



# *Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church*

April 2004

201 E. Frederick Drive  
Sterling, VA 20164

*Alleluia.*  
*CHRIST IS RISEN.*  
*The LORD IS RISEN INDEED.*  
*Alleluia.*



Photo by Greg Strong

# Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church

## Calendar of Events – April 2004

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b> 9AM - Flower Ministry 3:30PM - Girl Scouts - Weller 6:30PM - Girl Scouts - Wilson 7PM - Rolling Woods HOA 7PM - Music Rehearsal 7:30PM - Worship Commission	<b>2</b> 6:30PM - Altar Guild - Polishing	<b>3</b> 8AM - Men's Breakfast 9AM - Parish Workday 9AM - Flower Ministry 7PM - AA Meeting
<b>PALM SUNDAY</b> 8AM - Liturgy of the Palms & Eucharist 9:30AM - Eucharist 11AM - Liturgy of the Palms & Eucharist 5PM - G3/Youth Group 7PM - Prayer Meeting	<b>5</b> 6PM - Potomac Falls E.C. Alpha class 7PM - Boy Scouts	<b>6</b> 7PM - AA Meeting 7PM - S-Anon (12-Step program)	<b>7</b> 7PM - English Classes	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 9AM - Flower Ministry 7:30PM - Eucharist, foot washing, stripping of the altar	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 12PM - Good Friday liturgy 6:30PM - Stations of the Cross 7:30PM - Good Friday liturgy	<b>10</b> 9AM - Flower Ministry 10AM - Holy Saturday Liturgy 10:30AM - Easter Egg Dyeing 7PM - AA Meeting
<b>EASTER</b> 6AM - Great Vigil of Easter 7AM - Champagne Breakfast 8AM - Eucharist Rite I 9:30AM - Eucharist 11AM - Eucharist Rite II 12AM - Easter Egg Hunt 5PM - G3/Youth Group 7PM - Prayer Meeting	<b>12</b> 6PM - Potomac Falls E.C. Alpha class 7PM - Boy Scouts	<b>13</b> 7PM - Spiritual Formation Committee Meeting 7PM - AA Meeting 7PM - S-Anon (12-Step program)	<b>14</b> 7PM - English Classes	<b>15</b> 9AM - Flower Ministry 3:30PM - Girl Scouts - Weller 7PM - Music Rehearsal	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 8AM - Men's Breakfast 9AM - Flower Ministry 6PM - Girl Scouts-Wilson 7PM - AA Meeting
<b>18</b> 8AM - Eucharist Rite I 9:15AM - Eucharist 10:30AM - Eucharist Rite II 12PM - VBS Meeting 5PM - G3/Youth Group 7PM - Prayer Meeting	<b>19</b> 6PM - Potomac Falls E.C. Alpha class 7PM - Boy Scouts	<b>20</b> 6PM - Girl Scouts - Wilson 7PM - Vestry Meeting 7PM - AA Meeting 7PM - S-Anon (12-Step program)	<b>21</b> 7PM - English Classes	<b>22</b> 9AM - Flower Ministry 6PM - Girl Scouts - Colon 7PM - Music Rehearsal	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 8AM - Eucharist Rite I 9:15AM - Eucharist 10:30AM - Eucharist Rite II 5PM - Loudoun Choral Concert 7PM - Prayer Meeting	<b>26</b> 6PM - Potomac Falls E.C. Alpha class 7PM - Boy Scouts	<b>27</b> 7PM - Building Committee Meeting 7PM - AA Meeting 7PM - S-Anon (12-Step program)	<b>28</b> 7PM - English Classes	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>9AM - Flower Ministry 7PM - AA Meeting</b>

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Monday through Friday - A Classroom of Discovery. Will not meet April 2, 5-9

## *From the Rector*

Dear Friends,

One of the best parts of being a priest is, of course, the people my job brings into my path. It's one of the many reasons I wouldn't trade my job for anything in the world (on most days at least!).

Take today, for instance. I had the privilege of enjoying good conversation with a fine man over a tasty lunch. As we talked, he mentioned how much he enjoyed our church newsletter. I said that I had my article to write and wondered if he had any tips for me.

He thought for a moment and said, "You might write about two people who loved each other so much that they did become one. And you might write about what a person can do when one of them is left behind."

Knowing that this man had just lost his wife, I asked what he thought I might say. He paused a little bit longer, looked out the window, and a faraway look came to his eyes. It was clear where he had gone and who he was with in that moment.

Then he said, a bit tentatively at first, "Tell them not to be afraid to shed a tear." And then a bit more strongly, "Even in public." He went on, "Say your prayers. Get together with your relatives, your brothers and sisters, kids and grandkids, mothers and fathers . . . don't just wait for weddings and funerals."

And I knew his was a family that had taken the time and the trouble to do just that, to get together every year in the Outer Banks. I also knew, by continuing to watch his eyes, what a gift this tradition had been, and what a treasure the memories it created continued to be.

"Tell them to be sure to kiss the grandkids."

"Tell them not to eat alone."

Those are good words, friends, for anyone who has lost someone they love. They are good words even for those who have not. They reminded me of how important it is to hold dear those we love but see no longer; how until that day when we see them again in the next life, to have moments where we feel them — in our hearts and minds, at least — draw close enough to touch.

More than that, they reminded me of how important it is to hold dear those we love and continue to see, often day in and day out, and to make the most of the time given to us with them.

As we draw together as one family this Easter and in our worship know the communion of the living with those who have gone on ahead, may we have time to do both.

Rob †

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## *Flower Ministry*

Flowers! Who doesn't love flowers?! Especially during winter, spring, summer, and fall! Their natural beauty in all their glorious variety surely reminds us of God's love for us! What we'd like to see more of is people's appreciation of this beauty within Saint Matthew's. We have come to the realization that for a church our size, we should expect to see an average of four flower dedications per week; right now we're lucky to see one consistently. Won't you prayerfully consider dedicating the altar flowers as a thanksgiving for blessings received, in memory of a loved one, for a dear one's birthday, or even your anniversary? And these certainly don't need to be the only reasons for dedication — you're a clever congregation, let us know who or what you're grateful to God for, won't you? Suggested donation is \$50 per dedication; but remember we will happily accept what you're able to give to help defray the cost. As a matter of fact, you may even be able to request specific varieties of flowers. Any questions regarding the Flower Ministry can be directed to Pat Guenther at 703-433-2397. The sign-up book can be found on the table in the narthex.



## **FIRST SUPPER**

The youth group will be hosting a feast Saturday, April 17, at 6:00 p.m. We'll have a multi-course meal including many luscious desserts to celebrate the beginning of the Easter season. Please join us in the Parish Hall for a great evening of fellowship and indulgence.

# Youth Minister's Report

Prayer . . . I believe making the time to pray is one of the most important things a person can do in their spiritual life. Sure, there are other items which are immensely important. It's easily argued that belief in God, faith in His word, and sharing His message are among the top ten things it takes to be a good Christian. But at least in "Tom's Top 10 List", prayer is very near or actually is #1 in my spiritual life. I don't think many people would disagree with this statement, but I've been wrong before.

It's a really funny thing about prayer, but I've found that while we've been doing it all our lives, most people don't know "how" to pray. No, not funny "ha ha, you don't know how to pray!" with finger pointing. Funny in that God makes it so simple to pray, it's automatic, and yet so few people realize they are doing it. I'll sometimes hear from people, "How do I pray?"; "I pray the Lord's Prayer, but it's so 'boring', why is prayer so dull?"; or the dreaded one, "When I pray, my prayers are never answered; does God even listen?" I think the biggest problem comes from a misconception of what prayer is.

Webster's dictionary defines prayer as 1) a reverent petition made to God, a god, or another object of worship; 2) an act of communion with God, a god, or another object of worship, such as in devotion, confession, praise, or thanksgiving.

The reason I love prayer so much is because of all the things it encompasses. My favorite thing about prayer is that I get a direct line to God. While I grew up Episcopalian, I fell in and out of faith. I always believed in God but didn't recognize my prayers with Him. It wasn't until college that I found my personal relationship with Christ. I wish I could say there was a specific moment, but I think it came somewhere between attending church and the long drives between my school and that of my girlfriend. Somewhere along the way I thought of Christ as a person and all of a sudden, it became easy to think of simply talking to a friend. I began talking to Christ, and thus God, as a good friend. The *Footprints* poem echoes especially with me, as I felt Christ hold me when I was truly sad, and felt him hold me when I needed strength working with friends' sadness, suicide attempts, or simply their troubles.

I started talking to Him just like I would a friend. Often beginning by asking how His day was going, understanding it must be hard, and wishing I could help (think "Bruce Almighty," where Bruce became God for a time). It quickly went into discussions on my life, talking (in my head) about how He does understand what's going on, and my just being glad He's with me. I never heard a voice back, but I have heard Him speak through the miracles in my life (saving my friend who tried to commit suicide; making my life full of supporting family, friends).

On top of this simple reason — having a phone line directly to Him (and without the taxes and fees I get from Verizon) — there are so many others. Prayer gives us time just to be peaceful away from the entire world. It gives people an outlet to express their problems. It allows us to thank Him for our life (which also gives us strength to persevere through good times and bad). It can bring people together (with group prayer the same words and connection with God are shared). It even helps us pass the time I can't think of a time when I've had a good talk with someone and time didn't fly by (much to my wife's chagrin).

Prayer can be a good method for journaling. I will never forget my high school English teacher talking about a journal. Mrs. Toliver said that, if you keep a journal, you'll never go insane. Making the time to reflect on your day and really focus on it will keep you sane, it will help you to reflect before acting rashly. Prayer with God can be a great supplement or alternative to journaling. There are some of us who don't feel comfortable writing, especially about our lives. But we love to talk

to a trusted friend about our problems. By praying each day (or even throughout the day), we take the time to reflect on our actions, and ask Him for advice before making the next step. Many people are natural writers and pray to God by taking pen to paper (or finger to keyboard).

There are many different ways to say a prayer. Some people I know feel great comfort in those "boring" prayers we say every week. The Lord's Prayer is good (who doesn't think of their childhood and bedtime prayers?), and the daily devotionals in the BCP (Book of Common Prayer) are excellent. The prayers we repeat every Sunday help many of us come closer to Him. For me these are great; in the last year I have grown to love the Nicene Creed (where else do we hear the Passion told so concisely and meaningfully?). But nothing comes close to my personal conversations with Him and His Son, where I can tell Him my troubles, my thankfulness, and my hopes for every one of my family in church and in life.

The short answer I'd like to get across is simply how easy it is to pray. I've heard some people who have a gift with words. I often begin to pray and feel God moving my lips for me, and feel so happy to be blessed. But prayer can be a formal statement or a casual conversation. God knows our hearts. So if we misspeak, get it all wrong, or can't even talk, He knows what we mean to say. He hears all of our thoughts and all of our prayers, even when we may not know what they are ourselves.

We petition God all the time for our lives through prayer, but it is also our own time to share our devotion, our thanksgiving, and our praise of Him. It is even time to confess our mistakes. He welcomes it, thanking us for sharing communion with him anytime, not just Sunday morning.

Please take a few moments out of your day to think about how you talk to God. What do our conversations look like? I'd challenge you to share with someone else (your co-worker, your child, your parent, your spouse, or even a stranger) how you converse with God. Also ask them how they talk to God, allowing them to at least begin thinking about what their conversations look like.

Peace,  
† Tom

## NEW WORSHIP SERVICE

We are pleased to announce a new acoustic-gospel style worship service beginning on Palm Sunday, April 4, 2004. The service begins at 5:00 p.m. Come listen to the banjo, fiddle, string bass, mandolin and guitars and worship our Lord with old, traditional hymns. As the service expands we will be offering monthly fellowship meals, a concert series, and musical workshops.

## *Worship Committee*

Have you ever wondered how the Sunday services and special services come together? In addition to God's gracious hand, there are a lot of folks who work to make sure that your Sunday worship time is fulfilling. But we need more help. With Saint Matthew's growing by leaps and bounds we need some fresh faces and ideas to help us with this special ministry.

Come and join the Worship Committee! We meet once a month to come up with ideas for enhancing the worship experience at Saint Matthew's. Our folks are involved with Altar Guild, flower ministry, banners, ushers, acolytes, lay ministry, and any other issue dealing with worship. There is no limit to the ways this Committee can serve the church. Our only limitations are the size of our Committee and the number of ideas we generate!

So come join us. For information about meeting dates, call or e-mail Vicki Nelson at 703-444-2077 or van@sacklaw.com. You can also talk to Lisa Lintelman, Martha Olson, or Pat Guenther.

## *Building & Grounds Committee*

Saint Matthew's is growing and so are the demands for physical space. This committee is charged with identifying the requirements for space and working with an architect to design our future.

This is an exciting project. The committee meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact Linda Clark at 703-444-1995.

## *Outreach Committee*

The Outreach Committee had five members in attendance on March 2 for our first meeting. Others who could not attend expressed interest in helping with specific events or suggested specific programs. We also met on March 23. Future meetings scheduled so far are for April 13, May 4, and May 25 at 7:00 p.m.

We agreed to have one "big" event each season or quarter to engage all ages. For example, in the spring we plan to do an adopt-a-child program that the Sunday School students can support by bringing in their loose change. All-year programs and can-drives will be included also, such as pairing teens with senior citizens, working with Habitat for Humanity, doing English classes for adults, and going somewhere to cook for the homeless.

We are considering these other projects.

- *Summer: Get Out There!* Examples include (a) going to the bike trail to hand out free water and information about our church to bikers and walkers; and (b) a promotional booth at VBS to attract new members.
- *Fall: Fall Into Service:* We will continue with the coat drive.
- *Winter:* We will continue with the Holiday Star Tree.

The list is endless as to what we can do. Whatever we do, we plan to communicate with other committees and parishioners so we all know we are on the "same page." If you have any questions, please contact Anne Lowden at 703-430-9678 or Leanna Wilson at 703-421-7086.

## **G3 HAPPENINGS**

It was a very exciting February for us. We began the month with a rousing Super Bowl party at the Leaches (thankfully we didn't have TiVo for the half-time show). We also shared the viewing of "The Passion," which began our Lenten series discussion on the movie and what Christ did for us. We had a very successful Shrove Tuesday supper, raising money for the 30 Hour Famine; and we had an incredible Famine! Twenty one youth came out to have fun, stay up all night, starve, and hand out sack lunches to people in D.C. This was an incredibly moving weekend for all of us (even if it was the movement of our stomachs grumbling).

Through March we're continuing our Wednesday evening discussions on "The Passion," to conclude before Palm Sunday and Holy Week. In April we'll be welcoming in Easter by stuffing eggs with candy for the Easter Egg Hunt and by dyeing eggs and hanging some from trees. All of this will be taking place Saturday, April 10, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We'll also begin our Bible study on the Book of Acts; having seen what Christ did for us, now we will learn how to live our lives to glorify Him. Each Wednesday from April 21 through May 26, between 7:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., we'll be sharing supper and having our youth Bible study.

We are also beginning to sign people up for Creation Fest 2004. This great event is taking place from June 23 to 26. This was a moving event for everyone who attended last year, with Christ moving us through music.

To sign up or get information for any of these events please contact Tom Leary at 703-858-1410 or by e-mail at YouthMinister@stmatthewssterling.org.

## *Spiritual Formation*

Easter has to be my favorite time of year! The renewal of the earth after a cold, hard winter; the renewal of our hearts after the discipline of Lent; and this year for me, the renewal of a promise to serve as I join the Spiritual Formation Committee and your Vestry. I must admit, I am slightly intimidated having such large shoes to fill as Richard's, but return of committee stalwarts such as my co-chair, Tom Leary, and the rest of the team instill great confidence and excitement for the coming year. I was impressed with the success of the retreat and further still by the adult and youth Lenten Series. As always, you are invited to attend any of our meetings (second Tuesday of the month) and to send in suggestions and comments. As an update to last month's newsletter, I can be reached at 703-475-7596.

Kris Young

Sunday School	Sundays - 10:30 a.m.	Classes for pre-K through 8th grade
G3 Youth Group	Sundays - 5:00 p.m.	Youth group for middle schoolers and high schoolers
High School Bible Study	TBD	Led by Tom Leary and Richard Leach - will begin with a new topic after Easter
Adult Bible Study	TBD	Will begin with a new study after Easter
Youth Retreat to Creation Fest	June 23 - 26, 2004	
VBS	July 26-30, 2004	
Youth Service Project	Summer 2004	



Come one, come all

## **Easter Eggstravaganza!**

### **An Easter Egg Dyeing Party**

Saturday, April 10

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Come have fun ~ Get creative

Kids, Parents, Friends!

All materials will be provided. We'll also have punch and some yummy treats. A special table for the nursery age kids will be available, and some of the G3 teens will be helping out! A special lesson by our own Father Rob will start this fun activity. Please plan on coming!

If you would like to help or want more information, please call or e-mail Angela Brittain at 703-406-8725, [brittainaj@earthlink.net](mailto:brittainaj@earthlink.net)

## Stewardship Committee

*"Stewardship is all that I do with all that I have, after I say 'I Believe'"*

The above title of the recent stewardship display at Council gives us a lot to think about. "All that I do with all that I have" seems to cover just about everything. And indeed it does. Everything is a gift from God. The air we breathe; the water we drink; our abilities to learn; the opportunity to turn education into careers; the money we earn; the Sabbath; our families and friends; our "free time"; the opportunity to participate at Saint Matthew's in a meaningful way; worship, feeding the hungry; sharing a language; encouraging the sick; our talents; singing; sewing; fishing; gardening; organizing; interpreting Scripture or nature or . . . the list goes on and on. God calls us to be stewards of the gifts He has given us. "Both for the individual and for the community, stewardship is a joyful act for the sake of God's world." We hope that as you say "I believe" you will feel called to participate in many joyful acts as Christian stewards at Saint Matthew's.

Each month the Stewardship Committee will focus on a specific area of stewardship. Earth Day, Sunday, April 25, provides an opportunity to celebrate the stewardship of creation. "O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures . . . When you send forth your breath, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground." (Psalm 104:24, 30.)

The National Council of Churches theme for 2004 is *Life-giving Breath of God: Protecting the Sacred Gift of Air*. Saint Matthew's has taken steps to protect the air we breathe by installing compact fluorescent bulbs in many fixtures, turning back the heat when buildings are not in use, and protecting the forest adjacent to the church. Stewardship of creation should take place throughout our daily lives as we all protect the web of life God created. Several special activities will be taking place during April; watch for announcements in the Sunday bulletins.

Ideas for action from the National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Working Group include the following:

- Use compact fluorescent lights (CFLs). They last up to ten times as long as incandescent bulbs and will keep half a ton of CO<sub>2</sub> out of the air.
- Drive smart and drive less. Use a fuel efficient car or an alternative method of transportation such as public transit, walking, or biking.
- Conserve energy. Turn off the lights, adjust your thermostat, and investigate using "green" energy options

## From the Vestry - February 2004

The vestry met on Tuesday, February 17, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Primary matters of business before the vestry included further orientation and direction for the new vestry, a financial update, the overage from 2003, the pre-screening of "The Passion of the Christ," and an evaluation of the rector. Specifically, members of the vestry reviewed their responsibilities for Sundays and for particular ministry areas. To help equip themselves, they agreed to gather for a one day retreat in late March for spiritual and leadership strengthening, and to participate in a Leadership Summit offered by Willow Creek Church in mid August. The vestry also heard the treasurer's report on the financial statements for the church as of the end of January. The number of pledges and amount pledged for 2004 increased in January. Income was slightly more than budgeted, and expenses were slightly lower. Next came discussion (continued from earlier meetings) of possible ways to use a significant financial overage from 2003, particularly in relation to a youth minister or expansion of worship services. Further investigation by the worship committee was recommended. Then the vestry reviewed plans for the pre-screening of "The Passion of the Christ." It looked to be very successful, with more than 420 tickets sold. Finally, Rob Merola reported on his continued interaction with an executive coach, who had conducted a survey of vestry members about Rob's leadership in the church. Rob expressed his appreciation for the responses and for the work of his executive coach in helping him in his efforts to enhance his leadership. The next regular meeting of the vestry was scheduled for Tuesday, March 16, 2004, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

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such as solar or wind power.

- Encourage your local, state, and federal public officials to support and use renewable sources of energy and provide attractive public transportation options.

Thank and praise God for the amazing interconnectedness and beauty of His creation. Every living thing, the air, the sun, the soil, and the water all have a place in that web and are gifts from God, not only to us, but to all future generations. Help us protect these gifts.

We Believe,  
Merry Breed and Steve Weser,  
Stewardship Committee Chair

# Holy Week Services

*If you think about it, there is no holier time of the church year than Easter since if there had been no Easter, there would be no Christmas, or any other church holidays for that matter. This year, Saint Matthew's is offering a variety of services so that everyone can participate. The Holy Week services are the following.*

## **PALM SUNDAY**

Services will be at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. The Liturgy of the Palms will be used at the 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. The 11:00 a.m. service will include the Procession of Palms which will begin outside, weather permitting (in the Parish Hall if the weather does not cooperate), and proceeding into the church. All services will include a dramatic reading of the Passion.

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

This service will be at 7:30 p.m. and will include the foot washing and stripping of the altar, with special music.

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

There will be a Good Friday liturgy at 12:00 noon. At 6:30 p.m., we will have the Stations of the Cross outdoors on the church grounds (weather permitting), followed by the 7:30 p.m. Good Friday liturgy. There will be no Eucharist at either of the services.

## **HOLY SATURDAY**

There will be a brief service of the Holy Saturday liturgy at 10:00 a.m. An Easter Egg Dyeing Party for kids of all ages will take place at 10:30 a.m.

## **EASTER**

There will be four services on Easter morning.

**6:00 A.M.** The first service will be a sunrise celebration using the Great Vigil of Easter. This is a very dramatic service, including the Service of Lights. It begins with the Kindling of the Paschal Fire, and continues with a candlelight procession led by the newly lit Paschal Candle into the church while the Exsultet is sung. The first part of the service continues by candlelight as the sun rises, just as the sun rose over Jesus' empty tomb. Then, key Bible readings retell the history of our salvation. This is followed by the Renewal of our Baptismal Vows and, finally, the Holy Eucharist.

After the service, there will be a Champagne Breakfast served. Of course, those who wish to come early for the 8:00 a.m. service (or anyone else for that matter) is welcome to join us for breakfast. There will be a sign up for the Champagne Breakfast, or you can simply call the church office at 703-430-2121 to let us know you are coming.

**8:00 A.M.** This service will be a traditional Rite I Eucharistic celebration.

**9:30 A.M.** This service will be an informal, family friendly Rite II Eucharist including prayer and praise music.

**11:00 A.M.** This service will be the final service of the day. It will be a Rite II Eucharist including incense, traditional hymns, and special music to mark the day.

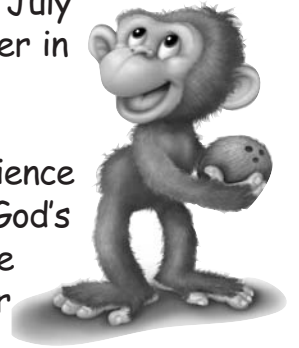
Following the 11:00 a.m. service there will be an Easter egg hunt for the young and the young at heart.

We are sure that any of these services will lift your heart and will make this Easter a special time of praise, celebration, and renewal. Make sure to bring any friends, family, or even strangers who may not have a place to worship on Easter.



# Vacation Bible School

Join us in the jungles of Lava, Lava Island for a week of Bible learning fun! We are overflowing with excitement! Come to the hottest VBS around to learn more about Jesus' love! Mark your calendar for July 26-30. Activities begin at 5:30 p.m. with a light supper in the Parish Hall.



Each day kids will sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, experience electrifying Bible adventures, collect Memory Buddies to remind them of God's word, take on a Daily Challenge to let Jesus' love flow home, and create Bible Point crafts that they'll take home and play with all summer long.



Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends! Kids: you are the most important VBS ambassadors! Please take home several VBS forms and invite your friends, neighbors, and classmates to join us!

Look for registration forms available Easter Sunday in the narthex and on the website after April 12.

We are in need of donations of old swim noodles, brown rolls of craft paper, green fun-foam sheets, tissue paper (prefer color, not white) and tiki torches.



We are sharing our facility with Potomac Falls Episcopal Church and they are planning the day-time VBS during the week of July 19-23.

Adults and teens: don't just monkey around this summer! Come to Lava Lava Island for a swinging time! The next meeting for adults and teen volunteers will be Sunday, April 18, 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Jodie Leach: 703-421-6310, or [JodieLeach2@aol.com](mailto:JodieLeach2@aol.com).

## SPRING PARISH WORKDAY

It is that time of year again! Mark your calendars for our upcoming Parish Workday on Saturday, April 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There are interior and exterior projects requiring a wide variety of talents from dusting to planting. This is a great opportunity to spend some time in fellowship and share a laugh or two. Lunch is provided. If you are unable to attend but would like to help, call Linda Clark at 703-444-1995. A number of projects can be handled at your convenience.

**MINISTRY BUILDERS:** If you shop at the **Family Christian Store** in the Dulles Eastern Plaza, we are part of a program they offer called Ministry Builders. This means that for any purchase you make, simply tell them you attend Saint Matthew's and they will give you stamps. Much like Green Stamps of old, you turn these into the church office, we put them into a book, and then redeem each book for \$5 towards any church purchase. Thank you!

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Sterling, VA 20164



Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church • Cameron Parish  
The Reverend C. Rob Merola • Rector  
201 East Frederick Drive • Sterling, VA 20164-2387  
Telephone: (703) 430-2121 • Fax: (703) 430-2638  
Sunday Service Times: 8:00 AM • 9:15 AM\* • 10:30 AM\*  
\*Nursery Provided

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
E-mail: [OfficeManager@stmatthewssterling.org](mailto:OfficeManager@stmatthewssterling.org) • Internet: <http://www.stmatthewssterling.org>

## The Classroom of Discovery

has openings for the current session of the Adult-Tot class. This class meets from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Mondays and emulates a regular preschool class in structure. Children attend with an adult caregiver. Please call Sheri Brown at 703-927-3333 if you are interested.

### DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

All content for the APRIL newsletter must be submitted by TUESDAY, APRIL 12. Content can be submitted in hardcopy or on disk to the newsletter mailbox in the church office. Content may also be e-mailed to [Newsletter@stmatthewssterling.org](mailto:Newsletter@stmatthewssterling.org).