



## *St. Andrew's Tidings*

*For the Week of January 17th*

*Message from Margaret,*

The Gospel of John says that Jesus revealed his glory in the first of his signs at a wedding in Cana, and his disciples believed in him. The narrative doesn't tell us just how much of that glory the disciples saw or understood just the time of the wedding, for as Jesus explained to his mother, his hour had not yet come. In the vernacular of John's Gospel, his hour was the time of the crucifixion. In that hour Jesus would take his own bride and his glory would be fully revealed. For now, out in Cana, the disciples and Jesus' mother saw and tasted a new, fine wine that would revive a failing feast. Glorious though it was, says Frederick Niedner, it was only the beginning....

Another day came when Jesus asked for a drink, again precisely at midday. This time he received it in the form of sour wine, and with it he took to himself his bride—the whole world of us, whose sins he bore by uniting as one flesh with us. With his mother and the beloved disciple watching, Jesus' glory was fulfilled even as he himself declared, "It is finished." How fitting that Jesus' glory should commence its epiphany at the wedding of an anonymous couple in out-of-the-way Cana.

Like Jesus' life and work, our marriages share in the same irony—the full weight and glory of each appears only when death comes to part the couple... Here in the realm where death still appears at every wedding and sits silently through our feasts, we continue sharing the wine that Cana's guests bring to our table. Sometimes that wine is sweet and wondrous beyond all imagination. At other times the wine proves sour. We sip it from a sponge like those that the hospice people bring for times when the lips dry up and crack.

Both drinks, however, come from the same cup, the one we share with the Bridegroom who takes us as his own for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, and in whose arms we shall rest when death comes to close off all our other stories. Accordingly we dress now in wedding attire. We drink his wine and give our hearts away in the breathtaking risk of believing—a form of falling in love, really.

Then others see his glory in us, a glory poured like new wine into old stone jars. Especially, when we take our last sip from a sponge, the glory of Cana's guest appears, and though the long night of waiting, shows a way toward hope.

Let us keep all of this in mind as we will very soon enter into the Lenten and Easter Season. Lent and Easter come very early this year: Ash Wednesday will be February 10<sup>th</sup>, and Easter will be March 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Blessings and love,*

*Margaret+*



**NEEDED-TWO EUCHARISTIC VISITORS  
TO TAKE HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOSPITALIZED  
AND HOMEBOUND.**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SERVE, PLEASE SPEAK WITH  
MARGARET**

*Coming Up:*

*Pre-convention meeting of delegates to convention  
from area churches in our Region*

*will be on Jan. 31, 2016 from 4:00-6:00. Diocesan  
Convention is February 18-20 at St. Paul's Daphne*



*Thirty-fifth*

**Men's Conference**

*and Retreat*

**March 4, 5, & 6, 2016**

***The Also-life:***

***Life Beyond the Life We Know***

*Presented by*

**Reverend Barbara Crafton**

***Priest, Author and Spiritual Director***



*Would you like a Norfolk Island Pine?  
Now is your chance! You can purchase one  
of the trees in the worship space or narthex  
for only \$15. Please make your check out to  
the church and put "tree" on the check.*

**Please Note:**

**If you have info to go in the bulletin, please  
send it in by 10 a.m. on Wednesday. If you  
have items for the Tidings, please send in by  
10 a.m. on Thursday.**

*Centering Prayer **Resumes** This  
Coming Tuesday January 19th*

*at 10 a.m.*

*In the Chapel*



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**2016 Calendar**

To avoid double booking, please turn in to the office your dates and times of regularly scheduled events by Wed., Jan. 20. The calendar will go to print next week.



## **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. Andrews Movie Lovers Movie Night

On Friday, **January 15, 2016**, St. Andrews Episcopal Church will host the St. Andrews Movie Lovers Movie Night. Details are as follows:

When: Friday, **January 15, 2016**. 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: Flywheel

Dinner: Pizza, red and white wine, ginger ale and chilled bottled water.

Trivia Contest at end with winner getting bottle of champagne.

Movie shown 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.

## GROCERY CART MINISTRY

When the groceries collected by our parish were delivered to the food pantry at St. Andrew Baptist, the coordinator of the program said it was completely out of cereal- that the two boxes we gave were all that was available. When you are doing your grocery shopping this week please pick up some cereal and place it in the basket under the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. Thank you for blessing others.



## 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: [www.episcopalrelief.org/churchinaction](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/churchinaction) .

### 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)



*The Living Stones Fund  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church*

*Has received a gift in honor of*

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*From*

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*Welcoming every to celebrate the wholeness of God's creation in our  
language, worship prayer and music.*

*This is your opportunity to give a lasting  
gift to Living Stones. You can celebrate a  
special occasion or remember a special  
person.*

*Please keep the following in your prayers: Bob, Virginia, Ryan, Andrea, Alexis, Pam, Mike, Warren, Mary, Kellie, Lindsey, Doris, Marvin, Robin, David, Margaret, Tripp, Mike Michele, Richard, Jeremy, Dozier, Josh, Bonnie, Fran, Nancy, Bobby, Deb, Anne, Shawn,, Camille, Jan, Jeremy, Kim, Vito, Luke, Markuson family, Patricia, Martha, Frances, Carol, Kathleen, Doris, Ed, Mary Lou, Bobbie, Dawn, Hong*

*(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*