



SAINT MATTHEW'S
CHRONICLE

AUGUST 2006

GROWING AS GOD'S FAMILY

CHRONICLE

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A member of the clergy may be contacted at any time in an EMERGENCY. Call the Pastoral Emergency Pager at 602-225-7507 and leave your call-back number. A clergy person will contact you promptly.

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VESTRY

Ed Dunn, Senior Warden
Lee Ewert, Junior Warden
Bob Baker, Class of 2006
Glenn Case, Class of 2007
Heather Cole, Class of 2006
Jean Fogarty, Class of 2007
Judy Goetz, Class of 2007
Luis González, Class of 2008
Jennifer Keith, Class of 2007
Jim McCracken, Class of 2008
Sally McKnight, Class of 2008
Foster Oden, Class of 2006
Sheri Smith, Class of 2008
Kathy Bilinski, Treasurer
Karen J. Larson, Clerk

I WONDER . . .

The Rev. John C. N. Hall, D.Min., Rector

I can tell it's summer. I'm so hot. As I write, the current temperature in Phoenix is 115°F. The heat must be getting to me. It makes my mind wander. Questions begin to surface that (if we of the ordained persuasion are honest with ourselves), I believe, trouble the subconscious minds of many clergy. So, in the interest of clearing my head and removing my tongue from its current location, buried deep in my cheek, I share these thoughts:

I wonder...

...if Coffee Hour is, in reality, the eighth sacrament (and if it is proper to serve only coffee and only for the duration of one hour)?

...if we will ever stop calling the Book of Common Prayer the "New Prayer Book" (after all, it's only thirty years old)?

...if the new new Prayer Book (whenever it comes around) will contain Rite One at all?

...if visitors to the Episcopal Church even know the difference between Rite One and Rite Two?

...if the new Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church is really any more liberal than the last one or two PBs?

...if what the Presiding Bishop does or says makes any noticeable day-to-day difference here at Saint Matthew's?

...if anybody really knows what vouchsafe means?

...if any worshippers still secretly fuss about the lyrics to Hymn 412, Earth and All Stars?

...if we will ever stop stumbling over the missing "it is" in the modern Lord's Prayer's translation of "on earth as in heaven"?

...if visitors feel welcome?

...if anybody knew you could still kneel down to pray if you needed to?

...if The Anglican Communion really means the same thing to everyone?

...if the bread Jesus broke at the Last Supper was really shaped like a quarter?

...if most people know that the little bit of water added to the communion wine is really just a custom and not biblical?

...if, 100 years from now, the Book of Common Prayer will be on a video screen on the back of each pew rather than in the pew's book rack?

...if the door to the restrooms (you know, the one with the sign that says "Please Keep This Door Closed") will ever not be left wide open?

...if organ music is mandatory for "good" worship?

...if folks know why clergy shirts are black and have plastic white collars?

...if we have forgotten that "church" is a group of people and not a location?

...if most church folks know what or who a Canon is?

...if we remember that it's all about Jesus, not about us?

...if an Archdeacon really is a superhero?

...if anyone ever looks in the Lost and Found box?

...if the Rector will have a job after this newsletter is published?

There.

I feel better.

I'm still hot, but I feel better.

I hope you do, too.

FOOD BANK

During the first 6 months of 2006, Saint Matthew's Food Bank served 2,668 clients.

Parish members generously donated 10,553 pounds of food; more is always welcome. Food Bank hours are 9:00 a.m. until noon, Monday through Friday, except holidays. A picture ID is the only requirement to receive food. Thanks to everyone who supports this wonderful outreach ministry, especially the hard-working Food Bank volunteers.



NEW SITE UPDATE

The Feasibility Study report has been received from Holliman Capital Campaigns. Thanks to everyone who took the time to thoughtfully respond. A total of 26% of the congregation responded by answering the questions and providing comments giving valuable input into planning our new church. The coordinating committee has read the report, paying special attention to the comments made by parishioners.



The Feasibility Study will now be carefully reviewed by the Vestry at its August meeting. The Vestry will then determine the next steps to be taken to help guide Saint Matthew's future and will report its findings to the congregation

STEWARDSHIP

As of Sunday, July 30, 2006

\$ budgeted YTD	\$358,050
\$ received YTD	\$306,450

FALL SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 20

Children's Chapel resumes at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School resumes at 10:00 a.m.

Adult Forum resumes at 10:15 a.m.

Youth Kick-off – 1970's Disco Night for grades 5-8 – 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Youth Kick-off – 1980's High School Prom for grades 9-12 – 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Friday, September 1

First Friday Restaurantouring at 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 4

Office & Food Bank closed for Labor Day

Wednesday, September 6

Wednesday Eucharist resumes at 10:00 a.m.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Mandy Hodges, Director of Student Ministries



I remember promising, before we left, a full report on our youth mission trip to Mississippi upon our return. I have to apologize instead. As I sit here and rack my brain on how to convey a full report to the Saint Matthew's family, I realize that I'm not going to be able to deliver. There is absolutely no way a simple article can fit all the beautiful, funny, emotional, and life-changing stories that came

back with us from Mississippi. I won't do justice to a retelling of seeing God move through a collective group of young people in a very real and powerful way. Sure, I can tell you "things" that happened... like when Ray Bilinski spent an afternoon working in a sewer or when Tori Adams learned how to use a nail gun on a work site. I could tell you that Father Bill Forrest turned into a rapper at Kids Club to connect with local children or that Tiffany Hinchey now knows how to use a hoe. I could go on and on because it was one unbelievable week. God was all along the coast of Mississippi and in the lives of so many people we met. We saw an outpouring of gratitude and experienced a graciousness of our own in being able to serve our fellow man. You helped us go and, on behalf of the youth, I thank you for your prayers, financial support, and encouragement. Please listen for opportunities in the next month to hear a fuller report. Here it from the youth!

HABITAT UPDATE

Wayne Needham

The Episcopal Habitat Coalition will start construction on its 13th house on September 16, 2006 and Saint Matthew's will again help raise the walls. This day is always fun; we will start early and end before the heat builds too high. The home will be located in South Phoenix where we have built before. A sign-up announcement will appear in the bulletin in late August recruiting people for work and food duties. The Coalition is also in the final planning stages for its 6th overseas trip. In November 20 people, including 5 from Saint Matthew's, will travel to Santiago, Chile. The Coalition's outreach has helped shelter close to 100 people world-wide.

