

the st. matthew's word

The Long Season of Growth in the Spirit

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

One Full Year

I rejoice that I am now completing my first year as your "new" rector. Perhaps in the next several months the word "new" will fade away and I can simply be your rector. Nevertheless, we are not in a hurry. Meaningful relationships take years to develop and we will continue to get to know one another more and more as we love and serve God together here at St. Matthew's. Please know that I cherish the privilege of being your rector and that I am deeply grateful for the support you have shown me and my family over the past year. Thank you so much!

A Spirit-ual Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost Sunday has come and gone. Who can forget the strange yet holy experience of hearing the gospel read in some 12 languages simultaneously, or the lovely picture of Hink waving the Jubilation Banner, symbolizing the gentle breeze of the Spirit's love and presence. I was so touched by the circling of the church and praying for our parish family and for the world. The Pentecost picnic was simply sensational. The Associate Vestry was tireless and the entire campus was transformed. Please tell them that you love them and appreciate their exceptional efforts. They do their part that we might "continue in the apostles teaching and fellowship," Baptismal Covenant, *Book of Common Prayer*, page 304.

The Long Season of Growth in the Spirit

So, we have entered the long season of Pentecost. Our services will be less expansive in the summer months. Now that we have passed out of the Easter Season, we will reinstate the Confession and Absolution before the Peace.

The candelabras, bells and incense will be put away until St. Matthew's Day. We will chant the Holy Eucharist around once a month (to stay in practice) instead of each Sunday as we have during the Easter Season. All of these changes are intended to reflect that the season of Pentecost is ordinary time under the teaching authority of the Holy Spirit. The color for the Pentecost Season is green, like (hopefully), the color of the grass that regularly needs mowing because it keeps growing. Our task is to offer ourselves to God so that the Holy Spirit may grow us to be more faithful, gentle, tranquil and strong in God's service. Pentecost is the season for spiritual growth. When you come to the Holy Eucharist and see the green on the altar, ask yourself, am I making myself available to God, that I might grow in my spiritual life?

El Buen Samaritano

Last month I reported that an anonymous donor contributed 22 condominiums to the church which have been subsequently sold. Out of the proceeds of this marvelous gift, the Vestry chose to make a \$25,000.00 gift to the Building Fund of El Buen Samaritano. I am so proud of the Vestry for this act of kindness, which reflects the gracious gift of the donors.

Summer Camp

As you receive this newsletter, my family and I will be going to Camp Allen from July 5 through July 12. I will be serving as Camp Director for the 5-6th grade session that week. Eric Liles will be assisting me and we are blessed that our own Kelly Owens,

Associate Vestry 2003-2004

Roger Buegner, *Chair*

Andy Bursk

Dana Bushong

Doug Doerr

Bryan Fugate

Maly Hatheway

Barbara Hilliard

Hink Johnson

Lauren Kirchem

Rick Krause

David Luce

William Lutz

Jamie Mann

Peter Mann

Michael Mashburn

Betsy McCraine

Glenda Monroe

Lori Murphy

Marty Robbins

Kelly Smith

Kirk Smith

Jim Strobusch

Carlos Vazquez

Janice Watkins

Bob Wood III

Pat Yeargain

Dana Young

continued on page 2...

The Rector's article...continued from page 1

Andy Muhich, Becky Novak and Lucy Koy will be there. Summer camp is such a happy time and can play a vital role in the formation of young Christians. Please keep our camp staff and campers in your prayers. At the end of the summer I'll give some of our campers and camp staff an opportunity to write some simple reflections on their experiences of camp.

Discernment

I am delighted to announce that we have two parishioners at differing places in the discernment process for ordained ministry. The Vestry and I, in the May meeting, endorsed a Discernment Committee report recommending Kathy Vail to the Bishop of Texas as a suitable candidate for ordination to the priesthood. Kathy will be invited to meet with the Commission on Ministry and the Bishop for further assessment and discernment. Please keep Kathy in your prayers in this most important time in her journey. I'd like to thank Sherm Strance, Bonnie Coleman, Tony Hatheway, Torre Shanks, and Jo Ann Grandjean for their fine work in serving as Kathy's Discernment Committee.

On June 1, I presented our Youth Minister, Eric Liles, to the Vestry, in response to his call and desire to be an Episcopal priest. The Vestry authorized me to appoint a Discernment Committee to work with Eric. I have appointed Mark Monroe, Jim Barnes, Stephanie McCollum, Jane Buerchner, Jonathan Decherd and Debbie Simons to help Eric discern his call and report their findings to the Vestry. I want to thank each of them for their willingness to serve in this most important ministry. Should the discernment process lead to a recommendation that Eric go to seminary, the earliest that could happen is the Fall of 2004. Please keep Eric and the Discernment Committee in your prayers.

Adult Education

I have formed a new Adult Education Council for 2003-2004 and they are working hard to prepare and implement an excellent plan for adult education. Elsewhere in this issue of *The Word* you will find a document that expresses the governing principles for your new Adult Education Council and gives you the names of those serving. They are an excellent and competent group with a passion for spiritual formation. Keep them in your prayers.

Evening Prayer - Every Single Night

I've given you much to pray about. Please remember that we are committed to nightly services of Evening Prayer in the Bell Tower Chapel. Some 14 new servants have stepped up to help lead these services in the coming months. There is no better place to pray for those who are sick, grieving or in need of our intercessions than at the very heart of our campus. Come and pray, share your heart with the Heart of God. Intercede for the saints in your life and in our church that are working to make St. Matthew's a place to grow and serve. God bless you one and all!!

Finally, the Wade Family will be taking a vacation after summer camp. I will return from camp on July 12. On Wednesday, July 16, we will leave Austin to go out east visiting family and friends for around three weeks, returning no later than August 8. Susan Barnes will be here the entire time of my absence.

Have a great summer growing the Spirit's love.

Merrill

St. Matthew's Summer 2003 Great Teachers Series

Submitted by Leon Whitney

Sunday mornings in Huffman Hall
9:00 - 10:00 Teaching and Questions
10:00 - 10:20 Fellowship and Coffee

Sunday, July 6

Dr. Charlotte Smith, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Specialist
 Chair, Ethics Committee,
 Brackenridge Hospital
 "Ethical Decisions in Health Care"

Sunday, July 13

Ms. Karen Cox, Executive Director
 CASA of Travis County
 "Assisting Children in Time of Need"

Sunday, July 20

Dr. Michael Granof, Ernst & Whinney
 Professor of Accounting
 The University of Texas School of Business
 "Honor in the Workplace: A Discussion of Ethics and Business Practices"

Sunday, July 27

Mr. Fred Zipp, Managing Editor
 Austin American-Statesman
 "Ethical Decisions in the Media"

Sunday, August 3

Cantor Neil Blumofe
 Cantor, Congregation Agudas Achim
 "The Roots and Rise of Current Anti-Semitism"

Sunday, August 10

Dr. Michael White,
 Ronald N. Smith Chair of Classics and
 Christian Origins, The University of Texas
 College of Liberal Arts
 "Reflections on Early Christianity."

Sunday, August 17

The Very Reverend Titus Presler,
 Dean and President
 Episcopal Theological Seminary of the
 Southwest
 "Leadership in the Emerging Church"

20TH ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND PATRIOTIC REVIEW

Sponsored by the St. Matthew's Choir
 Suzanne Daniel, Cary Michaels, Music Ministry

Thursday, July 3, 2003

7:00 p.m. Huffman Hall

Wear Red, White and Blue! Bring the kids!

Enjoy ice cream – all you can eat for a buck a bowl



Warden's Corner

by David Price, People's Warden

Good grief, summer is here already! How time has been flying! We've had a busy year as a Vestry, as a congregation, and each of us in our own way. I wanted to start giving a little more detail of the "goings on" of your Vestry. I have had a great time so far, and just want to let you know that it has been FUN serving with such a great group of people, working with our wonderful staff, and - yes - our awesome clergy.

We have had a couple of Vestry Meetings that I would like to report on. The first regular Vestry Meeting was May 27. The summary of actions for that meeting were:

- ◆ Appointment of Clive Smith to Master Plan Subcommittee, to replace Charlie Cole, who is head of Stewardship.
- ◆ A resolution to approve a year-around Stewardship program.
- ◆ Approval of a dedicated display for the Boy Scouts of St. Matthew's sponsored Troop 511 in Huffman Hall to display/store Troop items (charter, badges, flags).
- ◆ A vote to upgrade/repair the phone and computer systems on the campus,
- ◆ A vote to fund a retirement gift to Bishop Payne, and a donation to El Buen Samaritano.
- ◆ A discussion of Discernment Committee on Kathy Vail, to the Diocese, and the forwarding of the Vestry's recommendations to the Diocese.

As many of you know, St. Matthew's received an anonymous gift of 22 condominiums last year from a parishioner family. These were recently sold. As a result of this sale, St. Matthew's was able to contribute to El Buen Samaritano's final fund drive on their new facility. St. Matthew's was able to donate \$25,000 to this cause, as a partial result of the condo sale. The rest of the unencumbered money is parked in the Capital Fund, until such time as the Vestry decides how to best put it to use. These discussions have been ongoing. Great things are planned as a result of this generous gift to St. Matthew's. God is indeed at work!

Several Commission Reports were made at the May 27 meeting also. The Commissions and Committees with reports are:

- ◆ Administration/Personnel. This group is working on job descriptions, and an inventory of the physical plant.
- ◆ Buildings and Grounds. This group has a project list of things being done to keep our wonderful campus great. One major project in the works is the

addition of an ADA ramp, in order for people in wheelchairs to more easily access our facilities.

- ◆ Master Plan Committee is working on updating the Campus Master Plan.
- ◆ Finance Commission is working on some procedural items regarding clarifying policy on memorial contributions in order that the money may be more easily assimilated and put to use.
- ◆ Outreach Commission has been very busy. Bibles were distributed to the graduating students of St. Matthew's Day School. A grant has been submitted to the Diocese for David Pena's Reachout Ministry (a halfway house for women just out of prison). An idea for Shoeboxes for Mission is under review, which would provide assistance to people in Honduras.

Under Old Business several items were discussed:

- ◆ Cash Collections/Counting procedures are being updated.
- ◆ The Knowledge Points tutoring program was discussed. It was decided that this business did not fit St. Matthew's goals.
- ◆ Discussion of the Endowment Funds. This is an ongoing discussion about what the Endowment Funds are, how they are being used, and how to fund the endowment to get the best use of the funds.
- ◆ A new group of people were welcomed in the Journey to Adulthood program for the Youth. If you don't know about this program, ask Susan (it's great).

- ◆ It was announced Susan Barnes has been promoted to Associate Rector, as of June 1. What a great team we have!

Special Called Vestry Meeting, June 1
This special meeting served three purposes.

The first was to discuss the formation of a Discernment Committee for Youth Minister Eric Liles, who has felt called to the ordained ministry. A committee will be put together for Eric to start the discernment process for seminary. This passed unanimously.

The second was a presentation of the Special Gifts Committee. Bert Hooper made an excellent presentation on the various endowments/funds that St. Matthew's has, and how they can be better utilized if fully funded.

The third item was a discussion of distribution of the remaining funds from the sale of the donated condominiums. This is an ongoing process, with careful consideration by the entire Vestry. A presentation was made of how the existing fund structure worked, and the definitions of the various budget items, as well as the endowments and capital funds. There will be a presentation of this information made available soon.

As you can tell by this activity report, it was a busy May and June for the Vestry! Next month, I will report on the June 24 meeting. Remember, this month (when you receive *The Word*), our meeting is currently scheduled for July 29. Please check St. Matthew's website, or the Weekly Word, for any updates or changes. Thanks to you all for supporting your Vestry, and the great input you all give us. Meetings are open, so you are welcome to come sit in on the action. As always, please feel free to call me (371.0248 home, 698.7676 work), or e-mail me (DPAusTex@aol.com), or just chat with me at church.

Music Notes

by Suzanne Daniel

Ice Cream Social and Patriotic Review

We will celebrate this 20th Annual Event in St. Matthew's Style with sing-alongs and a surprise or two.

Sundays in July

July 6 – We will continue the observance of Independence Day with patriotic hymns and songs.

July 13 – We will have some special music and guest musicians

July 20 – We will feature the choir before they take a summer break

July 27 – We will sing many favorite traditional hymns and songs.

Your Music Ministry Staff will be attending the Mississippi Conference on Music and Liturgy again this year in late July through early August. The theme of this year's conference is "The 50 Days of Easter." The conference concludes with a service at the Cathedral in Jackson, MS, on Sunday, August 3. We look forward to this exciting time of learning and worship.

Embracing Our Baptismal Covenant

by Charlie Cole, Stewardship Chair

It is often said, "Stewardship is everything I do, with everything I have, after I say, 'Lord Jesus, I believe.'" Put another way, stewardship is not about money. It is not just a fall campaign. Nor is it something foreign to our daily lives. Stewardship, plain and simple, is all about "embracing our Baptismal Covenant."

As your stewardship chair, I find this purposeful definition of stewardship quite liberating and exciting. For stewardship is about how we, as Christians, choose to participate in our collective pursuit of the vision for St. Matthew's. To be specific, it is about how we will accomplish our mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known" through the wide variety of ministries our church has to offer to the congregation and the Austin community at large. This commitment is one that was expressly made to God through our Baptismal Covenant, either by us or on our behalf. It is something we reaffirm at every christening. And, it is something we can reaffirm through our daily lives, be it at church, work, or home. Best of all, it is simply what being a Christian is all about.

St. Matthew's Monthly Golf Outings

submitted by Milt Williams

The Rev. Merrill Wade has suggested that we have a fun monthly golf outing the first Friday of each month beginning in August. It will be a time for relaxation and community building. The outing will be held at the Bluebonnet Golf course with a tee time around 9 a.m. No sign up is necessary, just come. The cost is \$21.25 for those 55 and older, \$27.65 for those younger. The cost includes green fee, cart and taxes. For those wishing to walk, the cost is \$12.75 and \$17.00 respectively. We are encouraging both young and old, men and women to join us. It will offer an enjoyable time together. Call Milt Williams (345-0499) for any further information.

This year, let's all embrace our Baptismal Covenant and celebrate stewardship throughout the year. Let's start this month, by thanking God for the responsibility we willingly accept for the freedom He has so graciously given us. Let's recognize the importance of the vocations we as individuals have been called to pursue. And, as a body in Christ, let us continue to celebrate the many ways we and our community have all benefited from the time, talent, and treasure so willingly given by our clergy, staff, and parishioners.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

"I will, with God's help."

Summer Treats

by The Rev. Susan Barnes

Summer is the time to bring in new voices. While Merrill is on vacation, I've invited two wonderful preachers to share the pulpit with me. Posy Jackson, who is leading an ECW retreat on Saturday, July 19, will preach the next day, July 20th. Posy is Executive Director of the William Temple Episcopal Center in Galveston (the church's mission to The University of Texas Medical Branch). The women who attended our ECW Lenten retreat will remember her as a lively, engaging speaker.

Two weeks later, on Sunday August 3, Doug Tipps will take the pulpit. Doug, who has been preaching the gospel since he was a very young man, resigned as Pastor of San Marcos' First Baptist Church to become Director of Global Strategies, Inc., an organization that is completely dedicated to eradicating ethnic violence and genocide. He is a passionate, outstanding preacher, who spoke in our Lenten series in 2001.

Adult Christian Education 2003-2004

Goal Statement:

Jesus said: Love the Lord your God with all your passion, prayer and intelligence. Love others as you love yourself. (Matthew 22 - The Message Version)

Explanation: The St. Matthew's Adult Education program exists to help adults fulfill Jesus' great commandment. Our classes will be designed and conducted in such a way that there is a visible connection between the Goal Statement and the process and content of the classes.

Values Statement:

We value adult education, calling forth our best efforts,

- ♦ that are authentically informed by the real pain, hopeful yearnings and curiosities of the adults gathered.
- ♦ that value both intuitive and intellectual learning.
- ♦ which train teachers and group leaders in the basic learning styles of adults.
- ♦ which provide opportunities for relationship-building with an emphasis on personal witness and story-telling by participants and leaders alike.

Adult Education Council - 2003-2004 (as of June 4, 2003)

Leon Whitney, Chair
Annelle Adams
Russ Adams
Bill Donnell, Vice Chair
Dab Cauley
Sharon Lowe
Keith Miller
Reid Morgan
Kathleen Niendorf
Marty Novak
Jay Robison
Joyce Scott
Tim Watts



Directory Pictures Taken this August

by David Luce

In August 2003, you and your family will have the opportunity and the responsibility to be photographed for our wonderful new St. Matthew's Episcopal Church pictorial directory. Portraits will be taken over the course of 3 weeks in August, 2003 (see dates and times below). This directory will be an important way to help bind our church community together...so we are confident that you will find a time that will fit into your family's busy schedule.

Appointment sign-ups will be held each Sunday morning in July, in the Commons. Also, we will have members making phone calls to schedule appointments, to be sure nobody is left out. (Volunteers for the phone team are needed.)

All families, couples and individuals photographed will receive a free pictorial directory. As well, those photographed will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait just for participating. Of course, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portrait packages if you would like. Regarding what you wear...this will be up to you. As you consider your attire, please remember that this portrait will express "who you are" and "who St. Matt's is" for the next several years to come.

Note: While we encourage your portraits to be taken during these times and dates, we

understand that there may be members of your family that will find it impossible to participate on these dates (because they are in the military or will be out of town for an extended period). To accommodate this, we will have make-up dates that will be scheduled in early September. We will announce these dates in mid-August. Contact David Luce (512)670-7557 or davidallenluce@aol.com) with questions or to volunteer.

August 2003 Dates and Times:

Aug. 6, 7	Wed., Thurs. 3 - 9 p.m.
Aug. 8	Fri. 1 - 7:30 p.m.
Aug. 9	Sat. 9:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Aug. 12 - 14	Tues. - Thurs. 3 - 9 p.m.
Aug. 15	Fri. 1 - 7:30 p.m.
Aug. 16	Sat. 9:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Aug. 26 - 28	Tues. - Thurs. 3 - 9 p.m.
Aug. 29	Fri. 1 - 7:30 p.m.
Aug. 30	Sat. 9:30 - 4:30 p.m.

In addition to adding your presence in our directory, you have this opportunity to bring your family together and take a snapshot in time...preserving your past and enriching your future!

The Pictorial Directory NEEDS YOU to Volunteer!

by David Luce, Program Coordinator

Creating the Pictorial Directory will be a great project! And great projects need many great, energetic volunteers. Come join our awesome team on the Pictorial Directory Committee and feel the joy of being a part of this wonderful ministry.

Contact David Luce (512.670.7557 or davidallenluce@aol.com) to express your interest in the following:

Volunteers are needed in these areas (see <http://www.stmattsaustin.org/2003Pictorial.htm> for descriptions of each activity).

Sign-up Team - We need a team Coordinator and team members

Telephone Team - We need a team Coordinator and team members.

Publicity Team - We need team members.

Hostess Team - Glenda Monroe is the team Coordinator and she's looking for team members.

Church Office Staff Re-Connected

by Betty Mitchell

There was an unsettling air in the church office. From one office came the wail, "I can't get my messages off the voice mail!" And another soon followed, "Me neither - no messages for two days!" And calls came in from church members who were very annoyed at being unable to connect through an automated telephone answering system that ran them around in circles and, just before cutting them off, said "...and God bless you." Several callers, when trying to reach the names directory, received a message recorded years ago by a long-gone staff member. It seems that hidden away in the bowels of the phone system were recorded messages that were coming back to haunt us. What was going on here? Was our phone system cursed? Did we need an exorcist?

What we had was a gloomy, dark cloud that turned out to have a lovely silver lining!

Our old (but fully paid for) phone system finally gave up the ghost and refused to take even one more message. After some investigation and comparison shopping, Clive Smith found a new, affordable system that would allow us to use the existing desk sets but would replace the vintage works with digital expertise.

Hallelujah! The new system is now in place and I'm willing to bet you will notice a huge difference next time you call in. The waiting time has been slashed in half, making it easier than ever to leave a message for any of us.

In order to help you even more, here is a quick and easy staff phone directory. Please cut it out and put it near your phone, and never hesitate to call us. We are here to serve you and always look forward to receiving your phone calls. Just call the main number, 345-8314 and then the extension of the person you are trying to reach.

Summer Vacations

by The Rev. Susan Barnes

With everybody's comings and goings this summer, I wanted to let you know what groups I lead that are ongoing and what's on vacation this summer.

The monthly class on Spirituality, which read two books this spring, is on vacation. Watch for its return in the fall.

Thursday Women's Bible Study, at noon in B-14 carries on this summer. We are in the last part of the Gospel of Luke. All women are invited to join this spirited group. We meet from 12 to 1 (promptly) to draw wisdom for everyday life from the gospel. Don't worry about joining us mid-stream. Just come and see. We'd love it.

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church 345-8314

Merrill Wade..... 214	Barbara Haynes 210
Susan Barnes..... 217	Eric Liles 217
Jennifer Baskett..... 221	Cary Michaels..... 227
Lucy Boyea..... 226	Betty Mitchell 215
Margaret Carpenter... 213	Dedee Norman 219
Suzanne Daniel..... 227	Barbara Pitts..... 221
Heather Harmon 228	"...and God bless you!"

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On Seeing Clearly: Opening Our Hearts Through the Arts September 5 - 6

by Sharon Lowe

Our habits become our habitations. To make our vision clear means to unwrap the habits of our imaginations that enfold our minds and hearts and keep out the light and the world.

—Richard R. Niebuhr, *Streams of Grace*

Wounds. By (His) wounds we are healed. But they are our wounds too; and until we have been healed we do not know what wholeness is. The discipline of creation, be it to paint, compose, write,(etc.) is an effort toward wholeness.

—Madeleine L'Engle, *Walking on Water*

Sometimes the role of the arts is to show us the power of beauty, to point in the general direction of the sacred, to offer us a sense of connection, comfort and well-being. At other times, their role is to provoke and even to disturb us so that we can see in new ways—with the heart. This is art speaking with the prophetic voice. This is grace by ambush. Prophetic art challenges our complacency, not by mocking us, but by showing us an alternative vision that is grounded in transcendent truth. At all times, the arts serve; they are not merely nice trap-pings.

This is the third year of "Opening Our Hearts Through the Arts." Each year we have tried to offer something for everyone—the contemplative and the celebratory, fine oil paintings and facepainting, poetry and comic relief, praying the rosary and art cars. Always there is great food, friends and fun.

This year's event will be Co-Chaired by Renee Babcock and Sharon Lowe. Kathleen Niendorff, whose vision made this event possible, will serve as "Chair Emeritus" and Chair of the Literary Arts subcommittee.

On Friday evening, September 5, we will hold a low-key artists' reception from 6-8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary undercroft. This will be an opportunity for festival volunteers and others to meet the artists and see their works in a quieter setting. There will be sparkling music and refreshments.

On Saturday, September 6, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. we plan to have a full array of visual arts, New Orleans-style brunch (\$6.00 ea/\$18 family), music, English Tea (\$7.00), literati, children's activi-

ties, the return of the self-expression center, a caricature artist and art cars. Advance sale tickets for meals will be available beginning mid-July.

We hope that you will join us for this event and participate as you feel called. Of course, there are many ways for you to become involved --this is St. Matthew's! A list of projected needs, volunteer opportunities and contacts follows:

- ◆ *Friday Night Reception* needs: donated appetizers and volunteers to transport food to and from Sanctuary undercroft. Contact Louise Waddill 343-7696.
- ◆ *Silent Auction* needs: art-related items and volunteers to set-up on Friday afternoon and/or work 1-2 hours on Saturday. Contact Sharon Roberts at 345-2296
- ◆ *New Orleans Brunch (11:00- 1:00)* needs: 3-5 servers. Contact Trisha Abrahamson at 453-0393, trishaustin54@hotmail.com
- ◆ *English Tea (3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m)* needs: (1)volunteers to make food and/or serve, contact Trisha Abrahamson at 453-0393, trishaustin54@hotmail.com or Elaine Robicheaux at 343-8157; (2) to loan card tables contact Diana Dworaczyk at 346-4373. To loan teapots contact Trisha Abrahamson at 453-0393, trishaustin54@hotmail.com.
- ◆ *Children's Activities/Self-Expression Center(s)* needs: 7-10 volunteers during Saturday for facepainting, storytelling and to staff these areas. Contact Sharon Lowe at 345-1990 or sharonylowe@hotmail.com. or Renee Babcock at 343-8058, rbabcock@alumni.utexas.net
- ◆ *Aides/Escorts/Hosts* needs: 15-25 volunteers to provide hospitality and respites to artists and help people find their way. Contact Barbara Hilliard at 837-1808, Barb0928@aol.com

We look forward to seeing you!

Rector Offers Prayers for State Leaders

On May 19, Merrill Wade was invited to give the invocation to the State Senate. Here is an excerpt copied from the Senate Journal.

SENATE JOURNAL

Seventy-Eighth Legislature - Regular Session

Austin, Texas

Seventy-Second Day

(Monday, May 19, 2003)

The Senate met at 11:00 a.m. pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by Senator Whitmire.

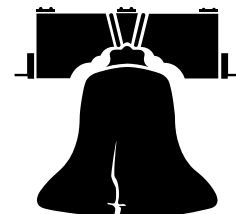
The roll was called and the following Senators were present: Armbrister, Averitt, Barrientos, Bivins, Brimer, Carona, Deuell, Duncan, Ellis, Estes, Fraser, Gallegos, Harris, Hinojosa, Jackson, Janek, Lindsay, Lucio, Madla, Nelson, Ogden, Ratliff, Shapiro, Shapleigh, Staples, Van de Putte, Wentworth, West, Whitmire, Williams, Zaffirini.

The Presiding Officer announced that a quorum of the Senate was present.

The Reverend Merrill Wade, Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church, Austin, offered the invocation as follows:

Gracious God, the source of all that is just and right, whose will is good and gracious, and whose heart is infinitely kind: we pray that You will, in this season of elusive resources and conflicting needs, send down upon those who hold office in the State of Texas, especially the Senate convened here today, Your gifts of wisdom, compassion, and justice, that by Your guidance and blessing they may enact laws that please You as they advance the well-being of the people of this state.

And, O God, we pray that Your life-giving spirit may so move each and every one of our hearts this day, that barriers which might hinder our unity and purpose may crumble, the suspicions which might damage our trust disappear, so that we may serve You and the people of the State of Texas with full and glad hearts. All this we ask in Your holy name. Amen.



Regional Course Hosted at St. Matthew's, July 7-11

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister

Please help us welcome 28 men and women to campus, during the second week of this month! Attending the 40-hour, weeklong leadership formation course, will be individuals from Louisville, Kentucky, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, El Paso, Dallas, Bertram, San Antonio, Kerrville, and the greater Austin area. A half dozen men and women from St. Matthew's will be among this number; in addition, a number of our parents will participate in the public lectures, in the mornings.

Our own parents are attending in order to deepen their understanding of the spiritual needs of the child and the ways we are practically able to meet those needs at St. Matthew's. The joint participation of parents and those committed to their children helps build the proper infrastructure for our parish children, as we all seek to help them "grow into the full stature of Christ." (The Rite of Baptism, BCP, p. 303)

The Heat is On!

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister

What a sweltering summer it is, isn't it?! The heat is definitely on. We are feeling "the heat" inside, as well, this summer because we need to complete many of our annual Job Cards earlier than usual this year. Due to the regional Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Training and Formation Course being held at St. Matthew's July 7-11, we'd really like to be good hosts and get those pill bugs swept out and a year's worth of finger prints washed away by July 4th weekend!

Please come to the Children's Ministry Office, B-2, for an hour or two, and get away from our Texas sun. Choose one of the remaining cards from the hall bulletin board and help us beat the heat of this deadline! We thank you for your invaluable contributions!

Baptism Banners

submitted by Peggy Ryder, Coordinator

Have you ever wondered where all the Baptism Banners come from? They are a love offering made by the "Banner Brigade" of St. Matthew's. They serve as a permanent reminder to the family and the child of their Baptismal Covenant. Since the fall of 1996, we have made and given out over 225 banners.

Those currently making banners include: Peggy Ryder, Margaret Carpenter, JoAnn Grandjean, Phaedra Kline, Marge Marshall and Linda Strobusch. Those who have helped in the past are: Joyce Evans, Christine Joannidi, Norma Heeter and Renata Somerville.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, the process is not difficult. The "snippers" cut out the individual pieces using a pattern and put them in sets for five banners. The "stitchers" sew the pieces together using written instructions and a sample. The "snippers" then cut out and apply the names and date and attach the ribbons. Would you like to be a "snipper" or a "stitcher" and help welcome our little ones into the loving body of Christ at St. Matthew's? If so, contact Peggy Ryder at 472-5679 or piggity@jrsys.com.

Children's Ministry Calendar July 2003

July	Job Cards continue – see accompanying article
July 6	9:00 a.m. First Super Summer Sunday School! Children are checked in by their parents at the playground 9:30 a.m. Sunday School continues in basement – B-19 10:30 a.m. Primary and Children's chapels
July 7-11	Regional Training Program: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 8:45 a.m. Sign in Children, Ed. Bldg./Nursery 9:00 a.m. Opening session 10:00 a.m. Morning presentation 11:00 a.m. Morning lecture Noon – 5:00 p.m. Course continues for full-time participants
July 13	9:00 a.m. Super Summer Sunday School! Children are checked in by their parents at the playground 9:30 a.m. Sunday School continues in basement – B-19 10:30 a.m. Primary and Children's chapels
July 18	Children's Council Meeting, time and location TBA
July 20	9:00 a.m. Super Summer Sunday School! Children are checked in by their parents at the playground 9:30 a.m. Sunday School continues in basement – B-19 10:30 a.m. Primary and Children's chapels
July 27	9:00 a.m. Super Summer Sunday School! Children are checked in by their parents at the playground 9:30 a.m. Sunday School continues in basement – B-19 10:30 a.m. Primary and Children's chapels

Looking Ahead

Job Cards: July & August

Orientation sessions for Levels I & II Sunday School: August

Final Super Summer Sunday School: August 17
Ministry Fair: August 24

First Fall Sunday School: August 31

Senior Sentences

by Lucy Boyea, Minister of Senior Activities

This poem was written by Mother Theresa and is engraved on the wall of her Home for Children in Calcutta. I thought that it was well worth sharing.

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, there may be jealousy;
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;
It was never between you and them anyway.

July Youth News

by Eric Liles

Lots going on in July, please check your calendar and the web site. Hope to see you at one of our great events.

God's Peace,
Eric

eric@stmattsaustin.org
office: 512-345-8314
mobile: 512-799-2638

All God's Children ...Super Summer Sunday School

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister

How do you cook rice? What kind of shoes do you wear? Which songs do you enjoy singing?

Our children (ages 3, by last September 1, through just completed 5th grade) are exploring answers to these and many other questions about people all over the world, this summer. And as we explore, we are seeing how the people of other cultures are similar to our individual families and how they are unique, and we are trying out some unique foods, songs, and crafts! Above all, we'll see that we are all God's children.

Mornings are laid back. Our days begin with parent sign-in at the playground, where

children enjoy one another's company and play for half an hour. We move to B-19, then, and share a rich variety of books. (Thanks to several of you for donating books!) Cooking, singing, crafts, and sometimes a little dancing follow reading together by age groups. Snacks and games conclude Sunday School at 10:30.

After that, children continue to Chapel (3 years-3rd grade) or are picked up by their parents to join the service, as it begins. Our devoted Chapel ministers bring all children to the Commons at the sign of Peace.

Please let your children wear comfortable clothes they can choose for themselves, so they can freely enjoy the playground and classroom activities. See you in Sunday School!

8:50	9:25	9:30	9:40	10:30	Sign of Peace
All Children, age 3 Years –5 th Grade			2 groups: 3 Yr-Kinder/ 1 st -5 th Gr.	2 groups: 3 Yr-Kinder/ 1 st -3 rd Gr.	All Children
Gates to Playground Open!	Begin Transition to B-19	Community Gathering	Reading, Activities, Snack time	Chapel 3 Yr-Kinder 1 st -3 rd Gr.	Join families for Liturgy of the Eucharist

Vacation Bible School Success

by Heather Harmon

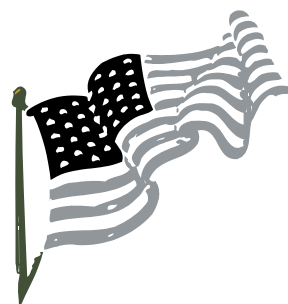
Thank you to all the wonderful people who made Vacation Bible School such a success this year. We really appreciate all your help! We had a great turnout this year (from children and adults alike), and the children had tons of fun learning about saints. Our two parish-wide events were so wonderful. Thank you to the Holy Smokers for a great meal on Sunday afternoon! All Saints Night was such a BLAST. Thank you to all who participated in that event.

If any child did not pick up their saint bag or art projects, please contact Heather to do so today! Again, a BIG thank you to all the volunteers who dedicated their time and talent to this program. Don't forget to mark your calendars for the end of June, 2004. You don't want to miss next year's great adventure!

ECW Plans Summer Activity

submitted by Kay Whitney

Be ready to enrich the spiritual dimension of your life, fellowship with your sisters in Christ and grow in the love of our Lord. The Episcopal Church Women of St. Matthew's are sponsoring an in-house retreat on Saturday, July 19. This event will begin with a continental breakfast and continue on into the afternoon. Posy Jackson, who was part of the ECW Lenten Retreat at Camp Allen, will be our leader. She is the Executive Director of the William Temple Center of The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston and is a candidate for Holy Orders. The sign-up for this day will begin soon in the Commons before and after services on Sundays. Please give yourself a "summer gift" and attend this special event.



Birthdays**July**

- 1 Vicki DeWeese, Larry Miller, Amy Thomas
- 2 Larry Simons, Scott Telfer, Mark Udelhofen
- 3 Jim Bennett, William Dillawn, Alyssa Farmer, Jennifer Fisher, Tim McGettigan
- 4 Clare Brock, Jon Mercado, Laura Strange, Amanda Williams
- 5 Lindy Buckley, Marty Novak, Marti Price
- 6 Jacqueline Malloy, Emily Mihm
- 7 John Hart, Patrick Naeve
- 8 Julie Drake, Peter Mann, Scott Murphy
- 9 Dawn Brooke, Betty Davis
- 10 Greg Bowman, Don Bray, Jo Ann Grandjean,
- 11 Judy Day, Lucy Smith
- 12 Haley Holt, Melody Malloy
- 13 Adrienne Cantor, David Patron, Beau Ross,
- 14 Marjorie Hooper, Sue Kinney, Sarah Price, Andrew Uhl, James Uhl
- 15 Byron Grandjean, Chandler Morgan, Kirk Smith
- 16 Leon Whitney
- 17 Sybil Chenault, Missy Kyle, Bill Malloy, Christina Nichols
- 18 Charlie Doyle, Richard Moon, Lori Murphy
- 19 Lu Ann Barrow, Daniel Godwin, Brenda Helfrich, Jan Nanus
- 20 Anna Bushong, Milt Williams
- 21 Joyce Statz
- 22 Kay Ballard, Marilyn Cole, George Herbert, James Young
- 23 Joanna Athey, Michael McCollum,
- 24 Renee Babcock, Ben Buikema, Bill Day, Sarah Williams
- 25 Matthew Abrahamson,, Charlie Eastberg, Camilla Gregory, Sandy Holt, Chris O'Quin
- 26 Toni Provost-Hatlen
- 27 Guy Blumhagen, Madelaine Kirchem, Jessie Howard
- 28 Peter Grandjean, Madison Hampton, Sandy Lanier,
- 29 Kara Denney, Cathryn Dorsey, Veronica Looney, Lisa Rieger, Jack Ryfle, Renata Sommerville
- 30 Robbie Hooker
- 31 Heather Harmon, Tom Kirwan, Billie Thompson

August

- 1 Mark Banta, Jennifer Davis, Tom Uhl,
- 2 Marcia Bailey, Elisabeth Carl, Katie Hale, Sandy Luce, Patti Shannon
- 3 John Athey, Shelby Bursk, Colin Moore, Matthew Newman, Steve White
- 5 Mary Bass, Glenda Brown, Carolyn Meihaus, Keith Thompson
- 6 Lynn Durrenberger
- 7 Victoria Alcocer, Emma Carrier, Liz Johnson, George McClure

Confirmations

- Andrew Barton Abrahamson
James William Barnes
Karen Tiko Braunsdorf
Carrie France Biggar
Jennifer Rose Davis
Charles Christopher Eastberg
Brenda Colleen Hagman
Jessica Rachel Hagman
Michael Streeter Hart
Lucas David Hatlen
Franz Peter Henning
Thomas William Hudson
Chelsea Lynn Murphy
Elaine Ayako Okazaki
Kelly Ann Owens
Alex Bert Robicheaux
Megan Colleen Sikes
Scott William Telfer
Howard Knut Thompson

New Members

- Lori Gregerson
Megan Lilley and Alex Lilley
Marion Smith
Gidget Fisher

Receptions

- Nancy Avitia
Gina Nicole Henning
Jennie Clothilde Tarver
Melissa Hickman Ward

Receptions

- Nancy Avitia
Gina Nicole Henning
Jennie Clothilde Tarver
Melissa Hickman Ward

Marriage

- Nancy Avitia and Howard K. Thompson
on May 31, 2003

Deaths

- Mabel Sanderson,
mother of Sandy Holt,
died May 17, 2003

Louise Nolan,
grandmother of Ann Evans,
died May 21, 2003

Ann Elizabeth Merlo Cox,
mother of Judy Day,
died May 31, 2003

James Robertson,
uncle of Pat Boon,
died June 8, 2003

the st. matthew's word

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Worship Schedule

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite One
9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School
9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Adult Fellowship/Coffee
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
12 Noon Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
with Healing Service

Daily

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer in the
Cauley Chapel

The Charlotte Cauley Gray (Bell Tower) Chapel and
the Kinney (Outdoor) Chapel are always open.

The nursery is open each Sunday from 7:45 a.m. to
12:15 p.m., where childcare is cheerfully provided for
little ones from birth to age four.

**Deadline for the August issue
of *The Word* is**

Friday, July 18, 2003

**at 5:00 p.m. Submissions on diskette
are welcomed - or email your article
to betty@stmattsaustrin.org
Articles may be edited for content
and length.**

Vestry Commission Chairs

David Barrow, Jr. and Mary Nell Frucella

Tom Canby
David Harakal
Warren Marshall
Charlie Cole
Holly Dechard

Lay Ministry Councils

Lynn Smith
Jeri Muhich
Milt Williams
Elaine Goessling
Sue Kinney
Steve Brock

School Board

The Rev. Merrill Wade
Kristin Fason
Pam Littlefield
Eileen Cole
Elizabeth Vetter
Michael McCollum
Kent Zarbock
Pat Boon
Members—Kay Ballard, Vada Dillawn,
Dean Fisher, Andrew Urban

Staff

The Rev. Merrill Wade *Rector*
The Rev. Susan J. Barnes *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Charles Huffman *Rector Emeritus*
The Rev. Jerry Chapman *Assisting Clergy*
The Rev. George I. Wilson *Assisting Clergy*
Lucy Boyea *Minister of Senior Activities*
Margaret Carpenter *Assistant Bookkeeper*
Suzanne Daniel *Interim Music Ministry*
Barbara Haynes *Administrative Assistant*
Eric Liles *Youth Minister*
Cary Michaels *Interim Music Ministry*
Betty Mitchell *Communications Coordinator*
Tracey Nichols *Nursery Coordinator*
Dedee Norman *Membership Coordinator*
Barbara Pitts *Children's Minister*

Vestry

Phil Hatlen (345-9923) *Senior Warden*
Kate Canby (219-8693) *Vestry Warden*
David Price (371-0248) *People's Warden*
John Muhich (452-1210) *Treasurer*
Bert Hooper (346-6675) *Chancellor*
Patty Steed (346-4255) *Clerk*
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Bill Donnell, David Harakal, Cliff Harrison,
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