



The Widow's Mite

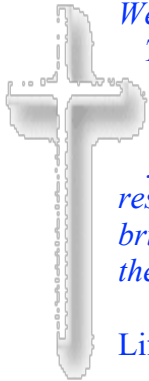
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Monthly Newsletter

MAY 2024

Dear Ones of St. Matthew's,

It is raining today as I address the parish ... a lot. I am thankful for the rain. After all, April Showers bring May flowers, as they say. As I was driving to the church, I became spiritually aware of the rain, particularly of water ... Not just because the streets were flooded or because my windshield wipers were on their highest setting, but rather in a sacramental way. Allow me to quote from our Rite of Baptism liturgy.



We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the Children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the Land of Promise. In it Your Son Jesus received the Baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through His death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in His death. By it we share in His resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into His fellowship those who come to Him in faith, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Life Giving, Joy restoring, Grace instilling water!

Dear Ones, we will enter into the final season of the Christian calendar, soon. It happens to be the longest as well (as long as all the other seasons combined). It is when we do the majority of our living and moving and finding of our being. During this time, let us lean into our Baptisms. I recommend that we all read and reread our Baptismal Covenant and refresh the commitments made within it. We plunge into the water; die to our old selves; and reemerge clean and whole.

After which, we Become.

Alleluia,
Chris +

The Church will be closed on Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Day Holiday.

MAY READINGS

May 5 – Easter 6

Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17

May 12 – Easter 7

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19

May 19 – Pent Day

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:25-35, 37
Romans 8:22-27
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 26 – Pent 2

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

THE DAY OF PENTECOST – May 19th – WEAR YOUR RED!

ASSOCIATE'S ACCOUNT:

“It’s not about _____, but it’s not without _____.” This Easter I’ve found myself living with this phrase, especially as we hear in our Gospel readings and see in the Book of Acts a community of people who doubt, who fight, who fear, and who believe anyway and in that belief change the world in the name of Christ. They probably wanted answers, and indeed “the Way,” the life that Christ has given us to live, is not without them, but it’s not without them, either. When we seek many things out in our lives of faith, we find that what we really seek is Jesus himself, and we are given to find him in one another. We want answers and assurance and certainty, and what God gives us is each other. So, seek out Christ in each other this Easter, in every single person you encounter, because it is in the irreducible mystery of each human person that Christ is found.

Easter blessings, friends!
-Fr. Dillon+

Men's Fellowship Opportunities

WING & A PRAYER men's fellowship & prayer group, will meet this month on Tuesdays, **May 7th & May 28th** at 6:00pm at Crickets in Madison. Meetings are every three weeks. **All men are welcome.**

MEN'S BREAKFAST is every **Tuesday**, 7:00am at St. Matthew's. **All men are welcome.**

ECW news *by Melissa Barton, President*

The ECW Bunco fundraiser went very well; We raised \$257.00 for the Diocese Youth fundraiser, “Lift up the Vulnerable” or LUV. Thank you so much for your contributions!

Next month we are sponsoring a Ladies Tea on the 13th at 3pm in the Narthex. Please see the poster in the Narthex for more information and to sign up. This is open to all ages.

Below is our calendar for the next 2 months; the complete calendar is posted on our bulletin board in the hallway.



April

3rd Board Meeting 10:30 in Gruman Hall
10th General meeting in Gruman Hall 10:30am
13th Ladies Tea party 3pm
14th CPC ingathering at all services
30th Scholarship applications due

May

8th General meeting in Gruman Hall 10:30am
19th UTO ingathering at all services.

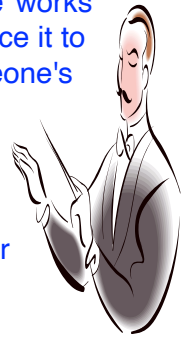
Please join us in Gruman Hall for our ECW meeting than stay for the noon service and go out afterward for lunch.

Musical Musings by Tom Killian

“I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU...”: [Note: Parts of the following appeared in a previous newsletter article some years ago; but they apply here as well.] My wife Dianne is an ardent fan of the PBS television program *Antiques Roadshow*. Once, as I passed through the family room where she was watching an episode of the show, I heard the reviewer declare an item of furniture to be a “married piece.” Trying *not* to get distracted by visions of a tall and stately secretary, standing nervously beside a china cabinet bedecked in white lace and orange blossoms, I learned that a *married* item is something created by joining part of one piece of existing furniture to another part of a second piece. The resulting creation may

be dismissed by purists as inferior to (and of less value than) either of the original items. Still, it does have a new lease on life, and meets a need of its fabricator. Well, thanks to the availability of works in the *public domain*, we can accomplish similar results by “marrying” two hymns!

Music, lyrics, texts, poems and other published items are most often placed in the public domain either because their original copyrights have expired, or because their authors / composers opted to make these works publicly available rather than protecting them by copyright. Without going into a lot of legalese, suffice it to say that public-domain works may be freely used and distributed, with no worries about violating someone's intellectual property rights. I recently tried my hand at this by combining the public-domain music from one hymn with public-domain lyrics from another hymn, to obtain a new Easter hymn titled “He, Who On the Cross a Victim.” The music is based on a traditional Swedish folksong, which was never copyrighted; and the lyrics, whose original copyright has expired, were extracted from a hymn in our own *1982 Hymnal*. The new hymn has been placed in the public domain, so that we can print it in our bulletin for use in a worship service in early May; and other churches can use it as well, if desired.



I hope some of you will recognize the music, which is often heard with a different hymn text (which is copyright-protected). And for bonus points, see if you can identify the hymn in our *1982 Hymnal* from which this public-domain hymn text is taken. [Hint: the original hymn is *not* named “He, Who On the Cross a Victim.”]

CHRISTIAN FORMATION
By Lee Ann Mack

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL July 17th – 20th, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Ages 4 years through 5th grade (completed)**

WAVES OF GRATITUDE

We will once again combine with the children from Messiah Lutheran Church, here at St. Matthew's. We will have lots of fun! Each evening, we will have a theme, a Bible story, songs, and an activity. We also will have a light dinner available at 5:30.

One of the amazing things our world is water. As humans, we depend upon water to live, for transportation, and recreation. As Christians, the water of baptism unites us to a community of faith. What if gratitude were a tool through which we live out our baptismal promise to seek and serve Christ in all persons? This will be the theme of “Waves of Gratitude”.

**VBS Registration is on our website: www.stmatthewsmadison.org through QR code
Or as a sign-up link under “events” on our Facebook page: St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church**

Other dates to remember:

May 12th – Sunday school teachers’ recognition

May 19th - Last day of Sunday school before summer break including the contemporary adult class. Michael Cape’s Bible Study class will be available through the summer for anyone who is interested.

Thursday Mornings – Ladies’ Bible Study – 9:30 a.m. in the library
(Currently studying *Romans: Live with Clarity*)

Youth Group News
By: Jann Eich
Youth Director

Sunday, May 5th Sunday School 10 am in Amy West house

Sunday, May 12th Teacher Recognition during service

Sunday School 10 am in Amy West House

Wednesday, May 15th-Pizza with the Padre-Sam and Greg's 5:30-7:00 pm
please rsvp by May 13th.

Saturday, May 18th-Packing Party for Puerto Rico Trip/End of year Party at 2-6 pm. Eat around 4 pm. Jump house! Bring Mexican style food! Team members for Mission trip can pick up items to pack in your suitcase before or after EYC event! RSVP



Sunday, May 19th-Last day of Sunday School. Party! Bring a brunch food.

Sunday, May 26th-June 1st-Puerto Rico Mission Trip

Summer Dates for EYC-

HS Seniors welcome through summer and upcoming 6th graders are welcome to join us!

Game Night! Date TBA

Sr high get together TBA

Jr High get together TBA

Wednesday, June 12th- Youth Director for a Day! 10 am - 4 pm. Lunch and activities included. RSVP by June 5th

June 17th-20th VBS Evening-5:30-8:00 pm EYC Volunteers needed.

PRAYER NEEDS!

Please pray for St. Matthews's members who are distressed in body, mind, or spirit: Bill Byrd, Chuck Vickers, Dottie Aldredge, Gina Centanni, Terry Schuster, George & Sandra Burgess, Ray & Shirley White, Canellia Patterson, David

Osmond, Colleen Turner, Dick Pendleton, Anna Post, Bev Ryberg, David Newton, Jane Prince, Mary Travers, Marie Lutz, Josie & Ricky Cooper, Anne Sullivan, Judy Elkins, Lynda Johnston, Maurice Hale, Jack Brown, Bob & Eileen Bogard, Tyron Newton, Roger & Rhoda Kitchen, Lynn Beasley, Janice Combs, Sande Smith, Brenda Kirkendall, Chris King, Eileen Lewis, Charles Bernhard, Steve Gruman.

Also pray for our friends and family members, especially: Nancy Laws, Brenda Anderson, Diana Parks, Martha Bergmann, Chuck Sewell, Wes Patterson, Mike Rice, Samantha Rice, Richard Hattoway, Jenny Williams, Rosie Brown, Jack Cooper, Michael & Nancy Laws, Jewell Newton, Ginger Eich, Catherine S. Williams, Joe Allen, Caroline Thomas, Elyssa Nelson, Vaughn Cassell, Bill Fischer, Sally Flanigan, Theresa Richerson, family of Madison Gilbert, Scott Marbut, Todd Newman, Jessica Goodwin, Cathy Taveras, Fran Woytowich, BB McCalpin, Bob & Peggy Wagner, Nancy Ford, Stephen Byrd, Bronwen Murray, Katie Ray, Sherry Sampson, Kate Winkler, Joe Frank Trevino, Emmy & Drew Champion, Ron Mandelbaum, Dave Knowles, Wade Allen, Emily Nebrig, Bobby Paysinger, Barbara Lemley, Steve Sands, Felicia Temple, John David Landin, Mike Bolton, Dr. Mark Bronner.

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10am STAFF MEETING 11am Reunion 12:00pm HE 6:30pm Choir	2 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 4pm Wedding Rehearsal	3 Brooks/Dozier wedding Church Closed	4
5 8:30am, 11am, 5pm HE 10:00am CE	6 5pm BSA 6pm EFM 6pm Strategic Planning	7 7am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Reunion 6pm Vestry WG 6pm Wing & A Prayer	8 10:30am ECW 11am Reunion 12:00pm HE 6:30pm Choir	9 9am Heart & Soil 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 4pm Madison Quilters	10 Church Closed	11 10am Ukrainian Bake/Craft Sale
12 MOTHER'S DAY SS Teacher Recognition 8:30am, 11am, 5pm HE 10:00am CE	13 9:00am Sewing Sisters 5pm BSA 6pm EFM	14 7am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Reunion 7pm Vestry WG	15 11am Reunion 12:00pm HE 5:30pm EYC Pizza With the Padre 6pm Theology By The Slice 6:30pm Choir	16 9:30am Ladies Bible Study	17 Church Closed	18 9am Heart & Soil 2pm EYC Puerto Rico Packing Party 4pm EYC EOY party
19 8:30am, 11am, 5pm HE 10:00am CE - Last Day 11:00am DOK Installation 2:30pm GriefShare	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 5pm BSA 6pm EFM	21 7am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Reunion 6:30pm Vestry Meeting	22 11am Reunion 12:00pm HE 6:30pm Choir	23 9:30am Ladies Bible Study	24 Church Closed	25
26 Puerto Rico Mission 8:30am HE 11:00am HE & Baptism 2:30pm GriefShare 5:00pm HE	27 MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY Puerto Rico Mission	28 Puerto Rico 7am Men's Breakfast 9:30am Reunion 5pm DAR 6pm Wing & A Prayer	29 Puerto Rico 11am Reunion 12:00pm HE 6:30pm Choir	30 Puerto Rico 9:30am Ladies Bible Study	31 Church Closed Puerto Rico	

Contact Cathy in the church office to reserve a meeting space. All meetings must be scheduled and will be placed on the church calendar once the space is reserved. You can check the online calendar for availability prior to requesting your space. THANK YOU!

MAY 2024 Worship Team Schedule

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
VOD	Ed	Gloria	Rick	Miranda
ALTAR	Turner/Bagwell	Holcomb/Lo	Cape/Bagwell	Buzby/Lane
	8:30 Servers:	8:30 Servers:	8:30 Servers:	8:30 Servers:
Nursery	Anderson/Brown	Anderson/Brown	Anderson/Brown	Anderson/Brown
Hospitality	Hicks	Couch	Sampson	Tidwell
Ushers	Sampson/Carpenter	Utt/Utt	Stagner/Prince	Sampson/Buzby
Lector	Williams	Pezzula	Hawkins	D Carpenter
Epistoler	T Sampson	Modrall	Clem	B Carpenter
Intercessor	Pope	Utt	B Williams	Turner
LEMs	Williams	Scheuer	W Christopher	T Christopher
Counters	Mack/Cooper	Christopher/Lewis	Byrd/Modrall	Tidwell/Driesbach
<u>ACOLYTES:</u> Crucifer Gospeler Torchbearer Torchbearer	S Bruce F Williams	E Maddox A Maddox A Utt A Wales	S Bruce E Bruce C Pezzula M Pezzula	C Glasgow J Glasgow C Pezzula M Pezzula
	11:00 Servers:	11:00 Servers:	11:00 Servers:	11:00 Servers
Nursery	Anderson/Brown	Anderson/Brown	Anderson/Brown	Anderson/Brown
Hospitality	Weimer	Brown	Hastings	Pezzula
Ushers	Cassell/Snell	Sampson/Anderson	Cassell/Barton	Beasley/Harrison
Lector	C Lanier	Womack	Vaughn	Hubbard
Epistoler	Coiner	Kerr	Bishop	Lawrence
Intercessor	L Lanier	Anderson	Weatherbee	Losheurtos
LEMs	Anderson	Barr	Vaughn	Hartley
Counters	Bishop/Harrison	Barton/Coiner	Bishop/Cox	Barton/Harrison
<u>ACOLYTES:</u> Crucifer Gospeler Torchbearer Torchbearer	C Bagwell M Collier B Watson N Rasmussen	L Hartley V Mullins B Mullins N Rasmussen	M Collier A Utt	C Beech V Mullins W Barton L Barton

**If you cannot serve when you are scheduled, please find a replacement.
Your service is a valuable ministry to St. Matthew's.**

LIVE STREAM SERVICE REMINDER – please be mindful that the 11:00am service is live-streamed every week. Therefore, names may be audible and faces may be visible to anyone watching online.