

The St. Matthew's Word

Volume 2004 Issue 7

July 2004

A monthly publication of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and School

Youth Ministry News

BY MERRILL WADE

Since Eric's departure on May 31, Susan Barnes and I have been planning events for the Middle School and Senior High Youth. We are attempting to maintain a separation between the two groups in the summer events we are planning, in order that the young people can make friends with their peers first, and then, later, have occasional opportunities to worship and study and pray and play as a large group of 6th to 12th graders.

Our plans for the month of July are not complete but I want you to note the following events, some of which will ask for an RSVP.

July 1 & 2 - Thursday & Friday; 9 - 12 graders will meet at 7:45 a.m. Anne Matthews and I will gather in the Mesa parking lot with volunteering parents and other adults at St. Matthew's to carpool to El Buen Samaritano in South Austin. Our youth will work half of the morning in the Day Care Center with the children of parents enrolled in the English as a Second Language Program and half of the morning in the Food Pantry to distribute food to those who come for support. On Friday the Food Pantry will be closed to clients and those Youth that do not want to work in the Day Care Center will be given other duties important to the mission of El Buen!

July 10 - Saturday Service Opportunity for youth grades 6 - 12. Toni and Lucas Hatlen will lead a group to help for several hours with the annual Sports Camp for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Our youth help in a variety of ways as the visually disabled kids, ages 10-12, prepare for sports competition in swimming, goalball, wrestling, gymnastics, and track and field. Contact Toni Hatlen if you are interested thatlen@austin.rr.com

continued on page three...

From The Rector

THE REV. MERRILL WADE

Dear Friends,

Two Years

I am so happy to be your rector. Having served in this exceptional parish for two full years, I feel very, very grateful for your support and encouragement. I am well aware that my leadership has its flaws. For that very reason I appreciate your comments and constructive criticism as they come my way. As we look forward to many years of shared ministry I believe our very best years are ahead of us. Thank you so much for being who you are!

Final Affairs Affair

I was so proud of our Stewardship Commission and Special Gifts Committee for the excellent program in Huffman Hall on May 15. Margie Jenkins was an excellent keynoter, and her book, *You Only Die Once, Preparing for the End of Life with Grace and Gusto*, is an excellent resource for thinking wisely about the end of life issues we must face ourselves, and that we might help our parents and others face with faith and hope. I have several copies of Mrs. Jenkins' book, and I would be happy to loan one to you. Stewardship is, of course, more than fund-raising for a charity or a church. It is more than money or time or talent. Stewardship is how we choose to live, our basic attitude toward life. Are we seized by an attitude of fear and scarcity? Are we essentially grateful? Our generosity flows directly from our salvation in Christ. We HAVE a future, we can look ahead with confidence! With that in mind we can tackle the major problems we face as individuals and as communities.

Your Will Be Done

As your Rector, I am happily charged with the responsibility for stewardship education and I gratefully share this with the vestry and others who are passionate about developing a generous and grateful way of life. At the Final Affairs Affair I read from page 445 in the *Book of Common Prayer* the expectation that the Minister of the Congregation will call upon the members of the church, especially those with care of children, to prepare a will or end of life plan that will assure care for the family, and when possible, to call for those who are preparing a will to make provision for the church in their will. I am delighted to invite you and encourage you to name St. Matthew's as a beneficiary in your will or estate plans. The Special Gifts Committee has prepared brochures to assist you in that process. Feel free to come by the church office to pick up these brochures. We would encourage you to name the Permanent Endowment Fund of St. Matthew's as the beneficiary of your bequest and we also have three other worthy endowments that are described on the brochures. Please give this process some serious thought as we make provision for the long-term future of our parish and its work in mission and ministry in the Austin area and around the world!

Welcoming Our Guests, Enjoying One Another

With families living on our grounds for the next few weeks, we have an excellent opportunity to lay aside some of the typical business and busyness of our parish life. I am so proud that we are participating in the Interfaith Hospitality Network and I trust that we will

continued on page two...

Rector's article, continued from front page

learn a great deal about gratitude and hope, in the midst of struggle!

I hope you and yours will come and enjoy the weekly breakfasts beginning Sunday, July 11. It was not a casual decision to take a sabbatical from Sunday School. It was a deliberate and thoughtful idea to make space for one another as a community of people that need unstructured time to be together and to foster new friendships and tend to existing ones. Enjoy! Thanks to the Associate Vestry for kicking off our meal preparation on July 11.

Pentecost Sunday

And please be sure to thank the Associate Vestry again for the wonderful Pentecost Sunday celebration. I am so grateful to that cadre of volunteers and the way they grace our church for the grand celebrations of the church year!

Independence Day

On Thursday, July 1, we gather for our annual Patriotic Review and Ice Cream Social, a wonderful event in Huffman Hall where we can give thanks for our citizenship in the United States of America. Special thanks to Suzanne and Cary and the choir for planning this event and the special work they offer in support of our congregational life. We are, indeed, uniquely blessed to participate in this grand experiment in democracy, and we will focus on our nation and its blessings on Sunday, July 4th as well. Please continue to pray for our President, George Bush, and those who share his authority. Please continue to pray for one another and our candidates as we prepare for national elections. Please continue to pray for those who serve in our armed forces and others who serve in harms way. May God continue to reform, strengthen and renew our great nation!



Finally, The Wade Family will be on vacation from July 6 through July 23. I'll be back in church on Sunday, July 25. God bless you one and all! ☼

Faithfully,

Merrill

Fellowship Breakfasts to Begin Sunday, July 11

BY BETTY MITCHELL

Last month Merrill Wade wrote, "In order to concentrate Sunday morning time on building fellowship, our Christian Education classes for all ages will be on sabbatical from July 4 through August 22. In addition to giving our Sunday School teachers and leaders a well-appreciated Sabbath time, we will enjoy a weekly Fellowship Breakfast in Huffman Hall. A full, hot breakfast will be served each Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. – 10:10 a.m., beginning July 11 through August 15. Various groups within the parish will prepare and host these meals. We want to slow down the pace of Sunday morning, allowing individuals and families to enjoy a more leisurely day, which will give us time to talk to each other. What a novel concept!"

Fun-loving Leon Whitney recently sent me this quote along with a memo saying, "Betty, be careful how you word the announcements for our Sunday Breakfasts beginning July 11!" Blooper from a church bulletin: "The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast Sunday morning."

The following groups have responded to our requests and have agreed to set up, prepare, and clean up breakfast on these assigned Sundays.

- July 11** Associate Vestry
- July 18** Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study
- July 25** To Be Determined – volunteers needed!
- August 1** Vestry
- August 8** Children's Council assisted by the Casa Marianella Cookers
- August 15** Associate Vestry

The charge for the meals will be based on actual cost and the intention will be to break even with expenses. We will begin by charging \$3 for adults and \$2 for children. Once we see how many are being served each Sunday, the charge may be adjusted slightly, up or down, depending on expenses incurred.

So plan to sleep a little later on these Sunday mornings and hold off on breakfast until you get to church. And don't forget to thank the members of these groups who will provide breakfasts for us all to enjoy. And we can leave our electric girdles at home! ☼

OUTREACH UPDATE

Volunteers Needed: West Austin Caregivers

The West Austin Caregivers is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help elderly persons remain independent in their own homes. St. Matthew's Outreach Commission supports WAC through annual financial contributions, by supplying board members and by providing volunteers. The primary need of the elderly persons served by WAC is transportation to and from doctor appointments and the grocery store. The opportunity to obtain rides to these places is an integral aspect of these elderly persons' ability to live independently. Other services provided by WAC include visitation, care-calling, referral services and on occasion, handyman services.

The WAC office personnel includes both paid and volunteer staff. These people provide the interface between clients and volunteer drivers to arrange rides. Volunteer drivers are sorely needed with some available time during the month which can be pre-scheduled. Training is provided at regularly scheduled intervals.

At present an average of about 275 drives are arranged each month. However, due to an increase in client requests and turnovers in drivers, several clients each month have had to be turned away for lack of drivers.

Please look into your heart and time schedule for those few hours you can pre-schedule to take one of these wonderful senior citizens to their doctor or market and in the process, provide them with Christian witnessing through service. Call WAC Director Jean Teel at 472-6339 for more information or to sign up today. If you have question, please ask Mary Lou Henshaw or Pat Cauble who represent St. Matthew's on the WAC board of directors. ☼

July 11 - Sunday - 7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Night with Susan Barnes in B-18. All those entering 9th through 12th grade are invited to gather for an opportunity to study and pray with our Associate Rector, Susan Barnes. Susan is planning a fun and educational event so bring your friends. *No RSVP is needed.*

July 14 - Wednesday - Canoe Trip for those in Grades 6 – 8 Meet at 11:00 a.m. in the Mesa parking lot. See information below.

July 15 - Thursday - Canoe Trip for those in Grades 9 – 12 Meet at 11:00 in the Mesa parking lot.

Information for both groups: Come on down to the beautiful San Marcos River for a day of canoeing, swimming and fun. Join veteran outdoor guide, David Price, who will oversee the trip. We will go to San Marcos, enjoy our sack lunch by the river, go over the safety and canoe basics, rent our canoes and hit the river! Return to St. Matthew's by 7:00 p.m. *****Both Canoe Trips require an Event Permission Form and Medical Release Form.** To sign up, call Betty in the church office, 345-8314 x215 and we will provide you with the required forms. For complete information see: www.stmattsAustin.org/y2004Canoe.htm - SIGN UP required!

July 26 Monday 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. 9th through 12th grade gathers at Austin Rock Gym (located at 8300 North Lamar in the back building, two blocks north of Hwy. 183 on the North side of Lamar), an indoor rock climbing gym that is fun and very educational as our high schoolers practice climbing rock formations in a careful and safe way.

This is an excellent group building opportunity for our senior high youth! Total cost per person will be \$10 for the evening (church subsidizing a portion of the costs of this event). The Austin Rock Gym requires each youth and their parent and guardian to execute a waiver they have prepared. No one is allowed to participate without the waiver. The church also has its standard waiver to be executed. Therefore, it is especially important to notify the church office with the names of those Senior High Youth (and their friends) who will be attending. We will happily mail the waiver forms to you from the church office. Gather at Austin Rock Gym at 7:00 p.m. (no meal served), leave at 10:00 p.m. sharp. *Please RSVP in the following manner: Call Betty Mitchell at 345-8314 x215 (leave a message) or by email to betty@stmattsAustin.org and copy Merrill at Merrill@stmattsAustin.org*

July 29 Thursday 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. 6th – 8th Graders Games Night II. The 6 – 8th graders that gathered in June for Games Night had a blast. We promise you a non-stop night of action and laughs. We will continue to find ways to get to know one another and to share Christ's love in fun and meaningful ways! Snack only. Bring your friends! *Please RSVP in the following manner: Call Betty Mitchell at 345-8314 x 215 (leave a message) or by email to betty@stmattsAustin.org and copy Merrill Wade at Merrill@stmattsAustin.org*

Senior Sentences

BY LUCY A. BOYEA,
MINISTER OF SENIOR ACTIVITIES

The Book of Common Prayer contains a section of prayers and thanksgivings. The selection of prayers for family and personal life includes (46) for the care of children, (47) for young persons, (48) for those who live alone and (49) for the aged. St. Matthew's vacation Bible School embraces all of the aforementioned groups. It was truly heartwarming to observe the intergenerational aspect of V.B.S. and to note that among the volunteers were members of the Senior Activity Center, not all of whom are members of St. Matthew's.

"For hearts to love and hands to serve, we thank you, Lord." (A Litany of Thanksgiving, B.C.P.) ❀

July Golf Outing Planned for July 9

SUBMITTED BY MILT WILLIAMS

Question: When is First Friday Golf not First Friday Golf?

Answer: When it is Second Friday Golf

Due to the 4th of July holiday, the July golf outing will be postponed to Friday, July 9. We will play at Bluebonnet Hills again and have five tee times beginning at 8:30 a.m. The cost, as before, is \$22 for those over 55 and \$27 for others, including tax. For those wishing to carpool, meet at the church at 7:45 a.m. Please call me at 345-0499 or email at MiltSarah@austin.rr.com. We hope you will join us for a fun day. ❀

A Special Thanks

BY BARBARA PITTS, CHILDREN'S MINISTER

As we were preparing in January for Vacation Bible School, our own Kathy Dugat came forward and offered to work on the curriculum we were considering, to make it uniquely appropriate to St. Matthew's. With pleasure, the VBS planning committee and I accepted Kathy's offer. Not only did Kathy adapt "A Jaunt through Genesis" to suit us, she worked countless hours to implement it. As you have surely heard by now, June VBS was a grand event, with many thanks to Kathy. Special thanks, too, to Children's Chorus Director, Shannon Magee, who coordinated the VBS music program and to Shanon Sutherland who captained many of our work days. We did indeed have 122 volunteers help with both the Sunday and Weekday programs that we held. Thank you, one and all! ❀



The St. Matthew's Word (USPS 009-663) is published monthly by St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa Drive, Austin, TX 78759-8678. Periodicals Postage Paid at Austin, TX.

Postmaster: Send address changes to The St. Matthew's Word, 8134 Mesa Drive, Austin, TX 78759-8678.

Sharon Lowe to Speak at July Women's Story Circle

BY LESLIE KJELLSTRAND

"Practicing Gratitude" will be the topic of Sharon Lowe's talk for the July edition of Women's Story Circle, at noon Sunday, July 11 in Huffman Hall. A light salad luncheon will be served (\$5, pay at the door). Child-care, including lunch and activities, will be provided for those who let us know.

Sharon will talk about her change of career that has allowed her to pursue a more creative spiritual path. At one time she was an attorney working primarily in the areas of labor and employment, education and civil rights for 15 public colleges in Massachusetts. After moving to Austin in 1993, she worked for what was the Governor's Energy Office and the General Services Administration under the Richards and Bush administrations, then moved into management for a Fortune 100 high technology company.

Somewhere along the line, she decided that there had to be more to life. She left the workplace in August 2000 to attend the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest for a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry degree and began working on her many interests. Working with low income and immigrant families is one of her passions, along with the art of "centering prayer."

Sharon has co-chaired two arts festivals at St. Matthew's, is a founder of a small, contemplative retreat center known as RiverStone, and gives her time to roughly six different non-profit, religious or educational organizations.

Please make reservations for the luncheon and let us know if you are bringing children--along with their ages. (The story circle will last about 1½ hours.) To make reservations, email cmynes@austin.rr.com, or sign up in the Commons after church on July 4. ☘

A Guatemalan Message

BY ANDY MUHICH

On March 13, 2004, fifteen missionaries from First Presbyterian Church, including myself, set off for Guatemala. I didn't know what to expect. I did know that God was calling us there for a purpose, a purpose that I found during my time there. There are a lot of little things that you might be interested to hear about the trip, like the food, Guatemalan dress, hotels, volcanoes, burning trash heaps, crazy chicken buses etc. But I think you'll find these things are minor compared to what I've learned in Guatemala. I'm sorry if what I tell you brings you out of your comfort zone a little. It should. I'm sorry if what I tell you brings an enormous feeling of responsibility. We should feel responsibility. Christ calls us to love our neighbors. We have a lot of neighbors in this world, including the Guatemalans we visited and others in the world in similar conditions. Our responsibility is to love them, by sharing with them what we have.

A majority of the people in Guatemala live in houses made out of mud bricks or wooden planks, most of them not dreaming of having running water or electricity in their homes. Those who are more fortunate have barely enough money for food for their whole family, much less simple luxuries and conveniences. The little boys start working around age six. The little girls are often left in charge of younger siblings because their parents both have to go off and work for several days at a time. I saw several little girls carrying siblings half their size on their backs.

One of the days we got a chance to play with the children at their schoolyard. It was such a blessing to see their faces smiling and laughing. We played duck duck goose, did the hokey pokey, and had some wrestling. The sad thing was that as we were playing with the kids, it seemed as though we were teaching them how to play. Some of the kids never really did join in on the fun, but just sat back and kind of watched.

I met a man who tries to support his family on 10 Quetzales a day. That is \$1.25, and that is when he can find work. Sure, things are a little cheaper in Guatemala, but \$1.25 a day is not nearly enough for even three small meals a day. And the kind of work that these people do is not easy either. Some of them sell themselves off as human mules, carrying 100 pounds of weight on their backs. Some people here may say well it is

their own fault that they aren't smart enough or strong enough to improve their condition. Understand that there are societies and cultures in this world unlike America's, in which social mobility is not a possibility. These people aren't this way because they are lazy or stupid. They are not given the opportunities to improve their condition to begin with. We must realize that there are millions around the world in the same place. Was it not Jesus himself who told a man to give everything he had to the poor and follow him? We seem to be nothing more than lucky souls dropped in the bodies of Americans, given opportunities that the rest of the world doesn't even know exist. What would have prevented one of us from being in the place of a Guatemalan child? God gave us our blessed lives for many reasons. God has given us much, and he expects us to uphold the responsibility of having much. Jesus tells us to sell everything we have and follow him. He says this because he understands that we cannot be focused on God when too many material treasures distract us. This doesn't mean he wishes for us to deprive ourselves of our basic human needs. But let's face it, how many of us have ever lacked our basic human needs since our time of birth?

Not having one's basic needs met is also a distraction from God. Have you ever noticed how hard it is to focus on a prayer before a meal when you're really hungry? Multiply that many times and that's what many people in this world must suffer. Imagine how hard it must be for people who are truly starving to focus on God. Imagine how great the temptation of stealing would be if your child was dying and you couldn't afford basic antibiotics. God has given us a solution. We give up our excess so we can help provide the basic needs of others, allowing both the giver and receiver to focus on becoming more intimate with God. God's one desire is to be infinitely intimate with every one of His children on the earth. If we want to truly love God, then we need to give Him his sole desire. The message is clear. God is saying, "My children, I love you. But wake up! Look around you at reality. I gave all you have so you could show my children that I love them. .

As God's people we are always striving to spread God's love. God has given us a way that doesn't even require us to become priests or missionaries. Let's remember how much God loves us, and respond by truly loving Him back by giving all that we have back to Him. ☘

Summer Music

BY SUZANNE DANIEL

Cary and I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has been involved with the choir and choral music: the weekly core of singers, the regular guests, vocal ensemble singers, the children's chorus, and those of you who sing for festival services!

Like many of the other parish activities, the choir will be taking a sabbatical for July and most of August. We encourage any of you who enjoy singing to join us when we resume in the fall. Look for announcements in the August issue of *The Word*, and the Weekly Word.

In the fall, the Diocesan Choir Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd, at Christ Cathedral in Houston. This year's festival will culminate with a presentation of John Rutter's *Requiem*. We will announce more details as they become available.

This summer, we will be revisiting some traditional protestant hymns, as well as well loved "Episcopal" hymns. Some selections include: What a Friend we have in Jesus, It is Well with my Soul, His Eye is on the Sparrow, Blessed Assurance, Amazing Grace, Crown Him with Many Crowns, Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah, Just as I Am, and many others.

With the (slightly) slower pace, I will be taking the opportunity to visit my family and friends in early July. Karol Ann Badgett will be playing on Sunday, July 11th while I am away.

Happy summer! ❀

Education for Ministry

BY KATHY VAIL

Before I enrolled in EFM, I had the typical Episcopal education - years of Sunday School and numerous unsuccessful attempts to study the bible on my own. EFM provided the structure and support that I needed and craved. My seminar group challenged me to grow and provided moral support and encouragement when I became frustrated with my attempts to integrate life as an environmental geologist, mother of two small children, and serious student of our Christian faith and heritage. The pace of studying one chapter a week was perfect for me. Over the next four years, I found my faith both challenged and strengthened. As I studied the Old and New Testaments, church history, and recent theology, the people of God became very real to me. People like Miriam, Jacob, Paul, and Julian of Norwich were no longer storybook characters, but flesh and blood people who struggled with the same issues, problems, and fears that I did. Like me, they were all a combination of belief and doubt, failure and success, hope and fear. Their experiences of sin, repentance, and redemption helped me to recognize the same cycles in my own life. Even though I've now been a mentor for over seven years, I continue to learn and grow. Each year is a new discovery and opportunity for growth.

If you would like to join me in learning and growing in our faith, please consider EFM. The EFM seminar group is moving to Wednesday nights. We will start registration in mid-July, with classes starting after Labor Day. For more information, give me a call at 343-7367 or email kvail@austin.rr.com check the St. Matthew's web site www.stmattsAustin.org/efm.htm the diocesan web page www.texas-efm.org/index.html or the EFM web page www.sewanee.edu/EFM/EFMhome.html ❀

Diocesan Single Adults Plan Summer Activities

Wear something red to Mozart's on Monday, July 5th at 7 p.m. and look for others wearing red, 3826 Lake Austin Blvd. Enjoy coffee, Christian music and conversation on the deck overlooking Lake Austin with Episcopal singles from central Texas. Hosts: Ellen (etalbotreed@yahoo.com) and Henry (512-784-5782). Rain date: August 2nd.

Summer Splash, July 17, 11a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hill Country Resort near Canyon Lake. Enjoy swimming, horseshoes, mini-golf, horseback riding, tennis and a catered picnic lunch with Episcopal singles from central and south Texas. Afterwards, dine at the Gristmill Restaurant in historic Gruene, Texas.

Visit www.dsa-singles.org for a registration form and information. Registration postmark deadline is July 10th. ❀

Graduation News

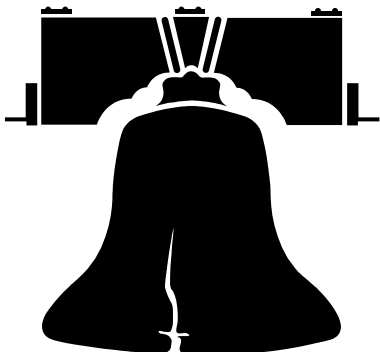
Lawrence Richards, Jr., son of Nancy and Larry Richards received a PhD in History from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA on May 16. He previously graduated from UT with two BA degrees. He is currently seeking employment as a History Instructor at the collegiate level.

Megan Elise Lilley, daughter of Lori Featherstone, graduated from Westwood High School and will attend Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. She will study to be a dental hygienist. ❀

A Note of Thanks

I thank you for the prayers and concern for my mother, Pauline. Her seven hour surgery never occurred. The tumor was removed in an hour, and she left the hospital the next morning. She has only a small scar behind her ear to show for her sudden fight with cancer. Our family is elated!

Blessings,
Jennifer Baskett



You Do the Math

By BARBARA PITTS,
CHILDREN'S MINISTER

What does 122 + 153 equal? Well, when it's 122 youth and adults + 153 kids having fun at Vacation Bible School, the sum is infinite love and delight. Thanks so much, to all of you who helped, from the earliest planning stages all the way to those who helped clean up, sort, and put away. Between our Sunday morning program and our Weekday program we had 21 different youth ask to help; many of the youth worked all the Sundays or all the weekdays. On top of that, the vast majority of adult helpers were "empty nesters" of all ages. Talk about an intergenerational event!

During VBS, we explored God's love as the key to relationships, whether between God and us or between peers. We were there when God created Adam and Eve – and said, "It is very good." We were there when Adam and Eve succumbed to the "trick of the snake," and we watched as God sought to find them, when they hid. By mid-week, we rode the waters with Noah, who listened to God and obeyed. How happy we were! And how sad we were the next day to discover that the people forgot to listen and used their own ideas to build a great tower to the heavens. God rescued them and set them on a new course. Whew! Abraham got it right though, as he listened to God and obeyed. As a result, we concluded the week hearing God tell Abraham his descendents would be as numerous as the sands or the stars.

"God loves us...he made a plan and a promise and he handed us the key." His plan is to be in a vibrant, loving relationship with us, even to the point of sending his son to embody his promise.

As you can imagine, our hearts were full by the end of this journey! What a God!

And what children! During this rich experience of God, some were overheard saying, "I pray to God and sing songs to him;" "Love is the key to making new friends;" "In this creation story, where is the picture of the naked people?" "I know what God looks like now./ What?/ Josh!" "I liked learning about that Lincoln fellow./ What Lincoln fellow?/ You know, Abraham;" "I made bread, and it reminds me of Jesus."

Yes, our hearts are full. And if you want a fill-up, too, plan to join us for next year's VBS (the good jobs go quickly – sign up now). Or why wait?! Join us this fall to work with in a variety of ways with St. Matthew's children. Love is the Key! ❀

A Thank You Letter from Caritas

Dear Rev. Wade and friends,

Thank you for your donation of 68 pounds of food for our pantry during our Faith Food Drive in April. Your support helps us continue our work of assisting with basic needs in times of crisis.

Since 1964, Caritas of Austin has been a resource for individuals and families during financial crisis. In this, our fortieth year, Caritas will assist more than 14,700 Travis County children and adults.

At Caritas, we envision a community of hope, respect and self-reliance. Your gifts work to help make these concepts reality. As Caritas strives to meet the basic needs of our community, your support ensures that individuals and families in crisis will receive valuable assistance. Thank you for caring and helping.

Jennifer Stapleton,
Development Associate



A Thank You Letter from The Very Rev. Titus Presler, Dean of ETSS

Dear Merrill,

Thank you so much for once again welcoming the trustees, students, faculty, staff and guests to St. Matthew's for our 2004 Commencement. St. Matthew's offers us a wonderful venue for this occasion which can, as it did yesterday, attract quite a large gathering.

I congratulate you on the care and hospitality shown to all of us by your staff and volunteers. Your parish is truly a welcoming community and each worker is gracious and friendly to everyone he or she meets.

We look forward to our continued relationship with St. Matthew's. Thank you again for this fine occasion.

Yours in Christ,
Titus Presler

Children's Ministry Calendar – July 2004

Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Breakfast with your family in Huffman Hall

Chapel Schedule

10:30 a.m. Primary and Children's chapels

- Children follow the cross from the early part of church service

Level I 3 yrs. (by Sept. 1 '03) – Kinder B-21

Level II 1st – 3rd Grades B-14

In July

July 1 Patriotic Review and Ice Cream Social
July 4 Begin Summer Sabbatical - No Sunday School
July 11, 18, 25 Parish Fellowship Breakfasts
July 12-16 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I & II Formation and Training Course

Coming Up

August 1, 8, 15 Parish Fellowship Breakfasts; Children's Council hosts August 8th breakfast!!
August 22 Fall Sunday School Begins

May 2004 Financial Statement

	CURRENT MONTH		YEAR-TO-DATE	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Plate & Pledges	\$61,357.99	\$71,958.34	\$401,183.69	\$465,791.70
Other Income	1,325.00	1,250.00	21,238.04	6,250.00
Total Income	62,682.99	73,208.34	422,421.73	472,041.70
Total Expenses	82,356.80	84,625.01	388,819.86	412,916.70
Diff. of Income vs. Expenses	(\$19,673.81)	(\$11,416.67)	\$33,601.87	\$59,125.00

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 Emily Mihm
- 7 John Hart
- 8 Julie Drake, Peter Mann, Scott Murphy, Heather Walter
- 9 Dawn Brooke, Betty Davis
- 10 Greg Bowman, Jo Ann Grandjean,
- 11 Judy Day, Lucy Smith
- 12 Haley Holt
- 13 David Patron, Beau Ross
- 14 Marjorie Hooper, Sue Burton, 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 Maggie Cunningham, Charlie Doyle, Richard Moon, Lori Murphy, Gavin Smith
- 19 Lu Ann Barrow, Daniel Godwin, Brenda Helfrich
- 20 Anna Bushong, Milt Williams
- 21 Joyce Statz
- 22 Kay Ballard, Marilyn Cole, George Herbert, James Young
- 23 Michael McCollum, Marion Smith
- 24 Renee Babcock, Nora Brock, Ben Buikema, Bill Day, Sarah Williams
- 25 Matthew Abrahamson,, Charlie Eastberg, Camilla Gregory, Sandy Holt, Chris O'Quin
- 26 Aubrey Connally, Toni Provost-Hatlen
- 27 Guy Blumhagen, Charlie Graves, Jessie Howard, Madelaine Kirchem,
- 28 Peter Grandjean, Sandy Lanier
- 29 Kara Denney, Veronica Looney, Lisa Rieger, Jack Ryfle,
- 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 Shelby Bursk, Colin Moore, Matthew Newman, Steve White
- 4 Martha Schreffler
- 5 Glenda Brown, Carolyn Meihaus
- 7 Victoria Alcocer, Emma Carrier, Liz Johnson, George McClure

New Members

*Becky and Mike Cunningham
Will, Keni Ann, Ellee, and Maggie*

*Kyra and Neil Alexander
Madison*

Bill Balsanek

*Megan and Cole Bloodworth
Patrick*

Suzanne Coalter

*Anne Foulk
Cordell*

Kimberly and Kevin Nesmith

Births

*Andrew James Hatheway,
son of Amy and James Hatheway,
grandson of Maly and Tony Hatheway,
was born on June 20, 2004.*

*Benedict Lawson Pruski,
son of Marisa and Wayne Pruski,
grandson of Gidget and Emery Fisher,
was born on June 6, 2004.*

Deaths

*Ruth Claffin,
mother of Heather Holt,
died June 17, 2004*

*Dr. David Hansford
died on June 4, 2004*

*Clyde Prestwood,
father of Clyde Prestwood, Jr.*

Confirmations

*William John Balsanek
Cole Lee Bloodworth
Megan Elizabeth Bloodworth
Hope Suzanne Coalter
Anne M. Foulk
Heather Beguin Lawrence
Kevin Arlen Nesmith
Kimberly Anne Nesmith
David Andrew Olson
Samuel Van Dyke Smith
Stacie Leigh Veith*

Baptisms

*Quinn Rabil Bankler,
son of Gloria and Todd Bankler*

*Cordell Bennett Foulk,
son of Anne and James Foulk*

*Michael Joseph Mann,
son of Jamie and Aric Mann*

*Alexander Brice Swanson,
son of Annalynn Cox and Carl Swanson*

Reception

Neil Barnes Alexander

In Honor of

*Sue and John Burton
by
Sandy Holt
Nancy and Earl Holly
Carol Mynes
Audrey Slate
Betty and Jim Newman
Anne and Roy Clark
Kay and Leon Whitney*

Marriage

*Paula Ramirez and Max Wright
were married on June 5*

Anniversaries

*Dee and Jim Bennett
celebrated their 50th wedding
anniversary on June 12, 2004*

*Doris and Bill Donnell
celebrated their 50th wedding
anniversary on May 22, 2004*

The ST. MATTHEW'S WORD

Periodicals
Postage Paid
USPS 009-663
Austin, TX

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and School
www.StMattsAustin.org ♦ office@StMattsAustin.org
8134 Mesa Drive ♦ Austin, TX 78759-8678
(512) 345-8314 ♦ FAX (512) 346-2085

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 16, 2004
at 5:00 p.m. 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
Buildings and Grounds
Don Neely *Finance*
Steve Ryder *Communications*
Warren Marshall *Personnel*
Charlie Cole *Stewardship*
Clive Smith *Outreach*

Lay Ministry Councils

Stephanie McCollum *Children*
Leon Whitney *Adult Education*
Jeri Muhich *Newcomers*
Milt Williams *Parish Life*
Elaine Goessling *Pastoral Care*
Jay Robison *Worship*
Youth

School Board

Kay Ballard *President*
Dean Fisher *Vice-President*
Bess Carsner *Secretary*
Kent Zarbock *Treasurer*
Pat Boon *Vestry Liaison*
Pam Littlefield *Director*
Eileen Cole *Assistant Director*
The Rev. Merrill Wade *Chairman*
Members—Crystal Edwards, Elizabeth Klingler,
Michael Mashburn, Millie Roden, Sydney Searcy

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*
Dave Bowman *Business Manager*
Lucy Boyea *Minister of Senior Activities*
Margaret Carpenter *Bookkeeper*
Suzanne Daniel *Interim Music Ministry*
Barbara Haynes *Administrative Assistant*
Cary Michaels *Interim Music Ministry*
Betty Mitchell *Communications Coordinator*
Tracey Nichols *Nursery Coordinator*
Dedee Norman *Membership Coordinator*
Barbara Pitts *Children's Minister*

Vestry

Kate Canby (219-8693) *Senior Warden*
David Price (371-0248) *Vestry Warden*
Kathy Vail (343-7367) *People's Warden*
John Muhich (452-7789) *Treasurer*
Bert Hooper (346-6675) *Chancellor*
Clif Steed (346-4255) *Clerk*
Members—Jerry Ballard, Pat Boon, Babs Clendenin,
Charlie Cole, Bill Donnell, Reid Kirchem, Kevin
McGillicuddy, Warren Marshall, Debbie Meleski,
Don Neely, Jr., Susan Robertson, Jay Robison
Assigned Vestry Members for July—
Debbie Meleski and Kevin McGillicuddy