

# VISION

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF  
SAINTS ANDREW AND  
MATTHEW

MARCH – APRIL, 2009

## New Interim Rector

*by Michelle Hastie, Sr. Warden  
and Geoff Sawyer, Jr. Warden*

The Wardens of the Vestry are very pleased to announce the appointment of the Reverend Canon Carl Kunz Jr. as our Interim Pastor. Working with Rod Welles, Carl will serve as our interim until our new Rector arrives.

Carl has been a part of the Diocese of Delaware since 1967. He served as Rector of St. Anne's, Middletown for five years, Executive Officer of the Diocese for 21 years and Chaplain of St. Andrew's School, Middletown for 11 years. Retiring in 2004, he has filled clerical leadership positions at various parishes as Bishop's Vicar. Most recently, he served as Pastoral Associate at Christ Church Christiana Hundred, Greenville.

Carl is very familiar with Saints Andrew and Matthew and with great enthusiasm is looking forward to being a part of SsAM. He will have office hours at SsAM Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings and will officiate at Sunday services, the healing service on Wednesday, and the Regal Heights service as well as do pastoral visits and fulfill other clerical leadership duties.

Please extend to Carl a warm heartfelt welcome as only SsAM can do! Once you get to know him, we are sure you will be as pleased as we are that he is joining us at SsAM.

## Search Committee Update

The Search Committee is now entering the interviewing phase of our journey. The Bishop and the Diocesan Deployment Officer have explored potential candidates and a final list has been approved by the Bishop and Standing Committee. The names of the approved candidates were forwarded to the Search Committee on February 21. The search committee will interview each candidate as he/she visits Wilmington and our parish. Then a team of 2-3 people will visit each parish and attend Sunday worship where a candidate serves. These visits will allow us to have in-depth dialogues with each candidate, to observe their liturgical practices and preaching, and to meet discreetly with a few members of their congregation.



The discernment process is a mutual one: while we try to discern what the Spirit is directing for the Episcopal Church of Sts. Andrew and Matthew, each of the candidates is likewise discerning whether a call to SsAM is right for them. Confidentiality is essential in all aspects of this interview process. We continue to be flexible in our timetable, but we are on track to present our recommendations to the Vestry by mid-year. We will continue periodic reports to the congregation on our progress. We appreciate the feedback and advice provided to us by the members of SsAM and thank you for your prayers, support, and patience during the search.

Committee Members are: Alice Sawyer and Walt Cheatham, co-chairs; Jim Ballard, Max Bell, Eudel Drain, Tracy Lea-Dorsey, Pat Hampton, Tom Roberts, Alice Smith, Wanda Smith, Cheri Tyree, and Bob Young.

## Senior Warden's Letter

*by Michelle Hastie, Senior Warden*

**Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights. —Pauline R. Kezer**

Over the past several months Father Thom's leadership as Interim Rector has led us to become a stronger church community. We are thankful for his guidance in helping SsAM embrace new ways of communicating with each other and for openly sharing his spirituality with us. He will be greatly missed and we pray that he will soon be able to continue to help others as he has helped us.

The Vestry has called Carl Kunz to be the new Interim Rector and to be with us until our new Rector is called. I want to thank Rod Welles for graciously answering the Bishop's call to shepherd us until Carl took up his duties.

The Search Committee has received the names of candidates from the Bishop and Standing Committee and will soon begin the interviewing process. Confidentiality of the identity and background of the candidates is extremely important and there will be information that cannot be shared with the entire congregation. It is my sincere hope that SsAM will be able to call a new Rector by early summer.

Despite the changes and challenges we have been through over the past 18 months, SsAM remains a strong and vibrant faith community. We have had two strong stewardship seasons and we will continue to remain true to our mission to be an inclusive Christian community which worships God, follows Christ in all aspects of our lives, and serves others through our various ministries.

As always, the Wardens and the Vestry continue to manage the "temporal" matters of the church. Your comments and suggestions to the Vestry have been very important and are always welcomed. Most importantly, your faithfulness and dedication to SsAM during our transition is greatly appreciated.

## Vestry Update

by Geoff Sawyer, Junior Warden

The Vestry has approved the 2009 financial budget. While it continues to reflect cost-cutting efforts in every area, we are still forced to rely on reducing our endowment funds in order to balance the budget. While it is never wise to rely on endowment capital for operating funds, this is particularly harmful right now since the endowment value has decreased considerably due to the recession. In addition to cost-cutting, the other way to decrease our reliance on the endowment is to increase the amount pledged by the congregation. Considering the economic climate, we have done well. 65% of our families have pledged a total of \$312,500.

**SsAM Still Needs Your Help:** For the remaining 35% of SsAM families, it is not too late to make a 2009 pledge. Pledge forms are in the Narthex or you can call the church office and they will send one out to you. Please support SsAM and our vision to be a dynamic spiritual center which is active in the pursuit of peace and justice in the community, and a place where all of God's people are honored. While we have all been affected to some degree by the recession, help SsAM to help those who are truly in need in our community.

**Other Vestry News:** Carol Scott and Bob Richmond have been appointed as our delegates to the Diocesan Convention to be held at Christ Church, Greenville in late March. Diane Clark Streett and Charles Annan are the alternates.

An ad hoc Vestry committee (Bob Richmond, Charles Annan, and Chip McKelcan) will send out a survey request to the various SsAM ministries asking for their "wish list" as to their property needs. This could involve capital budget items or simply room furnishing needs. The objective is to assemble a prioritized list of projects to be done when we are in a financial position to do so.

Ministries' Sunday was held the last Sunday in January. It was impressive seeing more than 20 ministry booths lined up around the auditorium. Those that attended got a chance to find out more about the various volunteer activities at SsAM and hopefully become involved in some. We are hoping this will become an annual event.

## Property Highlights

Demolition is progressing rapidly on the 701 Shipley Street property and completion of this phase is expected in early March.

With warmer weather coming, it is time to plan for an outdoor and indoor SsAM workday. Gardens will need new mulch, plants and trees trimmed and flowers planted. Inside there will be windows to be washed, air conditioner units reinstalled, and cleanup preparations for the Easter season. It is planned to hold this workday on April 4 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Anyone free to contribute some time on April 4 will be greatly appreciated.

Final cleanup and preparation of the 732 Nottingham Road Rectory for inspection by potential Rector candidates will be completed in the next few weeks. Extensive repair work has been completed on the heating units in the Demby room. Heat in the room is now adequate.

## Our "Souper" Bowl Sunday was SUPER!

Fifteen members displayed their culinary excellence with a wide variety of soups on "Souper" Bowl Sunday in February. We would like to recognize and applaud their contributions:

- Pumpkin Mushroom—*Karen Johnson*
- Vegetable—*Gloria Connor-Bungy*
- Turkey Bean—*Retha Fisher*
- Chili—*Susan Murphree*
- Butternut Squash—*Shirley Bynoe*
- Maryland Crab—*Pat Griffin*
- Tuscan Bean—*Carol Scott*
- Roasted Potato and Leek—*Carolyn Haon*
- Lentil—*Elizabeth Hunt*
- Chicken Corn Chowder—*Alice Smith*
- Vegetable Bean—*Dot Dorsey*
- Navy Bean with Ham—*Cynthia Oates*
- Onion—*Carolyn Lea*
- Three Bean with Rosemary—*Jenna Christy*
- Black Bean—*Dell Venarde* (good to have her back!)

Thanks also to Community Advocacy committee members Retha Fisher, Karen Johnson, Shirley Bynoe, Alice Smith, and Susan and Phil Murphree, assisted by Dot Dorsey, Carolyn Haon, and Carol Scott, for helping to serve and clean up the soup. Almost \$275 was raised to go toward our Youth Group's mission trip to New Orleans in March.

## Youth Calendar of Events

### MARCH

- Sunday, March 8, 10:30am–12:00pm, **Mission Trip Blessing** in the Nave
- Sunday, March 8, 12:00pm–2:00pm, **Fashion Show Kick-off sign-up and meeting**, Teen Suite
- Saturday, March 14–21, **Mission Trip to New Orleans** New Orleans
- Saturday, March 28, **Education Forum** (Sr. SsAM Soul)  
Location TBD
- Sunday, March 29, 10:30am–12:00pm, **Youth Confirmation Class** in Teen Suite
- Sunday, March 29, 12:00–2:00pm, **Fashion Show rehearsal** in Crypt

### APRIL

- Sunday, April 5, 10:30am, **Attend Palm Sunday Service** in the Nave
- Sunday, April 5, 2:00–4:00pm, **Open House Camp Arrowhead**
- Sunday, April 12, 10:30am, **Attend Easter Sunday Service** in the Nave
- Saturday, April 18, 8:00pm, **Step Show** (Sr. SsAM Soul) at University of Delaware
- Sunday, April 19, 10:30am–12:00pm, **Youth Confirmation Class** in Teen Suite
- Sunday, April 19, 12:00–2:00pm, **Fashion Show rehearsal** in Crypt
- Sunday, April 26, 10:30am–12:00pm, **Youth Confirmation Class** in Crypt

## Youth Group News

This season is the busiest yet for our group. While continuing to plan for the much-anticipated Mission Trip to New Orleans, the year started off on January 25, with our 2nd Annual Kick-off Meeting and Reception. This was an opportunity for our teens and their families to learn more about the SsAM Soul group, to welcome new members Iyabo and Onalenne Babutunde, Micha Johnson, Taylor Jones, Veronica Oates, Eric Polk and Felicia Walker and to hear an inspiring message from Father Thom.

We celebrated Black History month by attending the premier of a film honoring the life and work of SsAM parishioner Dr. Eugene McGowan.

On February 27-28, we joined youth members from Christ Church Christiana Hundred, Trinity, Ascension and St. Thomas for an overnight lock-in and a day of activities to support the 30 Hour Famine Movement, an international youth movement to fight hunger.

March and April are full of activity as members travel to New Orleans, as we prepare for Confirmation by Bishop Wright and have the 3rd Annual Spring Fashion Show and Banquet.

We invite all SsAM teenagers and their friends to join us for fun and fellowship. Our group meets on the 2nd and 4th Sunday in the SsAM Teen Suite.

## Youth to New Orleans

From March 14–21, seven members and chaperons will be in New Orleans as members of the Delaware Katrina Mission Team. They will be part of a group of 25 who have traveled to New Orleans the last two years in response to the continuing need to help transform New Orleans after Katrina. While in New Orleans, the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana Office of Disaster Response will match our group with an appropriate work project and provide housing in Chalstrom House, the Diocesan Urban Ministry Center. We thank the entire SsAM community for your continuing prayers and support as we embark on this vital mission trip.

SsAM Soul members going to New Orleans are:

**La'Erica Conner-Sims** Senior William Penn High School. Youth Group Secretary/Treasurer. Participant in the Delaware Futures motivational program and recipient of the State Farm Ujima \$1500 scholarship. "I think this trip means giving back to the community."

**Alex Oates** Junior Howard School of Technology. Youth Group Co-President. Participant Rodney Street Tennis and Tutoring Program. Ranked #5 State of Delaware Youth Tennis player. "This trip means self-progress for us as well as hope for a community different from ours."

**Gloria Williams** Junior Pencader Charter School. SsAM Soul Youth Group Co-President. Episcopal Diocese of Delaware Youth Council representative. Member of (YMCA) Black Achievers Group, AKA Women of Sigma Zeta Omega Chapter AKAettes and Delaware Youth in Government. "I believe this would be a great experience for the SsAM Soul Youth group and we can learn new things."

PARENTS:

**Lori Williams-Fistzgiles** Mother of Gloria Williams and Forest Fistzgiles. Aunt of La'Erica Conner-Sims. "I am so glad to be going and to help where help is really needed. This is such a wonderful experience in giving back."

**Monica Oates** Mother of Alex and Veronica Oates. Originally from New Orleans. "This trip is an opportunity to lend a hand to those in need and experience it with family and friends."

CHAPERONES:

**Linda Jackson, Youth Director** "Our mission to New Orleans is a wonderful opportunity to help others while guiding and supporting our teens as they become activists."

**Ron Jackson** "Our mission trip is a chance to give back to those in need. It is an opportunity to let the people of New Orleans know we care about them and haven't forgotten them."

## Spotlight on Eric Polk

Eric is 13 and in the eighth grade at Cab Calloway School of the Arts. He is an honor roll student and first chair trumpet player. While he hates practicing, he enjoys jazz and improvising. His first love is soccer which he has played since he was 4. He currently plays for Milan, a team at the Kirkwood Soccer Club in New Castle. Eric is an active member of Boy Scout Troop 255 in Newark, where he has achieved the rank of First Class. In scouting, Eric has had the opportunity to develop leadership skills. He truly enjoys camping and helping younger scouts. While Eric would love to be a professional soccer player, he has a career back up as an aerospace engineer. Science is his favorite academic subject. Eric, you have the support of the entire SsAM faith community!



## Youth Announcements

**Youth Confirmation:** Youth who wish to be confirmed by Bishop Wright on May 24 are invited to attend Confirmation classes led by Youth Director Linda Jackson, assisted by the Interim Rector. Classes will be offered on six Sunday mornings, during the 10:30 service starting on Sunday, March 29. Pre-registration is not required.

**The 3rd Annual SsAM Family Banquet and Fashion Show** will be held on Saturday, May 2 from 3:00–5:00pm in the Auditorium. Dine on a delicious meal while our models feature the latest in sporty, casual and dress spring fashions. To sign up to model and learn more about the Fashion Show, please attend the kick-off meeting on Sunday, March 8 in Crypt Hall.

## Birthdays

**MARCH:** 5 Thomas Roberts, Sr. • 6 Montana Chronister • 8 Sylvia Banks • 10 Paul Ellison • 14 Carl Webster and Harvey Jones • 16 Felicia Walker • 18 Audrey Butler • 20 Rachel Gaskell • 23 Myrdis Dyton • 24 Vern Bethea • 25 Steven Hengel • 27 Jordan Thayer • 28 Alice Sawyer and Gwenita Walker • 29 Shawn Dorsey and Sara Hengel • 30 Tyler Hastie • 31 Carson Bethea

**APRIL:** 1 Jim Linderman • 5 Linda Julius • 6 Lionel Hampton • 7 Leslie Roberts • 13 Erwin Polk • 14 DeVere Patton and Paulyne Webster • 17 Rod Welles • 18 Retha Fisher and Cecil Gordon • 19 Herbert Harvey • 20 Nancy Ware, Mary Anne Edwards, and Louise Spaulding • 22 Willio Mentor • 25 Michael Faulk • 26 Marion Gibbs

## Upcoming Events

**TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE:** Tuesdays in Lent at 12:30 p.m. This year we will explore ways to more fully experience the meaning of the Lenten season. We will hold contemplative prayer services in the tradition of Taizé led by the Rev. Rod Welles. With ever-increasing stresses in our lives, the Lenten prayer services will focus specifically on God's love, mercy and compassion for us.

**LENTEN LUNCHESES:** SsAM's 60+ year tradition of serving Lenten lunches will be continued again this year. The committee in charge is busy planning for this activity. If you would like to volunteer to work, please contact Dot Dorsey (chairperson) at 762-0945. If you can't work, please plan on coming to SsAM each Tuesday during Lent to enjoy great homemade lunches and get spiritual nourishment at the Taizé service.

**DIOCESAN CONVENTION:** The Diocese of Delaware 224th Convention will take place this year on March 27 and 28 at Christ Church Christiana Hundred in Wilmington. If you are interested in attending, the cost for Friday and Saturday, including dinner and luncheon, is \$50. Friday only is \$35 (with dinner); Saturday only is \$15 per person (with lunch). Registration must be made by our church office no later than March 6.

**ADULT EDUCATION SERIES - "SAVING JESUS"** Rod Welles will continue to lead the Adult Education program called "Saving Jesus". This program is an exploration of Jesus Christ for the third millennium. The DVD program features leading religious voices of our day, including Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy-Jill Levine, James Forbes and many others. They will discuss the relevance of Jesus Christ in today's world. The class meets for 1.5 hours. Classes will meet on Wednesday March 4, March 18, March 25, April 1, April 22,

April 29, May 5 and May 27. It will NOT meet on March 11, April 8, April 15, May 23 or May 30th. Please join us for this special program.

**ADULT EDUCATION SERIES - "BLACKS IN AMERICA"** Sunday in the auditorium at 9:15 a.m.

- **March 8 Human Trafficking**, Discussion Leader: Carolyn Haon
- **March 14 Chocolate and Lent: Why Sunday's don't count, and what does this "Lent" thing mean in my life.** Discussion Leader: Chris Brennan-Lee
- **March 22 Health Problems: Under privileged children** Discussion Leader: Carolyn Haon
- **March 29 Video Presentation: Infant Mortality** Discussion leader: Dr. Katherine Esterly,
- To guarantee a diverse perspective, there will be two leaders for each session, and time for your point of view.

## HOLY WEEK

- Wednesday, April 8, 7:00 p.m. - **Tenebrae** featuring Gregorian Chant with improvisations by Ana Hernandez and Ruth Cunningham
- Thursday, April 9, 6:00 p.m. - **Soup & Bread & Eucharist for Maundy Thursday**
- Friday, April 10, Noon - **Liturgy for Good Friday**
- Friday, April 10, 7:00 p.m. - **Music for Good Friday** featuring the "Seven Last Words" by Dubois
- Sunday, April 12, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. - **Easter Sunday** with the Johannes Brass, 10:30 a.m.

## Summer 2009 Employment for Teens

**Summer Youth Employment:** The City of Wilmington is pleased to offer employment opportunities to youths between the ages of 14–18 living within city limits. Registrations for the Summer Youth Program are being accepted at locations around the city through March 21. Registration does not guarantee employment. Participants are chosen through a televised lottery system on WITN Channel 22. Social Security numbers are required to participate in the Summer Youth Program. For details, please contact Nichole Torrence at 576-3847.

- **March 5:** St. Elizabeth's Grant Hall (beneath Church), 1501 Cedar Street, 4:00–7:00 p.m.
- **March 10:** Southbridge Neighborhood House, 1218 "B" Street, 4:00–7:00 p.m.
- **March 11:** Woodlawn Library, 2020 W. 9th Street, 4:00–6:30 p.m.
- **March 12:** Stubbs School, 1100 Pine Street, 5:00–8:00 p.m.
- **March 21:** PAL CENTER, 3707 N. Market Street, Noon–3:00 p.m.

**Lifeguard Employment and Training:** The City's Department of Parks and Recreation will provide two lifeguard training courses at William "Hicks" Anderson Community Center. The course costs \$250; full scholarships are available. Each course con-

sists of four sessions, with attendance at every class required. In addition, hour-long conditioning sessions will be held Monday through Thursday from 4:00–5:00 p.m. beginning February 2 and lasting through March.

The two training sessions will be held on 3/14-15, and 3/21-22 from 9:00am to 5:00pm each day. Interested candidates should register at [www.lifeguardjobs.net](http://www.lifeguardjobs.net) for details.

**Camp Arrowhead Open House.** Camp Arrowhead is an Episcopal camp near Rehoboth Beach for kids entering third through eleventh grades. The camp experience enriches young people's relationships with one another, nature and God. Campers develop their sense of adventure and spiritual awareness as they participate in the activities, outdoor life and community of camp. An Open House will be held on Sunday, April 5 from 2:00–4:00pm. Tour the camp and meet the staff. To learn more and to download registration forms visit [www.CampArrowhead.net](http://www.CampArrowhead.net).

**Academic Workshop:** Learn about college tours, scholarship and grant opportunities, tutoring and SAT preparation. Parents and teenagers are invited to attend a workshop, 9:00–12:00 p.m., Saturday, March 28, presented by SsAM Academic Consultant Dr. Sheila Dorsey. To register or request more information, contact Dr. Dorsey at (302) 376-5975.