

THAT MAN IS YOU! volunteered to host Social Sunday on July 25th. This men's leadership program returns to Tuesday mornings, beginning Sept. 14, 2010 – April 12, 2011 from 5:45 to 7:15 a.m. in McDonald Family Center Gym with new Leader: **Robert Comer**.

AE Office is sponsoring multiple Bible studies this year during five different times:

THE GREAT ADVENTURE BIBLE TIMELINE STUDY Wed. mornings, Sept. 8, 2010 - April 20, 2011 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Admin. Building room A202. FREE Registration; cost of notebook/materials is \$40. **ACTS: THE SPREAD OF THE KINGDOM** –(GREAT ADVENTURE series) Sun. mornings, Sept. 12, 2010 – April 17, 2011 (Jeff Cavins DVD only) 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. in MFC 102. This class is FREE.

Tues. mornings, Sept. 14, 2010 – March 22, 2011 from 9:45 a.m. – 12 noon in MFC 106. Registration FREE and cost of notebook/materials is \$30.

Wed. evenings, Sept. 22, 2010 – March 23, 2011 from 7 – 9 p.m. in MFC 103. Registration FREE; cost of notebook/materials is \$30.

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES Thurs. evenings, beginning Sept. 9, 2010 – May 5, 2011 from 7:00 to 8:45 p.m. in St. Matthew School Cafeteria with Speaker: **Dr. Bob O'Connor**, Religious Studies professor from St. Mary's. Registration FREE; cost of the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible book with commentary by Scott Hahn is \$10.

Mike: Preliminary budget for 2010-2011 was presented to the Finance Council at the June meeting. Some minor changes were recommended and a final budget will go the Finance Council at the August meeting. Also, the Technology Committee has been meeting weekly and has completed most of the new servers' setup. The middle school cabling replacement will be completed on Friday. Committee members will be working this coming weekend to bring up the new servers online.

Carol: Changing the sharing envelope over to St. Vincent de Paul to take place in September sets.

Deacon Norman: We celebrated the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming at the 9:15 Mass several weeks ago; currently have 25 catechumens. One or two will continue RCIA elsewhere after college graduation in Dec. Another group of catechumens will join us in the fall.

Last year 26 adults came into the church on Holy Saturday; we anticipate this number being somewhat greater this coming year. We continue to train new catechists to help in the RCIA – additional catechists are always needed! Catechists are attending worships and seminars offered by Archdiocesan Office of Christian Initiation at the Pastoral Center.

Judith: Judith will be assisting the priests in the Marriage Ministry. After an initial interview with a couple, she will reserve a wedding date, collect the needed documents and assist in assigning the officiating clergy. If you will be planning a marriage at our parish, please first contact Judith at 478-5016.

Georgia: Our regular activities are continuing every month, which include: the monthly covered dish lunch, the restaurant trip, a morning field trip and various presentations on topics that are of interest and help to the seniors. The Lighthouse For The Blind will give a presentation on Wed., Sept. 15. This presentation will explain all of the services that are available through this organization for those with eyesight problems. WellMed will provide free blood sugar testing and will check blood pressures for our seniors on Fri., Aug. 13, from 8:30 until 10:30 a.m. in the Senior Center. Those participating are urged to come in fasting. The art, the two quilting, the jewelry-making, and the ceramic groups will all be displaying and selling their creations in the Parish Hall on Social Sunday, Oct. 31, from 7:30 a.m. until 1:45 p.m.

Michelle: On June 11 and 12, 50 Middle Schoolers attended their annual Summer Retreat at John Newcombe's Tennis Ranch and attended the Sat. 5:30 p.m. Mass. Also on June 12, Andres Guzman was named "Teen of the Month" by the Men's Club where he received a certificate and a check for \$25. There will not be a "Teen of the Month" for July, but will resume again in August. On June 16th Youth Ministry had their last Praise and Worship for the year and will start up again in August. After August, Praise and Worship will move to the 1st Wednesday of the month. June 17 through 20 was the Teen ACTS Retreat at TECABOCA. This venue for the retreat worked out wonderfully. We had 50 retreatants, 28 teen team and 10 adult team members. Father White attended the entire weekend. Several of the youth helped Sr. Therese with her Vacation Bible School. On June 27th TAG had their final meeting with a potluck which included a farewell to our outgoing 8th graders. June 28th was the last day for the Freedom Finders College Youth Group and June 30th was the last day for the High school Youth Group.

On June 29th a Catechist meeting for the High School Catechists was held to review the past year and plan for the upcoming year's Religious Education and Confirmation classes.

During July, the Youth Minister, Michelle Weekley attended Level one catechist classes and classes for the Basic Youth Ministry Certificate. During July, youth ministry held a Bible Study on the Gospel of Matthew that was attended by as many as 40 tweens, teens and college students. The videos were fantastic. On July 20th, five high school students - Ivy Alcozer, Camille Stecker, Mikaela Romo, Mathew Guerra and Andres Guzman - were part of the Marianist LIFE Program at Tecaboca. We also had the a new contingency from Incarnate Word High School of 3 girls and their mentor going up with us: Maddie Gallo, Madison Porter and Morgan Delgado, along with their mentor, Lauren Klaffke. July 30th through Aug. 1st, Youth Ministry held their Freedom Finders College-aged Retreat. Their theme was "Who Am I". We had 14 retreatants and a team of seven who enjoyed a fantastic weekend. On Aug. 2nd Freedom Finders started their new meetings for the year with a farewell to Nicholas Hamilton who will be leaving for Belize on Aug. 16th

on his way to going to seminary to become a priest. We will all miss him terribly, but pray for a safe trip. Upcoming events include: The High School Youth Group will begin the new school year with their weekly meetings on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at the Vance Jackson House, by getting to meet each other and talk about their goals for the year.

Freshman Fish Camp for all incoming Freshman will be held 7 & 8 August and will return to the 11:15 Mass. Youth Ministry will be going roller skating at the Rollercade on Tues., Aug. 10th.

Then on Aug. 14th we already have 30 kids and chaperones signed up to attend LIFETEEN at Fiesta, Texas - an all day event with Mass, inspirational speakers, singers and adoration, right in the park. Aug. 15th the next teen of the month will be awarded by the Men's Club.

The next Catechist Meeting for the High School Catechists will be held Aug. 17th at 6:00 p.m. in room 102. The next praise and worship will be Wed., Aug. 18th at 6:30 at the Vance Jackson House. Then on Aug. 20th before everyone starts school again, an "End of Summer Bonanza" will be held at the Vance Jackson House with a BBQ and outdoor water games. TAG will start again on Sun., Aug. 22nd at 6:00 p.m. at V. J. House. Aug. 29th Youth ministry will host Social Sunday and share with the parish what our program offers for the youth of our community.

Confirmation Registration packets have already been sent out to registered parishioners; the forms will soon be put online and made available in the administration building. Classes will start September 12th.

Elda Maria: The FALL RCIA GROUP will begin on Wed. Sept. 1st. Meetings are always on Wed. nights from 7: 00 - 8:30 p.m. in room 106 of the McDonald Center. The retreat prior to the "Rite of Acceptance and Welcome" will be held in the Parish Hall from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. ADULT CONFIRMATION: The Fall Confirmation Group will begin on Sept. 13th in Room 102 of the McDonald Center from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Classes are always on Mondays! The reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place either at the end of November or beginning of December depending on the availability of the Bishop. THE SERIES "COME AND SEE... LEARN THE WAYS OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE" began on Wed., July 21st and will be completed on Aug. 25th. The specific topic is: "Spiritual Discernment: Discovering the Will of God for Me." 125 persons have registered.

Sr. Brendan: I am getting materials in order and counting the books for this coming new school year. The books were ordered in mid August. Soon we will be starting registration for the CCD classes. I am looking for Catechists and Helpers.

Fr. Valentine: I have been conducting a Bible Study class in Spanish on "The Gospel of St. Luke" since Jan. 2010. Since last summer of 2009, I conducted an Apologetics class to this same group of adult students. Currently there are 10-15 adults in the class which meets on Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at MCF 104. I have been meeting with the Karenni refugees at least one time per month Sat. morning, beginning in April, at their place of residence – the Dovetree Apartment Complex - off of Gardendale and have reviewed the parts of the Mass with them and distributed missalettes for their use. I have placed a letter in the mailbox inviting the deacons and their wives to consider serving as Marriage Sponsor Couples to our engaged couples here at St. Matthew.

Mary Helen: Discussed several phone issues with the staff for clarifications.

Beth: ACTS We have had two retreats this summer. The Teen ACTS directed by Michelle Weekley June 17-20 at TECABOCA had 50 teen retreatants. The Women's ACTS retreat directed by Norma Martinez on July 22-25 at Oblate had 46 retreatants. We also supported the Women's Shields of Christ retreat by providing their send-off and Welcome Back reception the weekend of July 15-17. The team for the next Men's Retreat to be held September 30-October 3 is already meeting. The director for this retreat is Arturo Nuñez. The ACTS Gala was held on July 31st. The theme was Midnight Summer Blues. A dinner, dance, silent and live auctions, and music by DJ Ray was included in the evening activities. About 170 were in attendance.

New officers were elected for ACTS Core. Annette Smith is now president. Irene Chapa-Einkauf is vice-president. Secretary is Annamarie Medina.

YC3 Theology on Tap was held each Thurs. evening during the month of July. Ryan Bueno is the new president of YC3. Election of other officers is being held in August.

ALPHA The Alpha team had a planning session for the fall Alpha program on July 17. A facilitators training will be held August 17. Alpha will begin its fall program on September 7.

Sr. Lucille: The ministry is again hosting the Life After Loss seminar which is a five week seminar for those who have lost a loved one from death within the past two years. The sessions will be held on in room 104 Saturday mornings from 9:00 until 10:30 a.m. during the month of Oct.: Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. Beth Duarte and Sr. Lucille will be the facilitators of the seminar. Notice will be placed in the bulletin. Letters will be sent to those with whom we have ministered this past year. The tradition of the annual parish Memorial Mass continues. This is scheduled for Tues., Nov. 2, at 7:00 p.m. Fr. Jake will be the presider and the Spanish choir will provide the music. Notice will be placed in the bulletin and letters will be sent individually to those whose services we have handled. Last year there were nearly 95 deceased that were remembered. The invitation extends to those who have lost a loved one within the past year. The St. Matthew annual holiday grief workshop is scheduled for Thurs., Nov. 11 at 7:00 p.m. in room 104. Most churches throughout the city will be scheduling Holiday Grief Workshops to help people who have lost a loved one cope with the holidays. This ministry continues on the Tuesdays of each month. Support group meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays in room 104, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Usually those who come have lost a

spouse by death within the year or so. This is an "open" group, meaning that people may come and go as they feel the need and/or want to come for support with one another. Those who have been part of the group at some time, continue to support one another by having a "pot-luck" social the second Tuesday of each month. Married people who have been "singled" by death often find it difficult to socialize in a "couple's world." This monthly social gives them an opportunity to socialize. On the fourth Tues. of each month the group usually goes out to a restaurant. Lupe and Bruce Orey facilitate this ministry with Sr. Lucille.

A number of new DVDs have been added to the parish library. Likewise, a number of outdated and/or damaged videos have been deleted. We (Sr. Lucille and Mary Helen) are in the process of updating the locating and tracking system, adjusting the numbering and labeling according to the additions/deletions. We are not adding donated videos and taped programs to the system. When the updating is completed, we will make it known via the bulletin. Many thanks, Mary Helen, for all your help.

Bernard: The Parish Hall bathroom floors (men's and women's) will be upgraded with new flooring on Monday and Tuesday, August 9th and 10th. The Handicap and the Cry Room bathrooms will be available for use during this remodeling phase. Thank you for your patience during this construction phase.

Pablo: The Vincentians are very appreciative to have such caring parishioners that support our ministry in prayer and with their donations. We provided pantry assistance to 1,375 individuals for the 15 days that we were open in July. Our back to school donation drive is still underway and we will start to hand out the items the week of August 9, 2010. We still have fans available from the Project Cool program that assists seniors. The Share envelope has been officially changed over to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Still reviewing the year end reporting aspect).

Those individuals that were seeking assistance at the parish office are now being served at the SVDP building.

Who do we serve? There are 75 SVDP conferences throughout the SA Archdiocese and each serves those within their boundaries. However, we do provide food assistance to all those that come through our doors. If they do not reside within our parish boundaries they will be directed to their closest SVDP location for their next visit. Emergency assistance is provided only to those within our parish boundaries. Should someone come in who resides outside of our area seeking help with utilities or rent payments for example, they will be guided towards their SVDP location and other community resources.

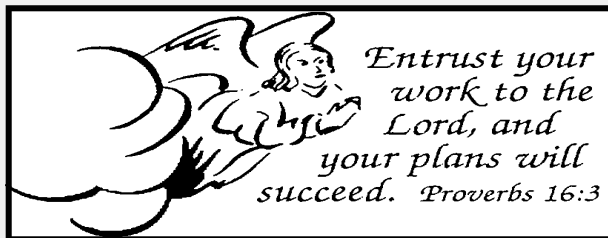
Chris: COMPLEX The summer has been great. No major issues that have taken place at the sports complex. We had some vandalism with a vending machine that occurred at the complex. The Vending machine is not owned by St. Matthews parish; the owner has been contacted regarding the damages and they will remove the vending machine. We are conducting our annual security light check by making sure they are all functioning. Farmers Market continues to take place every Friday at the complex.

SCHOOL Football and Soccer try-outs will begin next week starting on August 9th. All letters and information regarding times and locations have been posted on Renweb and sent out to all eligible 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Season starts include: Volleyball – August 31st; Football – September 3rd; Soccer – TBD; Cross Country – TBD.

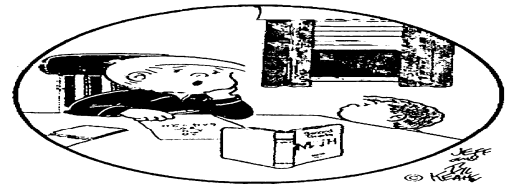
CYO The CYO Soccer, Volleyball and Flag Football season will begin the weekend after Labor Day. Registration is still being conducted and teams are being formed. Practices will start soon and all teams will be in action around the time school starts.

Fr. Dennis: Upcoming changes in liturgy will include no longer having the Eucharistic Ministers take the ciboria and cups from the altar to the sacristy after communion during the Mass. Instead, the deacons will place them on the corresponding trays and place them in the sanctuary credence tables. After the Mass, the sacristan can return the trays to the sacristy for purification. Starting in September, all Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist will no longer bow before turning around in order to begin distributing communion. Instead, when they see the priest turn around, after all are in place, they then will also turn and begin distributing communion. A 4th confessional in our church that was in disuse has been refurbished thanks to Bernard and his crew. It will allow us to have four priests hearing confessions simultaneously possibly during the Advent and Lenten Seasons when there may be more penitents. We wish to celebrate the Feast of St. Matthew on Tues., Sept. 21st by inviting all parishioners to join us at the regularly scheduled 6:00 p.m. Mass that evening. We will have music at that Mass and cookies and punch afterwards. I am working on a liturgical calendar that will include all special liturgies from September 2010 to May 2011. I asked staff members to submit to me a brief description of their work/ministry domains to be posted on our webpage.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 1 from 10 – 12 Noon, with lunch paid for by staff members.



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff & Bil Keane



"The Bible tells us to study math. It says, 'Go forth and multiply.'"

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