



St. Andrew's Tidings

A Message from Margaret

Between a tax and a hard place! Jesus may have come from heaven but he sure knew about earth as well. He kept a “dual citizenship”—that is, he understood how to be at once “wise as a serpent” and “innocent as a dove.” To be sure, he was aware that taxes—the compulsory payment of monies to the support of the government—galled the masses. He had heard the grumbling. He knew that the people were required to pay not only a “temple tax,” but also “Caesar’s tax” as well, which amounted to one-tenth of harvested grain and one fifth of distilled wine—paid in kind or in coinage. On top of that, Jesus knew they had a one percent “income tax” onto which the Romans added a “poll tax”—a tax levied on every male aged 12 to 65. In fact, Jesus may have known that this “poll tax” was what brought the Holy Family to Bethlehem from Nazareth for his remarkable birth. (Isn’t it great how God works!?)

The trap that was set for Jesus amounted to a classic “double bind.” If he says that it is lawful for the masses to pay Roman taxes, he certainly will not be popular. To people thirsting for tax relief—and sick of foreign domination—Jesus would be perceived as a wimp. He would become political Jell-O. Furthermore, to endorse the payment of taxes to Caesar—the imperial power that kept the people in subjugation—bordered on blasphemy for devout Jews. Only the Lord God was king, not Caesar, and Palestine was *their* land by Divine right. No godless pagans had claim to the land of Abraham. To pay taxes to Caesar only validated this wicked authority over them—a regular reminder of their woeful condition.

But to contend that it was unlawful to pay taxes to Caesar—a dangerous act of civil disobedience—would be used against Jesus as evidence of insurrection. Caesar could take just about anything but tax revolt. The Jewish authorities could use this display of “tax defiance” as hard evidence on which to have Jesus arrested. He would become another would-be “messiah,” who, with his movement, passed into oblivion. However, in his reply to those who sought to entrap him, Jesus reveals the “wisdom of the Holy Spirit.” God gives Jesus what to say in the present moment. Chances are pretty good that Jesus has not sat around the temple precincts trying to come up with a witty reply to a hypothetical conundrum. In the Spirit he tells them after first having them identify the coin: Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

The lesson teaches us that even though we are not “of” the world, we are nonetheless “in it.” As people of faith, we live in the tension between “Christ and culture.” Our home is the New Jerusalem, but we live and move and have our being in Panama City—or Pensacola, or New York City. Our destiny is *beyond* history, yet firmly embedded *in* history. We are saints who

live in Bab edh-Dhra, we are babes who dwell in Babylon. Until the Lord comes again, this is the tension under which we all live. I guess we need to get used to it!

In one sense, Jesus was like a visitor from the future (“the biggest event in human history”)—assuring us that God already had all things in hand—the present indications of sin and fallenness all around us (Including terror in our cities) notwithstanding. “Live on another level, even though you wake up in the midst of this concrete reality every morning. Trust me, God rules.” “It’s only money,” he might have been saying. “Give God your heart.” (Williams)

Margaret +

Sunday School for October: Forgiveness

9:00 a.m.

Bay Lights is Coming Soon!: November 1st. Plan now to attend!! Buy your raffle ticket from the Jimmersons for a chance at \$5,000! Don't forget your Wine for Beckwith!

Chairs

The Chairs are \$240 each. If you would like to purchase a chair in honor of or in memory of someone, please see Anne Staley following the service.

St. Andrews Movie Lovers Movie Night

Friday, October 17, 2014 at St. Andrews Episcopal Church for St. Andrews Movie Lovers Movie Night. Details are as follows:

Who: Dr. Dan Finley will coordinate; you can contact him by email at dfinley@gulfcoast.edu

When: Friday, October 17th; Start time: 6 PM.

Where: Byrne (Parrish) Hall, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1608 Baker Court, PC 32401 [Parking in the Back]

What: Dinner and a Movie

Dinner: Empanadas, red wine, white wine, ginger ale and water

Movie: Dragonfly (2002) IMDB 6.0: Starring Kevin Costner, Susanna Thompson & Kathy Bates; Dr. Joe Darrow is a recently widowed doctor. He is grieving due to the death of his pregnant wife in a Red Cross mission in Venezuela. Although being atheist, he began to believe that his dead wife wants to communicate with him, through her young patients in the Pediatrics of a Chicago hospital.

Announcement: We will have a large-screen TV!

Other: No admittance fee, but donations accepted and encouraged. None of the donations are used to cover expenses. All donations will go to Living Stones building fund.

Future: The concept is to find interesting and watchable movies for the movie lovers at St. Andrews and from the community. Current thinking is to rotate between little-seen good-to-great movies, foreign movies and classic movies. Will take requests.

For additional information, contact Dr. Dan at email address above.

Office Volunteers

We are in need of office volunteers. If you can spare a few hours, morning or afternoon, please speak to Kathy Lopez. You can also call her at 785-960

SUPPER AT GRACE

It's that time again! Thursday, October 16th, St. Andrew's will host Supper at Grace at Grace Episcopal Church on the beach. We provide a nutritious supper for about 100 men, women and children. Needed are volunteers to support this ministry by helping to set up, cook, serve and clean up. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. This is an opportunity to serve the needy and get acquainted with other St. Andrew's members. No experience needed- just a willing heart. For more information contact Teri Floore (763-2439).

Come Jam With Us!

Part of the Supper at Grace Ministry is preparing 50 sack lunches for guests to take out. We are going to prepare the lunches on Thursday morning, October 16th at 10:00 in Byrne Hall. Sack lunches contain a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, chips, cookies and a drink. All of the fixings are provided-all we need a some willing hands to come "jam" with us for about an hour to prepare and pack the lunches. If you would like to join this ministry to help feed the needy, please contact Teri Floore (763-2439) or Diane Tate (769-0941).



Grocery Cart Ministry

For over a decade our parish has supported the St. Andrew Baptist Benevolence Center's food pantry. This ministry provides food to clients that have been referred by government, religious and private organizations and by word of mouth. Last week it filled 323 food orders to service 1,052 clients. Clients are allowed one food order per month which includes staples such as canned vegetables and fruit, pasta and tomato sauce, rice, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and cereal. All food donations are given to local community members.

We are reviving our support of this ministry and asking each member of our parish who is able to purchase a specified food item. When shopping for your groceries please buy some Pasta and/or Tomato Sauce and place it in our baskets located under the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. We will collect Pasta & Tomato Sauce during October.



ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

NAMES OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED SINCE LAST ALL SAINTS' DAY WILL BE READ ON ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY. PLEASE ADD NAMES OF ANY FAMILY OR FRIENDS TO THE LIST ON THE TABLE IN THE CARPETED AREA OF BYRNE HALL



Columbarium & Memorial Garden

It is comforting to know that many of you will be interred in the new Columbarium. However, please know there will be continuing spaces in the Memorial garden out in the courtyard. This is a sanctified and dedicated space. It was blessed when it was built and will always be a viable choice. When it was built it was consecrated with the following prayer: “O God, whose blessed Son was laid in a sepulcher in the garden: Bless + we pray, this space, and grant that they who are to be buried here may dwell with Christ in paradise, and may come to your heavenly kingdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*” In the same way the Columbarium will be blessed to make it sacred space. Anyone wishing to purchase a space, the cost is \$500 per niche. After construction is finished, the cost will be \$1,000.

Chapel

Once the construction is finished and we are in the new space, the redesigned chapel, even though it is smaller will be used for many things such as quiet days, week day Morning Prayer etc. It will also, because of the Columbarium, be a chapel of repose. Many things that we did before in the chapel will so easily be done in the new worship space, because of the flexibility to make the space small or large. We will be doing a lot of things in the new worship space that we used to do in the chapel for that reason. The labyrinth will be available on certain days for meditation as well. Yes, things won't be like they always were, but this will be even better, as there will be more avenues for worship.

*Don't Forget your
Pennies from Heaven
For Living Stones*



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

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, Jeremiah