The SAINT MATTHEW’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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August 2013

Mission Statement
Our mission is to be a caring, inclusive community, centered in the Eucharist and grounded in the Gospel, so that we can reach out as Christ’s hands to the world.

CONNECT
at this year’s
Ministry Fair

Saints Hall
August 25
following the 10:00 service

• Gather information, share stories, see the life of your parish
• Join others – How will you learn, grow and serve this year?
• Discover ways for your ministry to collaborate with others
• Find out all the fall plans and save the dates

Lunch is included!

Contact Karen Hill to save a space for your ministry
(khill@stmatt-ky.org • 895-3485)
Building Bridges

Ruminations from the Interim Rector in this season of transition at St. Matthew’s

“The sharing of strengths and vulnerabilities, without shame, fosters love.”

What does the ministry of care and prayer look like at St. Matthew’s? How has this ministry changed over the past 65 years of your congregation’s life? How is St. Matthew’s being called to a deeper ministry of care and prayer, especially in this season of transition?

When Gail Sheehy was seven years old, her grandmother gave her a typewriter. Now a world-renowned author of fifteen books, her first best-seller was *Passages*, a groundbreaking book which remained on the New York Times bestseller list for more than three years and has been reprinted in twenty-eight languages. Decades later, her husband was diagnosed with a life-threatening illness, and she found herself writing about a new kind of passage. “It was an uncharted journey. I wasn’t expecting it. I was not prepared. I was lost. I had to find a path.”

After caring for her husband for seventeen years, Sheehy became AARP’s Ambassador of Caregiving in 2009. In preparation for her newest book, *Passages in Caregiving*, she interviewed hundreds of caregivers. As I began to read her book, I could see how I still need to learn more about the 21st-century “challenges and rewards inherent in the caregiving passage....Today’s average family caregiver in the United States is a forty-eight-year-old woman who holds down a paid job (more than half work full-time) and spends twenty hours a week providing unpaid care for an adult who used to be independent.”

In July, during our first series of “Compassionate Conversations,” more than sixty members of St. Matthew’s shared their stories of strength and vulnerability, their experiences of hope and new life. “When was your heart on fire at St. Matthew’s?” I asked. And those who came were invited to share a story of passion and compassion. (For reflections from one long-time member and Compassionate Conversation participant, see page 3 of this issue).

In August, we’ll continue telling our stories and sharing our experiences, but this time, our focus will be on care and prayer. I wonder: *How has the prayer and care you’ve found at St. Matthew’s made a difference in your life or the life of someone you love?* Come...and bring a friend! Do sign up, so we’ll know how to plan for meals we’ll serve. — In Christ, Tom

Compassionate Conversations: Building Up Christ’s Body at St. Matthew’s

During the week of August 4, we will begin with a snack or meal. Then we’ll discuss:

*CareTeams: How can we enhance our prayer & care for each other?*

Choose a conversation:
- Monday, August 5 @ 6:15 pm
- Tuesday, August 6 @ 9:30 am
- Thursday, August 8 @ Noon

*(Please sign up on the bulletin board or call the office (895-3485), so we can provide food for everyone.)*
Compassionate Conversations

Like many of you, I always stop to read the articles on the wall across from the main stairway each week. A couple of weeks ago, I spied sign-up sheets for something entitled “Compassionate Conversations” and was intrigued. I went to Debbi Rodahaffer and asked her to give me a brief synopsis of what this program was all about and her enthusiasm made me want to attend!

I wasn’t sure what to expect; I am not a rainbows and unicorns type of person, so even though I had signed up I had some trepidation. Nevertheless, I attended. What transpired during those two hours made me wish we had had more time. I heard from fellow parishioners about specific events and occurrences in their lives that the community here at St. Matthew’s had in some way enriched.

The story I shared with my group occurred when I was 7. I had looked forward all day long to the pot-luck supper scheduled at church that evening. Every time the refrigerator door was opened, I saw the saran-wrapped platter of ham that we were planning to take to share. However, when my mom arrived home from work that afternoon, our babysitter informed her that my sister and I had quarreled with one another all day. My mother sent both of us to our rooms telling us that we would not be going to the pot-luck after all due to our poor behavior. I was devastated. St. Matthew’s was my social community as well as my church home and I knew I would be missing out on fun children’s activities after the dinner. I stewed about this for a few minutes and then when my mother stepped into a hot bath, I grabbed that platter of ham and walked the few miles to St. Matthew’s.

I arrived late, but was quickly given a plate of food and shooed off to join the children. A neighbor who was also a parishioner called my parents to let them know that I had arrived safely. I imagine my parents were not only worried, but furious as well. My father picked me up shortly after the phone call and my punishment was pretty devastating: no watching The Courtship of Eddie’s Father for 4 weeks!

I have thought about that incident many times over the years and always smile when I realize that when I ran away from home that evening, I went to be with my church family – a group of individuals who have always welcomed me with open arms.

When I walked out the door this past Tuesday evening, I was filled with a sense of pride at the compassionate behaviors of the St. Matthew’s congregation. This sacred place always reminds me of my grandmother’s kitchen; the familiar smells, the warm embraces, the love…

—Lauren Becker

Our Ministry of Hospitality Needs You!

Calling everyone interested in the hospitality of planning, designing, cooking, setting up, and/or cleaning up for two events on our horizon. The Ministry Fair on August 25 and St. Matthew’s Day on September 22. Karen Hill and Debbi Rodahaffer would like to meet with every interested person…whether a long time Cooks and Bottlewasher or someone brand new to St. Matthew’s!

We will gather on Sunday, August 4 immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service, with coffee and something sweet in Meeting Room A, for all interested in the hospitality of these two wonderful parish events. To make these days special, we need everyone!

Questions or can’t attend on the 4th but want to be a part of one or both days? Contact Debbi, drodahaf@stmatt-ky.org or Karen, khill@stmatt-ky.org, or call either of us at 895-3485.

The Ladies’ Lunch Bunch

The Ladies’ Lunch Bunch group gets together the third Thursday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at various restaurants throughout the city. All are welcome! Reservations are needed in advance so please remember to RSVP each month with Betty Triplett, 384-0244, and let her know if you need to carpool.

Thursday, August 15 - Napa River Grille in Westport Village, Westport Road.
Thursday, September 19 - Irish Rover on Frankfort Avenue.

The Men’s Breakfast Group

We meet at 8:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of every month, at the Wild Eggs on Dutchman’s Lane across from Norton Suburban hospital. Everyone is invited!
We are thrilled to welcome Rachel Held Evans as our “Dimensions of Faith” speaker in October. Rachel will be our preacher at the 10 a.m. Eucharist on Sunday, October 5, 2013, in addition to our speaker on Sunday evening.

Rachel, a blogger, writer and speaker, is authentic. On her blog she describes herself as, “A skeptic, a creative, and a follower of Jesus, figuring out this journey of faith one shaky step at a time.” I find that Rachel is able to think theologically about life, bridging the divide between very different backgrounds and faith traditions, without losing her own faith. She is a voice who listens, reflects and then responds.

You can find Rachel on Facebook, Twitter, or her blog at http://www.rachelheldevans.com. Her two books, *Evolving in Monkey Town*, and most her most recent book, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*, recounts her experience trying to follow the Bible’s instructions for women as literally as possible for a year.

She has been featured on NPR, Slate, The BBC, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian* (UK), *The Times London*, The Huffington Post, and Oprah.com, and was recently named one of *Christianity Today*’s “50 Women to Watch.

Mark your calendars for this engaging speaker!

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**Happy New Year!**

It’s a new programming year and I hope you will make room in your busy schedule for music. I would love to add some additional voices to the choir this year. If you like to sing you should be in the choir!

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, August 21! Talk with me, **Barbara Ellis** (bellis@stmat-t-ky.org / 895-3485) after church if you would like more information.

Come Sing With Us!

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**New Book Study!**

**Richard Rohr’s**

*Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps*

“We cannot stop the drowning waters of our addictive culture from rising, but we must at least see our reality for what it is and seek to properly detach from it. The New Testament called it salvation or enlightenment. The Twelve Step program calls it recovery.”

Join us for lunch and an introductory conversation on Sunday, August 11 following the 10 a.m. service. **Sign up on the bulletin board!** (reservations strongly suggested)

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**Do you know about our Tuesday morning service?**

The ongoing process of transformation into an authentic human being is one reason why I attend the Eucharist at 7 a.m. each Tuesday. For me, a prayerful life requires discipline. Getting up at 5 a.m. is not easy but attending this communal experience is beneficial in my life’s journey. Please consider Tuesday morning Eucharist.

— Jay Redman
**Vacation Bible School – “We Dug It?”**

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped create a wonderful “archeology” week for children at Calvary Episcopal Church during our joint Vacation Bible School this summer. Our librarians, adult and youth volunteers made the week of July 14 an exciting week for learning about God’s love.

Next summer VBS returns to St. Matthew’s!

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**“Care Teams”**

During the month of July, The Rev. Tom Momberg led three powerful sessions - “Compassionate Conversations”. The next three sessions “Care Teams” will be August 5, 6, and 8. The Monday, August 5, session will provide child care. Each session includes a meal. Parents, please make every effort to attend one session.

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**Blessing Preschoolers through College Professors Off to School**

Sunday, August 18, during the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist, there will be a special blessing for school children, college students, teachers, professors, school administrators.....all who will be returning to classrooms or entering them for the first time. The people will be blessed and given a little something to carry in backpacks all year.

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**Ministry Fair - Sunday August 25**, after the 10 a.m. Eucharist, stay for the Ministry Fair! Talk with your children’s church school teachers! Enroll your children in church school! Fill out permission slips and release forms for the year! Have something to eat! Chat with old friends and new! This is a perfect date to bring friends to church with you!

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**Church School Teachers’ training** will be Sunday, August 18 11:15am - 12:15 pm. Training includes childcare and lunch. If you cannot attend, email Debbi at dlbr53@gmail.com.

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**Is your child ready for preschool?** The Community Preschool of St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church is a great place for your child’s early education. Talk with preschool director, Lauren Becker, 650-4651.

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**EDUCATION FOR ALL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8!** Details will be in the September newsletter and mailings.
August

Middle School Meet and Greet for 6th-8th grade
Sunday, August 18
5:00-7:00 p.m.
Welcome our rising 6th graders, see old friends and meet new ones.
Games and dinner!

High School Meet and Greet for 9th-12th grade
Sunday, August 25
5:00-7:00 p.m.
See old friends and meet new ones.
Games and dinner!

St. Matt’s Annual Road Rally – our official kick off to the youth program
Sunday, September 8
4:30-7:00 p.m.
Scavenger hunt, by car, and dinner!
Drop off at SMEC, pick up at Gattiland.
Adult drivers needed!

Service Opportunities
St. Matt’s Food Pantry
SATURDAY, AUGUST 17
Anytime between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

We will miss you!
Sam Lewis – Wake Forest University

Randy Strause – Indiana University

This information and more is on the church web site at: www.stmatt-ky.org/youth.htm Check it out!
Questions? Email to Lynn at: youth@stmatt-ky.org
**Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!**

You made it all possible.

Our 2013 Habitat for Humanity House “Raise the Roof” date is **October 17-20.**

Your financial assistance has made our fifth Habitat for Humanity house with our Covenant Church, Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, possible.

A special thank you to **Bev Weis** and the “Habitat Quilt” fundraiser, the June Special Habitat Collection, St. Matthew’s Vestry, Staff and **Edie Nixon** and **Gibbs Reese** for their leadership, St. Matthew’s Outreach Committee for their generous support and several private donations.

Your support is now needed to help “Raise the Roof”.

Construction workers, food preparation volunteers, set-up crews, and many others are needed to make our three days of construction a success.

Make a note to reserve October 17-20 and volunteer for a day or half a day.

Sign-up sheets will be available in early September.

**Cornerstone says “Thank You!”**

We are also very grateful to the childcare volunteers that were omitted from last month’s newsletter: **Ellen Robertson, Mike, Monique and Bryce Schmitt.**

Thank you for making St. Matthew’s participation in the Cornerstone Ministry possible.

**Food Collection for July**

We got a Big “B+”! The trunk was full. For this time of year with church attendance down, that probably should be an “A”. But being married to a school teacher, she says “don’t fudge on grades” so let me say its a good “B+”. We just need more people in church (who bring food).

Come on folks - come to church and bring non-perishable foodstuff.

Thank you,

Don Kissling, chief food deliverer.
DAILY PRAYER LIST

Note: At Morning Prayer each weekday, members of St. Matthew’s congregation are prayed for by name. As members of the Christian community, we are advised to hold each other in prayer. As part of your prayers, please remember all of the St. Matthew’s parish family.

We pray for members of the parish family serving in the Armed Forces


Do you have a family member serving in the Armed Forces or in some form of relief work in a dangerous area? Please let us know so that we can put them on our prayer list.

We pray for members of the parish family serving in the Armed Forces

Heavenly Father, We ask you to make the door of St. Matthew’s Church a gateway to your eternal kingdom; and grant that all who worship in this house may also witness for you in the world outside, to your honor and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Weekday Services in the Chapel

Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer  Tuesdays: 7:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist  Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m., Evening Prayer

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Week of August 5

Joy: James, Catherine, Chris, Alex, Charlie, Caitlin
Judge: Dennis, Susan
Kara: Peace, Jaspar
Kasey: Lindsay, Wesley, Wyatt, Kaylee
Kasting: Robert, Nancy
Ketterer: Kett, Alan Wernecke, Justin Wernecke
Keyzer: Peter, Sanna Vitamma, Anna, Alex, Isabella
Kimama: Loise
Kimbrough: Brad, Sarah Emery, Edward
Kimbrough: Susan

Week of August 12

Kincade: Kit, Joan
Kissling: Don, Mary Lynn
Knox: Richard
Koelsch: Marie
Koshewa: Angela, David Niehaus
Krantz: John, Margaret, Michael, Jenny, Daniel
Kries: Sarah
Kuhns: Greg, Joan
Lambert: Jay, Cicely, Mike, Becca
Larson: Mary

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Week of August 19

Lawfer: Marty
Ledford: John, Linda Meyer, Hope Meyer Ledford
Ledvina: David, Andrea, Katherine, Luke
Lloyd: Russell, Vicki, Laine
Long: David, Clarie, Caleb
Lotz: Lauren
Lotz: Rick, Jan
Macdonald: Stan, Sally
Marshall: Shawn, Greg Kuhn, Garrett Barry
Martin: Robert, Sarah, Cora, Clare, Christine

Week of August 26

Mathews: Mack, Frances
Mayes: Richard, Susan
McCord: Walter, Betty Brooke
McKinney: Bill, Martha
McKune: Kate, Cullen Lowery, Hayden Lowery, Claire Lowery, Graham Lowery
Metcalf: Marianna
Metcalf: Jim
Miller: Eleanor Bingham
Miller: Scott, Ann
Mitchell: Kitty

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Time Warner Cable vs. Insight Communications – With the purchase of Insight Communications by Time Warner, every customer with an @insightbb.com email has to undergo a change to an @twc.com address. As you share your new email with friends and family, please send us word as well. That way you can ensure you’ll continue to receive news, stories, and important information about St. Matthew’s. Please email any changes to mgalvin@stmatt-ky.org.

Marriage
Stephen Robertson Hill and Kelly Nicole Morris, June 28

Deaths
Pat Shirley, July 5

We are sorry to hear about the death of
David Campbell’s brother

+ + + May light perpetual shine upon them + + +

The next deadline for submissions to the Spirit is August 15.
While we appreciate all submissions, please note that the Interim Rector is the editor of the Spirit.
Clergy and Staff:
The Rev. Thomas A. Momberg, *Interim Rector*
The Rev. Emily S. Crouch, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Dr. Helen Jones, *Pastoral Associate*
Deborah Rodahaffer, *Director of Christian Education*
Mardi Galvin, *Parish Administrator*
Barbara Ellis, *Director of Music Ministry*
Lynn Miller, *Coordinator of Youth Ministry*
Karen Hill, *Coordinator of Lay Ministry*
Joanne Coleman, *Accountant*

Clergy in our midst:
The Rt. Rev. David Reed
The Rev. Moray Peoples
The Rev. Don Brown

Voice Mail Extensions & E-mail Addresses for the Clergy & Staff

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Parish Officers & Vestry

Gibbs Reese, *Senior Warden*  
Edie Nixon, *Junior Warden*  
Jay Crocker, *Secretary / Clerk*  
David Brooks, *Treasurer*  
Natalie Hardy, *Youth Representative*  

Sam Bridge  
Sarah Causey  
Steve Cherry  
Sarah Clement  

Mike Fitzer  
Gaylee Gillim  
Ruthe Holmberg  
Bob Huffman  

Jim Moyer  
Bob Nesmith  
Laura Shaffer  
Chris Thorne

**connect** UK US /ˈkənekt/ verb – [I or T] to join two or more pieces of equipment

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