

St. Matthews
Episcopal Church
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Kiddie Link

Follow Me

While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him—Mark2:15

Earlier this week I was talking with one of my boys about their high school experience thus far. All three attend a high school that is very different from the socio-economic class in which we reside and all three have struggled with being the minority culture. This particular son had good insight into some of the cultural differences, primarily the value placed on education and athletic ability.

It was very natural to slip into an "us versus them" dialect. "They" have different values. "We" wear Polos and Ray bans. "We" stress getting a good education as the door to success. "They" see physical strength and ability as the means success.

As Christians, it is just as easy for us to adopt the "us versus them" vocabulary. Those people have tattoos and piercings. Those people are gay. Those people are right-wing conservative nuts.

But, in reality, we are all cut from the same cloth. We all have lungs, hearts, brains, hopes, dreams, frustrations. We all are seeking something to fill that deep longing in us - the God place.

Jesus came for us all. The Pharisees knew all the rules and regulations. They even knew when and where Jesus was going arrive. But it was the sinners and tax collectors that opened their hearts and homes to him. And it was the sinners-cum-disciples that God used to build His church.

As followers of Christ, we are called to lead people to Him. How big are our nets or have we abandoned them for the holy huddle? As parents, we have the easiest fishing grounds. Our children's friends and schools are teeming with people in need of Jesus.

I'm not asking you to become overnight evangelists. Use your daily choices to model Christ to all those around you. Maybe it's the music you like or the book you are reading at Starbucks. Or maybe it is leaving the scent of grace and humility in your wake. Be encouraged, Christ is going before you and it is Christ who does the saving; we just have to obey.

With joy,

Jill, DCE

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Snow/Weather Policy

Regardless of the weather, there will always be services at 8 & 10:30. Please check the website for details regarding Sunday School and other events. If you are scheduled to teach Sunday School or for childcare during the 10:30 service DO NOT STRESS if you can't come in. Just send me an email or call me on my cell (514-8389) to let me know you won't be in. Thanks—Jill

Monthly Mentions

VBS is in the works and all hands on deck. If you would like to guarantee your child's placement, volunteer. June 28th—July 2nd, all positions are needed. Please contact January Britt at 447-0322 or januarybritt@verizon.net.

Ladies, mark your calendars for the St. Matthew's Women's Retreat. Barbara Markland will be speaking on being a Proverbs 31 woman. For more information, call Debbye Silva at 747-0022.

The Golden Babysitter book is in process. Anyone willing to refer their favorite babysitter or in need of a babysitter, please contact Jill at 288-1911 or jillatstmatts@hotmail.com. We are trying to put together a resource for all parents to use.

Nursery Schedule

	Date	Infants	Toddlers	Preschoolers
Thank you to all from the congregation, as well as all the parents who have selflessly offered their time to care for our younger parishioners.	February 7	Lynda Jenkins Carol Grainger	Adrian Hudgins Danny Cox	January Britt Jeff Britt
	14	Lee West Jean Ray	Gretchen DeFrancesca Todd DeFrancesca	Stacy Relyea Bob Relyea
If you would like to be included on the schedule, call Jill at 288-1911.	28	Heather Creswick Tom Veech	Wynn Burr Blake Burr	Lila White John White