

March 25, 2012

Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Randall Niehoff

Topic: Living a Compassionate Life

Compassionate living is marked by these essentials:

- **TOOLS:** persuasion and power
- **MEANS:** beyond a tender heart, willful (not random) acts of caring
- **RESULT:** experienced & measurable happiness/blessedness

Biblical resource texts: Matthew 5:1-10 (esp. vs. 7); Luke 6:36; Philippians 2:1-4 James 5:11

Bio: Randall was ordained in 1967 and served congregations in West Seneca and Wellsville, NY, Marblehead, MA and Sanibel, FL - the last from 1991 until his retirement in June, 2008.

April 1, 2012 Palm Sunday

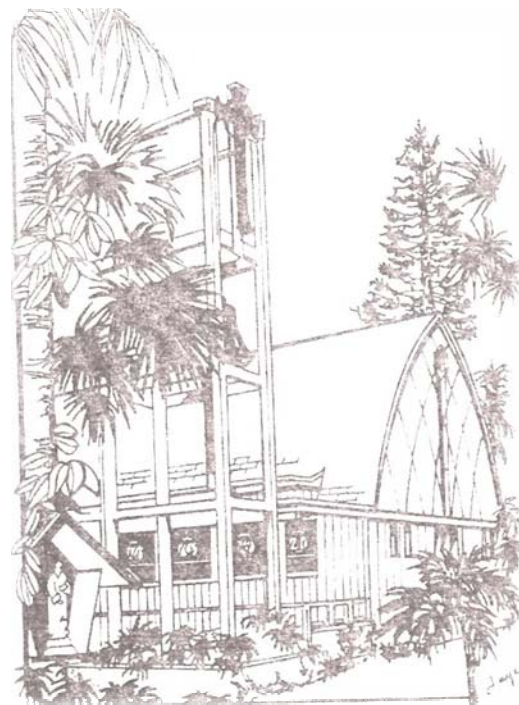
April 8, 2012 Easter



Adult Christian Education Forums

Living a Compassionate Life

November – April
2011 – 2012
Sundays, 9:30-10:15



LIVING A COMPASSIONATE LIFE

What does it mean for us as 21st century Christians to live a compassionate life in the thoughts and actions we take as individuals, as a church, and as world citizens?

Beginning with the premise that the journey to a compassionate life commences with loving God, we will follow that journey through exploration of scripture, wisdom from Biblical scholars, and the testimony and practical examples from those who have experienced grace in local and global situations.

As we seek to discover the joy that compassion brings, we will also seek defining moments that we can identify as future commitments, knowing that the principle of compassion calls us always to treat others as we would be treated.

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church
The Rev. Dr. Ellen M. Sloan, Rector
2304 Periwinkle Way
Sanibel, FL 33957
239-472-2173
www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org

November 6, 2011

Speaker: The Rev. Douglass Lind

Topic: The Truth That Hurts and Heals

Doug will begin this season's forum series, "Living a Compassionate Life," drawing on the Biblical understanding of compassion and relating his experiences as a priest, a psychoanalyst and a trusted adviser to leaders in academia, the corporate world and the Church. His emphasis will be on the practical application of the compassionate life as led by leaders in all walks of life.

Bio: Doug is a priest associate at St. Michael & All Angels, having been in the ministry for forty-five years. For much of that time he was a practicing psychoanalyst as well as serving parishes in Connecticut and New York.

November 13, 2011

Speaker: The Rev. John Martiner

This forum will focus on the great commandment in Matthew 22:36-39 and to raise issues and questions regarding its application today. No doubt I will raise more questions than I have answers.

Bio: John retired in 2006 as Rector of Christ Church Christiana Hundred in Wilmington, DE; prior to that he served as Rector of parishes in RI, CT, and NY. Currently he is a priest associate at St. Monica's in Naples where he preaches and leads Bible studies.

November 20, 2011

Speakers: Outreach members and community representatives

Topic: Mission Fair

Come to learn about a variety of volunteer opportunities in our local area. We hope that you will take a few moments to learn about these outreach opportunities, that this may be an opportunity to hear God's call to you and to ignite your passion for doing God's work in our world.

**November 27, 2011 Thanksgiving Weekend - NO FORUM
(First Sunday of Advent)**

December 4, 2011

Speaker: The Rev. Stuart Hoke

Topic: Compassion: The Transformation of Suffering

In Jesus' life, the ability to be moved with compassion arose from the experience of suffering. This forum will explore the link between human suffering and God's miracle of redemption that results in compassion and the ability to minister to others.

Bio: Stuart is a priest of the Diocese of NY who now lives in Fearington Village, NC. He completed his ThD at General Seminary in New York City where he continues to serve as an Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology.

December 11, 2011

Speaker: Tim Barrett, Sanibel Paramedic

Topic: Compassionate Care of Medical Emergencies in Church

From time-to-time parishioners experience medical emergencies in Church during services or at meetings. St. Michael's has established a program to help those in need as quickly and efficiently as possible. This forum is intended to inform parishioners of the steps which would be taken in a medical emergency at the Church and how each person can individually be helpful.

Bio: After spending time in the US Navy as a Corpsman, Tim was hired as a Paramedic Field Training Officer for the Lee County Emergency Medical Services.

December 18, 2011 – January 1, 2012 NO FORUMS

January 8, 2012

Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Jane Tomaine

Topic: Opening a Space Within: An Ancient Yet Timeless Path of Hospitality

In the sixth century a monk named Benedict wrote a monastic rule that focused on how to build loving and compassionate relationships within community. At this forum you will learn the basics of the Benedictine way of life and explore in detail the hallmark practice of Benedictine Hospitality. Ideas and useful tools for the practice of hospitality in daily life will be introduced.

Bio: The Rev. Dr. Jane Tomaine is a nationally-known retreat leader and author of *St. Benedict's Toolbox: The Nuts and Bolts of Everyday Benedictine Living* (Morehouse 2005). She served as Rector in a New Jersey parish for over 12 years, leaving parish ministry to share her love of Benedictine spirituality in retreat and workshop settings.

January 15, 2012

Speaker: Dr. Dick Schilling

Topic: Third World Medicine

Dick will discuss his story of working in the area of Third World Medicine and establishing clinics and working in Africa, Mexico and Honduras. He will also discuss his involvement with Our Little Roses Ministry, in Honduras.

Bio: Dick is a parishioner and retired surgeon.

January 22, 2012

Speaker: The Very Rev. David Lowry

Bio: David Lowry is Rector and Christ Church, Manhasset, NY, Regional Dean of North Nassau and Dean of the Mercer School of Theology, Garden City, NY. He is currently co-writing a book on the devolution of the nation-state and the emergence of the market-state. In that book the case is made for the increased social role business and civil society will play in this transitional world. Dr. Lowry lectures widely on corporate social responsibility and the changing role of the church in post-modern society.

January 29, 2012

Speaker: Bill Mebane

Topic: Haiti's Gifts to the Giver

Haiti has a weird way of "giving back" much more than the givers provide. Our work in Haiti has truly been a "dance of two cultures" but as in any dance, the best dance has no lead partner, it's a melding of two fueled by emotion, respect for each other, and mutual compassion.

Bio: Bill Mebane, Superintendent of the Marine Resources Aquaculture Engineering Division at Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL), in Woods Hole, MA, is founder and director of the MBL Sustainable Aquaculture Initiative. He has been actively involved in the field of scientific and commercial aquaculture for over 25 years.

February 5, 2012 – open date

February 12, 2012

Speaker: The Rev. Canon Bruce Duncan

In this first of two forums led by Canon Bruce Duncan we will look again at the biblical revelation of a compassionate God. Created in God's image, we individually and corporately express our true humanity as we learn to live a compassionate life.

Bio: The Rev. Canon Bruce Duncan, M.B.E., D.D. first came to St. Michael and All Angels in 2006 as Theologian in Residence. His long and distinguished ministry has taken him to Europe and the Middle East as well as the United Kingdom. In 2010 he led a pilgrimage to the Holy Land for parishioners of St. Michaels.

February 19, 2012

Speaker: The Rev. Canon Bruce Duncan

Compassionate prayer for our fellow human beings stands in the centre of Christian life. Canon Bruce Duncan will reflect on this truth and consider how we may follow Paul's admonition in Galatians 6:2, "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Bio: See Feb 12, 2012

February 26, 2012 ANNUAL MEETING - NO FORUM

March 4, 2012

Speaker: The Rev. Elizabeth Farrow

Topic: Growing Compassion

This forum will focus upon the power of prayer, and the ways in which the discipline of prayer enables us to:

- discern the presence of God's life-giving Spirit
- open ourselves to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit;
- reflect upon the compassionate way of prayer and action together;
- guide our relationships with God and our fellow human beings, and thus become a powerful tool, enabling us to be channels for God's compassion in the world.
- The healing ministry of Jesus went hand in hand with his teaching ministry. It was not an optional extra. It was as important a part of the Gospel message as his teaching, and played a vital role in revealing the love of God in action.

Bio: Liz has been involved in healing ministry since 1988, when she went on a training week to Iona. Following the blessing of experiencing healing herself, further ecumenical training followed at St. John's Theological College, Nottingham; through the Acorn Healing Foundation, UK; and the Christian Fellowship of Healing in Edinburgh.

March 11, 2012

Speakers: Joanne and Bob Syversen

They will provide a pictorial overview of their excursion to the Himalayan build site in Pokhara, Nepal where they were joined by 450 international volunteers and 200 locals in a well orchestrated plan to build 40+ Habitat houses.

Bio: Bob and Joanne Syversen joined St. Michael's in 2005 and soon became involved in Pastoral Care, Outreach, Eucharistic Ministry, and Vestry as well as outside volunteering.

March 18, 2012

Speakers: The Rev. Walter Schuman

Topic: Compassion As a Subversive Action

This presentation will examine *Compassion as a Way of Life*: compassionate listening, compassionate speaking and compassionate action.

Bio: Walter, who is an ordained E.L.C.A. Pastor, was Professor and Chair of the Religion Department of Ashland University in Ohio for 32 years before retiring and moving to Sanibel in 2002.