



St. Andrew's Tidings

For the Week of January 24th

Message from Margaret,

In our Gospel reading from Luke this week, Jesus reads the Word of God in the Synagogue of Nazareth and explains it to the congregation gathered there. This story follows directly after Jesus' experience of the wilderness retreat that prepared him for his vocation. That retreat had been an experience of temptation regarding the way in which Jesus would fulfill that vocation.

Jesus had overcome the temptation to bribe would be disciples with hand-outs of food; and that of seeking political power to do good; and that of coercing a following by performing stupendous signs. Now he returns in the power of the Spirit to Galilee to teach in the village synagogues. At first the message is popular and brings to Jesus fame and praise. But there is more to be done than telling people what they want to hear; and in Nazareth Jesus begins to outline the prophetic message for his day.

The reading offered was from the Isaiah scroll. Our Gospel gives it in the Septuagint version which Luke's readers would know. It adds to the known Hebrew text the phrase "recovery of sight to the blind." Some modern translations omit the words "bind up the broken-hearted" because they are missing from several of the earliest copies of Luke. Quoting from this text, Jesus really gets close attention from the hearers. The reading closes with the words: "Today, this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." This is to say, that in the ministry of Jesus, God's work of deliverance would be accomplished. Jesus goes on from there to heal all sorts of people and was driven out of town and many in the synagogue were enraged by him.

In enlarging the boundary of who may be included in the people of God, a prospect of divisiveness appeared. But what Jesus was trying to do and say, was to look for God where people hurt. The Gospel happens most powerfully when the Spirit of the lord, dwelling in the Lord's people, is brought to bear on human suffering. Looking for God? Look where the Gospel intersects with the poor.

Look where the Gospel releases the captives, the blind and the oppressed. It is there that we see God.

A marvelous Hasidic tale is told about an elderly rabbi, renowned for his purity, who was unexpectedly approached by a youthful disciple. The impetuous seeker fell at the feet of the rabbi and exclaimed: “My master, I love you!” The old teacher looked up from his books and asked the fervent disciple: “Do you know what hurts me, my son?”

The young man looked puzzled, but composed himself and replied: “I don’t understand your question, rabbi. I am trying to tell you how much you mean to me, and you confuse me with irrelevant questions.” The rabbi rejoined, “My question is neither confusing nor irrelevant, for if you do not know what hurts me, how can you truly love me?”

*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 Alsolife:

Life Beyond the Life We Know

Presented by

Reverend Barbara Crafton

Priest, Author and Spiritual Director



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 Krew 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.



Candlemass will be celebrated on February 7th at the 10 a.m. service. This service celebrates the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple. We hear remnants of old Simeon who was so delighted to finally see Jesus that he said "Lord, let your servant now go in peace for I have seen his glory." And we celebrate Jesus who has come as a "Light to enlighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel."



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 Krew Outfit





*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.*

JUST FYI

The back row on the front side is reserved for the ushers and the Oblationers. Please try to sit "forward" so that new comers and others who might come in late will not have to walk up to the front.

Centering Prayer
at 10 a.m.
In the Chapel



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.





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. Andrew's Foundation

St. Andrew's Foundation will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, January 31, 2016, in the church library following the 10:00 service. There is a display board in Byrne Hall to familiarize parishioners with the mission of the Foundation and the types of grants available through the Foundation. If you have any questions or if you would like to submit a request for a grant, please contact one of the Foundation directors listed on the display board.

Grocery Cart Ministry



Join us in supporting the St. Andrew Baptist Benevolence Mission's 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)



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

Has received a gift in honor of

From

*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, Jeffrey*