

The Gregorian Chant

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church, Athens, GA

February 2011

Dearly Beloved,

It is hard to believe that we have been together almost 5 years now! In the summer of 2012, I will be taking a sabbatical lasting 3 months, maybe a few weeks longer if I put it together with vacation time. The church encourages clergy to take a sabbatical leave after 6 years of service not only for the rest, renewal and continuing education of the priest, but for the benefit of the congregation to whom she returns.

I would like to apply for a Lilly Grant, due in May, to cover the costs to you and to me of this sabbatical time, but these grants, which can be generous, are at the same time not easily or readily obtained. I have a particular idea in mind, but the grant asks that the congregation participate in this process as well. Therefore I want to share with you some of my thoughts and plans for the sabbatical, to give you an opportunity to respond. Be thinking about what may be especially helpful for St. Gregory's in my absence and if you can imagine that what I am planning may be something of interest or benefit to you.

First, I am very excited to be studying the Book of Exodus with Jewish and Hebrew scholars in July 2012 in Israel. I have wanted to go to Israel since I finished graduate school! I will be studying at the Bat Kol Institute (meaning daughter of the Voice) in Jerusalem with Sisters of Zion with whom I lived in the '70's. Either before or after this month, I will take time for recreation and retreat and my own scripture and devotional reading, maybe in the U.K. or Jerusalem or possibly in Northern Cyprus, where my family lived when I was born.

Second, something I would like to explore is an idea that started many years ago when I was working in Ashfield, MA. I made a bishop's outfit for the doll of a friend. A dyed_in_the_wool New Englander asked me if that wasn't sacrilegious! "Not at all! Maybe if more little girls played with something like this, we would have more women as bishops in the church!" I began to think about creating heroines of the Bible as dolls with stories and costumes that would help children know and love this heritage and see

themselves in these stories. When I recently read about social businesses Muhammad Yunus (Nobel Peace laureate) helped to create in poor countries with micro_credit loans, I wondered if my idea could be used to create a small business providing living wages for some of the citizens of Athens with partners in another struggling community overseas. It could begin as an economic self_help (outreach) project of St. Gregory the Great in this town that has far too many citizens living below the poverty line. St. Gregory's seemed to be a perfect place to explore such a venture because of the local need, your commitment to concrete outreach projects which get at root causes of problems, and frankly, the abundance of fiber and other creative artists in this congregation!

Let me know what you think!

Blessings and peace,

Beth

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Valentine's Dinner

Don't miss the fabulous Valentine dinner on Saturday, February 12!

The menu includes four delectable pasta dishes (to please both carnivores and vegetarians), fresh green salad, Italian garlic bread, delicious wine, dessert, tea, and coffee. Free babysitting, dinner, and cartoons for your children, too! Bring your sweetie, or join your friends in the beautifully decorated parish hall, for only \$18 per person, plus any tip you'd care to leave. All proceeds go to our youth Pilgrimage fund.

Reserve your seat at either 5:30 or 7:00 p.m. by emailing or calling George or Catherine Drewry: 706_743_3592, drewrys@hm_e.net or george@hm_e.net. This is a fund-raiser by the youth of St. Gregory's for their pilgrimage fund.

Changes

Marilyn Atyeo is leaving us! The movers are coming on February 22 to bring her to Anderson, SC. She is moving there to be close to her son Tom.

Nathan Risler has already left!

We would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers for Nathan. If you want to drop him a line during his Coast Guard training, you can do so at the following address: SE Nathan Risler Recruit Company N-184 James Hall USCG Training Center 1 Munro Ave. Cape May, NJ 08204-5083

I am sure that he would enjoy hearing from Gregorian's. Ed & Susan Risler

Annual Meeting

At the Annual Parish Meeting on January 30, Katie Hein, Steve Phillips, Maggie Reinberger, and Peter Rice were elected to the Vestry.

If you were not able to attend the meeting, copies of the Annual Report are available in the narthex.

Recycling pays:

Advantage Cartridge sent us a total of \$47.60 in two checks for each of the two boxes we sent them.

We have a total of 145.32 coming to us from TerraCycle for the 26 boxes of pens, corks, cookie wrappers, yoghurt containers, etc. etc. we sent already. And in 2010 GoodSearch paid us \$61.33, bringing the total to \$109.92 we have earned from them.

Andrew Lane

Inquirer's Class with the Rector

begins this Sunday, February 6 at 4 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

If you want to explore Christianity and the Episcopal Church,

if you are considering whether to be baptized, confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, or simply want to revisit your commitment in the company others, this is a wonderful opportunity.

We will discuss:

The Bible, both Hebrew and Christian testaments; Jesus; the development of the early church and how it eventually became the many traditions we know today; the Anglican and Episcopal churches and how we govern ourselves; the sacraments; prayer and worship and the Book of Common Prayer, and anything else you want to know about what we do here and why!

Your own life and faith stories and your questions and interests definitely shape the course of our inquiry together so that you can make an informed decision about following Jesus or joining the Episcopal Church if that is the purpose of your inquiry.

Nevertheless, please be assured that there is no expectation that baptism, confirmation or reception into the Episcopal Church is the desired outcome. This is an opportunity to inquire and explore, maybe even to develop new friends at St. Gregory's.

The church will provide child care if you need it. High School Youth are welcome to join us also. Email any other questions you have to rector@stgregoryathens.org.

Children's Sunday School

Not your grandma's Sunday School unless your grandma attends St. G's!

Great things happen from 9:15_ 10:15 each Sunday morning at St. Gregory's. We come together for thought_provoking (and fun!) classes to learn in community.

Our youth meet upstairs in the office wing of the Parish hall. Adults meet in the Parish Hall. Come!

Acolytes Needed! If you have wanted to carry one of those crosses or torches, now is a good time for you to start. An acolyte training session will be held after church on February 6. All those who wish to be acolytes, as well as all current acolytes, should attend. A light lunch will be included.

You may wonder if your child qualifies to be an acolyte. These are the requirements: 1) you must be tall enough to carry a torch without making everyone else afraid, 2) you must be able to sit reasonably still and pay attention for the length of the church service, and 3) you should have the desire to learn and participate in the ceremonies and traditions of the Episcopal Church. If you meet these requirements, we would love to see you

there!

New and current acolytes will meet for a short training session (with pizza) next Sunday, February 6, after the 10:30 service.

Fitness Ministry

Francesca Lane's fitness group is starting on Wednesday, February 9, at 11:45 a.m.

The group starts with a prayer. There will be three sections (beginner, intermediate and advanced), but all groups will be working out together. The session will wind down at 12:30 to stretch, end with prayer, and then clean-up. Those who want can bring a bag lunch, especially those who have to go right back to work. Please bring your own mat and a resistance ball if you have one.

Anyone interested or wanting more information should contact Franchesca directly, at 706-461-0359 or

franchescalane@live.com

Forward Day by Day

The current Forward Day by Day booklets are available in the narthex and the parish hall lobby. We are no longer mailing them except in special circumstances. For more information please call the church office.

Pancakes!

Shrove Tuesday "Mardi Gras" Pancake Supper on Tuesday, March 8 is once again sponsored by the St. G's chapter of the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew. It is a grand gathering event for friends and family of Saint Gregory's where The Brothers prepare delicious pancakes, turkey sausage, fruit and vegetarian alternatives for a splendid (and inexpensive) way to say good bye to the season of Epiphany and hello to Lent while hanging out with your friends. As always, the meal is complimentary. Donations are highly encouraged with all contributions going to fund prayer books and Bibles given to those newly baptized, confirmed and received into the faith community of

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church.

Lost and Found!

Lots of things have been found, and surely must have been lost by somebody. Please look over the table in the parish hall lobby and see if anything looks familiar. Items not claimed will be donated to the Episcopal Thrift store (where you will be able to buy them back!)

Contribution Envelopes and Pledge Forms

If you like to use individual contribution envelopes for 2011, they are available in the parish hall. If you take a pack, please leave your name on the accompanying sheet. Pledge forms can be found in the narthex, the parish hall, and the Christian Education Building.

"Come to the Well"

Join us for a teacher training event filled with resource workshops sponsored by the Province IV Christian Formation Committee with this year's theme: "Come to the Well."

Come be refreshed, fed, and equipped with resources for meaningful ministries. This day of learning for all teachers will be held at St. Gregory's on Saturday, March 19, from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. You will be able to choose three of twelve different classes, led by professional Christian education leaders from all over Province IV (Southeastern US).

All teachers of adults, youth, and children, children's church leaders, and those who think they might want to someday teach or lead, are asked to set aside time to attend this event. Teachers and leaders from other churches are also invited. The registration fee is \$15, and includes lunch. (Fee will be waived if a hardship.) Child care will be available if parents request it. Look for fliers in the church and on our website www.stgregoryathens.org or contact Catherine Drewry for more information.

Ministry Fair

March 12 at St. Philips Cathedral in Atlanta.

This is an event for all adults in the church. This year, the focus is on health, and will feature keynote speaker Peter K, of Peter K Fitness, addressing Secrets of a Fit Lifestyle; How to revolutionize your health to compliment your spiritual life.

After the keynote address, you can choose from over 50 different classes focusing on welcoming, mission, health, finance, choir, teaching, youth, communications, vestry, etc. Contact Catherine Drewry if you'd like to find out more or carpool. 706_743_3592
drewrys@hm_e.net

Calendar – February 2011

Wednesday, February 2, 2011

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

9:00 a.m. Dream Group (upstairs)

noon Georgia Interfaith Power and Light luncheon

5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, February 3, 2011

The Dorchester Chaplains

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and potluck supper

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

Friday, February 4, 2011

Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary to Denmark and Sweden, 865

9:30 a.m. AMC

6:00 p.m. Al-Anon (library)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, February 5, 2011

The Martyrs of Japan, 1597

10 a.m. Private function (Chr. Ed. Building)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, February 6, 2011

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

12:30 p.m. Acolyte Training

4:00 p.m. Inquirers' Class

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, February 7, 2011

Cornelius the Centurion

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. AA (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. EfM (library)

7:00 p.m. Athens Master Chorale (parish hall)

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

9:30 a.m. AMC

1:00 p.m. Bridge (library)

5:30 p.m. Yoga (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

9:00 a.m. Dream Group (upstairs)

11:45 a.m. Fitness Group (parish hall)

5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, February 10, 2011

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

Friday, February 11, 2011

9:30 a.m. AMC

6:00 p.m. Al-Anon (library)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, February 12, 2011

5:30 p.m. Valentine's Dinner

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, February 13, 2011

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Inquirers' Class

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, February 14, 2011

Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869, 885

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:30 p.m. MD Group (small mtg. room)

7:00 p.m. AA (upstairs)

7:00 p.m. EfM (library)

7:00 p.m. Athens Master Chorale (parish hall)

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Thomas Bray, Priest and Missionary, 1730

9:30 a.m. AMC

5:30 p.m. Yoga (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

9:00 a.m. Dream Group (upstairs)

11:45 a.m. Fitness Group (parish hall)

5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, February 17, 2011

noon Good Women's Brown Bag Lunch (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

Friday, February 18, 2011

Janani Luwum, Archbiiishop of Uganda and Martyr, 1977

9:30 a.m. AMC

6:00 p.m. Al-Anon (library)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, February 19, 2011

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, February 20, 2011

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Inquirers' Class

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, February 21, 2011

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. AA (upstairs)

7:00 p.m. EfM (library)

7:00 p.m. Athens Master Chorale (parish hall)

Tuesday, February 22, 2011

9:30 a.m. AMC

5:30 p.m. Yoga (parish hall)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Wednesday, February 23, 2011

Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr of Smyrna, 156

9:00 a.m. Dream Group (upstairs)

11:45 a.m. Fitness Group (parish hall)

5:30 p.m. Discussion Group (upstairs)

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

7:00 p.m. AA (Christian Ed. Bldg.)

7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday, February 24, 2011

Saint Matthias the Apostle

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:00 p.m. Tai Chi (parish hall)

7:00 p.m. OA (upstairs)

Friday, February 25, 2011

9:30 a.m. AMC

6:00 p.m. Al-Anon (library)

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Saturday, February 26, 2011

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

Sunday, February 27, 2011

The Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

4:00 p.m. Inquirers' Class

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, February 28, 2011

Anna Julia Heyward Cooper, Educator, 1964

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

6:30 p.m. MD Group (small mtg. room)

7:00 p.m. AA (upstairs)

7:00 p.m. EfM (library)

7:00 p.m. Athens Master Chorale (parish hall)

Servers

Sunday, February 6, 2011

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. service:

OT Reading – Jim Jones

NT Reading – Evan Powell

Intercessor – Evan Powell

EM – Jim Jones

10:30 a.m. service:

EM – Karen Hankins

EM – David Stooksbury

OT Reading – Katy Ulrich

NT Reading – Ken Taylor

Intercessor – Peter Rice

1st Server – Rae Kretzer

Torch – Henri Johnson

Torch – Maddy Kuhn

2nd Server – Amy Kuhn

Usher – Joshua King

Usher – Robert Wyatt

Usher – Ann Stoneburner

Counter – Mark Hein

Counter – Bill Alworth

Altar Guild – Susan Risler, Barbara Dean, Julia Marlowe

Flower Guild – Janice Rusk

6:00 p.m. service:

EM – Ken Taylor

Servers

Sunday, February 13, 2011

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. service:

OT Reading – Karen Kassinger

NT Reading – Sue Alford

Intercessor – Sue Alford

EM –Karen Kassinger

10:30 a.m. service:

EM – June Ball

EM – Cecil Hudson

OT Reading – Laura Ruffin

NT Reading – Bill Alworth

Intercessor – Lois Alworth

1st Server – Bobby Holmes

Torch – Annabelle Coyne

Torch – Madelyn Coyne

2nd Server – Jerrin Jose

Usher – Mark Hein

Usher – Jerrin Jose

Usher – John Wooten

Usher – Jon Vail

Counter – Roger Swagler

Counter – Mark Reinberger

Altar Guild – Susan Risler, Barbara Dean, Julia Marlowe

Flower Guild – Sybil Langford and Margaret Fowler

6:00 p.m. service:

EM – Jim Jones

Servers

Sunday, February 20, 2011

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. service:

OT Reading – Dolores Holt

NT Reading – Sarah Gordon

Intercessor – Sarah Gordon

EM –Dolores Holt

10:30 a.m. service:

EM – Rebecca Baggett

EM – Jeremy Hankins

OT Reading – Katie Anderson

NT Reading – Rebecca Baggett

Intercessor – June Ball

1st Server – Bard Hankins

Torch – Ian Van Giesen

Torch – Isabella Van Giesen

2nd Server – Thomas Peck

Usher – Joe Weinmeister

Usher – Mike Peck

Usher – Miles or Thomas Peck

Usher – Kathleen Ryan

Counter – Carol Hill

Counter – Lois Alworth

Altar Guild – Susan Risler, Barbara Dean, Julia Marlowe

Flower Guild – Sandy Hudson

6:00 p.m. service:

EM – Ken Taylor

Servers

Sunday, February 27, 2011

The Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. service:

OT Reading – Ken Taylor

NT Reading – Sue Alford

Intercessor – Sue Alford

EM – Ken Taylor

10:30 a.m. service:

EM – Katie Hein

EM – Brada Hankins

OT Reading – David Fisher

NT Reading – Karen Hankins

Intercessor – Laura Dixon

1st Server – Bobby Holmes

Torch – Skylar Davis

Torch – Maddy Kuhn

2nd Server – Amy Kuhn

Usher – TBA

Usher – TBA

Usher – TBA

Usher – TBA

Counter – Ken Taylor

Counter – Katie Ulrich

Altar Guild – Susan Risler, Barbara Dean, Julia Marlowe

Flower Guild – Janet Patterson

6:00 p.m. service:

EM – Jim Jones