



## St. Matthew's Cathedral eNews

Christ + Compassion + Community

### *From the Dean*

#### **"Brighten the Corner Where you Are"**

*constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. . . 1 Thessalonians 1:3*

We all want to do something significant in life, I believe. We all want to make a difference in other people's lives. I have led a lot of workshops on leadership over the years. One of the questions I usually ask of the people who attend is: Name three people who have most influenced you.

The amazing thing is: most people never name famous persons as the most influential in their lives. It is always a parent, a teacher, someone few others have ever heard of. Influential people are usually within an arm's reach of a person.

I used to attend a "Boys Bible Club" at a neighbor's house. The group actually met in the man's garage. I remember singing the song "Brighten the Corner Where you Are." As I think of our Capital Campaign, those words come back to me:

*Do not wait until some deed of greatness you may do,  
Do not wait to shed your light afar;  
To the many duties ever near you now be true,  
Brighten the corner where you are.*

God has placed us at the corner of Ross and Henderson. That is our corner. Let me tell you about some of the people God has placed in our corner.

*Maria* comes to our 8 o'clock service. She has few friends at the Cathedral, yet she calls the Cathedral her spiritual home. (If I were to describe her, many would say, "Oh, I know who she is," but I doubt many of our parishioners have ever actually talked to *Maria*. *Maria* is now in the hospital. Deacon *Diana* visits *Maria* regularly. We are brightening her life with our ministry to her.

*Dave* is 84 years old and legally blind. He lives on a very limited income. *Steve Sale* is helping him get rental assistance.

*Juan* is a student at Cesar Chavez Learning Center. We are beginning a relationship with that school to assist them in any way we can. They have asked us to help with a new literacy program with their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders. *Janet Page* and *Varita Michell* started this week. *Steve Sale* and I will start with our first students next week. *Juan*, a first grader, struggles with words such as *to*, *apple*, and *tree*.

Last week in my sermon, we recounted all of the changes that have taken place along Ross Avenue since the late 1800's. Through all those changes, St. Matthew's Cathedral has been seeking the welfare of the city of Dallas, either located downtown or at the corner of Ross and Henderson since 1907. In the face of all these changes, our presence has been a constant.

Your gifts to the Capital Campaign allow us to "Move Forward and Reach OUT!" to our neighborhood. Whether it's through our Bishop's Camp, our Summer in the City, our Food Pantry, Aberg Center, helping people through the Country Fair, I am grieved to think where these people--and people like them that we minister to day in and day out--would be if St. Matthew's were not here at the corner of Ross and Henderson.

Together we can; together we are making a difference in the lives of people in our corner. Help us to continue to do so and to reach more and more people in our ever-changing neighborhood.