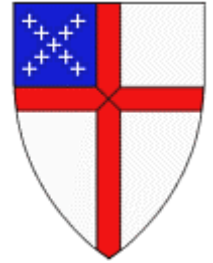




# The Sea Net



## St. Andrew's By-the-Sea Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Phillip M. Duncan II, Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast  
The Rev. David Powell, Rector, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church



### THE BURN SEASON

On one of my recent airline flights to or from this area I was reminded of a lesson I learned in forestry management fifteen years ago when I first moved to rural Alabama. My window seat afforded me a view of the vast loblolly pine and hardwood-mixed forests stretching over the gentle hills of Lower Alabama, where, here and there, several fires produced plumes of light-colored smoke rising from controlled burns. It was the burn season.

Fire, I learned, is an important part of effective forestry management. In a forest that is being managed for harvest and re-planting and wildlife habitat, undergrowth can compete for nutrients and space, thus choking out desirable species of trees. Controlled burning limits the amount of underbrush and therefore, makes room for other growth to occur.

In addition, the tangle of undergrowth, if left unchecked, can become potential fuel, allowing an accidental fire to burn dangerously hot and out of control, destroying the forest and threatening wildlife and nearby buildings.

A controlled burn also has a restorative function in that nutrients are recycled into the ground, making the soil more fertile and fostering growth of young grasses and plants which provide more abundant nourishment and food for wildlife. We are in the burn season.

Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent, comes early this year (February 9<sup>th</sup>). For Christians Lent is something of a burn season as well. We all have what is analogous to that tangle of underbrush, that nonsense of our lives, which may rob us of our energy, distract us from our focus, or otherwise inhibit our growth. And we all have the potential for our frustrations, angers, passions, negative energies, if left untended to, unchecked, and allowed to fester and grow, when touched off can flame up consuming us and others in our path. And finally, we need to be renewed. Our lives must be fed and nurtured so that new and fresh growth can occur.

It seems not too much of a stretch to consider the practice of controlled burning as a metaphor for Lent, and thus, as a reminder to pay attention and tend to those places which have the potential to choke

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### SPOTLIGHT

## Ladies Luncheon

*Saturday*

*February 5th*

*11:30 am*

*Fellowship Hall*

*\$15.00*

*Come, have fun and  
make a new friend.*

## Usual Weekly Schedule

### Sundays

Worship Service ..... 10:00 am  
Fellowship Time..... 11:00 am

### Mondays

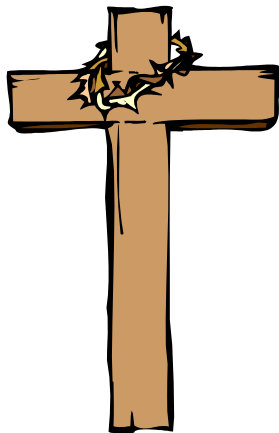
Cursillo Reunion Group ..... Noon  
Hand bell Practice ..... 7:00 pm

### Thursdays

Motley Crew..... Noon  
Cursillo Reunion Group ..... 5:30 pm  
Choir Practice..... 6:30 pm

## Special Items of Interest

Worship CMTE Meeting... 2/1, 5:30 pm  
Parish Breakfast.....2/12, 8 am  
Shrove Tuesday Party..... 2/8, 5:30 pm  
Ash Wednesday.....2/9, Noon & 6 PM  
Vestry Meeting.....2/13, Noon  
Lenten Supper ..... 2/16, 5:30 pm  
Diocesan Convention..... 2/17-19  
Lenten Supper ..... 2/23, 5:30 pm  
Lenten Supper ..... 3/2, 5:30 pm  
Lenten Supper ..... 3/9, 5:30 pm  
Lenten Supper ..... 3/16, 5:30 pm



*The Sea Net is now a MONTHLY publication. Articles, announcements, etc. for the Sea Net may be submitted to Kim Moore directly (kimmers@cox.net) or through the church office. With the Newsletter committee's approval, these submissions will be included when appropriate. The deadline for articles is the 15th of each month.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Lenten Soup/Bread Suppers -

5:30-7 pm Starting Feb 16, 23, March 2, 9, & 16

A chance all to get your recipes together! Any questions call Jim at 217-9038.

**CHOTAW DISTRICT MEETING:** 3 pm, February 13<sup>th</sup>. No meeting in March. Any questions see Steve McCown.

**FALL LEAGUE OF ARTS:** March 10-12 at First Methodist Church in Niceville. Volunteers are needed for the workshops. Any questions or to sign up, please call Steve at 582-3379.

**Prayer Shawl Knitting Group:** Starting again, every Thursday, 10 – 11:30 am, in the Parish Hall.

**New Adult Sunday School Class Begins February 6th:** Using the book *Opening the Bible* from the current Church's Teaching Series, this class will explore Anglican perspectives on reading and understanding the Scriptures, and should equip us better to engage folks who come at scripture from other perspectives as well as provide us with a deeper appreciation of scripture. This class meets from 8:45 (note time change) until 9:30 and begins Feb. 6. The cost of the book *Opening the Bible* is \$10.00. Interested? Please sign up in the Parish Hall so that we will know how many books to order. In addition, each person will need an annotated bible in a modern translation.

## UPCOMING DIOCESEAN EVENTS

Lenten Retreat Day will be on Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at St. Cyprians, Pensacola. Guest speaker will be Mirabi Starr, translator of "Dark Night of the Soul – St. John of the Cross. The day begins at 9 am and concludes mid-afternoon. Lunch is provided. For information or registration, call (850) 438-1958

Men's Conference is March 4-6 at Camp Beckwith. This year's topic is "Faith and Conscience in the Church's Ministry to Our Armed Forces". All men of the Diocese are encouraged to attend this conference. For more information, contact the Diocesan Office.

Camp Beckwith will host the "Meditation as Prayer" Conference March 18-20. For more information, please contact The Rev. Marshall Craver at (251) 342-8521.

The Commission on Personal Spiritual Growth will host a silent retreat entitled "The Empowerment of the Resurrection – From Servant to Friend" on April 1-3 at Visitation Monastery in Mobile, AL.

ECW Spring Day Away will be held April 30<sup>th</sup> at Camp Beckwith.

**Registration info is also available from Sue in the St. Andrew's office**

## INREACH

It is so good to see the faces we miss during the summer. Our seasonal members are back bringing with them all those lovely recipes from the north. This is a good thing as we have many opportunities to share the fellowship of food during the next couple of months. Pot Luck, Pancake Supper, Lenten Soup Suppers, Parish Breakfasts, and Foyer Groups, which are starting this month, provide many ways for all of us to share in the fellowship of our St. Andrew's family.

February's Parish Breakfast is on Saturday the 12th at 8:00 am. This is a meal that we do not usually get to have together so come if you can. The homemade biscuits alone are worth the trip, and the company is great.

Our annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper on the evening of Feb. 8th will herald an early Lenten season and the beginning of our Lenten Soup Suppers. We need four different types of soups, so sign up to bring your favorite type of soup to share. The first supper is Wed. the 16th at 5:30 and will take the place of February's Pot Luck; the second will be on Wed. the 23rd and so on into March. Sharing a simple meal, fellowship and a program by Father David will be a good way to keep the lessons of Lent in the forefront of our minds. In keeping with the tone of the season there will be no wine served at these suppers.

And there is always our weekly Fellowship after sharing our Lord's Table. Volunteers provide fellowship food weekly, so if you have a great snack or finger food we would love to try them.

We can always use a pair of helping hands with set up or clean up so if you can give a little of your time before or after a meal please let us know.

So dig out your recipes, jokes, tall tales and your appetites and join your family in Christ for some great meals. We will have the plates and forks ready.

***Go with God,  
Jim Cooper***

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us and inhibit our growth; to consider and tend to those areas which could burn out of control; and to consider and tend to how we can be re-nourished and strengthened in our life of faith.

It is my hope and prayer that Lent will be such a season for each of us.

***Fr. David***

## LADIES LUNCHEON

**Feb 5 Saturday  
11:30 am  
Fellowship Hall  
\$15.00**

A fearless group of ladies have planned a luncheon and fashion show.

We have a menu that includes fish, chicken or beef on a plate with deviled egg and steamed green beans wrapped in roasted red pepper strips. Did I mention – fancy. Our tickets will be sold in advance none sold at the door. We want everyone to feel special.

The fellowship hall will be really dressed up with white linen tablecloths, flowers on each table, and lovely china and glassware (purchased with last years profit's). The room will surely feel like a palace for a day.

Come, have fun and make a new friend.



## HELP WANTED

**RECEPTIONIST** - We are looking for volunteer's to sign up to answer phones each Monday morning during our staff meeting's that run from 9:15-10:15. If interested, please call Sue at the Church office.

**PEW ORGANIZER** - Volunteers are needed to clean out and replenish pews and make ready for Sunday. If interested, please call Sue at the Church office.

**LENTEN SOUP/BREAD CHEFS** —A chance all to get your recipes together! Any questions call Jim at 217-9038.

**THE ADULT CHOIR** —We could use more voices! Snowbirds welcome, part-time is fine. We had a wonderful Christmas season and we are looking forward to Easter Season.

**BELL CHOIR**- The Bell Choir needs two more bell ringers. The Bell Choir has been a real blessing to the Parish so, come join us, we want to continue. We will be meeting Every Thursday Evening 6:30 – 7:30 PM. Any questions please call Jim Cooper at 217-9038.

## JUNIOR WARDEN'S JOURNAL



It has been a busy year with Ivan, roofing, tower, etc. But good things come to all who persevere. The latest of these is when our former Senior Warden, Marge Pegula, graciously awarded each member of the Motley Crew with distinctive headgear - a beautiful embroidered rendition of the Cramer Memorial window on a teal and black baseball cap. Watch for them around the congregation perched on the head of a 'Motlie'. In addition to being a member of the crew, Marge has always been quick to respond in assisting in any church project. I thank you, Marge, for all you have done and are continuing to do.

The reinstallation of the ceiling tiles in the parish hall has been completed. The attic foam insulation for the Parish Hall and Office complex is scheduled for January 24th. One of our generous members of the con-

gregation has contributed the entire cost of the job. Thank you and God bless.

The Motley Crew continues to amaze me. January 13th saw the repair and reinstallation of the ceiling fixture in the church that the roofers dislodged with their nail pounding (The one hanging down over the roped off pew area in the church). Thanks to Peter Evans who braved the 40 ft. ladder to inspect, remove, repair and reinstall that light fixture. The crew's dedication to task completion (we're going to stick with this until we FINISH!) and plain hard work is a delight to see.

We can always use more hands, so on Thursdays bring a lunch and join us. That glorious weather we had for 10 days says that spring really will be here soon and somebody has got to plan and implement what we do to the outside flowerbeds. No better time to get ready than over a lunch table. Everyone will help and give their opinion. (Sometimes wrong, never in doubt.) Come be a Motlie.

***Your brother in  
Christ,  
Bill James***



## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of January 21, 2005, we have received the following pledges at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church:

Number of Pledge units.....	61
Pledges Received as of to date .....	\$112,176.00
Average Pledge .....	\$1,839.00
Budget Goal .....	\$104,861.00
Percentage of Goal .....	106.98%

The Pledge Campaign has been relaxed during the Christmas and New Year holidays. For those who still wish to pledge, please contact Jerry McGee or pick up a pledge envelope in the Narthex. The closure date for the campaign is 31 Jan 2005. However, we will continue to accept additional pledges through out the year.

We are now offering pledge envelopes to those who wish to pay their pledges in cash. You may pick these up in the narthex. Be sure to put you name on the envelope so it will be credited toward your pledge.

Also, this year, we will be mailing quarterly statements to allow a greater awareness of your pledge standing.

On behalf of the Staff and Vestry of St. Andrew's I want to give heartfelt thanks for the wonderful support and blessings that you have given the Church.

***Jerry E. McGee  
Stewardship Chair-2005***

## OUTREACH

The months of October, November, and December 2004 were busy ones for the Marine Corps League. The first floor of the St. Andrew's Education Building is the collection, sorting, fulfilling, and distribution location for the League's Toys for Tots program. Christmas was much brighter for approximately 3700 children in Okaloosa, Walton, and Escambia counties with an astounding 11,902 toys collected. Escambia county was an added area due to the devastation from hurricane Ivan. Twenty-five charities, including FEMA's Project Hope, requested toys for children by age and gender. Each charity's order was individually picked, packed and staged for pick up.

St. Andrew's has received a Certificate of Appreciation for its participation in this vital service to the community. Dottie Bingham and Diane & Fred Zeggil received the Commander's Award for their help in picking and packing orders. Duane St. John is a member of the Marine Corps League and has recently assumed the Toys for Tots coordinator position for next year. The League meets in our parish hall the second Thursday of each month for six months a year.

## CORPUS CHRISTI

Corpus Christi: for a Welcoming and Inclusive Church is a group formed after the 2004 diocesan convention and after a year of developing its mission statement and strategic planning is now looking to establish a group in each church in the diocese.

For over 15 years diocesan conventions have resolved to have congregations continue the dialog on human sexuality and each year it has been ignored until the following convention. Corpus Christi was formed and has now planned to follow the wishes of the convention by forming groups in each church to carry on the dialog. All persons are invited and welcome to participate regardless of their personal position on the issue.

Corpus Christi will have a booth at the 2005 diocesan convention. If you are interested in joining the conversation at St. Andrew's please contact Duane St. John at 654-1013 or [sinjon2@earthlink.net](mailto:sinjon2@earthlink.net).

## 2005 VESTRY AND OFFICERS



We look forward to a productive and wonderful 2005 with the following new vestry officers and areas of ministry: Senior Warden—Connie Tanski; Junior Warden—Bill James; Treasurer—Dick Westberry; Joyce Waters-Smith—Evangelism/Publicity; Jim Cooper—Inreach; Suzy Eidson—Outreach; Bruce Moore—Worship. Kim Moore has agreed to serve as clerk.

## ST. ANDREW'S ON THE ROAD

Visiting other churches while on vacation or otherwise away? Why not bring the bulletins back, put your name on them and bring them by the parish office or put them in the offering plate, or mail them in or give them to Fr. David. We like to see church's bulletins and this is a good way for our parish family to keep in touch with one another.

Happy Trails!

Thanks to the following persons for bringing in bulletins from where they have worshipped recently:

- Tom & Cindy Warriner who visited Trinity Episcopal in Pine Bluff, AR
- David Powell who visited Holy Apostles, NY

