



St. Andrew's Tidings

A Message from Margaret,

Bishop in the Methodist Church, Wil Willamon, was serving in a little church in rural Georgia. A relative of one of his members died and he attended the funeral. It was in a little, hot, crowded, off-brand Baptist country church. He said they wheeled the coffin in; the preacher began to preach, and he shouted fumed, and flailed his arms. "It's too late for Joe," he screamed. "He might have wanted to do this or that in life, but it's too late for him now. He's dead. It's all over for him. He might have wanted to straighten his life out, but he can't now. It's over. ..."

"But it ain't too late for you! People drop dead every day. So why wait? Now is the day for decision. Now is the time to make your life count for something. Give your life to Jesus!"

Willamon said it was the worst thing he ever heard. He asked his wife, "Can you ever imagine a preacher doing that kind of thing to a grieving family? I've never heard anything so manipulative, cheap, and inappropriate. I would never give a sermon like that." She agreed... "Of course," she added, "the worst part of all is that what he said was true."

Being ready is the wise thing to do. But it is not easy. It is even harder if you are preparing for the unknown. The Church has always looked upon the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids as a strong warning to be ready for the day of judgment, the return of Christ at the end of time—and at one's own death. Part of the attraction of being able to predict the end of time is that it would make our preparation easier. (Armentrout) But God does not wait for the end to come into our lives. God comes to us in the present, in moments of opportunity, of truth, of encounter, of challenge. The bridegroom continues to come when we least expect it—we are taken by surprise and it's too late to run to the store for more oil.

So how do we prepare for the moments when the bridegroom comes?

Being ready, like staying awake, takes practice. In another story about a wise man who built his house upon a rock and a foolish man who built upon the sand, Jesus said that wisdom is hearing God's word and doing it. Being prepared

happens when day by day, week by week, we hear God's word and partake of the holy meal, open to the presence of God. We are made ready each time we are open to the call of God. Following Jesus in our daily lives keeps us alert and awake.

Being ready is the wise thing to do, but a thing that comes only with a lifetime of practice. Thank God we don't have to practice alone. The bridegroom is not only coming, but is also the one who waits with us.

Blessings and love,

Margaret+

SAMS

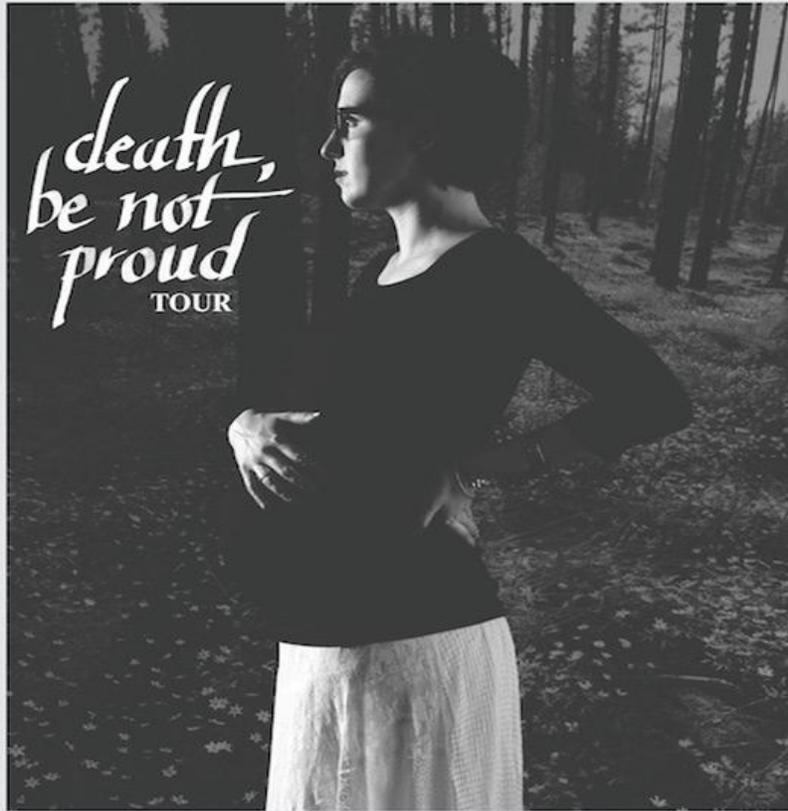
You might be interested to read the newsletter from Juan and Isabel Marentes which is on the bulletin board.

OFFICE PHONE



When calling the office, the phone will ring five times if there is no one at the front desk. It then recycles to the other phones. Please be patient, as someone may be at one of the other 4 phones. If the message comes on, then and only then, does it mean that no one is there.

A NIGHT OF WORSHIP
AUDREY ASSAD



with **BELLARIVE**

Presented By: Holy Cross Episcopal Church

Tuesday, November 11 - 7:00 PM

Jean & Paul Amos Performance Studio

<http://www.itickets.com/events/330158.html>

Chairs

The Chairs are \$240 each. We now have 75 chairs that have been purchased. If you would like to purchase a chair in honor of or in memory of someone, please see Anne Staley following the service.

GROCERY CART MINISTRY

During November we are collecting canned vegetables, *especially green beans and corn.* All donations will be taken to the food pantry at St. Andrew Baptist Church for distribution in our community. When you are shopping for your family, please remember to pick up canned vegetables for our needy neighbors.





SOCK IT TO 'EM



As we approach winter one of the challenges many people face, especially the homeless, is keeping their feet warm and dry. St. Andrew's serves Supper at Grace on **December 18th** and we would like to give each of our guests a pair of **NEW CREW** socks. Our goal is to collect 100 pairs of men's socks, 25 pairs of women's socks, and 25 pairs of children's socks. If you can help with this ministry by purchasing socks, pick up a "foot" from the display in Byrne Hall. Keep the foot as a reminder first to purchase socks and then to pray for the welfare those who will wear the socks. Please return all socks by **November 30th**. We will be gift wrapping socks on Wednesday, **December 10th** at 9:00 AM in Byrne Hall. Join us if you can!

St. Mary's Guild

When: Nov. 18, 2014, 10:00 am

Where: Byrne Hall

Program: Just 1 month before Christmas and Valerie will join us to make a scarf or scarves to help us with our Christmas lists. All ladies welcome and please bring a friend if you'd like!

Hostesses: Vera Lansing, Snookie Raines and Julie Cheshire

ST. ANDREW'S FOUNDATION

Have you had a great idea for a new ministry or project for St. Andrew's? The St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Foundation was established to assist in funding for special one-time projects, seed money for new ministries, outreach ministry and grants and special capital needs of the parish.

See the display board in Byrne Hall to learn more about the Foundation which exists to enable the church to more completely fulfill its mission by developing its ministries beyond what is possible through its annual operating budget.

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 785-9604.

Columbarium

Our construction is moving along and it will not be too much longer before completion. If you would like to take advantage of the lower price of \$500 per niche in the Columbarium, please call the office, or send in the Columbarium form. If you do not have one, extras are on the round table in Byrne Hall. Upon Completion, the cost will be \$1,000 per niche.

NEW HANGING CROSS AND PROCESSIONAL CROSS

ARTIST, COLLEEN GREEN, IN CONCERT WITH METAL ARTIST, THAD COFER, HAS DESIGNED A NEW HANGING CROSS TO BE SUSPENDED IN FRONT OF THE NEW CRYSTAL WINDOW. THE CROSS CONTAINS THE ST. ANDREW'S SHIELD IN THE CENTER, AND SURROUNDED BY OLIVE BRANCHES TO BE IN CONCERT WITH THE NEW BAPTISMAL FONT. PLEASE SEE THE BEAUTIFUL FRAMED RENDITIONS ON THE TABLE IN BYRNE HALL. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HONOR SOMEONE, OR WOULD LIKE TO GIVE THIS CROSS IN MEMORY OF SOMEONE, THE COST IS \$4,000. THERE WILL ALSO BE A PROCESSIONAL CROSS TO MATCH THE HANGING CROSS THAT YOU MAY SUBSCRIBE TO, AS WELL AS A CHANDELIER FOR THE CENTER OF THE CHURCH. PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE, OR SPEAK WITH MARGARET+



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



Please keep the following in your prayers : Warren, Ruth Ann, Iva, , Jeremy, Rosemary, Kiley, Maggie, Patricia, Anne, MaryLou, George, Walt, Susan, Mary Jane, Sammy, Rick, Jane, Joy, Ryan, Virginia, Laura, Pam, Ashley, Hazen, Mary, Anna, Diane, Sara, Debbie, Sarah, Robin, Tammy, Alex, Betty, Jim, Mikey, Larry, Gary, Jonathan, Pat, Marty, Rita, Eric, Stephanie, Elijah, Dorothy

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