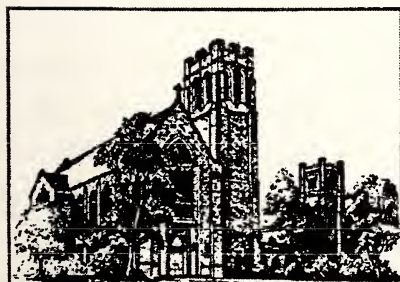


**A Celebration
of 250 Years of Anglican
and Episcopal Witness
in Orange County**

September 19 to 21, 2003



GIFT, JOHN F. NELSON

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of Anglican/Episcopal Witness
in Orange County
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Welcome!

A little over a year ago, a committee began meeting to plan a way for the Episcopalians of this region to recognize and celebrate this 250th anniversary of Anglican witness and ministry in Orange County, North Carolina. We came from the three Episcopal parishes of the County. We each knew part of the story, and we were committed to learning more.

During our meetings, we have learned of the challenges that our predecessors faced – some more gracefully than others. We've learned of our own differences, and of the different histories and styles that have developed within the parishes. But most wonderfully, we have come to see and experience how God has truly blessed the Church in this corner of the Kingdom for these many years, and how God continues to do so today. It's a story we are eager to share and learn more fully in this celebratory weekend. Thank you for being a part of it.

Dr. Emilie P. de Luca

The Rev. Lisa G. Fischbeck

The Rev. Dr. Brooks Graebner

Dr. John K. Nelson

The Rev. Stephen Stanley

Anne D. Varley

Friday, September 19
Evening



St. Matthew's, Hillsborough

6:00 pm Social and Dinner

(Seating limited to 100; Reservations available
through St. Matthew's Church.)

7:30 pm The Church and the Arts

Novelists Lee Smith and Michael Malone
(Open to all.)

Saturday, September 20
10:00 am to noon



St. Mary's Chapel, Hillsborough

Morning Prayer, much as said in 1752

The Rev. Dr. Brooks Graebner, *rector, St. Matthew's,*
Hillsborough

Dr. John Druesedow, *clerk*

**The Colonial Church in America, in North
Carolina, and in Orange County**

Dr. John K. Nelson, *professor emeritus of history, UNC*

Saturday, September 20
2:00 to 4:00 pm



Chapel of the Cross, Chapel Hill

The Church and the University
The Spiritual Foundations of Chapel Hill and UNC
The Rev. Stephen Stanley, *Episcopal chaplain, UNC, and*
associate at Chapel of the Cross

The Future of Religion in Academic Life
Professor Ruel Tyson, *director, Arts and Humanities*
Institute at UNC

20th Century Liberal Arts and the Challenge
of the Religious Right
Dr. Michael Lienesch, *professor of political science, UNC*

Saturday, September 20
7:00 to 9:00 pm



Church of the Holy Family, Chapel Hill

The Church and Race

The Legacy of the 19th Century

The Rev. Dr. Brooks Graebner, *rector, St. Matthew's, Hillsborough*

Dr. Reginald Hildebrand, *associate professor, African-American studies and history, UNC*

The Civil Rights Movement in Orange County

The Rev. Loren B. Mead, *former rector, Church of the Holy Family; founder of the Alban Institute*

The Rev. Larnie G. Horton, *pastor, St. Paul AME, Chapel Hill*

The Church and Race Today

The Rt. Rev. Michael B. Curry, *bishop, Diocese of North Carolina*

The Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, *rector, Church of the Holy Family, Chapel Hill*

Music from 18th, 19th and 20th Centuries

Dr. Boyd Gibson, *music director, Church of the Holy Family*

Sunday, September 21
5:00 to 7:00 pm



Church of the Holy Family, Chapel Hill

Feast of St. Matthew (eve) and Festival Eucharist

**Sending forth of the new congregation for the Episcopal
Church of the Advocate**

*The Rt. Rev. Gary Gloster, bishop suffragan, Diocese of North
Carolina, celebrant*

*The Rev. Loren B. Mead, former rector, Church of the Holy Family;
founder of the Alban Institute; preacher*

Music by church youth

Susan Stedman, music director, St. Matthew's, Hillsborough

Reception following the liturgy

Highlights from 250 years



Colonial and Early National Period (1752-early 1800s)

1750s and 60s: The formation of Orange County and St.

Matthew's Parish by the General Assembly of North Carolina in 1752 makes the Church of England the established religion of Orange County.

In 1757, a one-acre lot is purchased in Hillsborough as a building site for the parish church, and in 1759 land is given to construct St. Mary's Chapel to serve worshipers in northern Orange. A similar chapel, the New Hope Chapel, is constructed about this time in southern Orange County at what is now Chapel Hill.

In 1767, Gov. Tryon presents Scottish-born George Micklejohn to serve as minister for the parish, and work begins on the church building in Hillsborough in 1768.

1770s-early 1800s: In 1776, Anglican services are suspended. Micklejohn, a Tory, accompanies Loyalist forces at the Battle of Moore's Creek and is captured. He spends the remainder of the war, by gentleman's agreement, in Granville County and never resettles in Orange.

During the revolution, the St. Matthew's church building serves as a hospital. After the war, it houses the first Hillsborough Academy and the 1788 convention to consider ratification of the U.S. Constitution. The building falls into disuse in the early 1800s, and the building site is used for the construction of the Presbyterian Church in 1816.

Antebellum Period (1818 - 1860)

c. 1818: Services resume at St. Mary's Chapel under the direction of lay readers and missionary priests, following the formation of the Diocese of North Carolina in 1817.

1820s: Newly-elected and consecrated Bishop Ravenscroft makes his first visitation to Orange County in 1823. The following year, St. Matthew's is reorganized under the ministerial leadership of William Mercer Green, and by 1825 work is underway on a new church building erected on land donated by vestryman Thomas Ruffin. Green becomes rector in 1825, with oversight of services at St. Mary's and Salem Chapel (Fairintosh plantation) as well.

1830s: Green begins work in Chapel Hill, preparing UNC students for confirmation. He accepts a position at the University in 1837 and resigns as rector of St. Matthew's the following year. While at St. Matthew's, Green oversees the addition of a slave gallery to the church.

1840s: Under Green's leadership an Episcopal church is formed in Chapel Hill, becoming the first denomination to have its own building. Originally called the Church of the Atonement, the building is consecrated in 1848 as the Chapel of the Cross. In 1841, the Rev. M. A. Curtis, D. D., begins the first of his two tenures as rector of St. Matthew's (1841-1847; 1856-1872), ministering at St. Mary's and in Alamance as well. Curtis is noted for his regional and national contributions in botany and music.

1850s: Green is elected Bishop of Mississippi in 1850. The present St. Mary's Chapel building is consecrated in 1859. Slave evangelism continues at both St. Matthew's and the Chapel of the Cross. Among those baptized is Pauli Murray's maternal grandmother, Cornelia, property (and niece) of Mary Ruffin Smith.

Civil War and Post-War Period (1861-1880s)

1860s: From 1868 to 1875, UNC is closed and the Chapel of the Cross does not have sufficient male members to form a vestry. Saint Mary's loses parish status in 1868. Remarkably, in 1866, the women of St. Matthew's organize a "Ladies Sewing Society" under the leadership of Miss Lizzie Jones (parish organist and choir director) for the purpose of raising money to make improvements to the building and furnishings of the church. Meeting weekly for over 30 years, the women are chiefly responsible for seeing to the enlargement of the building to accommodate a recessed chancel, sacristy, and organ room, the addition of a steeple in the 1870s, the first stained glass window, and the purchase of a pipe organ in 1883.

1870s and 80s: Joseph Blount Cheshire, Jr., studying law in Hillsborough, marries Annie Huske Webb of Hillsborough in 1874. He gives up law for the ministry, serving at the Chapel of the Cross. In 1878, he inaugurates monthly services in Durham which lead in 1881 to the formation of St. Philip's. In the same year, Cheshire is called as rector of St. Matthew's, but Bishop Lyman instructs him to remain in Chapel Hill and Durham. At the Bishop's insistence, Cheshire soon thereafter accepts a call to St. Peter's, Charlotte, where he remains until his election as Bishop of North Carolina in 1893. The Rev. Joseph W. Murphy accepts the call to St. Matthew's in 1881 and subsequently opens St. Jude's chapel to minister to the mill community southwest of Hillsborough.

Early 20th-century Period (1910s-1930s)

1910s and 20s: St. Matthew's builds current rectory for then-rector the Rev. Alfred Lawrence (1912-1917). The Chapel of the Cross builds its first parish house in 1917. Lawrence becomes rector of the Chapel of the Cross in 1921, remaining until 1944; under his leadership the new church is built in 1925.

1930s: During the Great Depression, St. Mary's ceases to have regular services; members are transferred to St. Matthew's. In 1931, the Rev. Thomas Wright becomes the first diocesan chaplain to college students in the Episcopal Church, serving at the Chapel of the Cross. Wright becomes national coordinator of campus ministries for the Episcopal Church in 1933; he later becomes Bishop of East Carolina.

World War II and after (1940s to the present)

1940s: The Chapel of the Cross helps provide chaplains for 5,000 military personnel who come to UNC for training. The Rev. David Yates becomes rector of the Chapel of the Cross, and during his 14-year tenure, the parish takes on new growth and vigor, becoming self-sustaining and starting new ministries and missions.

1950s and 60s: St. Matthew's receives a gift of land to the south of the church building upon which to erect the first parish house, and the Rev. Lauton Pettit begins a 27-year tenure as rector of St. Matthew's. At St. Mary's Chapel, annual Homecoming services begin in 1952 under the leadership of the local Grange.

At the Chapel of the Cross, David Yates, a dedicated pacifist, supports conscientious objectors, welcomes black worshippers and begins local outreach ministries which lead ultimately to the creation of the InterFaith Council.

In 1952, Holy Family is organized as a parochial mission of the Chapel of the Cross, and the Rev. Maurice Kidder becomes priest-in-charge. Kidder is succeeded by the Rev. Loren Mead in 1957. Mead would later found the Alban Institute. During the movement for Civil Rights, clergy at both the Chapel of the Cross and Holy Family play an active and visible role in leading church and community towards integration and racial justice.

1970s: In 1971, the Rev. Peter James Lee begins a 14-year tenure as rector of the Chapel of the Cross. A highlight of the life of the Chapel of the Cross comes in 1977, when the Rev. Pauli Murray, noted civil rights attorney and the first black woman ordained in the Episcopal Church, returns to Chapel Hill to celebrate her first eucharist in the very chapel where her grandmother once sat as a slave. Not everyone embraces the ordination of women, however. St. Matthew's suffers the loss of two prominent families in 1979 over the issue of women's ordination and Prayer Book revision. Led by a grandson of Bishop Cheshire, they establish All Saints Anglican Church in west Hillsborough to sustain their understanding of the worship and practice of the church.

1980s: Under the leadership of the Rev. William P. Price, Saint Matthew's becomes one of three founding churches of Orange Congregations in Mission. In 1984, the Chapel of the Cross rejoices at the ordination of the Rev. Nancy Reynolds Pagano as the first woman ordained there, and at the election of their rector, Peter Lee, as Bishop of Virginia. Succeeding Peter Lee as rector is the Rev. Stephen Elkins-Williams. The Rev. David Stanford, chaplain to students from 1983 to 1989, continues the tradition of mission and outreach leadership, becoming founding President of Orange County Habitat for Humanity. The Rev. Gary Fulton, rector of the Church of the Holy Family, develops Haiti mission work. He is succeeded by the Rev. Timothy Kimbrough in 1989.

1990s: The Rev. Dr. N. Brooks Graebner begins tenure as rector of St. Matthew's in 1990, succeeding the Rev. Jerry Fisher. All three parishes experience considerable growth in membership, leading them to embark on projects to expand and renovate their buildings. It is also an era of partnership in mission. St. Matthew's, as part of its building program, partners with Child Care Services in providing meals to children in area day care centers.

The Chapel of the Cross enters a sister parish relationship with St. Paul AME in 1994, and under the leadership of the Rev. Stephen Stanley establishes a local chapter of the international Cross of Nails reconciliation ministry. Holy Family undertakes the Augustine Project to train literacy tutors to work with low income, learning-disabled children. The Chapel Hill parishes develop overseas missions in Costa Rica, Haiti, and South Africa. And all three churches develop active ministries to persons with HIV/AIDS.

2000s: In the spirit of partnership, the vestries of the three Orange County parishes jointly agree in March, 2002 to work toward the establishment of a new Episcopal church in the county. The Rev. Lisa G. Fischbeck, assistant to the rector at Holy Family, is called to be the gathering priest for the new congregation, working closely with all three sponsoring parishes. In September of 2003 we witness a shared celebration of 250 years of Anglican presence in Orange County and the launching of the new congregation, the Episcopal Church of the Advocate.

Snapshots from the Diocesan Journals



		1852	1902	1954	2002
Saint Mary's Chapel	baptized persons		60		
	communicants	5	25		
	baptisms	5	0		
	confirmations	4	2		
Saint Matthew's Church	baptized persons		110	106	396
	communicants	50	76	82	281
	baptisms	6	1	5	10
	confirmations	8	1	0	11
Chapel of the Cross	baptized persons		75	597	1502
	communicants	27	44	393	1211
	baptisms	3	5	32	48
	confirmations		8	48	33
Church of the Holy Family	baptized persons			312	897
	communicants			143	496
	baptisms			20	32
	confirmations			12	20

Directions to Churches



St. Mary's Chapel is located approximately 6 miles east of Hillsborough on St. Mary's Road at its intersection with Pleasant Green Road and Schley Road. Parking is available between the chapel and the adjacent school gymnasium. For information call St. Matthew's, 732-9308.

St. Matthew's Church is located in Hillsborough on St. Mary's Road between Tryon and East King Streets. Parking is available on St. Mary's Road and in the lot behind the Education Building. Additional parking is available at Cameron Park School and the Orange County Board of Education. There is parking for the handicapped adjacent to the church. For information call 732-9308.

The Chapel of the Cross is located in Chapel Hill at 304 E. Franklin Street. Parking is available at the neighboring Morehead Planetarium and along Franklin Street. For information call 929-2193.

The Church of the Holy Family is located in Chapel Hill, three-tenths of a mile south of Estes Drive off 15-501 (east side) at the intersection of Brandon and Hayes. To park, follow Brandon and park behind the church or along Hayes Road in front of the church. For information call 942-3108.

250th Anniversary Planning Committee

Dr. Emilie P. de Luca, *Chapel of the Cross*

The Rev. Lisa G. Fischbeck, *The Episcopal Church of the Advocate*

The Rev. Dr. Brooks Graebner, *St. Matthew's, Convener*

Dr. John K. Nelson, *Chapel of the Cross*

The Rev. Stephen Stanley, *Chapel of the Cross*

Anne D. Varley, *Church of the Holy Family*



Acknowledgments

The committee would like to acknowledge the generous support and cooperation of the rectors and vestries of the three sponsoring churches, as well as the Friends of St. Mary's Chapel.

We would also like to thank the chairs of the hospitality committees of each church: Karen Ireland of St. Matthew's, Marcia Tuttle of the Church of the Holy Family, and Liska Lackey of the Chapel of the Cross.

For recording this event, we thank Robert Newton, videographer. For their dedication in producing the written materials related to this celebration, we thank Elizabeth Matheson and Sally Jackson of St. Matthew's, and Barbara Hastings and Anne Altaffer of the Chapel of the Cross.



The Episcopal Church of the Advocate, the fourth Episcopal congregation in Orange County, will be formally launched in a Festival Eucharist on September 21, 2003. This new church, born of the spiritual and physical health of the three sponsoring parishes, will begin its regular Sunday worship on September 28. The congregation of some fifty folks is comprised of members of the three sponsoring parishes as well as other local Christians who feel called to join this new community.

Initially, the Church of the Advocate will meet at the Unity Center for Peace Church across from the entrance to Chapel Hill High School. Worship will take place at 5:00 PM on Sunday afternoons. The Advocate is committed to reaching out to those who do not yet have a church home and who may not be drawn to a more traditional time or place for worship.

"Advocate" is a translation of the Greek word *paraclete*, used in Scripture to describe both the ascended Jesus (I John 2:1) and the Holy Spirit promised by Jesus (John 14:16). In Greek, *paraclete* means "called alongside" as in "called to someone's aid". As the new congregation begins its journey toward understanding and living into the name it has been given, it prays:

Blessed God, you make all things new: Guide us as we seek your will for a new community of Word and Sacrament, that it may be leaven for the world's bread, and wine of delight for hearts in need; a gathering strong for service and glad in praise; and a people listening and responding to your presence in their midst; through Jesus our redeemer and Advocate. AMEN.



