

St. Matt's Chat

Created monthly by the Parish Life Committee



May 2009

to foster communication within the congregation

Clergy Chat

– On Sunday Morning Prayer –

From Eastertide, through the season after Pentecost (which ends with the First Sunday of Advent, four weeks before Christmas), we worship using Morning Prayer at the 10:30 service twice a month. Over my 24 years in the ministry, I've heard folks occasionally object because they feel, rightly, that the Eucharist is, as the Prayer Book puts it, "the principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day" (p. 13). Others say, "I don't feel as though I've been to church unless I take communion." I'll respond with three points. First, because the Eucharist is central, St. Matthew's gives the opportunity to make one's communion every Sunday of the year at 8 a.m. Second, Sunday Morning Prayer has a long and distinguished tradition of use in Anglicanism generally, and especially in the Diocese of Virginia. And third, a service of Morning Prayer involves worshiping the Lord in hymns, psalm and canticles, hearing God's Word read and preached, and joining with brothers and sisters in Christ in prayer for one another and the world. If you were to leave St. Matthew's after Sunday Morning Prayer feeling as if you'd never left home, some consultation with the clergy is probably in order.

All the blessings of Easter,

Mario

Upcoming Dates:

- May 7 National Day of Prayer
- May 10 Mother's Day
- May 20 Book Group
- May 25 Memorial Day
- May 31 Pentecost, the birthday of the Church

A Prayer from Scripture:

"As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."

Isaiah 66:13



An Advertisement:

Altar Guild and the Flower Guild are looking for some new members. Please prayerfully consider joining these ministries. Your help is needed and welcomed.

Please call or chat with –
Mary Meade Lee (741-1823) or
Margaret Vachet (747-0266)

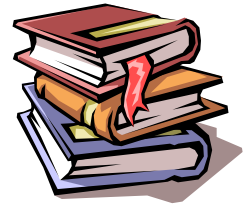
Did you know that:

- ❖ The St. Matthew's Vestry sponsored a colleague (Lee Pemberton) in the annual Walk For Life event and raised \$410 for the Pregnancy Resource Center of Metropolitan Richmond. Marianne Micks also walked as chair of the PRC Committee for the Evangelism Team and raised an additional \$410 in pledges. The total from St. Mathew's was \$820!
- ❖ Our Flower Guild is composed of ten ladies who faithfully come once a month to arrange our altar flowers for Sunday morning. They are often called upon during the week to do arrangements for weddings, funerals and special receptions. This group of talented and dedicated ladies include Laura Allin, Glenn Briody, Kay Cinsavich, Catherine Cox, Lynda Jenkins, Helen Langhorne, Gay Plack, Clarice Wood, Merry Susan Schreck and Martha West.
- ❖ In 1914 President Woodrow Wilson officially proclaimed the 2nd Sunday in May to be designated as Mother's Day. Anna Jarvis first conceived of this idea by holding "Mother's Friendship Day" to especially help and comfort mothers, grandmothers and other special women who had suffered losses during the Civil War. When her own mother died in 1905, she began the campaign for a day to honor all mothers.
- ❖ **The Bible tells of how a mother's influence extends from generation to generation. "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and now, I am sure lives in you." Paul writing to Timothy in 2 Timothy 1:5.**
- ❖ As early as 1951 our church reached out to the community by opening its doors to neighborhood groups such as garden clubs, the fire department, Red Cross groups and the Spottswood Civic Association for them to use the facilities for meetings.
- ❖ The YPSL's (Young People's Service League – now our Youth Group) of 1951 yearly activities included a picnic & youth rally, youth conference at Roslyn, a paper drive, filling a Christmas basket for a needy family, caroling in the Fort Hill & Crestview neighborhoods and participation in the church bazaar.



Book Group reminders:

- On May 20, the Book Group will discuss Oswald Chambers: Abandoned to God by David McCasland. This biography explores the life of one of the world's most inspirational speakers and writers.
- On July 1, the Book Group will discuss The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. This charming novel is set on the English channel island of Guernsey during WWII, while the island was under German occupation. The quirky but enchanting characters tell their stories and experiences - sometimes poignant, sometimes dark, sometimes heroic - through the means of personal letters.
- Join the Book Group in reading and discussing these great books!!



From the Endowment Board



Thanks to the generous support of our parish through memorials and bequests the Endowment Fund grew to \$600,668 in 2008. In spite of the downturn in the financial market, our conservatively invested funds did better than the overall stock market, giving the Board of Directors \$20,323 income to distribute for 2008. Disbursals were as follows: for outside the parish -

\$5,645 for Anglican Frontier Missions (AFM), \$3,387 for Young Life Richmond, and \$1,130 for Called to Serve; for inside the parish - \$2,200 for the Youth Advisory Committee for improvements to the youth program, \$1,000 for additional prayer desks, and \$6,175 for Buildings & Grounds for the purchase and installation of signage for Patterson and Forest Avenues, and the Patterson Avenue entrance. The Vestry requested that that the Endowment Board not disburse all the funds available for work inside the parish in case there was an emergency need in the future. Many thanks for your contributions to the Endowment Fund and please remember the Fund in the future.

Congratulations in advance to

❖ *Matt McDonald and Lori Sander on their marriage May 9*



<i>May Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>	
6 th Jamie Cocke	17 th Janet Cocke	May 3 rd Tom & Harriet Vincent ('69)	
7 th Ben Pope	18 th Avery Wilson	May 6 th The Harry Berwicks	
9 th Gretchen Bradley	26 th Marielle Silva	Rex & Marj Jones ('00)	
10 th Will Ray	28 th Helen Langhorne	May 8 th Jim & Sandra Holland ('82)	
11 th Wendall Wilson	29 th Bea Johnson	Wendall & Linda Wilson ('99)	
12 th Andy McCutcheon	30 th Jane Malone	May 16 th Norm & Sheila Hyde ('87)	
13 th Sherrill Dalton	31 st B J Barlow	Tim & Debbye Silva ('81)	
Patricia Lewis			
Lindsay Silva		May 31 st John & Nancy Knight ('75)	
Amy & Julia Terhune			
Joe Viverette			

