



St. Andrew's Tidings

A Message from Deacon Ray

Climate Change and You!

The Reverend Raymond Wishart

Last week Margaret showed me some photos she had taken after the window at the end of the sanctuary was taken out and before the temporary wall had been put up. For the first time since the church had been built you could look out and see beautiful St. Andrews Bay. It almost brought tears to my eyes it was so gorgeous, and to think that soon all of us can see that beauty as we worship in renewed space. This really had me thinking about how our Eucharist is so closely related to that new view.

I guess it's just part of getting older, wiser, and maybe slowing down a bit to appreciate nature more that makes me love the Eucharistic Prayer C that we are using right now. In the church calendar we are in The Sundays after Pentecost: The "long green season" has had us read many of Jesus' parables about the natural world, and allows us to reflect on our own vocation as disciples and as Christian community. Our relationship to the natural world is included in the call to love God and neighbor. Sometimes nature is our text and teacher, just as it apparently was for Jesus. This season includes a time when our congregation should focus on stewardship -- a theme that inescapably includes our care for this fragile earth, the creatures with whom we share it, and those who will come.

At every Eucharist we proclaim: "Holy, holy, holy Lord... heaven and earth are full of your glory". In Eucharistic Prayer C we also proclaim that God's glory is not limited to the earth: "At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. By your will they were created and have their being." (BCP, 370)

In the account of Creation in Genesis chapter one, each act of creation ends with the affirmation, "And God saw that it was good." God blessed humankind and gave us "dominion" over the earth. This does not mean domination, but rather a responsibility to care for and preserve God's good Creation. God entrusted

humanity with the care and nurture of all that God created. God did not give us the right to pollute, destroy, or cause extinctions.

As Christians we accept our responsibility to protect and maintain Creation. We were put here to be the caretakers of what God loves and called good. Our own health and welfare depend upon our response to that call and how we take care of Creation will determine whether or not humans will survive in the long term. God put “Adam in the garden to till it and keep it”. The earth does not belong to us, we are to nurture and sustain it as in sacred trust.

We hear the commandment to “Love one another! ... Everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” It could not be clearer. If you love your neighbor and one another, you don’t pollute your neighbor’s air or water and you certainly don’t destroy your neighbor’s right to a safe and healthy life and environment. That is not love, but rather action that is in direct disobedience to the commandment to love one another.

In our Baptismal Covenant, we promise to “seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves.” That means not to destroy the very basic stability that poor nations and poor people around the world need for survival. Yet it is the poor nations of the world (our neighbors) that are paying for mistakes that we in wealthy countries have made without their contribution or their knowledge. This is a question of justice and one that religions have come to see in just that way. Jesus said “just as you did it to the least of these... you did it to me.” We have a responsibility to serve the poor. Preserving the world in which we all live is a part of that service.

Because burning fossil fuel for energy is one of the things that is increasing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, a greenhouse effect is occurring. The greenhouse gases act like a blanket around the earth and do not allow heat to escape. As a result, temperatures all over the planet are rising, and this is causing great harm to God’s Creation.

We recognize that global warming exacerbates all other environment problems; air quality, water shortages, severity of storms, species extinction, crop disruption, and disease. Everyone and everything will be effected by global warming, but it is the poor nations of the world that are already suffering from a condition that they knew nothing about and did not contribute to in the same degree that wealthy nations have.

Whether you believe in “Global Warming” or not, it’s obvious that we are undergoing some major climatic changes. I have personally seen glaciers this summer that have retreated more than 70 miles since the first white people documented them only 250 years ago. All of us can agree that we have seen some violent weather in recent years, including warmer summers and more extreme winters. The Episcopal Church seems to be leading the charge to be environmentally sensitive, I’m proud of that. Much of the information above I found on the national church’s website. We as a people need to pray, we need to listen, and we need to be aware.

Soon we will be looking out the new window during our Eucharistic Prayer to see “this fragile earth, our island home.” Help take good care of it; God has put it in your hands.

peace+
Ray

***Breakfast will be served this Sunday-
August 31, and next Sunday, September
7th. Thank you to all of you who have
cooked breakfast this summer!!***

**COMING UP: CURSILLO WEEKEND SEPTEMBER
25-28TH. APPLICATIONS ARE ON THE TRACT
RACK IN BYRNE HALL**

BISHOP DUNCAN TO VISIT



THE RIGHT REV. PHILIP M. DUNCAN WILL MAKE HIS ANNUAL VISIT TO ST. ANDREW'S ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD AT 6:30 P.M.

HE WILL CONFIRM AND BAPTIZE ON THAT EVENING. YOU ARE INVITED TO BRING "FINGER FOOD" FOR THE RECEPTION. PLEASE PUT IT ON A "DRESSY" PLATE THERE IS A SIGN UP SHEET ON THE BULLETIN BOARD

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NEEDED!

- 1. Some "Lay-Weeders" to help weed the beds in front of Byrne Hall.***
- 2. Someone with a pick up truck to pick up 80 bags of mulch from Lowes. (The bags are not very big.)***

Considering a Columbarium?

Perhaps the first question is, “What is a Columbarium?” The dictionary describes it as “A vault with niches to contain the ashes of cremated bodies.” In recent years more and more churches have installed Columbariums as a meaningful way to honor and respect the remains of those who have passed on. What better place than in the church to place these remains, just as we have in the memorial garden? It is there where we are baptized, it is there where we give our life to Christ. What better witness than to have our remains placed in this same sacred place?

The number of Christians who are being cremated rather than buried is ever increasing. A question often asked is, “What does one do with cremated remains of loved ones?” Fortunately there is a dignified way that is consistent with Christian tradition. From earliest times, Christians have buried their dead in churches. By utilizing a Columbarium, it is now possible for us to properly honor our dead by placing their remains in our church. Cremation and inurnment of the ashes is used extensively at Washington Cathedral. Area churches who have used the same company we have chosen for their Columbarium are: St. Andrew’s Episcopal, Destin; St. James, Port St. Joe; Christ Church and St. John’s, Pensacola; St. Simon, Fort Walton, and Epiphany, Crestview.

The planned location for the Columbarium is on either side of the entrance inside the chapel. We are offering a pre-construction price of \$300 plus tax per niche. After construction the price will be \$500 per niche. You will be receiving a letter about the columbarium with a “tear off” for your name and address, and you may use this to send in your check and your reservation.

Pennies from Heaven For Living Stones

Ladies, you know how exasperating it is to have all your change fall to the bottom of your purse; and men, you know how heavy your pockets can become with all that silver. Do we have a deal for you! There is a large bucket for “pocket change” at the back of the worship space for you to dump your change! When the bucket gets filled up, we will have a contest for everyone to guess how much change is in the bucket. The person who comes closest to the amount will win a prize.

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Because of our building situation, this fall we will have an informational Sunday School at 9 a.m. in Byrne Hall with coffee and sweet rolls. Each Sunday we will have an informational speaker who will talk about a relevant topic. This will begin the SECOND Sunday-September 14th. Gather around the tables.

The Central Gulf Coast Diocese Retreat on Women's Ministries



Rahab, one of Jesus' scandalous ancestors, helped the people of Israel enter the promised land.

Women of the Bible: Our Spiritual Foremothers Come Alive!

October 3rd-5th, 2014

At Beckwith Camp and Retreat Center

Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for further information or call the church office+.

THANK YOU

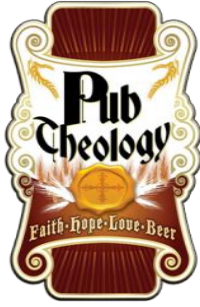
Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and serve Supper at Grace: Gail Tamberino, Ann Bruce, Fran Tate, Jeannie Cirks, Marilyn Hermansen, Jona Swift, Linne', Kelly and Sayre Morgan, Mary Johnson, Jerry Jimmerson, Ted Broome, Lucy Dozar, Diane Tate, and Teri Floore. We served dinner to about 60 people at the church in addition to providing about 40 take out dinners and 40 sack lunches. This is a wonderful opportunity to work on ministry with fellow parishioners and bless many in our community who are hungry. We will be serving Supper at Grace two more times this year- **October 16th** and **December 18th**. If **you** feel called to serve in this ministry please join us in October or December.



Construction Is On Track



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



*Bring a
Bible-
no experience
necessary!*

Please keep the following in your prayers : Warren, Ruth Ann, Iva, , Pete, Steve, Maria, Ethel, Joy, Jane, Kelly, Ryan, Colleen, Pete, Joni, Tim, Carol, Linda, Lui, Rhonda, Steven, Kathy, Jeremy, Rosemary, Dorothy, , Kiley, Maggie, Patricia, Jeremy, Anne, MaryLou, George, Walt, Debbie, Susan, Nurse Nancy, Dr. Kent, Mary Jane, Sammy, Rick, Jane, Joy, Ryan, Virginia, Diane, Glenda, Jay, Laura, Pam, Pat, Ashley, Reese

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