

The AGAPE Newsletter

April 2010

Vol. 5, No. 4



Maundy Thursday, the Thursday before Easter, is the traditional time to

commemorate Jesus' "last supper" with his disciples. We will have our annual Maundy Thursday service on April 1 at 7 pm. Communion will be celebrated as part of the service.



Easter Sunday

April 4 is Easter and Potluck Sunday. Services will be at the regular times of 8:30 and 10:45 am. We

welcome all those who want to join others from St. Andrew's for a bite of lunch and some great conversation. Please bring something to add to the table or just your appetite and desire to visit. We hope to see you there.

New Time and Date

AGAPE Team Meetings

This April our AGAPE Team Meetings will be held following the 10:45 worship service on Sunday, April 18. Childcare will be available.

RESERVE THE DATES FOR PEACE CAMP 2010

LOVE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
Sunday, June 20—Thursday, June 24
6:30—8:30 p.m.

Registration forms on-line, in newsletter, bulletins and at the church.

The Nest

Most of us begin life with the religion of our parents. Just as we are born into the love of our family, so we are born into their understanding as well. It is inevitable that we should be born into some such preexisting nest and that we should begin to see with a borrowed light.

As we get older, we face an inevitable crossroads. As our eyes begin to see for themselves, the torch given us in youth begins to flicker and dim. At some point we realize that the religion our parents gave us now produces more smoke than light. The growing darkness we feel is not a problem with our parent's teaching, but a result of the fact that we cannot see through borrowed eyes or feel with another's skin.

Such times of passage can feel like the death of everything we have known and trusted. When a chick breaks through its shell, it is both setting out on its life journey and also destroying everything it has known. At this point it must choose between the urge to fly and the urge to return to its nest of origin.

Easter is symbol of the exquisite pain of leaving our nest. It is a story about the inevitable death and rebirth that true living requires of us. Easter dramatizes the choice between mimicking the song we were taught as children, or realizing that it has always been the song of our own heart as well. Easter asks of us whether we will spend our days trying to restore the shattered shell of our past, or find our home in the trackless sky.

Love, Jim



Dear Church Family and Friends,

A hospital admission can be a time of stress and fear for both the patient and family. This month's letter will suggest some practical steps that can improve your care, keep you safe and help to decrease some of the anxiety associated with a hospital admission.

Suggested steps to help during a hospital stay:

- Bring a list of all of your medications, (include over the counter meds and supplements) and a brief health history with you. This is a time saver for you and the medical staff and can help to prevent errors in medication administration.
- Become knowledgeable of all medications you are given in the hospital. Review *each* med *each* time it is given. Know the name, dose, frequency and reason it is being given to you. Report any medication side effects immediately to your nurse.
- Bring a notepad and pen with you to keep track of tests, treatments, and questions.
- Obtain the business card from each practitioner caring for you.
- Contact the case manager, social worker or patient advocate to help coordinate your care if you are in the hospital for any length of time or anticipate the need for further care.
- Have a relative or friend with you as much as possible during your stay.
- Address your nurse and clinical assistant by name. Be respectful to staff. It helps to establish a relationship with those caring for you. Let them know when they are doing a good job.
- Use the phone numbers posted on the white board in your room to call the nurse or clinical assistant. If you do use the call bell, be brief, state exactly what you need and avoid making requests at shift change.
- Review your discharge plans with your nurse.....especially all prescriptions. Ask for the medication reconciliation between your home and hospital discharge meds.
- Hand washing, hand washing, hand washing, by all who enter and leave your room.
- If you are unhappy with your care, ask to speak with the charge nurse or nursing supervisor. Don't be afraid to speak up when something is not right.

I hope these suggestions will be of help the next time you or loved ones are hospitalized.

May your heart be open and your mind clear to rebirth this Easter season so you can receive the surprising moments of joy and renewal that await you. Happy Easter

Love and Blessings, Donna



Friends
&
Neighbors

Our church is forming neighborhood groups which we are calling "Friends and Neighbors." These groups can help us become familiar those who attend St. Andrews's and live near us. Groups might meet 2-3 times a year socially, but can also be care groups as well as serving other functions. Stay tuned for news to come on "Friends and Neighbors."

For more information, you can contact Gaye Kopas at gkopas@msn.com.

The AGAPE News

Published monthly by
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 Sharon Mock
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 August Plock
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 Wayne Rogers
 Rita Stephan

Clerk of Session
 Marilyn Love

March Session Summary
Submitted by Marilyn Love, Clerk of Session

Rita Stephan presented a plan for Long-Range Planning, with grids to write "needs" and to record follow-up. David Marks discussed website plans. He is the contact person regarding the site.

The Finance committee (Guardian Team) reported that we have a surplus available for emergencies.

MOTION 1 - to approve Doug Arnold as treasurer the remainder of this year.

Jim announced that Census Training will be using our building in April and the Worker's Defense Project meets here March 28 and the planners of the Jesus Seminars will meet in our building for a "conversation" on April 23 and 24. He will be participating in the Planned Parenthood Dedication, and reminded us about the Activism Conference. He announced that KOOP will be honoring Bishop Romero.

MOTION 2 - to approve serving Communion at the Maundy Thursday service, April 1.

MOTION 3 - to approve the minutes for the February Stated Meeting, a Called meeting to receive new members, and the Congregational Meeting.

Peggy Rackley reported on the progress of the pictorial directory, and reminded us of the Round Table dinners on May 7 and 8.

Sign-up sheets were circulated for volunteers to serve communion and to lock up the building after worship.



Food & Shower
Ministry

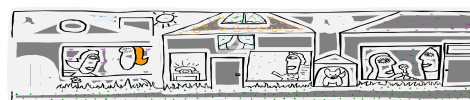
“Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it.” Helen Keller has expressed so well why the Food Pantry continues to operate month after month, year after year. St. Andrew's plays a small but vital role in helping to overcome a certain amount of suffering at the local level, in our community, right where we live.

We open our doors on the second and fourth Saturdays of every month, and have served approximately 900 people in the last seven times we've been open. St. Andrew's is making a difference in people's lives!

The support of our church is so evident every Sunday as the children bring canned goods forward to fill the baskets. Others donate money on a regular basis so needed items can be purchased. Many of you volunteer each time we open to welcome clients, serve food, fill orders, wash towels and clean up. Thank you so much for your continued and faithful support of this ministry!



Zookeepers Brunch - Saturday, April 3, 10 am at the home of Kevin, Kelly and Camden Coggin, 302 Rinehart, Hutto. Zookeepers is a group within St. Andrew's for families who have children and for anyone who wants to hang out with them. This group started in early 2010 when most of our children were toddlers and/or infants. The group meets one Saturday a month outside the church for a social brunch. There is also an email list intended to help plan the brunches, connect and socialize online, share photos and information, and discuss topics relevant to the group. For more information contact Kelly at kellycoggin@austin.rr.com or 496-4934 (cell) or at home 535-4292. Or check out the Yahoo zookeepers group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/staopenZookeepers>.



Round Table Dinners

will be on
May 7th and 8th

Sign up to host a dinner on April 11

Sign up to be a dinner guest on
April 18th and 25th

A fun, informal and purely social way to
get to know other St. Andrew's
members and visitors.

For information or to sign up, contact:

Peggy Rackley at 990-2426 or rackley@swbell.net
Sandy Beck at 246-1692 or hippiesand@aol.com

Artist Team



We are honored to host Tom Pacheco in a rare visit from a legend of the folk underground. He has written songs with and performed with The Band, Doug Kershaw, Flaco Jimenez, Pete Seeger, Stephen Bruton, and many others. His songs range from poignant ballads of memories, loves, and heartaches to seething and insightful anti-establishment social commentary. His latest CD "I'll Leave a Light on for You" is one of his best in a long career of great songs, and is dedicated to long-time friend and collaborator Rick Danko. He will perform on Friday April 9 at 7 pm. Suggested donation \$15. Visit www.tompacheco.com or www.myspace.com/tompacheco to listen.

Tom Pacheco began studying Flamenco and classical guitar at age 10 with his father, Tony Pacheco, a jazz guitarist who played with Django Reinhardt and performed solo throughout the clubs of Europe. At 19, Tom released his first album of original folk songs and began playing in the Greenwich Village basket house clubs in New York City. Tom's compassion for our world and for what it should be and his condemnation for those who prevent that while pocketing the proceeds guides a strong current of Tom's work. Two of Tom's best lines in this style come from "Rebel Spring" and speak well to this: *"Somewhere we've lost the reigns of our destinies/to the sweet songs of shepherds we don't see"*.

Tom excels in several styles and musical forms but some of his most compelling songs are his story songs and folk ballads. Some are well-researched histories. Others are speculative

In his 40+ years as a professional songwriter, Tom has issued 23 LPs and CDs. His songs have been recorded by Richie Havens, Jefferson Starship, The Band, Rick Danko, Norwegian superstar Steiner Albrigtsen, and others. Last November to commemorate his 3000th!! copyrighted song, Scotland's Loudon Castle hosted Tom in a splendid celebration concert. *"Tom Pacheco deserves to be mentioned in the same tones of reverence as John Prine, Townes Van Zant, Guy Clark and Steve Earle...Tom Pacheco is one of the most impressive singer/songwriters of our times."* - Hugh Gregory, Folk Roots.

You can find more information about Open Ears Concert and Tom Pacheco on our website: staopen.com.

Guardian Team



The No Streak Award goes to the 15 willing souls who braved the March winds last Saturday and spruced up the church's lovely, (now clean) windows. As we heard the weather report, we decided to concentrate on the inside sections, but when this hearty group finished their respective assignments, they just kept on scrubbing, and within two hours (give or take) we were finished with the whole job. Thanks to all!

Ambassador Team



"The Century of the Self" How business and politicians create and manipulate mass-consumer society. Originally aired on the BBC. bbc.co.uk/bbcfour/documentaries/features/century_of_the_self.shtml

Adam Curtis' acclaimed series tells the story of the growth of the mass-consumer society in Britain and the United States. How was the all-consuming self created, by whom, and in whose interests? At the heart of the story is Sigmund Freud, whose techniques to probe the unconscious mind provided tools for understanding the secret desires of the masses and served as the precursor to a world full of political spin doctors, marketing moguls, and society's belief that the pursuit of satisfaction and happiness is the ultimate goal.

Apr. 11, Part Four: [Eight People Sipping Wine in Kettering](#) How liberal politicians such as Bill Clinton and Tony Blair turned to the techniques developed by business to read and fulfill the inner desires of the self, claiming to create a new and better form of democracy, one that truly responded to the inner feelings of the individual.

All screenings are on Sundays at 12:15 following the 10:45 worship service. The films are one hour, followed by discussion.

Pastoral Team



The St. Andrew's Shawl Ministry grew this past Valentine's Day with new people who will knit, sew and crochet shawls and baby blankets and something new – sewn, warmable, neck pillows to offer comfort on difficult days. The Shawl Ministry was created to offer solace to those who are ill, have suffered a loss or are in the midst of a crisis. It's like a group hug from St. Andrew's to those needing help. Baby blankets were added in order to rejoice over a new life and presence in our church. There will be a gathering for this group one evening a month, time and place to be decided. If you can't make it to the meeting or just prefer to work alone that is perfectly fine. You can drop off your finished items at the church office, given to Donna Rutherford our Congregational Nurse or to Barbara Miller, the Ministry's "go-to" person. Be sure to attach a tag with your name and phone number so we'll know who made it. We have some yarn and gift certificates available to purchase materials and if you have yarn to donate or wish to make a financial contribution a good contact would be Barbara Miller at 252-3726 home, 796-5177 cell or barbara-miller@live.com.



"Fill Up Your Bucket, Self Care for the Spirit" April 3, 8:30 to 9:30 am. You are invited to partake in an hour designed to help bring peace and joy into your life. This time of renewal, sustenance and discovery of spiritual pathways begins with quiet, gentle breathing, meditation, readings and music. We share conversation if the spirit moves us and close with prayer and thanksgiving. Please join Barbara McCarty and Donna Rutherford for this hour.

Educator Team



A youth and adult Sunday School class on the "Spirituality of Evolution"

will be held on May 16 at 9:30 am. The class will be limited to the first 25 people to allow everyone time to touch and experience the timeline beads as Carlos Rumbaut talks about the development of life on earth from the formation of the solar system to the emergence of humans. The talk is free. To make your reservation, please call the office or sign up after church in the foyer starting April 18th. The class is open to all interested adults and youth. Youth (middle school and high school) are encouraged to bring their family and friends.



***Discovering Your Own Tree of Life** If you want to explore and deepen your inner life, St. Andrew's will offer a time and place to do just that. The next class is Sunday, April 4, at 9:30 am. Pam Wagner will facilitate an ongoing discussion of spiritual practices on the first Sunday of every month in our library. The class is the result of a four-part series Pam started in the fall. When the series was over, several people wanted to continue the conversation. And a conversation is what she has planned. There will be no lecture, there may be a topic to discuss but mainly this will be a time when people seeking a more fulfilling spiritual life can share their experiences with one another, and hopefully benefit from one another in community.

* **Jim Rigby** leads a class each Sunday based on that Sunday's Lesson in Living. This class will open one Sunday of each month for special programs. A wide variety of programs will be offered providing the opportunity for a different kind of Sunday School experience. On April 18 "The Uncensored News" the class will host Jason Brownlee, Associate Professor of Government at UT. Jason will discuss current events that may or may not be covered by the mainstream American press. Many important events are not covered or are covered in such a way as to not provide a complete picture. Join us to learn more about where you can seek additional reporting and analyses to make informed decisions

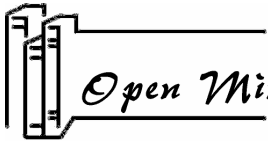
* So many of the stories we hear from the Bible are about men. Have you ever wondered about the **Women in the Bible**? Peggy Stoll will facilitate as we go through the Bible and, one by one, listen to women's stories--voices not always heard. Come and learn more about the Mothers of our faith. Classes meet April 11 and 25.



Theology in Everyday Life will meet on Monday, April 5, and Monday, April 19. This is a group that through lively discussion grows in understanding of how our Christian faith is lived out in ordinary life. Articles are read or movies viewed before the meeting. Hearing other points of view challenges us to think about our own perspective. Discussion topics are announced in the church bulletins and handouts are available in the church foyer. Pick up the material and come join in the discussion.



The Poiema book study is reading *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor. We are finding this to be a “good read” that stimulates much conversation. We recommend it to everyone. On April 18, we will meet to discuss Chapters 2 & 3: The Practice of Paying Attention – *Reverence* and The Practice of Wearing Skin – *Incarnation*. You are invited to join us whether you have read the book or not. We gather at 5:30 p.m. for a meal hosted by Poiema. The book study begins about 7:00 and concludes about 8:00. For more info call Barbara McCarty at 512-272-5438 barbaramc@pvco.net or Jean Fox at 926-1132. Information about Poiema is available at www.poiemacommunity.org.



Open Minds Bookstore

We have a new shipment of *The Inclusive New Testament*. They are only available in softcover at the present time, \$20.

The Last Week by Marcus Borg, and John Dominic Crossan, \$12. Using the Gospel of Mark as the basis for this study, these two scholars repeatedly attempt to answer the question, "What does then have to do with this now, our now?"

Into the Silent Land: A Guide to the Christian Practice of Contemplation by Martin Laird, \$16

From the refined teachings of the Christian tradition of meditation, Mr. Laird provides guidance not only for the beginner but even more so for those who desire to journey yet deeper into the silence of God

Reason for Hope: A Spiritual Journey, by Jane Goodall, \$13 Goodall looks back on her life of studying chimpanzees in Africa, and the evolution of thought she's had, moving from a clinical scientist perspective to recognizing the commonality of humans and chimps at a personal and spiritual level.

Faith-Based War: From 9/11 to Catastrophic Success by T. Walter Herbert, \$25. *Dr. Herbert is Professor Emeritus of English at Southwestern University in Georgetown. We are pleased to offer the books of friends and members of the St. Andrew's Community. We have copies "to go" in the bookstore.* A faith-based policy governed key features of the American invasion of Iraq, including the choice of a self-defeating 'Shock and Awe' strategy, and the grossly mismanaged occupation. The Bush Administration embraced an imperialist Christian militarism that united elements of classic Puritan tradition with the mythology of the Western Frontier. *Faith-Based War* brings into focus this dangerous perversion of Christian teaching, and details its catastrophic results.

Fresh Bread and Other Gifts of Spiritual Nourishment by Joyce Rupp, \$11.50. *Fresh Bread* was the January book recommendation from our Parish Nurse, Donna Rutherford. Included are many readings for reflection.

Available from amazon.com:

The Prayer Shawl Companion: 38 Knitted Designs, Bristaw and Cole-Galo Those who are interested in meeting with Donna Rutherford about knitting prayer shawls may wish to purchase this book from Amazon. She has a copy for your viewing.

Gospel Parallels: A Synopsis of the First Three Gospels – Burton H. Throckmorton, Used and new copies are available through Amazon.com. Requests to give out the information for this tool for Bible study came out of Tuesday morning's Bible Study Group. Related passages from these three gospels are shown side by side. Comparisons and contrasts, differences in emphasis become apparent.

The Bookstore is open the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.



Time to do that Spring Cleaning and find forgotten treasures. Bring them to the Youth Room upstairs as we assemble THE GREATEST YARD SALE EVER! The sale is May 15 so you have time to get it together and bring in your things. If you need help carrying or a truck, let us know and we will assist you. If you donate an item of particular value that might not be apparent to us, please let us know. Anything left over will be donated to Goodwill or placed in a silent auction bid. Also, we will have a BAKE SALE so be thinking of that amazing dessert to contribute as well.

Youth Activities



Sunday School is every Sunday from 9:30 am to 10:30 am..

Saturday, Apr. 10 9:00 to 1:30 pm Food Pantry at church.

Youth Yard & Bake Sale, May 15, 7 am to 3 pm

April and May will be recruiting months as we move towards our volleyball season. We will have a kickoff party for the summer in the first week of June and be helping with Peace Camp that month as well. Summer is really just around the corner.

Middle or High School students are cordially invited to participate in our youth group. Drop in on a Sunday School class upstairs. Come and do Food Pantry with us. And get geared up for volleyball. There are lots of fun things to do and we encourage young people to join us.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Living and Sharing Progressive Christianity

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Austin, TX 78728
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www.Staopen.com
E-Mail: mail@staopen.org

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ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PEACE CAMP – LOVE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
SUNDAY JUNE 20 – THURSDAY JUNE 24 6:30-8:30 P.M.

Office Use:
DATE: RECEIVED: _____
Registr. Form: _____
Release Forms: _____
Crew: _____

Please Print and Fill Out One Registration Form per Child

Fee is \$15 first child and \$10 for each sibling

Deadline for registration is either Sunday, May 20 or when camp is full -whichever comes first.

A waiting list will be kept when the camp is full. Children who can attend every evening will be given preference if completed registration is the same date.

CHILD'S NAME: _____

SEX: circle M F BIRTHDAY (month/year): _____

AGE (as of Dec 31, 2009) _____ GRADE(School year '09-'10) _____

Ages 3 years – k for preschool program. First grade – fifth for elementary program.

PARENTS' NAMES: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DAY PHONE: _____ CELL/Home _____

E-MAIL: _____

ATTENDANCE: ___ Every evening S M T W T evenings only (circle all appropriate)

I understand that PEACE CAMP runs on volunteer power. I will do my share by:

- ___ TEACHING PRESCHOOL CHILDREN
- ___ SHEPHERDING ELEMENTARY CHILDREN
- ___ ASSISTING WITH YOUTH choose evening (S M T W T)
- ___ ASSISTING WITH CRAFTS circle evening (S M T W T)
- ___ ASSISTING WITH SPECIAL CENTERS (S M T W T) (circle one: music or story)
- ___ ASSISTING WITH NURSERY CARE circle days (S M T W T)
- ___ HELPING WITH SUNDAY SET UP
- ___ HELPING THURSDAY EVENING CLEAN UP

When I volunteer, I will need nursery care for _____ age _____

Mail Registration, Emergency Release Form, and Fee to:
Peggy Rackley
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
1431 Wells Port Dr.
Austin, Texas 78728

Registration is not complete without paid fee and both forms completed

ST ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PEACE CAMP **RELEASE FORM**

SPECIAL MEDICAL NEEDS OR FOOD ALLERGIES:

PERSON TO CONTACT

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: _____

PHONE #: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD: _____

I GIVE MY PERMISSION TO HAVE MY CHILD TREATED AT

_____ HOSPITAL OR ANY MINOR EMERGENCY ROOM ST
ANDREW'S STAFF FEELS IS NECESSARY.

DOCTOR'S NAME: _____

DOCTOR'S PHONE: _____

PHOTOGRAPHS:

St. Andrew's Peace Camp has my permission to include my child in pictures taken during the camp. I understand that these pictures will be used without children's names in public materials and information pieces.

Please do not use photographs of my child.

DISMISSAL

I give St. Andrew's permission to dismiss my child into the care of the following people:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD THAT ST. ANDREW'S MAY NEED TO KNOW:

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____

April 2010

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1 7p Maundy Thursday Service Lee Cox Tiffani Walker	2 Good Friday	3 8:30a "Fill Your Bucket" 10a "Zookeepers" 3:15p Mike Manor Ryan Richmond Elizabeth Richmond Rachael & Regan Davis
4 <i>Easter</i> BP Screening Potluck Luncheon	5 7:15p Theology in Everyday Life Anne Mirrop	6 10a Bible Study Class Payne Gillispie Beth & Paul Davis	7 7:15p Choir Rehearsal 7p NA Dennis Chapman Virginia Marks Kathryn Plummer Lainey Rathgeber Janet Vanderveer	8 6:30p SafePlace Class Paula Rigling	9 7p Open Ears Concert with Tom Pacheco Nan King Bart Noble Mark Whelan	10 9:30a Youth Assist Food Pantry 10a Food Pantry Open Ann Merritt
11 Communion John Dunnam Dick Galloway Kathleen & Brad Sanders-Neal	12 Rebekah Beeber Natalee Mendez Audrey Misner Jo & George Brown	13 10a Bible Study Class	14 7:15p Choir Rehearsal 7p NA	15 Leslie Harper	16 Karalei Nunn	17
18 AGAPE Team Meetings following 10:45 worship Eric Cervini Jo Cochran Sonya Lowrance Emma Mele Jason Ziegler Ann Merritt & Jay Strickler	19 7:15p Theology in Everyday Life Will Kniffen Terry & Stan Harris	20 10a Bible Study Class 7p Session Meeting Larry Bolden Anne & Chris Mele	21 7:15p Choir Rehearsal 7p NA Kelly Coggin Chaille Fuquay	22 6:30p SafePlace Class	23 Jill Gardner Betsy Pharis	24 9:30a Youth Assist Food Pantry 10a Food Pantry Open
25 David Wallingford	26	27 10a Bible Study Class Terry Harris	28 7:15p Choir Rehearsal 7p NA	29 Julie Carson & Tiffani Walker	30 Emily Love	

Sunday Schedule

8:30 Worship
9:30 Sunday School for all ages
10:45 Worship Services

Church Office

9 am – 1:30 pm Monday thru Friday
Jim Rigby's Day off is Fridays

Weekly Adult Class Schedule

Sunday with Jim Rigby: Each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m., Jim Rigby teaches a lesson that is closely tied to that day's sermon. On the 18th Jason Brownlee will lead this class with a discussion on the Middle East.
April 4: Discovering Your Own Tree of Life with Pam Wagner
April 4 & 18: A Year Through the Bible with Babs Miller
April 11 & 25: All the Women of the Bible with Peggy Stoll

