

VISION

NEWSLETTER OF THE
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
SAINTS ANDREW AND
MATTHEW

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2007

Highlights of July and August Vestry Meetings

July 18, 2007 Meeting

Vestry member Martha Wallin offered the opening prayer.

As the August issue of the bi-monthly *Vision* was going to press we were informed that the Reverend Driss Knickerbocker, who had been offered the position of Interim Rector, was unable to accept this position. Recent health problems that he encountered caused him to re-evaluate whether he would be able to effectively handle the challenges of the offered position. On the advice of the Bishop, the Vestry authorized the Wardens to recontact one of the other candidates who had been interviewed. This person was not interested in pursuing the Interim position any further because of a change in the family situation which favored remaining in the New York City area. Following these events, Vestry members met again with Bishop Wright who was unable to recommend other Interim candidates at that time, but agreed that we would continue using Rod Welles and Peter Huiner for services through this period. When the Bishop returns from vacation in late August, the Vestry will again discuss the Interim situation with him. We will not establish a Vestry Transition Committee until the person selected as Interim is in place.

A new Parish Life Committee was established to attend to the life of the congregation and to see that we do not miss opportunities to encourage the congregation during this time of transition. It was suggested that a focus on the Millennium Development Goals that were proposed by the SsAM delegation to the Diocesan Convention and approved by that body, might be an excellent way to do this. Max Bell volunteered to head this committee with the assistance of Dot Dorsey and Walt Cheatham.

A withdrawal of \$85,000 from the Investment account held in Master Fund A was authorized to supplement pledge income and allow cash flow needs to be met over the next few months. Money taken from the SsAM endowments this year is still less than the amount anticipated in the 2007 Annual budget. Pledge income continues to be under forecast but is expected to improve as the Fall season gets underway.

The Vestry acknowledged the outstanding success of the 2007 Downtown Fair and expressed its appreciation to Judi Gregory, Chairperson, and the many volunteers who contributed their time and talents to this event.

At the conclusion of the regular Vestry meeting an Executive Session was held to discuss personnel matters.

The closing prayer was offered by Chip MacKelcan.

August 15, 2007 Meeting

Vestry member Jim Linderman offered the opening prayer.

The Treasurer, Adrian Allen, reported that July year-to-date expenses have been \$458,267 and income has been \$335,237. The shortfall has been covered by withdrawing funds from the endowment account. It was proposed and agreed that work on the 2008 budget should be started in September in order to get final approval by the end of the year.

Michelle Hastie, Senior Warden, reported on the status of work with the Diocese to obtain an Interim Rector who can lead our liturgy and services while we search for a new permanent Rector. The Vestry approved the recommended direction; however, details cannot be reported at this time.

The Vestry Planning Retreat will be held on September 21 and 22 at the Delaware National Country Club. An agenda with proposed topics was discussed by the group.

It was reported that a contract has been signed by SsAM Property, Inc. to have the parking lot repaired and repaved. This work is expected to be carried out from Friday night through early Monday morning (September 7-10). Parking for the Sunday service will be at the Wilmington Parking Authority lot across 8th and Orange Street or on the street. The cost of this effort will be \$14,300.

A progress report was submitted by the SsAM Organ Restoration Committee. A profile of the improvements that are needed has been prepared and will be sent to various organ builders who have been identified.

A revitalized Sunday School Advisory Board has met several times over the past few months. It is planned that the Sunday School will reopen on September 23rd. Five teachers have been recruited but more are needed.

The closing prayer was offered by Dot Dorsey.

Bring A Friend Sunday
September 23
10:30 a.m. Service

Profile for Organ Renovation

The Organ Committee of The Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew is looking for an organ builder who can give us an excellent tonal design that fits the space and addresses the musical and liturgical needs of the congregation.

We would like to see the renovated instrument use the majority of the current organ as the basis of the instrument with appropriate stops from the St. Matthews Organ incorporated to complete the tonal design.

Our current Console (3 manual) needs to be rebuilt or replaced. We would like the new console to feature current technology standards such as:

- Multi-level combination action
- Programmable Crescendo Pedal
- Easily movable
- Low-profile

We would ideally like to have three divisions in the front of the church (Great, Swell and Choir). We would like to retain a portion of the antiphonal division in the rear gallery to support hymn singing and add color and special effects to the main organ.

Use of electronic stops may be considered on a limited basis, particularly in the pedal division.

Environmental conditions that need to be addressed:

- Temperature issues - due to front chambers being on a poorly insulated outside wall
- Tuning issues - uneven fluctuations due to the organ being on three levels
- Air intake from basement - should it come from the sanctuary

Musical considerations and objectives:

- Instrument should be capable of playing full range of standard organ repertoire
- Well suited for inspiring hymn and service music accompaniment
- Variety of levels and colors for accompanying choral music

Mechanical and maintenance considerations:

- Pipes and chests need to be accessible for maintenance and tuning
- Instrument needs to be well designed, well voiced and hold its tuning
- Ongoing tuning and maintenance need to be considered as part of the plan

SsAM Organ Renovation and Upgrade Program Committee

It has been recognized for several years that our organ has aged to the point of overall concern.

The committee listed below has met several times to review extensive information about options for upgrading the performance and usability of this organ. This profile, which describes the features and improvements that we would hope to obtain, has been prepared as basic data for various organ builders that have been identified. It is presented here to provide some helpful information to parishioners. For more information please see one of the committee members: Kitty Esterly, Pat Griffin, Karen Johnson, Joe Johnson, Bob Richmond, Lu Soukup, Dell Venarde, Bill Young, and David Christopher, organist.

The Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi will be celebrated on Saturday, October 6 with the blessing of the animals at 1:00 p.m. All pets such as dogs, cats, fish, birds, and hamsters are welcome. Unusual pets will also make their appearance. If you have an animal that might require special handling or precautions, please contact the church ahead of time.



ECW Prayer Breakfast Scheduled for September 15

The Annual ECW Prayer Breakfast will be held on September 15 in the Auditorium.

This year's theme is Moving Forward to Christ through the Stages of Change. Alice Sawyer is the speaker.

Alice is a National Facilitator for Membership Success for the YMCA of the USA, Membership & Program Group. She began her career with the YMCA of Delaware in 1978, specializing in membership development, marketing, public relations and financial development. She then spent five years as the Associate Director of the Philadelphia MRC, and then Membership/Marketing Consultant on the YMCA of the USA East Field Office team, before moving onto her current national position.

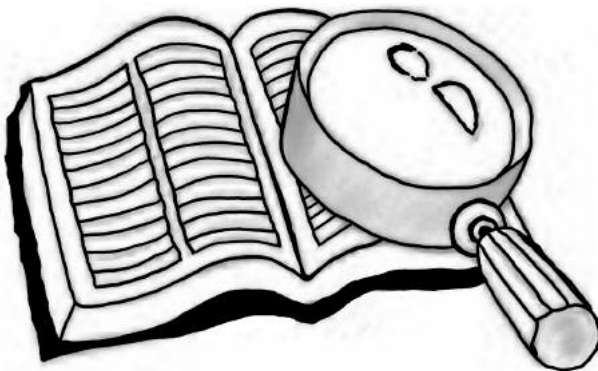
Alice's real passion is member service and member "involvement," and she continues to be a champion for the



mission of the YMCA as it applies to members and staff. She currently develops tools and trainings and travels extensively throughout the country as a popular speaker and presenter. The 2002 National APD Kuensli-Hall Award was presented to Alice for her many contributions to the YMCA. This award is the highest honor presented through the YMCA's National Professional Organization for lifetime achievement in developing others. She is the first woman to have received this national honor in the YMCA.

Alice and her husband Geoff joined St. Andrew's Church shortly before the consolidation. She has worked with SsAM's membership committee as well as serving as a past president of the ECW organization for SsAM. She is on the board of Friendship House, and serves on The Delaware Humanities Council. She provides spiritual leadership at the 8:00 a.m. Chapel Service most Sunday mornings following the Friendship House Breakfast at SsAM. Her wonderful thoughtful messages at the Chapel Service have inspired many and created a Chapel family of diverse, dedicated, supportive members of the greater church community.

Tickets for the ECW Prayer Breakfast are \$10 and you may call (302) 656-6628 for additional information.



Nurturing the Imagination to Uncover God's Mysteries

**Sunday School starts
September 23 for
Ages 3-12:
"SsAM's God Squad"**

Eight SsAM Members Receive Academic Scholarships

The Community Advocacy Committee is pleased to announce that eight of our college students have received \$500 scholarships for the upcoming school year. These scholarships are awarded through the Rev. Canon Lloyd S. Casson Scholarship Program, which is open to members of the parish. The recipients are pictured here. We wish them well in their studies this year.



Christian Harvey, sophomore,
LaSalle University



Jazmyn Holt, senior,
Delaware State University



Courtney Streett, junior,
Wellesley College

Kristin Lake, freshman,
University of Maryland,
College Park



Sara Hengel, senior,
University of Delaware



Darren Saunders, freshman,
Ursinus College



Andrew Hengel, sophomore,
University of Delaware

Nii-Ayitey Annan, junior,
George Washington University



Property and Maintenance Corner

The summer is a time of maximum activity for the Property and Maintenance group. Many work efforts have been underway.

Air conditioning problems in the Sanctuary and Nave that have prevented keeping the temperature at a comfortable level during the 10:30 service have involved improper setting of the thermostat controls on some occasions, but were primarily caused by non-functioning of one of the three compressors that service the Nave area. This compressor has been replaced so that the total cooling capacity is now back to normal. In addition, it has been decided to replace the two thermostats with a more modern and easily programmable version.

The major summer project has been the repair and painting of the Orange Street side of the building. Lionel Hampton has been contracted to perform the painting (see photo). A number of volunteers have been repairing and replacing damaged wood that has rotted over the years. All of the iron window grates on the basement level have been temporarily removed for sandblasting and repainting. A replacement for a broken window pane in the second floor Sunday School room has been ordered.

Work on upgrading the AA room has continued with final painting in the room and replacement of the electrical

receptacles with new ones.

Damaged wood on the Chapel exterior door has been removed and replaced.

A contractor has been hired to extensively clean the entire kitchen area.

Estimates have been received for repairing and repaving the entire parking lot. This work has been scheduled for Friday night, September 7, through early Monday morning, September 10.



Birthdays

SEPTEMBER

16	Andrew Hengel Gerald Hastie
19	Karen Brown Tiffany Hargis
20	Nicole Cunningham
25	Jordan Hastie
26	Phil Murphree
27	Rochelle Harvey
28	Max Bell
29	Ike Oubonnia
30	Yancey Barnes
1	Christopher Nicholls
3	Karen Edwards
7	Beatrice Polk
10	Linda Jackson
13	Kelly Holt
14	Joshua Martin Charles Bungy
15	Joyce Bembry Seth Faulk

OCTOBER

1	Cheryl Thomas-Etienne Michelle Jones	17	La'Erica Conner Sims James Ballard Ernestine Brock-Walker
2	Hugh Wallace Geoffrey Sawyer	19	Susan Murphree
6	Reginald Banks	21	Monica Oates
8	Ernest Barnes	24	W. Roberts Richmond
10	Neonta Crain	25	Marvin Nwanekwu
11	Katherine Esterly	28	Ana Washington Nii-Ayitey Annan
15	Matthew Smith Harvey Smith Clifton Gordon	29	Anand Alexander



Delaware's Annual Sea Sunday September 16

Delaware's Annual Sea Sunday, coordinated by the Seamen's Center of Wilmington, will be celebrated this year on September 16.

The observance will take place at local religious communities and at the Port of Wilmington. Started many years ago in the United Kingdom, Sea Sunday continues to be a major event in seamen's centers and churches around the world. The Anglican Church has been very strong in its support of this effort.

With this occasion, our community gives thanks for seafarers whose lifestyle means long separations from homes and families, and the vital role they play in international trade. Merchant mariners spend much of their lives at sea. Many, unfortunately, endure deplorable working conditions and unfair treatment.



Over 10,000 seafarers visit the ports in Delaware each year. During their brief stay in port, the Seamen's Center in Wilmington offers a warm and friendly place for the seamen to relax, and the staff and volunteers assist them with their diverse needs.

Sea Sunday at the Seamen's Center of Wilmington will be held from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. on September 16. Photo ID required. Activities will consist of an ecumenical service followed by refreshments, open house at the Center, and tours of the Port. For additional information or directions, please call Joan Lyons, Executive Director, at (302) 575-1300.

The Seamen's Center is always looking for donations of used items for the Seafarers, such as videos, magazines, playing cards, games, puzzles, and books. If you would like to contribute, contact Joan Lyons.

Parish Life Day: Many Gifts, One Spirit

Parish Life Day brings together our diocesan family from across the state for wonderful fellowship, good food, exhibit browsing (and some Christmas shopping), and educational workshops.

This year Parish Life Day is scheduled for Saturday, November 17, at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Registration deadline is November 2. Questions? Contact Cynde Bimbi at (302) 656-5443, ext. 106.

Nearly 200 participants will take part in this day described as "Delaware's Second Convention." Simply stated by some, "a fun day!" Aside from the wide-range of professional workshops, the highlights for many are the sense of community, seeing old friends, creating new relationships, worship, and the homemade food. All workshops receive great reviews.

To add to the festivities, over \$1000 in door prizes will be given away.

While the adults enjoy their day, children have their day filled with their free program.

Registration has begun. Early registration is recommended, as many workshops last year filled to capacity and late registrants were unable to participate in their preferred workshop.

Match Wits Youth Bowl: An Episcopalian tournament for youth ages 13-17 will debut at Parish Life Day. Start putting

your team together now!

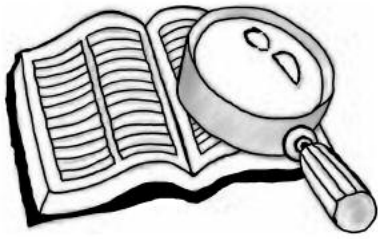
This tournament coincides perfectly with the start of a new program year for Christian Education; and as the youth begin anew for 2007-08, they can be motivated to know that their learning can be put to the test in a fun and friendly competition in November, while representing their church at Parish Life Day.

In addition to good-natured bragging rights, the winning team will go home with a traveling trophy to display in their Parish Hall.

So get your groove on! And get a youth team (ages 13-17) together to compete in this Match Wits tournament moderated by The Rev. Jay Angerer.

To give the kids a sense of how to prepare, clergy are submitting questions for the bowl that focus on our community worship, the Episcopal Church, and the Gospel of Matthew.

Sunday School Plans Big Opening on September 23



A revitalized Sunday School Advisory Board has met several times in the past few months preparing for the resumption of a program for our children on September 23.

The Logos curriculum will be continued; however, it will be tailored for a new music program under the direction of David Christopher.

This "Music in the Sunday School" will start on October 7. Two of our Choral Scholars, Kim Doucette and Angelyn Robinson will be leading the program assisted by Delores Cotman. The plan includes a period of singing each week in Sunday School and then on the fourth Sunday of each month, the children will present one of their songs of worship at the 10:30 service (following the Peace).

Five teachers have been recruited, but more will be needed. A teacher training program will be carried out in late August and early September. A theme for the Sunday School is being created that can be used for marketing and advertising of this new effort. Judi Gregory and Danny Schweers are assisting the committee in that area.

A Sunday School workday will be planned for early September to prepare the area for classes.

Members of the Advisory Board include: Adrian Allen, Sheridan Bell, Shirley Bynoe, Jenna Christy, Anne Gibson, Judith Gregory, Patricia Griffin, Pat Hampton, Kelly Holt, Stacy Lea Mentor, Beatrice Polk, Alice Sawyer, Danny Schweers, Carol Scott, Tanisha Julius, Lucia Robinson.

Coming This Fall – Disciple Bible Study

Disciple is a 34-week Bible study in which we will examine both the Old and New Testaments. A small group of committed people will meet weekly for two hours to view a video applying biblical scholarship, discuss what we have read for the week and support one another on our spiritual journeys.

Disciple is a bible study that aims at transformation, not just information. Consider this opportunity to read, study, and experience the Bible in a new way with a small group seeking to learn what discipleship means to us.

Call Cheri or Alex Tyree at 992-9711 for more information.

Choral Evensong Dates Announced

Choral Evensong featuring the SsAM Adult Choir and The Choral Scholars with David Christopher, Organist and Director of Music will be held on the following Sundays at 5:00 p.m.:

September 30
November 4
February 24
April 20

The SsAM Adult Choir will also be a guest choir for Evensong at Immanuel on the Green, New Castle, DE on Sunday, April 13 at 4:00 p.m.

For more information visit the church's web site at www.ssam.org or call the church office at 302-656-6628.

Piffaro: the Renaissance Band Returns to SsAM



Concert dates for Piffaro: the Renaissance Band for the 2007-2008 season at SsAM have been announced.

Flemish Masters: a Celebration of Musical Genius from the Low Countries will be on Sunday, October 28, 2007, at 4:00 p.m.

Es ist ein Ro: a Night of Caroling in Renaissance Bavaria will be held on Sunday, December 23, 2007, at 4:00 p.m.

The London Waites: English Music for Renaissance Wind Bands will take place on Sunday, May 4, 2008, at 4:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$30 Preferred, \$24 General, \$15 Students; Senior Citizen Discount: \$4.00 off Preferred or General seating. Call (215) 235-8469 to order tickets or visit www.piffaro.com.

Upcoming Activities & Events

September

2		AIM Sunday
3		Labor Day, church offices closed
9	9:00 a.m.	Adult Education resumes
15	9:00 a.m.	ECW Prayer Breakfast
16		AIM Sunday
	3:00-6:00 p.m.	Sea Sunday at Port of Wilmington
20		Adult choir rehearsals resume
21-22		Vestry Retreat
23	10:30 a.m.	Bring-A-Friend Sunday
	2:00 p.m.	Regal Healthcare
30	5:00 p.m.	Choral Evensong

October

6	1:00 p.m.	Blessing of the Animals
7		AIM Sunday
14	10:30 a.m.	Season of Creation begins
21		AIM Sunday
28	2:00 p.m.	Regal Healthcare
	4:00 p.m.	Piffaro Concert



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

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