

## Contents

This Week's Readings

### Rector's Ramblings

Greetings from Austin.

A few quick takes from the General Convention.

1. It is hot. It is sticky. Of course, this is expected deep in the heart of Texas in July.

2. The first few days have been taken up with getting organized.

3. It has been nice to catch up with old friends from across the church.

4. Presiding Bishop Curry is as engaging a preacher in person as he appears on video.

5. The real "power" at GenCon is not in the House of Deputies or House of Bishops, but in the committees. They alone determine what reaches the floor, and testimony before them is limited to 2 minutes. This indicates to me that we have much more legislation than we really need.

6. I struggle with the amount that TEC spends on this event. I do not dispute that we need to have a General Convention to do necessary work, like a budget and electing officers, but I find myself wondering what good could be done with the approximately 1M USD we spend each day. (And that does not count our individual or diocesan expenses).

7. The pace is exhausting. Yesterday, apart from time spent in general session, I spent an additional 4 hours in committee meetings. This pace will most likely continue until the middle of

## The Good News

July 6, 2018



### Christian Formation

Is finished for the Summer.

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.

### Habitat Build Continues

We are asked to provide volunteers for 28 July, from 8AM to Noon. We are limited to a total of 12 volunteers. If you wish to volunteer, or have already signed up on our sign up sheet, please click on this [link](#) to confirm your status and fill out your waiver.

Thank you to all who will work on this project.

### Theology Uncorked

Will meet at 6PM on 14 July.

### Men's Breakfast

Will take place on Saturday, 21 July, at 8AM.

### General Convention

Fr. Dave will be heading to General Convention as a Deputy from the Diocese of Springfield. Convention this year is in Austin, Texas and runs from 4-12 July. Please pray for this national gathering and for our Deputies.

The Thursday following General Convention Fr. and Amy will be taking a trip to Ireland to celebrate (belatedly) their 25th Anniversary. They will return on 2 August.

next week.

Please continue to keep GenCon, your deputation, and me in your prayers.

Dave Halt, Rector  
309-660-8515

## Ministry Links

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

Services in July are as follows:

July 1 Regular Schedule (Fr. Halt--Celebrant)

July 8 Morning Prayer (Deacon Tim--Officiant)

July 15 Regular Schedule (Fr. Halt--Celebrant)

July 22 Morning Prayer (Deacon Tim--Officiant)

July 29 Regular Schedule (Fr. Wells--Celebrant)

## 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 Kohlhase, 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.

### **The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

### **Serving Schedule**

8-July

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Julie Bennett

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Lector: Brad Bauman

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Susan & Eric Teoro

15-July

7:30

Greeter: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Christian Pitts

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Ann Sokan  
E.M.: Emily Lavikoff  
Monday Counter: Susan Clark  
Coffee Hour: Susan Long & Shelley Carter

### **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.

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 July 8th**

*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

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

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

Saturday-8:30 a.m.-Women's breakfast

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 July 8, 2018**

Hymns: #1, #423, #493, #657, #528

Psalm 123

1 To you I lift up my eyes, \*

to you enthroned in the heavens.

2 As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \*  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

3 So our eyes look to the Lord our God, \*

until he show us his mercy.

4 Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, \*

for we have had more than enough of contempt,



5 Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, \*  
and of the derision of the proud.

Ezekiel 2:1-5

He said to me: O mortal,\* stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. 2And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. 3He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation\* of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. 4The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' 5Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. 2On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary\* and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence\* at him. 4Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' 5And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. 6And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. 7He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. 10He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. 11If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' 12So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 13They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries July 8 - 14**

*Anniversaries*

Linda & Craig Baughan

*Birthdays*

**Dedications for this week**

**Collect for Sunday, July 8th**

O God, who hast taught us to keep all thy commandments by loving thee and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to thee with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contact Information**

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

