

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 October 18, 2009

First "Horse Camp" A Success!



This recent update is from Bevan and Laura Stein with the Father's Heart Ministry in Slovakia which is a ministry supported by St. Matthew's.

Nineteen children and volunteers worked together to make our first Father's Heart horse camp a success. We had a unique combination of backgrounds and ages, but one thing we had in common was our love for God's creation and horses.

Each morning after the horse chores, the children took turns with riding lessons. Sitting on blankets by the river after lunch, we discussed our Bible verse

and lesson for the day, then jumped into the river to get cooled off. Before we knew it the day was coming to a close, so we quickly finished the horse chores and helped the children travel back by train to the city.

Mimka, age five, who lives in the crisis family center nearby, and has limited speech, was definitely in love with her horse Lola. After her last ride, she hugged Lola goodbye, then quickly scampered up the overlook deck where she could get one last glimpse of her horse.

Miriam, age 9, was diagnosed this year with childhood diabetes. She declared horse camp week the best week of her summer. Along with two girlfriends who she brought with her, she performed a drill pattern with flags for her parents at the end of camp. The girls wore proud smiles, the horses looked straight ahead with concentration, and the mothers shed a few tears of joy in seeing their children overcome their fears and ride so beautifully.

It's a joy to have this opportunity to share God's creation and love with children in need. We have named our ranch the Father's Heart Ranch of Hope, and we see that it is becoming just that. Thank you for your partnership and prayers which are making these dreams a reality for many.

Dinner was simply “delizioso”

St. Matt’s women sampled delicious Italian cuisine at the Great Impasta in Brunswick on Oct. 20 as 36 women filled half of the restaurant. It was a time for fellowship and dining on a menu that highlighted Italian delicacies from appetizers to the cappuccino offered with dessert. Special thanks to Thelma Manson for her “angel” gift to every participant.

Upcoming women’s programs include:

Advent Wreath Craft Breakfast
Saturday, Nov. 21 at 8 am
Deb Pensiero’s House

Up to 30 St. Matthew’s Women and their friends can enjoy breakfast and make an Advent Wreath to take home. Onsite child care will be provided. There is a \$10 donation for the cost of the greens, candles, and decorations. There will be a teaching on Advent Wreaths that includes a devotional that you can use in your home.

Operation Christmas Child
Wrapping/Packing Day
For Girls’ Groups (Girl Scouts, Rainbow Girls)
Nov. 19 at 3 pm at St. Matthew’s

St. Matthew’s women will host the Operation Christmas Child, Wrapping/Packing Day for Girls’ Groups (Girls Scouts, Rainbow Girls). The women will provide wrapping paper for the show boxes and feed 30 girls a variety of pizza muffins and desserts.

Mary, the Magnificat, and You
Led by Kim Hanscom
Saturday, Dec. 5 9:30 am until Noon
Followed by lunch at St. Matthew’s Church

The women of St. Matthew’s are invited to take this time during the busy holiday season to reflect on Mary’s response to the angel Gabriel.

Women’s Retreat
Starting 6 pm on Friday Jan. 29, 2010; ending at noon on Saturday, Jan. 30
Sky Hy Retreat Center, Topsham

Our retreat leader will be Janice Settlemoir, wife of the Rev. Jon Settlemoir who serves as Chaplain at the Brunswick Naval Air Station. Music will be led by Leslie Walters who is also a pastor’s wife and a member of the Women’s Bible Study at the Chapel on the Navy base. The \$25 cost includes overnight lodging and all meals. Watch for more details.



Great Impasta Chef Chris and Waitress Amy took excellent care of 36 St. Matthew’s women who sampled Italian cuisine at their Oct. 20 Fall Dinner.