



THE GOOD NEWS

September/October 2011
Issue 26

FROM ST. MATTHEW

The community of St. Matthew exists in the world as a visible expression of God's love

Nuns with Pies?
Must be time for Fall Festival! School Sisters of Notre Dame will be hosting the pie and ice cream booth again this year. S. Germaine Mulcahey has a peach pie, S. Anne Becker is holding a chocolate cream, and S. Jonelle Rein has blueberry.



Parish Celebrates 125 Years At Fall Festival Sept. 17-18

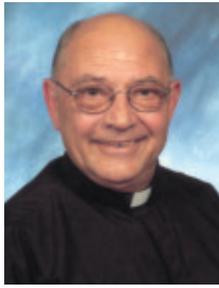
Plan on stopping by as we celebrate St. Matt's 125th year! This year's Festival will include favorites such as Bingo, Bottle Lotto, a Vintage Car Show and Kids' Games. The Committee has also come up with activities to celebrate our 125th year, including commemorative Christmas ornaments and a Remembrance Booth where people are invited to record their favorite memories. Of course, there'll be lots of great food starting at 5 p.m. on Saturday night when Tony Moran will be cooking up a chicken dinner with all the fixin's. On Sunday, there'll be plenty of walking around food to choose from including pizzas, tacos, tostado's, roasted corn and pocket sandwiches. The Men's Club will be serving up burgers and brats hot off the grill both days...and of course, there'll be pies! See pg. 3 for a complete list of activities. So bring your kids, grandkids, your friends and neighbors. It's going to be a good time!

See page 3 for more information on St. Matthew's Fall Festival.

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MESSAGE FROM **father steve**



Fr. Steve's homilies are available on-line at www.st-matts.org

Dear Saint Matthew School Alums and Friends:

By now you may have read the press reports of new initiatives for Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese. On August 11th, Archbishop Nienstedt and the Office for Catholic Schools presented these initiatives to a gathering of pastors, principals and business administrators representing all Catholic grade and high schools in the twelve county metro area.

The initiatives covered areas including: Catholic identity, governance structures of our schools, educational excellence, advancement (recruitment), and funding models.

In the funding of Catholic education, the Archdiocese sees a need for more Archdiocesan financial support for Catholic education. Catholic schools are part of the core mission of our Church. Currently the Archdiocese directly subsidizes Saint Matthew's School 21% of our school budget — \$210,000 of a \$900,000 cost.

The Archbishop also announced the creation of a new educational foundation which will bring an additional \$3,500,000 to help fund Catholic Schools by the school year 2014-2015.

The temptation in reading this good news is to think that the work you and I have been doing is no longer needed. This is far from the case.

The initiatives of the Archdiocese are meant to strengthen all schools. Inner urban schools have special needs and face special challenges. In many Catholic schools 50% of the cost of education is carried by tuition. In our school, tuition supplies less than 15% of the cost of education.

That means that 85% of the educational dollar must come from non-tuition sources. The Archdiocese and parish cannot meet that number. It takes generous support from individuals and foundations to complete the funding of inner city education.

You, the Alums and Friends of Saint Matthew School, are essential to making it possible for low income families to continue to reap the benefit of a strong, vital, Catholic education for their students.

I am deeply grateful to you for your past support, and I prayerfully count on your continued support of our students.

Yours truly,
Stephen Adrian, Pastor

Thank you to all those alums who helped out by sending letters to their classmates. We really appreciate your support!

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| Bernie | Pat |
| Stella | Linda |
| Corinne | Mike |
| Marian | Claudia |
| Carol | Geri |
| Pat | Cy |
| Sue | Robert |
| George | Joyce |
| John | Rebecca |
| Tom | |

Alums & Friends
\$125,000 raised to date.
 Thanks to you, we're close to reaching our goal of \$150,000.
 Help us get there by the end of September! Every gift makes a difference.
 Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education.



Sr. Anne Becker dances the polka at a 1970's Fall Festival.

ST. MATTHEW'S FALL FESTIVAL — September 17-18

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 — 5-10 P.M.

Highlights include:

- Sit down Chicken Dinner prepared by Chef Tony Moran
- Burgers, Brats, Fries served by the Men's Club,
- Bingo, Silent Auction, Bottle Lotto and other games,
- Deejay Dance Party

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 — 11:30 A.M. – 4 P.M.

Highlights include:

- Children's Games including "Wacky" Beauty Salon and Face Painting
- Tacos, Tostados, Roasted Corn, Pizza, Pocket Sandwiches
- Vintage Car Show and Strolling Musician

BINGO!
2 Sessions each day with guaranteed prizes of \$25 for games and \$125 for coveralls.

ST. MATT'S BOOKSTORE
It's the greatest collection of used books, CDs and DVDs on the West Side. You'll find something for everyone — come and check it out!

FLEA MARKET TO REDUCE PARISH DEBT
All items remaining after Fall Festival will be available for purchase at discounted prices the following weekend, September 24 & 25. All proceeds from Flea Market sales will go towards reducing parish debt.

125TH COMMEMORATIVE CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS
Ornaments will be sold in sets of two. Each can be inscribed with the name of someone you'd like to honor or remember. One ornament is yours to take home and the other will be hung on the Christmas tree at church every year.

REMEMBRANCE BOOTH
Come and share your favorite memories about St. Matt's or growing up on the West Side. It only takes a few minutes. Your story will be recorded as part of an oral history collection that will be available later this year. There are a million great stories out there. Come in and share yours!

CHAIRPERSONS

Joanne Smith – 455-4367
Al & Kathy Schowalter – 451-6150

BOOTH

Bottle Lotto *Donations Welcome*
Theme Baskets *Donations Welcome*

Matt's Book Store
Ice Cream Floats
Paddle Wheel
Bingo
Jewelry/Vintage & Knicknacks
Holiday Booth

Pie & Ice Cream
Animal Rescue
Lollipop Wheel
Bakery Booth
Posters
Silent Auction
Car Show
Children's Games

Face Painting
Money Raffle
Quilt
Brats, burgers, fries
Pizza by John The Pizza man
Tacos/Roasted corn
Pocket Sandwiches
Tostadas
Allie's "Wacky" Beauty Salon
Strolling Musician
Saturday Chicken Dinner

Anniversary Mementoes/Interviews
Presentation
Publicity

Set Up
Clean Up
Security

CHAIRS

Sue Holman – 493-9314 Cell – 442-6480

Darline Borher – 455-1316
Marian Bergstrom – 453-1779

Diane Heitzinger – 222-3295
Donna Shepherd – 457-9288

Tim Nowak – 612-269-9471
Pat & Ken Kasheimer – 455-2645

Karen Thompson – 227-2551
Pat Moser – 291-2683

Bea Schueller – 227-6261
Sr. Anne Becker SSND – 224-9793

Jan Lackner – 457-4766
Janelle Rohr – 457-3522

Carol Nehring – 227-2716
Marian Wolters – 488-6416

Carol Tuckner – 335-7933
Bob Creamer – Cell 270-3391

Gloria DeZiel – 741-7009
Joyce Osborne, (Katie Jenkins) – 457-1651

Anna Horn – 453-9021 Cell 343-3569
Bill & Corrine Brengman – 450-5530

Kay Goers – 552-1009
Men's Club – Brian Osborne – 230-1518

Georgann Henjum – 298-9686
Sue Nowak – 222-3968

Steve & Josie Mike – 224-3515
Sophia Vasquez & Celia Heland – 222-0941

Pat Collins – 291-2470
Mark Henjum – 228-9686

By Tony Moran
Leo & Marcie Kegler – 452-2485

Kathy Goldenstein – 455-8683
Carol O'Boyle – 293-1727

Colleen Erickson – 451-1574
Maggie Lee – 554-8882

Pat Kachel – 222-0953
Joanne Smith – 455-4367

Tom Smith – 227-3050
Bob & Dave Pavlak

Alums Share Their Memories

Stevens Family Memories Continued

Joe and John Recall Their Days in Boy Scout Troop 107

Joe Stevens Remembers...

My best memories are of Troop 107 in 1953 to 1956. Our family was Irish, and we were not allowed to attend St. Matthew's, a German parish. We had to go to the Irish parish, St. Michael's, even though we lived about three blocks from St. Matthew's. But the St. Matthew's scout troop allowed us to join. My brothers John, Chris, Pat and I were members of Troop 107 at St. Matthew's at different times.

Our Scout Master was Mr. Phil Miller and the assistants were Mr. Flack, Mr. Wanger, Mr. Yezek, and Mr. Kammerer. They were all good guys who were always ready to help with our scouting questions. It was amazing how calm the scout leaders remained as they dealt with 30 screaming, jumping, and jostling scouts. We always held our scout meetings in the school gym and I can still hear the loud talk and horse play before the scout meeting started. The scoutmaster would hold up three fingers, which meant, come to attention. Then our scout meeting would start.

One spring day, Mr. Miller and three other boy scouts and I went for an overnight campout in a regional park in Stillwater. We were the older scouts (I was 14 at the time). I remember it was a dry spring. We decided to start a camp fire, but it flamed up too high. We had piled too much dry wood on the fire, and the fire got out of control. The spruce tree branches close to the fire ignited. We all grabbed our blankets and tried to smother the flames. Fortunately after about 15 to 20 minutes, we were able to contain the fire. It was a close call, but pretty exciting.

But the most exciting time was the week-long scout camp at Tomahawk Scout Reservation near Rice Lake, Wisconsin. I remember as a "city kid" going out in the woods for the first time. All the trees and bushes were so green, and the woods were so quiet at night. Sometimes at night, as we lay down to sleep, we would hear the wolves howling. At Tomahawk, there would be a full



The Stevens Family taken in 1951 (left to right): Pat, Bob, Joe, John, Jim, Ceil, and Helena.

schedule for us during the day. We learned to canoe, row a boat, use a bow and arrow, build camp fires, cook food, swim & life save and get familiar with nature. When we learned different skills, we would advance in scouting and earn merit badges. I also made many new friends in scouting who were from St. Matthew's. I was almost an Eagle Scout but went into the seminary my freshman year, so I couldn't finish my Eagle Scout level.

John Stevens Remembers....

During my time with Troop 107 in the 1950's, I remember we always took first place in the drill competitions because Gordy Wanger, one of the Assistant Scout Masters who was a WWII Marine (I'm guessing he might have been a DI - Drill Instructor) whipped us into shape. He made us do all the movements (left face, right face, hand salute, etc) in a very snappy, sharp, way. I suppose this was only fitting for a troop from an ethnically German-flavored parish. The other troops were very laid back in the drill competitions and didn't stand a chance after Gordy Wanger ran us through our paces. The Scout Master and all the Assistants were WWII vets.

Jerry Bergum, PhD — A Distinguished Career

SUBMITTED BY KAREN ROBINETTE THOMPSON '59

Dr. Jerry Bergum graduated from St. Matthew's school in 1946. He attributes his success to the education and discipline he learned while he was a student. "I received a good education at St. Matthew's. The nuns taught me the importance of completing something when you start it and as a result I've kept a focus on learning throughout my life. Even though they were tough, they shaped my life and my desire to do the best I could at everything I did."

Jerry has always believed in the importance of education and has been a student throughout his entire career. He has been a high school teacher, college professor, Dean of a college, and an author. After joining the Air Force for four years, he attended the University of Minnesota and began his journey in the field of education. His first job was as a high school teacher in Hartland, Wisconsin. During that time, he received a national scholarship to attend Notre Dame where he earned a PhD in mathematics. As a result, his second teaching job was as a professor at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. He moved to Brookings, South Dakota in 1970 where he continued teaching mathematics at the University of South Dakota and eventually became the Department Head for the new Computer Science department.

In addition to his role as an educator, Jerry was the editor of an international mathematics journal for eighteen years called the Fibonacci Quarterly. He also published several books on mathematics and was



Left: Jerry and Shirley at Reunion Sunday last May.



Right: Jerry and Shirley Bergum at their wedding 60 years ago.

invited to give talks at many universities in the United States and throughout the world.

He traveled extensively to many countries and even spent six months teaching in China.

He and his wife Shirley are the parents of 10 children and have also been foster parents for many children. Additionally, over the years, they have cared for over 400 children in their home as a daycare provider for students at the University of South Dakota. They just recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Jerry is quick to point out that while the nuns were very strict disciplinarians, the education he received at St. Matthew's contributed significantly to his accomplishments as a student, educator and parent. "The values I learned at St. Matthew's have served me well as a father and husband."

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Schadeggs Make Financial Gift

Thanks to all 12 Schadegg siblings who joined together to make a family gift in honor of St. Matthew's 125th Anniversary. We'd like to receive 125 family gifts — one for each of St. Matt's 125 years. Please join the Schadeggs and many others who are commemorating our anniversary year by making Catholic education available to current families on the West Side.

Back row, left to right: Jerry, Mike, Tom, Dick, Dan, George. Front row, left to right: Theresa Hoffard, Betty Miller, Sue Ross, Pat Orth, Bonnie Murphy, Kathy Wicke. Seated is their mother, Mary Schadegg.

Rainbow Pals Bring Adults and Students Together

St. Matthew's is seeking adults to partner with students in grades 5-8 as pen pals. The Rainbow Pals exchange letters during the school year and in the spring, they get together to celebrate Mass. Current Rainbow Pals include members of the parish, friends of the school and alums from out of state. It's an opportunity for students to have another adult in their life to offer encouragement, support and just be a friend. To sign up or find out more, call the school office at 651-224-6912.

RAINBOW PAL KIM KARAS

What got you started?

My son had a pen pal from St. Matt's and it was the best experience. She just adored Danny and I would think, why didn't I have that when I was in school? She died recently and we found out afterwards that she saved all of his letters. He's 22 years old now but they found all these letters he wrote in her attic. I felt like I wanted to be that person for somebody else.

What do you get from the experience?

I like kids — and it's fun! Sometime I run into Sarah when we're in the store and it's fun to see her and talk to her. She's pretty good about responding. But she's a very busy girl — she's into sports.



RAINBOW PAL SUE NOWAK

What do you write about?

This is my third student pen pal and my first year with Jaidan. In our letters we talk about family, what things we're interested in. She was new to the school so she talked about how she liked the lunches and how the teachers compared to her other school.

I like hearing about their brothers and sisters and family life — how it's different from mine. Not everyone has a mom and dad. I think the students like writing. When they're talking to someone they don't know, they say things they wouldn't otherwise. It's a chance just to be real open.

Would you recommend being a Rainbow Pal to someone else?

Sure, anybody could do it. It just takes a few minutes and it just costs a stamp and a piece of paper. Sometimes I don't even mail it — I just drop it off at school on my way.

I always thought the program was just for seniors but it's not. I found out that I don't have to wait until I'm old.

RAINBOW PAL MARY GRANT

How did you learn about the program?

I live in Afton and attend St. Francis Church. That parish is partnered with St. Matthew's and it was presented as a possible program for some of us.

I think it's good for kids to have relationships with somebody older or from a different culture or a different part of the city.

What do you like best about the program?

I've been impressed with the students' behavior when we go to the Mass for the rainbow ceremony.

I've been very impressed with the connections the school staff has with the kids. You get the feeling that the staff is very close with the kids.



RAINBOW PAL SHIRLEY SMITH

How did you first become a Rainbow Pal?

Sr. Anne approached me and I thought, 'Oh, that sounds like fun!' I had heard of it before but didn't get involved until I got approached.

How do you benefit from the program?

I have a good friend, Lexi, and hopefully I'll get to follow Lexi through her years of high school. Every time I see her we hug and exchange a little conversation. My grandchildren are all grown up and most of them are away. Lexi has been a joy to me. It's very rewarding to have young people in your life.



From the Editor

Regional School Discussion Update

As many of you know, a committee was formed last spring with representatives from six parishes and five schools for the purpose of finding a way to share resources and determine what Catholic education should look like in this region. One conclusion of the committee has been to reduce the number of school buildings from five to two. The parishes include, St. Michael's and St. Joseph's in West St. Paul; St. John Vianney and Holy Trinity in South St. Paul, and St. Matthew's and Our Lady of Guadalupe on the West Side.

The committee has been meeting over the summer with the intention of submitting a proposal for the Archbishop by mid-September. As highlighted in previous newsletters, the challenges are daunting; the five schools in discussion are in three different school districts, complicating transportation as well as many funding issues. The parishes with schools also have long traditions with distinct approaches to issues such as governance, funding and religious education, which can create additional challenges.

In September, the committee will submit its recommendation to the Archbishop. In November, we expect the final approved plan will be shared with the public, at which time the schools can begin to plan for implementation. The expectation is that it will take several years to implement all aspects of the committee's proposals. No changes will take place during the current school year.

We should have more information in the next issue. In the meantime, thank you for your continued support for Catholic education on the West Side. It wouldn't happen without you!

— Maggie Lee, Editor

Make a Difference – Be a Tutor!

The East Side Learning Center (ESLC) is seeking volunteers to tutor students in reading at St. Matthew's in grades K-4 as well as other schools in St. Paul. ESLC, which is run by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, has been working with students at St. Matthew's since 2009. They are looking for volunteers willing to commit to just one hour per week for one semester. The program is highly structured and provides volunteers with the support they need to be successful. For more information contact ESLC's volunteer coordinator, Rachel Boarden at 651-793-7331 or email rachel.boarden@gmail.com.



St. Matthew's Principal, Doug Lieser, with students he met during his three weeks in Argentina.

St. Matt's Principal 1 of 15 Chosen for Exchange Program

St. Matthew's Director of Education and Formation, Doug Lieser, was one of 15 elementary school principals chosen to participate in a school exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and the Argentina Fulbright Commission.

The program sponsors principals from the U.S. and Argentina as they visit each other's schools and learn about their different approaches to education. The goals of the program are to increase understanding across cultures and share best practices.

In June, Doug spent two weeks visiting Romon L. Falcon School, located in Cintra, Argentina, a rural community with a population of 1500. During his visit he stayed at the home of the school's principal, sat in on classes, met with teachers and students, and learned about the community's approach to education. Since no one spoke fluent English, it was also a chance to improve his Spanish.

Doug's visit represented the second half of the exchange. Last October, the principal of Romon L. Falcon, Miguel Ubino, was hosted by St. Matt's for three weeks. For the coming year, both principals are exploring ways to help students from their respective schools connect electronically.

Doug sees it all as part of an overarching effort to open up the world to St. Matt's students. "Anything that brings to our kids a larger sense of the world is good for them," Doug said. "They're growing up in a society where improved technology and a global economy is the norm, so helping them understand a bigger picture of the world is important. We do a good job of that already because of the school's diversity. This just enhances that even more."



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www.st-matts.org/school

The Community of St. Matthew

Hall Ave. and Robie St.
St. Paul, MN 55107

Pastor: Fr. Steve Adrian

Parish Office: 651-224-9793

Weekend Liturgies:

Saturday - 5 p.m.

Sunday - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

www.st-matts.org

EVENTS calendar

SCHOOL PRAYER MASS — September 7, 9 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to join the students for the first Mass of the school year.

FALL FESTIVAL — September 17 & 18

Great stuff to buy, games to play and food to eat for all ages! See page 3 for details.

FLEA MARKET — September 24 & 25

Items remaining from Fall Festival will be sold at discounted prices.

All proceeds will go towards parish debt reduction. Call Parish office for more info 651-224-9793.

FR. MICHAEL JONCAS, COMPOSER & THEOLOGIAN — October 1

Composer of the popular hymn "On Eagle's Wings," among many others, Michael Joncas will concelebrate 4 p.m. Mass with Fr. Steve Adrian and will give a talk afterwards. For more info, call John Riehle at 651-224-9793.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS — October 8, 5:15 p.m.

In recognition of the Feast of St. Francis, animal lovers are invited to bring their pets to this outdoor service conducted by the Hall Avenue entrance shortly after 4 p.m. Mass.

VIKINGS VS. PACKERS — Sunday, October 23 at 3 p.m.

The Men's Club will host a party in the Social Hall to watch the game on really big screen T.V. Food and refreshments for \$5.00.

MEN'S CLUB WINE TASTING — November 11, 7 p.m.

Over 70 different wines will be available to sample plus select cheeses and a tempting chocolate fountain. Admission is \$15 and tickets can be purchased at the door of the Social Hall. Guests can order wine at discounted prices through Nowak Liquor.

TURKEY BINGO — November 12, 5 p.m.

Win a turkey for Thanksgiving dinner! The Men's Club will be sponsoring this event in the Social Hall. For details, contact Tim Nowak at timothy.nowak@unisis.com