



## St. Andrew's Tidings

Sunday, July 7, 2013

### ***Message from Margaret...***

***Jean Pierre de Caussade tells us:*** Our task (as Christians) is to offer ourselves up to God like a clean, smooth canvas and not bother ourselves about what God may choose to paint on it, but, at every moment, feel only the stroke of God's brush."

I think this connects with what the disciples, those early evangelists, did when going out into the diaspora. Sunday's gospel describes the second wave of evangelists that Jesus sent out to the highways and byways. The first commissioning had been given to the Inner Circle, described by Luke at the beginning of chapter 9: "Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority...to proclaim the kingdom of God to heal."

But then, in an extension included only by Luke, we read that Jesus expanded the call through the second commissioning. The seventy are never mentioned by name, and there is no hint that they were especially gifted or trained, educated, noble, pious, or exceedingly moral as examples to the people. There was apparently no indication that they were great preachers or communicators. They are referred to not as the "seventy best" but simply the "seventy others." Jesus gave these seventy, as he did the disciples before them, very little to go on. They were told simply to disperse themselves out over the territory armed with two "tools": the authority Jesus bequeathed to them, and the support of a partner-traveling in pairs.

Many scholars regard this mission of the Seventy simply as a variant of that of the Twelve. In both accounts the missionaries are told to go without money, and without a bag to carry gifts of food that they might receive along the way. In both they are to heal the sick and to proclaim the Kingdom of God. In both they are to lodge in the same house as long as they remain in a given town, and to shake off the dust from their feet as witnesses against any place that will not welcome them. This action of shaking off dust had derived from a scribal notion that dust from pagan lands was defiling and therefore should be left in its place rather than being brought back to Israel.

There are actually two translations of this story, one referring to seventy and one referring to seventy two disciples. But there is no overwhelming weight of evidence either way. Some contend that the number corresponds to the seventy elders chosen by Moses or perhaps to the number of non Jewish nations. Luke's decision to include both traditions serves to make clear *that all of us are called to some sort of mission*. This is what the church "gathered" is all about. We must step out with boldness. We must sometimes step out, as Elizabeth-Anne Stewart writes- as "Holy Fools." By imitating Holy Foolishness, she says, Christians can find courage and meaning in their own lives—the boldness to stand outside the social circle of acceptability and to name what is—no matter what the price; the single-mindedness to place the love of God before all else; the daring to take great leaps of faith when everyone else asks, 'Where is the safety net?' "Jesus the Holy Fool is one who empowers the weak and the vulnerable. He lays the mantle of prophecy upon the voiceless and calls the marginalized to lead others to heroic stands. When the world laughs, ridiculing those who march to a different

drummer, Jesus the Holy Fool applauds, inviting them to share the circus ring with all the holy clowns of history.”

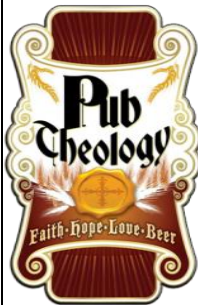
Looking at the size of the task and the immensity of the world to be harvested for God—we marvel that the seventy succeeded as well as they did! Since the life-expectancy of unprotected sheep among wolves is about as long as it takes to cook a lamb chop—in retrospect, they were remarkably bold. Maybe the key is to look more closely to their message: The inbreaking power of the Kingdom of God is about to be unleashed on the world! Now that is News!

So do we find ourselves standing with Jesus alongside the twelve—and the seventy—as “holy fools”? If not..... Why not?

*Blessings and love, Margaret+*

*The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Kaylee by Sean and Melinda Hall.*

*Pub Theology  
Tomorrow  
Night 6 p.m.  
“The Place”  
on Harrison*



*Bring a  
Bible-no  
experience  
necessary!*

## ***CURSILLO!***

***THE NEXT CURSILLO (#151) IS SEPTEMBER 12-15. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO, APPLICATIONS ARE IN BYRNE HALL ON THE RACK. IT IS FREE! AND A CHANCE OF A LIFE TIME!***

## Did You Know?

Did you know that an Episcopal mission of 12 people called Christ Church was established in 1912 under the direction of Bishop Weed? The Baker family donated land for a building at the corner of Fairland Ave. and Baker Court in that year. The church building was constructed in 1914 while the church was being led by John William Foster, Vicar. It became a parish in 1914 and changed its name to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church after the patron saint of fishermen.

This month we will begin a year-long centennial celebration of praise and thanksgiving for God's blessings upon St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. An exciting event is being planned for each month from July 2013 until July 2014.

## Calling ALL Cooks!

The centennial celebration event for July 2013 is to collect **100** recipes from the superb cooks of St. Andrew's so we can publish a commemorative centennial cookbook later in the year. All of our wonderful cooks (and you know we have lots) are asked to share several of their most delicious recipes. The cookbook categories include: Appetizers & Beverages, Soups & Salads, Vegetables & Side Dishes, Main Dishes, Breads & Rolls, Desserts, Cookies & Candy, and This & That.

Blank recipe forms are available in Byrne Hall. A box to return the completed recipe forms is also available in Byrne Hall. **Please read the directions on the recipe forms carefully and complete the forms accordingly.** Try to get your recipes in as soon as possible to expedite submission to the publishers. Rally to the cause, cooks! The challenge is to collect 100 recipes by the end of July.

***MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HELPED WITH THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY CELEBRATION. THANKS TO MASTER CHEF AND GIRLLER MIKE KENNEDY!!***

*Please keep the following in your prayers, Marcie, Kelli, Gloria Mae, Helen, Michelle, Joni, Sandra, Rosemary, Warren, Iva, Anne, Bev, Martha, Mickey*

*We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad; Jeff, Bowe, James, Andrew, Kenneth, Evan, Ryan, Joe, Nate, Richard, David, Brian, Jason, Billy, Mike, Joseph, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan*