



St. Matthew's Episcopal
Church
Chesterfield, Virginia

Weekly Information January 26th through February 1st, 2012

This Sunday: Jan. 29, 2012 Worship at 8:30 & 10:30



Sunday School for Children and Adults- at 9:30am

- For Children- Come hear and play the story of **"Noah and the Flood"**
- For Youth and Adults - **Discovering Our Spiritual Gifts** (Part 2)- led by Fr. Earnest

1pm- **Worship Service at the Crossings** Nursing Home on Ironbridge- Come join us as we share the love of God to residents of the Crossings!

Coming Sun. Feb 5th- Instructed Eucharist at the 10:30 service- Have you ever wondered why we do what we do during the communion service? We will have some answers for you- during the worship service itself. An instructed Eucharist is a worship service that includes reflections throughout the service to offer insight into what is happening in worship.

Concert for a Cause... *from Sarah Parkison*

Embrace Richmond is a faith-based non-profit that strives to transform distressed communities by empowering leaders within the community. We use an asset-based community approach whereby we help residents identify how they can use their God-given assets to transform their community. In short, we are "Neighbors helping neighbors." For the past few years, Embrace has been a strong presence in the Hillside Public Housing community and we have seen several residents step up to lead teams of other residents in transforming the community. Currently residents are leading a Family Team, a Cooking Team, a Jobs Team and an Artistic Expression Team.

Next Friday, February 3rd at 7pm, Salisbury Presbyterian Church is hosting a "Concert for a Cause" featuring Irish soprano Anne O'Byrne and pianist David Fisk. The concert is free; however any donations will be given to Embrace Richmond. Please see link below for more details.

<http://embracerichmond.org/2012/01/24/concerts-for-a-cause-salisbury-presbyterian-church/>

The 2012 Diocesan Council will be Feb. 10-11.

Information on Council and resolutions being proposed are available on the Diocesan Website:

<http://www.diosova.org/article312406c5077035.htm>. Please feel free to offer feedback to the delegates as we prepare for council. St. Matthew's delegation to council includes Fr. Earnest, Diane Lewis and Denny Petfield, and Sandy Speer (alternate). The Pre-Council Meeting will be held at Manakin Episcopal Church in Midlothian, and all are invited to participate.

A Re-Treat for You- You're invited for a time of peace and experiential prayer in a safe, relaxed and holy environment. The Rev. Earnest Graham and his wife, the Very Rev. Shirley Smith Graham will lead a **weekend-long retreat March 2 – 4**, for only \$130 (room and meals included) at Richmond Hill. This is a joint retreat of St. Matthew's and St. Martin's Episcopal Church. Please contact Fr. Earnest (804-334-8443) if interested because spaces for the retreat are filling quickly. The theme is "Knowing God, Knowing Yourself through Prayer," and it is a good opportunity if you've never before been on retreat or if you're an experienced retreat-goer.

Food Pantry, from Tammie Piguet

Thank you to all that donated canned meats these past two Sundays. It is greatly appreciated!

This week, the Food Pantry is in need of:

Breakfast items- This week's items are boxes of *cold and hot cereal such as oatmeal or cream of wheat, and juice. Breakfast items are essential food items in the weekly distribution to the families.* Studies show that children perform better on cognitive tests and in school when they eat breakfast each morning. It is also important for adults to start their morning with breakfast. *Both the adults and children served by our food pantry need to be able to start their day with a meal.*

Weekly Volunteers for the Month of March-If you are interested in volunteering for the Saturday morning food pantry distribution in March, the Food Pantry Volunteer Sign-Up Sheets are located on the table outside the sanctuary. The food pantry is open from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. each Saturday for distribution to the families referred by CCHASM. We meet on Saturday mornings between 8:30 and 9:00 a.m. If you would like to assist with the Food Pantry but are unable to volunteer on a Saturday morning, please consider volunteering for a Friday afternoon or evening to get the bags of food and non-food items packed for the Saturday morning distribution.

Grocery Gift Cards-These grocery gift cards (Food Lion, Martin's, Wal-Mart) are needed so the CCHASM referred families can buy perishable items that our Food Pantry is not able to provide them with their food pantry distribution.

Upcoming Food Pantry Events:

Souper Bowl Sunday of Caring-Mark your calendars! Please help St. Matthew's celebrate Souper Bowl of Caring by donating one of the following soup type items on Sunday, February 5, 2012:

- Canned Soup of All Kinds
- Beef Stew
- Brunswick Stew
- Canned Chili

Please bring one of the above items as you attend either church services on February 5th and help us stock the food pantry shelves!! There will be a large tub located outside the sanctuary for the collection of these soup items.

Diocese of Southern Virginia News, from your secretary, Eva

Episcopal Singles in Richmond - Episcopal Singles is hosting their second annual **Meet and Greet** for singles of any denomination in the Richmond area. This event will be on **Saturday evening, February 11th, from 6:30-9:00 pm in the Parish Hall of Historic St. John's Church on Church Hill.**

Episcopal singles, laity and clergy from both the Diocese of Virginia and Diocese of Southern Virginia are especially encouraged to attend. Please contact Karla Hunt of St. John's for further information, at kwestfallhunt@verizon.net .

Girl Scout Cookies! *from Sarah Atkinson*

It's girl scout cookie time! I will be selling girl scout cookies for troop 714 through the month of January. There will be an order form under the yellow cookie box on the hall table. **If you would like to support my troop but don't "need" the cookies you may donate cookies to our food pantry.** I will take care getting your donated cookies to St Matt's. Cookies will be delivered after Feb 28th. Thank you for supporting my troop!



Upcoming Events

Jan. 29th – 5th Sunday Communion Service, Crossings at Ironbridge, 1:00 PM

Feb. 5th – Instructed Eucharist at 10:30 worship service

Book Club Discussion – *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life*, Richard Rohr

Feb. 10-11 - Diocesan Council in Williamsburg VA

Feb. 21st – 6:00 pm, EYC Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

7:30 pm, Get Your Alleluias Out Early Ash Service

Feb. 22- Ash Wed - Service at noon and 5:30pm

Feb. 29th - Wednesday Lent Program begins

Mar. 2-4 - Spiritual Retreat at Richmond Hill