



St. Andrew's Tidings

Message from Margaret

Among the evangelists, Luke is particularly concerned to describe what the body of the Lord was like, as well as how the disciples responded to him. Jesus was indeed alive and present more powerfully than ever, appearing at unexpected times and places. His presence was at once mysterious, physically real, and difficult to comprehend—as the followers of Jesus struggled to make sense of this astounding event.

Prior to our Gospel passage, Mary Magdalene and the other women had gone to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus. When the women reported that the tomb was empty, the disciples received their testimony as an idle tale. However, later in the day the Risen Lord appeared to Simon, who had accepted the reality that Jesus had been raised. To this was added the testimony of the two who walked to Emmaus with Jesus and ate with him. They were not members of the inner circle of disciples; and as the story progresses, it is clear that they had no knowledge or expectation that Jesus had conquered death. However, those who had not seen were still confused, and no doubt continued to question those who *had* seen.

Then as the disciples continue to reflect on the day's events, Jesus suddenly appears in their midst and speaks the familiar words of greeting, "Peace be with you." They are terrified and think Jesus must be a ghost. To calm their initial fears and to offer proof that he is indeed flesh and bones, he invites them to look at and touch his hands and feet—to see that his risen body is no less substantial than their own.

As further verification of his physical reality and presence, Jesus asks for a piece of broiled fish and eats it before them, thus symbolizing his victory over death in this renewal of table fellowship. Through this simple mealtime gathering, the extraordinary Easter miracle is known in the most physical and human of ways; eating with friends. In the future, Jesus will continue to be present with the community in the breaking of bread.

Easter is the event through which Scripture is to be interpreted, and this interpretation must be announced to the world. The Messiah is much more than a savior from political oppression and economic exploitation. He had to suffer and die so that in his rising from death *the whole creation could become new*. It was only the Risen Christ who could open the disciples' minds to this truth. This is what we celebrate during the Great Fifty Days of Easter! Thanks be to God.

Blessings and Love,

Margaret+

Region VI Party for Bishop and Kathy Duncan

As most of you know, we are divided into regions in the diocese. Our region consists of those parishes on this side of the diocese: Panama City, Panama City Beach, Apalachicola, and Port St. Joe. We will be having a party to say “good-bye” to Bishop and Mrs. Duncan on May 27th at Holy Nativity. Bishop Duncan will confirm and baptize at 6 p.m., and this will be followed by a hamburger/hot dog cook out at 7:30 p.m.. There will be a band and lots of fun. You are to BYO, but the food and sides will be furnished. Let's have a great crowd from St. Andrew's to attend. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board as we need to let Holy Nativity know how many so they can prepare enough hamburgers. All the clergy from our region will participate in the service. If you want to be baptized or confirmed, please speak to Margaret+.

THERE IS ONE ST. ANDREW'S PEW LEFT! IT IS IN BYRNE HALL!



Bay County Christian Children's Choir Concert

Please join us on Wednesday, April 22 at 7:00 pm. There will be a covered dish at 6:00 followed by the concert in the church.

The Bay County Christian Youth Choir, Inc., an independent interdenominational youth choir, was established in 2009 under the conviction that the future of congregational participation in the music of the church lies in the training and nurturing of its youth and children. The choir has the goals of teaching choir members (i) to speak and sing in public, (ii) the experience of performing locally and on choir tours, (iii) how to work together to achieve goals that can only be achieved collectively, (iv) the discipline of making a long-term commitment and the rewards of hard work, (v) how to "get along" with fellow choir members and (vi) skills that enable the choir members to be what God has called us all to be: worshipers of Him.

The choir performs a Fall or Christmas concert, sings three or four times throughout the year at area churches and also sings at three or four community events. Each year the choir takes a Spring tour.

The choir sings a mixture of classical choral literature, traditional hymn arrangements, spirituals as well as contemporary praise and worship songs, and each choir member will have a speaking part during the tour program. Each tour program is thematic, with the songs and speaking parts tied together by this theme. There are short Bible devotions throughout the year during choir rehearsal, and on tour the choir will view teaching videos on the bus and participate in Bible studies throughout the tour.

GROCERY CART MINISTRY

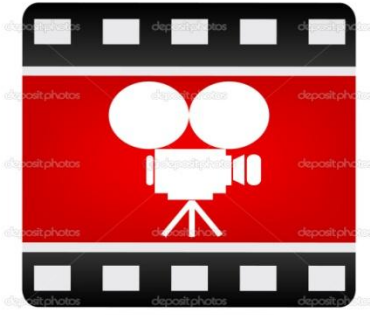
During April we will be collecting *cereal* for the food pantry at the St. Andrew Baptist Benevolence Center. All food goes to families in our community. When you are shopping for your family please purchase some *cereal* to help those in need.



An Interesting Bit of Trivia: While preparing the Parochial Report, we discovered that the attendance increase for 2014 over 2013, was 1,057! This included being in Byrne Hall during the construction. The increase continues for 2015 over 2014 as well. This is great news.

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. If you have empty bottles please leave them in the Grocery Cart baskets under the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. Questions??- ask Margaret Seeberger.



St. Andrews Movie Lovers Movie Night

On Friday, April 17, St. Andrews Episcopal Church will host the St. Andrews Movie Lovers Movie Night. Details are as follows:

When: Friday, April 17. Start time: 6 PM.

Where: Byrne (Parrish) Hall, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1608 Baker Court, PC 32401 [Parking in the Back]

What: Dinner and a Movie:

Movie: Path to Paradise: The Untold Story of the World Trade Center Bombing [IMDB 6.9]; Starring Peter Gallagher, Art Malik, Marcia Harden, Paul Guilfoyle, Allison Janney. Rating: R (violence and language); PG. 91-minutes. "Path to Paradise" is the incredible story of the events leading up to the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York (1993) and the capture of the terrorists. The FBI had an informant among the terrorists, but refused to pay him \$500-per-week for more information. They eventually had to pay \$1 million and place him in the witness protection program. This is a story of missed opportunities to avert tragedy and a foreshadowing of the terrible events of September 11, 2001.

Dinner: Red beans and rice (with sausage and vegetarian-version) thanks to Lucy and Robert Dozar, red and white wine, ginger ale and chilled bottled water.

Trivia Contest at end with winner getting bottle of champagne.

Viewed on big screen (48-inch) color TV

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

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, Faye, Shawn and John, Beth, Carol, Anna, Virginia, Iva

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