



NEWSLETTER OF THE
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
SAINTS ANDREW AND
MATTHEW

JULY – AUGUST, 2006

Meet Your New Vestry Members

Four new Vestry members were elected at the Annual Meeting on June 4.

Carolyn Haon, Herbert Harvey, Jr., Michelle Hastie, and Bob Richmond join the Vestry. Their terms of office will expire in 2009. The pre-election statements of each is printed below.



MICHELLE HASTIE - Upon returning to Delaware from Atlanta, my family and I joined SsAM in early 2005. We felt very drawn to SsAM because Gerald and I were married here (formerly St. Andrew's) in 1989 and because of the spirit and warmth we felt when we visited. I serve as a member of the Finance and Pastoral Care committees and I am a Lay Eucharistic Visitor. I also volunteer weekly in the office, have worked on the parish census, coordinated

the committees for the Diocesan Convention, and worked on our new parish banner. My children, Jordan and Tyler, were confirmed here last year and are active members of the Youth Group.



CAROLYN HAON - I have been a member of SsAM for seven years, and am currently serving as the Chairperson of Pastoral Care. I also coordinate the kitchen for PeaceKids camp, and for the Evensong Pot-Luck dinners. I attend the 8:00 service, and serve as a lector, communion assistant, and Eucharistic visitor.

HERBERT HARVEY, JR., better known as "Harvey," has been a member of St. Andrew's and subsequently Saints Andrew and Matthew for approximately eighteen years. He has been married for twenty years and has two children. He is owner and CEO of Harvey's Heating and A/C. He has been in business since 1980. He has been an adult education instructor, and has taught plumbing in a state apprenticeship program at night school for the past 10 years. He has developed strong leadership skills and has the ability to work in groups. He was an alternate delegate for the state convention this year. He has worked on numerous events at the church over the years.



New Vestry Officers Named

The Vestry elected new officers for 2006-2007.

Bill Young was elected Senior Warden; Yvonne Gordon, Junior Warden; Max Bell, Clerk; and Michelle Hastie, Treasurer.

An Audit Committee was appointed: Yvonne Gordon, chair; Michelle Hastie and Chris White.

The Vestry discussed the recent Annual Meeting. The overall feeling was that the meeting was positive, well organized and engaging. Feedback from the discussion groups will be incorporated into Strategic Planning for the next year and beyond. Implementation of some goals will start as early as this summer.

BOB RICHMOND is a founding member of SsAM. He sings in the choir, is a lector, Eucharistic Visitor, Lenten Lunch and Sweat Equity volunteer. For our 10th anniversary celebration, he is on the steering committee and photography team. As a member of the 2006 Diocesan Convention subcommittee, he got SsAM started in recycling materials, to fulfill a resolution which our Vestry presented to the Convention. For a

number of years, Bob has been a member of the Pilot Congregation, an inter-parish group which meets and worships monthly to combat racism in the Diocese of Delaware. During his spare time Bob leads hikes, sings in two choruses and guides school groups at Winterthur Museum.



11th Annual Meeting Deemed a Success!

The 11th Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew was held on Pentecost Sunday, June 4.

Following the celebration of Eucharist, members of the congregations selected one of six small groups in which to participate for discussion of parish goals:

- Community Involvement and Outreach/Justice Advocacy – to sharpen our awareness of current and emerging community issues and develop ministries that address them.
- Ministries/Programs/Youth Programs/Senior Programs/Non-Member Involvement/Vestry Committees – to design worship, programs and ministries to meet emerging trends and needs of members in order to attract new members and retain existing members.
- Close Knit Members – to form and maintain a supportive family of faith united in love for Christ and one another and who are involved together in the life and mission of the parish.

- Spiritual Enrichment – to be a gathering place for spiritual enrichment, worship, ministry and dialogue for all those who live and work in the Wilmington community.
- Communications – to develop an effective communications plan with targeted audiences to bring awareness about SsAM and ministries and to attract and retain members.
- Stewardship – to develop and maintain a high level of commitment to Christian stewardship, fiscal soundness, effective management of material, human resources and facilities so as to sustain a long range, effective presence in the diocese and the broader community.

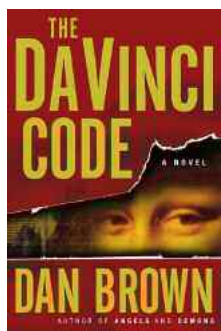
Vestry members served as facilitators for each group. There was lively discussion in each group and the Vestry will incorporate the results of these meetings into strategic planning for the next year.

The meeting concluded with the announcement of the newly elected Vestry members and brunch in the auditorium.

The Sins of the (Church) Fathers

by Rev. Rod Welles

One Lesson from *The Da Vinci Code* Controversy.



“...visiting the sins of the fathers upon the children and upon the children’s children.” *Exodus 20:5b*

The impact of Dan Brown’s novel (now a film) has been phenomenal, inspiring many denunciations, refutations, and debunkings. It has also inspired many affirmative book study groups focusing variously on history, art, geometry, and theology.

What’s all the fuss about? Many serious books of non-fiction featuring all of the central premises of *The Da Vinci Code* have been published since the first quarter of the last century with hardly anyone taking notice.

In my judgment, the central premise of the novel – that Jesus and Mary Magdalen were married and had a daughter, who in turn produced a bloodline extant to this day – is not the main cause of the intense interest of the general public. Of much broader interest, I believe, is the understanding of the role of women in Jesus’ company, in the New Testament Church, and in the subsequent history of the institutional Church.

While many of the arguments and conjectures put forward by characters in *The Da Vinci Code* are demonstrably untrue, one generality appears to be quite accurate: the early Church did not want to see women in leadership roles of any signif-

icance. The Apostles and their successors, including the writers of the New Testament, took care of this to the extent that scriptural prohibitions against women in institutional leadership are still widely quoted today from Jerusalem to Rome to Atlanta.

The Da Vinci Code may be flawed, but it has nonetheless exposed a sorry history of the suppression of women as institutional leaders in the Church as well as the outright oppression of millions of individuals and whole communities of faith in the name of doctrinal authority. It seems that Jesus’ final commandment to “love” and to “serve” was all too quickly subsumed by the church fathers’ needs for influence, power, control, and conformity. Small wonder that the negative attacks as well as the positive interest in *The Da Vinci Code* are so intense!

One important lesson I see is this: once faith becomes co-opted by the need for authority and control, the commandment to love and to serve no longer has power. We can see this negative dynamic at work in our present institutions – political, social, and Church. It has a life of its own. It persists from generation to generation. There are some genuine servant leaders out there, both women and men. They have little support. They always seem to lose out to leaders with ideological agendas, who seek authority, control, and conformity.

I truly hope we can learn to better develop and support authentic servant leadership in our political, social, and religious institutions, so we will not continue to live with the “sins of the fathers” for generations yet to come.

Disciples Group Finishes 34 Week Bible Study

by Cheri Tyree

In Disciple Bible Study a group of people make a covenant to meet once a week to view a video and discuss the week's lessons, pray for one another, the church and the world.

On May 22 SsAM's first group of dedicated students finished with a service and celebration of our spiritual gifts. This group consisted of Jayne Britt, Dot Dorsey, Eudel Drain, Kitty Esterly, Cheryl Thomas, Tom Roberts, Wanda Gardner Smith, Theora Wisher, Bill Young, Bob Young, and Sue Zimmerman. The group was facilitated by Cheri and Alex Tyree.

Seventeen weeks were spent studying the Old Testament and the same time was spent on the New Testament. The participants were presented with certificates of completion.

We have been on quite a journey together. We have read about 80% of the Bible. We have grown in trust with each other, knowledge of what the Bible says to us in context and in spirit. We have experienced love and care and encouragement for one another. We have realized the benefit of reading the Bible in community and receiving the collective spirit of the group. Some of us have wrestled with God and ourselves.

Congratulations to all of the Disciple graduates!

A new class will be forming in August to begin in the Fall. Call Cheri or Alex Tyree at 992-9711 to register. If you would like to know more about Disciple, just ask one of the graduates.



Parishioners who completed the Disciple Bible Study were recognized at the Annual Meeting. Left to right are Kitty Esterley, Wanda Gardner Smith, Bob Young, Theora Wisher, Bill Young, Dot Dorsey, Jayne Britt, Cheryl Thomas, and Sue Zimmerman. Not pictured are Eudel Drain and Tom Roberts. Group leaders were Alex and Cheri Tyree, standing behind those being recognized.

Annual Parish Picnic
Sunday, July 16th
12:30 p.m.



at Oberod

*A Prayer on the
Anniversary of the
Founding of our Parish*

Eternal God, graciously receive our thanks this day for the Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew. We bless you for all of those your servants who, guided by your spirit, labored mightily to bring this parish to birth. May we, inspired by their vision and encouraged by their faith, continue and build upon the work which they have begin.

We pray that through our abiding witness, your people in this and generations yet to come, may experience the peace, justice and abundant life which you promise through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

College Scholarships Available

The Community Advocacy Committee is again sponsoring \$500 scholarships for students entering college in the fall of 2006 or those who are already enrolled. The scholarship program is open to members of our parish.

The scholarship program is funded through the committee's budget and the AIM Fund. Last year, seven students received scholarships, which are used for books and supplies. Previous recipients are welcome to reapply.

Students interested in applying for the scholarship should contact Alice Smith (376-0200) or email her at hcsvette@aol.com for a copy of the application form and guidelines.

The application deadline is July 15, 2006. Applications that are not returned to the church by that date will not be accepted.

Last year SsAM provided scholarships to David Clark, Virginia State University; Jazmyn Holt, Delaware State University; Sarah Kuhl, Salem Community College; Tanisha Julius, Spelman College; Matthew McCready, Arizona State University; Courtney Streett, Wellesley College; and Tianna Wisner, Wesley College.

SsAM Walkers Group Forming



Are you looking for someone to walk with? Join us to walk for exercise at the beautiful Wilmington waterfront on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. We will meet by the Shipyard Shops under the cranes.

This group is just starting up, so more evenings may be added and the start time is negotiable. Our first "outing" will be Wednesday, June 28. If you are interested please call Cheri Tyree at 992-9711 or Sharon Bryant at 656-9524.

Meditation & Bible Study on Hiatus

Meditation and Bible Study classes have ended for this season. Classes will resume in September. Watch *Weekly Vision* for dates.

Apostles-In-Mission Fund Reaches Many

ABOUT THE SECOND COLLECTION



Every first and third Sunday the ushers pass baskets for a second collection, and we mention that this is "AIM Sunday."

Perhaps not everyone knows what this means.

This collection goes into a separate fund administered by the Community Advocacy Committee and it provides funds for a number of needs.

Often the Rector's Discretionary Fund calls upon the AIM Fund to help both parish members and individuals in the community with special and urgent financial problems. It has also provided funds in response to appeals from missionaries, from the People's Settlement House to enable them to hold holiday dinners, and from Limen House which provides transitional housing for those recovering from addiction. Funds also go to college scholarships as described at left.

Much good work of mercy is done by this fund and you are encouraged to give generously.

A Very Special Thank You

A special thank you to Gloria Conner-Bungy and the members of the SsAM Funeral Repast Committee for their time, generosity and TLC shown to SsAM families who have lost loved ones in the past few weeks.

In addition to Gloria, members include Dot Dorsey, Pat Griffin, Louise Spaulding, Cynthia Oates, Louise Lewis, Sheila Dorsey, Jayne Britt, Charles Bungy, and Leroy Ames.

Deadline for 10th Anniversary Book Ads Approaches



The deadline for ads and patron names to be included in the 10th Anniversary Commemorative Book is August 15.

The book will contain the history of each of the former churches as well as SsAM's history over the past ten years, a pictorial history, congratulatory letters, memorials, etc.

Please consider purchasing space in the book for your personal and/or family use. You may purchase space for your non-profit or commercial business. Be listed as a patron by purchasing space in the book.

If you have any questions, or need assistance in designing an ad, please contact Geoff Sawyer, 655-5530.



Fun for All Ages

SsAM Downtown Festival

Fish Fry,

Arts, Crafts,

Music and More!



Lots to Eat

Face Painting

Saturday, July 1
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(rain date July 2)



Bandstand Concerts

Poetry Readings



Whistling Contest

July Birthdays

6
Gracie Gaskell
Ann Schneider
Gertrude Shipp

7
Cecily Gordon

14
Joshua White

17
Yvonne Gordon

18
Sarah Kuhl

19
Dell Venarde

22
Sandra Holt

26
Leroy Ames
Ogechi Nwanedwu

27
Lora Byrd
31
Owen Peck

August Birthdays

2
Nancy Harris

3
Leroy Burks

4
Naa-Okailey Annan
Alphonso Brock
Louise Lewis
Lucia Robinson
Martha Wallin

5
Orlen Washington

6
Richard Jones
Ron Jackson

7
Joseph Johnson

8
Tiffany Wisher

10
Chaz Schneider

12
Patricia Griffin

14
Daniel Ridout

15
Delores Cotman

16
Peter Huiner
Carmen Thomas

18
Chuck Hines
Tracy Lea-Dorsey

19
Kelly Bethea

23
Shannon Faulk
Elizabeth Hunt

26
Alex Oates

27
Jeane Downs
Leona Ellison
Sandy Johnson

28
Robert Young

29
Jazmyn Holt
Karen Johnson

31
Diane Streett



PeaceKids Camp Update

by Jean Kuhl

PeaceKids Camp has been held every August since 2003.

In this week-long program, children of the parish and the wider community have learned how to “wage peace” and resolve conflicts in their lives at home, at play and in everyday life.

After consultation, members of the camp committee, the Rector, and I have all agreed that we should postpone PeaceKids Camp this summer, and use this time to develop even more creative approaches to all aspects of the program.

Special heartfelt thanks to all who have ever volunteered as teachers, cooks and kitchen support, recreation leaders, demonstrators, and of course, to the young participants themselves.

We look forward to 2007 and the best PeaceKids Camp ever.

Summertime and the Living is Busy

Summer has arrived, school is out and the SsAM Soul teen group is busier than ever.

During the month of June, we celebrated our fathers, grandfathers and men friends, our group’s many accomplishments including middle and high school graduations, grade promotions, our new confirmands, and a full season of SsAM Soul activities.

Over the last six months, in addition to having lots of fun at our pizza/hot wing parties, we have met regularly, elected officers and received training to become acolytes, lectors and ushers. We enjoyed our first group trip to the movies to enjoy *Akeela and the Bee*. We have also volunteered our services for the Church School Program, SsAM Clean-up Day, the Pancake Dinner, and the Diocesan Convention. We are also very proud of our newsletter *The SsAM Ambassador*.

Be sure to look for us at the SsAM Community Fair and Fish Fry Saturday, July 1st. We will sell beverages, SsAM bracelets and hand out balloons. Also, while you are at the Fair, we invite you to stop at the SsAM Soul teen tent to register for the 10th Anniversary/10 Block/\$10 Walk.

We will take a much-deserved break during August. This time will be used to re-energize our group before we begin our new season, which we look forward to with great excitement.

We begin our fall season by continuing to explore our SsAM ministries, supporting a local outreach/service project and participating in Diocesan/National youth events. Please stay tuned for more information regarding events scheduled for the September 23rd, 10th Anniversary/10 Block/\$10 Walk and Hip-Hop Mass tentatively scheduled for October.

We wish to extend our thanks to the SsAM faith community for your support for our Teen Ministry.

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

Congratulations to recent high school graduates Brandon Rice and Christian Harvey.



Brandon, president of the SsAM Soul teen group, graduated June 6th from Christian High School. He is 18 and lives in Newark with his mother Nikki and brother Derrick. Brandon’s nickname is Josh. His favorite subjects are math and Spanish.

Brandon aspires to attend George Mason University, play basketball for their award-winning team and ultimately become a player for the National Basketball Association. According to Brandon, the words that best describe his personality are funny, smart and handsome. He spends his free time hanging out with friends and playing basketball.

Brandon is a SsAM acolyte and recently volunteered as a guide during the Diocesan Convention. Brandon was confirmed last year by Bishop Wright.

Christian graduated June 2nd from William Penn High School. He is 18 and lives in New Castle with his parents, Rochelle and Herbert Harvey, Jr., and sister Leah.

Having received an athletic scholarship and grant, Christian will attend LaSalle University. He will major in history. The words that best describe Christian’s personality are friendly, funny and athletic. Christian enjoys playing tennis and hanging out with family and friends.

He is one of our more experienced acolytes and is always ready to assist our newly-trained acolytes learn the ropes.

Christian and Brandon - Best wishes for your continued success. We are all proud of you.



Congratulations to the Recent Confirmands!

Shaalih Brock, Pere Gaddis, Tierra and Tiffany Wisler were confirmed by Bishop Wright on June 25.

Confirmation is a big step. It's a statement to the Church, to God and to those around us that you CONFIRM your Baptismal vows and you become a full member of the Church. On June 25, Bishop Wright came to lay hands on you who chose to make this statement about your faith.

Before getting confirmed, you attended and completed the necessary classes to learn about what confirmation is and gain a deeper understanding of the Episcopal Church. Along the way, we learned about each other as you matured spiritually.

On behalf of SsAM, I congratulate you. Welcome to our faith community.

Linda Jackson

Kristen Lake Gets Tennis Win for Charter School

Kristen recently earned a victory over Newark High School's Alicia Baddorf, helping the Charter School improve its winning record to 11-1.

"I like moving up because the level of play is a bit more difficult," said Kristen, who is undefeated this season. "It's more like the level of play I'll see when I go to the state tournament."

Kristen's poise impressed Charter School coach Lynn D'Amour. "She stepped in and took her game up a level and got good preparation for the state tournament."

Congratulations Kristen.

A Summer Prayer

*Long warm days...
The pace of life slows...
A time for picnics and rest in the shade...*

*Lord, help me to rest awhile
in the cooling shade of your presence.
Slow down my restless heart and
fill me with gentle compassion
for all your people.
Amen.*

10 Years, 10 Blocks, 10 Dollars



Keep the date Saturday, September 23!

Make plans now to join the SsAM Soul teen group as they commemorate the merging of Saints Matthew and Andrew ten years ago to form the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew.

The walk will begin at SsAM at 9:00 a.m. We will walk five blocks to old St. Matthew's (7th and Walnut Streets), then retrace the five blocks, returning to SsAM.

Register as early as July 1st to participate. The cost is \$10. All registrants will receive a 10th Anniversary/10 Block Walk tee-shirt.

Youth Calendar of Events

July

1 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Community Fair/Fish Fry

August

Summer Break !!!!!!!

September

10	2:00 - 5:00 p.m.	SsAM Soul Party
23	8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Registration for 10th Anniversary/10 Block Walk
	9:00 a.m.	Walk begins

October

8	2:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Teen Meeting
TBA		Hip-Hop Mass

October Hip-Hop Mass

This fall, as part of our Season of Creation, SsAM will sponsor a Hip-Hop Mass. The hip hop mass has been described as a way to bring the Word of God to the community, using rap music, strong beats associated with the culture of hip-hop.

As the Rev. Howard Blunt, former interim priest at Trinity explained, "the hip hop masses break the mold for the Episcopal Church and opens an old institution to a new way of relating to the community."

The service is more than just liturgy. Music mixing, poetry recitations and pounding beats add together to bring new energy, excitement and spirituality to the experience.

Stay tuned for more information.

Upcoming Activities & Events

The Daily Parish
Calendar can be
seen on the
SsAM website—
www.ssam.org.

July

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Community Fair |
| 2 | | AIM Sunday |
| 4 | | Church offices closed |
| 8 | 7:00 p.m. | Harry Spencer Jazz Concert |
| 16 | | AIM Sunday |
| | 12:30 p.m. | Annual Parish Picnic |
| 23 | 2:00 p.m. | Hockessin Hills |

Next *Vision* Deadline

The copy deadline for the September/October *Vision* is August 10. Please contact the editor at soupgal@comcast.net to discuss story ideas or photos. Please put "Vision" in the subject line of all emails.

August

- | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------------|
| 6 | | AIM Sunday |
| 20 | | AIM Sunday |
| | 2:00 p.m. | Hockessin Hills |

September

- | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 23 | 8:00 a.m. | Registration for 10 Years/10 Blocks/\$10 Walk |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Walk to old St. Matthew's begins |



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINTS ANDREW AND MATTHEW
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