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# THE WIDOW'S MITE

*"...but she, out of her poverty, put in all the livelihood that she had" Luke 21:1-4*

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## Rector's Corner

Reverend Chris Hartley

Dear Ones of St Matthew's,



Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my own peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

In the Gospel of John's discourse of the Last Supper, Jesus offers comfort to His disciples before his passion (betrayal, trial, crucifixion, burial, and resurrection {14:27}). John's account is the most detailed of that evening's events and great insight into Jesus's thoughts is given. The next few days' events would be frightening and anxiety generating for His followers. They would scatter into hiding and fear the worst of outcomes for anyone who believed in Christ. Jesus would have known what was forthcoming, and He hoped to quell their emotions. Little did they know that their lives were going to be chaotically disrupted only in a few short hours. Jesus would have been afraid, as well, as his prayers in the garden of Gethsemane would reflect. Yet, He worried first about their fate, not His. They were His sheep. He was their Shepherd. They were entering into a very difficult time. They needed peace.

Have you ever felt that way? You know, afraid and confused! Something detrimental has happened, and you are scared, disoriented, and alone. Your world has been shaken, and you need peace. Peace is such a grace. It is what we all ultimately long to have when our head hits the pillow at night, and you are without it.

Then Jesus says, "Peace."

Dear Ones, when those times come (and they will), we can turn to Him looking for peace, and it will be granted ... to everyone ... all of us.

Jesus says, "Peace."

Amen

To walk with Jesus; be with Jesus and let Him be known.

## The Associate's Account

Reverend Dillon Green

Well, hey, y'all! I write to you after having just spent a wonderful week at Camp McDowell as the Program Director for Junior High Session 1. I love the Episcopal summer camp experience so much because it was at an Episcopal summer camp that I first clearly and directly heard my call from God to the priesthood. I was at Camp Wood in the Konza prairie in Kansas as a counselor, and as I looked around at the good work being done and participated in by so many people, particularly by so many priests who were sharing programs and sacraments and love and support to kids of all ages, I thought about how blessed a life that would be, and BAM—it hit me. The Holy Spirit did what the Spirit does best and invited me to a new way of living reframed by the life, death, and resurrection of Christ as an ordained minister, and because of a long process of discernment and education (and many more summer camp experiences along the way), I am the priest I am today. Episcopal camps matter to me, and they matter to so many people for as many reasons as there are people who attend them. If you've never sent your child to Camp McDowell, to an experience of Christian joy and love and community, consider it! The Holy Spirit might just call them there in the woods and the waters of the forest to be more than they ever knew they could.

Blessings, friends!

-Fr. Dillon+

## Senior Warden's Corner

Peggy Lane

Hello all, I am Peggy Lane, your Senior Warden of the Vestry. It is my honor to serve you and St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. I am pleased today to share with you some of the things that your Vestry is doing and to recognize specific Vestry members, and church members, who assist us with building and grounds matters from time to time.

We have had a lot of work going on since January 1st when the new Vestry came together. Please keep reading on the next page to learn more.

### Coming Events

Inquirer's Classes  
Parish Retreat  
Annual Pig Roast and Picnic  
Episcopal Night at the Ballpark

### Fellowship

### Opportunities

Men's Breakfast  
Wing and a Prayer  
Sewing Sisters  
ECW Updates

### Ministry Updates

Musical Musings  
Youth Group News  
Christian Formation  
Prayer List

### Calendars and Schedules

August Readings  
August Calendar  
Worship Team Schedule

Church tower, roof, and lightning rod repaired. That was a big job requiring two lifts (inside and out) to bring the workers up to the tip top of our tower building roof. While there have been maintenance type repairs done over the years, water coming into the building was the final straw. So, while it was expensive, it was absolutely necessary.

Jr. Warden, Ed Snell, has been busy all around the church doing a variety of small repairs. We are so thankful for Ed and his talents. Ed will be displaying his handiwork from time to time in the Narthex

- His team of volunteer workers have been a blessing, both for repair assistance and work on the grounds. A special thanks to Melissa Barton, Miranda Cassell, and special friends, for their work on the gardens and landscaping around the church. Your green thumbs are producing beautiful results.
- The inground sprinkler system is next up for repair. This too has suffered from time, weather and an occasional lawn mower strike. So, if the grounds are looking a little parched, stay tuned, our inground system should be up and going very soon.
- Housekeeping- After the retirement of Fran, we moved our cleaning service to Vanguard, who will clean every Friday. With the help of the selection committee: Ed, Margaret Ott and Miranda Cassell, we were able to replace our former cleaners UNDER BUDGET!
- Prayer Garden-if you have not been to see this area, please visit the prayer garden. I cannot wait to see how beautiful that area will be in the Spring when the tulips planted beside the cross are in bloom. The cross in the garden is now illuminated due to the solar powered lights that have been installed?

Amy West House - Our dear youth center is back up and operational. This building was closed for a while last year due to water intrusion problems. Another episode of time, water, and wind driven rain. Our deepest thanks to Jann Eich and her youth students for their patience.

We will soon have a Church Directory, thanks to Jimmy Hubbard and Diane Loehr, who chaired the project which will include both a paper directory and an app. Jann Eich, Terry Sampson, Margaret Ott, Barbara Combs, and I also worked at the sign-up desks to help kick off this project.

And, last, but most important, we are about to begin a maintenance program for our HVAC units. This was a very, very difficult decision for your Vestry. Please rest easy as we do have reserves that can be used to manage this repair. Please note that in an effort to better manage the temps, we have placed Lucite lock boxes over several of the thermostats. If you have a need to access one of these thermostats, please seek out me, Ed Snell, or the on-duty VOD to assist you. It will be our pleasure to help.

In closing, please know that we carefully watch the budget, seek counsel with our Treasurer and our clergy, Father Chris, Father Dillon, and Deacon Lynn as we work through our Vestry meetings. We do what we do for the love our church. Again, from your Vestry, thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our church. It is a very important service that we take very seriously as we pray before and after each Vestry meeting seeking God's guidance on what we do. Your Vestry prays for Christ's blessing to all of you,

Peggy Lane, Sr. Warden.

Ed Snell, Jimmy Hubbard, Miranda Cassell, Margaret Ott, Diane Loehr,  
Gloria Boyd, Ric Lutz, and Beau Womack

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## Coming Events

### Inquirer's Class for those wishing to be confirmed

Fr. Chris will lead classes beginning on Sunday July 28 at 3 pm at St Matthew's. The classes will continue every Sunday through Sept 15th. The Bishop will be here for Confirmation on Sunday, Sept 22nd. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Chris to enroll:  
Rector@stmatthewsmadison.org

### Parish Retreat

Plan now to attend our annual Parish Retreat at Camp McDowell August 9-11. See poster and sign up sheets in the Narthex

### Annual Pig Roast and Picnic

Save the Date: Sunday September 22nd

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## Fellowship Opportunities

### Men's Breakfast

Every Tuesday, 7 am at St Matthew's.  
All men are welcome

### Sewing Sisters

Second Monday of every month 9-noon in Gruman Hall  
All crafty folks are welcome to join us.

### Wing and a Prayer

Men's fellowship & prayer group will meet every third Tuesday at 5:30 pm at Crickets in Madison.  
All men are welcome

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## ECW

Melissa Barton

I want to thank Miranda Cassell for her informative presentation on “Myth or Truth Stories”. Also, all the people that helped with the ice cream social.

Our schedule for the year is:

August 14th General meeting 10:30 am in Gruman Hall (Preparing for the Rummage sale)

September 11th General meeting 10:30 am in Gruman Hall

October 9th General meeting 10:30 am in Gruman Hall

October 27th Rummage Sale kick-off at 6pm.

October 28-31st Rummage Sale work 8am to 9pm Monday through Thursday.

November 1 & 2nd Rummage sale

November 13th General meeting 10:30 am in Gruman Hall

November 17th UTO ingathering at all services

December Dinner out

All women are welcome to our meetings



Melissa Barton

ECW President

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## Strategic Plan Status Update

Mike Hamilton

It's been more than three years since the Strategic Plan was implemented (see Church Website, About Us). Like all strategic plans, ours should be periodically reviewed and updated given progress on the plan and the Church's emerging needs. In February, an Update Committee was formed and has been reviewing past planning and needs of our growing Church. Currently, the committee is prioritizing those needs, with supporting descriptions, in preparation of recommending Plan changes to the Rector, Vestry and Congregation by the end of 2024. These changes will include deleting completed portions of the 2020 Plan, and adding the new efforts outlined this year. Questions? Contact Mike Hamilton at 256-651-2037.

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## Musical Musings

Tom Killian, Music Director

ANNUAL "ADVENT IN AUTUMN" ANNOUNCEMENT: Summertime is here, and you know what that means – time to start thinking about Lessons and Carols! This year's service will be held on Sunday, December 8th, at 5:00 PM, with a reception to follow in Gruman Parish Hall.

We'd like to extend an invitation to those who don't normally sing in the choir to join us for this special event. YES, the invitation is open to all, senior highs to senior citizens; and NO, you don't have to be able to read music to participate (it's helpful, but not a requirement). It may be that you sang with the choir previously, but don't do so now; or that you are new to our parish; or that you've considered joining the choir, but just can't seem to take that first step. Whatever your situation, we'd love to have you with us for this annual celebration.

We'll be having our kick-off rehearsal on Sunday afternoon, August 4th, immediately following the 11:00 AM service. Choir members will bring finger foods to share, so you won't have to skip lunch! Then we'll move into the Nave to distribute (and listen to recordings of) the music for this year's service. We should be finished with everything by 3:00 PM.

Beyond this initial run-through, rehearsals of Lessons and Carols music will be held each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:00, with additional Sunday-afternoon parts rehearsals available once a month in September, October and November. It's a great low-impact, limited-commitment way to sing with the St. Matthew's Choir; and I believe you'll really enjoy the experience. Please email me ([musicdir@stmatthewsmadison.org](mailto:musicdir@stmatthewsmadison.org)) for additional details, or just to let me know you're interested. I hope to see you on August 4th!

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## Youth Group News

Jann Eich Youth Director

The EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is a group open to all teens! We have a Jr. EYC group for grades 6th through 8th and the Sr. EYC which includes teens in 9th through 12th grade. Please email Mrs. Jann Eich for more information or to get on the email list and Private FB page and Instagram!

2025 HS Seniors: Please let me know if you are a Senior this fall!!

Confirmation Classes start on August 4th at 10 a.m. in the Amy West House or Nave (Sanctuary). If you are interested in being confirmed by the Bishop on September 22nd, please let me know!

August

Sunday, August 4th Confirmation Class 10 am Amy West House

Friday-Sunday, August 9th-11th-Parish Retreat at Camp McDowell!

Sunday, August 11th-Confirmation Class 10 am Nave/Sanctuary

Sunday, August 18th-Confirmation Class 10 Nave/Sanctuary

Saturday, August 24th-Mini Golf at Insanity Park

Sunday, August 25th-Open House for Sunday School at 10 am. Come meet your teachers! 6th-12th grade in Amy West House.

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## Christian Formation

Lee Ann Mack

Sunday School Open House - Open House/Meet and Greet on Sunday, Aug. 25th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Christian Ed. wing on the north side of the building. Pre-k through Adult.

Adult Education –

Historical Bible Study - Diving deeply into Scripture (the Lections), and discussion of historical context and how it is related to today's world. Currently studying and discussing various books of the Bible.

Contemporary Study - Exploring our shared twenty first century Christianity in a discussion based, book themed, small group class. Our current book is: Prayer in the Night: For Those Who Work or Watch or Weep, Rev Tish Harrison Warren which can be ordered on Amazon. (Come as you are, reading is not required!)

2024/2025 Childrens' Sunday School Year - This program will be for children ages 4 years old (as of Jan.1, 2024) to 5th graders. We will continue our Rotation Curriculum. Regular classes will begin on Sept. 8th, at 10:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Ann Mack at [christianed@stmatthewsmadison.org](mailto:christianed@stmatthewsmadison.org).

Jr. and Sr. High Sunday classes - will meet at these same times in the Amy West House.

POC: Jann Eich [youthdir@stmatthewsmadison.org](mailto:youthdir@stmatthewsmadison.org)

Ladies' Bible Study - New Study Beginning August 1st, 9:30. Living Unafraid by Adam Hamilton.

Sunday school and Ladies' Bible Study are great opportunities to strengthen your own faith by discussing with and listening to others!

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## Prayer List

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, 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, Brenda Kirkendall, Chris King, Eileen Lewis, Charles Bernhard, Molly Killian, Laura Weimer, Trudie 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.

## August Readings

August 4th <a href="#">Exodus 16:2-4,9-15</a> <a href="#">Psalm 78:23-29</a> <a href="#">Ephesians 4:1-16</a> <a href="#">John 6:24-35</a>	August 11th <a href="#">1 Kings 19:4-8</a> <a href="#">Psalm 34:1-8</a> <a href="#">Ephesians 4:25-5:2</a> <a href="#">John 6:35, 41-51</a>	August 18th <a href="#">Proverbs 9:1-6</a> <a href="#">Psalm 34:9-14</a> <a href="#">Ephesians 5:15-20</a> <a href="#">John 6:51-58</a>	August 26th <a href="#">Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18</a> <a href="#">Psalm 34:15-22</a> <a href="#">Ephesians 6:10-20</a> <a href="#">John 6:56-69</a>
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## August 2024 Worship Team Schedule

	August 4th		August 11th	
	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00
Vestry of the Day	Diane Loehr		Peggy	
Ushers	D Prince/C Stagner	N Snell/M Barton	B. Buzby/R Sampson	J Anderson/J Weaver
Lector	S Fletcher	J Bishop	A. Williams	C Lanier
Epistoler	B Busby	T Killian	B Pope	L Lanier
Intercessor	M Pezzula	D Lawrence	A Modrall	S Kerr
Crucifer	S Bruce	S Kerr	S Kerr	C Beech
Gospeler	E Bruce	M Collier	J Nixon	M Collier
Torch Bearer	J Glasgow	B Watson	M Pezzula	
Torch Bearer	A Wales	N Rasmussen	C Pezzula	
Counter	D Mack	M Barton	P Lewis	J Bishop
Counter	J Cooper	A Coiner	W Christopher	M Harrison
Hospitality	A Tidwell	D Kleinjung	c	M Brown
Nursery	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson

	August 18th		August 25th	
	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00
Vestry of the Day			Jimmy	
Ushers	A Utt/D Utt	T Sampson/G Beasley	B Buzby/D Carpenter	M Harrison/N Snell
Lector	J Hawkins	P McGraw	A Utt	S Vaughn
Epistoler	T Clem	J Hubbard	A Turner	P Marques
Intercessor	J Burch	A Hartley	B Williams	B Losheurtos
Crucifer	A Maddox	C Bagwell	A Utt	J Nixon
Gospeler	E Maddox	W Mullins	J Glasgow	S Barton
Torch Bearer		B Mullins	M Pezzula	L Barton
Torch Bearer		B Watson	C Pezzula	W Barton
Counter	H Tidwell	M Barton	S Cechovic	J Bishop
Counter	R Driesback	A Coiner	K Modrall	S Cox
Hospitality	G Boyd	M Pezzula	J Turner	L & J Weimer
Nursery	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson



## August 2024 Church Calendar

### Weekly Recurring Events

#### Sunday

- 8:30 am - 9:30 am Eucharist
- 10:00 am - 11:00 am Children's Sunday School
- 10:00 am - 11:00 am Youth Confirmation Class
- 10:00 am - 11:00 am Youth Sunday School
- 10:00 am - 11:00 am Adult Sunday School
- 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Eucharist
- 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm L&C Choir rehearsal
- 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm GriefShare
- 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Inquirer's Class
- 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Contemporary Eucharist

#### Monday

- 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Scouts BSA #628
- 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Bells Angels

#### Tuesday

- 7:00 am - 9:00 am Men's Breakfast
- 9:30 am - 10:30 am Cursillo Reunion

#### Wednesday

- 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Cursillo Reunion
- 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Noon Eucharist
- 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday

- 9:30 am - 11:00 am Ladies Bible Study

#### Friday and Saturday

Office Closed

## August 2024 Church Calendar

### Other events

**Tue Aug 6**

6:30pm - 7:30pm Vestry Working Group

**Wed Aug 7**

10:00am - 11:00am Staff Meeting

10:30am - 11:30am ECW Board

**Thu Aug 8**

9:00am - 11:00am Heart & Soil

4:30pm - 9:00pm Madison Station Quilt Guild Meeting

**Fri Aug 9**

9:00am - 4:00pm Madison Station Quilt Guild Class

**Mon Aug 12**

9:00am - 12:00pm Sewing Sisters

6:30pm - 8:00pm Strategic Plan

**Tue Aug 13**

5:30pm - 9:30pm Kairos Inside

**Wed Aug 14**

10:30am - 12:00pm ECW

7:00pm - 8:00pm Outreach Committee

**Sat Aug 17**

9:00am - 11:00am Heart & Soil

10:00am - 3:00pm Ukrainian Bake/Craft Sale

**Tue Aug 20**

All day Newsletter Deadline

5:30pm - 7:00pm Wing and a Prayer at Crickets

6:30pm - 8:00pm Vestry

**Wed Aug 21**

11:00am - 12:00pm Reunion

12:00pm - 1:00pm Noon Eucharist

5:30pm - 6:30pm Pizza w/ Padre

**Sat Aug 24**

5:00pm - 6:00pm EYC Mini Golf

**Sun Aug 25**

12:00pm - 2:00pm DOK Meeting

**Tue Aug 27**

7:00am - 9:00am Men's Breakfast

9:30am - 10:30am Reunion

5:00pm - 7:30pm DAR