



St. Andrew's Tidings

Message from Margaret+

Each of us knows what it is like to “fall from grace” from time to time. That may happen when we have a disagreement with a friend, a co-worker, or even with our family members. It’s not much fun to be on the “outs” with another person. But, oh the joy we experience when reconciliation takes place once again. The tension is gone, forgiveness is in the air, and restoration is shared with those who once were angry and withdrawn. And this is where God’s grace comes in.

Richard Rhor suggests God’s name is Grace. The goodness of God fills all the gaps of the universe, without discrimination or preference. God is the gratuity of absolutely everything. The space in between everything is not space at all but Spirit. God is the “goodness glue” that holds the dark and light of things together, the free energy that carries all death across the Great Divide and transmutes it into Life. When we say that Christ “paid the debt once and for all,” it simply means that God’s job is to make up for all the deficiencies in the universe. What else would God do?

Grace is not something God gives; grace is who God *is*. Grace is God’s official job description. *Grace is what God does to keep all things that God has created in love alive—forever.* If we are to believe the primary witnesses—the mystics, the saints, the transformed people—an unexplainable goodness is at work in the universe. (Some of us call this phenomenon God, but that word is not necessary. In fact, sometimes it gets in the way of the experience, because too many have named God something other than Grace.)

This week, Jesus’ name is “Good Shepherd.” Jesus, as the Good Shepherd, has compassion for his wooly sheep-us. A good example of his restoration of one of these sheep is in Peter’s life. With tenderness, love, and patience, Jesus restored Peter’s soul after his denial. God wants us to come close in fellowship. Our sin

separates us. Repentance and confession of sin restores our closeness with the Lord. When that intimacy is restored, so is joy, because in God's presence is fullness of joy. Because our Lord loves us so, he has come to restore our souls through his own death on a cross. And that, my wooly friends, is grace.

Remember, the next time you feel "cast down" in life, you have a Good Shepherd who has restored your soul and set you on a high place in his love.

Blessings and love,

Margarett



TIME FOR BREAKFAST

Beginning June 1st. we will begin having breakfast at 8:30 a.m. once again. On June 8 there are plans being made for Pentecost, so that will be announced later. Please get with your Foyer group, your Reunion Group, your Prayer group etc. and sign up to do breakfast. Last year's menus were wonderful !

Some of you remember Stacey Holliday who played for the service and sang at the offertory several Sunday's ago:

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church Artist Series Presents

An Afternoon with Stacey Holliday

and Mary Ellen Reedie



Sunday, May 18, 2014 at 4:00 pm

*A recital of piano and violin music featuring music by Vivaldi,
Bach, Brahms, Rachmaninoff,
Debussy and Williams*

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church
222 North Bonita Ave. (In the Cove)
Panama City, FL 32401

850-747-4000

All donations will benefit the Music Ministry at Holy Nativity Episcopal Church

Pledges and Tithes

For the first time in a long time we are running behind in our giving/receiving. Granted, there has been a lot of illness etc. But it would be incredibly helpful for everyone to bring their giving up to date. Summer is approaching, air conditioning goes up etc. and many will be traveling so don't forget about your check to the church. Please consider your gifts to God at this time. Thanks.

COOK BOOKS



We still have centennial cookbooks for sale! Where else can you get a useful \$10 gift? Why not buy several and keep them on hand for those last minute occasions when you need a gift? Plus, the cookbooks reflect the wonderful heritage of our church. Remember, each adult member (male and female) is asked to buy at least two cookbooks to help raise money for the Living Stones campaign. By purchasing cookbooks, each of us takes an active role toward reaching the goals of making our church more accessible and of enhancing a sense of community at St. Andrew's. Visit the table in Byrne Hall and purchase yours today.

St. Mary's Guild

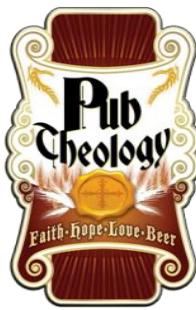
When: May 13th (last one till Sept.)

Where: Byrne Hall, 10:00 am

*Program: Valerie Lynch "Make a Scarf"
(choose your colors and design)*

*Hostesses: Camilla Jimmerson, Teri Floore
(Bring "finger food" or a salad for lunch.)*

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



*Bring a
Bible—
no experience
necessary!*

Tai Chi Classes to Begin Soon



An eight week Tai Chi workshop will begin soon on Tuesdays, beginning June 3. Lynda Jones will be the teacher. She has practiced for over 30 years, and has studied Tai Chi with Master Chung Jen Cheng of Taiwan before being given permission to teach Tai Chi Yang Style form.

Students will focus on perfecting the first 18 postures of the Yang Style form. Classes will begin with several warm-up exercises to help improve body flexibility. Breathing exercises will be taught to help the body release tension and focus on the practice. Handouts will be provided to help reinforce class study. After each eight week study, there will be a break, and then another eight week study. Classes are \$4 per class.

If you are interested in taking the class, please sign up on the bulletin board in Byrne Hall.

Please keep the following in your prayers : Louis, Ann, Maggie, Anne, Jerry, Jeremy, Patricia, Joe, David, Michele, Evan, Lauren, Wyn, Laurie, Bob, Sean, Jeanne, Irv, Peggy, Mary Jane, Pat, Matthew, Shawn, Charlie, Colleen, Kris, Mary, Kitty , Holly, Tiffany, Charlie, Lindsey, John, Bubba, Sandra, David, Frances, Tom, Miriam, Warren, Ruth Ann, Rosemary, Ira, Janet, Glen, Robert, Linne', Ginny, Pete

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, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan