

# O YE FROST and COLO

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*"When the red, red robin comes bob, bob bobbin' along, along,  
There'll be no more sobbing when he starts throbbing  
His own sweet song." . . .*

## midnight easter song

At Midnight, as the first days of May come, the 1000 block of First Avenue is completely still. No traffic. No sounds. Trees silently greening and still light, here in May now, still light over the northern hills and over the silent Church there. I'm sitting outside at Lew Beyers' picnic table about to say Compline. Silence. A hushed world.

Then . . . a bird singing.

A robin. The first one of the Season on this block. Singing and singing and singing. An Invocation.

I interrupt my sitting and look to see if I can find the bird and, finally, there it is. Perched on the highest branch of the tallest spruce tree, almost hidden by the small dark branches. Singing and singing and singing, its sound filling the block, the Night stillness, the new Day arriving, the new month that has come. A joyous prayer. No fear or worry or stress at all in that voice. All that music and joy from that one small creature. And the Darkness flees. It doesn't have a chance against that Joy.

This is the way Summer comes. In the Season of Easter, as May begins, while ravens are sleeping in their distant nests across the River, resting from being In Charge of Everything All Winter; there is a robin singing on the top branch of the tallest spruce tree on this 1000 block.

I heard in these last weeks a conversation between Grandmothers Hannah Solomon and Poldine Carlo about robins singing, about the story the robin is telling when it sings. I do not remember the story and I am not good enough to know the robin's language, but I can hear its joy as it sings. Some folks believe that birds bring messages from Heaven. I can't read the message but I can hear the joy. And maybe that's the Message.

If I could listen better I could hear the spruce and birch trees singing too. The grass turning green at my feet. The poor shallow River over there. All singing. All praise to the Father. God's re-Creation recreation as the new Day comes. His Gift. How politely and humbly Sister Snow leaves us each Spring. Not even a good-bye. We live with her all winter, mumbling at her and moving her around and watching her grace as she softly fills our world, and then she's gone. Emptying herself into the ground, so it can live; flowing into the River, so it can be free and open. Winter empties itself so that Spring and Summer can come; and the robin up there heralds its arrival.

If snow can figure it out, that in emptying itself and dying, Life comes; maybe so can I.

If robins just being robins and not worrying about it can sing with joy to announce and herald new possibilities of the Father's love, maybe so can we.

*"Wake up, wake up, you sleepy head,  
Get up, get up, get out of bed,  
Cheer up, cheer up the sun is red,  
Live, love, laugh and be happy."*

ST MATTHEW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA  
THE REVEREND SCOTT FISHER

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## THE SPRINGING of VOICES

We are sitting outside and it's March and we're freezing, but here come the People of God. We are sitting outside and suddenly it's Spring, and here come the People of God. We are sitting outside listening and the People of God are passing by, telling stories and remembering and wondering about Life, burying friends and marrying friends, heading towards Easter and being Easter; and we overhear . . .

...and even though I hadn't been in Alaska for years, and I was at home and so far from Alaska, the first thing I saw as I got out of the car, there on the ground, was a card from the Fairbanks Rescue Mission. And it had on it the verse . . .

He's an interesting guy. He tells the story of how he was in Anchorage trying to cross the street and this semi was comin' towards him, and he couldn't do anything, and that semi passed right through him.

Are you the church that does those Midnight services?

Hawaii was warm and rainy and the people weren't as friendly as Alaska. It's good to be home even at 20 below.

We're visiting from [*Church in East Coast city*]. How are you all doing with the war going on in our Church these days? We're the ones that stayed after half of our congregation left.

It's WONDERFUL being here. And you have SUCH A BEAUTIFUL CEILING in this Church.

Well, all I know is, from this day on; we have more daylight everyday than anyplace south of us in North America.

. . . heading to Wal-Mart now to get Baby Wipes. They got those packages there. I'm getting them for my nephews over there in Iraq. The military guys came with me last time to show me which kind to get to send to them over there, because you don't want to smell like a baby's bottom.

## A LITANY of 2007 GRADUATES

Every year, when we finish collecting Easter eggs, we begin gathering the names of the Spring graduates to remember in Prayer. This year, give thanks for the following in your prayers, and all who supported and helped them:



**Johnny Adams** (Ft. Yukon High School, Fort Yukon). . . **Andrew Ansaknok** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Fort Yukon; Certificate - Construction Technology Trades). . . **Elia Ansaknok** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Fort Yukon; Certificate - Construction Technology Trades). . . **Catherine Attla** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks - Honorary Doctorate). . . **Reuben Arthur Butteri** (Tok High School, Tok) . . . **Richard David Sr.** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks; B.S. in Civil Engineering). . . **Jamie Davis** (NSS, High School). . . **Beth Dementi Leonard** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks; PhD in Alaska Native Culture). . . **Valerie Demming** (Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center, San Francisco, PhD in Clinical Psychology). . . **Aubrey Demming-Marsh** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks; B.A. Psychology). . . **Hanna Titus Carter** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks; B.A. Social Work). . . **Clarence James Frank** (John Fredson High School, Venetie). . . **Christopher Frey** (DeVry University; Engineering). . . **Marissa Garrigues** (Home School). . . **Robert Gorsline** (Lathrop High School, Fairbanks). . . **Matthew Holz** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks; B.A. in Criminal Justice & Psychology). . . **Elizabeth Johnston** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks; B.S. EE & Russian cum laude with honors) . . . **Leslie Jones** (Lathrop High School, Fairbanks). . . **Jenny Gardella Meritt** (University of Alaska, Anchorage; Nursing). . . **James Moore** (Career Education Center in Fairbanks; High School diploma) . . . **Selina Nihipali** (Lathrop High School, Fairbanks). . . **Anthony Paul** (Hutchinson High School, Fairbanks). . . **Kias Peter Jr** (Tanana Valley Campus, Electrician). . . **Shirley Pitka** (Lathrop High School, Fairbanks). . . **Lauren Redick** (West Valley High School, Fairbanks). . . **Mackenzie Rohn** (Lathrop High School, Fairbanks) . . . **Angela Smith** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks). . . **Emily Soupahnvong** (West Valley High School, Fairbanks). . . **Stephanie Sunnyboy** (West Valley High School, Fairbanks). . . **Lynessa Titus** (Hutchinson High School, Fairbanks). . . **Marcus Trivette** (University of Alaska, Fairbanks). . . **Jeremy Ubben** (Sitka, High School). . . **Christi Wright** (West Valley High School, Fairbanks) . . . and all of the others.



## A THANK YOU from VIRGINIA

Friday, May 18th

Hi Scott,

I want to broadcast an enormous thanks to the **Transition Committee, Cathy and Rich Davis, Tom Marsh, Lee and Mary-Margaret Davis, Robin Wilson, Marty Thomas, Bruce Perotti, Laura Vines**, my mom **Jackie Huang**, and many others who selflessly have come to my rescue in preparing our house for sale. It was a fixer-upper of sorts that I thought I'd have years to work on....or at least months that I ended up trading for nurse duty Jan. - April. Thank God Mark is much better!!! And again, thanks to all who pitched in already and to those who are about to help us out. Leaving is hard enough without having to shoulder all the burden.

- Virginia MacDonald

## Spring Voices

You mean we've been through this find a new bishop thing 4 times in the last 30 years? What have we learned?

We have an AGING congregation and . . .

I never thought. I guess we think we can live forever.....but we can't, can we?

It's not Luck you need Man, but the Lord. It wasn't Luck that got me through cancer; it was God.

All that snow in Southeast? That's a waste of perfectly good snow on people that won't appreciate it.

Do you know how to get a hold of that actress Angelina Jolie? I hear she adopts kids and I have a one year old over here that she might be interested in.

You can trust him. Look at his shoes. He's got yellow shoelaces on.

...taught her how to stay warm you can take two cotton socks, a plastic bag, then a big ski sock, and . . .

## ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

<b>RECTOR</b>	The Rev. Scott Fisher . . . . 456-5235	<b>SEXTON</b>	Tree Michael Nelson 456-5217
<b>PRIESTS</b>	The Rev. Steve Matthew. . 488-9076	<b>ORGANIST</b>	Laura Vines . . . . . 452-4565
	The Rev. John Holz . . . . 456-3583	<b>CHOIR DIRECTOR</b>	Elaine Jacobson . . . . . 479-2472
<b>DEACONS</b>	The Rev. Bella Jean Savino 456-1503	<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Mary Johnston. . . . . 455-7245
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<b>JUNIOR WARDEN</b>	Tom Marsh . . . . . 458-0223	<b>ENDOWMENT BOARD</b>	Martha Thomas, Chair . . 455-6612
<b>CLERK</b>	Teresa Moore . . . . . 374-8382	<b>WEB GARDENER</b>	Darrel Zuke 488-6073
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	Darrel Zuke. . . . . 488-6073	<b>TREE-CLIMBING</b>	Luke Castellini . . . . .
	Julia Cockerille . . . . . 474-2105		
<b>PARISH TREASURER</b>	Carolyn Nethken . . . . . 457-3304	<b>MINISTERS</b>	YOU . . . . .US!!!
<b>PARISH ADMINISTRATOR</b>	Hilary Freeman . . . . . 457-4820		

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## Spring Voices

I can't wait for Holy Week and all the calm it brings.

You know what her Indian name was, don't you? "-----", which means "mosquito".

... taught us to say dishcloth, and not dishrag.

We HAVE to play Sam Cooke at his funeral. Sam Cooke was, was....GOD.

You just said hello and everything, but you don't know who I am, do you? WHAT'S MY NAME?

To just sit back, watch a basketball game, drink a little water or juice - you never know how good life is or how much Jesus loves you until you miss some of those little things like that.

We're both alike. We've both lost people we love; and since then - it's like we're floating; and we see things others don't see.

The thing was, he LIKED women. All women. He knew just the right words to say to make you feel pretty, even if you weren't feeling very pretty.

We don't need to eat, to eat DEAD CHICKENS; we got GOOD food out there! Fresh! I fry up beaver liver in the morning, FRESH! A little onions and bacon. We don't NEED THOSE DEAD CHICKENS to eat.

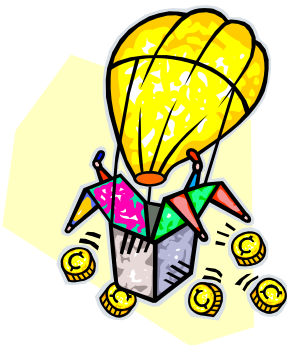
Even though I come to so many funerals here, I always feel happy when I come here. I feel safe in this church.

Is your church having Easter services this year?

They say I should go after them, to sue them, but I can't; my heart won't let me. Our Lord put us here on this earth to forgive. That's why we're here.

....and Something woke me at 5 that morning to pray; and I knew it was to pray for her.

...and sometime I'll tell you the story of going from Savoonga to Gambell by skin boat.



*\$3989.02 just out there floating around.*

## JUNE GRANT DEADLINES APPROACHING

There's FREE MONEY available for dreams and projects and creative ministry, but the Grant applications have

### June Deadlines.

Through the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska Faith into Tomorrow Good News Endowment, two grant programs are available, totaling over \$1600, but **THERE IS A JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> DEADLINE** for the Grant Applications. The Case 5 "*Caring for Victims of Poverty and Abuse*" Program has \$1247 to award. Examples for uses of this Program would be Food Pantries, food banks, clothing and services to the homeless, shelters, support of ministry to victims of substance abuse, prison ministries, etc." The Case 6 "*encouraging Spiritual Growth or Outreach*" Program has \$416 to award. Examples of uses for this would be "Gatherings, retreats, travel, etc." Complete information and application pages are available from the Diocesan Office (907-452-3040) or posted on the St. Matthew's Parish Hall Bulletin Board; and are also available on the Diocesan website: <http://episcopalak.org>. **ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 1<sup>st</sup>.**

On the local level, the St. Matthew's Endowment Board has \$2,326.02 in grants this year. Each year the Endowment Board awards varying funds generated by interest and cash dividends earned by the Board over the previous 12 months ending December 31. Grant requests must comply with the mission of the Endowment Board. The Endowment Fund is operated to enhance the worship, ministry and mission outreach of St. Matthew's. Grants cannot be used for the general operating budget of St. Matthew's. In previous years Grants have been awarded for everything from re-furnishing the historic Farthing Cross in Nenana, to books for those studying for ministry; from the production and publication of the St. Matthew's Directory to an October 2006 workshop for women who have experienced sexual abuse and other traumas; from bringing Anglican Solitaire and author Maggie Ross (<http://ravenwilderness.blogspot.com>) to Fairbanks for an Advent Retreat, to beginning work on a Gwich'in children's Prayer Book. Applications are available from the St. Matthew's Endowment Board or Church Office; **and THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS is JUNE 30<sup>th</sup>.**

## *The FUTURE of St. Matthew's:*

## A THANK YOU and a CALL TO ACTION!!!!

*By Beth Corven*



As the newly elected (*volunteer, actually*) Sunday school director, and soon to be ex-Sunday school teacher, I've been thinking way too much about the future of youth in our church. I imagine classrooms filled with kids

laughing, praying, and studying. I picture a youth group that shares food, fun and fellowship. I have a vision of Father Scott sitting by the altar surrounded by groups of kids, sharing the Gospel in words that we, and they, can understand.

Children are the future of our church. That our children are critical to carrying on the message that Christ brought to this world is crystal clear. But less clear to me is who is going to teach them that message.

Many of our current Sunday school teachers will not be teaching next year, and I want to recognize and thank those who for many years have put their hearts and souls into the future of our church and who are now moving on.

**Kathie Mulkey**, who began as an assistant teacher many years ago and who has been committed to our children, will be moving to Wyoming this summer.

**Steve Moore**, who has shared his incredible gifts with our preschool children, will be deploying again to Iraq this summer. **Virginia MacDonald**, a fountain of Biblical knowledge and perspective who has guided the young teens group, will be moving to Toronto.

**Patty Meritt**, whose gifts and talent with our littlest ones is inspiring, is taking a break after many years of service. And **Roxy Wright-Freedle**, who as both the director of Sunday school and as teacher has blessed us all, is moving in a new direction (*though staying in town!*).

All of these incredible teachers will be sorely missed by the kids they have served. I, as a parent and as a fellow teacher, appreciate their hard work and their dedication, and I thank them. And I want to thank **Helen Howard**, who will be returning next year and is the only teacher returning next year. Her leadership and dedication as a Sunday school teacher for almost ten years is incredible. I also want to thank those who have filled in for teachers this year when necessary: **Tom Marsh**, **Sue Englebrecht**, and **Darrel Zuke**.

I hope that you can thank these teachers in person. And I hope that you can think about what I am asking now. I am asking you to think about teaching Sunday school next year. It doesn't require any special training or any special talents (*though most of us have those tucked away someplace*). It simply requires a love of God, a commitment to Christ's vision of our world, and a desire to bring those two things to the young people who need it.

Roxy told me once that what she wanted most as a preschool Sunday school teacher was to let the little ones know that Jesus loves them. As Sunday school director, I want all of our children to know that St. Matthew's loves them. I am looking for two teachers for each of our classes: preschool/ kindergarten, grades 1-3, grades 4-5, and grades 5-7. And I would love to talk with anyone interested in working with high school/college age youth. As I mentioned before, Helen will continue to teach grades 4-5 but would like a co-teacher. And vestry member **Tom Marsh** is willing to co-teach a class this year. Are you?

By having two teachers for each class, we can plan for absences, and we can attend adult services when we're not teaching. All of you are potential teachers. All of you can bring the love of God into the life of a child. Just by showing up, reading the Bible, and teaching by example. Our children are the future of our church. And all of us share have a stake in that future. Please call me if you are interested: 456-2966. God bless you.

## Spring Voices

...and raised three kids in that house, which was just about where the church parking lot is now.

...so he dropped us off, me and the three kids and that dog, off on the railroad tracks across University Avenue, because that was the only high ground around; and we stayed there several hours. I STILL remember looking down into the water from the boat, and seeing the mailboxes along Geist Road.

There were forty of us out there, at the farm out Chena Hot Springs. And some guy with the Salvation Army showed up everyday on a motorcycle with milk for the kids. And I never forgot that. That's why to this day I support the Salvation Army.

I've wanted all my life; I've waited all my life, to get baptized. Now I'm ready.

....and there weren't disposable diapers in those days.

I think it's Great. You have to live here to really appreciate Spring. It's GREAT. The rebirth of everything.

... and actually he died. He said it was really peaceful. And he saw a beautiful Lady in a red dress. Then he got scared, when he saw everybody looking down at his body, and then they brought him back.

I look forward to Easter every year. It's my Day. It's the day I quit drinking. Four years ago I was in church for Easter and the sermon said Easter means God gives us a second chance, so I thought, this is my chance. And haven't had a drink since.

Somebody asked me if you get a new pair of shoes for Easter; and I told them it depends on what kind of year it's been. If it's been a good year you do; if it's been a bad year, you don't. My guess is, from the way this year has been, you won't.

That [Maundy Thursday] service was Swwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwet.



## Spring Voices

I SAW A ROBIN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I thought, you know, when your son died, that you'd lose your faith in God. How come you didn't?

I am SO THANKFUL that God let me find this Church.

We'll be moving [*Outside*] next winter, and the only thing we're really worried about is - how do we find a church like St. Matthew's out there? We've been so comfortable here.

**TWENTY FOUR.** We've been here through 24 years of Easter Vigils.

...asked me where I got my neat suntan and I told her my father and grandfather.

Is anything happening back home in the village? Well, the snow slid off my roof. That's about it.

Remember, we may be crazy, but at least we're not screwed up.

How come they put Grandma in that box? What are they going to do with her now? Is that what I'll look like when I get old? Is that what "old" means?

I need to pass my UA on Tuesday so I can go up North. Somebody told me if you boil spruce boughs and drink it, it'll clean everything out. Can I borrow some of your spruce?

We got a new name for you.  
You've heard of Marryin' Sam?  
We're gonna call you Buryin' Sam.  
Get you a long black coat and a tall black hat.

I'm so glad my dad got Alzheimer's or dementia or whatever it was. 'cause I got to know him then. He thought he was twenty years old again, so I got to know him as a young man. I'm so thankful for that.

Well I don't know if it's okay to tell this story in the church, in front of Fr. Scott, but ----- had a dog named Axel. And.....

All my contemporaries are leaving me.

The only REAL musicians are oboe players, because the instrument they play is so difficult and impossible.

## through All The Seasons of life

### SEASONS of LIFE in the SEASON of SPRING

From **Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** through **Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**; from a month before Easter through a month into the Easter Season; from one of the coldest Marches on record into the greening of Spring; from the desert of Lent into the Flowers of Easter; from the Stations of the Cross into the beginning of Spring/ Summer weddings; for the 8 weeks since the recording in the last Newsletter, we gathered and prayed together at least **192 times**.

An accounting and some of the details of the last 60 days:

- 28 Sunday Morning Eucharists
- 3 Sunday Afternoon Fairbanks Correctional Center Eucharists/Visits
- 33 Private/Home Communion visits by Clergy
- 3 Private/Home Communion visits by Lay Eucharistic Ministers
- 49 Midnight Compline Offices
- 8 Wednesday Morning Eucharists
- 7 Wednesday Evening Eucharists
- 4 Thursday Morning Pioneer Home Eucharists
- 4 Fridays in Lent Stations of the Cross walks
- 2 Other Week Day Eucharists
- 8 Special Holy Week Services (*Monday through Holy Saturday*)
- 4 Easter Services
- 2 Easter Services (*out of Fairbanks*)
- 4 Celebrations of Holy Baptism, 12 Baptized
- 1 Celebration of Holy Baptism, 3 Baptized (*out of Fairbanks*)
- 2 Weddings/Blessing of a Civil Marriage
- 7 Commendations of the Dying/Departed
- 12 Funeral/Memorial services
- 2 Anniversary/Memorial Services/Walks
- 2 "Memorial" Teas hosted
- 2 Diocesan committees hosted
- 5 Parties, Chili Feed, Clean Up Days, etc.

-38F Coldest Temperature recorded since March 8<sup>th</sup> (*Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>*)

+65F Warmest Temperature recorded since March 8<sup>th</sup> (*Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>*)

**10 Hours, 54 minutes, 5 seconds** Daylight on March 8<sup>th</sup>

**17 Hours, 36 minutes, 50 seconds** Daylight on May 6<sup>th</sup>

**Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** – First puddles appearing on First Avenue

**Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>** – First Basketball players in the Church Parking Lot

**Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>** – Geese arrive at Creamers Field

**Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>** – Ice officially moves in Nenana

### Holy Baptism

On Sunday Evening, March 25<sup>th</sup>, as the Christmas Tree Lights burned on the spruce tree outside celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation



## Seasons of Life . . .

and 9 months till Christmas, 9 months old **River Elizabeth Frank** was baptized, in an emergency service before her surgery the next morning (*which subsequently went fine*). River's Godmother is **Shanta Matthews** of Fairbanks. Similarly, in another special service, on Tuesday evening, April 3rd, friends gathered for 58 years old **Lucy Ann Millington's** baptism on her 58th birthday. **Theresa Brice** was Lucy's Sponsor.

As the Paschal Candle was lit, and **Barbara Hameister** sang us into Easter with the "*Exsultet*", and crosses turned into Life, and Darkness turned into flowers, and Holy Week turned into Easter, on Saturday evening, April 7<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the first of the Easter Baptisms. There were 8 baptisms that evening. Those baptized, and their Godparents, were : 9 weeks old **Thomas Jay Demientieff** (Godparents: **Kathy Tritt, Paul Tritt, Patrick Thumma**), 1 year old **Angeline Hope Lichelle**



**Derendoff** (Godparents: **Tillila Beetus, Linda Shea, Tim Shea, Shannon James**), 1 month old **Mia Michelle Dublin** (Godparents: **Stephanie Dayton, Louise Kangas, Natasha Larry, and Eric P.**), 4 weeks old **Avaiya Danielle Burgess Mendez** (Godparents: **John Big Joe, Glenn LeCornu, Stephaine Shanahan, Pricilla Dayton**), 3 years old **Brielle Katherine Maggie Peter** (Godparent: **Mike Peter**), 5 years old **Jermaine Lewis Plummer** (Godparents: **Max and Kris Adams, and Rick Hughes**), 5 months old **Leeah Rose Plummer** (Godparents: **Max and Kris Adams, and Tammy Hartzog**), and 8 years old **Tajhana Jaydeen Monique Burgess Stine** (Godparents: **Tanya Beetus, Annette McCotter, John O'Neil, and Aaron Joseph**).

Meanwhile, on Easter Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, **Fr. John Holz** and **Senior Warden Bruce Gadwah** were celebrating three Easter baptisms in Holy Trinity Church in Circle. 8 months old **Dezmond Carl Eagleshield** was baptized, with his Godparents being **William John, Jessica Boyle, Maggie Charlie, Eugenia Erick, Dominic Zephler, and Mike Fields**; 1 year old



**Elaina Deborah Carroll** was baptized, with her Godparents being **Nancy Peterson, Belva Poage, Jessica Boyle, Phyllis Sperry, Jason John, and Marc Poage**; and almost 2 years old **Charles Angelo Darby, Jr.** was baptized, with his Godparents being **Derrick Henry John, Jessica Roberts, John Carroll, and Nancy Peter**.

And back here at St. Matthew's, Easter week baptisms continued, with the **Rev. Canon Ginny Doctor** (assisted by the rector) celebrating a

special Easter baptism service Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, and baptizing 8 weeks old **Evan Titan Stevens Kozevnikoff** and 7 weeks old **Katelyn Ashlyn Kozevnikoff**. Evan's Godparents are **Kim Wiehl, Yvonne Stevens, Jennie**

(Continued on page 20)

## Spring Voices

I used to run all the way from Birch Creek to Fort Yukon, and now . . .

. . . was one of those crackheads, and stole . . .

*Ahhhhhhh*, nothing like poached moose soup. And pretty soon, poached GEESE!

We're not doing something right. It shouldn't be this way. Easter should be a time of refreshment and renewal. Instead, to be honest, I just don't want to get out of bed.

. . . was coming back, and we had 11 caribou and one moose in the boat, and I . . .

...and **Bob Bartlett**, he used to be Senator, would come by, and just sit in the chair and fall asleep.

We just came in from the Kantishna. We were out there three weeks. Is it spring out there? Well, we had to wade through water to get to the runway.

I think they should make a thing that you have to be an Alaskan resident for this Bishop Thing, because someone like that will understand who we are better.

...and last night I dreamed that I was a young girl again, out muskrat hunting, out on the lakes.

There's a Gap in the Circle someplace; and they're - young people - fallin' through; one by one. Somehow we've got to close that Gap.

No, I'm not going home for the funeral. C-----, I've been home too much recently for funerals. That's the only time I ever seem to go home.

You know what really helps me - that banner over there, with names of all those that have died. It helps me know we're not the only ones going thru this pain; and it makes me smile thinking of all of them together Up There.

I first met Jesus when I was 17 in a mint field; when....

## Spring Voices

I have a question. I'm new here, and I can't figure out where this Diocese is, with all the conflict and stuff going on in the church in the lower 48. You here, at this church, you seem to be up to , *uhh*, something else, something different, something, *hmmm*, maybe higher. But where is the Diocese? My diocese back home has joined the Network and . . .

I've heard my Grampa tell the story. How he was out in the woods and knelt down and prayed and asked Jesus to take drinkin' away from him. And Something happened then. So here I am and I . . .

I'm all alone in the middle of Times Square and.....

This shouldn't affect your computer at all. I'm just going to plug this in and fix....

This Easter service proves it and we're coming back. We've been going to ----- Church, because they help us with transportation; but this is home. But gosh I don't know how we'll get here.

...addicted to crack and cocaine, but I know he has a good heart underneath that stuff; and I know the Lord Jesus can set us free. So, can we pray?

Yeah, I know. I got beat up last night. I was walking home and somebody....

....and somehow the car ended up on top of this high snow berm. That's why he always told me, "You owe me a car".

Being perfect doesn't mean perfect; it means making the right choices.

How did we first meet? I found her on My Space and just started IMing and...

I got beat up last night! I was just walking home and there were these kids on bikes and somebody hit me with a skateboard and they knocked me down and took my \$11. And the police never even came.

*"I felt as if my inner sense had been returned"*

## SPRINGTIME of the HEART

*By Nutaaq*



When alcohol addiction finally gave up its deadly grip on my life, I finally stopped running long enough to take a look at what my life had become. It looked like a piece of old

fur, worn out and filthy; it's only worth being a mat for dogs tied up outside. I saw that guilt had shaped my life, beginning from the time I was five years old coming back from fish camp without my mom, who died on the way back home.

Staying drink-free was a one-day-at-a-time deal, sometimes one minute at a time. One weekend a friend took me to his fishing camp many miles up in the tundra. While my friend checked his nets on the same river that my mom had fished so many years ago, I sat down on the wooden chair in front of the wooden table, and began to write about my life and the guilt that had plagued me for so many years. Before I could finish the first sentence, the tears began. I raged. I beat at the air around me and hit my fist on the table. I unleashed my tears onto the wooden floor. I screamed long, hard wails, releasing ice-crusted, pent-up anger. I wailed at God, asking "Why?" Yet I knew that all was well, that I was doing what I needed to do to become well.

When this guilt was confronted, it disappeared in a sea of tears. Mother Earth soaked it up and left me fresh and clean, as if a new sun had come in through the tiny cabin window. My wailing, finally unleashed from the childhood past within me, went around the world again and again, back to a time when I was an innocent child. I felt as if my inner sense had been returned. I looked down. My well of tears had filled the floor of the cabin. I was exhausted. Then I felt my mouth form the words, "I am not guilty."

I try to remember that on a daily basis. In the beginning it was a struggle to let go of punishing myself for every little thing, for being human. My mind would work subtle ways to punish *Nutaaq*. Sometimes I would find myself getting beat up when I turned a blind corner. I camped in a tent during Rural Providers Conference in Nenana a few years ago. During the middle of the conference I had a really bad day. Once again I was in the steely grip of guilt. I couldn't even enjoy the conference. After trying to endure a dinner where everyone else was laughing and having fun, I, with my tail tucked beneath my legs, took walk along the river to be alone, then went to my tent to sleep early.

I woke up in the middle of the night scratching my face. I looked in my pocket mirror and saw a huge bump on my right eye lid, where I could hardly see, and another bump above my upper lip. Mosquito bites. Those little bugs woke me up physically as well as spiritually. I said, "This is how I look inside when I beat myself up."

I work hard to operate from my heart, operate from love and forgiveness towards Doreen. I keep positive reminders on my refrigerator or in the bathroom, anywhere where I would see it daily, so I wouldn't neglect myself or fall into depression, which was my usual state. I go to 12-Step meetings to pass on hope. I take deep breaths when I'm feeling unbalanced. I read daily positive meditations to feed my mind good things. I look in the mirror and say, "Hey kiddo, you're alright." I have learned to be more gentle and loving toward myself, one day at a time.



## “THANK YOU”S to YOU

### THANK YOU ALL

By Bill Stevens

On February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 I had a major surgery in Anchorage. The first few days were tough, painful, and under sedation. I came home to Fairbanks on February 14<sup>th</sup>. I am writing this to thank all who came to my house in my time of need. I was immobilized and couldn't have made it on my own. The fellowship of St. Matthew's came to my aid with rides and visits at home.

Also friends who came and brought me good food from Panda Garden; and one who brought me food from El Sombrero; the one who brought me my accumulation of mail from the Post Office. There was one person who made sure that I was okay - called me and asked me if I needed groceries, or rides to my appointments. I was barely pushing myself around in the house. Then I started on the crutches. A couple from Indianapolis, Indiana, who were in Anchorage for the Iditarod, called me and came to visit - Chuck and Mary Vyverberg. They took me to Denny's for breakfast. Mary is a teacher at Montessori Discovery School in Indianapolis and the children there got in touch with me through the Internet and now we're corresponding since then.

I am humbled by all these wonderful people, who took time and came to my aid. Matthew 25:35: *"I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you took me in."*

Thank you all for your prayers and coming to my aid in my time of need. Praying and keeping faith in the Lord is peace of mind and enjoying Life.

*Massi cho.*

### ANAA BAASEE'

By Shirley Holmberg

*Good Morning to All of You,*

*I wanted to let you all know how much you mean to me in the past and today. I want you to know that I love you dearly and care about you more than you will know. In my life you are very precious and special. Without God, your friendship and love in my life, I would not be here. I have needed support and when I needed you, you were there. When I needed to know I was okay, you were there. I am crying right now as I write this to you. I want you to know it is okay to cry. It is one of the ways we were given to help us process.*

*I appreciate you, this day and always. I appreciate you because you have helped me stay clean and sober just by your presence in my life. I wanted to write this to you today because I am clean and sober twenty years today (April 30<sup>th</sup>). It is quite an accomplishment for someone who endured what I have endured. It is hard at times. I pray, I call one of you, I pray, and have faith.*

*I love you very dearly. . . Have an awesome life!*

*God's peace and love, Shirley May Holmberg*

## Spring Voices

I always like coming here. You can feel such HISTORY and TRADITION when you come in - Hudson Stuck and all of that Tradition that continues through today. Tell me, it must be, *uhhh*, quite daunting being the priest here because of all of that.

We went right from like forty-eleven below to July 18th in one week. We just passed from Winter to Summer and missed Spring!

Is that a cake? IT'S A CAR!!!! But it's got frosting all over it! How come? It's NOT frosting? It LOOKS like frosting! *BLAGGGGGGGH*. It doesn't TASTE like frosting. People do that when they get married? How come?

We saw all the cars so we stopped. What's going on? Whose funeral is it? OH! It's a wedding. Gee, there've been so many funerals we just thought it was another one.

...and whenever my daughter gets tired of her church, we're going to switch to St. Matthew's because IT'S REAL.

....talking to Senior Citizens about love and relationships. People NEVER think about people their Grandparents' age falling in love, but....

That's pretty much the only time we see anybody down our way, back home in our village. When something happens and there's a funeral. Nobody comes around anymore just to visit and have Church.

I just wrapped myself up in my prayer shawl and took a nap, and now I feel so much better.

It's GOOD to be indigenous! AMEN.

Oh I don't care about church politics. It's all about doing God's work, isn't it? And Church politics and University politics and school politics are NOTHING compared to . . .

The good that there's been, that's been Jesus Christ; the bad, that's me.

## Spring Voices

She's doin' good. She's professional. She's one of those OLD SCHOOL flower girls.

I keep hearing all those redwing blackbirds in my head.

. . . and 7 out of 10 marriages out here have broken up, since they got back from Iraq. But they don't tell you That Stuff.

That little shiver I feel, way down deep, when you or someone prays, that's the Holy Spirit, right?

Sweeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeet.

Now that the ice has gone, I'm headin' out. Gonna get a canoe and my rifle, rent one of those satellite phones and go float . . .

. . . and HE told me, "*You can't have faith in someone you don't trust. And if you don't trust me, you can't be part of my Perfect World.*"

It's kind of nice, walking by to come in the Church, and seeing all those guys and folks sitting around on the lawn, in the yard. Seeing them there says "*This is a safe place*", and that's good.

...those days we'd all be out at rat camps this time of the year, and we could HEAR the Break-Up, even though we were two, three miles back.

It's Something, watching this ice. It gives you a respect for God, how it happens, how He figures it out so it all comes together every year like this. Scientists can figure out diseases and how to go to the moon, but they can't figure out how to do Something like this, I think.

What they're saying is, down our way, back home, it's not really Break-Up; the ice is just rotting. And the water's low. It's all pretty strange. No water in the Country. It's all pretty dry. Lot of musk rats are going to die, I think. I hate to say it, but I think this Summer we're going to have.....

... just live on muskrat three times a day, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Sometimes beaver, or ducks or geese. But not too much. No way to keep it those days, you know.

*A Chance to Return this Summer to those Thrilling Days of Yesteryear!*

## SUMMERTIME GUESTS ARRIVING. . . OLD FRIENDS now retired BISHOPS

The arrival of Summer (*finally!*) means many things . . . from a Midnight Eucharist on top of Eagle Summit out the Steese Highway on Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, to Booyah during Golden Days in July. Annnnnnnnd, Company is coming. Tour buses will wind their ways through the Fairbanks streets and the First Avenue Bike Path will have evening strollers and folks will stand outside the front door of St. Matthew's looking, and hopefully somebody will try the door and discover it's open. And some Old Friends are expected to be coming up to visit. In late July or early August **Bishop Andy** and **Sally Fairfield** will be returning to visit, with some combination of family. Before becoming Bishop of North Dakota in 1989 (*from which he retired in 2004*), Andy and Sally were here in Alaska, living in Grayling, Fort Yukon, and finally Fairbanks. He was an Assistant to Bishops Cochran and Harris; and flew a kazillion hours in the Church Plane all over the place. He and Sally now are retired in Massachusetts. Later in August, the weekend of August 19<sup>th</sup>, **Bishop Don** and **Elizabeth "Betty" Hart** will be back, also with family. Don, whose photograph hangs in the Church hallway, was the rector here at St. Matthew's from 1973 to 1983, through the tumult of the Pipeline years. Prior to coming to St. Matthew's, they'd lived up on the Koyukuk in Huslia; and left Fairbanks to go be Bishop of Hawaii, and then assist other places. He and Betty are now retired in New Hampshire.

## AFFIRMATIONS for the PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

*By DeAnne Stokes*

Last week, while listening to Presiding Bishop Katharine speak in Trinity Cathedral, Portland, Oregon, I felt a clear and blessed connection through our Prayer Shawl Ministry. After all, we are knitting, they are gathering; we are praying, they are praying.

The Bishops are gathering in August in New Orleans and I understand the Archbishop of Canterbury will be coming to the US then, or before, or after. I hear Bishop Katharine's commitment to keep the conversation alive and meaningful. I *know* prayer shawls will help.

Next meeting of the St. Matthew's Prayer Shawl Ministry is May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1PM, Church Library. All are welcome.

**“WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TOURISTS for THIS SUMMER?”**

we asked; and. . . .

*Must do for tourists: Find a river. Sit. Be Quiet. Listen. Hear what the spirit is saying. . .*

Here are some fun things to do around Fairbanks: **FREE:** Take a bike ride; Borrow the canoe and go down the Chena river; Play ultimate Frisbee; Hike around the neighborhood; Go to Harding Lake for the day or overnight; Take the historic walking tour downtown; Visit the Art Galleries; Visit the public lands office and see movies and interactive displays; Go to Pioneer Park (*formerly Alaskaland*) and see the Harding railroad car, the original log cabins and pioneer museum (*maybe a low fee or donation for the museum*); Hike Granite Tours, for the hardy; Pick berries (seasonally); Tour Calypso Farm; Drive (*or bike for the hardy*) to the pipeline display; Go get fresh spring water in Fox; see the gold tailings; Visit a gold dredge (*might be a fee for some of them*); Visit Fort Knox – have to arrange a tour in advance; Have a picnic. **INEXPENSIVE:** Tour the Georgeson Botanical Garden and see how big things grow in Alaska; also see the many experimental varieties of plants. [*Say hello to the Jeanne & Floyd Ohlsen Memorial plot while you're there*]-Suggested donations . . . Ice Museum – Downtown - very interesting; Visit the large animal research station – learn about musk ox, caribou and moose; Chena Hot Springs – 70 miles each way; Take in an artsy movie at the Blue Loon; **POSSIBLY PRICEY:** Take a hot air balloon ride; Riverboat Discovery; El Dorado Gold Mine Tour; **FIND FUN PLACES TO EAT!**

[*And a NON resident coming back to Fairbanks for her 3<sup>rd</sup> time, bringing family that hasn't been here, wrote . . .*] Fairbanks! Though I've only been there twice, my husband has never been there. We want to: visit with family (*Hi! Hi! Are you ready for us?*) , introduce him to Alaskan friends (*Are you ready Linda Luke?*), go to church at St. Matthew's . . . and I want to go to Midnight Compline as often as possible. I want to revisit the U. of Fairbanks museum, show him the field by the creamery, explore the art scene, have lunch at Chena Hot Springs, have him drink water from that creek place where everyone gathers it. . . and hopefully if possible take a daytrip up to (*a village farther North*). Maybe we will even go to AlaskaLand, keep hearing about that....

**CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS  
SOUGHT for the  
ST. MATTHEW'S  
DIRECTORY**

*By Karen Parr*

The new St. Matthew's Directory, two years in the making, was distributed at the Annual Meeting in January and the next Sunday. The expected errors began popping up at once, and some pretty bad unexpected ones, too, like WRONG photos in three cases, and the Bishop's family upside down!

Hilary and I have been collecting lists of the errors, and I am trying to catch people whose pictures need to be retaken, so that we can print correction sheets soon. If you see errors that you haven't already reported to Hilary or me, please let us know right away. 456-5235 for Hilary; 488-2555 for me (Karen).

*From*  
**A PROUD GRANDMOTHER**

*[Maggie Beach received this note from her son Rex in New Mexico, bringing her up-to-date on her granddaughter Chelsea, and wanted to share the news with the Newsletter]*  
**April 16<sup>th</sup>**

*Dear Mom, Well, here is the Certificate from the National Honor Society for Chelsea. We are real proud of her. She is an intelligent girl with a lot going for her. She has one more year of High School and will be graduating about this time next year in May 2007. . . . She is thinking about going into engineering. WOW, how they grow up so fast. I guess you already know that. Chelsea will be going to a college prep school in New Hampshire called Exeter. . . Love, Your Son*

*" . . . that was exactly why we were there and why we must continue this fellowship."*

## **AN EASTER TRIP TO HOLY TRINITY/ CIRCLE**

*By Senior Warden Bruce  
Gadwah*

Let me begin with some background if I could. During my three terms on the vestry there has been one line item, "*mission outreach*", which has sadly remained only that, a line item. That is because until recently we have not followed through with our intentions, for one reason or another. At last, this vestry wants to change all that. And why is that? Maybe it is because we were tired of dealing with financial issues. Perhaps we had had enough of debating over sensitive topics. Perhaps we needed to exploit our spiritual side; or maybe we just needed to have some fun. Whatever the reason, we made a commitment to finally follow through and, as a result, we chose two villages to visit and share communion with, namely Circle and Stevens Village. Father John [Holz] and I would venture to Circle; and Linda [Demientieff], her daughter Whitney, and a cousin Beverly [Demientieff] would join Peter Newton in Stevens Village.

Our preparation for the trip was very easily arranged thanks to Irene [Roberts] and Margaret [Bessette] who you may know as the ladies who always meet us at Eagle Summit during the summer solstice and share the Eucharist. They always bring with them pots of wonderful food for us all to share at the conclusion of the service. In talking to them, their wishes were that we perform a baptismal service on Easter; and they were very excited, to say the least.

Our trip began with a midday meeting at St. Matthew's where I think there was an unspoken agreement that we would leave all electronic gadgets behind such as cell phones, laptops and the like. I think we were most assuredly going to treat this like a retreat.

We traveled the four hour journey in record time; though we admired the scenery every bit of the way.

Upon arrival, we were warmly greeted by Margaret, as she stepped onto her porch with her apron on, and the enticing aromas from the kitchen were soon

to follow. Though my eyes are growing old, and I now require binoculars to see, I did not miss the



parade of fine desserts arranged on the countertop as we entered. It was at that moment that Margaret announced we would be joining her family for an early Easter dinner. Since my grandmother had taught me table etiquette, I of course could not leave as much as morsel on my plate. In fact I savored it all,

plate after plate.

Following our meal it was suggested that we take a "walk about town" before partaking of dessert. We did exactly that and, much to our surprise, we returned only to further indulge and gorge ourselves. We enjoyed coffee and listened as Margaret entertained us with her family photograph albums. Of particular interest to me were the floods of the Yukon River of days past, and the resulting water lines still visible on the cabin which was to provide our lodging for that evening. During all this, Margaret's family was passing the time with board games on the table next to us.

When it came time to turn in we gathered up our travel gear and our sleeping bags and headed to the little cabin closest to the river. We set out splitting wood, to ensure warmth throughout the night. John and I, having traveled together before, have an Unspoken Rule: He who falls asleep first will actually rest through the night, leaving the other awake to the sound of sawing logs. As usual this trip was to be no different; and I came up short once again. Oh well.

The next morning we arose to birds feeding in the feeders; and the smell of coffee emanating from Margaret's kitchen once again lured us in. She asked us if we were warm through the night and we told her it was like a sauna inside the cabin. She asked why we had not turned down the oil stove to which we replied, "*What oil stove?*" "I wondered why you were chopping wood," she said. "*Oh, you city boys!*" "Since you now know all about wood stoves, why don't you go down to the church and start the fire to prepare for service?" We allowed as how we certainly would enjoy the honor; and set about doing just that. We walked the short distance to church, and lit the stove hoping it would stay lit, although we had our doubts. We strolled back to our cabin to gather up our vestments and out came Margaret offering biscuits and gravy with



*(Continued from page 12)*

eggs and of course it would not be polite to refuse, so by now you probably know the rest of the story. After breakfast we loaded the van and since we could scarcely waddle we decided to drive back to church. There was only about a half hour left before service; and we arrived there only to find in our amazement that the fire had indeed gone out. Panic set in as we pondered over what to do now. After all we were two former Boy Scouts, although only one had risen to the rank of Eagle Scout. Yes, I barely made Tenderfoot. I had other interests, okay? Anyway the long and short of it was that it took all the paper in my van, including the registration and the insurance card and the pouring of a certain flammable liquid, to save the day, but it was going now.

For the service we had a full house of around forty people including three, not so happy to be there, young ones, but it was a good baptismal turnout and Father John delivered a very inspiring sermon to say the least. Since it was Easter, he made reference to Mary and Mary Magdalene and of the importance of ladies in the Church. I took special note of how they responded. They were very proud and just beaming all over that he had included them. Their eyes were just "sparkling." In fact, if I could have captured just one moment to bring back to you it would have been that one. After all that was exactly why we were there and why we must continue this fellowship.

And I suppose that is where you come in - for it is one thing to make "a visit" to any village, but it is quite another to sustain that visitation without the support of the congregation. This should be important to all of us and, as such, we are asking those who have an interest in becoming ambassadors to join with us, as we prepare for future trips, as we grow to become closer to the other villages in the interior deanery. We look forward to hearing from you and we shall keep you posted as this mission contuse.

The Peace of the Lord.

*{NOTE: For many years we have prayed regularly every Sunday for, among others, the churches in Stevens Village and Circle. And for many years the succeeding vestries of St. Matthew's have talked and planned about increasing the ministry of St. Matthew's out into the villages.*



*This year the Vestry felt the time was finally ready, and two groups traveled over the Easter weekend. Vestrymember Linda Demientieff, her daughter Whitney, and her cousin Bev Demientieff joined LayReader Peter Newton for Easter services in Stevens Village; and Senior Warden Bruce Gadwah joined Fr. John Holz for Easter services in Circle. They spoke of their trips during the services on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>; and their reports follow. Many photographs, as Linda mentions below, are on the St. Matthew's website:*

*www.stmatthewschuirch.org.}*

***"This is the kind of Love that we want to share . . ."***

## **AN EASTER TRIP TO ST. ANDREW'S/STEVENS VILLAGE**

*By Linda W. Demientieff*

My parents are **William Williams** and **Effie Williams** of Allakaket. I live here in Fairbanks. My daughter **Whitney Demientieff** and my cousin **Beverly Demientieff** and I traveled to Stevens Village for Easter Service.

When I was a little girl my family lived about 20 miles up river from Allakaket. We moved around as the seasons changed. Every year **Bishop Gordon** came to see us. He would fly to Allakaket and then take a boat to come up the river to visit us. There were only my parents to take communion, but he made that trip to serve them communion. He knew each of us personally and cared deeply for us. And we knew that. Every time he came to Allakaket


after we moved to the village he would come to our house to have tea with my parents. When I went away to high school in Wrangell he came to visit us and told me, as he was carrying me to stop my tears, that he was at my parents house in Allakaket the week before. He told me that they drank tea and shared a meal. He told me what mom cooked and that they told him I was in

Wrangell if he should be in Southeast Alaska. This is the kind of love that we want to share with the people out in the villages.

On April 7<sup>th</sup> Beverly Demientieff, Whitney and I

*(Continued on page 14)*

JUNE 2007 **SAINT MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH; 1030 Second Avenue; Fairbanks, Alaska 99701**  
[www.stmatthewschurch.org](http://www.stmatthewschurch.org) Telephone: 907-456-5235/Email: [sfisher@mosquitonet.com](mailto:sfisher@mosquitonet.com) /FAX: 907-456-2934

Sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
<b>may 27</b> <b>PENTECOST</b> <i>(Whitsunday)</i> 10AM ONE EUCHARIST (w/ Baptisms) <b>[Outside]</b> -picnic following 12amCompline	<b>may 28</b> 12amCompline	<b>may 29</b> 5:30pm Evng. Pryr & Discussionof Anglican Draft Covenant 12am Compline	<b>may 30</b> 9:30am Eucharist 1pm <b>Burial</b> – Shirley Demientieff (+1- 3)( <i>Nenana</i> ) 3:30pm Groundbreaking- Morris Thompson Center 7pm Eucharist 12am Compline	<b>may 31</b> 12am Compline	<b>JUNE 1</b> <b>FIT</b> <b>Grants</b> <b>Deadline</b> <i>[1942-            Death of            Bishop            Rowe]</i> 12am <u>Compline</u> O FULL MOON	<b>JUNE 2</b> 10am Altar Guild 12amCompline
<b>June 3</b> <b>TrinitySunday</b> 8, 9:15, 11:15am Eucharists 2pm FCC Eucharist 12am Compline	<b>June 4</b> Denakkanagga in Fbks (thru 6/7) 12amCompline	<b>June 5</b> 12am Compline	<b>June 6</b> <b>Happy Bday MMD</b> <b>El Beck</b> 9:30am Eucharist 1pm <b>Burial</b> – Bill Taylor (+2-23) <i>(Birch Hill)</i> 7pm Eucharist 12am Compline	<b>June 7</b> 12am Compline	<b>June 8</b> 2pm <b>Burial</b> – Skip Secson (+12-29) <i>(Northern            Lights)</i> 12am Compline	<b>June 9</b> <b>9AM</b> <b>St.Matthew's</b> <b>Garage Sale</b>
<b>June 10</b> <i>(Lessons: Proper 5)</i> 8, 9:15, 11:15am Eucharists 12am Compline	<b>June 11</b> <i>[1964Ordinations            of Titus Peter,            Phillip Peter,            Isaac Tritt in Ft.            Yukon]</i> 6PM Vestry mtg 12am Compline	<b>June 12</b> 9:30am Denali Center Visits <i>[1989-Death            of            Bishop            Bentley]</i> 12am Compline	<b>June 13</b> 9:30am Eucharist 7pm Eucharist 12am Compline	<b>June 14</b> <b>Happy Bday Mom!</b> 10:30am Pioneer Home Eucharist <i>(7pm Opening            Goldpanners            Game)</i> -WeddingRehearsal 12am Compline	<b>June 15</b> 12am Compline	<b>June 16</b> 4PM Wedding – Jamie Shoffstall & Eric Kline
<b>June 17</b> <b>Father's Day</b> 8, 9:15, 11:15am Eucharists 2pm FCC Eucharist <i>[1913-Stuck, etc.            reach Denali            Summit;            1981-Consecration            of G. Harris as 5<sup>th</sup>            Bp.]</i> 12amCompline	<b>June 18</b> <i>[1994-Internment            of Bp. Gordon in            Pt. Hope]</i> 12am Compline	<b>June 19</b>	<b>June 20</b> 9:30am Eucharist 7pm Holy Baptism & Eucharist 12am Compline	<b>June 21</b> MIDNIGHT  <b>SUN</b> SUMMER SOLSTICE 12AM ANNUAL MIDNIGHT SUN EAGLE SUMMIT EUCHARIST	<b>June 22</b> <i>(1 second            Darker)</i> 12am Compline	<b>June 23</b> <b>Yukon 800</b> <b>Boat Race</b>
<b>June 24</b> 8, 9:15, 11:15am Eucharists 12am Compline	<b>June 25</b> <b>Happy BDay Cathy</b> <b>Davis</b>	<b>June 26</b> 9:30am Denali Center Visits 12am Compline	<b>June 27</b> 9:30am Eucharist 7pm Holy Eucharist 12am Compline	<b>June 28</b> 10:30am Pioneer Home Eucharist 12am Compline	<b>June 29</b>	<b>June 30</b> <b>Endowment</b> <b>Board Grants</b> <b>Deadline</b> 10am Altar <u>Guild</u> -Renewal of <u>WeddingVows</u> O FULLMOON

# LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

MAY-JUNE 2007

Schedule Available at: [www.stmatthewschurch.org](http://www.stmatthewschurch.org)

DATE	May 13	May 20	May 27
READINGS	6 Easter	7 Easter	Day of Pentecost
1st Lesson:	Acts 14:8-18	Acts 16:16-34	Acts 2:1-11
Psalm:	67	47	104:25-32
2nd Lesson:	Revelation 21:22-22:5	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-1, 20	1 Corinthians 12:4-13
Gospel:	John 14:23-29	John 17:20-26	John 20:19-23
Prayers:	Form I, pg. 383	Form II, pg. 385	Form III, pg. 387
Altar Guild	"C"	"A"	"B"
Chairman	Betsy Smith	Teresa Moore	Julia Cockerille
Nursery:	+++++++ Millie Ambrose & Beverly Joseph ++++++		
<b>8:00 EUCHARIST</b>	+++++++		
Lessons:	David Burrell	Pat Sachinger	<b>ONE SERVICE ONLY</b>
Chalice/Prayers:	Carol Brice	Lottie Beyer	
<b>9:15 EUCHARIST</b>	+++++++		
1st Lesson:	Becky Snow	Lynn Slusher	Cathy Davis
Psalm:	Tom Marsh		Marty Thomas
2nd Lesson:	Carol Holz		Nancy Tarnai
Prayers:	Laura Bender		Susan Stitham
Acolyte:	Mindona Grunin		Carl Eschright
Crucifer:			Kyle DeWilde
Chalice:	Marsh/	Lee/	Greg/Jane Sandstrom
Ushers:	Becky Snow		Freeman/Cummings
Coffee Hour:			Pot Luck
<b>11:15 EUCHARIST</b>	+++++++		
1st Lesson:	Linda Mullen	Jim Hameister	
Psalm:	Teresa Moore		
2nd Lesson:	Julia Cockerille		
Prayers:	Charlene Marth	Barb Hameister	
Acolyte:			
Crucifer:			
Chalice:	Marth/Petersen	Julia C/	
Ushers:	Gene Freeman	Steve/Teresa Moore	
Coffee Hour:			

DATE	June 3	June 10	June 17
READINGS	Trinity Sunday	2 Pentecost	3 Pentecost
1st Lesson:	Isaiah 6:1-8	1 Kings 17:17-24	2 Sam 11:26-12:10, 13-15
Psalm:	Canticle 13	30:1-6, 12-13	32:1-8
2nd Lesson:	Revelation 4:1-11	Galatians 1:11-24	Galatians 2:11-21
Gospel:	John 16:(5-11)12-15	Luke 7:11-17	Luke 7:36-50
Prayers:	Form IV, pg. 388	Form V, pg. 389	Form VI, pg. 392
Altar Guild	"C"	"A"	"B"
Chairman:	Linda Mullen	Cathy Giacomazzi	Laura Bender
Nursery:	+++++++ Millie Ambrose & Beverly Joseph ++++++		
<b>8:00 EUCHARIST</b>	+++++++		
Lessons:	Helen Burrell	Karen Kiss	Marty Thomas
Chalice/Prayers:	Mary Margaret Davis	Bruce Gadwah	Lottie Beyer
<b>9:15 EUCHARIST</b>	+++++++		
1st Lesson:	Greg Sandstrom	Tom Marsh	Becky Snow
Psalm:	Shirley Gordon	Diana Childs	Gary Bender
2nd Lesson:	Jane Sandstrom	Darrel Zuke	Carol Holz
Prayers:	Becky Snow	M/M Castellini	Laura Bender
Acolyte:		Kyle DeWilde	Carl Eschright
Crucifer:		Mindona Grunin	Katie Hopkins
Chalice:	Greg/Jane Sandstrom	Marsh/	Lee/
Ushers:	Becky Snow	John Parsons	Sue Englebrecht
Coffee Hour:			
<b>11:15 EUCHARIST</b>	+++++++		
1st Lesson:	Linda Mullen	Bonnie Hameister	Teresa Moore
Psalm:	Eliza Winfrey	Gladys Terry	Cathy Davis
2nd Lesson:	Audrey Jones	Bernice Aragon	Irene Roberts Bogenrife
Prayers:	Karen Parr	Helen Howard	Rich Davis
Acolyte:			
Crucifer:			
Chalice:	Julia C/Mackey	Howard/Petersen	C Davis/Beach
Ushers:	Phillip Rodgers	Gene Freeman	Phillip Rodgers
Coffee Hour:	Helen Howard	Elaine Jacobson	Mary Schmieder

If you are not available as scheduled, please change with someone and notify the office so the bulletin will be correct. If you plan to be away between June 18 and August 1, please notify Charlotte Perotti, 457-1332 or E-mail: [clp@mosquitonet.com](mailto:clp@mosquitonet.com)

## Easter Trips . . .

(Continued from  
page 13)

traveled to Stevens Village to help **Peter Newton** with the Easter Service. We were met in Stevens Village by **Debbie George, Cora Simon** and **William**. We rode on snow machines to the village, which is a little over a mile from the airport. We settled into a rooming house at the Tribal Building. We were invited to have dinner with **Lucille** and **Todd**, where a group of happy people came to see us and welcome us into the community. We visited with everyone until around 9 pm; then we took a quick walk through the village. We also saw Peter Newton and did a little planning with him for the Easter Service.

On Easter morning we met with Peter Newton at the church cabin at 10:30 am. We prayed and talked about our roles in the Easter Service. We had 22 people show up at the Easter Service. Everyone in the village was there, and all in good spirits. There was an announcement that there was going to be a potluck dinner that afternoon after the Easter Egg Hunt. We brought plastic Easter eggs stuffed with treats. There was a couple in the village who invited everyone to a potluck dinner at their home after the Easter Egg Hunt. I also announced that I brought some GBD books that will be available at the Church cabin for everyone to use.

Whitney and I did the readings for the church service and then **Robert Joseph** and I helped with serving the communion. Whitney did a wonderful job as a role model to the younger people. She was able to play with them and visit with them. They sure enjoyed her company.

After the Easter Service we went to the school and Bev, Whitney and I hid the 96 plastic eggs that we brought. The 16 kids from the village showed up and had a blast looking for eggs. Everyone, including the parents, had so much fun. The



EARLY SIGNS OF SPRING

children and their parents asked us when we planned to come back to Stevens Village. We told them that we might show up again in the summer if we could find a boat ride to Stevens Village. Beverly took over a hundred pictures; some of which are on St. Matthews's website ([www.stmatthewschurch.org](http://www.stmatthewschurch.org)).

Preparation for this trip to Stevens was really quite simple. We brought sleeping bags, enough food in case of emergency, toiletries, some simple toys to break the ice, and some GBD books. I would also bring cookies or something to serve if we plan to have a GBD group. The people were so happy to see us and so grateful that everything flowed so smoothly.

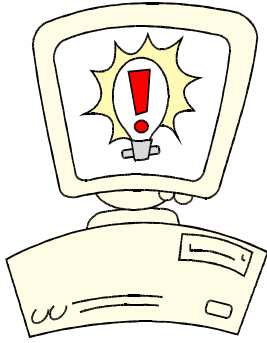
The idea behind this venture was to send people out to the villages in small groups so that people would become acquainted with the congregation here. This would help to make people feel welcome and they would know someone here in St. Matthews when they come into Fairbanks. So we really need more people in the congregation to participate to get more faces out there. We didn't go out to preach to anyone or hold classes, although we could, but we mainly need to get out there and let them know that they are part of our family and show the love of our Lord.

## AND WHITNEY REPORTS IN TOO!

*By Whitney Demientieff*

Going to Stevens Village was fun. My job was to play with the kids in the village. I brought a bat and ball, cards and some Frisbees, but we didn't play with them. We played outside all evening and all day. We played with the campfire. The kids really enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt. We hid 96 Easter Eggs stuffed with chocolate. They found all of them in less than 10 minutes. All the kids were on a sugar high for the longest time. I learned that we, in Fairbanks are fortunate to have Holy Communion pretty much anytime we want. In the village it's hard for people, because they only have a few volunteers to help with the church service. They don't have Sunday School or Bible School, and they don't have the support of a large family like we have at St. Matthews. If you think that you would like to visit the villages, I'm here to tell you that you wouldn't regret that decision. We were well fed and well taken care of.





## ST. MATTHEW'S WEBSITE REPORT

By Darrel Zuke, St. Matthew's Web Gardener

To the St. Matthews Church Family:

What's happening at the St. Matthews Website?

Well, lots of good things happening at the St Matthews Website. First off, we welcomed a new member to our web committee, **Tree Nelson**. As I'm sure you all have noticed, Tree has taken over the responsibilities for getting the pictures onto the website, and he is doing a wonderful job! He brings knowledge and skills to the group that will allow further development and expansion of the website and committee. Tree has changed the way we add pictures, namely one by one and really has an eye for the Photos submitted to the webgardener. We are excited about his knowledge and skills and look forward to working with him to continue the landscaping and planting of this wonderful worldwide garden. Watch for some of his future works and talent having to do with the visual and audio senses.

**Bev and Lloyd Schommer** have of course, like the geese, returned from their winter nesting grounds, and are home with us again. They spent most of the winter in Texas, where (by the magic of the internet) Bev continued her contributions to the website with constant updates and postings. But, it's kind of hard to have our 'in person' web committee meetings with her in Texas, so we are very happy that the Schommers are back in town with us again. We have been meeting weekly to discuss and plans. We already have modified the Welcome page slightly to enable easier access to what we think is what our readers want first, which is all the latest happenings at St. Matthews. So you will notice on, the 'What's Happening' news from Fr. Scott is front and center.

And of course, the other big news is the addition of the donation link, or what we call the 'eDonate' link. This link connects directly to a secure (meaning safe) server at 'PayPal'. With this link, parishioners can donate directly to St. Matthews via their credit cards or debit card, checking account through a personal PayPal account. Receipts are immediately available along with the option to send an email to Hilary that could be used to specify the purpose of the donation (*For example, Laura Vines' CD, soon to be available on the website and for a donation to St. Matthews you can get your own copy!*). Also available is the option to set up automatic donations through our eDonate link. Imagine never having to worry again about finding your checkbook as you're running late for Church! And...for you Alaska Airlines Visa card holders, getting some airline miles beside!!!

We have mentioned before the opportunity to allow others to develop and edit their own ministry's page(s) without the need for specialized software. We would like to encourage the many ministries of the church to consider the St. Matthew's Website as an avenue to provide ministry and outreach to the congregation, and beyond. Please contact us today and get your pages going this summer. Darrel ([webgardener@stmatthewschurch.org](mailto:webgardener@stmatthewschurch.org)), Bev. ([smc@stmatthewschurch.org](mailto:smc@stmatthewschurch.org))

We are considering new options for our web site, as we continue to explore how best to provide services to you, our website user. We are looking for someone who would enjoy being an '**event reporters**'! If you participate in St. Matthew events and activities, write us a note. If you don't participate in events and activities but you would like to, write us a note. Got pictures, even better, send them on to us and we will get your submission posted on the site. If you would like to make suggestions for changes or new features you would like to see on the website, write us a note. For example, ChurchSquare offers other features in their hosting services, such as Member Directory Service, that would enable us to create a safe, and secure Church Directory that could be accessed easily by St. Matthew's members; If you would like to see a classified add space, a help wanted space, or a barter page, write us a note. If you would like a message board or communication board, write us a note. Please give us your input, feedback, ideas and suggestions, they are welcome and appreciated and will be considered by the committee.

On a personal note, I will be teaching a computer workshop this summer for those in need of basic computing skills through the Literacy Council of Alaska. And also offered through LCA is a program of providing recycled computers to the community, targeting those who need a computer, but can't yet afford a new one. These computers are fully operational with a Windows operating system, virus protection, and Microsoft Word 97 installed. If interested, contact LCA at 456-6212, or email me at [dzuke@gci.net](mailto:dzuke@gci.net).

Questions??? You can email me with any questions or comments at [webgardener@stmatthewschurch.org](mailto:webgardener@stmatthewschurch.org). I will be glad to get back to you as soon as possible.

## NOTES on the APRIL 2007 INTERIOR DEANERY MEETING

*By the Rev. Deacon Bella Jean Savino*

*[NOTE: The Interior Deanery is composed of the 24 Episcopal churches here in the Interior of Alaska, from Eagle to Anvik, from Nenana to Arctic Village. Except for Fairbanks and North Pole, all are in rural villages. Once a year the Deanery comes together for a meeting, with each Church sending a number of official delegates. This year St. Matthew's asked the Rev. Deacon Bella Jean Savino and Vestrymember Linda Demientieff to represent us. Here's Bella's Report:]*

I was just thinking of the Interior Deanery Meeting held in Nenana on April 25-28 of this year. I also was just thinking of all the people who are the Church Family, and about all the work each person may be doing to serve God and to serve others.

About the Interior Deanery meeting, I am Member-at-Large of the Interior Deanery Committee for the year 2007-2008. I put in my personal leave for the meeting in Nenana, after thinking about it. Somehow I knew I had to do that. God works in mysterious ways.

... Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Travel Day; potluck covered dish at 5PM and ordination of **Marilyn Duggar** at 7PM. It was very special and spirit-filled, with the attendance of the whole Nenana people, and everyone there as delegates, friends, and family. All the delegates who stayed there in Nenana were taken care of; all lodgings were provided.

Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. About 9:30AM the meeting opened with GBD, call meeting to order with almost all the Interior villages represented. It was wonderful to see old friends again, and to meet new friends. Read meeting minutes and adopted the Agenda. Then each village made their reports. After the reports, **Bishop Mark** made his report. He talked about stuff we do which is important with God. We don't see things happening until later. God is working at our weakest point. He talked about missionaries who came long ago, about Native people like **Ezias Loola**, **Isaac Tritt**, and the others.

Bishop says we are entering into something we never saw before - 2 people working together is happening everywhere in the villages; it's a struggle but very powerful! Two people praying together and working together is Slow Revival. The difference is discipleship - 2 people working together. The Word of God becoming flesh, becoming Real. Let prayer and the Gospel be foundation to each of us. Everything is connected by God's love and grace. Take bad things in prayer. Keep strong in ministry, love, faith, Gospel, culture. Church will be stronger in the changes.

After the Bishop's Report, **Don Stevens** gave the Dean's Report. **Mary Margaret Davis** gave the Standing Committee Report. They will meet once a month until the installation of a new Bishop. A timeline for the Search Process for our next Bishop and our next Bishop's

Installation have been formed. The Search Process is done through the Bishop Search Committee and Transitional Committee (*This Committee will have responsibility for the time between the election of a Bishop and his/her installation.*) **Bishop Mark MacDonald's** Installation into his new responsibilities is scheduled for June 22, 2007 in Winnipeg. **Mary Margaret** also reported how the 2 committees will be formed and what the qualifications are for membership.

**Archdeacon Anna Frank's** Report: One thing she talked about is prison in Arizona. About how the inmates really appreciated all who came and for sharing their Native food and stories, etc.

Budget Report was done; and then the Youth Report by **Linda Demientieff** and **Margo Simple**.

Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Takudh service led by the **Rev. David Salmon** and **Trimble Gilbert**, withal the clergy vested and helping when needed.

The Navajo who were invited all shared their stories, their Traditions and cultures, their songs, their ways of worshipping, their prayers.

Two Resolutions passed. Resolution 2007-01: Speak and preserve our Native Languages. Resolution 2007-02: Election of our Indigenous Suffragan Bishop, who will provide pastoral and spiritual care for our Indigenous congregations.

Nominations and Elections: Bishop's Search Committee- **Linda Demientieff**; Transitional Committee - **Don Stevens**. Yukon Flats - **Stephanie Herbert**; Yukon-Koyukuk - **Mary Ellen Starr**; Tanana Valley - **Don Stevens**; Member-at-Large - **Bella J. Savino**. Term 2007-2008.

Standing Committee: **Mary Margaret Davis** re-elected.

St. Simeon and St. Anna: Names submitted are **Mary Ellen Starr** and **Ernest Evan**.

Next meeting to be held in Fairbanks: St. Matthew's or St. Jude's, with Alternates (Tied) Tanana or Minto.

I am thankful for being appointed a delegate for St. Matthew's. I learned a lot from listening to stories, Gospel Readings, by sharing what the Scripture is saying to each of us as a group, listening to Village Reports, the Bishop's Report, the sermons, and so forth. I am honored to be there.

Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Evening celebration of Bishop Mark's Ministry began about 6PM; with Potlatch, Give Away, and Indian Dance and Fiddle Dance. There were so many gifts for **Bishop Mark**, **Virginia**, and the kids, and they in turn presented gifts to the people. It was so much fun; and we all enjoyed ourselves, especially dancing with the Bishop and family, and our Navajo brothers and sisters. We thank the Bishop for his loving, wonderful, spirit-filled ministry here in Alaska. We love you Bishop. You and your family will always be in our hearts with love.

Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Anti-Racism Training. 9AM - 5PM.



## EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY ENDS ANOTHER YEAR

Every baptized person is called to ministry. During the Service of Confirmation, we ask God to:  
*“Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the spirit to perform the service you set before them.”*

Ministry involves all aspects of a person’s life. It means serving another person out of your own knowledge and experience and your willingness to be there for them as an agent of Christ. Parent, community volunteer, businessman, grandmother – these can all be Christian ministries just as much as being a priest or deacon is a ministry.

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a program of theological education for lay people to help us discover and fulfill our ministries. By deepening our understanding of the foundations of the Christian faith, it helps us grow and deepen our own personal faith and see where we are called to act on this faith in our lives.

EfM students sign up for one year at a time of a four year course of study, examining the Old Testament, New Testament, Church History and Theology. We meet once a week from September through May. The program is directed by the School of Theology of the University of the South and sponsored by the Diocese of Alaska. Although the program comes from an Episcopal seminary and our diocese, it is ecumenical in design and open to anyone.

We do study the Bible, but EfM is not a “Bible study group”. In addition to studying the story of the People of God, students learn about the Bible in the contexts of history, language, theology and the work of biblical scholars. We also engage in theological reflection, where we look at our experiences and our world to see the ways God is working. This helps us bring the Word into our daily lives. Discussion and theological reflection is guided by facilitators, called “mentors”. We begin and end each seminar with worship led by members of the group.

Our Education for Ministry seminar has finished yet another year of learning, prayer and theological reflection. Students who have completed the following years of study are:

Old Testament: **Bonnie Hameister, Bruce Gadwah, Patty Meritt, Marcia Boyette**

New Testament: **Kathy Mackey, Tom Marsh, Pauline Wilson, Darrel Zuke**

Church History: **Bernice Aragon, Karen Kiss**

If you would like to know more about the EfM program at St. Matthew’s you can talk to any of the above members and mentors **Roxy Wright** (455-9300) and **Julia Cockerille** (474-2105).

The EfM website also has more information: [www.sewannee.edu/EFM/index.htm](http://www.sewannee.edu/EFM/index.htm)



**AN EDITED SAMPLING of CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.....****SPRINGTIME THOUGHTS from HONG KONG**

*[The Rev. Susan Hewitt is a friend and priest in Hong Kong, and once upon a time years ago was beginning Christ Church in Anchorage. She keeps us up to date on goings on, and responded with wisdom and wit to the general Newsletter questions]*

May 1<sup>st</sup>

Hi Scott,

. . . We got May Day off here--called Labor Day, and celebrated here by eating out. Went for dim sum with our elderly friend David Cheung (my "father in residence" since I arrived in 1993 and he took me under his wing.) Lots of different kinds of things I have no name for--Singapore Noodles with hot peppers (do know the name for that and love it if I can negotiate the little red slivers which bite)...yummy shrimp in the noodles...spring rolls, good in any variety...steamed buns in sauce you don't ask what's in (hard to get in your chop sticks since they're so slippery)...no rice! which is clearly a nod to the fact that we as guests are not Asian...something like a stuffed scallop...something including tiny cubes of pork...and a dessert which is a small sweet steamed bun which looks like an egg and has something sweet and dark yellow inside it which looks like yolk. . .

*["What Summer activities are you planning?"]* Let's see.....I plan a trip to Anchorage to baptize my one-year-old gorgeous granddaughter Claire who is (no prejudice here, of course) the most beautiful, gifted, and precocious child. This in July. . . . *["How has been your Easter? Where have been the Easter Eggs of Grace hiding in your life? Where have you found Hope?"]* Easter here was a truly awakening to new life experience for me. . . . Our new bishop (also archbishop now of the Province of Hong Kong and Macau) Paul Kwong is

wonderful, and he was in full attendant leadership at cathedral services. I even made it to the Maundy Thursday clergy breakfast and the renewal of ordination vows. . . . Just got my new (fancy!) certificate for performing/celebrating/enjoying priestly tasks/services/honors here for another year. That is very important for the Chinese, so I take it seriously in a way I never would have before. . . . *["Snow has gone and ice has broke and Green is appearing.....where is new life appearing within your Life, your Heart, your Spirit?"]* I miss the snow, and we didn't even have cold weather this year (climate change a reality anyone?) But springtime brings with it thoughts of new life. We have lots of new plants going here, where the gardeners are Haakas--migrant Chinese from northern China--wearing their traditional sun hats with wide brims and always smiling, sometimes singing while they work. Very un-Hong Kong Chinese by nature. The artificial ponds and waterfalls seem to be teeming with sounds and sights of real life--frogs, birds, even an errant snail or two trying to cross the paved walkway. (I'm into saving snails from curious, mischievous little boys.) Had to turn on our air-con at night this week. No keeping back the springtime surge, even if it involves increasing our carbon footprints. *["May is a Time for Graduating.....where are you being led? What next for you?"]* I'm being led to appreciate the moment and stop worrying about the future. I'm being led to remember that each day is a gift, to be shared with others. I'm being led to appreciate the love which comes in many varieties, often in unexpected and even surprising ways. I'm led to see more and more the "Pied Beauty" of the universe celebrated by Gerard Manley Hopkins in better words than I could conjure: "Thanks be to God for

dappled things!". . . *["It's Time for weddings. What's One Thing you would advise couples to NOT worry about?"]* Wow. . . . I'd say don't worry about growing old. Just pray that it happens and do it as gracefully as possible...with God's help. (Would you want God to be "young"????). . . *["It's Time for running water & fishing & boat trips . . . tell us a story."]* I have never wanted to fish, but I do appreciate the sacrifice which fish are making when I eat them. . . . *["The WIND of the Spirit is blowing . . . when have you felt Spirit blowing?"]* This has been a year of going through seeming death to appreciation of resurrection in ways I find hard to express. I don't recommend experiencing the seeming loss of life as you know it...then again maybe I do. Without knowledge of and experience of death, how can we know what life is really all about? . . .

Susan





**MORE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**



**THE WHITNEY FINISHES FOR THE YEAR**

May 9<sup>th</sup>

*[Whitney Demientieff, once upon a time acolyte and sometime Easter visitor to Stevens Village, and also a First Year University Student, celebrates the End of Classes]*

. . . so i finish my last final for the semester and just about yelled with excitement when my teacher took my final and said "that's quick." i don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing. but either way.....

SUMMER IS HERE SUMMER IS HERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

i would jump and scream right now but the fact that i tried to do that before isn't a good idea now than the first time. apparently if you do that in a library people don't really like you afterwards. i got mad looks thrown at me before.

all i have to do is just grab my final grade from my english teacher on friday and leave the campus forever!!! or at least until i have to pack my stuff and move up here.

either way.....

SUMMER IS HERE SUMMER IS HERE SUMMER IS HERE!!!!

love to you all.

whitney

**MAY in FAIRBANKS compared to CALIFORNIA**

May 3<sup>rd</sup>

*[ANONYMOUSLY, a Fairbanks Resident arrives home, after spending the Winter in California]*

Hi Everyone,

Never thought I would say this but I am honestly happy to be "home"... Why? Because there is less traffic, people actually make eye contact and smile and are polite, no sales tax (that's a biggie), gas is \$2.66 as compared with \$3.17, and all the snow is gone and the temp is in the 60's. I actually had shorts on today. What more could I ask for except THE BEACH!! . .

## Seasons of Life . . .

(Continued from page 7)

**Smoke, Travis Moreland, Lee Edwin, and Johua Ortiz.** Katelyn's Godparents are **Harold Attla** and **Michelle VanHatten**.

### Weddings and Blessings

On Saturday afternoon, April 21<sup>st</sup>, St. Matthew's overflowed onto the lawn for the Blessing of the Marriage of **Jessica Beetus** and **Michael Wilson Jr.** Jessica and Michael had been planning their wedding since Michael returned from Iraq in December, and had gotten married civilly in March. Now family and friends from the Koyukuk and beyond gathered for this celebration asking God's blessing on their marriage. It was a community (*everyone assisted with rolling the runner down the aisle, for example*) celebration (*tinged with a hint of poignancy — see below / "funerals"*), choreographed by friend **Peter Captain Jr.** A week later, on Sunday afternoon, April 29<sup>th</sup>, the church again overflowed, for the celebration of the wedding of **Nicole Mensik** and **David Swanson**. Planned since November, and moved to now and a hopeful Spring and Easter, it was a joyful and holy celebration.

### Funerals and Memorials

Friday evening, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 20 years old **Aaron L. Ambrose** was suddenly critically injured in a snowmachine accident in Hughes, up on the Koyukuk River, and medivaced into distant Anchorage. Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, he died there in Anchorage. As plans came together, nearly one hundred people gathered out at Wright's Air on the East Ramp of the Airport Tuesday evening March 13<sup>th</sup>. They came together, in shock and tears, for a final viewing and prayers, led by the rector and **the Rev. Canon Ginny Doctor**, before the plane left to carry his body and family back home, across the mountains and rivers, to Hughes. His final service and burial followed there, at home, led by **Archdeacon Anna Frank**.

Saturday evening, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 85 years old **Leo Peterson** of Harlem and North Pole was fatally injured in a car accident on Badger Road. Monday afternoon, March 26<sup>th</sup>, family and friends gathered at St. Matthew's for his Memorial service, led by the rector and **the Rev. Steve Matthew**. And the music and laments of **Sam Cooke** filled and lifted the Spirit of the Church, as stories were told and prayers said. Leo, a lifelong member of the Episcopal Church, had arrived in Fairbanks nearly two years ago, following his retirement, to be closer to family. He's survived by his daughter **Romney Fong Eymann** of North Pole, who came from the Hospital for his service, and her family; his son **Lawrence** of New York, and two grand daughters. Final services and burial

followed in Hanover, Virginia, next to his late wife **Dorothy**.

Thursday morning, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, quietly with the new day beginning, 62 years old **Beulah Eawok'thluk Moses** of Allakaket passed away in the Fairbanks Hospital, as prayers were said. Born in Alatna to **Ann** and the late **Jimmy Edwards**, Beulah married her sweetheart **Beattus Moses** in 1961, when she was 16, and he had just won the Open North American Championship sled dog race here in Fairbanks. A gifted sewer, and dog musher in her own right when younger, Beulah also once was the crew boss for an all women BLM firefighting crew. She had kind eyes and a warm heart and a faithful and tough spirit. She's survived by her mother Ann; her sisters **Hazel Ambrose**, **Carol Cleveland**, and **Amelia Edwards**; her brothers **Larry** and **Chuck Edwards**; her children **Herbie**, **Beattus Jr**, **Darlene**, and **Henry**, and all of their families; numerous grandchildren, one great grandchild, and many others. Sunday afternoon, March 25<sup>th</sup>, St. Matthew's filled for her funeral, led by the rector and **the Rev. Steve Matthew**. Her final services and burial, led by **Archdeacon Anna Frank**, followed Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> in Allakaket.

Suddenly and unexpectedly, on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 64 years old **Marie Roberts** passed away in the Fairbanks Hospital. Born in Tanana to **Isabelle** and the late **Timothy Charlie** of Minto, Marie was raised in Minto, where she was one of the famous 4-H girls and a member of the St. Barnabas choir, before making Fairbanks her second home. Married to **Lawrence "Yogi" Roberts**, they raised four children. A smiling lively friend she was, like her close friend **Archdeacon Anna Frank**, a devoted collector of **Elvis Presley** memorabilia. Her mother Isabelle survives her; as does her brother **Fabian Charlie**; her four children **Larry Roberts**, **Michelle Beetus**, **Ray Roberts**, **Michael Roberts**, and their families; other family members, including **the Rev. Steve Matthew**, and friends throughout the area. Following her death, "tea" was hosted here at the Parish Hall and Thursday noon, March 29<sup>th</sup>, we all gathered at the David Salmon Tribal Hall for her funeral service, led by her friend **Archdeacon Anna Frank**, and assisted by the rector, **the Rev. Bessie Titus**, and **the Rev. Steve Matthew**. **Robert Charlie**, **Virgil Titus**, and **Billy Demoski** led the music; and the memorial wreathes were wrapped in Elvis Presley ribbons. Final services and burial followed at home in Minto March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, unexpectedly, 38 years old **Anjanette "Angie" Taylor** died here in Fairbanks. Born in California to **Phyllis** and **John Taylor**, and raised in Fairbanks; Angie's late maternal grandparents were **Mary Jane** and **Alexander Alexander** of Fort Yukon. She loved horses, her Gwitch'in heritage, and country western dancing. She's survived by her parents; her sons **Nicholas** and **Jesse**

(Continued on page 21)

## Seasons of Life . . .

**Moore**; her sisters **Cheri Sloss, Julie Rodgers, Kim Cozad, Patricia Delgado** and their families; and many others. On the Monday of Holy Week, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, St. Matthew's filled for her funeral, led by the rector, **the Rev. Steve Matthew**, and **the Rev. Deacon Bella Jean Savino**; with **Peter Solomon** providing music.

On that same Monday in Holy Week, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and also unexpectedly, 55 years old **Deborah Jean Purdy** died here in Fairbanks. Born in Rochester, Minnesota, Deborah arrived in Fairbanks in 1957 with her mother, grandmother, and parakeet. She had worked for Quality Meats and the US Postal Service and the "love of her life" was **Jim Blair**. Faithfully they read the Bible and "The Daily Bread" every morning. She's survived by her mother **Maxine Skelly**, her son **Daniel Lee Purdy**, her brothers **Jeffrey** and **Rick Skelly** and their families, three grand daughters, her Jim, and numerous other family members and friends. On Easter Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, family and friends gathered here at St. Matthew's for her funeral, led by the rector, which included a moving eulogy by **Jim Blair**, and a solo by **Kelley Cline**.

As the sun was setting, on April 4<sup>th</sup>, the Wednesday in Holy Week, and the Darkness began here, it was Light in the Fairbanks Hospital room as 58 years old **Josephine "Josie" Herbert Lowe** left for the Country of Easter, surrounded by the love of family, friends, and prayer, after a brief and brave struggle with cancer. Born in Fort Yukon to the late **Percy** and **Josephine Herbert**, Josie had lived in California and Oregon, before returning home. A fluent speaker of Gwitch'in, she had worked on the Pipeline and the Valdez oil spill. Josie had a kind and discerning heart; and the rector will not forget his quiet private talks with her in the Hospital. She's survived by her brother **Percy**; her sisters **Margaret James, Florida Merica, Hazel Evans, Rose Wood, Darlene Herbert**, and **Maxine Butler**, and their families; her son **Richard Lowe** of Oregon and his family; her two grandchildren; her Aunt **Hannah Solomon**, and many others. St. Matthew's filled past overflowing for her funeral Holy Saturday afternoon, April 7<sup>th</sup>, led by the rector and **the Rev. Deacon Bella Jean Savino**, with music provided by **Peter Solomon**. Burial followed atop Birch Hill Cemetery; and a potlatch followed in the Parish Hall.

Quietly and peacefully as Maundy Thursday was beginning, in the early morning of Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 62 years old **Henry Lawrence Yaska** died at home here in Fairbanks, with his wife **Marian** and family beside him, wrapped warmly in the St. Matthew's Prayer Shawl that he had slept in the last several weeks. Born in Tanana to the late **Pauline Cornell** and **George Yaska**, Henry met his wife **Marian** in 1968 and they were married in 1970. They lived in

Fairbanks for several years before moving to Grayling, returning to Fairbanks in 1989. A firefighting crew boss, carpenter, and laborer, Henry was a friendly welcoming deeply faithful man, who had struggled against cancer these last months. He's survived by his wife **Marian**; daughters **Rhonda, Fay**, and **Margaret**; sons **George** and **John**; 5 granddaughters, 3 grandsons, 1 great granddaughter, his uncle **Ralph Amouak**, his Aunt **Bernice Buggey**; and many others. His funeral service was *also* held Holy Saturday afternoon, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at the David Salmon Tribal Hall, Henry still wrapped in the burgundy Prayer Shawl; with his final services to be held later in Grayling.

Just as Easter Sunday was turning to Easter Monday, at 2:30 in the morning, on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, surrounded by family and prayer and love, oh quietly quietly quietly, 78 years old **Bella Mae Francis** slipped away, in Denali Center, to the Eternal Easter, a smile in her spirit. I'm sure she was dreaming of the High Country of the Porcupine River. Born to Fort Yukon to the late **Charlie** and **Blanche Strom**, Bella was the oldest of 6 and raised at Old Rampart up the Porcupine. She had been married to **Simon Francis** since the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1947 and together they raised their children, all in the traditional ways. From stringing Simon's snowshoes to beading, Bella knew how *to do things*. And how to tell stories. And how to teach others. And how to laugh. And how to pray. Deeply faithful, the rector still remembers her faith from his first Easter in Chalkyitsik years ago. A longtime resident of Denali Center, she always attended services when able and, when not able, asked that Holy Communion be brought to her. Her husband Simon survives her; and their children **Josephine** and **Jonathon, Charles** and **Charlene**, Aleta and **Stan, Simon Jr** and **Thomas**, and their families, including 18 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren; her sisters **Jean Thomas** and **Blanche "Bessie" Williams** and their families; her brother **Richard Strom** and his family; and many others. St. Matthew's filled past overflowing for her funeral service Easter Tuesday afternoon April 10<sup>th</sup>, led by the rector, **the Rev. Steve Matthew**, and her niece **the Rev. Deacon Bella Jean Savino**. Final services and burial followed at home in Fort Yukon later.

Suddenly and tragically, on Easter Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 20 years old **Sharon Richelle David** died here in Fairbanks. Born in Fairbanks to **Richard** and **Lorraine David**, Sharon was scheduled to be in the wedding party of her friend **Jessica Beetus's** wedding on April 21<sup>st</sup> [See above]. She's survived by her parents; her sisters **Tillila Beetus** (who had just been at the Easter Vigil service 3 days earlier), **Shara David**, and **Charlotte Mayo**; her brothers **Richard Jr** and **Leonard Bergman**; her maternal grandparents **Joe** and **Celia Beetus**; her paternal grandparents **David** and **Kitty David**, and many others.

(Continued on page 22)

## Seasons of Life . . .

Hundreds gathered to be supportive as word of her death spread; and St. Matthew's filled everywhere and beyond Easter Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> for her funeral, led by the rector, **the Rev. Steve Matthew**, and **Archdeacon Anna Frank**. Almost the entire congregation followed the family out to the East Ramp of the airport, standing with tears and flowers and support as they flew home to Hughes. Final services and burial, conducted by **Archdeacon Anna Frank**, were held there in the days following.

On the Second Sunday of Easter, April 15<sup>th</sup>, word came that 62 years old **Harold John Henry** of Fort Yukon had peacefully died, with a smile on his face, in the Anchorage Hospital, where he had been for several weeks. Born in Fort Yukon to the late **Charlotte** and **Jonas Henry**, and raised there, Harold was a Vietnam US Army combat veteran. Discharged in 1973, he returned home and was always there, hunting and fishing. When he came through Fairbanks, he was always a friend, and would come to services here at St. Matthew's. His sons **Harold Daniel** and **Alfredo Jonas** survive him, in California; as do three grandchildren; his stepfather **James Peter**; his brothers **Alfred**, **Tony**, and **Isaac**; his sisters **Debbie Carroll**, **Mae Peter**, and **Brenda James**; and many uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, other family members, and all of us who counted him as a friend. St. Matthew's filled for his funeral service, led by the rector, **the Rev. Steve Matthew**, and **the Rev. Deacon Bella Jean Savino**, Wednesday afternoon, April 18<sup>th</sup>, with **the Alaska Native Veterans** providing an honor guard and flag ceremony. A butterfly, the first of the Season, flew down and alighted on his casket as we loaded it into the hearse . . . and we smiled. His final services and burial were held at home in Fort Yukon in the days following.

On Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 56 years old **Arthur "Art" Purdy Jr.** died unexpectedly here in Fairbanks. Born to **Agnes** and the late **Art Purdy** here in Fairbanks, Art grew up in Chicken, Tok and Fairbanks, as the 3<sup>rd</sup> of 7 children, and was a familiar and friendly figure around Fairbanks and here at St. Matthew's. The rector still remembers his first meeting a number of years ago during the Midnight Christmas Eve service. A US Navy Vietnam Veteran (*he served aboard the USS Hancock*); he returned to Fairbanks and worked for years for the Fairbanks News Miner as part of the pressroom crew. His mother **Agnes**, his sister **Rose**, his brothers **Ken** and **Frank**, and many others survive him. Smiling and with a sense of humor, he touched many here in town and St. Matthew's filled for his funeral, led by the rector and **the Rev. Steve Matthew**, Friday evening, April 27<sup>th</sup>. There was again a military honor guard and flag ceremony, and the service concluded with the singing of the Navy Hymn.

[Note: Art Purdy's funeral was the 32<sup>nd</sup> funeral held at St. Matthew's since Christmas Eve.]

Finally, shortly after Midnight, on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, surrounded by prayer and family that had been keeping watch, 85 years old **Billy Sam** ("*K'eghelaah*") peacefully died in the Fairbanks Hospital. Born at Hog River to the late **Little Sammy** and **Big Sophie Sam**, Billy was a US Army World War Two veteran who returned, after the War, to Huslia and married **Yolanda "Sophia" Charlie**. They lived a Traditional life; raising their children and becoming a skilled trapper and hunter. His wife survives him, as do their children **Judy** and **Kenny Carlo**, **Maudy** and **Jim Kubanyi**, **Donny Stickman**, **Clarence** and **JoAnn Sam**, **Donna Devine-Zavala** and **Rick DeMello**, **Maryann Sam**, **Carl Burgett**; his brothers **Tony**, **Wilson**, **Bergman**, and **Hudson** and their families; his sisters **Lorna Vent**, **Elma Gillett**, **Linda Wholecheese**, and **Irene Peters** and their families; and numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, and others. A Memorial "*Tea*" was held at St. Matthew's following Billy's death, until the family returned to Huslia for his final services and burial, conducted by **Archdeacon Anna Frank**.

Other deaths during this time period necessarily affected the family of St. Matthew's and should be noted. There were beloved pets that left, including "**Nettie**", the **Rev. Glen Wilcox's** sheltie; and **Kiana**, **Bill** and **Linda Mullen's** 16 years old Siberian Husky. And there were more.

On Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 85 years old **Veva Pointer Richmond** quietly passed away at the Maine Veteran's Home in South Paris, Maine. She and **the Rev. Pete Richmond** were together 62 years and were extremely active here at St. Matthew's throughout the 1970s, while Pete was the Assistant and Veva, smiling and busy, did everything from run the United Thank Offering to help organize the Archives. In 1997 she was inducted into the Diocesan Society of St. Simeon and St. Anna, in recognition of her work here and in Anchorage. Her service was held at St. Peter's Church in Bridgton, Maine Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. On Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, in a distant Hospital in distant New York, 64 years old **Beverly Ann Olson** died after a two year struggle with cancer. For 42 years, Bev had been part of, and the friendly voice of, KJNP in North Pole. Her husband **Richard "Dick"** and their daughter **Reba** survive her. Her memorial service was held at the 1<sup>st</sup> Assembly of God Church of Fairbanks Tuesday in Holy Week, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 68 years old **Marie Kincaid** died in the Hospital in Anchorage. Born in Tanana, and the sister of **Tod Kozevnikoff**, **Terry**, **Bob**, and **Arnold Sunnyboy**, and **Lester Erhart**, services were held for her at All Saints in Anchorage Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>; and finally in Nenana Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

(Continued on page 23)



## Seasons of Life . . .

### *Anniversaries and Walks, Comings and Goings. . .*

In the midst of all of this, we remembered and celebrated and said hellos and good-byes. We noted Anniversaries as they occurred – including a Party after the services on March 11<sup>th</sup>, commemorating the Triple Anniversary of **the Rev. Steve** and **Val Matthew's** 47<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, the Arrival of Senior Warden **Bruce Gadwah** to St. Matthew's 11 years ago, and the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the rector's ordination to the Priesthood. On Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, while many of us were gathering at the Tribal Hall for **Marie Roberts'** funeral, Parish Administrator **Hilary Freeman** and Junior Warden **Tom Marsh** stood at the corner of First and Cushman and said prayers, remembering the first religious service held in Fairbanks 104 years earlier. Postulant and FNA President **Shirley Lee** picked up the mantle given to her by the late **Shirley Demientieff** and, on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, many of us joined her downtown in remembering the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the (*still unsolved*) murder of **Sophie Sergie**. Remembering Sophie, and the other victims of still unsolved murders, we said prayers and walked across **Dr. Wood's** Bridge, prayerfully throwing memorial flowers into the now flowing Chena.

We wished **Brenda Wilcox** well, as she left Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> for new adventures in Juneau; and **Bill Stevens** well, on May 6<sup>th</sup>, as he left for summerwork at Denali Park. We said "hello" to visitors as they dropped in, including one surprised guest who was awarded a *real* fish as a "doorprize" from the Sunday School on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. That same Sunday, we were tickled to have **Deacon Belle Mickelson** of Cordova and the Dancing with the Spirit Bluegrass Music Program with us; and impromptu concerts and jigs broke out in the Parish Hall. Many of us journeyed to Nenana later that week, for **Marilyn Duggar's** ordination as a deacon Wednesday evening, April 25<sup>th</sup>; and the Interior Deanery meeting that followed her ordination [NOTE: See Report elsewhere this Newsletter]. The Deanery meeting including a "Farewell" Potlatch for **the MacDonalds** Friday evening, April 27<sup>th</sup>; and that night **Deacon Bella Jean Savino** presented the Bishop and his family a beautiful beaded picture frame, as a gift from all of us. Many of the Deanery delegates were here at the last service that Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, when **the Rev. Rosella Jim** of All Saints Church/ Farmington, New Mexico preached (*and the 16 visitors from NavajoLand to the Deanery meeting introduced themselves and sang*); as many of the Standing Committee members, who had also been meeting that weekend, attended the earlier services.

In all of the activity and busyness and Life here on

First Avenue, the moments of quiet run as a golden thread of Spirit tying them all together. As Midnight turned on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, into the new day and week, all was silent within the Church and on this block. Then, as the prayers ended, the first robin of the Season here began singing and singing and singing, from the very top of the tallest birch tree in the Churchyard. So all of us together, heralding the new Day.



Deacon Belle Mickelson with  
Bobby Nashookpuk and Pete Peters



The Last Snow



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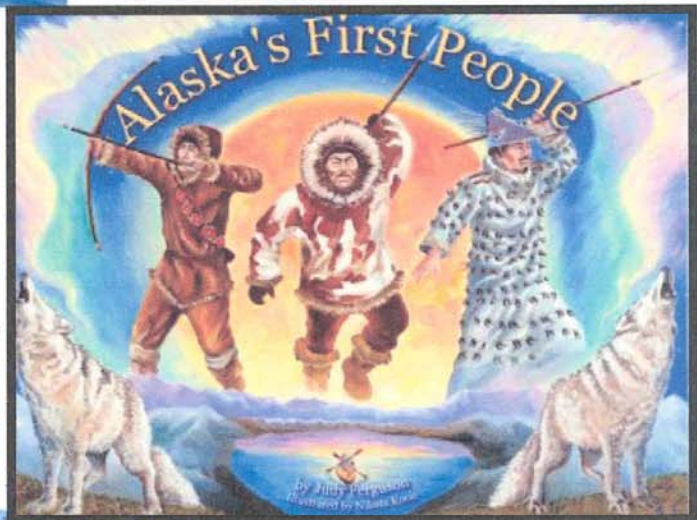


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## SUMMARY of the APRIL 2007 VESTRY MEETING



The Vestry of St. Matthew's met for the regular monthly Vestry meeting Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup> with the following present: **Senior Warden Bruce Gadwah**, **Junior Warden Tom Marsh**, **Julia Cockerille**, **Darrel Zuke**, **Linda Demientieff**, **Hubert Griffin**, **Charlene Marth**, **Vestry Clerk Teresa Moore**, **Treasurer Carolyn Nethken**, the rector, and **Special Guest Beth Corven**.

Following an Opening Spiritual Exercise, that included a reading from the Sunday Gospel and a sharing of stories of how God's Presence has been seen in lives since Easter morning, the meeting began. The following actions were then discussed or taken.

- **Beth Corven** was introduced, having graciously accepted the position of Sunday school director to succeed **Roxy Wright Freedle**. There was a wide ranging discussion of Vestry expectations and hopes for the Sunday School program, ways the Vestry could support the Program, and Beth's goals for the coming year. Vacation Bible school is pending depending on other help in making this program successful.
- It was moved and passed to accept the March Vestry minutes, as corrected.
- Treasurer **Carolyn Nethken** presented the Financial Report. March Budgeted Operating **Income** totaled **\$17,924** (*January through March Total \$47,542*) and March Budgeted Operating **Expenses** totaled **\$16,893** (*January through March Total \$64,742*). This resulted in a **Monthly SURPLUS of +\$1031**; and reduced the **Total January through March Surplus/Deficit to -\$17200**. She explained that through negotiations with Diocesan Treasurer **Suzanne Krull**, she is now paying the 25% Diocesan Pledge/Tithe based on the current month's operational income, instead of the annual calculation, so it is a more accurate reflection of what should be paid. Discussion was held regarding possible recommendations for adjusting the Reserve accounts, and other ways to eliminate the current accumulating deficit. The Vestry Financial Committee will meet Saturday, May 12 at 10AM to review the budget and possible amendments.
- The ongoing Vestry discussion of issues affecting the Wider Church was delayed for this meeting, and will be discussed at a Special Vestry Meeting Saturday, May 12 at 1 pm.
- **Senior Warden Bruce Gadwah** and Vestry member **Linda Demientieff** reported on their Easter trips to Circle and Stevens Village (*accompanied by others - Fr. John Holz to Circle, and Whitney and Beverly Demientieff, along with Peter Newton, to Stevens Village*). Some combination of all involved will report to the congregation on May 6<sup>th</sup>, highlighting this developing program. The rector discussed the ministry of **Pastor Dan Treacle** of LAMP, and his efforts in the villages.
- Various Property issues were discussed, including the hearing April 17<sup>th</sup>, before the Borough Planning Commission, for a petition to rezone the neighborhood. It was determined that further information would be needed to present supporting argument for or against the rezoning. The Spring CleanUp is scheduled for Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. There was continuing discussion on informational signs for the Church lot, and cleaning up the area around the "cache".
- **The Rev. Deacon Lee Davis's** request for a congregational supporting letter for his request for ordination to the Priesthood was received, along with a report on his activities since his July ordination. After prayer and discussion it was voted to support this request, and a letter to the Bishop was drafted, to be signed.
- The coming Interior Deanery meeting in Nenana was noted, along with **Bishop MacDonald's** Good-Bye Potlatch there Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. It was moved and approved to use funds from the Rector's Discretionary Account to purchase the gift to Bishop MacDonald from St. Matthew's, which **the Rev. Deacon Bella Jean Savino** had arranged.
- There was discussion about the Paypal account on the St. Matthew's Website; and Junior Warden **Tom Marsh** is still pursuing hand sanitizers for the Parish Hall. Additionally, there has been a congregational request to explore creating an airflow system in the Choir area of the Church, and this is also being explored. It was moved and approved to pay **Tree Nelson** from Memorial Funds for the videotaping of the Easter services.
- As previously discussed, it was approved to order and purchase Bibles for the Sunday School, funds to come from the rector's Discretionary Account.

With the decision that the next meeting would be held Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, the meeting adjourned at 10:40PM with a Closing Prayer by **Darrel Zuke**, as the person present who had most recently seen a live bunny rabbit.



**St. Matthew's Garage Sale**

**Saturday, June 9**

**Church Parking Lot**

Join us in the St. Matthew's Sunshine for  
some fun and good bargains.

For information about donating items please  
contact the church office - 456-5235



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# O Ye Frost and Cold

Address Service Requested\*

May 25, 2007

**\*Please Note:**Returned copies of **O Ye Frost and Cold** cost the church \$2.16 each,  
forwarded copies cost \$0.75 each.

**Can't come to Church? Church will come to You!!**

As the monthly listing of services shows, there are a number of Lay Eucharistic Ministers trained and willing to bring the Eucharist to those who are sick, shut in, or unable to come to the Church. If you would like someone to bring you the Communion, or know of someone who would like that, please contact the Church Office at 456-5235 or slip a note in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.