



## St. Andrew's Tidings

*Sunday, February 10*

### COMING UP

**SHROVE TUESDAY: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12. FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 6 P.M.**

COME DRESSED AS YOUR "SHADOW SELF" OR IN MARDI GRAS COSTUME, BRING YOUR MOST DECADENT DESSERTS AND WINES TO SHARE. ENJOY JAZZ AND FUN. THE EVENING WILL END WITH THE BURYING OF THE ALLELUIAS AND THE CARRYING OF CANDLES FOR MEDITATION.

*You are invited to bring a candle in a mason jar or a hurricane lamp, or some such device to keep the candle from going out. It will be lit at the end of the evening as we sing the Alleluias. You may take it home to use in your meditation to keep a holy Lent.*

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13: ASH WEDNESDAY: IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND HOLY EUCHARIST**

**12 NOON & 6:30P.M. (WITH MUSIC)**

**FRIDAYS IN LENT:**

**NOON, FOLLOWED BY A LIGHT LUNCH**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27:**

**WOW THE LINE 6 P.M. PLEASE BRING A FRIEND THIS WONDERFUL VIDEO FOCUSES ON POVERTY IN OUR COUNTRY ESPECIALLY AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN HOME-OWNERS AND HAVE HAD NORMAL LIVES BEFORE. THIS WILL BE OUR FOCUS FOR THE LENTEN SEASON. COVERED DISH.**

### *St Mary's Guild*

*St. Mary's Guild will meet on Feb. 12, at 10:00 am and the home of Mary Davenport, 100 Cherry Street, Apt. 204. The program "About Afghanistan" will be led by Alissa James. Hostesses for this meeting will be Shirley Gobat, Marilyn Hermansen and Vera Lansing. Please join us and bring a friend.*

## SUPPER AT GRACE

Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> is St. Andrew's turn to cook and serve Supper at Grace (Grace Episcopal Church, Panama City Beach). Each Thursday evening throughout the year dinner is provided at Grace Church for needy people in the community. St. Andrew's provides dinner 6 times a year. Teri Floore heads this ministry and funds to support it are provided by the St. Andrew's Foundation. We need people to make sandwiches, transport food, serve a hot dinner and clean up. If you can help sign up on bulletin board in Byrne Hall. What a blessing for you to serve others as we begin Lent.

### *St. Andrew's on the Web!!*

*Did you know St. Andrew's has a web page? Did you know you can listen to the past week's sermon on that web page? Go to [www.standrewsbythebay.org](http://www.standrewsbythebay.org) and click on "media."*

### *Facebook*

*Facebook update includes 44 likes. Pictures, events, etc. Please visit our FB page and "like" us.*



### **Lenten Candles**

**A lovely set of votive prayer candles have lovingly been given to St. Andrew's. They will be in the narthex beginning Ash Wednesday for you to light and say a prayer as a Lenten discipline.**

**Message from Margaret...**

**During Lent we will be meditating on poverty and hunger and our response.**

## Christ's Transfiguration and the Christian Response to Hunger

How do we see hunger from where we are right this minute? From our church pews, is it possible to see the 1 billion human beings suffering from hunger? Does where we stand determine what we see?

The transfiguration of Christ on the mountaintop is one of the most power-filled images in the Scriptures. We can feel the strength of the event as it is experienced by the disciples Peter, James, and John .

A natural response to this event is captured in the excitement of Peter: "Lord, it is good to be here. I will make three tents; one for you, one for Elijah, and one for Moses." With a little imagination, we might hear Peter saying next, "Why don't we stay here?"

Instead giving them a sermon or a guilt-inducing lecture, Christ follows this peak experience simply by leading the disciples down the mountain. He led them down because he knew he must return to the people and face, with the disciples, the painful need of the valley. He knew that where we stand determines what we see.

Does where I stand determine what I see? If I live in a country where there is food enough that tons of it are destroyed because it spoils before it can be consumed, I see hunger one way. If I am a mother watching my child die in my arms because there is no food, I see hunger another way. If I am one of those who must have a snack between meals because my stomach growls, I see hunger one way. If I am like many other elderly poor people in this country, regularly missing several meals a month because medical bills take the last of my money, I see hunger another way.

For most of us, our faith journey feels the best when it takes us to the mountaintops. Some of us find them in church on Sunday morning in a hymn, an inspiring sermon, or a special prayer. Some of us find them in a quiet personal time of reflection and meditation. In the midst of these times, we may pause to say, "It is good to be here." These times renew our spirits and enrich our faith.

But Christ calls us from those times to stand in another place. We are called to risk coming down from the mountain to see those among us who are poor, hungry, dispossessed. To see them as they really live, we must come down from our places of security to see their vulnerability and powerlessness, and to see the true causes of injustice.

It is the call of every disciple to come down from the majesty of the mountain with Christ, bringing the light of the transfiguration to meet the stark reality of the cross that reflects the suffering of all humankind. Our hungry sisters and brothers can then be seen, touched, even fed. Then resurrection and reconciliation are possible.