



# THE ANTIPHON

The Parish Newsletter of  
St Matthias' Church, Dallas, Texas

**JULY / AUGUST 2018**

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Beloved in Christ,

The temperature has “officially” reached 100° this week, which means summer must be upon us. One of the things that I have experienced at St. Matthias’ is the break-neck level of activity from September to mid-June, the parochial academic term. It is nice now to have a chance to slow down just a bit and to savor Sunday morning worship. I notice that many of you are traveling and taking vacations of one sort or another. Please be careful as you do and remember to pray for us as we will pray for you.

I have noticed that a number of you have moved up to a nearer pew in the nave. Thank you for that, by doing so you make room for visitors and newcomers. We do need some of those!

Never satisfied (*seemingly*), now I want to challenge you to look for opportunities to invite someone to come to church with you. If we make space, then it only makes sense that we need to fill it!

There is no question that our neighborhoods are full of folks who do not know what they are missing; a vital relationship with Our Lord and his Church. There is universal agreement that the most effective method of evangelism is a person-to-person connection. And you and I are called to be ambassadors for Christ. That can happen simply by asking someone if they go to church. If they say “No,” then there is your opportunity to make an invitation. If you don’t ask the question, it will not happen. And if you do make the overture, the worst that can happen is that they will turn you down - but, even then, you will have made the offer, and in the process, you will have discovered that you can.

We are making headway on the restoration work in the Great Hall. I am hopeful that we will be enjoying its greatness again before you receive another Antiphon. It's always dangerous to make projections when making the sort of repairs that we are. Progress is evident. Until we are able to get back in, please continue to make the trek over to the big classroom in Duncan Hall for coffee and doughnuts following both Sunday Masses. Let's be intentional about enjoying the opportunity the summer schedule affords us to strengthen our fellowship.

The outing to the Rough Riders' game at the end of May was great fun. We had a pretty good-sized group turn out. The game could have gone better, but we could not have had a nicer late-May night for being at the ballpark.

The first of the new season's Fellowship Dinners at the Marr's home was also very fine. And by the way, a good time was had by all. In July, we will be gathering the second Saturday of the month for our Fellowship Dinner at the home of Jack and Laura Stotz - Yet another opportunity for you to invite someone new into our parish life. Don't miss it!

I have just had the pleasure of leading the Thirteenth Annual Saint Michael's Conference Southwest. It was another amazing week with a great crew of 77 young Michaelites. Out of a total community of 98 gathered (*8 were from our parish!*), 75 persons made their Sacramental Confession during the week. The miracle of Saint Mike's is the Peace of God made manifest to those participating. It changes lives. I thank God for this blessing. And I appreciate very much you letting me take the time to lead this effort.

So you may well be wondering about this cartoon. I love it. Some bishop with an umbrella.... so what's the point? He is **Saint Swithun**, known most commonly in the Anglican world as the patron of that mythical parish, Saint Swithun's-in-the-Swamp.



Saint Swithun was the saintly Saxon bishop of Winchester in England from 852 until his death in 862. He was buried, as he had requested to be, in the cemetery near his cathedral - where he could be “trodden and rained upon”. In 971 his remains were moved into the cathedral on **July 15th** (*against his expressed wishes!*). The day was marked by the occurrence of quite a few miraculous cures, as well as the fine outpouring of a gully-washing, frog-strangler of a rainstorm. Because of that, the tradition grew up of invoking Saint Swithun against drought. The tradition also came to be that if it rained on Saint Swithun’s Day, July 15th, you could expect 40 days of wet weather. I can well imagine the possibility of that being much more realistic in Merrye Olde England than in North Texas, but one can always hope.

The old rhyme goes like this:

‘St. Swithun’s day if thou dost rain  
For forty days it will remain  
St. Swithun’s day if thou be fair  
For forty days ‘twill rain nae mair.’

Bishop Swithun’s real virtue lay in what he accomplished as a bishop. During his episcopate, he became known for generous charitable giving and for his missionary zeal. Many churches were founded in the Diocese of Winchester during his tenure as bishop.

So, in July, please remember to enlist the aid of a powerful intercessor, Saint Swithun of Winchester, for “good” weather, to motivate our generous outreach, and to stimulate our dedication to the spread of the Gospel in the building up of the Church. And that’s just July, stay tuned!

God bless you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ch... +", with a small cross at the end.

## PRAYERS AND SQUARES MINISTRY

In **July**, the Prayers and Squares Ministry will meet **Thursday, July 12th**. In **August**, they will meet **Thursday, August 9th**. Meetings begin at 6:30pm in the Education Center. The Ministry has given over 175 quilts and many prayers to those in need. If you know someone who would benefit from extra prayers and support, please consider a quilt for them. Contact [nitahinshaw@aol.com](mailto:nitahinshaw@aol.com) to make a request.



## JULY FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

PUT THE FOOD IN YOUR FINGERS AND YOUR TOES IN THE POOL.

Sure it'll be hot ... it's July Fellowship Supper in Dallas, but be one of the "cool kids" and enjoy walk around finger foods and finger desserts at the home of Jack and Laura Stotz on Saturday, July 14th at 7:00pm. Co-hosts Donna and Natalie Jarecke and Sara Luce also welcome you to feel free to kick off your shoes and dip your toes in the pool. Please bring the finger food of your choice. To make reservations, complete the sign up form in the Sunday bulletin. Maps will be available in the narthex the Sunday prior to the event.



## JULY COMMUNITY MINISTRY

**Shelter Team:** *Captains* William & Tommye Marr, Kristen Beller, Danelle Harris, Randall & Suzanne Jackson, Ida Perryman, Lori Luckey, John & Laura Stotz, Nancy Perrine. Team meets at church 4:00pm, Sunday, July 15th.

**Sandwich Makers:** Team 3 - Ida Perryman, Randall & Suzanne Jackson, Robert & Robyn Priest, David & Lori Luckey, Randall & Nita Hinshaw, John & Laura Stotz, Jason Hinshaw, William & Tommye Marr, Patricia Haney.

## AUGUST COMMUNITY MINISTRY

**Shelter Team:** *Captains* Raymond & Cynthia Turnbull, Danelle Harris, Timothy, Amy and Abigail Harwood, Patrick & Megan McGehee, Savannah Brown, David & Dixie Turnbull. Team meets at church 4:00pm, Sunday, August 19th.

**Sandwich Makers:** Team 4 - Patricia Goodwin, Patrick & Megan McGehee, James & Deborah Nugent, Susan McQueen, David & Dixie Turnbull, Donna Wheeler, Savannah Brown, Niesa Page, Raymond & Cynthia Turnbull, Amy White.



## NORTH DALLAS SHARED MINISTRIES

On the narthex table, you will find a comparison sheet of contributions between May 2017 and May 2018 for the NDSM Support the Pantry month. As you will see, we did quite well. Our next opportunity to contribute to this worthy cause is in September 2018. That is not far away. Please start thinking about it **NOW** and let's see how much better we can do! And don't forget volunteers are always needed. If you have some extra time and could help out, call Nancy Gaines to schedule a time.



## UPDATE ON THE GREAT HALL

Just a brief update on the restoration of the Great Hall from your friendly neighborhood People's Warden.

The Vestry approved Dalworth Restoration Company as our contractor to put the Great Hall back together again after the flooding that occurred on May 5th. Thus far, Dalworth and their Project Manager have been great to work with and they have represented us well in our claim with Travelers Insurance.

Dalworth has completed their remediation work and is in the process of putting our Hall back into shape.

Here are the major (tentative) milestones completion dates:

June 29 - Drywall repair

July 3 - Painting

July 16 - Flooring/Cabinetry

July 20 - Punchlist items/Completion

I would ask your cooperation in this process by limiting your access to the Great Hall to that which is ABSOLUTELY necessary.

Thank you, *Jack Stotz*



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

A small group of women went to Heritage Homestead on Saturday, June 23rd. We had lunch at the Homestead Café and then toured their Craft Village. The Craft village includes a potters' house, woodworking studio, working Gristmill, weaving and spinning studio, sorghum mill, blacksmith forge, herb garden and a basket studio. In each studio, members of the Homestead were there demonstrating their craft. You can purchase their goods at the gift shop. We all had a fabulous day and would like to go again.

As for upcoming events in the fall, we have several items on the table. There will be the Ladies' Luncheon hosted by Robyn Priest, a trip to the Arboretum and the Church of the Nazarene for their Nativity exhibit, to name a few.

The Ministry is on vacation for the summer and will return in September. We now have a bin to collect plastic bags for making the mats for the homeless. The bin is located in the Prayers and Squares room in Duncan Hall. It takes 600 bags to make one mat. If you have any questions about the mats, please contact Nancy Perrine or Nita Hinshaw.

## MEN'S GROUP

In June, the Men's Group got together with Ramps and built a ramp for a home owner in South Dallas who had limited access to their home due to needing a walker to move around. With the ramp, this person is now able to go up to their porch and enter the house without using steps. Nine men turned out and made quick work of the project.

Upcoming men's activities:

- July - A night at Lone Star Park for the horse races
- August - A visit to the Holocaust Museum in Dallas followed by lunch

For any questions, contact Bob Priest.



We received your generous Lenten Offering in the amount of \$1,542.00 in early June. We were so shocked that our little Parish had sacrificed so much to help those in need half way around the world. Thank you so much for every dollar that you decided to use to help these children. We don't take your support for granted and we truly appreciate all the prayers, financial support and verbal support and encouragement that you give us throughout the year.

God bless you!

*Bob and Robyn Priest, Co-Founders*

**OH BOY! SPAGHETTI DAYS  
FOR AUSTIN STREET CENTER!  
Mark your calendars now!!**

On Saturday, August 11th, 7:00pm, we will be enjoying a tasty spaghetti meal as part of the St Matthias' Annual Austin Street Center (ASC) Dinner and Fund Raiser. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Lacy Montgomery, Director of Partnerships and Community Engagements, at Austin Street Center.

The Austin Street Center in downtown Dallas is about changing one life at a time, providing emergency shelter and services to over 400 homeless men, women and children each day. The ASC mission statement is simple:

- When no love is expected, give it.
- When no sense of personal value is felt, offer it.
- Where there is a lack of respect given, provide it.

Each day these individuals find shelter, pastoral care, warm meals, medical care, clean clothes and hot showers at ASC. Additionally, ASC provides psychological counseling, work readiness programs, substance abuse counseling and voluntary Bible study and worship services.

All of these services and programs are offered free of charge to the clients of ASC. And here is an important fact: ASC does not accept state or federal funds. The Center is fully funded and supported by corporate and private donations and foundations.

On the third Sunday of each month, a team of volunteers meets at the church and prepares a hot meal. This hot meal, along with hundreds of sandwiches prepared by another group of dedicated volunteers, is delivered to the Center and served to the evening's guests. St. Matthias has supported the Center for ALMOST 30 YEARS through our hot meal and sandwich ministry. Not many organizations can make that claim! Please join us and enjoy the food and fellowship.