



St. Andrew's Tidings

For the Week of January 31st

Message from Margaret,

Our Gospel reading this week takes up where last week's text ended and recounts the reaction of the congregation in Nazareth, when Jesus proclaims, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." Jesus understood that the words he had just read from the Isaiah Scroll defined his own vocation. The Holy Spirit had come upon him at his Baptism. The Spirit had then driven him into the desert to face temptation and to renounce false ways of accompanying his mission.

So Jesus knew that he had been anointed to bring good news to the poor, sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed. These were the manifestations of jubilee—the year of the Lord's favor. Here in Nazareth, Jesus would be doing what the prophet had promised. These were gracious words, and the first reaction of the people of Nazareth was astonishment that Jesus should say that the prophet's words were now fulfilled in their midst. But their amazement soon turned to skepticism and anger. They knew Jesus only as the son of Joseph. How could anyone make such a claim?

Yes, Jesus had grown up in that very town, and even though they spoke well of him at first, he said words they didn't understand. They were filled with such rage that they tried to hurl him off a cliff. They had wanted Jesus to grow up—but not to grow beyond their expectations or control.

The season of Epiphany, which is quickly coming to a close, is filled with all sorts of small *epiphanies* or revelations. Now that winter is half over, every day the light has been growing, a minute or two at a time. As daylight increases, we can see more. We see the light; we can see *in* the light. What we discover, over and over during the season, is how God in Christ is made manifest in the world.

The Word of God is not only comfort but challenge. The prophetic word may push us beyond familiar ground, where we may discover things for which we are not quite ready. The choice is ours. We either accept the message and its messenger, or we push back, trying to destroy what is beyond our expectations and control.

In childhood we spoke, thought, and reasoned as children. With maturity comes the insight that even in the bright light of adult life, we see through a mirror, dimly. Our knowledge is only partial. The good news is that there always will be more for us to discover, more to challenge and to comfort us. When love rules all in all we will at last see face to face—and (*before I formed you in the womb, I knew you*) we will know, even as fully as we are known.

A Sufi tale lets us know how closely we are known by God. “How does one seek union with God?” the seeker asks.

“The harder you seek, the more distance you create between God and you,” the holy one answers.

“So what does one do about the distance?” the seeker persists.

“Understand that it isn’t there,” the holy one answers.”

Shalom!

Margaret+

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

THIS WEEK WE FINISH UP OUR STUDY OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE. NEXT 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.



**NEEDED-TWO EUCHARISTIC VISITORS
TO TAKE HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOSPITALIZED
AND HOMEBOUND.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SERVE, PLEASE SPEAK WITH
MARGARET**



SOME MAJOR REPAIRS

***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!***



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. The Lord's
Prayer will be intoned in the context of the service.



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



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.

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)**

*This Week will be the last time
for Centering Prayer Until After
Lent*

10 a.m.

In the Chapel



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.

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 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, Mike, Warren, Mary, Kellie, Lindsey, Doris, Marvin, Robin, David, Margaret, Tripp, Michele, Richard, Jeremy, Dozier, Josh, Deb, Anne, Shawn,, Camille, Jan, Jeremy, Kim, Vito, Luke, Markuson family, Patricia, Martha, Frances, Carol, Kathleen, Doris, Ed, Mary Lou, Bobbie, Dawn, Reagan, Christian, Peggy, Vincent, Donald, Terry, Kathleen, Pam, Steven, Amy, Kyleigh, Wes, Denise, Susan, Irv, Jeanne

(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*