

St. Matt's Chat

Created monthly by the Parish Life Committee



November 2008

to foster communication within the congregation

Clergy Chat

I offer this prayer in time of financial crisis.

O Father, we have heard all kinds of explanations, but I suspect that only you know how to get us out of this recession. Give to our nation's economic advisors wisdom so that the whole economy can be stabilized, Save us from measures which benefit only special interest groups, and give us the right priorities to build a healthy society, in Jesus' name. Amen.

"Seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well." Matthew 6:33.

Chuck+

Special Dates

- o Nov. 2 – Hymn Festival at 6:30 pm
- o Nov. 4 – Election Day
- o Nov. 7-23 – Megan Barlow will be appearing in "The Music Man" at Glen Allen Cultural Arts Center
- o Nov. 8 – Supper Club
- o Nov. 9 – John Kurcina's Ordination in Falls Church, VA
- o Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving Day
- o Nov. 30 – Advent begins
- o Dec. 6 – Women of the W.E.L.L. (WOW)



Did you know:

- o Ground was broken for the church on a rainy morning, October 30, 1949 and the building was dedicated on November 19, 1950 with about 500 people in attendance.
- o Before kindergarten was in the public schools, St. Matthew's started a kindergarten in 1954 and it operated until 1971 with Mrs. James Bauserman and Mrs. Joan Suttentfield serving as the directors. Jim Holland was an early attendee.
- o Marj Moseley (now Marj Jones) was the first woman to serve on the vestry.
- o TGIF first started with Tad deBordenave in 1982 having about 5 or 6 men getting a sausage biscuit from Hardee's and then meeting in the Parish Hall for fellowship and a Bible study.
- o St. Matthew's first confirmation class was held at Tuckahoe Elementary with about 25 people in the class.
- o The ladies of the church raised thousands of dollars for the new church with bazaars, festivals, bake sales and whatever other means their creative minds could think of.
- o Our altar kneelers were made by many talented ladies of the church and each kneeler represents the occupations of God's people and in particular the jobs of St. Matthew's people at the time. Those talented ladies included Shirley Massey, Mary Jane Hyman, Frances Rinehart, Harriet Miller, Carol Gibbens, Charlotte McCutcheon, Ann Shibut, Erna Mae Behrend, Phyllis Grove Murray, Nan Scott, Lila Palmer, Sue Bass, Lynda Hall and Judy Poynter.
- o Some of our banners were designed by Edna Duggins.
- o Pi Harwood is the only person still in attendance of those who those who started at Tuckahoe Elementary School.

Parishioners' memories of the early years:

Joan Deming –The overflow congregation would often have to meet in the basement and John Abernathy piped the service down to the basement. "My children thought that they were hearing the voice of God since they couldn't see anyone that was doing the talking."

Joe Viverette –"Members of the search committee for hiring someone after Henry Johnson left traveled to Charlottesville to hear David Lewis preaching at a church there. In a restaurant, Joe Viverette and Rex Jones asked some folks for directions to the church. The people were able to give them good directions for they, too were going to hear David preach. We got him!"

Corrine Langhorne Geres – "My memories of St. Matthew's include lots to do with food! I remember the many potluck dinners, an annual carnival and picnics at Roslyn and many Sunday school picnics at our river house. I remember David Lewis bringing me ice cream when I had my appendix removed."



November Birthdays:		Happy Anniversary:
5 Joe & Abby Thompson	19 Josh Hyde	5 BJ & Megan Barlow 3rd
6 Marj Jones	22 Lynn Watts	9 Warren & Jane Malone 45th
7 { Jane Garitz & Henry Singelton	23 Jim Holland	17 Louis & Laura Allin 18th
9 Jack Harris	24 Dave Vachet	
10 { Nancy Knight & Greg Robertson	26 Anne Simpson	
11 { Boyd Brown Tom Hendrickson Lauren Witmer	28 Virginia Watson	



The Advent Season is approaching and during this very busy holiday time, it's easy to be swept up in the bustle of secular activities. Advent provides a wonderful opportunity to pause and reflect on the "reason for the season", and it's a great time to involve the family in the anticipation of Jesus' birth. Advent begins Sunday, November 30. Here are a few activities that families can do together:

- Make an Advent wreath to be used at the evening meal.
- A nativity scene can be displayed sequentially starting with the stable and then adding to it – the animals, Mary & Joseph with the baby arriving on Christmas Eve.
- Have a table top Jesse tree that holds ornaments that depict Biblical characters, symbols and events.
- Invite a "Christ-Guest" for a meal during the holidays – a foreign student, someone alone, etc.
- Deliver gifts to a needy family.
- Offer Advent prayers at dinner-time.
- There are numerous online resources for Advent. Two examples:

<http://www.kingofpeace.org/advent/advent.htm>
<http://www.wf-f.org/epiphany.html>



Prayer of Thanksgiving *We celebrate and honor you, dear Lord, for our church home St. Matthew's. We thank you for our rectors who have brought the Gospel message to us through their teachings and who have taught us to love, honor and adore you. We thank you for the family of St. Matthew's who care for and respect each other's gifts. May you continue to bless us as you have these 60 years and may we continue to worship and glorify you with our lives. In your Son's name we pray. Amen*

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.

Paula Butts, Kate Hillestad, Lee Pemberton, Jean Ray, Margaret Vachet