

# the st. matthew's word

## *Ash Wednesday is March 5*

From the Ash Wednesday Liturgy: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

### **We are self-centered.**

Without doubt, we see ourselves as the center of the universe, as if all reality flows around us. We have to use our imagination to recognize that we are not, really, at the center of the universe. The Earth is but one planet, in one solar system.

### **The universe is not revolving around us.**

It is frightening for many to learn that the universe does not revolve around them. Spiritual maturity accepts our humanity, our mortality, our finiteness, as a gift from God who offers us a "time and a season" to live out our lives with courage, and gratitude and with purpose. Life is a gift from God. Lent is the season for us to reflect on our human nature, to recognize our mortality and to repent from the immaturity that assumes the world should be focused on "my needs."

### **God is infinite and we are finite.**

All of us need to re-imagine the glory and infinity and holiness of God and reclaim our rightful place as God's children, his creatures which are privileged by God's presence and subject to his claim on our lives. God is the center of the universe. God is the sustainer of the universe. God is God. We are not.

### **Lent is a time of repentance and surprise.**

Lent is a wonderfully humbling time, if we walk it together. We learn to move

ourselves from the center of our awareness and spiritual surprises occur. We find that God might even be more glorious when we are less focused on ourselves.

### **Ash Wednesday.**

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and Christians are called to observe this Day of Special Devotion with the discipline of attending church and offering our lives to God and receiving God's charge to us as is interpreted in the Book of Common Prayer service for Ash Wednesday:

The celebrant says ... "I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word."

### **Lent at St. Matthew's.**

This Lent I want the church to offer a wide range of opportunities to seek God and to turn away from the self-absorption that infects each and every one of us. Throughout this edition of *The Word* you will find information about the numerous special classes, devotions, outreach efforts and offerings for Lent.

### **One Special Devotion for the whole parish.**

I want to encourage you to "take on" this one particular devotion this Lent. Every night at 6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer is led by a lay reader of the church in the Cauley Bell Tower Chapel at the center of

our campus. This service lasts 12-15 minutes and involves the reading of a psalm and a lesson from scripture, with prayers and intercessions for the church and the world. For this special purpose, I am calling and encouraging people of all ages to come to the Bell Tower for Evening Prayer at least one evening each week. I remind you that the service is held nightly at 6 p.m., seven days a week. There is no better discipline than that which gathers us to pray together!

### **Sundays in Lent.**

For the first three Sundays in Lent we will be using the Rite I setting of the Eucharist at both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. This will include the chanting of the Great Litany (BCP 148), the recitation of the Ten Commandments (BCP 317), and the use of the Penitential Order (BCP 319). The final three weeks of Lent we will return to Rite II at the 10:30 a.m. service. The music for Lent is, as you know, less celebrative and is more reflective in nature.

### **Burying Alleluia during Lent.**

In order to symbolize this change of focus in our liturgies for Lent, we will actually "bury" the praise shout alleluia at 10:20 a.m. on March 9, the First Sunday in Lent. The children of our Sunday School will make an "alleluia" representation and we will gather in the courtyard and bury it to signify the omission of the alleluia during this special season in the life of the church. Needless to say, we will dig it up and the "alleluias" will ring again on Easter Sunday!

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### Joe and Betty DiPaola.

As a "refreshment" for you during Lent, we will welcome home the Rev. Joe DiPaola to St. Matthew's on Sunday, March 30, 2003. He will be the preacher for both services. We continue to give thanks for Joe and Betty and pray that the Lord will lead and guide them in their lives in Christ.

### A Benediction.

I pray that God will lead us and guide us to a deeper experience of love this Lent. Perhaps in losing ourselves, we can find ourselves in new ways and learn how to live for God the Father, with Jesus the Son, in the power and love of the Holy Spirit. But first, "remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."

Faithfully,

Merrill Wade

## Who God Created You To Be: A Course To Discern Your Spiritual Gifts

by Dyke Miller

In his closing remarks to the 154th Diocesan Council in Houston on February 8, Bishop Coadjutor of Texas Don A. Wimberly said, "Ministry is given at baptism and YOU are the ministers of the Gospel." Who God Created You To Be is about discovering your Spiritual Gifts where the empowerment of the Holy Spirit is the basis for ministry. Plan now to attend this five-session workshop/class beginning on April 6 to discover your individual Spiritual Gifts and help you fulfill your baptismal covenant.

Spiritual gifts are those gifts from God given to you to build up the body of Christ and to equip you for ministry. A difference between spiritual gifts and other gifts is that spiritual gifts develop and flower as a Christian grows in his or her relationship with Christ, in order to better fulfill God's purpose for His Church. As examples, spiritual gifts described in Matthew (Chapters 16 and 25), 1 Corinthians (Chapters 12 and 14), Ephesians 4, and elsewhere in the scriptures, include administration, apostleship, discernment, evangelism, giving, healing, hospitality, leadership, mission and teaching.

"The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and His Church; to bear witness to Him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church." (BCP, p. 855)

This is the schedule of your commitment: (4 to 6:30 p.m.)

### Sunday, April 6

- ♦ Introductions and Expectations
- ♦ The idea of gifts or talents
- ♦ Identifying Achievements

### Sunday, April 13

- ♦ Demonstration of small group experience
- ♦ Small group formation, sharing first achievement, feedback.

### Sunday, April 27

- ♦ Large group-sharing experiences
- ♦ Sharing achievements in small groups

### Sunday, May 4

- ♦ Class on Ministry with Inquirers Class
- ♦ Group Brainstorming
- ♦ Worksheets I & II

### Sunday, May 18

- ♦ Identification of Ministry
- ♦ Small group sharing Worksheet I
- ♦ Summary and Course evaluation

### NOTES:

- 1 Sign-up for Class in the Church Office or use "flyers" available in Commons.
2. Child care will be available.
3. There will be a \$5 fee for cost of supplies.

## Evening Spirituality Class Continues for Men and Women Alike

by Susan Barnes

Having concluded our reading of Suchocki's, *In God's Presence*, the monthly evening spirituality class led by Susan Barnes takes up a new book in March. Meeting now on the third Tuesday from 6:00-7:00 p.m., we will read Jay McDaniel's new book, *Living from the Center. Spirituality in an Age of Consumerism*.

Those who have already ordered books should collect them from Barbara Haynes in the Church Office. Please let Barbara know by March 6 if you want to order one.

The meeting dates and assignments are:

March 18 - Introduction, Chapters 1-2

April 15 - Chapters 3-4

May 20 - Chapters 5-6

## Men's Fellowship in March

The Men's Fellowship will gather in the right field bleachers of Disch-Falk Field on Tuesday, March 18, 2003, for the Texas Longhorns home baseball game against Southwest Texas State. The game begins at 6:30 p.m. General admission tickets are \$7.00 and go on sale at least one hour before game time. Yes, we can all sit together. Come and enjoy the baseball and see how theology, balls and strikes, and popcorn come together!!

## ***Inquirer's Class***

*by Dedee Norman, Membership  
Coordinator*

**Y**ou are invited to explore your relationship with God, the Episcopal Church, and St. Matthew's in this class. The purpose of the class is to offer an overview of the Episcopal Church, our history, our Prayer Book, our interpretations of Scripture, our worship and beliefs and other significant dimensions that mark out the distinctive life of the Episcopal Church.

Those who want to join the church, will be prepared for confirmation which will take place when Bishop Wimberly comes on May 25. Confirmation is expected of every adult baptized member of the church. If one was confirmed by a Bishop in the Roman Catholic Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America or one of the Orthodox Churches around the world, it would be expected that that person be received (prayer but not re-confirmation).

There will be seven classes beginning March 30:

Sunday, March 30 - 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 6 - 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 13 - 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16 - 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 27 - 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 4 - 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 18 - 4:00-5:30 p.m.

There will be childcare available. If you have questions or want to register for the classes call Dedee Norman at the church office 345-8314 or sign-up at the Welcome Table in the Commons beginning Sunday, March 2.

## ***By Popular Demand, The Ark Returns!***

*by Susan Barnes, Assistant Rector*

**L**ast year at Lent St. Matthew's raised funds for The Ark, through the Heifer Project. For those of you who are new or want reminding, The Heifer Project ([www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)) helps needy people in 125 countries to become self supporting. They do so by giving them animals as well as training in animal husbandry, environmentally sound farming, and community development. The animals are a self-renewing source of food, clothing, and labor for their new owners. They give them sustenance and income-producing work. Giving back is a key part of The Heifer Project. Each recipient pledges to give the "first fruit"—the first offspring of their animal—to someone else in need.

The Ark is a great imaginative program within the Heifer Project. As the name implies, the animals come in pairs. An Ark might include: 2 cows, 2 water buffaloes, 2 camels, 2 oxen, 2 sheep, 2 llamas, 2 hives of bees, 2 donkeys, 2 trios of ducks, 2 guinea pigs, 2 pigs, 2 trios of rabbits, 2 flocks of chicks, 2 flocks of geese, and 2 goats! Last year this congregation raised enough money to purchase two Arks. With that we changed the lives of hundreds of people in communities here and all around the globe.

Individuals, families, Sunday school classes, Bible studies, men's and women's groups all pitched in to make the project a success. Be on the lookout for the little plastic arks that will appear in the Commons as Lent begins. Share Christ's love with the world and support The Ark.

## ***Good Faith Helps In The Fight Against Homelessness***

*by Susan Barnes, Assistant Rector*

**A**ccording to a recent issue of *Time* magazine, the "new face" of homelessness is a family with children. As our economic slump continues, there is a domino effect in the labor force. People who were at the upper end of the pay scale, once unemployed, cut back on every discretionary expense they can. That translates into jobs lost in the retail and service sectors.

The Good Faith Fund was begun almost a year ago as a means to minister to those in need who come to St. Matthew's for help. The loose offerings on the first Sunday of the month and your contributions designated for the Good Faith Fund are disbursed twice monthly by a lay board. All in the parish are welcome to come to our meetings; just call Susan Barnes for information.

The applicants to the Good Faith Fund are increasing in number. Almost all have lost their job. Most are heads of households. More and more of them have sacrificed telephone service. They apply for support with rent and electricity. Your generosity allows us to do a little something to help them keep a roof over their heads and heat during this hard winter. Thank you for your contributions.

Here are some examples since the beginning of the year:

Ms. B. has two children of her own, including one infant. She was doing all right until her sister left her own three children with her. We helped with their electricity.

After being laid off, Mr. B. has just gotten a new job. He and his wife moved into a room that rents for \$200/month. We helped with the deposit.

Ms. O. was suddenly disabled with degenerative arthritis. Our contribution to her rent helped bridge the gap until her Social Security payments begin.

Ms. P. has a job that barely supports her and her three children. She fell behind on her electricity. She wrote us a sweet note in thanks for our grant.

## ***ECW News: The Vera Gang Scott Scholarship Fund***

*by Shirley Ryfle*

**T**he Vera Gang Scott Scholarship Fund was started in 1972 with a gift from Vera Gang Scott in appreciation for financial assistance given her by the ECW Board of the Diocese of Texas. Every year since then, two to five women have benefited from these scholarships.

To be eligible for a VGS Scholarship, you must be a female communicant in good standing of the Episcopal Church, Diocese of Texas, accepted or enrolled in an academic institute of college rank, and show real financial need.

If you think you might qualify for a Vera Gang Scott Scholarship and would like more information and an application, please call Shirley Ryfle at 345-3830. Hurry because all applications must be received by the Vera Gang Scott Scholarship Chairman by March 15, 2003.

## Christian Hospitality for the Deaf

by Phil Hatlen, Senior Warden

There have been casual discussions regarding St. Matthew's becoming involved in ministry to deaf persons over the past few years. With Merrill's approval and strong endorsement, the Vestry recently voted to provide start-up funds that will employ one or two interpreters for the deaf for our Sunday 10:30 service. I am continuing to gather information about the sources of interpreters and the level of skills required to interpret our service. Our tentative plan is to employ two interpreters for two hours, 10:15 - 12:15, each Sunday. They will be available both before and after services to interpret conversations between deaf persons and members of the congregation.

The potential of such a ministry holds great promise. Because Austin is the home of the Texas School for the Deaf, it is a center of the adult deaf community in our state. Thus far, I have not heard of any other Episcopal Church that offers Sunday services that use sign language in interpretation. Ultimately, we envision sign language classes being offered to St. Matthew's members, a growing community of deaf worshippers, and a growing excitement and commitment to ministry to potentially neglected populations.

Be patient with this program. For a few Sundays, we may have someone signing services and no deaf persons present. But, as word spreads, and as all of us express our approval and commitment to this new ministry, I am confident that we will have deaf worshippers in our pews.

## Senior Sentences

by Lucy Boyea, Minister of Senior Activities

The following is "borrowed" from the *Parmer Woods Post* with their gracious permission:

Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

No one can go back and make a brand new start. Anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way.

Disappointments are like road bumps, they slow you down a bit but you enjoy the smooth road afterwards. Don't stay on the bumps to long. Move on!

When you feel down because you didn't get what you want, just sit tight and be happy, because God has thought of something better to give you.

When something happens to you, good or bad, consider what it means. "There's a purpose to life's events, to teach you how to laugh more or not to cry too hard.

You can't make someone love you, all you can do is be someone who can be loved, the rest is up to the person to realize your worth.

It's better to lose your pride to the one you love, than to lose the one you love because of pride.

We spend too much time looking for the right person to love or finding fault with those we already love, when instead we should be perfecting the love we give.

Never abandon an old friend. You will never find one who can take his place. Friendship is like wine, it gets better as it grows older.

## St. Matthew's Laity Lodge Weekend

by Jim Myers

It's almost time to sign up for the annual St. Matthew's weekend adult retreat at Laity Lodge on the scenic Frio River a few miles north of Leakey, Texas (185 miles from Austin via Fredericksburg.)

Activities begin at 6:00 p.m. Friday May 2, and end with lunch Sunday May 4, 2003. The featured speaker this year is The Rev. Jim Adams, Rector, St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Cape Elizabeth, Maine. He is the author of *The Prince Mammoth Pumpkin - A Parable* published by Paulist Press. He serves on the faculty of the Episcopal Preaching Foundation and his sermons have been widely published in books and magazines. He graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1997. He lives in Maine with his wife and three daughters.

Reservation request sign-up sheets and personal information data cards will be available in the Commons area and/or parish office through Sunday, April 13. Laity Lodge will be able to accommodate a maximum of 65 persons this year or less depending on the mix of couples and unaccompanied attendees.

Due to the limited accommodations at Laity Lodge, the popularity this event has with members of St. Matthew's parish, and in the interest of fairness to all; attendees will, as last year be selected on the basis of "least recent attendance at a previous St. Matthew's Laity Lodge Retreat." A list of confirmed reservations will be compiled and posted each Sunday prior to April 20, when the final list of confirmed attendees will be published. A deposit of \$50, preferably by check payable to St. Matthew's, per couple or individual attendee is required no later than Friday, April 11, to guarantee a confirmed reservation. For the cost per person for accommodations please read the information in the Commons. Non-members of St. Matthew's may apply but will be placed on a waiting list and will be selected to attend only if all accommodations cannot be filled by St. Matthew's members.

For further information regarding the weekend please contact: Jim Myers at 608-6836

*With this article on the St. Matthew's Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Lay Readers, we continue a series that profiles various ministries within our parish. Each month, members of the selected groups will be recognized and thanked publicly in a Sunday morning service and also featured on the St. Matthew's website ([www.StMattsAustin.org](http://www.StMattsAustin.org)). In April, we will highlight the Wedding Guild, the Funeral Guild and the Tape Ministry.*

## What in the World is a LEM?

by Susan Robertson

Every Sunday morning, as you look at the altar area, you see men and women serving the chalice to you, assisting the clergy, reading the scriptures and leading the prayers of the people. They are truly servants. They love what they do. These are your Lay Eucharistic Ministers and the Lectors, formerly known as Lay Readers.

You may not know why they serve. Here are a few thoughts from the Lectors.

"I enjoy reading because it is a continuation from Christianity's earliest days (and even before that) when those who could read God's Word shared it with those who could not."

"I take pleasure in the opportunity to deliver the words from the Bible in a passionate, moving way that will capture the interest of the congregation. I also appreciate the time to prepare the delivery, for it allows me to really read and reflect on the words on the page and search for meaning."

"I pray that God will use me to be His voice to give a message to His people, then I try to give the reading to God. I practice the day before, reading the lesson several times to be sure I understand it. That is the key for me, to understand what I am reading and to read it in a way that makes the meaning clear to the congregation."

"I sometimes get invested in the emotion of the reading to the point I can't see the words through the tears. I really love those Sundays."

The Lay Eucharistic Ministers take their tasks very seriously, too. Do you know how

much you encourage these servants of God? Here is what one LEM had to say. "The role of the LEM allows a very personal exercise of the dimensions of tradition at St. Matthew's. In my role of LEM, as I look at the individual faces of parish members during the serving of the cup, it provides me a deeper love for God and for his children. As a LEM, I have experienced our tradition in a very rich and human way, and it has helped me better frame my spiritual life and further my study of the Scripture."

Tom LeMond has faithfully trained the LEMs and Lectors for many years. His guidance has been invaluable to all of us. Everyone is trained to read the Scripture. We practice in front of each other, critique each other's presentation and help each other be effective in our roles. The LEMs take on additional training to perform their part in the service. We each have our different styles, but we all are focused on the God whom we serve. We, also, take turns leading Evening Prayer or Compline every evening of the week at 6:00 p.m. in the Bell Tower. We find that this is a very special time to be with our God. Come and join us during Lent. You may find this will feed your soul, too.

This is a very dedicated group of servants who take their jobs seriously. If scheduled to serve, they make every effort to do so, but if it is impossible, they find their own substitutes. We know the congregation and priests are counting on us.

Matthew Abrahamson ✨ Bob Ascott  
Will Brown ✨ Kate Canby  
Marcia Caven ✨ Bill Donnell  
Bill Dugat ✨ Jack Eccles  
Jonathan Fisher ✨ Ric Grosvenor  
Cliff Harrison ✨ Tony Hatheway  
Bert Hooper ✨ Allen Keith  
Carolyn Kidd ✨ Eric Liles  
Tom McComb ✨ David McLean  
Joe McLean ✨ Dyke Miller  
Larry Miller ✨ Scott Murphy  
Jim Myers ✨ Kathleen Niendorff  
Don Neely ✨ David Price  
Torre Shanks ✨ Allen Sikes  
Clive Smith ✨ Denman Smith  
Jim Sparks, Sr. ✨ James Sparks, Jr.  
Kathy Vail ✨ Milt Williams

### Lay Eucharistic Ministers

Judith Bomar ✨ Dean Busboom  
Dab Cauley ✨ Charlie Cole  
Jim Dettmann ✨ Mary Nell Frucella  
Nan Harrison ✨ Phil Hatlen  
Woodie Jones ✨ Jerry Marshall  
Mike McKinney ✨ Jill Miller  
Jeri Muhich ✨ Dedee Norman  
Susan Robertson ✨ Jay Robison  
Steve Ryder ✨ Patty Shannon  
Keith Thompson ✨ Bob Wood

### Lay Readers

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## March 2003 Youth News

by Eric Liles, Youth Minister

We are always trying to recruit volunteers to help out with the youth ministry. We have a good process in place with a short application and interview to help people find their fit in our ministry. Also, there is a great training opportunity here in Austin on April 12. We would like to send a group of our current and future adult team to this training session. If you know anyone who might be interested in helping out, or just someone who might be a good fit in the youth ministry team, please let me know.

### Spring Break Plans

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our trip to Camp Allen. In its place, we will have a series of events throughout Spring Break week. We hope more people will be able to participate in one, several or all of the events. I would like a permission slip to be filled out for the entire week so we don't have to get a new one for each event. The schedule is available on the web. Laser tag, youth group, Bible study, etc. should be a great week!

### Beware the Flamingos!

By this time everyone should be aware of the flock of pink birds traveling around Austin. In an effort to help our youth fly to Iona, these birds are traveling to look for some money. So if you happen to see them (maybe you already have), please be kind and follow the directions found in their leader's zip lock bag. Thanks for your support!

### St. John's Youth Group, Because 2 is Better Than 1

Most of you do not yet know of our joy in the partnering of youth ministries between St. Matthew's and St. John's, but let me tell you, it is good times. Starting February 5, after several discussions between the clergy and youth ministers of each church, we started meeting together on Wednesday nights. All meetings will continue to be at St. Matthew's, from 7-8:30 p.m. St. John's Youth Minister is Justin Forgey, who has traveled with us in the last two trips to Juarez, and is a dear friend and colleague of mine. We welcome this new group with open arms and hearts and know we will gain much from their presence and participation.

### Eric's Thoughts

Since Betty is always asking me to write a little more for *The Word*, I thought this month I would indulge her request. I want to offer an encouragement to everyone at St. Matthew's. This is an incredible place to

gather as a community and worship God. I have seen great things happen here and look forward to seeing the ways we continue to grow in spirit and in love. After the blessing of the youth led worship service, I want to invite the leaders of all the various ministries in the church to really think about inviting youth to do ministry-sharing with you. Certainly we have all seen the wonderful job Matthew Abrahamson and Emily Eastberg have done at serving communion, and the service of our awesome acolytes, but I wonder if we could encourage more participation in a broader range of ministries. If you are involved in a ministry at St. Matthew's, please think and pray if a youth might benefit in serving in the ministry with you. If you have thoughts, comments, or questions you would like to share, please let me know.

God's Peace,

Eric

eric@stmattsaustin.org

office 512-345-8314 ext 232

cell 512-799-2638

## March 2003 Youth Calendar

Mar 4	Shrove Tuesday Dinner, youth set up, help serve and clean 5 - 7 p.m.
Mar 5	Ash Wednesday Service 7 p.m. no Youth Group
Mar 9	Sunday morning youth group 9 - 10:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 - 12
Mar 10-14	Spring Break Trip to Camp Allen Canceled, but we are going to do a series of events, please check the web site for details.
Mar 12	Youth Group Spring Break Party 7-9 p.m. (dinner provided)
Mar 16	Sunday morning youth group 9-10:15 a.m., Worship 10:30-12
Mar 19	Church Lenten supper 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m.
Mar 23	Sunday morning youth group 9-10:15 a.m., Worship 10:30-12 Movie Night 6-8:30 p.m.
Mar 26	Church Lenten supper 6:00 p.m. Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m.
Mar 30	Sunday morning youth group 9-10:15 a.m., Worship 10:30-12

Remember upcoming Happening and YES dates, April 25-27, sign up now!

## Support the St. Matthew's Pilgrims!

by Jay Robison

The dictionary defines the word "pilgrimage" as: "a journey to a holy place, undertaken for religious reasons" and "a journey to a place with special significance." This June, a group of St. Matt's youth and adults will be taking a journey to a place with special significance—Iona, Scotland—for religious reasons, to meet God in a new and special way, and to spend time in close contact with Him.

Making a journey to a place of religious significance is an ancient tradition. Many of the most important moments in Jesus' public ministry came when He and His disciples made the journey to the temple at Jerusalem—a journey required of all pious Jews at major festivals.

The tradition of pilgrimage has continued throughout Christian history, to special places far and near. Ordinary Christians have historically taken pilgrimages to Rome to meet the Pope or to Lourdes in France to be healed at the spring. It's a tradition celebrated in literature, too; Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* takes place during a journey to the shrine of Thomas Beckett. And it's a tradition that continues to this day—perhaps you have taken a journey to the Holy Land, visited a monastery or some other special place for a time of meditation and prayer. It is a powerful experience.

The St. Matthew's Journey to Adulthood group's planned pilgrimage to Iona will be an opportunity to experience this. Iona has been the home of Christian communities for over a thousand years (more on the history of Iona next month!), and the weeklong journey will be an experience for our youth that will change lives and be something to cherish forever. This is a very special opportunity for our church family to grow together as our young people meet the Lord in new and deeper ways. The communion the pilgrims will have with God will be sure to enrich all of our lives, whether directly or indirectly. And this is an important rite of passage into adulthood for our youth.

We want you, the members of the St. Matthew's family, to be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime experience. The Flamingo Flock fundraiser continues through this month, as does "Adopt-a-Pilgrim," a chance to get to know pilgrims better as well as to support them with finances and with prayers. And we'd certainly love your prayers for all the adult leaders and the young pilgrims even if you haven't or don't plan to "adopt" your own pilgrim(s). If you feel called to a deeper involvement with either Pilgrimage or the St. Matthew's youth program, please contact Steve Brock or Eric Liles. Be sure to check the Weekly Word for more opportunities to be involved.

## The Episcopal Church at The University of Texas at Austin

*A reprint from the report given to Diocesan Council by The Rev. Miles Brandon, Campus Missioner*

As I arrived at the Episcopal Student Center at The University of Texas this past July, I discovered a ministry that is profoundly mission minded. A ministry that seeks to be outwardly focused desiring to share the Good News of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ with The University of Texas at Austin.

The renovation of the Student Center is one step from completion. The center is now a much more hospitable, accessible, and functional space. We have a full service computer lab, a comfortable TV lounge, and a kitchen and dining facility that is both useful and pleasant. In addition, the Chapel of the Holy Spirit has once again become a sacred space central to the life of our community.

There are many highlights I would like to share from this fall semester, however, I will mention only a few. First, on Wednesday nights, as our primary Christian formation program, we ran Alpha. Alpha is a ten-week course exploring the basic understandings of the Christian faith. Forty-five students total registered and participated in Alpha throughout the semester. In addition, we have run a topical bible study on Monday nights. Also, for the first time, the Student Center hosted "A Dialogue on Religious Fundamentalism." The program included a

panel discussion by three scholars. Following their presentations, the students broke into small groups in order to interact directly with students from different denominational and religious backgrounds. Fifty students from various campus ministries (Christian, Jewish, and Islamic) participated in the evening. Finally, we have a Ski Trip planned for January with thirty participants from UT, TAMU, and Baylor.

Worship continues to be at the heart of all we do at the Student Center. We have added two new worship opportunities this semester. The first is a Taize service at 9:00 p.m. In addition, on Tuesday nights at 9:00 p.m., we have joined forces with a student ministry off campus to offer a Praise and Worship service. Moreover, we continue to celebrate the Holy Eucharist at 6:30 p.m. Sunday nights followed by a complimentary dinner. On average, over 200 students participate weekly in Student Center worship services and programs.

The Student leadership and I want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the members of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas for funding and making possible this necessary, valuable, and transformative ministry to the university and the greater Austin community. Thank you and God bless!

### Sunday Adult Education in March

*Sunday, March 2* (Huffman Hall) The Rector will wrap up our two-month study of the Gospel of John with final teachings on the unique role of this text for the church.

*Sunday, March 9* (Huffman Hall) Members of the Outreach Commission will facilitate a Lenten Bible Study presented by the Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD), formerly known as the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief. Lesson #1: Why Should We Care?

*Sunday, March 16* (Huffman Hall) Lenten Bible Study from ERD. Lesson #2: Developing True Compassion

*Sunday, March 23* - Seminarian Donna Lockett will teach on The Discipline of Fasting

*Sunday, March 30* - Donna will teach on the Discipline of Submission (Self-Denial)

### Prime Time Class

The Prime Time Class meets in Room B-18 on Sunday mornings. The class will continue to look at application of spirituality at both the interpersonal and community level. How do we listen within for the next steps of our journey? Where does our spirituality fit with respect to current events in our world? In addition to scripture, we will use books by Anthony de Mello, Parker Palmer and others. The class usually takes the form of a group discussion which is always fun and enlightening. Come join us for the adventure.

## Registration Open Now for Three Online Courses at ETSS

*by Bob Kinney*

You are invited to learn a lot more about Anglo-Saxon spirituality, Hispanic ministry or Celtic prayer through your own computer.

Registration is open now for three online courses offered by the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest through its distance learning program. There are no educational prerequisites for these Lay School non-credit courses that will be taught in April and May. The six-week classes are limited to 25 persons and tuition is \$65 per course. Detailed course descriptions and a registration link can be found at [www.etss.edu/online\\_courses.shtml](http://www.etss.edu/online_courses.shtml)

Thirty-one persons from 12 states took part in the premier online course offered by the seminary last fall. Their home states ranged from California to Massachusetts and Kansas to Mississippi. An online course "is great for folks in our diocese who want access to quality education," said Claire Cowden, ministries coordinator of the Diocese of Northwest Texas, who took the first class last fall.

The Rev. Dr. Alan Gregory, who taught the first online course, will repeat his "Six Weeks with the Wandering Saints." This course in Anglo-Saxon spirituality and mission focuses on themes in theology, preaching and spiritual guidance of Northumbrian Christianity (628 to 793), as well as the wisdom of saints from that era. A native of England, Dr. Gregory is associate professor of church history at the Seminary of the Southwest.

The Rev. Dr. Paul Barton will lead a course in "Historical and Cultural Contexts for Hispanic Ministry." Since Hispanic ministry does not occur in a social and cultural vacuum, the course stresses taking into account the historical and cultural contexts of particular communities and congregations. Dr. Barton is assistant professor of Hispanic studies at the seminary.

The Rev. Mary Earle, adjunct professor of pastoral ministry, offers "We Give You Greeting: Prayer and Praise from the Celtic Tradition." We receive prayer in song and poetry from the ongoing traditions of Wales, Ireland and Scotland. Students will experience the variety of prayers from centuries past to the modern day and be encouraged to write their own prayers in the patterns of these traditions.

## Questions

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister, and Lynn Smith, Children's Council Chair

What child doesn't feel intrigued by the immensity of Tyrannosaurus Rex or of the Titanic? How long was he; what did he eat? How long was it; how did it sink, once it struck ice? Why this fascination? Whatever it is, one of our four year olds put it all into perspective during a family discussion. As the family foursome was holding its umpteenth discussion about the Titanic, calculating the luxury liner's geographic location, (dinosaurs were not part of this particular evening, we believe!), this young scholar eagerly sought to place the information into a context that was relevant and familiar to him. He asked, "Was that near Jerusalem?"

### Other Questions

As the Children's Council prepares to review our children's offerings from this past year, we seek to use our past to inform our present and future. We are faced with the daunting task of finding the right questions, so that we can derive the important answers. We, Lynn and Barbara, have been discussing a recent article by Daniel Heischman (2003) that is causing us to rethink our understanding of questions and answers in this age of complexity. Heischman makes several assertions.

The "[a]sking of questions has become more dominant than the providing of answers" (p. 5). Due to the complexity of our times, in which there is so much to consider in short spans of time, there is always at least one overlooked factor. This is complicated by the fact that old definitions and boundaries have shifted so much that old distinctions no longer work. At same time, culture's expectations remain huge, as individuals seek to make sense out of such a complex world.

Heischman believes there are two "icons" for this prevalence of questioning, one being the media in its job of asking questions, seeking sound byte answers, and implying that someone must be at fault, when an answer is not quick or simple. The other symbol, Heischman believes, "...is the person who protests, 'We were not consulted.'," thus seeking to tip the balance of power, when "[t]heir interests have not been, at least on the surface, considered (p. 7).

Questions are important. As leaders on behalf of our children, they are clearly a part of our work. Heischman cautions us, however, that as leaders we understand and become comfortable "with the reality that all is not known and never will be..." (p. 8). He

also cautions us to avoid retreating into quick simplistic answers, reminding us that "[o]ur constituencies have often sought out our schools and parishes as places of thinking and dialogue, rather than pat answers" (p. 8).

Does Heischman offer any help? He offers what he terms three models of hope: 1) the model of the committee chair, but in this case the committee is the many parts of the inner individual (remember Plato's "city within"?!), and the "chair" listens and moderates that inner dialogue, just as he or she listens and moderates the various other constituencies; 2) the model of "time out," only this is not about cooling off, per se, rather it's about dialoging with others, and then pausing, in order to create a space for context and inner scanning to occur; 3) the model of the leader(s) as person(s) of reverence. He defines such a person as one who respects those he or she leads and as one who ultimately comes before God in worship. Worship is an equalizer, as it requires "directing one's heart and mind toward God who transcends the distinctions between a leader and those who are led" (p. 11).

How can it be of help to our Council? It is affirming for our Council, which has embraced the hard questions this past year. At the same time, it provides us with a cultural context for questions. As we work toward the future, it also provides us with a balanced perspective from which to find the right questions and seek – and not seek! – answers.

### At the Same Time

During the Council's time of reflection, Children in Sunday School will enter their Lenten reflections. Our fourth and fifth graders will follow the lectionary, as they focus on God's promise and mercy and on our faith and zeal. Our first through third graders will use the time to focus on God's covenant as fulfilled in Jesus Christ and in the liturgy of the Eucharist. Three year olds through Kindergartners will contemplate the Good Shepherd's presence in the Eucharist, and the mingling of the wine and the water in the chalice.

See you in Sunday School!

Heischman, D. R. (2003, February). *Leadership in an age of questions and complexity*. NAES Network, 5-12. The Rev. Daniel R. Heischman is Upper School Head, St. Albans School, Washington, D.C. Reprints available from Children's Ministry office. Permission granted.

## Children's Calendar

Mar 1-2	Communion Class Retreat
Mar 2	9:00 a.m. Opening Service; pick up Lenten Home Activity
	9:15 a.m. Sunday School
	10:30 a.m. Communion Class participates in Service and Luncheon
	10:30 a.m. Primary and Children's chapels
Mar 5	7:00 p.m. Ash Weds. Chapel during service; pick up Lenten Home Activity
Mar 6	9 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Appointments/Open Office Hours for program survey
Mar 9	9:00 a.m. Opening Service; pick up Lenten Home Activity
	9:15 a.m. Sunday School
	10:20 a.m. Parish-wide burying of the Alleluia, led by 4/5th grades
	10:30 a.m. Primary and *Children's chapels
Mar 13	9 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Appointments/Open Office Hours for program survey
Mar 16	9:00 a.m. Opening Service
	9:15 a.m. Sunday School
	10:30 a.m. Primary and *Children's chapels
Mar 18	10:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Appointments/Open Office Hours for program survey
	6:00 p.m. VBS planning meeting B-13
Mar 19	7:00 p.m. Lenten program for children, Ed. Bldg.
Mar 20	7:00 p.m. Children's Council Meeting B-16
Mar 23	9:00 a.m. Opening Service
	9:15 a.m. Sunday School
	10:30 a.m. Primary and *Children's chapels
Mar 26	7:00 p.m. Lenten program for children, Ed. Bldg.
Mar 30	9:00 a.m. Opening Service
	9:15 a.m. Sunday School
	10:30 a.m. Primary and *Children's chapels; 1-5th graders will sing during Communion

*\*Children grades 1-3 will rehearse for Mar 30 during chapel; interested 4/5th graders are invited to join them*

### Looking Ahead

Palm Sunday: Procession  
 Good Friday: Passion Walk for Children  
 Easter Sunday: Flowering of the Cross, Liturgy of the Light, and Egg Hunt  
 Mother's Day: Children sing during service

## Annual Children's Programs Review

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister

Welcome families, to Children's Ministry's 2nd-will-always-be-annual program review! Last year the Children's Council undertook a review of its offerings for all our children, ages 3 through 5th grade. This year the Council is inviting you to add your voice either by completing a written survey and/or by making an appointment with Children's Minister Barbara Pitts.

If you have not yet picked up a form, you should find them located in the Commons, on the bulletin board outside the Children's Ministry office, or in the church's main office. Please return forms by Sunday, March 16, so your input can be compiled in time for the March Children's Council meeting.

You are also encouraged to make an appointment with Barbara to discuss your survey responses. Special office hours will be held Thursdays, March 6 and 13, 9:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m., and Tuesday, March 18, 10:30 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. Or if you find yourself in the vicinity, please stop by!

### Sunday Morning Schedule for Children

- 8:55 Sign-in & Name tags  
Commons
- 9:00 Sixth Grade Sunday School  
Huffman Hall 2
- 9:00 Opening Service Church
- 9:15 Sunday School  
3 Years — Kindergarten  
Level I  
B-17  
First — Third Grades  
Level II  
B-16  
Fourth & Fifth Grades  
Level III  
Education Bldg. Breezeway
- 10:30 Primary and Children's  
Chapels for Levels I & II
- 11:10 Eucharist Church

## Children's Communion Class: March 2

<i>Allie Blumbhagen</i>	<i>Eleanor Carl</i>
<i>Mary Jane Deutsche</i>	<i>Elizabeth Hart</i>
<i>Will Kirkgard</i>	<i>Katherine Magee</i>
<i>Michael Mann</i>	<i>Connor Smith</i>
<i>Jake Veith</i>	<i>Marissa Wasmuth</i>
<i>Claire Williamson</i>	

Over the past six weeks these eleven children have set time aside to enjoy and learn about the Eucharist in a particular way. Not only has the class helped the children deepen their participation in the liturgy through a greater familiarity with the language of the articles, gestures, and words of the Holy Eucharist in the Episcopal Church, it has also provided an opportunity for each of them to understand the significance of these in their worship of God.

Additionally, through meditations on Jesus' parable of the True Vine and other parables and scriptures, this class has been directed to help each child more consciously realize God's great and faithful love for each of us. Such a focus has included primarily dwelling on the many intangible and tangible gifts that come from God – the children have compiled a long list that begins with family, friends, God, love, food, clothes.... Out of that awareness, then, the children have begun to look for the "blocks" in their lives, attitudes and actions (another list – including lying, hating, being rude, not sharing...), which might impede their living fully in God's love for them.

Another way to state that would be to say that the children see God's love for them and His desire to be in communion with them, and then they see ways they can be reconciled with Him, to remain most closely in that communion. Such is the process of reconciliation and Eucharist.

This class, this process, culminates in the participation of these children in the 10:30 service on March 2, followed by a family luncheon in their honor.

## VBS 2003: The Saints of God

June 22- 26

by Heather Harmon

Wow! What a great meeting we had in February. Our theme for this year is "The Saints of God." We are generating lots of great ideas for this year's theme. If you missed our February meeting, that's not a problem as we will be having another meeting on Tuesday, March 18 at 6 p.m. in Room B-13. Childcare will be provided. We would love to have your input for this year's Vacation Bible School. Please call Heather for questions at 418-9343!

### Go to Camp with Merrill and Eric!

The summer camp program at Camp Allen offers the opportunity for nearly 1600 campers from years 8 to 10, to experience the love and friendship of a Christian Community. The atmosphere is, above all, active and FUN. Each session is led by an adult, assisted by adults and youth volunteers, all of whom bring a sense of love and caring to the individual child as well as the camp family. It is the largest camping program in the Episcopal Church worldwide with a history beginning in 1921.

Located on 781 acres of beautiful rolling hills of oak and pine forest, Camp Allen's facilities include three complete campsites, two Olympic-sized swimming pools, an athletic field, a covered sports pavilion, and low and high elements challenge courses. These are set in the surroundings of an 8 acre lake for fishing, canoeing and water recreation. There are also numerous hiking and nature trails.

Of particular interest to us here at St. Matthew's is the camp session scheduled for July 6 - 12 for 5th and 6th graders. **Merrill Wade** will be Camp Director and **Eric Liles** will be assisting.

Camper application forms are available in the Church Office. Additional forms may be downloaded from [www.campallen.org](http://www.campallen.org)

## A Morsel of Kindness

by Holly Decherd

*Suppose someone has enough to live and sees a brother or sister in need, but does not help. Then God's love is not living in that person.*  
— I John 3:17

Leo Tolstoy, the great Russian writer, tells of the time he was walking down the street and passed a beggar. Tolstoy reached into his pocket to give the beggar some money, but his pocket was empty. Tolstoy turned to the man and said, "I'm sorry, my brother, but I have nothing to give."

The beggar brightened and said, "You have given me more than I asked for—you have called me brother." To the loved, a word of affection is a morsel, but to the love-starved, a word of affection can be a feast. [From Max Lucado's "He Still Moves Stones"]

Though the world in America is far different from Tolstoy's world over a century ago, we still have many in need, both in the church, near the church and not so near the church. The Outreach Commission asks you to pray for the ways God would have you serve others. If you are looking for ideas, we have short-term projects as well as longer ones. In addition to the Sunday food basket in the Commons, we have opportunities for drivers, mentoring adults once weekly, cooking monthly with others to benefit Casa Marianella, workers with Habitat, cookie makers for Kairos, and other possibilities. If you would like other ideas, just let us know through one of the members of Outreach or through Holly Decherd at 328-3944.

## Have You Read Any Good Books Lately?

by Rita Eccles

Remember when we went to our school libraries, checked out books, wrote reports about them for English class, then worried about our grade?

No grades will be given here. In fact, no reports will be required. We are asking something much more simple of you. If you have read any good books lately that you would like to share with other readers, we are asking you to donate them to our library. We are especially asking for books that are relatively current publications. Children's and youth books are very welcome. Donations can be placed on the bottom shelf of the book cart in Huffman Hall. We have many good books already placed on the cart. They are placed there so that you have easy access to them. Take a moment on Sundays or other days that you are at church to look them over. There are two clipboards attached to the cart, one to check out book from the cart and one to request books you are interested in and don't see. We review these clipboards each week and try to fill your requests. We hope you will take advantage of all these offers to: (1) Donate current books to the library. (2) Check books off the cart in Huffman Hall. (3) Tell us what books you are interested in reading. (4) Contact us if you have question or ideas about our library. Rita Eccles, jandr@austin.rr.com

## ConneXions Social Hour March 2 Kicks Off Spring Cycle

by Leslie and Bill Kjellstrand

Find out what new dinner group you're in at the ConneXions Social Hour at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 2, in Huffman Hall. The event will be the kick-off for 2003 spring-summer cycle of ConneXions dinner groups. Members should bring an hors d'ouevres or finger food to share.

If you are currently in or want to be in ConneXions, come to the Social Hour. Meet your new group as well as other members of ConneXions. About 10 groups are planned for the new 2003 cycle. Now is the time to join.

ConneXions is one of St. Matthew's most popular and longest running groups. ConneXions has been active for more than 14 years at St. Matthew's. Many long-term friendships have formed from ConneXions groups and many wonderful dishes have been enjoyed and recipes exchanged.

ConneXions groups of about 10 to 12 – couples and singles – gather for meals in the homes of members monthly during a six-month cycle. You need only make a meal for your group one time in the cycle and then you can enjoy all the others. And the meals can be breakfast, brunch, lunch, or dinner—whatever works for your group. Each group has a host or host couple to begin the monthly meals and shepherd the group through the cycle. New cycles begin in March and September.

If you've been considering joining ConneXions, call Leslie and Bill Kjellstrand, ConneXions leaders, 331-2121, or email them at lkjellstrand@austin.rr.com Also, if you are currently in a ConneXions group and need to drop out for a cycle or two, let the Kjellstrands know. If they don't hear from members, they will assume that members want to stay in the program and will assign them to another group.

Most ConneXions communications will be done by email to members. All ConneXions members will receive an email with the new group assignment; if you don't have email, you'll be sent a letter.

### January 2003 Financial Statement

	CURRENT MONTH		YEAR-TO-DATE	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Plate & Pledges	\$73,564	\$79,132	\$73,564	\$79,132
Total Income	95,706	86,821	95,706	86,821
Total Expenses	75,731	86,108	75,731	86,108
Diff. of Income vs. Expenses	\$19,975	\$713	\$19,975	\$713

Indebtedness as of January 31, 2003      \$0.00

**Birthdays****March**

- 1 Betty Dees, Bailey Pownall, Alex Soto
- 2 Doug Doerr, Harriet Houston, Sidney Lock, Joe McLean
- 3 Sue Cordes, John Nieman
- 4 Adrienne Williams
- 5 Marwill Bhatt, Adam Harmon, Elaina Hilliard, Stephanie McCollum
- 6 Samantha Shanks
- 7 Marjorie Bounds, John Eastberg, Elizabeth Moon
- 8 Barbara Pitts, Ann Poehl
- 9 Kevin Pownall, Mikey Young
- 10 Vada Dillawn, Beth Ann Sikes, R.C. Thompson
- 11 Jack Eccles, Jennifer Jones, Dane Walters, William Wood
- 12 Taylor Bemis, John P. Eastberg
- 13 Josh Dugat, Shirley Dyer, Emily Eastberg, Jonathan Fisher, Katie Lane, Michael Newman, Mary Sydney Squires
- 14 Mike Affleck, Gerald Cantor, Jim Gaines, Bob Pennybacker, Garrett Scanland
- 15 V.J. Eastwood, Karen Hooker, Joe Walton
- 16 D'Andrea Holliday, Marge Marshall, Laura Powell, Sherm Strance
- 17 Ryan McGillicuddy, Erica Meier
- 18 Don Neely, Kenneth Wright
- 19 Dab Cauley, Diana Dworaczyk, Pat Yeagain
- 20 Amy DeWeese, William Powell, Stephanie Wiesehuegel
- 22 Allison Price, Matt Ruka
- 23 Barbara Borden, Doris Dixon, Lisa Ottenbacher
- 24 James Helfrich, Hink Johnson
- 25 Henno Keskkula
- 27 Dana Bushong, Kailey Davis
- 28 Eleanor Carl
- 29 Allyson Tinker
- 30 Trisha Abrahamson, Pat Cauble, Sue Gregerson, Jim Lyons
- 31 Alsede Hogan, Johnny Moncure, Charlotte Nichols

**April**

- 1 Alan Carson, Cheryl Coldwater McLay, Jacob Denton, Carolyn Huffman
- 2 Will Brown, Michael Meleski, Jim Myers
- 3 Suzanne Daniel, Maru Davis, Barbara Hilliard, Cornelia LeMond, Michael Novak, Steven Wood
- 4 Joyce Evans, David Thompson
- 5 Michael Levy, Andrew Newmiller, Stacy Strobusch, Carlos Vazquez
- 6 Catherine Naiser
- 7 Beth Billman, Paul Nieman, Rosemary Sorenson

**Memorial Gifts**

In memory of  
*George Holt*  
by  
Mary Jo Culver

In memory of  
*Juanita Bailey*  
by  
Mary Jo Culver

In memory of  
*Luther Bennett*  
by  
Mary Jo Culver

In memory of  
*Lucy Strauch*  
by Cornelia and Tom LeMond

**Births**

*Dawson Bradford Kelly,*  
was born January 27, 2003,  
to Julie and David Kelly,  
grandson of Kate and Tom Canby.

**Deaths**

*Wilbur Peterson,*  
father of David Peterson,  
died February 4.

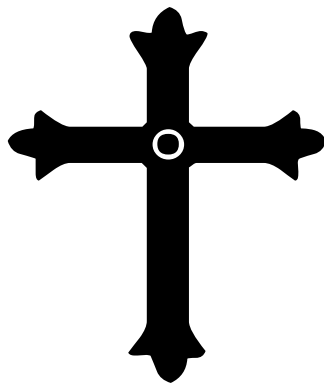
*Tom DeWitt,*  
husband of Judy DeWitt and  
father of T.K., Tammy Le and Jill Glassco,  
on February 13.

**New Members**

Christina and Chip Harmon  
Andrea, Brandi and Adam

Marie Kirchner

Lucy Koy



# the st. matthew's word

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and School  
www.StMattsAustin.org ♦ office@StMattsAustin.org  
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(512) 345-8314 ♦ FAX (512) 346-2085

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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 April issue  
of *The Word* is**

**Friday, March 14, 2003**

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

## Vestry Commission Chairs

David Barrow, Jr. *Buildings and Grounds*  
Tom Canby *Finance*  
David Harakal *Communications*  
Warren Marshall *Personnel*  
Charlie Cole *Stewardship*  
Holly Decherd *Outreach*

## Lay Ministry Councils

Lynn Smith *Children*  
Jeri Muhich *Newcomers*  
Milt Williams *Parish Life*  
Elaine Goessling *Pastoral Care*  
Sue Kinney *Worship*  
Steve Brock *Youth*

## School Board

The Rev. Merrill Wade *Chairman*  
Barbara Pitts *President*  
Kristin Fason *Vice-President*  
Pam Littlefield *Director*  
Eileen Cole *Assistant Director*  
Elizabeth Vetter *Recording Secretary*  
Michael McCollum *Corresponding Secretary*  
Kent Zarbock *Treasurer*  
Pat Boon *Vestry Liaison*

*Members*—Kay Ballard, Vada Dillawn,  
Dean Fisher, Andrew Urban

## Staff

The Rev. Merrill Wade *Rector*  
The Rev. Susan J. Barnes *Assistant 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*  
Brad Wagner *Business Manager*

## 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*  
*Members*—Jerry Ballard, Pat Boon, Charles Cole,  
Bill Donnell, David Harakal, Cliff Harrison,  
Warren Marshall, Debbie Meleski, Don Neely,  
Clive Smith, Susan Robertson, Keith Thompson