



## *St. Andrew's Tidings*

### *Message from Margaret*

Author, lecturer and priest, Richard Rhor tells us: In the same way as the early Church, the desert Christians were deeply committed to Jesus' teachings and lived practice. Their chosen solitude and silence was not anti-social but a way to become better at seeing clearly and at loving deeply. Withdrawal was only for the sake of deeper encounter and presence.

Diana Butler Bass describes the natural flow from solitude to prayer to active love:

"[Jesus' invitation to] 'Come follow me' was intimately bound up with the practice of prayer. For prayer connects us with God and others, 'part of this enterprise of learning to love.' Prayer is much more than a technique, and early Christians left us no definitive how-to manual on prayer. Rather, the desert fathers and mothers believed that prayer was a disposition of wholeness, so that 'prayer and our life must be all of a piece.' They approached prayer, as early church scholar Roberta Bondi notes, as a practical twofold process: first, of 'thinking and reflecting,' or 'pondering' what it means to love others; and second, as the 'development and practice of loving ways of being.' In other words, these ancients taught that prayer was participation in God's love, the activity that takes us out of ourselves, away from the familiar, and conforms us to the path of Christ."

Through their solitude, the *abbas* and *ammās* (Desert Fathers and Mothers) learned to be sparing and intentional with their words and to preach more through their lifestyle than through sermons. There were few "doctrines" to prove at this time in Christianity, only an inner life to be experienced. Abba Isidore of Pelusia said, "To live without speaking is better than to speak without living. For the former who lives rightly does good even by his silence but the latter does no good even when he speaks. When words and life correspond to one another they are together the whole of philosophy."

An old *abba* was asked what was necessary to do to be saved. He was sitting making rope. Without glancing up, he said, "You're looking at it." Just as so many of the mystics have taught us, doing what you're doing with care, presence, and intention is prayer, the very way to transformation and wholeness. As other master teachers have taught in many forms, "When we walk, we walk; when we chop wood, we chop wood; when we sleep, we sleep." As you know, this is much harder than it first seems.

In times past we have had Centering Prayer offered here as a discipline. I would like to offer that again, now that we have a space for it. If you are interested in participating in Centering Prayer on Thursday mornings, please add your name to the list on the bulletin board in Byrne Hall.

*Namaste',*

*Margaret+*

## **Events Coming Up**

### ***St Andrew's Spring Concert Series***

***May 17, 4 p.m.: Concert Featuring David Pohler and Calliope Pettis  
Light Broadway to Classical***

***The Stacey Holliday Quartet : June 7, 4:00 p.m.***

~~~

***Fourth of July Celebration on the Front Lawn; Music, Food, Fun  
and fireworks.***

*St. Andrew's Spring  
Concert Season  
May 10th 4:00 p.m.  
Mother's Day Concert With  
Pat C*



Pat C is the featured vocalist at Triple JJJ Restaurant at the beach on Thursday evenings. She sings everything from the Beatles to John Denver to Patsy Cline! It is truly easy listening! She recently sang for us during the reception when the Bishop was here. Get your favorite mother and bring her to this exciting Concert. Let's have a big crowd.



## **May 17, 2015 Bon Voyage Benefit Concert Featuring David Pohler and Calliope Pettis**

**This music program will be held as part of the St Andrew's Episcopal Church's Spring Concert Season. The concert will be held in the worship space at 4:00 p.m. David Pohler and Calliope Pettis will be performing songs and arias from such composers as Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein, II, Roger Quilter, Antonio Lotti, John Dowland, Giulio Caccini, Henry Purcell and Stephen Foster.**

**Proceeds from the concert will benefit the artists as they raise capital for the 2015 European tour with the University of Montevallo's Concert Choir. The Concert Choir has been invited to perform in many of the great cathedrals and churches of the Czech Republic, Austria and Hungary.**

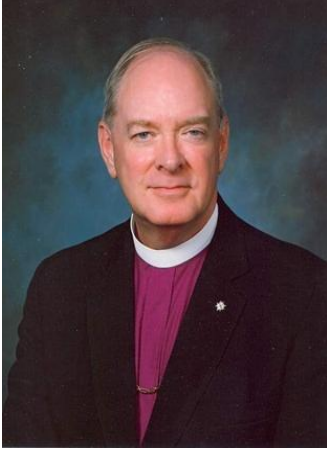
**Please consider making a donation to assist these two young people share their music and absorb the music of others around the world.**

*The Stacey Holiday and Friends*  
*Sunday, June 7; 4:00 p.m.*



**Hear this incredible group-piano, violins, and cello, play Mendelssohn and more!**

**Stacey Holliday, Piano; Mary Ellen Reddie and Yasya Brown, Violin; Ann Wilson, Cello.**



*Region VI Party for Bishop and Kathy  
Duncan*

**As most of you know, we are divided into regions in the diocese. Our region consists of those parishes on this side of the diocese: Panama City, Panama City Beach, Apalachicola, and Port St. Joe.**

**We will be having a party to say “good-bye” to Bishop and Mrs. Duncan on May 27<sup>th</sup> at Holy Nativity. Bishop Duncan will confirm and baptize at 6 p.m., and this will be followed by a hamburger/hot dog cook out at 7:30 p.m.. There will be a band and lots of fun. You are to BYO, but the food and sides will be furnished. Let’s have a great crowd from St. Andrew’s to attend. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board as we need to let Holy Nativity know how many so they can prepare enough hamburgers. All the clergy from our region will participate in the service. If you want to be baptized or confirmed, please speak to Margaret+. If you plan to go, please sign up on the bulletin board.**

*Thank you to all of you  
who laundered tablecloths!*



## **PENTECOST “BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH” SUNDAY!**

***MAY 24<sup>TH</sup>***

**Make a Friend! Be a Friend! Bring a friend to Church on Pentecost Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. Take part in an exciting Pentecost service, followed by a Pentecost cook-out! Wear Red!!**

**MORNING PRAYER CONTINUES THROUGH THE END OF MAY ON TUESDAYS AT 9 A.M. IN THE CHAPEL. THE LABYRINTH IS OPEN FOR WALKING AND MEDITATION.**

### **GROCERY CART MINISTRY**

Our May Grocery Cart item is **CANNED MEAT OR FISH**. All food collected is donated to the St. Andrew Baptist Benevolence Mission for distribution within our local community. Please help our needy neighbors enjoy a nutritious meal by purchasing some **CANNED MEAT OR FISH** for the Grocery Cart.





# PRESCRIPTION PILL BOTTLES

St. Andrew Baptist Church provides a medical ministry for people in the community who need medical aid but are unable to pay for it. It is staffed by volunteer health professionals and funded by the church and some community agencies. One of its needs is empty prescription pill bottles with labels removed. If you have empty bottles please leave them in the Grocery Cart baskets under the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. Questions??- ask Margaret Seeberger.

## St. Mary's Guild

When: May 12, 2015

Where: Enjoy lunch at G Foley's

Hostess: Shirley Gobat (call Shirley at 785-1131 to add your name to the reservation list).

Meet at the church office at 10:30 so we can be at the restaurant by  
11:15

Ya'll Come!!

## *Flowers*

*If you are planning to order flowers to be placed at the Altar, please notify Shirley Gobat at 785-1131 a couple of weeks in advance so that the flowers can be ordered. The cost is \$65.00. Also, remember to sign the new Altar Flowers poster in Byrne Hall.*



## SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES AT 9 A.M. WITH

“Embracing the Meaning of Life”

Featuring noted author Kathleen Norris

“Discovering What Matters “

1. Belief Matters
2. The Bible Matters
3. Community Matters
4. Place Matters
5. We Matter

This will take us to our summer break and breakfast!

### BREAKFAST

We will begin serving breakfast on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. Get together with your group to make for breakfast. Sign up for your date on the bulletin board!

*Please keep the following in your prayers : Warren, Ruth Ann, Iva, , Rosemary., Walt, Susan, Mary, Diane, Robin, Tammy, Alex, Betty, Jim, Mikey, Larry, Gary, Jonathan, Pat, Marty, Rita, Eric, Stephanie, Elijah, Dorothy, Dan, David, Don and Family, Kristy, Austin, Sandra, Anne, Tracy, Page, Norma, Lisa, Elaine, Madison, Bob, Toni, Jimmy, Faye, Shawn and John, Beth, Carol, Virginia, Iva, Frank*

*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*