

## ***Do We Have Eager Spirits?***

"You people at St. Augustine's are so open." Rabbinic Chaplain Kate Fagan was remembering the evening last April when she led a Passover Feast, called a Seder, at St. Augustine's.

She continued, "Sometimes I can sense from a group's body language that they don't want to hear what I have to say."

By contrast Kate described her reception at St. Augustine's as walking into open arms.

Judy Krug attended a meeting last week with Kate Fagan.. "Kate told me she had never been in a church that welcomed her with such open minds and eager spirits. Tell me more, the parish seemed to be saying."

"Please invite me back," the chaplain said. "It's good for my soul to be with you."

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stifling heat. Many came and left and returned again. At 7:45 PM, exactly 12 hours later, following a treasured popsicle break and lots of sighs, the doors were locked and the alarm was set.

Next day: more people, more scrubbing, more throw-aways.

All for the bishop's visit? Not exactly.

This summer when you look around you, there is a new spirit that you can feel and smell and hear. Some of it you can touch. It's being accomplished with vision and verve and drive and enormous goodwill.

## ***It Is Called Stewardship***

Has St. Augustine's found a new "angel" to generate all these improvements? Think again. Nobody is throwing money around in this church. Good stewardship is on everybody's mind. That toilet replacement earned a \$100 water-saver rebate from the City. Those new chairs all had major rebates which made them less than half price. Almost all this labor is sweat equity – literally, this summer – and that saves hundreds every day. The men who are mowing our grass themselves are saving this church over \$250.00 each month. Tree trimming would be a major expense item if we hired it out.

We are adapting old items to new uses: the church's old wrought-iron cross becomes an interior icon; historic Stations of the Cross get matted and framed and put to new use; the old church sign will be moved into a new location.

### ***Readings Next Sunday***

**Old Testament:** Wisdom 12:13,16-19 God cares for everything; he models how to be virtuous.

**New Testament:** Romans 8:18-25 What we suffer now cannot be compared to the glory waiting for us.

**Gospel:** Matthew 13:24-30,36-43 Separating darnel (a weedy grass) from good wheat is about the Kingdom of God.

**Psalm** 86 or 86:11-17 A prayer during trouble: "Show my enemies that you are my help and consolation."

## ***So Now Who Do I Contact?***

Sr. Warden: **Mary Clowers** 864-3568. Talk to Mary about needs for pastoral care.

Jr. Warden: **Joyce Corn** 540-0655. Talk to Joyce about church buildings, maintenance, cleaning, etc.

Parish Treasurer: **Greg Duckett** 866-1508. Talk with Greg about parish budget, your giving, etc.

Deacon: **Mack Bauknight** 328-7686. Talk with Mack about spiritual needs.

### ***Vestry Members, your representatives:***

**Sandra Anderson** 328-1827

**Inez Ford** 327-9693

**Hazel Hudson** 343-4157

**Mary Jones** 867-7702

**Judy Krug** 525-5044

**Theresa Martin** 866-6649

**Claude Reynolds** 422-2395

**Mordecai Walker** 898-6543

**Rudy Gabbidon** 866-1077

Our Parish Website Address is: [www.staugstpete.org](http://www.staugstpete.org)