



A Letter of Thanks to the St. Andrew's Taizé from Fr. Terry Steig

**St. Andrew's Taizé Prayer Community**

111 NE 80th Street  
Seattle, Washington 98115

May 27, 2018

My Dear St. Andrew's Taizé Friends,

I want to thank from the bottom of my heart all who participated in hosting last night's potluck meal to thank me as I retire from St. Andrew's. Those who were able to attend were so kind and generous. You spoke beautifully about our Taizé ministry together, and I so appreciated all your kind words to me.

Many of you also participated in the generous gift card to Sweet Maria's Home Coffee Roasting. As some of you know, I have a hobby of roasting coffee with my well used home roaster. I buy almost all my "green" (unroasted) coffee beans from Sweet Maria's in Oakland, a wholesaler of fine coffee from all over the world. The gift card will help me purchase plenty of great coffee. Thank you for your wonderful generosity.

Some of you gave me personal notes. Many of you also wrote messages on a beautiful hand-painted card of the sanctuary of Taizé's Church of Reconciliation with its red and orange sails ascending like prayer into the dwelling place of God. I will cherish this card for the rest of my life.

Our weekly Taizé Prayer at St. Andrew's is more than simply a time to pray. It is our weekly renewal time during which we re-center ourselves in God's Spirit so that we can go back out into our complex lives to carry on the daily mission of helping people reconcile with themselves, with others and with God. This reconciliation is at the heart of the work of the brothers of Taizé, and I believe that desire to reconcile all things flows from the very heart of God. If we seek to be reconciled ourselves, then we are invited to offer that same reconciling love to others.

Thank you for being the best pray-ers ever who join in singing along in the hum of God's Spirit. I hope sometime in the future to rejoin you in the prayer and music and song of Taizé. Until then, I will pray for you every day — and please pray for me — that God's beckoning love will be with you, and remain with you forever!

Fr. Terry Steig