



St. Andrew's Tidings

For the Week of January 31st

Time to think about Lent, again!

The Reverend Raymond Wishart, Deacon

Maybe the church in general has over-simplified the idea of Lent over the years through Sunday School lessons that little children could grasp. We teach them to just give up something for forty days, easy idea to follow, but maybe as adults we need to look beyond that. To me it's more like making some New Year's resolutions, but these resolutions I really intend to keep. Lent is observed traditionally for 40 days until Easter (well, it's really really 46 days but that is a different story). Perhaps a better way to look at it is it's intended to be a period of renewal and rebirth of you as a Christian.

The purpose of Lent is to be a season of fasting, self-denial, spiritual growth, conversion, and simplicity. Lent, which comes from the Teutonic (Germanic) word for springtime, can be viewed as a spiritual spring cleaning: a time for taking spiritual inventory and then cleaning out those things which hinder our corporate and personal relationships with Jesus Christ and our service to him. Thus it is fitting that the season of Lent begin with a symbol of repentance: placing ashes mixed with oil on one's head or forehead. However, we must remember that our Lenten disciplines are supposed to ultimately transform our entire person: body, soul, and spirit, and help us become more like Christ. Christians call this process theosis, which St. Athanasius describes as "becoming by grace what God is by nature."

It does NOT have to be about giving up anything, it can be about changing habits. For example, if you don't normally do daily meditations Lent is a good time to start. Or if you do have a practice of daily meditations maybe you can add to that for Lent.

Diane Tate, our Episcopal Relief & Development representative, has ordered some wonderful Lenten Meditation books from the home office at ERD. Print copies of the Lenten Meditations are available in Byrne Hall, but you can also sign up to have the daily meditation sent directly to your email account so that each morning the meditation will be in your inbox reminding you to quiet yourself at the beginning of the day. Go to <http://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/church-campaigns/lent> to read online or sign up for the daily e-mail.

Another good source that I personally use for Lenten daily meditation is *Living Lent: Meditations for These Forty Days*, a paperback by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton. I enjoy her work, and she will be the speaker at the Men's Conference this year. Her books are also available in e-book format if you prefer (like I do). She actually has meditation books for the entire year, I think I have them all.

Claim some minutes for quiet reflection every day. Just do it. You need and deserve it, and it's a cinch nobody else is going to do it for you. Maybe it will start a new habit, one that will follow you for life.

Get ready, Ash Wednesday is February 10, service at 7:00 PM.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

NEW FORMAT

THIS WEEK WE WILL BEGIN A NEW SERIES CALLED "HOOKERS, LOOTERS, AND CHEATS: THE CURIOUS COMPANIONS OF JESUS."

FOLLOWING THESE SIX SESSIONS WILL BE FAILING, FALLING, AND FLYING: GENESIS STORIES OF ORIGINAL GRACE.



LENTEN DATES TO REMEMBER

Shrove Tuesday, February 9th: Mardi Gras Pancake Supper
Entertainment by the St. Andrew's Ukulele Choir, 6 p.m.
Wear your fanciest Krewe Outfit (Mardi Gras outfit)

Ash Wednesday, February 10: Imposition of Ashes,
February 10, 7 p.m.

Fridays in Lent: Stations of the Cross, 11 a.m.; Followed by
light soup and salad lunch. There will be a sign-up sheet on
the bulletin board for those who would like to prepare a
light soup and salad lunch.

Once again we will re-arrange the church in a more penitential style for Lent, and then face forward for Easter. During Lent we will exchange the Peace before the offertory. The Lord's Prayer will be intoned in the context of the service.



Thirty -fifth

Men's Conference

and Retreat

March 4, 5, & 6, 2016

The Alsolife:

Life Beyond the Life We Know

Presented by

Reverend Barbara Crafton

Priest, Author and Spiritual Director



This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple with Candlemass. The actual day, February 2, occurs exactly 40 days after Christmas, and marks the end of the Epiphany season. It serves a dual purpose: Mary would have gone to the temple for the Purification of women after childbirth, and it reminds us that Christ is the Light of the World. Old Simeon saw Jesus at this time and he remarked: “Lord, lettest now thy servant depart in peace, for now my eyes have seen thy salvation.” **The Candlemass is celebrated by lighting candles and if you have a candle you want to bring, say, that might burn during lent, it will be blessed in the process of the procession.**



SOME MAJOR REPAIRS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE ROOF HAVE BEEN MADE, AND A VERY LARGE DEAD PINE TREE ON THE VACANT LOT HAS BEEN REMOVED AT A COST WE WERE NOT PLANNING. IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL IF ANY OF YOU RECEIVING A TAX REFUND WOULD TITHE THAT TO THE REPAIRS!

To the Vestry, Clergy and Parishioners of St. Andrews

This past Sunday (Jan. 31) at the conclusion of the blessing of the new Vestry and delegates to the Diocesan Convention, new Senior Warden Kathy Lopez turned and made a short announcement.

Kathy said on behalf of the church, she thanked me for my service as Junior and Senior Warden. Then she clapped and all of the congregation started clapping and stood up.

I was very moved and couldn't have responded!! I felt so honored. Thank you, thank you. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve.

Thanks to all of my extended family.

Art



Shrove Tuesday

Mardi Gras

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Pancake Supper

6 p.m.

Bring Your Most Decadent Desserts and Wines to Share

Entertainment by the St. Andrew's Ukulele Orchestra

Come in Your Fanciest Krewe Outfit





**St. Andrews Movie Lovers Movie Night [This is
our 20th gathering]**

On Friday, **February 19, 2016**, St. Andrews Episcopal Church will host the St. Andrews Movie Lovers Movie Night at 6 p.m. in Byrne Hall

Dinner and a Movie:

Julie and Julia

Starring Meryl Streep, Amy Adams and Stanley Tucci. Rating: PG-13. 123-minutes. Julia Child's story of her start in the cooking profession is intertwined with blogger Julie Powell's 2002 challenge to cook all the recipes in Child's first book. Filmed in Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Paris.

Dinner: Soups, Beef Bourguignon, red and white wine, ginger ale and chilled bottled water.

Trivia Contest at end with winner getting a copy of Julia Child's book "Mastering the Art of French Cooking."

No admittance fee, but donations accepted and encouraged. One-hundred percent (100%) of all donations will go to Living Stones building fund.

Questions: Contact Dr. Dan Finley at dfinley@gulfcoast.edu

JUST FYI

The back row on the front side is reserved for the Ushers and the Oblationers. Please try to sit “forward” so that newcomers and others who might come in late will not have to walk up to the front.

Happy Birthday to You!

We are updating our Parish Birthday and Anniversary lists and need your help. Please check the large calendars on the table in Byrne Hall and PRINT your name on the date of your birthday and anniversary. Thank you for your help.



(Calendars will be back on the tables on Sunday, Feb. 7)

SAVE THE DATE

Supper at Grace is Thursday, February 18. Come join in the ministry and fellowship:

- **9:00 Byrne Hall to pack lunches and do prep work for supper**
- **3:00- 7:00 Grace Episcopal Church to set up, cook, serve and clean up- Come for any amount of time, all helping hands needed**
- **For more info: Teri Floore (763-2439) Diane Tate (769-0941)**



KITCHEN KLEAN-UP

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO TAKE A TURN
CLEANING UP THE KITCHEN ON SUNDAYS
AFTER COFFEE HOUR. THE SIGN-UP
SHEET IS ON THE KITCHEN DOOR.
THANKS!**



Calling All Panama City Episcopalians!

Bill Buskell, owner of Pineapple Willies and The Wicked Wheel on Middle Beach Road, who is a good Episcopalian, will give St. Andrew's 15% of the total tab from now until February 16 if you bring a church bulletin and eat on Sunday at the Wicked Wheel. What a Deal! Let's see how much we can earn.

St. Mary's Guild

February 9, 2016, at 10:00 am in the church library is our next meeting. All St. Andrew's ladies are invited to hear about a piece of our local history. Janice Cronan will tell us about the "Genealogy of the Salt Works".

Hostesses will be Ann Bruce, Laurie Ayers and Shirley Gobat.

Grocery Cart Ministry



Join us in supporting the St. Andrew Baptist Benevolence Mission Food Pantry. The food pantry is open five days a week to distribute groceries to our neighbors in need of help. We are focusing on **BREAKFAST CEREALS**. When you shop for your groceries, please remember those in need and purchase an item for our Grocery Cart Ministry. Collection baskets are under the bulletin board in Byrne Hall.

Episcopal Relief and Development

Many of you gave generously to Episcopal Relief and Development at Christmas through your purchases at the Alternative Gift Market. As we prepare ourselves for Lent, there is a new opportunity to become more familiar with Episcopal Relief and Development and support its mission through daily prayer and meditation. Print copies of the Lenten Meditations will be available at the end of the month in Byrne Hall, but you can also sign up to have the daily meditation sent directly to your email account so that each morning the meditation will be in your inbox reminding you to quiet yourself at the beginning of the day and join with other Episcopalians to reflect on our mission to recognize and uphold human dignity. The address to sign up for Lenten Meditations to be delivered via email is: <http://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/church-campaigns/lent> . Scroll down and on the right hand side of the page is a notice to sign up for email delivery of the Lenten Meditations. Click on that and fill in your email address.

Episcopal Relief & Development's Mandate:

*Lord, when was it that We saw you hungry and gave you food?
We saw you thirsty and gave you something to drink?
We saw you a stranger and welcomed you?
We saw you sick and took care of you?
We saw you in prison and visited you?*

'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

—Matthew 25: 37-40 (NRSV)



Please keep the following in your prayers: Bob, Virginia, Mike, Warren, Mary, Jeremy, Dozier, Josh, Deb, Anne, Shawn,, Camille, Jan, Jeremy, Kim, Vito, Luke, Markuson family, Patricia, Martha, Frances, Carol, Doris, Ed, Bobbie, Reagan, Christian, Peggy, Vincent, Donald, Terry, Pam, Steven, Amy, Kyleigh, Denise, Susan, Irv, Jeanne, Wes, Bev, Lillian, Kathleen, Pam, Kirsten, Mary Jane, Bill and Margaret, MaryLou, Dawn, Hong, John

(Names are left on the prayer list for 3 weeks, unless specified for a longer time)

*We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad:
Richard, David, Brian, Jason, Billy, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan, Jeremiah, Richard,
Patricia, Jeffrey*