

An Introduction to the Spiritual Journey

'Have a deep longing for something more? Maybe it's something you can't quite explain. But you recognize yearnings and visionary dreams and nothing has satisfied.

You are not alone. It's not all that uncommon for church people to continue to search for a comforting, constant presence in their lives. Even those "raised in a Christian church" can feel disconnected.

Some others find something outside of church to fill their void. They proclaim themselves "spiritual but not religious." But what does that mean? And exactly what is meant by a "spiritual journey?"

You can get help here this summer with understanding and a deepening of your experience of God. A new short course called "Exploring the Way" will be offered in July. In a spiritually safe place, you'll be able to ask questions about troubling issues and about your own faith. You'll discover – or rediscover – a way of grace and joy and peace: indeed, the way of Christ.

Virginia Ryan, a member of St. Peter's Cathedral, will guide us through this study for seven weeks. Virginia has been here before. Several years ago, she led a group of St. Augustine's adults in a study of *A History of God*, and *The Gift of the Jews*.

"There's something about Virginia that is the essence of great teaching," claims **Shirley Davis**, a former teacher and principal herself. "I'd ask a question which she would only partially answer, but she'd set me thinking and I'd spend the entire next week working through it. She really knew the answer but she understood that I would get more if I worked on it myself."

The book and seven weeks of discussion will explore and explain spiritual topics such as Prayer. Listening. The Bible's message for our lives today. Spiritual gifts. Journaling, and much more. "What I appreciate about this course," says Virginia, "is that it works for everyone: conservative, liberal, traditionalist, literalist. Labels don't matter because you are working out a spiritual journey just for yourself."

Sign up in the Parish Hall or by calling **Judy Krug at 439-5784**. The course will begin in early July on a day chosen by the group. This might well be your way to discovering "something more."

ChurchCare Day: Ambition Unlimited

When they all left, they could *smell* the changes. Lysol, Lemon Pledge, Soft Scrub and Easy-Off – and hours of sweat equity – made St. Augustine's a cleaner and leaner place yesterday. With mailed invitations, 11 people showed up for our first Spring Cleaning of Summer. Here are just some of the group's accomplishments.

Greg Duckett, Lewis Clowers and **Inez Ford** utterly transformed the Choir Room. **Bobby Allen** washed lots of windows. **Theresa Martin, Judy Krug** and **Joyce Corn** cleaned ovens, scrubbed kitchen walls and 19 cabinets, then lined 38 shelves. **Minnie Williams** sorted linens and cleaned pew pockets. **Rudy Gabbidon** and **Greg Duckett** changed light bulbs and fluorescent tubes. **Tom Krug** held their ladder and cleaned the Men's Room. **Hazel Hudson** cleaned the Women's Room. **Lewis Clowers** polished pews and cleaned the air grilles. **Judy Krug** sorted dishes and delivered a big box-load to Salvation Army.

Then everybody ate good pizza and accepted some unusual scripture-based awards.

So Now Who Do I Contact?

Sr. Warden: **Mary Clowers** 864-3568. Talk to Mary about needs for pastoral care.

Jr. Warden: **Joyce Corn** 540-0655. Talk to Joyce about church buildings, maintenance, cleaning, etc.

Parish Treasurer: **Greg Duckett** 866-1508. Talk with Greg about parish budget, your giving, etc.

Deacon: **Mack Bauknight** 328-7686. Talk with Mack about spiritual needs.

Vestry Members, your representatives:

Sandra Anderson 328-1827

Mary Jones 867-7702

Claude Reynolds 422-2395

Inez Ford 327-9693

Judy Krug 525-5044

Mordecai Walker 898-6543

Hazel Hudson 343-4157

Theresa Martin 866-6649