

# the st. matthew's word

## *Inquire Within: Notes From The Rector*

I am so happy to be at St. Matthew's! I sincerely appreciate the welcome the Wade Family has received and continues to receive here at St. Matthew's. I told a parishioner this afternoon that I am certain that God called me here and that it is my real desire to be here for a long time. Conventional wisdom is that the first 3-5 years can be exciting and fruitful but that the best years of ministry follow thereafter when levels of trust and respect have developed sufficiently for the Holy Spirit to reach deeply into our hearts and minds. In the meantime, let's continue to work together in building solid relationships based on love, playfulness, respect, trust and open communication.

I have been overwhelmed by the response to my adult class on Sunday mornings. It is truly a privilege to teach the Scriptures to so many attentive, hungry adult learners. You have impressed me with your presence, intellect and faith. One of the reasons I am teaching this class on the Synoptic Gospels is because I think it is crucial for lay persons to be exposed to the Gospels with the same methodology that clergy are taught in seminary. I remind you that I will teach the Class on the Synoptic Gospels until October 6 and thereafter we will move into a variety of adult classes described elsewhere in this newsletter.

On Wednesday, October 23, I will begin my Inquirer's Class for those new to St. Matthew's or the Episcopal Church. 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. For those who want to join the church, they will be prepared for confirmation which will take place when Bishop Claude Payne visits on Sunday, December 8. Confirmation by an

**Inquirer's Class to Begin Soon:  
Register Now!**

**When** ..... Begins Wednesday, October 23

**Where** ..... Room B-18 in the Church Basement

**What Time** ... 7:00 until 8:15 p.m.

**Lasts** ..... 7 weeks

**Sign Up** ..... At the Welcome Table in the Commons on Sundays or call the Church Office during the week (345-8314)

**Questions** ..... Call Dedee Norman at 345-8314 x 229

Episcopal Bishop is expected of every adult baptized member of the church. If someone 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). As you well know, the word Episcopal simply means "Bishop," and it is a fundamental

part of our identity that our clergy be ordained by Bishops and that our laity be confirmed by Bishops. The Bishop is a sign of the unity that we have with all other Episcopalians around the world.



The sacramental action of Confirmation is, of course, rooted in our Holy Baptism, which marks us as Christ's own forever, and is the essential action which marks our unity with all Christian believers, wherever or whoever they are. Perhaps you have been made a member of St. Matthew's without confirmation. If so, please join us in the Inquirer's Class. By all means speak to me or Dedee Norman if you desire to be confirmed. I believe we, as Episcopalians, need to be and feel connected, symbolically through our Bishop, with millions of other Episcopalians around the world. We don't just belong to St. Matthew's, we belong to the Episcopal Church!

I recently met with Bishop Payne and he shared the Vision of the Diocese of Texas. At the core of our vision is that we are "one church," whether we attend St. Matthew's, Austin, or San Mateo, Houston or any other Episcopal Church in this Diocese. We are "one church" that seeks, in the uniqueness of each of our congregations, to create opportunities for health and growth in our congregations and in our membership. We want to reach out to the unchurched with a clear message that God is love and that Jesus Christ can be trusted. As much as I am excited about being your new Rector, I am

*continued on page 2...*

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also pleased to be serving in a new diocese with a clear and compelling vision.

I want to thank Eric Liles and the Youth Groups of St. Matthew's for welcoming me into their fellowship this month on a Wednesday night. It was a deeply spiritual experience for me to be with them and I sincerely appreciate the work they are doing together, seeking to know Christ and to make him known!

Finally, I want to thank the parish for my Celebration of a New Ministry that will be occurring after these words have been sent to the printer for publication. Thank you in advance and please know that proper acknowledgments will be forthcoming!

Faithfully,

Merrill



## A Letter From the Senior Warden

by Jack Eccles

In the next few weeks the Vestry of St. Matthew's, through its Stewardship Commission, will ask you to pledge to support your church for the year 2003. The Finance Commission of the Vestry will soon be planning the budget for 2003. These are separate events but closely related.

Planning for this year (2002) in the fall of 2001 was particularly difficult as there were more than the usual unknown factors. We were in transition between an Interim Rector and a new Rector. We did not know when the new Rector would start or if there would be an immediate effect on contributions. We were also in the final three months of the agreement with our previous Rector. We also knew we would have additional expenses for the Search Committee and moving expenses for the new Rector. As it turned out, these extraordinary, one-time expenses amounted to approximately \$50,000.

The Vestry felt it very important that we fulfill our obligation in the area of Outreach and committed to the full funding of \$91,617 for Missionary Asking to the Diocese and voted to contribute \$10,000 to the Missionary work of the National Church. The total amount budgeted for outreach for 2002 was \$138,367.

This resulted in the approval of a "Faith" Budget meaning we budgeted a deficit of \$115,000 with the intention of reviewing our progress on a quarterly basis. Sadly, we proved to be optimistic, as receipts have not been as expected. At the current time we are projecting a budget deficit of \$165,000 after having revised the budget and reduced expected expenditures.

There are a number of options the Vestry has to cover this shortfall. First, we can borrow short term from the bank. (We have no debt outstanding on our worship home or on the house we own on Honeysuckle Trail.) The Vestry and Finance Commission feel it important

we keep a strict differentiation between "Capital" and "Operating." Capital being our fixed assets and Operating being the costs of clergy, staff, utilities, outreach etc. We can, however, "borrow" from our capital account and repay it at a later time.

We have had the property on Honeysuckle Trail for about 12 years. Many of our clergy and lay people have occupied it over the last many years. However the need for it has passed. The Vestry approved the sale of the house and we now have it under a contract of sale for \$240,000. After improvement expenses, sales commissions and other expenses related to settlement, we will clear in excess of \$200,000.

Our sound system needs improvement and the vestry has approved funds to do so. Work will start on this project soon. This will cost about \$70,000. Of this amount, \$25,000 has been donated to help defray the cost. The rest will come from the sale of the house referred to above. The sale of the house (or short term borrowings) will, therefore, cover our operating deficit. It is important to emphasize, this is not a solution to our operating fund problems but only a temporary palliative to see us through until operating fund receipts improve.

St. Matthew's is a strong vibrant church with a dynamic vision. We have undertaken a number of projects this year including the Heifer Project, a love offering for Father Joe, the ordination of Susan Barnes and other projects that may have diverted funds from our operations. Although these things are important, we must all remember that while, contributing to the Operating Fund may lack excitement, we cannot open our doors for worship or ministries without it. Please pray about this as you consider your giving.

In His Name,  
Jack Eccles  
Senior Warden

## New Adult Education Offerings for Fall Semester

by Kathy Vail, Adult Education Council Chair

**B**eginning October 13, the Adult Education Council offers three new exciting classes for adults on Sunday mornings from 9:00 until 10:00 a.m.

The **Prayer Book Class** will be led by Susan Barnes, Merrill Wade and Chuck Huffman and will meet in Huffman Hall. The text of the class will be the *Book of Common Prayer* so if you have your own prayer book, please bring it with you to class. The class will run from Sunday, October 13 through Sunday, November 24 as follows:

October 13: For Corporate Worship  
- Holy Baptism and Eucharist, led by Chuck Huffman

October 20: For Community Life -  
Pastoral Offices, led by Susan Barnes

October 27: For Community Life  
- Episcopal Offices, led by Merrill Wade

November 3: For Mission and Social  
Action, led by Susan Barnes

November 10: For Christian  
Stewardship, led by Merrill Wade

November 17: For Personal or Small  
Group Devotions, led by Chuck Huffman

November 24: For Evangelism, led by  
Merrill Wade

### The Practical Aspects of Spirituality

seen through the lens of Scripture, Anthony de Mello, Gerald May, and others. This class will be led by Annelle and Russ Adams. Join them in Room B-14 for fellowship, singing and great discussion.

**Knowing God**, a Kerygma Bible study led by Dab Cauley, Holly Decherd and Kathy Vail in Room B-18. God's people carried questions about their creator which are mirrored in the Scriptures. They wondered: What is God's true nature? Can we trust God to be loving, fair and just? How can we know the unknowable God? We wonder too! Come explore these and other questions which shape our faithful inquiry yet today.



## REMINDER

Diocesan Episcopal Church  
Women's Annual Meeting  
at Camp Allen  
November 1 and 2, 2002

Registration Deadline is  
October 15

This is your opportunity to:

- ♦ Enlarge your circle of Christian women friends in the diocese
- ♦ Enrich your spiritual life
- ♦ Satisfy your shopping urge at the Christmas store
- ♦ Commune with nature
- ♦ Be away from home while your child is on a post-Halloween sugar high

For information please call  
Jo Ann Grandjean at 258-0661 or  
Peggy Ryder at 472-5679

## Senior Sentences

by Lucy A. Boyea,  
Minister of Senior Activities

**A**t our recent Ministry Fair I discovered that some members of our parish are suffering from an ailment which I have diagnosed as "Senior Phobia." People of all ages visited the Senior Activity Center display and were very complimentary about the activities SAC offers. They were impressed by the diversity of our programs and appreciative of the fact that SAC provides a valuable service which creates a strong presence in our community.

Rather to my surprise, an occasional visitor indicated a reluctance to be identified as a "senior." (For me, personally as the mother of three adult children and grandmother of five grandchildren ranging in age from nine to twenty-one years, I bear that designation proudly.) If you are suffering from "Senior Phobia," you might prefer the following designations I mentioned in a previous issue of *The Word*:

45-60 Middle years

60-75 Retirement years

75+ Senior years

Entry level for joining SAC is 55 years of age and you won't even have to acknowledge that you are a "Senior" for twenty years! Come and celebrate your maturity in the nurturing environment provided by the Senior Activity Center.

## Time for the Fall 2002 Ingathering of the United Thank Offering

by Shirley Ryfle

**T**he United Thank Offering is an outreach of the Episcopal Church sponsored by the ECW (Episcopal Church Women). The ingathering is when we empty our little blue United Thank Offering boxes and offer up a collection of thanksgiving to God for our many blessings.

This year our Fall Ingathering at St. Matthew's will be on Sunday, November 10. Don't forget to write your check to St. Matthew's with UTO at the bottom of the check and put it in the United Thank Offering blue basket when it is passed around after the regular collection plate. This offering will be used to support grants for ministries at home and overseas. Together we can make a difference.

## Be Thankful for New Beginnings

by Charlie Cole, Vestry and Stewardship Commission Member

As I sit down to write this on September 11, I humbly give thanks to God for all the new beginnings in my life. Only just a year ago, it seemed to me as if the world stood still. Our nation was still recovering from a long, drawn-out, and rather bitter Presidential election. After nearly a decade of continued growth, our economy had stalled. The company I worked for filed for bankruptcy and I, like hundreds of thousands around the nation, was out looking for a job. Then, to top it all off, while on a peaceful family vacation, tragedy struck New York, Washington, DC and Pennsylvania. Things did not look too good right then.

But somehow, I had hope, by Job. As with other challenging times in the past, I knew that no matter what happened it would all be ok. Because I, like you, have a fellow traveler right by my side, wherever I go. For Jesus will always be there, ready to serve as a guide, to provide support and to open doors to new beginnings, as long as we are open to His love and have faith in Him.

Looking back to a year ago, there is so much to be thankful for. Now that the "new" economy's bubble has fully burst, our nation has begun to right itself thanks to "old" economic principles. Ethics, not egos, are back where they should be, at the forefront of our daily lives. Instead of turning inward, more people seek out understanding of the world around them through the media, continued education and their places of worship. Looking back, I get a strong sense that with the event of this past year, God gave us a big opportunity to mature – to begin anew, as responsible stewards of what He has given us in this world.

Certainly we have a lot to be thankful for, especially right here at St. Matthew's

Episcopal Church. The Search Committee showed us all how, through mature and prayerful commitment, we can work together as one to accomplish a very challenging – and valuable – task. Father Joe showed us how to laugh, to love and to heal, while Susan Barnes, Eric Liles, Kathy Dugat and others helped us reach out to others outside of our parish. Our Day School staff and the many Sunday School volunteers continue to do outstanding work in Christian education. And now we have a great new rector in Merrill Wade. Already we have seen the impact his arrival has had on attendance and activity at Church.

You and I, as parishioners, play a big part in this success. Every Sunday we come together in Church to bear witness to Christ's teaching and sacrifice for us. By this very act we encourage others to join us in celebrating His Good News. We reach out to the community with special events like "Opening Our Hearts Through the Arts," by contributing to El Buen Samaritano and other organizations, and through our Senior Activity Center and a whole host of other programs. Yet there is so much more we can do as a Church, as a mature Body In Christ. We have said so in our own vision statement.

Christ calls each and every one of us to take a part in His life, to be good, mature stewards. To do so takes time, talent and money...resources that He provides to us. Resources we freely give to help accomplish his good works. As we kick off the 2003 Stewardship Program, I pray that you will give generously in support of all the good works St. Matthew's has to offer. Please join me, the Vestry and others by joining together and demonstrating our thanks to new beginnings.

## The Order of the Daughters of the King

Prayer Box by Louise Waddill

The Daughters of the King are women of prayer. Each member of The Order has made a lifelong commitment to A Rule of Life that includes daily prayer, study and meditation. As a part of our service to the parish, the DOK maintains an Intercessory Prayer List for anyone who desires prayers for yourself or a loved one. The DOK Intercessory Prayer List is separate from other parish prayer chains; however, we welcome your request even if it is also with another prayer chain. You may request our prayers by filling out a blue prayer card (found near the box) and dropping it in the Prayer Box located in the West entrance of the church on the table near the tape ministry box. Or, you may call our Prayer Captain, Barbara Borden, at 345-0727 or ask any member of the order. The DOK is grateful to David Petersen for designing and making the beautiful wooden prayer box.

### Men's Fellowship Meeting

Wednesday, October 9

Huffman Hall

5:30 p.m.

Dinner \$6

Speaker: The Rev. Merrill Wade

The Rector will speak on the organizational principles of his life: how he balances out his responsibilities to church, his family and to himself. Included in his talk will be the relationship between the several covenants in his life – his Baptismal Covenant, his Ordination Covenant and his Marriage Covenant.

Sign up in the Commons on Sunday or call the Church Office for reservations (345-8314)

### August 2002 Financial Statement

	CURRENT MONTH		YEAR-TO-DATE	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Plate & Pledges	\$58,380	\$57,156	\$524,091	\$520,466
Total Income	62,762	62,532	569,769	574,479
Total Expenses	80,938	86,854	673,958	755,616
Diff. of Income vs. Expenses	(\$18,176)	(\$24,322)	(\$104,189)	(\$181,137)

## What if Every Month Were "Stewardship Month"?

by Bob Ascott, Stewardship Commission Chair

For one month of the year, many churches like ours place a special emphasis on Stewardship as they attempt to encourage financial pledges to support ministry plans for the upcoming year. What would happen if we focused on Stewardship every day of our lives?

A "Stewardship-centric" view of the world suggests that every decision we make and every action we take is an act of Stewardship. Think about the day you are having: The act of rising in the morning is cause for thanksgiving for the night of rest and a decision on how to use the hours of the day that our God has given us.

What we eat is a decision on how to use the fruits of the abundant harvest of this country and how to care for the bodies that God has given us. At work, school or play we use the analytical and creative mental capabilities along with the physical capabilities that God has given us. (Sometimes we think that OUR hard work and cleverness has allowed us to achieve gains similar to or above others in the community. No, it is God's gifts that are the source of ALL our achievements.)

Our behavior towards family and friends is a direct act of stewardship for the

relationships God has put into our lives. Our children are special gifts from God where our stewardship actions will help shape the future of our world.

So during this month when our parish places special emphasis on Stewardship, please take the time to focus on the uncountable benefits provided by our God. Then, using the definition of Stewardship as "our response to the magnitude of God's love," please let your hearts be influenced by the words and prayers of this month as you make your financial commitment for 2003 to do God's work through His church of St. Matthew's.

Remember, it is how we respond to the magnitude of God's love in the acts of personal and financial stewardship that will have a major impact on the future of our community and the world. What if, through our financial stewardship, we could bring God into the lives of others so that they too could focus on the stewardship of the benefits provided by our God? What would our world look like if more of God's children made decisions based on being good stewards of the gifts of God rather than towards self-focused goals?

## A Message From El Buen Samaritano

Submitted by Tom Caven

El Buen Samaritano, the Good Samaritan Episcopal Mission, has broken ground on its new facility in South Austin! Fifteen years old this fall, we are celebrating our Quinceanera with a party at the new site, 7000 Woodhue, on October 19th from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m. We hope you can all join us for the food and fun!

El Buen Samaritano is a non-profit agency that focuses on the needs of working poor, Spanish-speaking families here in Central Texas. More than 18,000 people each year are served through our health clinic, food pantry, job training and really innovative leadership programs. El Buen Samaritano is the only non-profit in Austin that provides these integrated services to the community. In fact, our Promotores leadership program, has become so successful and well recognized, that we have been asked to

become the leader of an Austin, non-profit coalition, teaching others how to implement Promotores for the services they provide.

To enable El Buen Samaritano to continue to respond to the growing demand for our services, which has increased by more than 400% in the past four years alone, we are building a new, larger facility in South Austin. But we need your help to finish the job. A donation of any size will help us in our Episcopal Mission of first providing the basics skills and supplies people need to survive, then providing the opportunities and nurturing their spirits need to thrive. For more information, please contact Fr. Jaime Case at 441-7977 or Marianne Linde at 825-7832, or send a check for our Capital Campaign to El Buen Samaritano, 1919 South First Street, Austin, TX 78704.

## Youth News

by Eric Liles

"For I am convinced that nothing can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus." Amen!

Here is what is going on this month. If you have questions comments, or concerns, please contact me.

God's Peace,  
Eric

eric@stmattsaustin.org  
office 345-8314 ext. 232  
mobile 799-2638

## Youth Calendar for October

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Oct 2  | Pizza Night 7-8:30 p.m.   |
| Oct 3  | Youth Council Meeting 7-9 p.m.  |
| Oct 6  | Sunday Morning Youth Group<br>9-10:30 a.m.<br>Worship 10:30-12 noon<br>New Member Luncheon after church |
| Oct 9  | Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m.   |
| Oct 13 | Sunday Morning Youth Group<br>9-10:30 a.m.<br>Worship 10:30-12 noon                                     |
| Oct 16 | Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m.   |
| Oct 17 | Fall Parents meeting 7-8 p.m., Agape Building   |
| Oct 18 | Day School Fall Fest  |
| Oct 20 | Sunday Morning Youth Group<br>9-10:30 a.m.<br>Worship 10:30-12 noon                                     |
| Oct 23 | Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m.   |
| Oct 24 | LBJ vs Anderson, 7 p.m., House Park   |
| Oct 26 | Youth and Nursery Garage Sale   |
| Oct 27 | Sunday Morning Youth Group<br>9-10:30 a.m.<br>Worship 10:30-12 noon                                     |
| Oct 30 | Youth Group 7-8:30 p.m.   |
| Oct 31 | Anderson vs McCallum, 7 p.m.<br>House Park  |
| Nov 3  | Sunday Morning Youth Group<br>9-10:30 a.m.<br>Worship 10:30-12 noon<br>All Saints Day and Baptisms      |

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## From The Children's Council

by Ann Hart, Chair

**F**all Sunday School has begun beautifully for everyone. While adults fill Huffman Hall for our Rector's series on the Gospels, children take over the Sanctuary and half of the basement for their own Christian education. Returning students have adjusted to the slight changes in the morning schedule, and new children have jumped right in. Thanks to the many adults who help run the Children's program and thanks to the parents who faithfully bring their children at 9:00 for class every week. And parents, if you're rushed on Sunday mornings, please don't worry about your children's appearance. I promise you that their teachers are not put off by play clothes or messy hair--or even a few toast crumbs here or there! We love your children just as they are.

You may be interested to know that our Children's Minister, Barbara Pitts, has been asked by groups from other Austin churches to provide information and training on our curriculum, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This program is known all over the country, and we're blessed to have a certified trainer right here at St. Matthew's. Barbara will share her expertise with others as her schedule allows so that other children around town will have some of the opportunities for spiritual development that our kiddos have.

The Children's Council is an advisory committee set up to help the Children's Ministry staff develop and implement programs. Meetings are open to anyone interested in the Children's programs at St. Matthew's. Feel free to come and listen any time. If you'd like to add an item to the agenda, please call or e-mail the week before the meeting. If you are unable to attend our meetings but would like a copy of the minutes, please let me know. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m. Ann Hart (257-7130 or [ann-hart@austin.rr.com](mailto:ann-hart@austin.rr.com))

## St. Matthew's Day School News: Fall Fest Time

by Phil Hatlen

**I**t's hard to believe that it is already time for Fall Fest, an annual fund-raising event for St. Matthew's School. The date is October 18, and, as usual, it will be held on the campus of our church. If you've never attended a Fall Fest, I urge you to come on the 18th and enjoy good food, good music, good fellowship and many activities for children. This event is truly a family affair, so bring your children (there's plenty to do for adults who don't bring children, too) and enjoy the opportunity to experience the mingling of church members, school staff and parents and children of the school. Co-chairs for this great event are parents Cathylynn Brown and Lora Zarbach.

St. Matt's new school year is well underway, and staff and students are enjoying a great beginning. Director Pam Littlefield reports that enthusiastic and expert teachers have made the new year pleasant and exciting for the children.

The St. Matt's School Parent Organization has begun its second year. They are meeting regularly, and have added teacher representatives to their group. There are many activities planned for the school year. Our experience with having a Parent Organization makes us wonder why we waited so long to form it.

The school was involved in the Celebration of New Ministry, welcoming Rector Merrill Wade to St. Matthew's Church. What a pleasure it is to bring the school and the church together at these times! The staff, parents and School Board welcome our new Rector, who has already shown a deep and committed interest in the school. His wit, wisdom and guidance have already had a profound effect on the St. Matt's School Board.

Previous fund-raisers have made it possible for all of the St. Matt's School staff to attend the annual conference of the National Association of Episcopal Schools. It will be held in Houston, November 14-16. This is an exceptional opportunity for the school staff to participate in a staff development conference. We know that they will be blessed by this experience, and that they will return with many ideas about ways to further improve the education and spiritual growth of the school's children.

A strategic planning process continues to move ahead for the school. Board President Barbara Pitts began this project and now the chairperson is Board Member Kristin Fason. Stay tuned for future announcements regarding the Strategic Plan for St. Matthew's School.

Finally, I want to say that I am honored to serve as the Vestry liaison to the St. Matthew's School Board. I only wish that more of you could know the members of the Board—they are truly a dedicated and effective group, and they are deeply committed to the continued close and supportive relationship between church and school. After all, we are really one.



## Now, Tell Me Again about the Pilgrimage!

Submitted by Susan Barnes

*Dear Ones, since many of you took part in the "ransom" of Merrill on St. Matthew's Sunday, we thought you might want to read again the piece Clive wrote last summer about the Journey to Adulthood Pilgrimage that the ransom will help to fund. —Susan*

### Youth Pilgrimage Summer 2003

by Clive Smith

Long before the notion of vacations, holidays, and mission trips, individuals within the Christian tradition have set out to see the places where our Lord and his saints walked, slept, prayed and preached the Good News. Individuals confront the struggles of travel in unknown territory, as well as all the demands of living as a pilgrim community for the time of their journey. In the midst of all that these tasks entail, there is the possibility of tremendous joy and laughter and growth — and the chance to meet the Lord in new and deeply personal ways.

In the Journey to Adulthood program, pilgrimage is a central feature in our ministry to young people. The graduating J2A class travels to a "distant land" in search of God and their own destinies. Preparing for this trip entails a tremendous amount of time and energy in the preceding year. Fund raising, medical releases, applying for passports, learning about the country to which we plan to travel, all takes time, but it will be time well spent.

We are planning to take the graduating class to Britain in the summer of 2003 and for many of them it will be the first time that they have traveled across the ocean without parents or schoolteachers. All these dynamics together create an atmosphere in which God can move in new and exciting ways.

Pilgrimage is neither a vacation, nor a sightseeing tour, nor a mission trip. Pilgrimage is the time we set aside to journey in the footsteps of the faithful Christians who have gone before us. By mindfully walking in their footsteps, we put ourselves in touch with our tradition, our roots, our God.

Pilgrimage is a time for seeking and finding God in new ways. Once all the normal activities, relationships, and obligations which sustain our day-to-day lives are removed, we are free to look again at our

understanding of God and our need for His grace and presence in our lives.

The blessings of pilgrimage can take time. It may not always be while we are on pilgrimage that its true effects show. The very fact that we are away for a couple of weeks helps, but what happens on pilgrimage has to be processed in the life to which we must all return. Time will show that the long-term effects are profound — it is a journey which changes lives.

### Fundraising

The task of raising money is especially meaningful and important, because it allows young people to see first hand how difficult it can be to earn enough money for something they deeply desire.

We will be planning several fund-raising efforts over the following several months before next summer, an effort in which we earnestly hope the entire congregation will participate. The first of these will be a "kidnapping" of one or more of our more eligible and "ransomable" leaders of our Church Community, including, but not limited to our priests, wardens, Sunday school teachers, etc. The "victim" or "victims" shall not be released until a sufficient amount has been raised to effect their "freedom." The entire exercise will be carried out by our youth, under supervision of the Youth Leaders.

Other fund-raising plans include a garage sale, bake sale, car-washes, parents' night out, and more. Through all these activities, we hope to raise enough money to cover a substantial part of the cost for each participant, as well as monies for scholarships for those who may not otherwise be able to afford the trip.

Please get acquainted with our youth — they are a marvelous resource in our community with whom I have been privileged to share my meager knowledge of the Bible and its application in our lives, and also from whom I am learning so much more than I could have expected.

If you need more information about the youth pilgrimage 2003, please contact Kristi Robison, Judy DeWitt, The Rev. Susan Barnes, or Clive Smith.

## Getting to Know Our Office Staff

by Debbie Meleski, Personnel Commission Chair

Who are the people behind the scenes at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church? Have you ever wondered who runs the ship Monday through Friday? When you call the Church Office during the week, it is the cheerful greeting of Administrative Assistant Barbara Haynes you hear.

I asked Barbara a few questions and here are her answers.

*How long have you worked at St. Matthew's and what are your primary responsibilities?*

"I have been here about two years. My primary responsibilities are answering the phone and helping with pastoral care calls."

*Describe something funny that happened while working at St. Matthew's:*

"Watching the squirrels carry off a huge biscuit left over from the men's breakfast group."

*It's a good day when...*

"I can see the squirrels playing and hear the birds chirping. Also, when I see God answering a prayer for someone, including myself."

*It's a bad day when...*

"There really are no bad days at St. Matthew's."

*Where did you grow up?*

"Cleveland, Ohio and Southern California."

*Who has been a role model in your life and why?*

"Susan Barnes, she is so accepting of all, and so strong in her beliefs."

*What is a favorite Bible passage?*

"Romans 8:28 which says, And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to his purpose."

*What is one of your favorite foods?*

"Chocolate, and then chocolate and occasionally chocolate!"

*Name two reasons why you enjoy working at St. Matthew's.*

"Meeting people and receiving first hand the love that comes from the members. I am Blessed."

As I write this, both Barbara Haynes and Margaret Carpenter are attending a women's Kairos ministry program. This is a ministry to women in prison and the staff who work with them. Ask Barbara about Kairos if you are interested. Thanks Barbara for sharing part of your life with us. The November issue of *The Word* will spotlight Eric Liles, Youth Minister.

## A Wonderful Beginning

by Barbara Pitts, Children's Minister

What a fun time this fall has been for Children's Ministry! We have initiated a new Sunday morning schedule with an Opening Service for all children, followed by Sunday School, Chapel, and transition into the church service. Continuity between each of these elements every week is a priority, as we seek to help our children live in an experience of how "going to church" can help deepen and sustain their relationships with God.

During the Opening Service our 3-year old through 5th grade children gather in the Church with their teachers for an experience with liturgy and familiarization with our worship space. In September, we initiated this service by proclaiming that when we spend time with God, it is like the most special gift, not only for us, but also for God. We also talked about who our church is named after and who St. Matthew was, and we prepared for the late September baptisms. In October, we shall orient ourselves to our worship environment by identifying different parts of the physical space.

In Sunday School, Level I (3-years through Kindergarten) first-year children will be introduced to the Good Shepherd, who knows and calls each sheep by name. Second and third year children will have the opportunity to expand their understanding of the Good Shepherd's love and protection. Level II (1st through 3rd grade) children will continue the creation series of lessons begun in September, which were designed to help the children see God's love for them through the divine plan of creation. The lessons will then turn to focus on the parable of the Wolf and the Hired Hand. In this parable, a contrast is made between the way a hired hand would not be invested in the welfare of the sheep and the way the Good Shepherd is completely invested, so much so that He will give his very life for His sheep. Level III (4th and 5th grade) lessons follow the Sunday Gospel readings. During October, the lessons focus on fruitfulness: receiving Jesus; the banquet of plenty and the reign of God;

trusting in God alone (stewardship); and the priority of love.

Chapel services this year, designed for the 3-year old through 3rd grade children, build on the Sunday School lesson of the day and incorporate an opportunity for the children to respond to God through music. Not only does chapel reach back to connect with the Sunday School lessons, it reaches forward to help the children transition into the Liturgy of the Eucharist, as a continuation of their special morning with God.

As you can imagine, this program takes much thought and planning. In addition to the work of the Children's Council, the following individuals are currently involved as Shepherds, Sunday School teachers, and Chapel leaders. Please pray for each of these adults, as well as for our children and their spiritual formation.

### Program Shepherds

Ann Hart and Martha Schorre

### Sunday School Teachers

*Level I Lead Teacher:* Stephanie McCollum

*Co-lead Teacher:* Kerrie Qualtrough

*Assistants:* C.J. Carl, Marilyn Cole, Lisa

Ottenbacher, Patti Shannon, Clarissa Vasquez

*Level II Lead Teachers:* Colleen Hale, Lynn Smith

*Assistants:* Bill Brooke, JoAnn Grandjean,

Jane Preston, Stacie Veith, Alina Wasmuth

*Level III Lead Teachers:* Shannon Magee,

Amanda Fowle

### Chapel

*Primary & Children's Presiders and*

*Musicians:* Allison Dady, Bella Scanland,

Beth Ann Sikes, Heather Harmon,

Jason Somerville, Judy Bomar, Lisa

Ottenbacher, Lisa Thompson, Marilyn

Cole, Martha Webb, Vicky Dettman,

Kathy Morris

*Assistants:* C.J. Carl, Michael Hart

## Austin Civic Orchestra Presentation: Sunday, November 3

*MUSIQUE "A LA CARTE" CONCERT-- with  
Soloist Hai Zheng*

*What:* The ACO continues its 26th season with a unique concert highlighting pieces from larger works that can stand on their own, served "a la carte."

*When:* Sunday, Nov. 3, 2002 at 3:00 p.m.

*Where:* St. Matthew's Church

*How Much:* Admission \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors & students, and \$3 for children. Tickets will be available at the door.

*More Info:* For more information, visit [www.austincivicorchestra.org](http://www.austincivicorchestra.org), call 990-8ACO or email [acomgr@jump.net](mailto:acomgr@jump.net).

Conducted by Music Director Dr. Lois Ferrari, the musical program includes:

Michael Torke - "Bright Blue Music" from Color Music

Igor Stravinsky - "Danse" and "Madrid" from Quatre Etudes

Claude Debussy - "Iberia" from Images

Hector Berlioz - "March to the Scaffold" from Symphonie Fantastique

Maurice Ravel - "Rigaudon" from Tombeau de Couperin

Berlioz - "Rokoczy" March from Damnation of Faust

Also planned is a solo piece with renowned cellist Hai Zheng playing Max Bruch's "Kol Nidrei". Don't miss this exciting concert with such a talented cellist!

The mission of the Austin Civic Orchestra is:

1) To give adults and children in the greater Austin area access to high quality musical and educational experiences at an affordable cost, and

2) To provide a quality musical experience for volunteer musicians through a community orchestra and related ensembles.





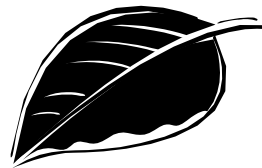
## St. Matthew's Activity Calendar

In such an active parish as ours, it is not possible to post a calendar with every meeting/function. This overview is designed to hit the highlights. Because it changes from minute to minute, we hope you will let us know of errors, corrections and additions. Please email your input to [betty@stmattsaustin.org](mailto:betty@stmattsaustin.org).

DATE	DAY	EVENT	TIME
October 3	Thursday	Youth Council Meeting in Agape Bldg.	7:00 p.m.
September 29	Sunday	Baptisms	10:30 a.m.
October 5	Saturday	UT vs. Oklahoma State here	
October 6	Sunday	Parish Luncheon honoring New Members in HH	noon
October 9	Wednesday	Men's Fellowship in Huffman Hall	5:30 p.m.
October 12	Saturday	UT vs OU in Dallas	
October 13	Sunday	Youth Movie Night in Agape Bldg.	6 - 8:30 p.m.
October 18	Friday	"The Word" deadline - November issue	4:50 p.m.
October 18	Friday	Day School Fall Fest - HH and Grounds	evening
October 19	Saturday	UT vs. Kansas State at Manhattan	
October 19 & 20	Sat/Sun	Laredo Bus Trip	
October 20	Sunday	Stewardship Luncheon After Church in HH	12:00 noon
October 20	Sunday	Mozart Fest in Sanctuary	3:00 p.m.
October 22	Tuesday	Vestry Meeting in B-18	7:00 p.m.
October 23	Wednesday	Inquirers' Classes Begin in B-18	7:00 p.m.
October 26	Saturday	UT vs. Iowa State here	
October 26	Saturday	Garage Sale for Nursery & Youth in Huffman Hall	8:00 a.m.
October 27	Sunday	Ingathering Sunday/Commitment Day	
November 1 & 2	Fri/Sat	Episcopal Church Women Annual Conference at Camp Allen	
November 2	Saturday	UT vs. Nebraska at Lincoln	
November 3	Sunday	All Saints Day - Baptisms	10:30 a.m.
November 3	Sunday	Austin Civic Orchestra in Sanctuary	6:00 p.m.
November 5	Tuesday	Elections/Voting in Huffman Hall	All day
November 7	Thursday	Youth Council Meeting in Agape Bldg.	7:00 p.m.
November 9	Saturday	UT vs. Baylor here	
November 10	Sunday	Episcopal Church Women United Thank Offering	
November 10	Sunday	Youth Movie Night in Agape Bldg.	6 - 8:30 p.m.
November 14 & 15	Thu/Fri	Day School Holidays	
November 15	Friday	"The Word" deadline - December issue	4:30 p.m.
November 15	Friday	Youth Retreat/Lock In	All night
November 16	Saturday	UT vs. Texas Tech at Lubbock	
November 26	Tuesday	Vestry Meeting in B-18	7:00 p.m.
November 27 - 29	Wed - Fri	Day School Thanksgiving Holidays	
November 27	Wednesday	Thanksgiving Eve Service at Triumphant Love	7:15 p.m.
November 28	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day - office closed	
November 29	Friday	Thanksgiving holiday - office closed	
November 29	Friday	UT vs. A&M here	

**Birthdays****October**

- 1 Anna Deutschle, Ellen Wilkes
- 2 Mary Claffin, Tom Massey, Will Smither, Cynthia Wilson
- 3 Molly Price, Debbie Simons, Bill Smith, Mary Ann Squires
- 4 Michael Mashburn
- 5 Kevin Burnett, David Hampton, Kyle Hendricks, Bobby Magee
- 6 Miller Bursk, Elaine Goessling, Callie Harakal, Joy Swanson, Rachel Zimmerman
- 7 Cindy Hendricks, Betsy McCraine
- 8 Wyeth Callaway, Doris Donnell
- 9 Lee Gordon, Mark Monroe
- 10 Margaret Carpenter, Bill Smith
- 11 Doug Adolph, Bob Ascott, Christofer Eckert, Philip Harden, Ann Roberts
- 12 Tom Canby, Anne Matthews
- 13 Heather Affleck, Michael Hart, Zachary McAdams, Robert McLay, Amanda Tommasi
- 14 Mark Schultz
- 15 Heather Deutschle, Jordan Jackson, Ed Horne, Larry Howells, Tom McComb, Joan Orear, Claire Tinker
- 16 Dara McNery, Kenny Miller, Chuck Naeve, Effie Nwolisa, Winston Ross, Carol Stolz
- 17 Cole Alexander, Joyce Braboy, Isabel Bursk, Clelia Hendee
- 18 Mike Howe, Elaine Robicheaux, Kathryn Ross, Mark Slavin, Ellie Wheeler
- 19 Judy Daniels, Paul Williams
- 20 Joan Berry, David Patron, Phyllis Young
- 21 Vivian Baffes
- 22 Suzanne Harakal, Darlene Moore, Tracey Nichols, John Slavin, Kathy Vail
- 23 Paul Jackson, Megan Sikes
- 24 Dean Fisher, Jay Pearson, Woody Woolcock
- 26 Pierce Affleck, Tara Kafena
- 27 Ken Larsen, Jake Redden
- 28 Bryan Eslick, Lindsay Nieman, Billie Stallsworth
- 29 Phillip Athey, Mandi Battaglia, Will Garwood, Kami Lemke, Matthew Wood
- 30 Hannah Brock, Laura Buikema, Bonnie Coleman, Brooke Smith, Michael Vetter
- 31 Tim Barber, Judy DeWitt, Bob Hendee, Jack Massad

**November**

- 1 John Menchaca III
- 2 Ty Cunningham, Allison Dillawn
- 3 Betty Jones
- 4 Amy Brooks, Brad Caffen, Nikkie Keller, Tessa Shanks, Claire Wilkes
- 5 Zacharias Doughty, Rita Eccles, Reilly Menchaca
- 6 William Brooke, Rylan Henderson, Tom LeMond, Dedee Norman, Dorothy Tesche
- 7 Laura Doughty Cynthia Hilliard, Michael Moon, Lori Moya, Dolores Muhich, David Thacker

## ***A Letter of Thanks from The Rev. Jaime Case, Vicar, San Francisco de Asis Episcopal Church***

On behalf of the young people at Iglesia San Francisco de Asis, I want to thank you and the St. Matthew's outreach council for responding to the financial need for sending our youngsters on the mission trip to Piedras Negras, Mexico in July. St. Matthew's financial aid supported the mission cost for two adults and seven teenagers and also paid some craft and supplies expenses for the mission. The missionaries helped the Piedras Negras Episcopal Church El Buen Pastor conduct its summer bible school that hosted about 650 Mexican children for five days in four neighborhoods.

St. Matthew's generosity is well-known at Iglesia San Francisco de Asis. You and the faithful of St. Matthew's have blessed us. We hope our times providing music at St. Matthew's (during the recent Opening Our Hearts Through the Arts Festival) is part of our thanksgiving. We look forward to other opportunities to return your blessing.

**New Members**

- Katherine Braddock  
Michele and Peter Mann  
Andrew and Michael  
Carlin and Patrick Mihm  
Emily and Ashley

**Deaths**

George B. Holt,  
husband of Sandy Holt,  
father of Tom Holt and Laurie Holt Johnson,  
died on September 9

**Memorial Gifts**

In memory of  
*Eleanor Eastberg*  
by  
Elaine and Parker Frisbie  
St. Matthew's Altar Guild

In memory of  
*George Holt*  
by  
Carole and Charles Sikes  
Nancy and Larry Richards  
Gradi Sterling  
Carolyn and Drew Bachofen  
George McClure

In memory of  
*Kathleen Jones Watson*  
by  
Elizabeth Chuhra

In memory of  
*John DeWitt*  
by  
Sarah and Milt Williams  
Rose and Gabe Ireland  
Jeri and John Muhich  
Pat Bliss  
Mary Ann Moore

**Births**

*Nicholas Harding Bursk*,  
was born August 19, 2002,  
son of Isabelle and Andy Bursk,  
grandson of Nancy and Hink Johnson

*Noah Luke Bowman*,  
was born August 29, 2002,  
son of Eleanor and Greg Bowman

*Davis Daniel Fisher*,  
was born September 12, 2002,  
son of Jennifer and Dean Fisher

*Adam Stephen Alexis*,  
was born September 13, 2002,  
son of Justyna and Stephen Alexis,  
first grandson of Nancy and Randy Alexis

# the st. matthew's word

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church and School  
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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 8:00 a.m. to  
12:45 p.m., where childcare is cheerfully provided for  
little ones from birth to age four.

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

**Friday, October 18, 2002**

**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. and Mary Nell Frucella

Tom Canby *Buildings and Grounds*  
David Harakal *Finance*  
Debbie Meleski *Communications*  
Bob Ascott *Personnel*  
Holly Decherd *Stewardship*  
*Outreach*

## Lay Ministry Councils

Kathy Vail *Adult Education*  
Ann Hart *Children*  
Jeri Muhich *Newcomers*  
Milt Williams *Parish Life*  
Elaine Goessling *Pastoral Care*  
Debbie Meleski *Personnel*  
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*

*Members*—Kay Ballard, Vada Dillawn,  
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*  
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*  
Martha Schorre *Children's Ministry Assistant*  
Brad Wagner *Business Manager*

## Vestry

Jack Eccles (345-7396) *Senior Warden*  
Phil Hatlen (345-9923) *People's Warden*  
Kate Canby (219-8693) *Vestry Warden*  
John Muhich (452-1210) *Treasurer*  
Bill Donnell (345-0097) *Clerk*  
Bert Hooper (346-6675) *Chancellor*

*Members* — Bob Ascott, David Barrow Jr.,  
Pat Boon, Charles Cole, Mary Nell Frucella,  
David Harakal, Cliff Harrison, Debbie Meleski,  
Don Neely, Clive Smith, Keith Thompson,  
Bob Wood