

# the st. matthew's word

## *The Great 50 Days of Easter*

### **Alleluia!! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!!**

With this ancient shout we join with Christians around the world rejoicing in the foundational source and truth of the Christian faith. We exist with Christ and for Christ because Christ is risen and leading and guiding and loving the church which proclaims that love to a broken world.

### **Yes, Lent has Ended!**

**And we are grateful** for the incredibly faithful work of our church staff, our Altar Guild, our Flower Guild, our Lay Eucharistic Ministers for their service on Sundays and nightly for Evening Prayer in the Bell Tower, our ushers, Cary and Suzanne and the Choir, our readers, our acolytes, our tape ministers, indeed all those persons who give themselves to this church and our worship.

**Yes, Lent has ended** but who can forget the wonderful Wednesday night meals and the rich teachings of Jane Butterfield on Confession, the testimony and wisdom of John Scott, the sobering yet hopeful words from David Johnson, the poignancy of the musical presentation by Craig Hella Johnson. The meals for these occasions were lovingly provided by the Prime Time Class, the Daughters of the King, the Tuesday Night Bible Study and the Office Staff and Office Staff Auxiliary.

**Yes, Lent has ended** but who can forget the Women's Retreat at Camp Allen. Or the burial and the resurrection of the "alleluia" in the courtyard. Or Joe and Betty Di Paola's visit. Or the Episcoplayers "game show" vignette in Huffman Hall on Palm Sunday.

Or the Palm Sunday palm procession. Or the Ecumenical Luncheons and the beautiful music and fine meditations with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Or the peace that settled on the church during the Footwashing on Maundy Thursday. Or the Stripping of the Altar. Or the Veneration of the Cross and the passion of Good Friday. Or the glorious baptismal celebration of the Easter Vigil. Or the cool breeze of the Easter Early Service. Or the joy and triumph of Easter Day. Yes, Lent has ended but we are changed!

**Yes, Lent has ended!** Lent and its rigors and graces has ended. The Easter Season is NOT a time to focus on self-examination, self-denial, or other important Lenten spiritual practices. The Great 50 Days of Easter are a time of celebration, joy and blessed appreciation of the mighty acts of God's grace in Christ Jesus. The Great 50 Days of Easter is a time of pure celebration of the world-changing resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

### **So Which are the Great 50 Days of Easter?**

The Great 50 days begin on the night of the Great Vigil of Easter and culminate with the Pentecost Sunday liturgies. On the Sundays of these 50 days we hear the announcements and the accounts of the Resurrection of our Risen Lord:

**Easter Day** - Mark 16:1-8 - The women at the tomb receive the Good News, "he has been raised; he is not here!"

**Second Sunday of Easter** - John 20:19-31 - The Risen Christ enters

into the "room of fear" for his disciples, gently announcing "Peace be with you!"

**Third Sunday of Easter** - Luke 24:36-48 - The Risen Christ calms the fears of the disciples, saying, "why are you frightened? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." You are witnesses!

**Fourth Sunday of Easter** - John 10:11-16 - The Risen Christ tells St. John's church that he is the Good Shepherd. And we trust that the Risen Christ is our Good Shepherd, our Catechist and Savior!

**Fifth Sunday of Easter** - John 14:15-21 - The Lord tells his disciples that the Spirit of truth will come, their Advocate or Comforter, preparing the church for a fresh outpouring of the Spirit of God.

**Sixth Sunday of Easter** - John 15:9-17 - The Lord tells the church to "bear fruit," to "love one another as I have loved you."

**Ascension Day** - on the 40th day of the Easter Season, we mark the end of Christ's resurrection appearances and celebrate his ascension into heaven (Luke 24:49-53). The church now awaits the joy and power of the Pentecost Sunday coming of the Holy Spirit.

**Ascension Day Holy Eucharist** - we will gather on Thursday night, May 29, at 7:00 p.m., in the church for a service of the Holy Eucharist to celebrate the feast of the Ascension!

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

**Seventh Sunday of Easter: The Sunday after Ascension Day** - John 17:11-19 - The Lord prays for the unity of the church, that none may be lost.

**The Eighth Sunday of Easter - Pentecost Sunday** - the featured reading is Luke's account of the coming of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:1-11. We understand this in the words of Eucharistic Prayer D, at page 374 of the *Book of Common Prayer*, "that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all."

**Pentecost Sunday - June 8 - ONE SERVICE AT 10:30 a.m.** *Truly one of the great days to belong to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. The Associate Vestry is planning Pentecost Sunday festivities and we will "surround the church" with our prayers for unity in the power of the Holy Spirit. Plan to stay for lunch and to enjoy a wonderful day together as a parish family!*

### Liturgical Notes regarding the Easter Season Sunday Services

With our emphasis on joy, we will exclude the Confession and Absolution of Sin during the Great 50 Days and our music will move from the more somber tones of Lent to the joyful and expansive songs from our "praise" tradition and the triumphant hymnody of our 1982 Hymnal. We will chant and sing much of the service music. The Confession and Absolution will return to our Sunday liturgies on Trinity Sunday, June 15, and we will use it weekly throughout the long Pentecost Season of the year.

### Last Words on Easter Season and Pentecost

The word Pentecost means a "50 day period," which corresponds to the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which counted a "week of weeks" (7 times 7) from Passover and celebrated the 50th day as *Shavuot* or Pentecost. For Jews this was an agricultural feast and a remembrance of Moses giving the law. Records of early Christian worship suggest that the Early Church considered all 50 days equal: each being seen as a celebration of the Resurrection, the Ascension of Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday. These were seen as one continuous celebration. We will both separate and unite the celebrations into one seamless flow of joy! Alleluia!

### Evening Prayer in Bell Tower Chapel Continues

Finally, we will continue our long-standing practice of gathering each night for Evening Prayer at 6:00 p.m. in the Cauley Bell Tower Chapel. This is an opportunity for you to come and offer thanks to God for the many blessings you are enjoying in this Great 50 Days of Easter.

Faithfully,

Merrill Wade  
Rector

## Bishop Wimberly to Visit May 25th at 10:30 a.m. Service for Confirmation

The Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Texas, the Rt. Rev. Don Wimberly, will make his first visit to St. Matthew's for confirmation on Sunday, May 25, at the 10:30 a.m. service. The Rev. Merrill Wade, The Rev. Susan Barnes, together with Membership Coordinator Dedee Norman, and other volunteers have been working with an enthusiastic Inquirer's Class in preparation for the Bishop's visit. As well, Eric Liles has been working with a group of young persons to prepare for confirmation. At this point we anticipate an adult and young persons' confirmation class of around 20 persons to be confirmed and/or received by Bishop Wimberly.

The Bishop will meet with the candidates for confirmation and reception before the confirmation ritual takes place in the church. After the service, our Hospitality Committee, led by Louise Waddill, will offer a reception in honor of the newly confirmed and the Bishop. Following the reception, Bishop Wimberly will gather with the Clergy, Wardens, and Vestry for a time of encouragement and accountability in our mission in the church and in the Diocese of Texas. The Bishop's visit is a "command performance" day in the life of a congregation. Let's gather and give the Bishop and those newly confirmed and received our support, encouragement and love.

—The Rector

## A Cookout to Beat All Cookouts: Men's Fellowship on May 21

It is *deja vu* all over again! If this article seems familiar, it is. The Men's Fellowship cookout that was canceled last month has been rescheduled for Wednesday, May 21. All the information is still accurate so let us refresh your memory.

All Men of St. Matthew's are urged to circle this important date on your calendars - Wednesday, May 21. Meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Lakewood Clubhouse - located on Lakewood Drive, just off Loop 360 between Spicewood Springs Road and 2222. Bring your sports equipment to enjoy, basketball, baseball and glove, horseshoes, tennis racquet, etc.

The food will be prepared by the Holy Smokers and the menu sounds terrific: Appetizer - jalapeno cheese poppers. Main course - pollo asada and beef fajitas con lima gently wrapped in thin flour cake garnished with garden fresh lettuce, tomato, avocado, and pico de gallo con queso. This will be served with charro frijoles con cervezas mas frio y iced tea. Dessert will be sorbet de arco iris. Ay!

All this for the nominal fee of only \$8 per man. As the date approaches, watch for the announcement in the Weekly Word and sign up in the Commons or call the Church Office to make your reservation. Men's Fellowship rocks!



## Introduction to Healing Across Generations

Over the years a number of St. Matthew's parishioners have taken advantage of the opportunity to hear Bob Sears, S.J., speak about intergenerational healing. Therapists are discovering the absolute importance of family and social systems for explaining and dealing with illnesses. God, too, sees us not just as isolated individuals but also in relation to our family of origin and our religious family. This introductory workshop looks at God's way of healing throughout salvation history, as a model for how God heals us individually in our family system. We learn to diagram our family tree, discover issues that need healing, and follow steps in the healing process. We also consider healing of

past generations, which continue to influence the present, and we conclude with a healing service.

Bob Sears, S.J., teaches at Loyola University in Chicago, and brings with him his own ongoing growth and insights. This summer Fr. Bob returns to Austin and his initial workshop is being held at St. Matthew's, Thursday, June 19th, from 10:00-4:00, in B-18. This workshop is open to all members of St. Matthew's. The \$35 registration fee includes lunch at Luby's and places should be reserved by June 13th. To register you may pick up a form in the office or call Miriam Burke, Ph. D, at 346-1036.

## Opening Our Hearts Through the Arts 2003: Let the Beauty Begin!

by Sharon Lowe

*The first demand any work of art makes upon us is surrender.*

*Look. Listen. Receive.*

*Get yourself out of the way.*

*There is no good asking first whether the work before you*

*deserves such a surrender,*

*for until you have surrendered*

*you cannot possibly find out.*

- C.S. Lewis, *An Experiment in Criticism*

**May 18, 12:00 p.m. B-14.** First organizational meeting for 2003 St. Matthew's "Opening Our Hearts Through the Arts" Festival - to be held September 5-6. Light luncheon will be served.

Merrill, Kathleen and I have reflected on how St. Matthew's might offer the festival this year in a way that continues some of the best loved aspects while minimizing

the workload of our parish. Our current thinking is that we will limit festival activities to Saturday, September 6 and use the evening of Friday, September 5 to assist the artists with set-ups and perhaps, have a low-key reception. On Saturday, we will offer brunch, tea, literati, participatory activities for children and adults, silent auction and visual arts.

As this is the third time for this festival, some of the planning and legwork is already in place. In particular, we have tentative commitments from a large number of the artists from last year. We are earnestly looking for someone to fill the facilities planning role as well as others. Please pray about what role(s) you might be willing to take, then join us and bring your creative spirit! Questions? Call Sharon Lowe at 345-1990 or Kathleen Niendorff at 453-6300.

## New Church Photo Directory

by Janice Watkins for the Associate Vestry

Have you been thinking how nice it would be to have a beautiful portrait photograph of your family? Have you been wishing that St. Matthew's had an up-to-date photographic directory?

If you answered *yes* to these questions, you'll be happy to know we will soon be scheduling photography appointments for our new church directory! The company we'll be working with, Lifetouch, is well-known for the beauty and quality of its portraits and directories.

Shooting will begin August 6 in order to accommodate families with children who attend school out of town, and will continue through most of the month. There will, of course, be no charge for the sittings, and every family who sits for a portrait will receive a free directory. Members will be able to purchase portraits if they wish, but will not be pressured to do so. More information, along with specific shooting dates and times, will be announced later.

## Musical Notes

by Suzanne Daniel and Cary Michaels

Thank you to EVERYONE who contributed to the music during Lent, Holy Week and Easter: the Choir, the Praise Team, the Men's Chorus, the Children who played on Palm Sunday, various instrumentalists, and everyone who sang hymns, and other service music in the congregation!

**Upcoming Events:** We will have a Women's Chorus for the offertory on Sunday, May 18th. There is no age limit (upper or lower!) - all are invited. Music and Practice CDs will be available beginning May 4th. Rehearsals will be: Sunday, May 11th, immediately following the 10:30 service, and/or Wednesday, May 14, from 7 - 7:30pm.

On the 18th, we will rehearse before the service, at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. At the peace, we will assemble on the risers - you will not be vesting or processing.

We will have special music for Confirmation on May 25th, and Pentecost, on June 8th. There will be another Men's Chorus on Sunday, June 15th. Consider a singing for one or more of these services. Stay tuned for more information!

## The Eyes of St. Matthew's – are upon YOU!

*This month we begin a feature which, hopefully, will be written by you, the members of St. Matthew's. If you have done something special or gone somewhere unusual, or received an award, or will appear in a concert or play, or some such, won't you let us share that with the rest of the parish? Please limit your submissions to first hand information (we won't print second-hand information without express permission) and keep it to just one paragraph. Send your work to [betty@stmattsAustin.org](mailto:betty@stmattsAustin.org) by May 16 for publication in the June issue.*

**Phil Hatlen**, Superintendent of the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Visual Impairments at its international conference held in Seattle. Phil received the award for his work as an advocate and for leadership in the education of people with blindness and visual impairments.

## St. Matthew's Summer 2003 Great Teachers Series

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

For the third year, St. Matthew's is offering its Great Teachers Series this summer. The speakers and topics are shown below. Thanks to Leon Whitney for arranging this schedule.

### June 15

The Rev. Dr. William C. Spong  
 Professor Emeritus,  
 Episcopal Theological Seminary of the  
 Southwest,  
*A Musical Adventure into the Gospel*

### June 22

The Rev. John Musgrave  
 Rector,  
 St. Thomas the Apostle, Nassau Bay  
 (Clear Lake Area),  
*Ministry in the NASA Community:  
 The 2003 Shuttle Disaster*

### June 29

Mr. John Sharp  
 Former Comptroller, State of Texas,  
*Ethics in Government: Ethical and Moral  
 Issues Involved in the Distribution of  
 Scarce Funds*

### July 6

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

### July 13

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

### July 20

Dr. Michael Granof  
 Ernst & Whinney Professor of Accounting,  
 UT School of Business,  
*Honor in the Workplace: A Discussion of  
 Ethics and Business Practices*

### July 27

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

### August 3

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

### August 10

Dr. Michael White  
 Ronald N. Smith Chair of Classics and  
 Christian Origins,  
 UT College of Liberal Arts,  
*Reflections on Early Christianity*

### August 17

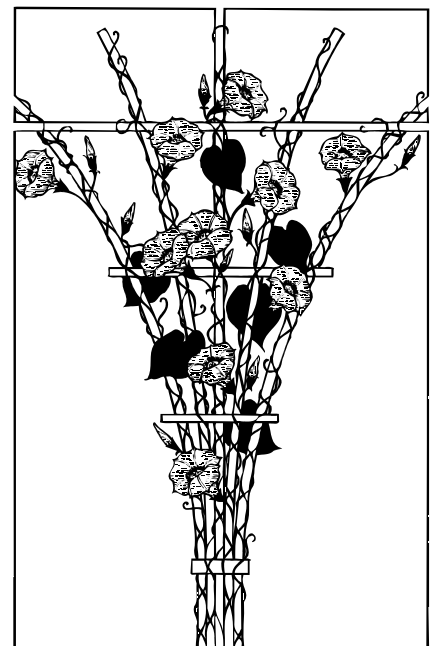
The Very Reverend Titus Presler  
 Dean and President  
 Episcopal Theological Seminary of the  
 Southwest,  
*Leadership in the Emerging Church*

## The Order of St. Luke: From the Heart

by Sandy Lanier

When Father Joe visited and preached March 30, he spoke of one of his greatest joys as a priest, the Eucharist. He spoke of the joy he feels when he gives communion to others and looks into their faces as they receive the bread and wine. Conversely, I believe that one of the greatest joys and blessings I feel is when I receive communion. And, although it is always a special blessing, during times in my life of crisis, times when I walk to the communion rail with a heavy heart, communion is extremely powerful. At those times, the Eucharist serves as a powerful reminder for me, reminding me of Jesus' presence in my life, his constant presence, whether I feel his presence or do not. During times when our country is at war, when so many people are hurting and suffering, communion is a powerful reminder of our Lord for me.

The Order of St. Luke (OSL) would like to remind everyone that on the first Saturday of every month, we have a Eucharist in the sanctuary with George Wilson as Celebrant. We begin at 9:00 a.m. and are finished by 9:45. This Eucharist is open to all. You are welcome to come for Communion and than continue on with your day. And OSL would love to have you join us in B-14 after Communion for our regular meeting. We would be blessed in having you join us for the Eucharist, a time for a special connection between you and our Lord.



## May Adult Education in Huffman Hall

Almost fifteen members of St. Matthew's gathered at Camp Allen last month for the Spiritual Formation Retreat sponsored by the Trinity Institute and Spirituality and Health Magazine. We heard spectacular presentations from Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Joan Borysenko, The Rev. Alan Jones, Phyllis Tickle, Walter Wink and Father Thomas Keating. We participated in workshops led by some of these keynote speakers, as well as other noted teachers and spiritual guides of the church. Our last three classes of the Adult Education year, May 4, May 11 and May 18th, will be devoted to the material we learned at Camp Allen, as we attempt to share with you some of the experiences we enjoyed and information we learned. We begin at 9:00 a.m. sharp.

— Susan Barnes for the Group

*With this article on the St. Matthew's Usher Team, 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) In June, we will highlight the Lay Eucharistic Visitors and Prayer Teams.*

## The Ever-Present Usher

by Larry Richards, Usher Coordinator

The Usher Ministry is the largest group of people serving God's congregation at St. Matthew's. The number of people currently serving is 52. The number varies as people volunteer to serve while others find it necessary to stop; but we do have a solid core, some of whom were ushering when St. Matt's was on Ridge Oak Drive. One of these is Jerry Ballard, the longest serving usher, who has been doing it since 1974. At the same time there are some who have been ushering for less than a year; most of these also happen to be our youngest ushers (the youngest are Jordan and Garrett Scanland - though Jackie Howard, who acts as an 'usher assistant,' is younger).

I asked Jerry, the young ushers and some others why they ushered and received a common theme of "wanting to serve" in response. Jerry commented that he got started even before he was a member of St. Matt's because he wanted to get involved and ushering was the easiest way. One of the young ushers gave a very insightful response: "Ushering is a chance to serve your family in Christ during the service so they...[are] able to focus on God."

That statement really defines what ushering is about. The ideal usher is ever-present but unobtrusive, though it is sure hard to be unobtrusive when passing a collection platter, one of the more obvious ushers' duties. Ushers have several other things to do, the two most notable: (1) make people feel welcome when they first arrive at the church, whether for the first time or the Nth time, while providing them an Order of Service leaflet and (2) acting as traffic directors for communion. Some not so obvious duties are straightening up after service (the least liked aspect of ushering), finding misplaced items ("...do you know where my husband/wife is?"), answering all sorts

of questions about church activities ("...ask an usher - they'll know") and also taking the census - those numbers published each Sunday near the end of the bulletin.

To cover the services we have at St. Matt's the ushers are divided into five teams. One of the teams takes care of the early service with George McClure as the team leader. The other four teams rotate through the 10:30 a.m. service on a monthly cycle. Each of the latter teams has two team leaders, one for odd numbered months and one for the even months. The team leaders coordinate what the other team members do during the service, attempting to rotate them through different positions so everyone feels comfortable with any task through this on-the-job training.

My job, which I prefer to label as Usher Coordinator instead of Head Usher, is to balance the size of the teams, create schedules as needed, assist the team leaders as they desire and represent the ushers on the Worship Council. Another aspect of the position that can be quite intense is to put together usher teams for services that do not take place on Sunday, such as funerals and extra services around Easter, Christmas, etceteras. However, the Assistant Coordinator, Joyce Braboy, very ably takes on this latter duty, making herself indispensable.

There are two major goals that I have prayed about for the future. The first is to get more ushers for the early service to lighten the load on the few now serving at that time. The second is to get more young people involved. These goals will be met with God's blessing by all of the ushers as a team, not as individuals. Join us and be an usher - ask an usher how or call me at 345-4913.

Usher Coordinator: Larry Richards  
 Jerry Ballard & Louis Bedor  
 Maddy Bergen & Joyce Braboy  
 Will Brown & Roger Buegner  
 Tom Canby & Larry Carpenter  
 Jim Cauble & Helen Collins  
 James Daniel & Ed Davis  
 Arlene Dettmann & Doug Doerr  
 Joe Evans & Dean Fisher  
 David Harakal & Cliff Harrison  
 David Houston & Allen Keith  
 Debbie Marshall & Warren Marshall  
 George McClure & Michael McCollum  
 Kevin McGillicuddy & Mike McKinney  
 Joe McLean & Larry Miller  
 John Moncure & Andy Muhich  
 John Muhich & Don Neely  
 Chris O'Quin & Liz O'Quin  
 Sharon Roberts & Larry Roden  
 William Rossen & Jack Ryfle  
 Bella Scanland & Garrett Scanland  
 Jordan Scanland & Jim Schultz  
 Greg Shannon & Clive Smith  
 Joyce Statz & Penny Stephens  
 Sherm Strance & R. C. Thompson  
 Brad Wagner & Hugh Welter  
 Tommy Williams  
 Usher Assistant: Jackie Howard

### Ushers



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## Becoming Our Brother's Keeper

by Kathleen Niendorff

While on spring break skiing in Colorado, I got whacked just above my left temple by one of those snap-you-up chair lifts, which I had ridden previously at least three dozen times. The lift guy called out, "You OK?" by which time we were 15 feet in the air. I've never seen a lift run in reverse, I thought in sharp consciousness and sharper pain. Logically, I just burst into tears.

Observing me as though he were holding a magnifying glass as we rode to the top of the mountain, son Will suggested we go ahead and ski all the way down to the bottom. He said later he wanted to be sure I was not about to pass out. Once down I got ice at the clinic and was met by my beloved Frank with sympathy and a Starbuck's. I decided not to ski the next day, and, although I had a truly spectacular hematoma, the head injury was obviously not "serious."

Determined to be the good mom, I decided to ski with Will the day after that. I didn't feel bad at all—no repercussions from the injury except by this time the hematoma had begun draining into my face: I was getting a black eye. And self-conscious. For 17 years I have worked either as a trustee or volunteer with SafePlace (formerly the Center for Battered Women). I have seen such injuries and far worse, knowing all the while that the deep injuries were to the woman's soul; I have come away from SafePlace in awe of her courage. So I felt like wearing a sign that said, "My husband had NOTHING to do with this!" Yes, I was embarrassed at what some people might think.

On the drive back to Texas I told my menfolk, who had been consistently solicitous, about these emotions, and as I talked I realized other emotions were developing—mainly, a more profound compassion for women and children who are brutalized by those pledged to love them.

In church on Sunday, even with dark glasses, I met with some slack-jawed looks. And almost to a person, the look was followed by genuine concern and questions. And, of course, some St. Matthew's attitude: Susan Gregerson chirped I wouldn't have to wear green clothes on Monday (St. Patrick's Day). My first day back swimming the former jock who swims in the next lane

remarked, "That your first shiner? Hey, it matches your purple swimsuit! Anybody you want me to beat up?" And then I went to a book group, one of whose members was a college football star. When I removed my glasses to comment on a passage, he gaped at me and said, "Is there anyone I need to have a chat with?" All of the comments have been jovial. But clearly, all these people were willing, however adroitly, to invade my "privacy," to learn the truth, and to actually do something if need be.

Now maybe you think that would have caused more embarrassment. Quite the contrary: I found myself being moved almost to tears at their caring, at their willingness to get involved. They were all their sister's keeper.

I related these experiences to my friend Gloria who, it turns out, had had her own. It seems while overseeing the remodeling of her family's beach house on South Padre she had tripped over chicken wire and ended up with a big shiner. In the airport at Brownsville a police officer came up to her, handed her his card, and said gently, "If you need to talk to someone about this outside your community, I am available." A clergyman also pressed his card into her hand during the flight to Austin.

Only a few decades ago the great majority of people would not dare risk involvement in what they suspected was a "family matter" when a woman or a child had some obvious but inadequately explained injury. Maybe, just maybe, we as a people are growing more compassionate, more willing to become vulnerable for the sake of others. Maybe these sociopolitical movements, which is how we tend to characterize the battle against domestic violence and child abuse, are bringing us to fuller consciousness of what it means to love our neighbor.

Maybe, just maybe, we are more consciously becoming our brother's and sister's keeper. Thanks be to God.

*The ministry of Morning Prayer on Sundays at SafePlace was begun by women of St. Matthew's in June of 1989. Joined by women of St. James about five years later, this ministry will soon celebrate its 14th anniversary. Information on SafePlace is available in the church office.*

## Iona: Rich With History, Alive With God

by Jay Robison

Thanks to the tremendous turnout at the Mardi Gras party and the fabulous support from St. Matthew's for the Flamingo Flocking and Adopt-a-Pilgrim fundraisers, most of you know by now that 15 St. Matt's youth from the Journey to Adulthood class are making a spiritual pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland in June, accompanied by Eric Liles and a group of five adult facilitators.

It is natural, then, to tell you about this far away, remote place we're journeying to. Iona is tiny island rich in Christian history and alive with God in the present.

Iona's story starts with an Irish monk named Columba and his decision to bring Christianity to the wild Scots. The tribes and clans of Scotland were feared and avoided in Columba's day. Even the mighty Romans, when they governed Britain at the height of their power, built a wall to keep the Scottish tribes out of their province. But Columba and his 12 followers knew that with God on their side they were far more powerful than a Roman legion, and they were not frightened by the people they sought to convert.

Columba and his followers used Iona as their base when they began the process of winning over the Scots to Christianity. Their efforts soon bore fruit; indeed, one group of locals even invited the missionary to rid their local lake of a monster. Your opinion of Columba's success in that endeavor probably depends on whether or not you believe the countless sightings of the Loch Ness monster that have persisted over the centuries. That Christ took root in Scotland, however, cannot be denied. In time, more than a few descendants of the wild Celtic pagans of Scotland became great theologians. And as Episcopalians, we owe a debt of gratitude to Columba; it was bishops of the Church of Scotland who helped the American Episcopal church continue the apostolic succession after the Revolutionary War.

In the 1500 years since Columba first arrived, Iona has remained an important center for Christianity, enduring many hardships and withstanding a series of Viking raids. Iona even survived King Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries after his break with Rome, though for some 300 years

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afterward the stone abbey built in 1200 fell into ruin.

The place where the St. Matthew's pilgrims will be staying on Iona is called the MacLeod Center, named for the man who helped revive this important place and make it once again alive with God. In 1938, Fr. George MacLeod was inspired to begin restoring the abbey. The restoration was completed in 1960 and today Iona hosts hundreds of pilgrims a year who come seeking to spend time with the Lord and to explore the earliest roots of Christianity in the British Isles.

If there is one thing that God teaches us, both in the Bible and through our brothers and sisters in Christ, it is that just a few people can make a difference, so long as they have faith in God, persistence, and the will to plunge ahead with endeavors that, to many, may seem foolish. At Iona, our St. Matthew's youth will be in a place that exists because over the centuries people from Columba to Fr. George MacLeod had that kind of faith. Even better, these 15 young women and men, and the adults going with them, will be able to share this experience with you, our church family, to the enrichment of all. We will come back transformed.

For more information about Iona and its history, be sure to check out the Iona Community's excellent web site, [www.ionacommunity.org.uk](http://www.ionacommunity.org.uk). If you think God might be calling you to a deeper involvement with the youth ministry, talk to Eric Liles or any member of the youth ministry team.

## Brisket for a Good Cause

Torre and Ricci Shanks invite you to purchase a brisket to benefit the Anderson High School Cheerleaders Booster Club. Briskets prepared by our own Holy Smokers may be ordered by calling 346-9951. Each brisket is \$45 and pickup dates will be May 21 and 22, June 25 and 26. St. Matthew's supports Anderson High School and its activities through the Partners in Education Program.

## May Youth News

by Eric Liles, Youth Minister

I can hardly believe summer is almost here. We have some cool events planned, so be sure to check them out. Flamingos are disappearing on May 18th, to be seen again in the distant future. Thanks to everyone who flocked, got flocked, and especially to those who moved those crazy birds around for the past three months. I was very pleased to see new friendships formed between our youth and adults in the congregation, and hope more of this will continue to happen. We all have so much in common; all it takes is a few minutes to meet some one new!

Be sure to read Jay Robison's article on Iona, in this issue, as it is full of great information. We have several seniors to pray blessings upon. Parents of Seniors please respond to the request for information about your seniors in this issue.

On a personal note, it's amazing to think this is my 3rd summer here at St. Matthew's. As I reflect on the incredible ministry that has happened in the youth group here, all I can do is praise God. Philippians 1:3 "I thank my God every time I remember you." Feel free to call with any questions about the ministry.

God's Peace,  
Eric  
office 345-8314 ext 232  
cell 799-2638  
[eric@stmattsaustin.org](mailto:eric@stmattsaustin.org)

## Attention Parents of Graduating Seniors!

If your child is graduating soon from high school or college, please let us know so that we include him/her in the June issue of *The Word*. Call 345-8314 or email [betty@stmattsaustin.org](mailto:betty@stmattsaustin.org) with information on your child and a daytime phone number where we may call you if necessary.

## Youth Ministry Calendar May-August

May 1	Youth Council Meeting 7-9pm
May 4	Sunday Morning Youth Group 9-10:15 a.m. Church 10:30-11:45 a.m. Pilgrims meet after church until 1 p.m. (lunch provided) Confirmations Class 4-5:30 p.m.
May 7	Youth Group Pizza Night and Birthday celebrations
May 11	Sunday Morning Youth Group 9-10:15 a.m. Church 10:30-11:45 a.m. Confirmations Class 4-5:30 p.m.
May 14	Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m. (J2A Class walking Labyrinth)
May 17	Confirmation Retreat 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
May 18	Sunday Morning Youth Group 9-10:15 a.m. Church 10:30-11:45 a.m. Movie Night 6-8:30 p.m.
May 21	Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m.
May 25	Sunday Morning Youth Group, parties/games Church 10:30-11:45 <i>Confirmation!</i>
May 28	Youth Group Summer Kick Off Party (last one until August 20th)
May 31	J2A Fasting/ Prayer retreat 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
June 1	9-10:15 J2A Potluck Breakfast, no Rite 13/6th grade Church 10:30-11:45 a.m.
June 5	Youth Council Meeting 7-9 p.m. (last one until September)
June 8	Pentecost, church and celebration (Pilgrimage Send off)
June 13-21	J2A Pilgrimage to Iona! <i>Pray for us!</i>
June 15	Summer Sunday Morning Youth Group Starts (J2A gone)
June 17	Zilker Park with Lucy 1-4 p.m. meet at Volleyball Courts, bring kites
June 19	Brown Bag (bring your lunch) Bible Study with Lucy 11-1 in Agape
June 22-26	VBS (Vacation Bible School)
June 23-28	CLC (Christian Leadership Conference)
July 5-12	Merrill and Eric at Camp Allen for Middler Session N
July 15	Schlitterbahn Trip leave 9 a.m. return 9 p.m., bring \$25 for admission, and money for food, meal bands are \$6, we will stop for dinner coming back. Brings lots of friends, we need lots of drivers, and permission slips!
July 19-25	CSM (Center for Student Mission) Trip to Houston
August 17	Last Summer Sunday Morning Youth Group (Time to switch!)
August 20	Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m., welcome back, yea!
August 24	Ministry Fair, sign up for classes, meet your new teachers
August 31	9-10:15 a.m. First Fall Sunday Morning Youth Group

## Alleluia!

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister

"No, no, Miss Lynn, don't say it!" What was our catechist (teacher) telling our children in Sunday School that caused the children to stop her? Do you remember when our children took "alleluias," packed them away, and together with the rest of the parish, "buried" them, at the beginning of Lent? The children remembered it, too. And then, when Lynn Smith and her fellow catechists used the word "alleluia" in the weeks during Lent while proclaiming that Christ has died and Christ is risen, and wondered with the children how the Jewish people of Jesus' day responded, the children couldn't bear to have the "alleluia" said!

Being told information, or reading it, are two ways to learn, yet we all know that the best learning takes place when something is actually experienced. By taking their own created "alleluias" and physically putting them away, our children better identified with the historical Jesus and better internalized the significance of the Lenten season.

Throughout the year our children have had the opportunity to experience both Scripture and liturgy through many "hands on" experiences! Just to walk into their classrooms is like walking into the middle of the Bible or into the middle of the liturgy, since the rooms are filled with age-appropriate sensory materials. Each material relates to sacred history (God making himself known to his people), to parables (exploring the mysteries of God's kingdom), or to liturgy

(the work of the community of people seeking to meet God in worship). These materials allow the children to hear and read and retell the story of God and God's people, internalizing it for themselves and vividly linking themselves to God's plan for all people, past, present, and future. Such variety of materials also recognizes and respects the multiple temperaments, intelligences, and learning styles of the children.<sup>1</sup>

With such rich experiences, it's been a great year for both our children and teachers. In these last few weeks of Sunday School, the Level I class will focus on Baptism, thinking about the Light that came into the world when Jesus was born, was extinguished when Jesus died, and was rekindled with new power at his resurrection, that very Light being given to us at our baptisms. Level II will work with more materials related to both the natural and eucharistic gifts of God's kingdom, while Level III will conclude with its weekly reading and discussion of the day's Gospel.

All classes will have parties to celebrate this moment of transition in their fellowship. Each of the two younger classes will have a "Playground Party," during Sunday School; Level III is planning a "Park Party" on the afternoon of May 18. Watch for details.

<sup>1</sup>Heath, C.L., (2000). Personal communication: *Godly play: A creative approach to spiritual growth.*

## Announcing Our Super Summer Sundays

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister

"The Sheepfold: Celebrating God's Family!" is the theme of this year's Super Summer Sunday School, ages 3 years - 5th grade Using great literature, we'll read about families from all over the world, and study them for both commonalities and unique features, especially exemplary character qualities (i.e., perseverance, resourcefulness, courage, respect, forgiveness, empathy, gratitude). We'll follow up with culturally related music, art, and cooking. Share your children's gently used and greatly loved titles with a new generation of learners!

## Children's Ministry Calendar – April 2003

May 4	9:00 AM Opening Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Primary and *Children's chapels
May 11	9:00 AM Opening Service 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Primary and *Children's chapels; Elementary children sing during Communion
May 18	9:00 AM Final Opening Service 9:15 AM Final Sunday School 10:30 AM Primary and Children's chapels
May 21	5:45 PM VBS planning meeting Room B-13 7:00 p.m. Children's Council Meeting B-16
May 25	No Children's or Adults' Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Primary and Children's chapels

\*Children grades 1-3 will rehearse for May 11 during chapel; interested 4/5th graders are invited to join them

### Looking Ahead

Feast of the Holy Spirit: Pentecost, June 8  
First Super Summer Sunday School, June 15  
VBS: More Than a Summer Blast, June 22-26  
Regional Training Program: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, July 7-11  
Job Cards, July & August  
Orientation sessions for Levels I & II Sunday School, August  
Final Super Summer Sunday School, August 17  
Ministry Fair, August 24  
First Fall Sunday School, August 31

## Children's Books Needed for Summer Sunday School Program

Donate or loan\* your children's outgrown, gently used and greatly loved inspirational titles. Examples: *Mama, Do You Love Me?*, *Loving, Everybody Cooks Rice*, *The Kapok Tree*, *The Old Turtle*; series, such as Wally McDoogie, the Hardy Boys (earlier titles, particularly), *Frog and Toad*, and *The Chronicles of Narnia*; Madeleine L'Engle titles, *Families are Different*; especially high interest for boys, hi-lo books, all genre are encouraged!

Drop off: Huffman Hall or Children's Ministry Office.

Questions: Barbara Pitts, 345-8314, ext. 221.

\*Lending assumes a risk.

**Musicians Needed!** Vacation Bible School is in need of musicians! You do not have to have a PhD or a degree in music to help us with this. You just have to love kids and music and be able to somewhat carry a tune. If you are interested, please give Heather a call today at 481-9343.

## Vacation Bible School Parish-Wide Events

by Heather Harmon, VBS Director

In conjunction with Vacation Bible School, we are offering two parish-wide events. You do not have to be attending Vacation Bible School to come to these events. We would love for the whole parish to come!

There is a parish wide lunch (catered by the Holy Smokers) to celebrate the start of Vacation Bible School on Sunday, June 22 directly after the 10:30 service. The cost is \$5 per person (kids 2 and under are free). This price includes food and entertainment costs. Tickets are available at the VBS booth in the church Commons.

On Thursday, June 26, we will have another parish-wide event. Again, you do not have to be attending Vacation Bible School in the morning to come to this awesome evening event. We will start at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary with a special worship service. Then we will move into Huffman Hall for ice cream sundaes. This event is free for everyone.

We would love to see everyone at these two great events. If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Heather at 418-9343.

## Please Welcome Jennifer Baskett

By Barbara Pitts

If you haven't had the pleasure of meeting her yet, please make the time to meet our new Children's Ministry Assistant, Jennifer Baskett. Working 13 hours a week, Jennifer has hit the ground running, helping to oversee the Children's office during the week as well as Sunday morning programs. Although Jennifer grew up attending Quaker meetings, as an adult she became an Episcopalian, first visiting St. Matthew's after moving to Austin with her husband, Harold.

Jennifer is at ease with children and adults alike, and has a relaxed and ready smile for all she meets. She is very interested in people and enjoys writing in her spare time. We are very blessed to have her in our midst!

## More Than a Summer Blast 2003: The Saints of God

### Vacation Bible School Registration Coming Soon

Vacation Bible School registration for children ages 3 through rising 7th graders will begin May 4th! Registration forms, medical forms, informational flyers, and people to answer all your questions will be available to you every Sunday in the Commons before and after church until the week of Vacation Bible School. Please feel free to take extra forms to spread the word to neighbors and friends!

Vacation Bible School will include a kick-off lunch for the whole parish on Sunday, June 22; a Monday-Thursday morning program from 9:00- 12:00; and a Thursday night, parish wide event. There will also be take home bags again this year.

Registration for the weekday program will cost \$25 (\$100 family cap; scholarships are available). This fee includes a T-shirt, weekday snacks, weekday crafts, and four days of awesome Bible School fun! Please register by May 25 if you want to guarantee your child's T-shirt size. All children will receive a T-shirt regardless of when they register, but only those who register by May 25th will be guaranteed a T-shirt in their exact size.

If you cannot make the weekday program, but want to come to the parish-wide events, you may purchase tickets for

those at the VBS registration table. The cost is \$5 per person for the Sunday lunch and free (donations accepted) for the Thursday night event.

Take-home bags will cost \$5 again this year. Take-home bags include daily lessons and arts and crafts from the week. You may order take-home bags at the registration table as well.

Are you a working parent who cannot take their kids to VBS, but would like them to attend? Just come talk to Heather, and we can figure out a solution for you.

Volunteer forms will also be available at the registration table. Anyone from rising 7th to senior citizen is eligible to be a volunteer for Vacation Bible School. If you are unsure of how you can help, just ask— we can find the perfect place for you and your talents.

If you have any questions, stop by the registration table in the Commons or feel free to contact Heather Harmon at hookem02@texas.net or at 418-9343.

We look forward to seeing all of you at More Than A Summer Blast 2003: The Saints of God.

## Matthew's Day School Report

by Kay Ballard, School Board Member

As always, the Spring for St. Matthew's Day School is filled with lots of learning about God's continual re-creation of life. Students observe that trees and flowers are budding, animals are multiplying, and the tomb is empty! Hallelujah! It is a joy to watch their enthusiasm for discovering.

A fundraiser, La Noche, was held for the School on March 28. It was highly successful; our gratitude goes out to parents, teachers, and others who worked so diligently to prepare for it. Thank you to church members, also, who supported La Noche. It was a great night to meet each other and celebrate our precious little ones.

On April 23rd, students enjoyed a VIP Day by inviting special people in their lives — grandparents, godparents, and other favorite adults — to visit their classrooms and share in their Flowering of the Cross chapel service. It was a blessing for all participants.

Events in May are:

Father's Night, May 7, 5:30-7:00 p.m., pizza, friends, crafts, etc.

Graduation, May 22, 9:15 a.m., celebrating students passing into first grade

Anyone interested in attending a school event is invited to call the school office for details. Showing support for our extended St. Matthew's family is encouraged, and your heart is sure to be filled with joy by the experience.

## Children's Summer Sunday School — Is it Your Turn?

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister

You say you haven't worked with the kids for a while, but admit they would energize you, while at the same time you would be getting to build community? Well, not only do we have a stimulating program designed this year, we also have a volunteer plan to fit *your* summer vacation schedule, so you can help — you simply commit to three weeks in June (15, 22, 29) or August (3, 10, 17) or the four Sundays of July - we do the rest! Not able to work on Sundays but want to help? We need you, too! Pray now and call Barbara Pitts, 345-8314, ext. 221.

### "Secret Service"

- Help **set up** for the summer program; 5 hours per week of June 9-13
- Help **break down** the classrooms at the end of the summer session; 4 hours per week of August 18-22
- **Organize** the donated and purchased books for each age level; 3-4 hours per week of June 9-13

### Summer Shepherds

- Help Children's Ministry Assistant set up weekly breakfast and help supervise playground; help transition children to basement; during classes — float, fill in, and run errands; no prep time; 8:45-10:30 during June, July, or August

### Age-level "Family Heads"

3 and 4 Year-Olds; K and 1st grade;  
2 and 3rd grade; 4 and 5th grade

- **Story teller** — read and guide discussion; help with playground, day's activity and daily clean up; prep time=45 minutes; 8:50-10:30 during June, July, or August

- **Activities leader** — supervise the day's game, art project, music, drama, or cooking; help with story time and clean up; prep time=30 minutes; 8:50-10:30 during June, July, or August

### Host/Hostess

- **Snack coordinators** — 2 people to distribute snacks to each age-level "Family," get ice; clean up; no prep time; 9:30-10:30 during June, July, or August

### Quilters:

- Work with Glenda Brown and committee to supervise making of quilt squares and quilt during July and August; prep time and scheduling TBD

### Age-level Chapel Ministers

3yrs-K; 1-3rd grade

- **Lead minister** — lead session; lead transition from Chapel up to Service; prep time=30 minutes; 10:20-11:10, one Sunday each of June, July, and August (assigned 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Sunday of the month)
- **Assisting ministers** — two individuals to lead transition from Sunday School to Chapel; help leader with songs and activities, take children to bathroom as needed; teenagers welcome; no prep time; 10:20-11:10, one Sunday each of June, July, and August (assigned 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Sunday of the month)

## Senior Sentences

by Lucy Boyea, Minister of Senior Activities

The month of May is traditionally, Older Americans' Month. We are living longer! Inexorably the mean age of our society is moving higher and higher. We need to address our aging as an aspect of the human experience that will best be reflected upon by men and women who do not seek to deny its reality for themselves. This generation of "elders" is a gifted one which has experienced and caused more social change than any in history.

One way of approaching this new situation is to speak of three periods in one's life, the Three Ages of a person. The First Age gives us the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills, to grow in the use of head, hands and heart. The Second Age is marked by autonomy and certain fundamental choices—a time to contribute to society and our culture through work for which we have been prepared.

In the Third Age, one can consciously decide what to do rather than let circumstances completely dominate the agenda. In "Affirmative Aging," a 1985 publication of the Episcopal Society for Ministry on Aging, a statement is made that the church has no approaches to education and personal development for the Third Age on its agenda. How fortunate we at St. Matthew's are to disprove that statement! Won't you affirm your role as a "Third Ager" by standing up and being recognized at the 10:30 a.m. service on May 11, Senior Sunday? Remember that we are called by our Lord to live life more abundantly. This must define our ethic for the Third Age!

It takes a <sup>parish</sup> village to rear a child.



### March 2003 Financial Statement

	CURRENT MONTH		YEAR-TO-DATE	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Plate & Pledges	\$70,379	\$75,838	\$205,132	\$225,172
Total Income	75,715	82,508	240,472	243,659
Total Expenses	80,190	87,410	226,823	261,481
Diff. of Income vs. Expenses	(\$4,475)	(\$4,902)	\$13,649	(\$17,822)

Indebtedness as of March 31, 2003 \$0.00

## Birthdays

### May

- 2 Michele Mann, Ashley Nicholson, Kathy Wood
- 3 Marsha Caven, Nancy Mallory, Mason Pownall
- 4 Liz Canby, Dyke Miller, Lavanne Scott
- 5 Jane Buerchner, Mary Hargrove, Mary Kay Schultz, Nancy Stevens
- 6 Patrick Graham, Debbie Marshall, Betty Mitchell, William Moncure, Rebecca Smith
- 8 Susan Onion
- 9 Clayton Dorsey
- 10 Leslie Hay, Katherine Magee
- 11 Troy Squires
- 12 Tyler Tinker
- 13 Garrett Hale, Elizabeth Hart
- 14 Jerry Ballard, Don Magee, Liz Robinson, Audrey Wilkes
- 15 Barbara Cauley, Randy Reynolds
- 16 Kathy Howard, Joel McAdams
- 17 John Ekerdt, Jeri Muhich, Katharine Price, Jordan Scanland
- 18 Henry Krystow, Anne Urban
- 19 Ryan Steed
- 20 Rose Ireland, Margaret Parker
- 21 Rebekah Urban, Rachael Varnado
- 22 Davis Bushong, Andrew Caven, Jim Newman, Dana Young
- 23 Jo C. Hall
- 24 Joanne Cage, Kristen Feeley, Timothy Harakal, Mason Johns
- 25 David Harakal, Charla Levy
- 26 Bill Donnell, Taylor Gilpin
- 27 Halston Brown, Christine Joannidi, Aaron Lemke, Connie McLendon, Sylvie Preston, Jim Schultz
- 28 Florence McCants, Gradi Sterling
- 29 Petra Brock, Kimberly Christian, Sharon Lowe, Kathryn Miller, Alison Street
- 30 Ruth Herbert
- 31 Dakota Rankine

### June

- 1 David Luce, Scott Rankine
- 2 Martha Webb
- 3 Lynn Smith
- 4 David Houston
- 5 Erin Buerchner, Rob Tomisak
- 6 Virginia Shotts
- 7 Dean Busboom, Anna Dodge, Caroline Neale, Dan Wilkins

## Thank You from Caritas

Dear Rev. Wade and Friends,

Thank you and your congregation for your recent contribution of \$500 to Caritas of Austin. Your support helps us continue our work of assisting with basic needs in times of crisis. For the last thirty-nine years, Caritas of Austin has been a resource for individuals and families during financial crisis. This fiscal year alone, Caritas will have assisted more than 14,700 Travis County children and adults. These clients receive a variety of services ranging from a hot meal in our Loaves and Fishes Community Kitchen, to rental and utility assistance through our Community Support Program; to skill-building classes through our Learn and Earn Program.

At Caritas, we envision a community of hope, respect and self-reliance. Your gift works to help make these concepts reality. Because of the support from our friends in the community, we have been able to grow and expand our programs over the years to better serve those in need. Your generosity is an important part of this work.

Thank you for sharing our vision. Together we will make a significant difference in the lives of many.

Sincerely,

Julia Spann  
Executive Director

Molly Stoff  
Development Associate

## Births

*William Gamble Ward,*  
son of Missy and Allen Ward,  
was born on April 14, 2003.

*Brandon Gregory Wright,*  
son of Marilyn and Kenneth Wright,  
was born on April 27, 2003.

## New Members

Laura Ann Mecanick

Colleen and Buddy Hagman  
Meagan, Drake, Jessica and Karen

## Deaths

Maxine Polk,  
mother of Darryl Polk,  
died March 20

Joseph Barbella,  
father of Marti Price,  
died April 4

Maud James,  
mother of Marguerita Chapman,  
died April 22

## Baptisms

*Carrie France Biggar*

*Catherine Claire Biggar,*  
daughter of Carrie and Craig Biggar

*Nathaniel Field Lawrence,*  
son of Heather and Tim Lawrence

*Meagan Conleigh Hagman,*  
daughter of Colleen and Buddy Hagman

*Drake Stiles Hagman,*  
son of Colleen and Buddy Hagman

*Ethan Joseph Henning,*  
son of Gina and Franz Henning

*Lucy Addison Smith,*  
daughter of Jill and Greg Smith

*Elena Kate Venincasa,*  
daughter of Emily and Paul Venincasa

*Alec Ryan Venincasa,*  
son of Emily and Paul Venincasa

*Mitchell Evan Venincasa,*  
son of Emily and Paul Venincasa

# the st. matthew's word

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## Worship Schedule

### *Sunday*

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

### *Wednesday*

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

### *Daily*

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

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

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

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

**Friday, May 16, 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*

## 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