

**Rector's
Ramblings**

It is that time of year when I use this space to announce our inclement weather policy.

1. Your safety is our first priority during bad weather.
2. If a Winter Weather Advisory or Storm Warning is issued the following will automatically be cancelled: 7:30 AM Sunday Eucharist, midweek activities, breakfast fellowships, and all evening events. This will last for the duration of the Advisory or Warning.
3. If a parking ban is issued, all activities listed above will be cancelled until that ban is lifted.
4. The Office will also be closed in those circumstances. Please use my mobile number (below) in any emergency.
5. Every attempt will be made to have a 10AM Eucharist during an advisory and parking ban.
6. We will use Flocknote and E-news to communicate updates to our schedule.
7. To avoid weather I am



Wednesday Evening

We will resume with our Midweek Eucharist and Study on 11/15.

The Eucharist will commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Watch for a Great Addition

We are putting a new electronic sign in front of the church; something that has been needed for a long time.

It is going to be such an improvement; no longer will anyone have to be out in inclement weather to change a sign with tiny letters that cannot be read from the street. Lots of announcements can be placed on there, i.e. Book Sale, and special announcements, approved by Fr. Halt.

After much discussion, the MLT voted to approve the purchase of this sign using memorial funds, which cannot be used for day-day operations of St. Matthew's.

In order to be a good neighbor, we will set it up to turn off at 10pm and resume at 7am.

I was going to announce this during the Annual Meeting, but things moved a lot quicker than we anticipated, this is why I wanted to put it in the newsletter this week. Any questions please see me or one of the MLT members.

If you would like to donate to the new sign, please note New Sign on your check.

Yours in Christ,

preparing a proposal for the Mission Leadership Team to consider moving the church to St. Vincent for the months of January, February, and March.

OK, point seven might have gone too far.

See you Sunday!

Dave+
309-660-8515

Gary Ploense, Junior Warden

New Year - More Pew Books

To start 2020, the pews have been sorted and searched and we discovered that some of our copies of *The Book of Common Prayer* are in need of replacement. Some of our original copies have been lovingly "used up" and a case of new books has been ordered. Might you be interested in donating \$20 to help defray costs of a replacement copy of the BCP, and have a bookplate included to honor or memorialize someone dear to you?

If you wish to participate, please put your funds, along with the name of your honoree, in a separate envelope in the offering tray, marked: BCP. Thanks

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield

[Rector's Blog \(new\)](#)

Find us on Instagram--stmattsblm
Twitter--@BloomingtonSt

Breakfast Fellowships

Women's Breakfast will meet in the Parish Hall, Saturday morning, January 11th at 8:30 A.M.

Men's fellowship breakfast will meet in the Parish Hall, Saturday morning, January 18th at 8:00 AM.

Chili and Soup Cookoff/Trivia Night

Our 2nd Annual Chili/Soup Cookoff will be held on February 8 in the Parish Hall. Watch this space for more information.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held at 8:30 on Sunday, January 26th. A catered breakfast will be provided.

Bios for those who are running for Vestry and Synod Delegate are due no later than January 15th in order to publish the booklet by January 19th. Committee/Ministry reports are due the same day.

Nominations from the floor are permitted, but please bring

copies of your bio to the meeting as time precludes us copying those the day of the meeting.

Bishop Election

As was announced after our last Diocesan Synod, Bishop Daniel has called for the election of a new bishop for the Diocese and announced his own retirement in June of 2021. The Standing Committee of the Diocese, who is responsible for holding the election, has published a letter updating us on the process to elect the XIIth Bishop of Springfield.

That letter can be found [here](#).

More importantly they have asked that we keep this election in our prayers, and they suggest the following prayers for our use. We will use one of these each Sunday as part of the Prayers of the People.

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. - BCP page 818, #13

Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel for the choosing of a bishop for this Diocese. Teach them in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide them to perceive what is right, and grant them both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. - Adapted from BCP page 818, #12

Outreach Opportunities

ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

Head Start is one of the featured agencies supported by Outreach at St. Matthew's.

Head Start is a federal funded program that works to educate children and empower families. Through education and community resources, Head Start families make the transition from dependence to independence. Our goal is to break the

cycle of poverty for the children in our program.

Winter Needs

As you go through your coat closet, do you find a jacket that you're tired of wearing but that is still in pretty good condition?

Do your kids' coats no longer fit?

Bring your gently used winter wear to church and put it in the big white box in the hallway opposite the main office. The Outreach Committee will deliver your donations to The Salvation Army for distribution to people in need. Thank you!

Mitten Trees

It is an annual tradition at St. Matthew's that Christmas trees be trimmed with hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for children in need in the community. "Mitten trees" have been placed in the Narthex and hallway out side the Parish Hall. Please help decorate them with store bought or handmade items during Advent and through the season of Christmas. They will be delivered to the Boys and Girls Club in January.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Worship Serving Schedule

12-January 2020

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Brad Bauman

Lector: Brad Bauman

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Chrissy & John Stoffer

19-January 2020

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Julie Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Jack Pitts & Harlan Noel

Crucifer: Christian Pitts

Thurifer: Emily Lavikoff

Lector: Ann Sokan

E.M.: Bob Kohlhasse

Monday Counter: Shelley Carter

Coffee Hour: Sandy Kohlhasse & Danielle Ward

St. Matthew's Weekly Activities as of January 12

Coffee Hour fellowship follows worship in the Parish Hall.

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

10:00 a.m.-Rite II

Coffee hour fellowship follows worship in the Parish Hall

5:30 p.m.-Evensong

6:00 p.m.-Theology Uncorked

Monday-9:00 a.m.-Home Schoolers *

11:00 a.m.-Private Music Lessons *

Tuesday-10:00 a.m.-Quilters

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

1:30 p.m.-Private Music Lessons *

5:30 p.m.-Mid-week Holy Eucharist

6:00 p.m.-Adult Study

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

9:00 a.m.-Moms in Prayer *

2:00 p.m.-Private Music Lessons *

Friday-

Saturday-8:00 a.m.-Men's breakfast

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

** Authorized Group--St. Matthew's guests*

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 January 12, 2020

Hymns: #

Old Testament

Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the Lord, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

Psalm 29

Afferte Domino

- 1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *

the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
9 And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"
10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

The New Testament

Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly

the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Birthdays & Anniversaries January 12 - 18

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Brent Baughan

Harry Bray

Bradley Dyson

Dedications for this week:

First Sunday after Epiphany, January 12th

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan didst proclaim him thy beloved Son and anoint him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into him Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with thee and the same Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

