

ST. MATTHEW'S

LIFE



NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH, NC

AUGUST 2019

Hello Hillsborough, and hello people of St. Matthew's!

As I write this, I am on the rectory porch, overlooking the intersection of St. Mary's, Cameron, and King Street. (Do locals call this *Five Points*? Or maybe *Four and a Half*?)

We moved into the wondrous rectory yesterday, blessed by volunteers and a kitchen filled with good things to eat and drink. Jane and I are immensely pleased to be among you at last, and I am so very grateful that we are beginning our ministry together as a parish. Thank you for the love, the hospitality, and the welcoming curiosity with which you have greeted us. To quote St. Peter, from the mount of the Transfiguration: It is good for us to be here. We are in the sacred presence of one another, of tradition, and of God.

While there are many deferred decisions to be made, and a fall program I am eager to get cracking on (and a construction project to watch!), my primary aim right now is to lay a solid foundation of relationships and trust. I want to know you, and I want you to know me. From this, we will begin to taste and see what our ministry together will be like. Following Brooks' tenure, so long and blessed, we are called now to extraordinary patience and attentiveness to one another to discern what we might become.

There is however one thing I am entirely certain of – and this underlies everything we will do. God desires, God yearns even, to draw us more deeply in God's own life, in Jesus and Spirit. No matter how much we have grown in our faith, there is always a greater depth, height, breadth, and length of Christ's love to be received, and savored, and known. This love is where creativity comes from. It gives rise to new confidence, candor, and joy. It allows us to move with renewed strength and joy into an unexpected depth in human friendships, prayer, and purpose.

God bless us in our first months together! I am delighted to be your servant and friend in our Lord.

Welcoming the Fruehwirths

It is with great joy that we welcome our Rector, the Rev. *Robert Fruehwirth*, his wife *Jane*, and their two children, *Sebastian* and *Corinne*. The Welcoming Committee stocked the fridge, put flowers on the table, and organized a crew of volunteers to help with the move-in.

We will have a glorified coffee hour between the services to welcome Robert, Jane, and family on July 28, the day before Robert's official start date of July 29. His first Sunday with us will be August 4. On that day, from 9:15-10:15a.m., he will lead what he describes as a "Call and Response" session. Robert would like to introduce himself by sharing his experience of being called to St. Matthew's and how he envisions beginning life and ministry in this community. He also wants to hear from you: about your joy in St. Matthew's and your desire for the parish.

The Welcoming Committee (*Frank Casadonte*, *Jane Clunie*, *Sam Costello*, *Bill Kodros*, *Sarah Smylie*, *Kathy von St. Paul*, *Beth Swain*, and *Blythe Thompson* (Chair); *Jim Charton* and *Jehanne Gheith* (ex-officio) are planning other welcoming events, so please keep your eyes open for those and ask any of us questions and give us suggestions if you have them.

It's happening, St. Matthew's! We are entering a new season in our church life. I am so looking forward to living into this together as we welcome Robert, Jane, Sebastian, and Corinne. Thanks be to God.

~*Jehanne Gheith*, Senior Warden and *Blythe Thompson*, Chair, The Welcoming Committee

Five Words from Lisa

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

So reads the collect for Proper 9 which was prayed on a Sunday in July. I love those words, “that we be united to one another with pure affection” and I think about them as we move again into a time of welcome, transition, and change.

And so here are some general words for wisdom for us all to hold in this exciting, joyful and evolving time:

1. Stay loose and be flexible. Things may not always go as you want or expect but it is OK. Try to roll with things a little bit.
2. Care for one another- it’s at the heart of who we are as the Body of Christ.
3. Communicate often, and directly, so that everyone knows what everyone else is doing. It’s especially important to make sure that Robert be included in all committee minutes and communication so that he knows what’s going on. If you are a committee or task force chair, please make sure to add him to your email list. Don’t assume he knows what he can’t yet know.
4. Be patient.
5. Manage expectations.

It’s a joyful time, and I treasure the bonds of pure affection that unite us to one another as the Body of Christ and I’m so happy Robert and Jane have joined in this holy fellowship.

~Lisa Frost-Phillips

Prophetic Imagination

This month I want to write about what it means to be an artist in the church – briefly, of course. Actually, I want to write a sizable book about the church and artists, and by artists I mean all people with an imagination expressed through writing, or visual and fine arts. That book will not appear this month, but it’s nice to dream. In fact, it’s downright necessary to dream.

Indeed, the church needs dreamers. We have a lot of dreamers at St. Matthew’s, and I count myself among them. We and many of you call us “artists.” Hillsborough is filled with them, so it’s not surprising to see some of them at St. Matthew’s. We affirm the presence of artists in our midst through our Faith & Arts series, and many of us make a point of supporting this significant activity in the parish’s outreach.

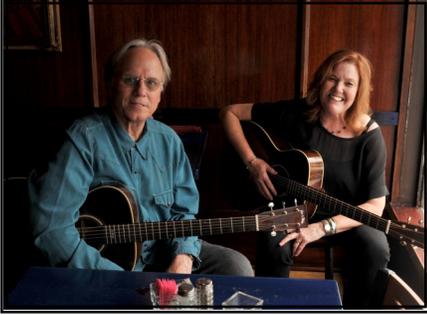
It’s nice to have people with active imaginations, but not everyone understands the extent to which we truly need them. After all, what does St. Matthew’s – let alone society in general – get in return? It turns out artists offer far more than, well, imaginable.

Franciscan priest Fr. Richard Rohr’s daily blog for July 11, 2019, speaks about imagination as a means of prophecy. He begins by referencing Walter Brueggeman’s book *The Prophetic Imagination*, in which Brueggeman states that the task of prophetic ministry (which includes the work of artists) “is to nurture, nourish, and evoke a consciousness and perception [as an] alternative to the consciousness and perception of the dominant culture around us.” This seems contrary to what we usually imagine prophets to be, frequently critiquing and uprooting dominant consciousness by, “[rejecting and delegitimizing] the present ordering of things.” But prophetic ministry also “serves to energize persons and communities by its promise of another time and situation toward which the community of faith may move.” We might see how the prophet Isaiah’s vision easily applies here. The blog goes on to assert that prophetic ministry requires the imagining of a vision before any attempt to implement it, and it concludes by admitting that imagination typically challenges the status quo, especially assumptions that guide totalitarian regimes. Didn’t you know that we artists can be a threat?

So who better to help us imagine a vision for St. Matthew’s than artists? In September, we will celebrate prophetic ministry with a month-long exhibit entitled “Envisioning St. Matthew’s,” presented by Faith & Arts. In this exhibit we may well see works that suggest visions of what our Parish and the larger Church can be. Doubtless we will tap into imagination in the coming months as we welcome *the Rev. Robert Fruehwirth* to the helm of prophetic ministry at St. Matthew’s, as we collectively envision new courses to chart for the future.

~David Arcus, Music Director & Organist

Faith & Arts



Robin & Linda Williams in Concert Thursday August 15 7:30 p.m.

For more than thirty years, Robin

& Linda Williams have been performing the music they love: a blend of bluegrass, folk, old-time, and gospel. They are seasoned performers and gifted songwriters. Born in the South, Linda from Alabama and Robin (the son of a Presbyterian minister) from Charlotte, they met in Myrtle Beach, where they fell in love and began a vibrant musical partnership that has flourished through the years.

Despite their Southern roots, it was in Minnesota that their career got traction. In 1975, they made their first appearance on a little radio show just getting off the ground called "A Prairie Home Companion;" they became regular performers over the years even being featured in the Robert Altman movie also called "A Prairie Home Companion."

Tickets/reservations (\$20) are available through the church office during office hours (919-732-9308). Their 2015 concert was sold out, so don't wait until the last minute to get your tickets.

Envisioning St. Matthew's A Call for Entries

We invite the artists of the parish to create work in any medium that reflects their view of St. Matthew's. We would also like to invite the "committees, teams, and groups" that comprise our church family to contribute to the exhibit by submitting some piece of visual art that symbolizes the mission, perspective, and contributions of your group. Inspiration can come from places, people, events in the life of the parish, or something more private and personal. An exhibit expressing the different functions of St. Matthew's may help us all to envision ourselves in a whole new light.

Submission of one or two works is open to all members and friends of St. Matthew's, 18 or older. We ask that all works follow this theme and we hope that artists will also submit an artist statement.

CALENDAR

- Exhibition Dates: Sunday, September 8 - Monday, September 30
- Submission of entries to the Ruffin House: Monday - Friday, August 26-30 (during office hours)
- Opening Reception: Sunday, September 8, 3pm
- Pick up of art: Tuesday, October 1 - Friday, October 4 (during office hours)

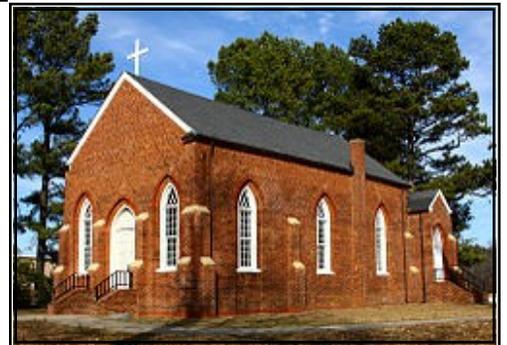
St. Mary's Chapel Annual Homecoming Service August 18, at 5:00 p.m.

The celebration of the 67th consecutive Homecoming Service at St. Mary's Chapel will be held on Sunday, August 18, at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend the once-a-year service of evening prayer at this Orange County historical landmark. Our new Rector, *Robert*, will preach and the St. Matthew's Women's Singing Circle will sing.

The Singing Circle has strong connections to St. Mary's Chapel. It initially formed to provide music for the 2009 Homecoming Service and has continued to do so ever since.

St. Mary's was founded in 1759 as a 'chapel of ease' within the colonial St. Matthew's Parish, so called because it was intended to provide a convenient place of worship for persons living too far away from Hillsborough, the County Seat.

Please plan to attend and stay for the potluck supper following the service. BBQ provided; bring side dishes to share.



NOTE:

St. Mary's Chapel is located on the NE corner of St. Mary's Road and Schley/Pleasant Green Road (6.5 miles north of St. Matthew's).

Open House and Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 8 at 9:15 a.m.

Our annual Open House will take place this year on Sunday, September 8, at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the official start of our program year, and will include a Ministry Fair- an opportunity to learn about the different committees and ministries at St. Matthew's and how to get involved. We'll begin with an intergenerational service to mark the beginning of a new program year, and learn what we have in store for our Christian Formation programs this fall for all ages. After this overview, we encourage parents to accompany children and youth to their classrooms to meet their teachers and learn more about their specific offerings. Others are invited to walk around and visit the different ministry tables that will be set up in the Fellowship Hall. The Open House will also be an opportunity to introduce our teachers and leaders.

For more information about all our programs and to receive the fall calendar of activities, please come to the September kick-off. We'll also make sure to post the most current program information on our website and in our weekly bulletins.

-*Sonja Tilley*, Interim Director of Christian Formation

Invitation to Godly Play

St. Matthew's offers the Montessori-based Godly Play curriculum for children in preschool through second grade. During the program year, volunteers gather with the children in a specially-designed classroom for a sacred time of storytelling, response, and feast that is modeled after the church's Eucharistic liturgy.

Have you ever considered volunteering in the Godly Play classroom? Perhaps you're already involved and would like to hone your skills while experiencing a time of retreat with others involved with Godly Play. If so, please consider participating in one of the following Godly Play training courses that are being offered in the area over the next few months. You will learn the processes and core stories of Godly Play as well as the theology behind these practices. This is also a time of retreating that will strengthen your understanding of children's spirituality and leave you spiritually refreshed.

Commuter Core Training at the Church of the Holy Family in Chapel Hill - this training is offered on three separate Saturdays throughout the summer and fall. You may attend one session or all three, though all three are required to receive Core Training Certification.

- Sacred Stories - Saturday, August 3, 8:30 am-5:30 pm
- Parables - Saturday, September 7, 8:30 am-5:30 pm
- Liturgical Action Stories - Saturday, November 9, 8:30 am-5:30 pm

Traditional Core Training - this training happens over the course of three days. Participants choose one location and receive Core Training Certification at the end of the training.

- **St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Raleigh** - Friday, August 16, at 3 pm to Sunday, August 18, at 4 pm
- **St. Paul UMC in Goldsboro** - Thursday, September 12, at 2 pm to Saturday, September 14, at 5:30 pm
- **Rocky River Presbyterian Church in Concord** - Thursday, September 26, at 2 pm through Saturday, September 28, at 5:30 pm

For more information or to inquire further about how you might support ministry with children at St. Matthew's, please contact *Sonja Tilley*, Interim Director of Christian Formation.

Acolyte Training

All youth in grades 6 through 12 are invited to participate in the worship life of St. Matthew's as acolytes. Acolytes serve as cross and torch bearers in the worship procession as well as assist with the preparation of the table for Eucharist. A training session will be offered on Sunday, August 25, for both new and continuing acolytes. More details will be announced as plans are firmed up during this time of transition. Please contact *Sonja Tilley* (sonja.tilley@gmail.com or 919-732-9304) for more information.



Various Updates

News from the Social Ministries Committee

The Social Ministries Committee met for the last time for this program year on Thursday June 6. The group discussed ways to handle requests over the summer and finalized plans for our retreat in the fall, which will be held on September 14 at the home of *Eileen Camp* and *Frank Casadonte* at 211 Caine Street in Hillsborough. We hope everyone is having a delightful summer.
 ~Allan Parnell and Becki Home, SMC Co-chairs

Racial Justice and Reconciliation Task Force Updates

Susan Alden, Clerk for the Vestry, shared her thoughts on the Racial Equity Institute (REI) training she attended in the spring:

Over the past several years, I've had friends attend the Racial Equity Institute training, and all of them raved about it. I wanted to go myself, but I was a little nervous. Then I learned that our Diocese is encouraging attendance at REI trainings and will even subsidize part of the cost. Encouraged and convicted, I finally signed up and attended a two-day session in Chapel Hill during March.

After having attended, I have only good things to say about the REI training. It is largely educational in nature. There are some opportunities to collaborate and speak, but you do not have to share a lot of personal information and it is not a threatening atmosphere. The training is well-organized and so informative. I learned so much about the history behind systemic racism in our country, which continues to keep so many people from reaching their potential. The Institute does not provide the answers to solving problems created by racism. However, it is a great starting point to understanding the issue, which is important as we try to live out Christian principles in today's world.

This fall we are so lucky to have REI training offered at St. Matthew's (Friday, October 25 and Saturday, October 26). Registration is now open and available through Orange County OAR (Organizing Against Racism) or through this address:

[https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?
oeidk=a07eggw98h8122dd545&oseq=&c=&ch=](https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eggw98h8122dd545&oseq=&c=&ch=)

I highly recommend it, and would be happy to answer any questions you might have about my experience with it. Scholarships will be available.

~Jane Clunie, RJR Task Force Chair

The Men's Monthly Fellowship Breakfast August 15, at 8:00 a.m.

The July 18 meeting of the Men's Fellowship Group included a program entitled, "A Tale of Two Poles--Part I," provided by *John Druessedow*. Jan Kwiatkowski, born in 1810, was a Polish revolutionary soldier who left his homeland in 1830, was captured by Austrian troops, transferred to this country, and ended up in Hillsborough, where he is buried in the churchyard of St. Matthew's. He changed his name to John Rosemond at some point. Part II, to be presented in August, will be about Frederic Chopin, also born in Poland in 1810, who became world famous for his piano works, some of which reflect the composer's thoughts about things Polish and revolutionary. A buffet breakfast (\$7) will be served at 8:00 a.m. in the Hayden Building Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

~John Druessedow

Veterans Buried in the Churchyard

There are many veterans who now "Rest In Peace" in our churchyard: one from the War of 1812, 30 from the Civil War, and many from World Wars I and II. In an effort to update the churchyard master file I am trying to identify those who served in the armed forces so that their graves may be honored on Memorial Day and Veterans' Day with American flags.

If you have a relative or know of someone who is interred in the churchyard (or if you served and have a reserved spot) please let me know when they served, branch of service, and any other information you have about them. Send any responses to me (Jarhead6575@nc.rr.com). Thanks.

~Charles Thomas

People News

Thanks to:

- *Phyllis Wright* and *Emmaline Phillips* for cleaning the Narthex chandelier
- *Tim Niland* for being the go-to-fix-it man for rectory repairs and maintenance in preparation for the Fruehwirths moving in
- everyone who has volunteered to help welcome the Fruehwirth family by grocery shopping, cooking or donating vegetables from their gardens: *Sunny Poffenbarger, Madeline Liddicoat, Merri Hutson, Marcia Spohn, Allen Cronenberg, Ann & Jim Burton, Molly Zaragoza, Susan Bauer, Pat Merriman, Susie Gallis, Mimi Games, Kevin Swain, Bartow Culp, Sharon Billings, Karen Ireland, Vera Shanley, Aurora Toennisson, Janie Trumbull, Kelly & Jeff Hopper, Betty Wolfe, Mary Ann Peter, Becki Horne, Sonya Tilley, Heidi Moore, Yvonne Petitmaire, Sharon Ringwalt, Phyllis Wright, and Ellen McRae.* My apologies to anyone I may have omitted. There will be lots of other opportunities to welcome Robert, Jane, and their children. (from *Jane Clunie & the Welcoming Committee*)
- to the *Liddicoat* family for the donation of an armoire for the rectory
- to the many people who helped with the funeral service for *Susan Gordon*: to those who hosted the reception and who provided food for it; to those who made meals for the family, and to those who helped in worship. My deepest thanks, Lisa

Congratulations to:

- Our former Deacon, *The Rev. Katherine B. Johnson*, who has been assigned by Bishop Rodman to serve as a Deacon at Iglesia el Buen Pastor
- *David & Lynn Hecht* at the wedding of their son *Ryan Hecht & Mara Waldruff* on June 29th in Grand Lake, Colorado

Recent Hospitalizations:

- *Richard Brandon; Stuart Dyer* is now at The Pavilion at Croasdaile and would welcome visits

Recent Deaths:

- We extend our sympathy to *Ann Pearson* at the death of her husband, *Al Pearson*, former member of the parish who died on June 8, in Augusta, GA; and to
- *Mark Gordon* and his sons, *Chris* and *Scott*, at the death of his wife and their mother, *Susan Gordon*, on July 12

†Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord:
And let light perpetual shine upon them.†

Ice Cream Social & Hymn Sing, August 24th



What better way to escape the dog days of August than to have lots of cold, sweet ice cream and sing old favorite hymns!

That's what is planned for Saturday, August 24th, starting at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. The Parish Life "Super Scoopers" will be lined up and ready to supply bowls of the icy treat with a variety of toppings to tickle your tongue and cool your toes.

And since those toes are going to be cool, we'll get them tapping with joyful music and lively voices. Bring the whole family and stay for a summer's evening of our favorite combination~food and fellowship!

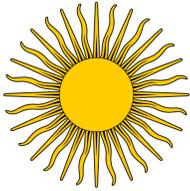
Please consider supporting our Sunday worship services.

The term liturgy comes from the Greek words for "people" and "work." It is, quite literally, the work of the people and we welcome everyone to be involved. Currently, we need more greeters, nursery volunteers, ushers, and coffee hour hosts. We all have gifts to give and we all benefit from shared ministry. Call the office and get signed up!

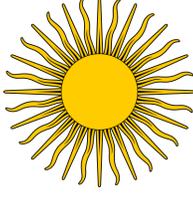
Parish Operating Budget Status as of the end of June 2019 (50%)			
Budget Expenses:	2019 Budget	Total Spent	%
Work Outside the Parish	\$62,716	\$26,281	42%
Maint. & Improvements	\$67,604	\$32,340	48%
Clergy-related	\$179,881	\$77,416	43%
Administrative	\$87,942	\$38,474	44%
Christian Ed. Program	\$45,365	\$20,622	45%
Worship-related	\$46,536	\$22,148	48%
Expenses Total:	\$490,044	\$217,281	44%
Budget Income:	2019 Budget	Total Received	%
Plate/Gift Offerings Re-	\$50,000	\$23,551	47%
Pledge Payments	\$427,617	\$219,802	51%
Other	\$23,100	\$21,272	92%
Income Total:	\$500,717	\$264,625	53%

The 2019 Fall Parish Directory

This month we begin our annual process of updating the parish directory. There is a purple binder in the Ruffin House foyer with your current information (as we know it). Please review it for accuracy and note any necessary changes. If you are new to the parish, and do not see an entry for yourself, and want to be included, please add your name, address, phone numbers, and email address. Later in the month we will set up some photo opportunities for those needing new or updated pictures for the pictorial part of the directory. Thanks for your help!!



AUGUST 2019



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>Pentecost 8 OCIM Sunday Robert Fruehwirth's 1st Sunday as Rector 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist 9:15a Q & A with Robert</p>	<p>4 9:30a Archives & History</p>	<p>5 9:30a Archives & History 5:30p OCRA</p>	<p>6 10a Property Meeting</p>	<p>7 Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer 4p Brookshire Service</p>	<p>1 8 15</p>	<p>2 9 16</p>	<p>3 9:30a Shawl Ministry</p>
<p>Pentecost 9 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist 5p Integrative Living Group</p>	<p>11 9:30a Archives & History 5:30p OCRA</p>	<p>12 9:30a Archives & History 5:30p OCRA</p>	<p>13 9:30a Staff Meeting 10a OCRA Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer</p>	<p>14 8a Men's Fellowship Breakfast 5p Newsletter deadline F&A: Robin & Linda Williams Concert</p>	<p>8 7p The Role of Elders in our Community</p>	<p>9 9a Parish Life</p>	<p>10 9a Parish Life</p>
<p>Pentecost 10 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist 5p St. Mary's Homecoming</p>	<p>18 9a Communications Mtg 9:30a Archives & History 7p Vestry</p>	<p>19 9a Submission for F&A Exhibit begins 9:30a Archives & History 5:30p Food for All Gordon Carlson's Team</p>	<p>20 5:30p Food for All Hugh Tilson's Team 7p Vestry</p>	<p>21 Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer</p>	<p>22 29</p>	<p>23 30</p>	<p>24 St Bartholomew, the Apostle 10a Altar Guild Brunch 6:30p Ice Cream Social & Hymn Sing</p>
<p>Pentecost 11 8a Altar Guild Commissioning 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist Noon RJR Task Force Noon Acolyte Training 5p Integrative Living Group 7p Women's Singing Circle</p>	<p>25 9a Submission for F&A Exhibit begins 9:30a Archives & History 5:30p Food for All Gordon Carlson's Team</p>	<p>26 9a Submission for F&A Exhibit begins 9:30a Archives & History 5:30p Food for All Gordon Carlson's Team</p>	<p>27 Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer 7p Adult Choir</p>	<p>28 Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer 7p Adult Choir</p>	<p>29 9a Duke Anglican Studies Retreat</p>	<p>30 9a Duke Anglican Studies Retreat</p>	<p>31 9a Duke Anglican Studies Retreat</p>

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The Role of Elders

Thursday, August 8, 7-9pm, Fellowship Hall

Don Wells and *Nancy Rosemond* both live right around the corner from St. Matthew's and have reserved the Fellowship Hall at St. Matthew's for a discussion about the role of elders in one's community. They think of St. Matthew's as part of their neighborhood and want to extend the invitation to talk to everyone within the parish. Below is the invitation they extend:

For centuries elders have played a crucial role in human societies. Their counsel has been sought when communities or individuals have faced complex or delicate decisions. In today's mobile society, the role of elders has diminished almost by default, with many elders secluded in their homes or "isolated together" in retirement villages.

The group, Cameron Park Neighbors, is hosting a guided conversation about the creative roles that elders may take on in communities today. The session will be a sharing of our personal experiences with elders and an exploration of the nature of the "elderhood journey" that we might choose to travel in our own community. We invite all interested folks at St. Matthew's to join us!

Summer Programming

- Sunday Worship at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. continues with child care at both services
- Wednesday Noon Eucharist resumes on August 7th
- The Women's Singing Circle meets the last Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
- No 9:15 a.m. Sunday Education Hour: Adult Forum, Adult Bible Study, or children & youth programming
- No Adult Choir
- No Youth Group on Sunday evenings
- No Ladies Night Out
- Program Year begins September 8



PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL.