

The E-Matt



A weekly glimpse of God's People, God's Work
at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Lisbon Maine

www.stmatthewslisbon.org

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The Rev. W. Beau Wagner, Rector

Week of Dec. 28, 2008

St. Matt's celebrates Christmas Eve by offering Wassail



St. Matthew's offered a traditional Wassail following the Christmas Eve midnight service, which began at 11 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Wassail is a hot, spiced punch. Wassail originally referred to the caroling that earned the carolers a cup; later it came to mean the drink itself. The word wassail comes from the Anglo-Saxon "waes hael," meaning "be well."

"We can be well because Jesus, whose birth we remember this Christmas, redeemed our sins. The gift of salvation is the greatest gift of the season," said the Rev. Beau Wagner.

In this picture on the left, Senior Warden Teri Bernier serves Wassail to Deacon Gail White

after the midnight service in the wee hours of Christmas Morning. Many of the 42 people attending the service enjoyed a glass of the warm, spiced cider before they left for the evening. Thank you to Mary Maloney for making the delicious Wassail.

21 people enjoy festive Christmas Day lunch

After a Christmas Day Eucharist with carols at 10 am, 21 people stayed and enjoyed a delicious Christmas pot luck luncheon, complete with ham, roast pork, a variety of vegetables, rolls and many delicious desserts! Special thanks to Cindy Adcock for organizing the dinner and the kitchen.



Joseph James Carr III baptized on Sunday, Dec. 28



Joseph James Carr III, son of St. Matt's members Shaun and Heather Carr, was baptized during the Dec. 28 10 am Service.

Concelebrating with Father Beau was former St. Matt's rector, the Rev. Joe Carr, who baptized his first grandchild. Father Joe and his wife Celeste (from their parish of Calvary Episcopal Church in Kaneohe, Hawaii) as well as the extended Carr family also attended the service where 120 people welcomed Joseph into God's family. Father Joe was rector at St. Matt's for 14 years.



Sparrow marriage blessed

St. Matt's members Julie Ann Cantelo & Michael John Sparrow celebrated their marriage at a service on Sunday, Dec. 28 at 4 pm. Father Beau blessed their union before 55 people that included his children from England and her children.

Some of you may recall with a smile the interactive version of The Twelve Days of Christmas from the recent Chapel Chix & Chap concert at St. Matthew's. Here is one from the Dec. 2008 edition of *The Albany Episcopalian*.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

"The Twelve Days of Christmas," has several interpretations of its lyrics. Here is one favorite....

My true love.... God, and the gifts from God

The partridge.... Jesus

Two turtledoves.... The Old and New Testaments

Three French hens.... Faith, Hope and Charity

Four calling birds.... The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

Five golden rings.... The Torah (The first five books of the Bible): Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy

Six geese a-laying.... The six days of Creation (Genesis)

*Seven swans a-swimming....*The Seven Sacraments: Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders and Anointing the Sick

*Eight maids a-milking...*The eight Beatitudes in Sermon on the Mount - Blessed are: the poor in spirit; those who mourn; the meek; those who hunger and thirst for righteousness; the merciful; the pure in heart; the peace makers and the persecuted for the sake of righteousness. (Matthew 5:3-10)

Nine ladies dancing.... Fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control (Galatians 5:22-23)

*Ten Lords a-leaping....*The Ten Commandments

*Eleven pipers piping....*The Apostles (not including Judas) who spread the Good News

Twelve drummers drumming... The Twelve Articles of Faith in the Apostles' Creed: "We believe... in God the Father; Creator; God the Son; Crucified, died, buried; raised from the dead; ascended into heaven; God the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; communion of saints; forgiveness of sins; resurrection of the body; and life everlasting."

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, founded in 1906, is a vibrant growing congregation that brings together the four main threads of Anglican tradition: Anglo Catholic worship, evangelical preaching, charismatic expression and caring in action.