

St. Matt's Chat

Created monthly by the Parish Life Committee



February 2009

to foster communication within the congregation

Council News:

The annual Council of the Diocese of Virginia was held in Reston, VA on January 23 & 24. Those in attendance were Chuck, Mario, Lissa Power deFur and Matt McDonald. For highlights of the council you can go to the website www.thediocese.net or speak with any of the delegates directly. They will be happy to report to you on the meetings.

Upcoming Dates:

Jan 31-Feb. 7 CARITAS

Feb. 7 Women of the W.E.L.L. (WOW)

Feb. 13 Movie Night (*The Parish Life Committee and the Homebuilders group will be joining together in showing the movie "Fireproof" in the Parish Hall at 7:00 pm. At the same time there will be a movie being shown for the kids in the Library or a place to be determined.*)

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

Feb. 18 Book Group (See "Did you sympathize..." below.)

Feb. 24 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Feb. 25 Ash Wednesday

Reminder: Start searching through your recipe books for something good to bring to the Lenten dinners that begin Wednesday, March 4.

Did you know that:

- The fellowship room was once painted a bright orange by the youth to welcome the new youth minister.
- Our rector is a maker of beautiful furniture – pieces that include a prayer desk, a sideboard and a bed – just to mention a few.
- Amy & Mike Rodgers have adopted a little Ethiopian girl. Her name is Elizabeth.
- The 2008 Golf Tournament raised \$3000 which was donated to CARITAS.
- Boyd Brown collected and delivered coats and other warm clothing that parishioners had donated for Interfaith Services of Henrico (ISH).
- Susan Custer has taught the First Communion class to our youngsters for several years.
- Evan Custer is continuing a family tradition serving as a Senate Page in the current session of Virginia's General Assembly. David and Colin served in earlier sessions.
- Brooke Pemberton, a Belize Mission trip veteran, continues to serve nightly as a Math tutor for the Senate Pages.
- We have a beautiful "Tabernacle" display in the narthex, done by the 2nd & 3rd grade Sunday School class.



Take time to pray:

**Games can't be won
unless they are played.
Prayers can't be answered
unless they are prayed.
So no matter how busy
or crowded your day,
Make it a practice
to take time to pray.**

-- Helen Steiner Rice

"I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling."

1 Timothy 2:8

Congratulations :

- ❖ to our new vestry members Wynn Burr, Patrick deFur, Michael Hagerty, and John Hillestad
- ❖ and a big "Thank you" to our outgoing vestrymen Mark Bruch, John Aliotti, Stu Gitchell, Richard Schreck.

Thank You:

- to all the folks who helped to make the annual "Family Gathering" such a fun and successful event. Pi Harwood, a long-time member, said that she had never seen the Sanctuary look so beautiful. We were able to donate 53lbs. of canned food to the food bank because of your generosity.
- to the youth under the guidance of Anne Randolph Tabb for a very meaningful "Feast of Lights" at Epiphany.

Did you sympathize with the abolitionists or the slave owners when you read stories of the conflict of 1861-65? Did you realize the stresses and confrontations that disturbed lives in that tumultuous time? On Wednesday, February 18th at 7pm in the church library the St. Matthews book group will discuss the novel "March" by Geraldine Brooks. No fees, no dues, no registration required. You are not even required to read the book!

There are many parishioners who have family connections: Tom & Louis Allin (brothers), Mary Jane Board & Charlotte McCutcheon (sisters), Catherine Cox & Danny Cox & Marilyn Rooney (mother & son/daughter), Charlotte Farrar & John Mayfield (sister/brother), Deb Ficken & Betsy Trimble (sisters), Virginia Watkins & Leslie Harris (grandmother/grand-daughter), Kate Hillestad & Betsy Mason (sisters), Mark, Shirley Hopkins & Christine Hopkins (parents/daughter), Joan Jones & Kathy Robertson (mother/daughter), Day Jordan & Missy Wyatt (father/daughter), Dave, Betty Kelley & Robin Kelley (parents/daughter), Reading Lewis & Patricia Lewis (father/daughter), Becky Mayfield & Betty Abernathy (sisters), Frank, Jane McDonald & Matt McDonald (parents/son), Wanda Pace & Mac Pace (mother/son), Suzanne, George Elmore & Susanna Payne (parents/daughter), Anne Runkle & Chris Runkle (mother/son), Rosemary Simmons & Ramona Neifeld (mother/daughter), Paul Simpson & Marjorie Bishop (brother/sister), Kaki, Sam Vint & Sally Thomasson (parents/daughter), Ann Walls & Sue Lough (mother/daughter), Bonnie, Harry Wilkins & Chris Wilkins (parents/son). If we have inadvertently left any one off this list, please let us know.

The mission of the Parish Life Committee is to identify and provide activities, programs and traditions that help parishioners grow spiritually and in fellowship with others at St. Matthew's and in the community. The hope is that by establishing ways our parishioners and their families can participate and become more involved, the families of St. Matthew's will become closer and stronger in their faith and this will promote church growth. Our mission with God's help is that our church will be an active, vibrant, loving congregation that radiates warmth and touches many lives for the better. PL 2005

<i>February Birthdays</i>	<i>Anniversaries</i>
Feb. 1 Vernon Plack Feb. 2 Sam Vint Feb. 4 Marilyn Escalera Feb. 11 Rob Lesniak Feb. 13 Debbye Silva Feb. 13 Martin Harris Feb. 15 Leigh Allin Feb. 18 Hannah Lesniak Feb. 21 Dave Kelley Feb. 24 Paul Simpson Feb. 26 JoLynn Stone Feb. 29 Chris Singelton	Feb. 7 Frank & Jane McDonald (50 th) Feb. 10 Boyd & Ann Brown ('07) Feb. 24 Harry & Bonnie Wilkins ('73) Feb. 26 Steve & Augusta Cole ('94)



The Parish Life Committee would like to thank our secretary Pauline for all her help in scheduling meetings, events, and getting the Chat out to our parishoners.

Don't forget to fill out a Birthday/Anniversary slip if you wish that information to be included in a future issue of the St. Matt's Chat. Please place the slips in the "cake boxes" in the narthex or Parish Hall.

Feel free to contact any member of the Parish Life Committee with any fun or interesting tidbits to include in future issues.