

P.O. Box 9091 \ Greenville, S.C. 29604 \ (864) 232-LOVE (5683) \ www.theanchorage.org

April 2023

TO THE ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY:

Each of us drinks from wells we did not dig, feasts on harvests we did not nurture, finds joy in the fruit of vineyards we did not plant. How our hearts sing when the drink is living water from the well of contemplative community! How satisfying the feast among those who share together the fruit of their own spiritual journey! How our spirits leap within us when we find those who speak our own language!

Sometimes we know the diggers of the wells, the nurturers of the harvests, the dressers of the vines. But most often we are not so aware... It requires that we stop, and look deeply, and listen closely. Who are these for us? The diggers of the wells, the nurturers of the harvests, the dressers of the vines? Who are these for you?

Who gave you the space for contemplative growth? Who encouraged you on your own spiritual journey? Who taught you the language of the desert? Who gives you still a community of those who understand you, and whom you understand?

Now entering its 26th year, THE ANCHORAGE is this living community. Its roots are deep, its branches reach far, it bears fruit in places and times we do not always see. Such living, breathing community is our only real lifeline in an increasingly polarized and desperate world. Beloved institutions lose our trust. The foundations of the world seem to be shaking. Authentic community centered in Christ anchors us in the storm. This is why I support THE ANCHORAGE.

Known by others – or never known – you and I can dig these wells, nurture these harvests, fill these vineyards with the fruit of joy – for those around us, and for those who come after us. Some we know well. Others we are yet to know or will never know. But our Gracious God knows each one of them, and would have this place full of grace for all people.

All of us drink from wells we did not dig. Our dollars now can dig them for others. What an opportunity to partner personally with God's holy work to transform the world!

In gratitude and hope, Robert Miles, Jr. Former Servant Leader (Board of Directors) Chair

Come away...

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