



St. Andrew's Tidings

Message from Margaret:

In this season of Lent, the older testament readings have focused on covenantal relationships with God. The words of the Prophet Jeremiah this week, announces a new covenant that will be written on the hearts of the people. This takes on new meaning as we anticipate the events of holy Week. Jeremiah offers hope to a community that had broken its covenant relationship with God and is in exile. God will now make a new covenant to replace the one that had been broken when they were led out of Egypt. This renewed covenant with Judah and Israel would be written, not in stone, but on the hearts of the people—so that every person, “from the least...to the greatest would know God personally.” Jeremiah’s hope for a new covenant written in the hearts of God’s people is reflected in the Psalmist’s plea to “Create in me a clean heart, O God. Later, the followers of Jesus would experience another covenant through the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus.

What we need to remember is that at the time of Jesus, these people were not Christians, but Jews. In the Older Testament we learn that religion took three paths--beginning with Abraham. It is from the heart of the three: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam that the Oneness of the Divine springs, proclaiming the existence of a supreme Being who created all that is and continues to take interest in the whole creation. Scholar Mirabai Starr reminds us (*God of Love, p. 14-15*) this belief in one God is monotheism. Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are the world’s primary monotheistic faiths, and they each trace their spiritual lineage to a common ancestor: Abraham. Prior to the death of Jesus, and the memorializing of his words and works by a faithful group of Jews, the first two religions were Judaism and Islam. People began to use the word Christian after Jesus’ resurrection and ascension. Consequently, there are three roads to God after death. The way we have chosen, as Christians, is through Jesus—the Christ. But each of the three great religions have prayers that each believe leads them to God. We have the *Lord’s Prayer*, the Jews, the *Shema*, and for Muslims, the *Shahada*.

In this week’s Newer Testament reading, the unknown author of Hebrews goes on to explain the fullness of God’s salvation in who, for us Christians, is the

high priest of a new covenant. The mortal priests offered sacrifices for sins—their own as well as others’—because they were sinners too. Their priesthood, like that of Aaron, the first high priest, came from God’s call.

Likewise, Jesus did not choose his vocation; he fulfills the father’s redeeming purpose that he should be high priest. Jesus is *God’s Son and a priest forever* according to the order of Melchizedek. The Patriarch Abram (later Abraham) after rescuing his nephew Lot along with his family and possessions, received a blessing from Melchizedek, a “priest of God Most High;” whereupon Abram paid a tithe to Melchizedek (Genesis 14). Melchizedek’s priesthood was without beginning and without end; and thus in Jesus this eternal priesthood was fulfilled because of his submission to the Father. “Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. Yet Jesus is also one of us, and so able to have compassion for humanity in and through his suffering.

As we move towards Palm Sunday and the events of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, I offer these words of Thomas Merton:

I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end, nor do I really know myself.
And the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.
and I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,
though I may know nothing about it.
Therefore, I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever with me and will never leave me to face the perils alone.

Blessing & love,
Margaret+

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 20, 27
11 A.M.
AT THE LABYRINTH
FOLLOWED BY SOUP AND BREAD**

***Please sign up if you would be willing to make soup
and bring bread.***

MORNING PRAYER AND HEALING : 9 a.m.

A service of Morning Prayer, which will include a healing service, will be held on Tuesday mornings at 9 a.m. in the chapel.

LABYRINTH TO BE OPEN ON TUESDAYS

The spiritual practice of walking the labyrinth will be available on Tuesdays following Morning Prayer.

**PENNIES FROM HEAVEN SUNDAY-THIS
SUNDAY! Bring your pennies and change!
LET'S FINISH FILLING THE JUG. YOU WILL
HAVE A CHANCE TO GUESS HOW MUCH IS IN**

**THE JUG, AND A PRIZE WILL BE GIVEN FOR
THE PERSON CLOSEST TO THE AMOUNT!**

WOW-Monthly Wednesday Night Program- April 22

6 p.m. Covered Dish

7 p.m. Bay County Christian Youth Choir

In Concert

A free-will offering will be received to help our own Sayer Morgan to make the tour with the choir. They will be traveling to places such as New Jersey, Massachusetts, and North Carolina.

Come support Sayer and hear this wonderful choir!

March Book Club

The Book Club will meet on March 24, 2015

at 11:30 am at the home of Ann Bruce

Our book this month is "The Art of Hearing Heart Beats" by Jan-Philipp Sendker.

Bring a bag lunch. All are welcome!



Holy Week and Easter Services

Seder Meal and Maundy Thursday Service

*Seder Meal: 6 p.m. Sharp Please Make a
Reservation (Call the Church or Sign up)*

Service of Foot-washing: 7 p.m. with music

Good Friday Procession With Cross: 11 a.m.

*Meet in front of The Place on Harrison Ave.
There is plenty of parking in the back. We will
proceed down the sidewalk to 6th (Beach/98) and on to
the church. It is 1.2 mi. It is only .2 more than Oaks
By The Bay Park. If you cannot walk that far, meet us
at the Buccaneer.*

Holy Saturday: First Fire of Easter and First Eucharist of Easter: 6 p.m.

*Brass, Hand Bells, and Choir
Followed by a Gala Reception*

Easter Sunday: 10 a.m.: Festal Holy Eucharist With Brass, Hand Bells, and Choir



Easter Flowers and Music

There will be Inserts in the bulletin to sign up to give flowers and lilies, and underwrite the brass for Easter.

PRESCRIPTION PILL BOTTLES

St. Andrew Baptist Church provides a medical ministry for people in the community who need medical aid but are unable to pay for it. It is staffed by volunteer health professionals and funded by the church and some community agencies. One of its needs is empty prescription pill bottles with labels removed. They can use these bottles when dispensing medicine at the clinic. If you have empty bottles you would like to contribute, please remove the labels leave them in the Grocery Cart baskets under the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. Questions??- ask Margaret Seeberger.



GROCERY CART MINISTRY

During March we will be collecting **CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES** to support the St. Andrew Baptist Food Pantry. While we specify a food item every month, whenever you see a Buy One Get One bargain, please feel free to substitute with that item. All nutritious food is needed to supply the many families who come for help. Thank you for blessing others.



ST. ANDREWS MOVIE LOVERS MOVIE NIGHT

ON FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2015, ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH WILL HOST THE ST. ANDREWS MOVIE LOVERS MOVIE NIGHT. DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEN: FRIDAY, **MARCH 20, 2015**. START TIME: 6 PM.

WHERE: BYRNE (PARRISH) HALL, ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1608 BAKER COURT, PC 32401 [PARKING IN THE BACK]

MOVIE: **THE YOUNG VICTORIA** (2009) IMDB RATING 7.3; STARRING EMILY BLUNT, RUPERT FRIEND, PAUL BETTANY, AND MIRANDA RICHARDSON. RATING: PG. 105-MINUTES. THIS FILM TELLS THE STORY OF A YOUNG PRINCESS VICTORIA (HANOVER) BEFORE THE DEATH OF HER UNCLE, KING WILLIAM IV.

DINNER: MEXICAN FOOD (VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE), RED AND WHITE WINE, GINGER ALE AND CHILLED BOTTLED WATER.

TRIVIA CONTEST AT END WITH WINNER GETTING BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE (OR TWO BOTTLES OF WINE).

OTHER: 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

St. Andrews Oaks Garden of Hope

Many thanks are extended to the following people, organizations, and businesses for supporting the St. Andrew Oaks Garden of Hope. The students made their first trip to the vacant lot where the garden will be on Tuesday and they were so eager and excited. If you are interested in contributing or becoming involved, please contact Laurie Ayers at 866-5978.

St. Andrew's Foundation
St. Andrew's Vestry
Fredericka Jura in honor of Dr. John
Benton
Off the Wall Printers
Calvin Chester – Greenthumb Calboys
LLC
Pablo Coronel – Home Depot
Jeanette Green – Home Depot
Bob and Rose Dallas

Laurie and Wyn Ayers
Ann Bruce
Art Wimpenny
Camilla Jimmerson
Barbara Sontag
Fran Tate
The Rev. Dr. Margaret Shepard



Please keep the following in your prayers : Warren, Ruth Ann, Iva, , Rosemary,, Walt, Susan, Mary, Anna, Diane, Robin, Tammy, Alex, Betty, Jim, Mikey, Larry, Gary, Jonathan, Pat, Marty, Rita, Eric, Stephanie, Elijah, Dorothy, Dan, David, Don and Family, Kristy, Austin, Sandra, Anne, Tracy, Page, Norma, Lisa, Elaine, Madison, Bob, Toni, Jimmy, Bobby, Faye, Shawn and John, Beth, Carol

We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad: Jeff, James, Andrew, Kenneth, Evan, Ryan, Joe, Nate, Richard, David, Brian, Jason, Billy, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan, Jeremiah