

Lifeline

CELEBRITYWATCH



AP

Amber Tamblyn plays a teen who performs godly chores in "Joan of Arcadia."

Actress said 'Joan' got axed

WASHINGTON — Amber Tamblyn is philosophical about the cancellation of her CBS series "Joan of Arcadia."

"I loved it for what it was and it's gone and that's sad, but that's the way it goes," said the 22-year-old actress, who portrayed a teen who performed godly chores for those revealing themselves as God.

Tamblyn said she was happy to do two seasons of "a really incredible show than like eight years on a mediocre, not-so-good show."

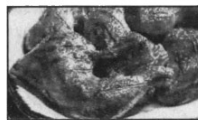
Of her co-stars Joe Mantegna, Mary Steenburgen and Jason Ritter, the actress said: "I'm really going to miss everybody. It's like a family there. I love them, but that's life, I guess."

Tamblyn got the news before an interview with AP Radio for her new movie, "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants," due in theaters on June 1.

— The Associated Press

▶ Celebrity Birthdays 5D

TODAY'S BITE



Grilled Honey Barbecue Chicken

- 3/4 cup barbecue sauce
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 (3 to 3 1/2-pound) cut-up frying chickens

Heat grill. In medium saucepan, combine barbecue sauce, honey, garlic and salt; blend well. Bring to a boil; cover and simmer 5 minutes. When ready to grill, place chicken on gas grill over medium heat or on charcoal grill 4 to 6 inches from medium coals; cover grill. Cook 30 to 45 minutes or until chicken is fork-tender and juices run clear, turning once and brushing with sauce during last 10 minutes of cooking time. Bring any remaining sauce to a boil; serve with chicken. Serves 12.

FAITH & VALUES



Nick Thomas Special to the Advertiser

The Rev. Mark Waldo, left, came out of retirement to become the "full-time temporary" minister of St. Michael's and All Angels' Episcopal Church in Millbrook. He was there for 16 months, until the congregation selected his son, the Rev. Mark Waldo Jr., to succeed him.

Passing the torch

Preacher at a Millbrook church turns over his ministry to his son

By Nick Thomas
 Special to the Advertiser

Many things, ranging from wealth to wisdom, are passed from father to son, but in Millbrook a father has passed a church on to his.

At the end of 2003, a retirement left the congregation of Millbrook's St. Michael's and All Angels' Episcopal Church without a full-time minister. Like an answer to the congregation's prayers, the Rev. Mark Waldo came to their rescue, becoming the "full-time temporary" minister for the church at 5941 Main St. in Millbrook.

"What a blessing he has been to us," said Veta Wall, the senior warden at St. Michael's for the past two years, adding that Waldo was at the church almost every Sunday since January 2004.

Waldo is well-known in the tri-county area, having himself retired from full-time ministry in 1989 after 28 years at Montgomery's Church of the Ascension. He and his wife, Anne, then ran the Red Bluff Cottage Bed and Breakfast in Montgomery's historic Cottage Hill District, and entertained guests from all over the world during the B&B's 14 years in business.

He was happy to step out of retirement temporarily to help the church — but "temporarily" became 16 months.

Mark Andrus, one of the two bishops who leads the Alabama Episcopal Diocese — the administrative body of the church in the state — visited St. Michael's in September and discussed the church's involvement in a new Restart Program through which the diocese would provide funds and support to find a full-time pastor who could reinvigorate the parish.

As leader of the church's lay people, Wall has worked closely with the diocese on the Restart Program.

"We will be receiving a very generous grant over the next five years as we concentrate on growth," she said. "And considering this investment the Alabama Diocese is putting into its Millbrook parish, we wanted to take our time to find a minister who will be the right match for our church."

Wall says the search committee interviewed six candidates over 10 months.

"But really, it was out of our hands," she said. "We just let the Holy Spirit lead us to the right person."

Last December, it became apparent that

the "right person" might be a minister some 800 miles away in Virginia. So two members of the search committee traveled to St. Patrick's Church in Annandale, Va., to interview the candidate for the job and to hear him preach.

Gordon Butcher, one of the interviewers, was impressed.

"His sermon was magical," he said. "And he connected well with his people and all had a high regard for him."

Bill Cunningham, a deacon at St. Michael's who was traveling with Butcher, agreed. "We talked with lots of people at St. Patrick's. Each one told us this man was one of the best ministers they had ever known," said Cunningham. "He gave one of the best sermons I have ever experienced, speaking directly from his heart."

The St. Michael's vestry — the body of church leadership akin to the Elders in other denominations — quickly voted to invite the preacher to be St. Michael's sixth full-time minister and to lead the church into its second half-century of worship and fellowship.

The new minister's name was also Mark Waldo. Or, more precisely, Mark



Al Perkins

ALONG THE WAY

Hymnals give praise to God

"Singing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him ... sing to him a new song, play skillfully and shout for joy." (Psalm 33:1,3 New International Version)

For over 3,000 years, people who have assembled themselves to worship God have endeavored to obey that exhortation from the psalmist. Musicians, composers and poets have combined their talents to assist congregations in making a joyful noise unto the Lord.

Of the making of hymnals there seems to be no end. The Psalter is certainly one of the earliest collections of worship songs and today you can take your pick from a vast assortment of offerings. Some denominations have their own, but the market is rife with generic volumes that cross all boundaries.

What inspires the composition of these songs? In Psalm 33, quoted above, the psalmist explains that his purpose is to praise God for His power and love in creation. "By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth." (Psalm 33:6)

Not long ago, in a Sunday school class, we sang a familiar and popular hymn that is old, but more recent than the Psalms. It was "In the Garden," composed by C. Austin Miles in 1912. It begins with a state-setting verse: "I come to the garden alone / while the dew is still on the roses; / and the voice I hear falling on my ear the Son of God discloses."

Someone in the class went home and did whatever people do with a computer; he brought me a print-out with all kinds of information about the composer, a Philadelphia pharmacist who wrote his first hymn in 1892. He then abandoned the drugstore and went to work as an editor of Hall-Mack publishers, who had printed his hymn. He was with them for 37 years.

He explained his motive for writing "In the Garden": "I read the story of the greatest morn in history; 'The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, while it was yet very dark, unto the sepulchre'; Instantly, completely, there unfolded in my mind the scenes of the garden of Joseph ... Out of the mists of

Torch: Minister avoided 'campaigning' for his son

From Page 1D

Waldo Jr., the son of Mark and Anne Waldo.

"It is an immense pleasure, privilege and joy to be here and to have followed my father's footsteps," said Mark Waldo Jr. during his first sermon at St. Michael's.

He is no stranger to the region. Raised in Alabama, he attended several Montgomery schools including Bellingrath Junior High. And he recalls many youthful afternoons at Robinson Springs in Millbrook, visiting and playing with childhood friends.

"Montgomery, Robinson

Springs, Millbrook, coming home, it's more powerful than I ever thought it would be," he admitted.

And he says with God's grace, he hopes to lead the effort to help St. Michael's grow because "God has given us a task to reach out to new neighborhoods."

"We all know Millbrook is

growing," he said. "St. Michael's has a responsibility to make sure there is room enough for other people to become part of this community of faith."

With that goal in mind, he hopes within three years to have blueprints to expand the existing church building.

About halfway through the

Rev. Mark Waldo Jr.'s first sermon, he produced a camera and surprised the congregation by taking a photograph of them.

"This photo will represent a moment in our church's history — where we are starting again," he said. "We have some exciting moments ahead of us."

One proud face captured in the photograph was the face of his father, who was on hand to see his namesake replace him in the St. Michael's pulpit.

But Waldo stresses that he made a conscious effort to avoid "campaigning" for his son when he first learned he was on the short-list for the position.

"Anne and I didn't have any business influencing the decision process," he said. "So we really did stay out of it."

"That's just like dad," said Mark Waldo Jr. "He never pressured me to go into the ministry. He was a great influence, of course, but it was just something I felt called to do."

Church members were quick to express their delight that he answered that call.

Kim Scott, a Coosada resident and longtime member of the church, remembers many of the past ministers with fondness. But Mark Waldo Jr., she says, is the best thing to happen to the church in a long time.

"I love his enthusiasm," she said. "He is truly a 'godsend' and

immediately won my heart, and that's not easy."

And Arbie Turner, who has been driving to St. Michael's from Prattville since joining the church a few years ago, feels he is perfect for the church at this time.

"He has the energy, talent and spiritual strength to lead us through our renewal and building stages," he said.

Turner also believes his wife, who passed away last year, would have approved.

"Christy would have loved Mark," he said. "She would have loved his intellect and his knowledge of the scriptures. She loved to study with someone that could challenge her."

After gaining a B.A. degree in education and music, Mark Waldo Jr., attended Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria.

And at about the same time, and long before he became a bishop, so too did Andrus.

"Mark was widely regarded as one of the most gifted seminarians for ministry of that time," said the bishop. "After I came to Alabama and spent considerable time with his parents, I saw that greatness was a Waldo family trait."

The younger Waldo went on to spend five years as minister at St. Alban's Church in Murrysville, Pa., before moving to St. Patrick's where he was director of children's ministries.

"I work well with people to create ideas and to support well those who make ideas become reality," he said. "I believe God calls forth the best in each of us and calls us to see the best in each other."

His father said he has had a wonderful experience filling in at the church.

"I've enjoyed my time at St. Michael's," he said. "The members have treated both Anne and me as part of their family."

Now the family relationship is continuing.

Nick Thomas is a freelance writer and teacher at Auburn University Montgomery. His feature stories have appeared in more than 60 newspapers in 27 states across the country.

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PROPOSED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI) TO CONSTRUCT A NEW ENTRY CONTROL FACILITY AND VISITORS CENTER AT MAXWELL AFB, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Maxwell AFB is making available for the public the Draft Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and the proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The Air Force proposes to construct a new Entry Control Facility and Visitors Center adjacent to the Bell Street gate at Maxwell AFB, Montgomery County, Alabama. Three buildings will be demolished to make available space for visitor parking, asphalt driveway access, new sidewalks, and new guardhouse facilities. In addition, one building will be renovated to provide a new visitor facility and the present guardhouse will be relocated and used as an overwatch building. The proposed area is along Washington Ferry Road.

The environmental aspects of the proposed plan and alternatives were considered in the Draft Final EA. Maxwell AFB has assessed the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action as described in the Draft Final EA and has determined that it will not significantly impact the quality of the