Sunday school studies, youth gatherings, Lutheran Men meetings, and other small group ministries remotely, using Zoom.

Work on our visioning/strategic planning process and stewardship planning with consultant Mike Ward have continued in Zoom meetings.

Tom Bane reported that seven people have volunteered to clean the sanctuary and other common areas between services once we are worshipping in the building again.

Pastor Trump reported on his continuing pastoral care in the case of emergencies including visiting some in person when it is possible to maintain safe distances.

Council discussed identifying people who don't come back to worship right away when we're back in the building because they are not comfortable being in proximity to many others, and the need to ensure they have access to virtual, recorded worship.

Deacon Holland reported that the S.C. Synod has advised congregations to not hold VBS events in person this summer.

Sandra is looking into alternative VBS delivery methods. The Education Committee is preparing and sending Sunday school lessons to all families with children.

Communications

The Communications Committee has been working to identify any members having difficulty accessing technology that will allow them to enjoy worship and other church activities. Beth Mullins reported that those she has spoken to seem content with the access they do have but some are concerned about the effect social distancing practices will have in the life of the church.

Finance

Giving for April was \$3,015 less than actual expenses and \$9,165 less than budgeted expenses. While this is not unexpected given the circumstances, Council discussed a need to continue promoting online giving. The (forgivable) loan from the federal government will be helpful in maintaining payroll and making utility payments.

Property Report

Tom Bane reported that a windstorm damaged gutters on the Education wing, and water damage to the structure was revealed when the gutters were removed from the building. Council passed a motion from the Property Committee to approve contracting with Baker Roofing and spending up to \$6,000 to correct the water damage and related problems.

Worship Committee

Pastor Trump reported that the Worship Committee has decided to offer John Slice a thank-you gift for his work producing our worship videos since mid-March and suggested that he receive compensation for his work moving forward.

Council approved a motion to employ John Slice with a salary of \$100 per week for as long as he continues to film and produce the videos, beginning June 7. The Worship Committee, staff, and Council will be exploring options for continuing to offer a recorded worship service every Sunday even after the church has opened for in-person worship.

Pastor Trump adjourned with prayer concerns.

Finance

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church									
Statement of Income and Expense									
April of Fiscal Year 2020									
Fund: 01 - General									
					April	2020 YTD			
					Actual	Actual			
Current and Benevolence Giving					\$ 34,946.60	\$ 152,513.00			
Expenses					\$ 37,962.31	\$ 161,678.93			
Expenses under (over) Giving					\$ (3,015.71)	\$ (9,165.93)			
Current and Benevolence Giving					\$ 34,946.60	\$ 152,513.00			
Budget					\$ 44,787.70	\$ 180,375.80			
Giving (under) over Budget					\$ (9,841.10)	\$ (27,862.80)			
Debt Retirement Fund Balance as of 1/1/2020					\$ 15,103.64				
Funds received in 2020					\$ 11,528.50				
Thrivent Principal Payments in 2020					\$ (10,119.81)				
Thrivent Interest Payments in 2020					\$ (968.19)				
Current Debt Retirement Fund Balance					<u>\$ 15,544.14</u>				
Outstanding Thrivent Loan Balance as of 1/1/20					72,126.44				
Principal Payments in 2020					(10,119.81)				
Current Outstanding Thrivent Loan Balance					<u>62,006.63</u>				
The principal and interest payments on the Thrivent loan are paid from									
the Debt Retirement Fund and are not part of the Budget									
</									



Friends & Relatives

- ✝ Corbett Anderson, nephew of Amy Vickers and grandchild of Mike and Susan Beeler
- ✝ Maria Casey, mom of Joe Casey
- ✝ Stephen Finger, friend of Jan Bass
- ✝ Sandra Ouzts, sister of Debra Ouzts
- ✝ Joe Fricker, father of Melissa Ray
- ✝ Keith Ray, brother of Hank Ray
- ✝ Sally Thompson, sister-in-law of Patsy South
- ✝ Janette Gardner, aunt of Vickie Barfield
- ✝ Phil Johnson, cousin of Vickie Barfield
- ✝ Mark Bogard, cousin of Theresa Henry
- ✝ Ernie Davis, friend of Lee Bowling
- ✝ Jimmy Asbill, son of Shirley Swanson
- ✝ Bonnie Seibert, cousin of Jada Mitchell
- ✝ Sharon Hixon, friend of Vern Free
- ✝ Edna Wheeler's mother, and granddaughter Emily Wheeler
- ✝ Jada Johnson, niece of Erin Johnson
- ✝ Mike Chase, cousin of Vicky Henderson

Homebound

- ✝ Sarah Cook
- ✝ Jackie Darby
- ✝ Pete Cox
- ✝ Linwood Swittenberg

Members in Extended Care

- ✝ Margie Shealy, Heritage at Lowman
- ✝ Adrian Trexler, The Brian Center
- ✝ Madge Bartsch, Generations of Chapin
- ✝ Martha Ferguson, NHC Parklane
- ✝ Lois Fulmer, Lexington Extended Care
- ✝ Flo Onley, Generations in Irmo
- ✝ Mitch Mayer, Lexington Extended Care
- ✝ Tommy Dodgen, Encompass Health
- ✝ Lib Hartman, Agape Hospice



Our prayers are with Pat DuBose and family upon the death of her husband, Ed.

Our prayers are with Steve and Pat Blackwell upon the death of their daughter, Petra.

JUNE Birthdays

Brittany Lucas	6/1	Beth Trump	6/6	Edward Amodio	6/25
Dana Robinson	6/2	Abigail Gates	6/8	Donna Ray	6/25
Bernice Sims	6/2	August Potts	6/8	R. Chip Brazell	6.26
Becca Kelly	6/3	Frances Sims	6/9	Bert LaSalle	6/27
Jonohn Taylor	6/3	Susie Derrick	6/10	Chris Watson	6/27
Jamie Lucas	6/4	Karen Scott	6/11	Kaitlin Huffstetler	6/28
J. Martin Breuer	6/6	Bailey Derrick	6/14	Tom Bane	6/30
Martha Ferguson	6/6	Bill South	6/14	Janet Coleman	6/30
Theresa Henry	6/6	Audrey Free	6/16		
Robert Lunsford	6/6	Elena Thomasson	6/20		
June Steadman	6/6	David Shaw	6/22		
Renee Tokunaga-Mulvihill	6/6				



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
1416 Broad River Rd.
Columbia, SC 29210

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

To Reach Us
Telephone: 803-772-6034
Email: officemgr@salutheran.com
Website: www.salutheran.com

Pastor

The Rev. John P. Trump

Deacon

Sandra Holland

Director of Music Ministries

Jenny Walrath

Choir Director

Nicholas Todd Shumate

Office Manager

Lina Gann

Congregational Council

President: Curtis Amick
Vice President: Jay Folk
Secretary: Deborah Slice
Treasurer: Judy Venturella
Asst. Treasurer: Jason Godfrey
Financial Secretary: Sharon Berger
Tom Bane
Erin Johnson
Phillip Jenkins
Georgia Godfrey
Beth Mullins
Mari Frye
Paul Osmundson
Whanna Bouknight
Tom Henry