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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

Bishop Elias Visit.

Bishop Elias and Lucy will be visiting with us on the weekend of June 24th.

He will be bringing us greetings from our Anglican brothers and sisters in Tabora, Tanzania. Bishop Elias will be our preacher and con-celebrant for both services on 24 June, and we will be hosting a potluck dinner for him and Lucy following the 10AM service. All are invited, and this would be a wonderful opportunity to invite a friend to Church to hear how God is moving in East Africa today.

We will also be taking Bishop Elias and Lucy on a tour of PrairieErth Farm and meeting with Midwest Food Bank. If you have other ideas, or want to take them on an excursion during their couple of days with us, please let me know.

Christ is Risen!

Dave Halt, Rector
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield
Rector's Blog

The Good News

June 15, 2018



Christian Formation

Adult Formation will resume on 20 June and the topic will be "Unction".

The sessions on the Sacraments have been recorded and are on DVD. If you would like to view them from the comfort of your home, please see Fr. Dave.

Ground Breaking is done, now for volunteering

Thank you to all who came out to support Kia and Georgia at their groundbreaking.

We have been asked to provide up to 12 volunteers for construction on 23 June and 28 July from 8AM to noon. All volunteers must be 16 or over. Please sign up by either emailing Fr. Dave or using the sign up sheets posted just outside the office.

Week-by-week Schedule Changes

***Evensong is on hiatus until the first Sunday in August.**

***Morning Prayer on Mondays will move to 6:30AM when I am in the Parish.**

***Instead of Morning Prayer on Wednesdays, Evening Prayer will be offered at 5:00 when I am in the Parish.**

Thank you for your patience over the next couple of months, as I finish coursework and fulfill Diocesan and "National Church" obligations.

Theology Uncorked

Will meet at 6PM on 17 June.

Men's Breakfast

A special Father's Day Men's Breakfast will take place on Saturday, 16 June, at 8AM.

Cursillo

The Diocesan Cursillo weekend for adults will be 22-24 June at Toddhall. This is a renewal and growth weekend for anyone over the age of 18. It is a powerful experience and life-changing.

If interested, please see Fr. Dave for more information.

Outreach Opportunities

Due to the increased need of all local food pantries, the Outreach Committee is adding the month of July for our collections, which go to St. Vincent de Paul. Your generosity continues to be greatly appreciated.

Outreach Opportunities for May and June - St. Vincent de Paul
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, an international organization, has been in Bloomington for over 50 years. Its mission is "to seek and find the forgotten, suffering and the deprived." It is maintained entirely by volunteers. This past year they served around 1000 households a month.

Specifically, the following supplies are needed:

- Canned foods, especially those with protein as peanut butter and tuna fish
- Vegetables of all kinds
- Boxed foods as rice and varieties of rice and beans
- Macaroni and cheese
- Instant oatmeal
- Dry cereals
- Drinks as Gatorade and water
- Baby diapers and wet wipes

Please place supplies in the baskets in the Narthex and in the hallway by the fireplace. If you prefer to give money, make your check out to St. Matthew's and in the memo line write "outreach." Place these in the plate offering, not the baskets.

The volunteer workers of St. Vincent de Paul are most grateful for all we give and the Outreach Committee thanks you for your continued generosity in helping those in need.

Mission Strategy Report

A special thanks to the Parish Mission Council (Jim Cooper, Gary Ploense, Mark Gibson, Rex Schaeffer, Emily Lavikoff, Sandy Kohlase, and Justin Brooks) for their faithfulness and work throughout this spring.

Thank you to all who participated in the Survey published in April. Your comments and insights were very helpful to us in our work.

Without further ado here is what we discovered.

*We describe ourselves as: Introverted, Prudent, Far-Sighted, Theologically Convicted, Discerning, and Committed.

*Our passions are: Education (both in service as well as in personal development), Liturgy & Music, Outreach, Teaching, Cooking & Feeding.

* Our Gifts are: Liturgy, Outreach, Caring, Teaching, Theological Knowledge, Service work, Music, Feeding, Receptivity, Organizing, and Balance.

*The contents of our Mission Strategy this year are: 1) Continuing to develop our community and identity through intentional activities, such as Foyers, Discussion Groups, and informal gatherings; 2) Continuing to have the Parish Mission Council develop a long-term strategic mission plan.

If you wish to help with the first please see Jim Cooper. The PMC is very excited about this opportunity.

Jr. Warden's Corner

As a gentle reminder: we have had some spill accidents around the Sanctuary. Please remember our policy - only covered or capped water containers should be brought into our worship space. This is one of the reasons we offer Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall each week.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Serving Schedule

17-June

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Chrissy Stoffer

E.M.: Robin Levine & Shelley Carter
Monday Counter: Roy Laws
Coffee Hour: Lee & Bill Anderson

24-June

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham
Lector: Mona Johnstone
E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt
Crucifer: Brad Bauman
Lector: John Stoffer
E.M.: Bob Kohlhasse
Monday Counter: Gary Ploense
Coffee Hour: Potluck Celebration with honored Guests

Summer Lector's Serving Schedule

Lector's are scheduled by a fixed rotation that sometimes does not fit with their family plans. Please look ahead and trade with one another if you are unable to serve. Thanks.

6/17	Bill Johns	Chrissy Stoffer
6/24	Mona Johnstone	John Stoffer
7/1	Chris Bennett	Jim Cooper
7/8	Julie Bennett	Brad Bauman
7/15	Mark Gibson	Ann Sokan
7/22	Liz Gordon	Martha Carroll
7/29	Bill Johns	Amy Halt

St. Matthew's Schedule beginning June 17th

Coffee Hour follows 10:00 worship in the Parish Hall

Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Rite I

Sunday-10:00 a.m.-Rite II

Sunday-11:00 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

Monday-6:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Wednesday-5:00 p.m.-Evening Prayer

Wednesday-6:00 p.m.-Adult Formation

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer and breakfast

Friday -7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Office Hours: 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

If you have anything you would like added to the schedule or announcements in the bulletin and news letter please send an email reply to the newsletter, or call the office.

Readings for June 17, 2018

Hymns: #587, #536, #677, #641, #569

Old Testament

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;

I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

On the mountain height of Israel

I will plant it,

in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the Lord.

I bring low the high tree,

I make high the low tree;

I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the Lord have spoken;

I will accomplish it.

Psalm 92:1-4,11-14

Bonum est confiteri

1 It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, *
and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;

2 To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning *
and of your faithfulness in the night season;

3 On the psaltery, and on the lyre, *
and to the melody of the harp.

4 For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; *
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

11 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, *
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

12 Those who are planted in the house of the Lord *
shall flourish in the courts of our God;

13 They shall still bear fruit in old age; *
they shall be green and succulent;

14 That they may show how upright the Lord is, *
my Rock, in whom there is no fault.

The Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:6-17

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord-- for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Birthdays & Anniversaries June 17 - 23

Anniversaries

Mary & Roger Hunt

Anne & Matthew Nadakavukaren

Patty & Jack Pitts

Birthdays
Nolan White
Charlie Casperson
Kathie Dyson
Anne Nadukavukaren

Dedications for this week

*The Memorial Lamp is lit in remembrance of
Ann Tussing by Melody & Chuck Palm
The Sanctuary Lamp is lit in remembrance of
James Adams*

Collect for Sunday, June 17th

Keep, O Lord, we beseech thee, thy household the Church in thy steadfast faith and love, that by the help of thy grace we may proclaim thy truth with boldness, and minister thy justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

