



DEPTH SOUNDINGS

The Anchorage 20:
A Contemplative Community for All
Come away...

Encouragement, Inspiration and News from The Anchorage

August 2017



THE ANCHORAGE

come away - anchor deep

1998-2018

“In the Word of the Lord, God Will Reveal”

By Ann Tarwater, NC

“for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.” (1 Sam 3)

The Word of the Lord was how God revealed Himself to Samuel. It is a gentle reminder that this is how God reveals Himself to us. And we must have quiet time in order to hear Him.

Each day the Holy Spirit reminds us that we are to leave the frenzy of daily living and just be still with God. It is a quiet command that instructs our souls to commune with God from morn until evening, with restful sleep and days that are clear with wisdom and renewed hope. That was my experience on a directed retreat at Mepkin Abbey with The Anchorage.

As I committed to this process, I was given scripture to feed upon all day long, searching its depths, as it revealed to me wonderful truths about God. It was a time of guidance. It was a time of being content. If you long to know God more intimately, then The Anchorage provides the venue to re-engage with heaven. It was exactly what I needed.



*anchor
deep*

“Celebrating God All Year”

By Catherine Powell

“CELEBRATE GOD” is our theme as we enjoy our 20th year of serving God and God’s people, by God’s grace. While we do celebrate many things that YOU our generous and faithful partners have done to help over these 20 years, we know that you would agree – that the One to celebrate MOST - for all the graced moments, the transformation and healing times – is God. These words to the Christian song come to mind: “Not to us, not to us, but to your name be glory, to your name be glory!”

To get the flow of memories started, we invited a few folks to consider writing a paragraph or two sharing how God has blessed them over the years through the retreats and other events with The Anchorage. Enjoy what they have written. We hope God will bless you in their memories, and our joy is that it truly blesses our holy and loving God.

****If you would like to write something**** there are three more issues after this one. The upcoming dates are mid October, for November, mid January for February and mid April for May. We would love to include your personal reflections as God leads. If you could send us a heads up that would be helpful. We are truly blessed indeed – beyond anything we could think or imagine. Thanks for your part in blessing us – and God!

“Celebrating Freedom”

By Penelope Wesley, SC

Have you ever had a broken spirit? I have.

In 2012, I attended my first Anchorage event. I arrived not knowing what to expect. I came broken, weary, and needing God. I continue to come and with each event whether a beach retreat, Desert day, or a book study I give Jesus my broken pieces. Over time, I have been experiencing God’s healing of my past disappointments, pain, guilt and shame.

When my life becomes chaotic and overwhelming, I become tired and weary. The Anchorage invites us to “Come Away” to be still and listen allowing God to speak to us. During this time of quietness my troubled soul finds rest and my spirit replenished.

Phillip Bennett, author of *Let Yourself Be Loved*, wrote ‘God truly delights in me-- as I am.’ I celebrate because God loved me first. What a freedom I have found. I do not need to be perfect nor work to earn that love. As I learn to trust and grow more each day, I am grateful for what Christ has done and is doing in my life.

Today, I am allowing God to love me. I am thankful I can now know, receive, and share that love. I celebrate as Jesus heals my brokenness, filling me with an inner peace and joy that I have never known. It is all about God’s love. My prayer is I will continue to serve and help others like my Anchorage community has helped me. When my focus is off myself and on Jesus, I am open to receiving God’s gift of love. This allows me to share that love with others offering them the same hope I found.

“An Anchorage Reflection”

By Mike Ferreira, FL

In a quiet corner of the South Carolina low country, a group of men have carved out of quiet place of prayer and beauty for all of us. These men are monks of the Order of Cistercians of the Strict Observance, commonly called Trappist. The place is called Mepkin Abbey in the town of Moncks Corner. My wife Sandy and I have been blessed to be able to pray with these men on several occasions under the gentle invitation and guidance of Catherine Powell. The retreats are for prayer, reflection, and rest at the monastery.

My wife Sandy and I have been called to two such retreats. Both were weekend retreats and we were blessed to journey along with the same beautiful people at both retreats. The retreats are simple: we meet with Catherine as a group at the start and at the end and then with her daily for spiritual direction on the Scripture suggested. Using a method created by St. Ignatius, we are asked to journey along with Jesus. Wonderful.

(Continued on page 5)



The Anchorage

Vision

For all people everywhere to see God more clearly, love God more dearly and follow God more nearly. For when just one person moves toward living out of that graced space, where we know we are loved, there is a ripple effect which is our best hope for the healing of our world. The Anchorage wants to contribute to that hope.

Mission

The Anchorage provides a setting in which women and men may come away to be with God, as revealed in Jesus the Christ; and to come to love more deeply, through contemplative retreats and spiritual direction, this God who loves us beyond measure.

Metaphor

A safe harbor in which to anchor deep in still waters as a respite from the wind and waves; where pilgrims may enjoy prayerful grace, honor the rhythm of Sabbath and open more fully to the mystery of God’s love.

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*Catherine Powell,
Founding Servant Leader*

Servant Leaders

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Alan Kinsey
Michael Fleenor
Rosemary Goodall, Chair
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Juan Ortiz
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The Anchorage

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Greenville, SC 29604
(864) 232-LOVE (5683)
www.theanchorage.org*

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 Mike Cannon

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Rhett and Sarah McCraw in
 memory of Dallas Palmer

Financial Status as of June 30, 2017 (Fiscal Year is July 16 – June 17)

Total gifts budgeted	\$ 30,020
Total received	<u>\$ 26,018</u>
Amount needed	\$ 4,002

Total income budgeted	\$ 52,730
Total received	<u>\$ 44,731</u>
Amount needed	\$ 7,999

BUT – It is still significantly more than last year! We adjusted the ministry plan to reflect our expectations for our **“All about God Friend/Fund Raiser”** in April, 2017. **Thank you for your generous pledges!**

All gifts are fully tax-deductible.

Use our online PayPal donation/registration!



Chronological Listing of Events

Fridays, August 4, October 6, December 1, February 2, April 6, June 1, "Desert Days," Catherine Opening prayer, content, reflection time in solitude, lunch conversation, similar afternoon.
Arrive between 9 and 9:30, and conclude by 2:30.
Fee: \$30 (\$20 if you BYO lunch) Deposit (\$10) due a week ahead.
Location: Gower Estates

August 11-13, "My Story, Our Story, The Story," Porter & Arthur Taylor, (commuter option Fri. 5-9, Sat. 9-9) We will be encouraged to tell our own stories, so we will hear our own faith and be able to share it with others. (May be too late to sign up - but give it a try - there may be some cancellations.)
Fee: \$395 (includes 5 meals - commuter fee \$175 - 3 meals)
Location: Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, NC

September 19, Tuesday "Come and See!" DESSERT/COFFEE
Plan to arrive between 6:45 and 7pm, and conclude by 8:30. The purpose of the evening is to encounter God and introduce your friends to the ministry called The Anchorage: A Contemplative Community for All. We will enjoy dessert, informative presentations/conversation around the tables. Please send info to: cathie@theanchorage.org or (864) 232-LOVE (5683).
Fee: FREE Location: Christ Church Episcopal, Greenville, SC

Tuesdays, September 26, December 19, March 20, June 19, "Desert Evenings," Catherine Opening prayer, content, reflection time in solitude. 7 - 8:30pm. Deposit (\$10) due 4 days ahead.
Fee: \$10 Location: Gower Estates

November 13-17 (4-day) "Praying Scripture" Directed Retreat, Catherine Includes daily individual spiritual direction with suggested scripture for each day. The Trappist monks invite us to participate with them in the liturgy of the hours. You may join them for any of the prayer times. Each retreatant has a single room/bath. The setting along the Cooper River is most inviting. Arrive Monday by 2:30pm, leave Friday by 11am.
Fee: \$350 (4-day) During creche festival! Dep. (\$10) due Oct. 10th
Location: Mepkin Abbey, Moncks Corner, SC

February 9-11 "20th Annual Beach Retreat," Caroline
Plan to arrive between 3 and 4:30, we will begin at 5. We will conclude by 11:00am Sunday. We again will enjoy unparalleled teaching, topic TBA in November Depth Soundings.
Fee: \$395 (includes oceanfront single room) Dep. (\$10) by Dec. 29th
Location: The Litchfield Inn, Pawleys Island, SC

February 16-19, Fri. - Mon., Lenten "Praying Scripture" Directed Retreat, Catherine Similar to November.
Fee: \$300 (3-day) Dep. \$10 due Jan. 18th

May 3-5, "Celebrate God" as The Anchorage Celebrates our 20th Anniversary! SAVE THE DATE - Details TBA.

May 21-25, Mon. - Fri., "Praying Scripture" Directed Retreat, Catherine Similar to November. Dep. \$10 due April 19th

August 13-20, (Mon - Mon.) or 13-17, (Mon. - Fri.) or 17-20 (Fri. - Mon) "Praying Scripture" Directed Retreat, Catherine Similar to November. Can select 3, 4 or 7 day retreat - as God leads.
Fee: \$300 (3-day), \$350 (4-day), \$600 (7-day) Dep. \$10 by July 10th

LEADERSHIP

Porter Taylor/Arthur Taylor
Porter is the retired bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina. He holds a Ph. D. in Theology and Literature from Emory University and has been presenting workshops for over twenty years. In 2015, he devoted a sabbatical to studying story telling as a vehicle to spread the Good News. In the fall of 2017 he will join the faculty of the Wake Forest University School of Divinity. **Porter's son Arthur** is a psychologist working at the Georgia Regional Hospital in Atlanta. He holds a Ph. D. in Psychology from New York University. He teaches graduate level courses in forensic and spiritual issues in therapy.

Catherine Powell
Founding Servant Leader of The Anchorage, has a Doctor of Ministry from The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. Her formation also includes a 3-week spiritual psychological process, the Spiritual Guidance Program of The Shalem Institute, The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius as well as training at the Jesuit Center in Wernersville to lead 8-day retreats. She was ordained in 1999. She is married to Skeeter.

Caroline Smith
Has just completed her terms as Provincial of the Sisters of Saint Mary of Namur in Buffalo, NY. She holds an MA in Theological Studies from the Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, a Ph. D. in Pastoral Counseling from Loyola College, Baltimore, and received additional training in Ignatian Retreats at Guelph Spirituality Center in Ontario, Canada. A licensed counselor, she has worked extensively in Jungian dream work and the integration of the spiritual and psychological. She has been leading retreatants through the 30-Day Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius for over 30 years. She has led our Annual Beach Retreat 13 of our 19 years.

If \$10 is all you can pay, then that is all you pay!

More events/details in November Depth Soundings! Stay tuned!

“Fall Quiet Day, November 8, 2013”

By Jacquelyn Schauer, NC

The Fall Quiet Day at the Anchorage usually happens within a few days of my birthday, so I have gifted myself several times by attending these retreats. I enjoy a quiet hour-long drive from Asheville to Greenville, reveling in the beautiful leaf colors typical of this time of the year. I look forward to experiencing the loving, prayerful and joyful atmosphere which Catherine so well creates.

On November 8, 2013, I attended “Love Songs, Sacred and Secular,” along with ten other retreatants. We listened to and read the printed lyrics of love songs, both popular and religious. Catherine suggested that instead of viewing the popular songs as to or from a human lover that we look at them as songs to or from the Divine Lover. I was amazed and tickled to see how easy it was to make this “shift,” and how joyful and natural it felt. For example:

“Remember the day/ I [God] set you free/ I told you/ You could always count on me” (**Ain’t No Mountain High Enough**)

“Longer than there’ve been fishes in the ocean/ higher than any bird ever flew/ longer than there’ve been stars up in the heavens/ I’ve [God] been in love with you” (**Longer Than**)

“When my soul was in the lost and found/ You [God] came along to claim it/ I didn’t know just what was wrong with me/ Till your kiss [love] helped me name it. Now I’m no longer doubtful/ of what I’m living for/ and if I make you happy I don’t need to do more” (**Natural Woman**)

“If anyone should ever write my life story/ ... Oooh, you’ll [God] be there between each line of pain and glory/ ‘cause you’re the best thing that ever happened to me” (**You’re The Best Thing That Ever Happened To Me**)

What could be more natural than singing about the fullest love we will ever experience? Give it a try with your favorite love song -- I am sure you will agree! As James Taylor puts it, “How sweet it is (to be loved by You)”

God’s Persistence in Accomplishing God’s Purpose

By Peggy Dulaney, SC

I have been blessed to be involved with The Anchorage even before it had a name. Catherine and I became coworkers and friends while she was still in seminary and trying to discern what God wanted her to do. I was privileged to become one of the early Servant-Leaders and have continued to be involved in various capacities. Over the twenty years of this ministry, God has raised up a variety of leaders, all of whom seemed to have just the right gifts and graces needed for that time. There have been many struggles, but obviously God wanted The Anchorage to continue, and so it has. There was one very pivotal point where the Servant-Leaders had to decide whether to even continue or not, but God’s presence in that meeting was palpable and we knew we needed to press on because *it was not about what we were doing, but all about what God was doing through this ministry.*

Over the years, The Anchorage has offered many different approaches to help people go deeper in their relationship with God...retreats, book studies, quiet days, desert days, Advent retreats, individual spiritual direction... but in all things, the focus has always been on making a space where people could be in relationship with God. For that, I am grateful, and celebrate God’s persistence in guiding and building the community known as The Anchorage.

(Continued from page 2)

The Anchorage calls us to come away and anchor deep. I have for a long time been a friend of The Anchorage and fully endorse their call to prayer and contemplation. My two retreats at Mepkin Abbey have helped sustain me for a long time in my following of Jesus. Is Jesus calling you to come away for a while and rest with Him? Do you need a competent and loving guide to help you in your walk? Do you need to be embraced by Love? Then I encourage you to consider making a retreat with The Anchorage and the monks at Mepkin Abbey.

“Intimacy with Jesus Christ”

By Jane Vaughn, FL

My first experience with “The Anchorage” was a God-arranged meeting with Catherine Powell. She was the door of grace to my experiencing God in a way I had not experienced God before--even after 38 years of being a devoted Christian.

At our first meeting, she invited me to a silent retreat, at Mepkin Abbey, Spring of 2015. For me, it was nothing less than a holy experience.

I went there to find answers and help for difficult problems I was dealing with. What I found was so much more. I found Love --an intimacy with Jesus Christ I had not experienced in quite a while. I didn’t even realize it. But He knew. That’s why He invited me to Mepkin.

The experience might be likened to renewing marriage vows I suppose. But so much more.

Through simple prayer, silence, resting, and interaction into the depths of God’s Word, I found Jesus as my Friend (who was, and is, captivated by me--and you, too, for He shows no favoritism), my Father (who disciplines yet loves me), my Shepherd (leading me by the still waters--restoring my soul), and my Lover (not in a sensual sense, of course, but as the Lover of my soul--who loves me like no other can). He is my everything. And that became so real and alive to me that I am still basking in the afterglow of it. Weeping at times - and longing for God like never before.

And I marvel. I marvel at how a handful of strangers can bond so deeply when so few words were spoken. Yet I felt the bond, and I know that moment in time is sealed for eternity in my heart. Our spirits bonded in ways only the Holy Spirit knows. And it was all holy and good.

My time there seems to be an ever-unfolding revelation of such a thing of beauty--like the blossoming of a flower..

I thank God for the gifts and offerings of “The Anchorage.” I am forever changed, and my journey with Jesus took a wonderful new turn.

Thanks to all our writers, for sharing their God encounters.



The Anchorage 20

A Contemplative
Community for All

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*"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very same Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."
Romans 8:26-27.*



Jason Loscuito receives The Anchorage Servant Leader Service Award at the May 2017 meeting. Around the table, left to right: Starla Revels, Angela Sudermann, Juan Ortiz, Rosemary Goodall, Holland Webb, standing, Jason Loscuito and Catherine Powell. Jason served for three years serving as Chair his last year. Thanks Jason for a job well done! We are a Contemplative Community that listens for God. John 15:5 is our key verse.

THANK YOU! *Thank You* **THANK YOU!** *Thank You* **THANK YOU!**

**Heartfelt Gratitude for our
"All About God" Friend/Fund Raiser Table Sponsors**

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THANK YOU! *Thank You* **THANK YOU!** *Thank You* **THANK YOU!**