

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 May 3, 2009

Four generations of women call St. Matt's home



St. Matthew's is blessed to be the church home for four generations of Thiboutot women—Wilma, Teri, Libby, and Isabelle. Each one of these women depends on St. Matthew's to grow in their relationship with the Lord and profoundly connect with a family in Christ.

Wilma Ringrose Harmon (68), the matriarch of the Thiboutot family, was born in Freeport, but has spent most of her adult life in Lisbon Falls.

*Four generations of St. Matthew's members on Easter Day 2009:
(from left) Wilma Harmon, Teri Bernier, Libby Michaud, and Belle Michaud*

Wilma joined St. Matthew's when she was baptized in 2003. After Father Beau arrived in 2007, Wilma became an active participant in the Wednesday Women's Bible Study and the Women's Events. You can taste her delicious cooking at many St. Matthew's events where there is a call for homemade food from desserts to main courses to breakfast.

Wilma reports that "the whole church family feeling appeals to me. I like the spiritual and social part of belonging to St. Matthew's."

Teri Thiboutot Bernier (49) was born and raised in Lisbon and baptized at the old St. Matthew's on Main Street. After some



Wilma (in gray), makes sandwiches with the St. Matthew's Women for the opening of the Root Cellar on Valentine's Day 2009.

rebellious years as a teenager, she gave her life to Christ at St. Matthew's over 20 years ago.

Since then she has served as warden, vestry member, chalice, altar guild, lector, worship team, and healing prayer member.

She has always had a heart for teaching and has served as St. Matthew's Christian Education Director for the past 11 years. Teri teaches adults and children by looking into the Bible to find answers.

"I help others see how God works in their lives. I consider this my gift from God," said Teri.

Teri is also quick to invite a family member, friend, or stranger to worship at St. Matthew's or participate in our programs. Teri has been married to Sonny for 31 years and they have three daughters and six grandchildren.



Teri and Sonny Bernier celebrate the Reaffirmation of their Wedding Vows at St. Matthew's in 2008.

Libby Bernier Michaud (31) was born in Freeport, raised in



Libby and Jeff Michaud were married at St. Matthew's in 2000.

Lisbon, and now lives in Sabattus with her husband Jeff and daughter, Isabelle. A social worker, she often finds strength in her faith on a daily basis.

Libby was baptized and raised at the Lisbon Falls United Methodist Church. She started attending St. Matthew's when she was a teenager. Libby and Jeff were married at St. Matthew's.

Libby is a regular member at the Wednesday Women's Bible Study.

"I came back to St. Matthew's as an adult because of the strong spiritual family here. People at St. Matt's have always prayed for me and my family. I feel connected to the people and the church is a very nurturing place for Isabelle," said Libby.



Libby (left) and Teri performing at a St. Matt's Talent Show in 2005.



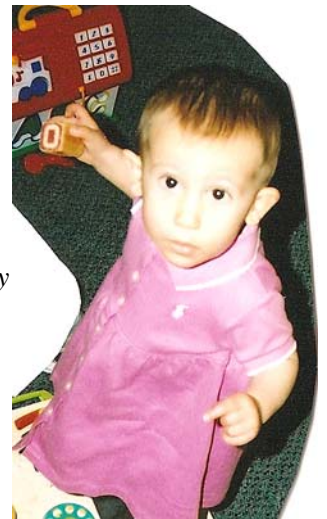
Libby and Belle at her baptism in 2002 at St. Matthew's. Great Grandma Wilma made Belle's Christening gown.

Isabelle, "Belle" Michaud (7) was baptized as an infant at St. Matthew's and is a faithful member of our Sunday School. Belle loves participating in the children's programs at St. Matthew's.



Belle plays Mary at the 2008 Lesson & Carols Service.

Belle is very comfortable in expressing her love of Jesus at home, school, and in the greater community.



Belle plays in the Nursery at St. Matthew's in 2003.

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, charis-matic expression and caring in action.