

St. Matthew's Companion



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
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June 2024

Pastoral Ponderings

Memorial Day is behind us and summer is here. While many are thinking about travel plans, the church is still here with the usual collection of services and activities we enjoy year round. We have been seeing a good turnout for the Wednesday dinners, with some new people enjoying the meals. We will be having a stimulating study of the Letter to the Hebrews throughout the summer months. And, of course, we have our Holy Eucharist at 9:00 each Sunday morning.

But church in the summer is more than the sum of these activities. Church is church all the time because it is the people who gather who are the church. It is not the programming, the activities, the food, or even the sermon that make this church. It is the people who gather to celebrate all that God does for us which makes up the church. When we are all together, there is community; we are one family who enjoy being together. We are the church.

Enjoy your travels, have fun with family and friends, be safe on the roads, and return safely. Your church family will be here, continuing the activities God has set before us, praying for your safe return, and rejoicing with you in the experiences you have. Although we will not all be here each week, the church will continue to love and serve God and be God's messengers to Christian County and the surrounding area.

Happy Summer!

Rev. Chandler Jackson
Priest in Charge

COMMUNITY DINNERS FOR JUNE



June 5

Taco Salad

June 12

Cold Turkey

June 19

Sloppy Joes

June 26

Goulash



From the Computer of the Bishop's Warden

This summer the adult Sunday class is going to look at the book of Hebrews. To be honest I know little about this book of the Bible. While I know it is in the New Testament and has something to do with the authority of Christ, that is about the extent of my knowledge. I would suspect that some of you may be in the same boat as I am so without stealing any thunder from our lessons let me try to give some basic information and tell you why I am excited to be studying Hebrews.

The first thing I found out is that the author of Hebrews is unknown. Some of the language is like Paul's and the personal reference to Timothy leaves little doubt that the writing is Paul's. However, other possible authors could be Silas, Titus, Mark, Clement, Luke Aqila, Priscilla, and Barnabas. What is certain however is that the letter was composed prior to the destruction of Jerusalem as it is evident that the Temple was still standing.

The reason for Hebrews to be written was the need for a special exhortation for the readers who had professed faith in Jesus as the Messiah but were beginning to waver in their attitude. Hence, the exhortation to "hold on" (3:6) and to "go on to maturity" (6:1). I can only speak for myself but there have been and continue to be times in my life when I can use an exhortation; when I have an assurance that Jesus is with me no matter what.

The key concept throughout Hebrews is superiority. Hebrews contains many contrasts between the good things of Judaism and the better things of Jesus. Christ is better than angels, better than Moses, better than Joshua, better than Aaron and the New Covenant is better than the Mosaic Covenant. This is in part why I am looking forward to studying Hebrews. As life continues to throw hurdles at me (us), it is a wonderful reminder that there is someone superior to me (us) who is in control even when I (we) doubt that fact.

So, as we go through this study, I hope we will feel how Jesus Christ meets all our needs. As one author put it “Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith . . . Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess. Do not throw away your confidence . . . You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised.”

We are going on this journey together, but we are not going through it alone. I am anxious to delve into a deeper understanding of how Jesus looks after me in all that I do. I hope you will also experience a similar deeper understanding for your own faith walk.

In Christ’s love,
Rob

Rob Barns
Bishop’s Warden

HEBREWS: A RACE to GLORY

It was decided to do a book of the Bible for our summer study. We’ll start on June 9th and run for the next 14 weeks. Each week deals with a particular passage, so that we can dig into the author’s meaning. It will be helpful if you’ve read the passage to be studied before Sunday and we’ll read it again in S.S. If there’s something that stands out to you bring that for us to share. I’ll be putting out a list of what chapters or segments we’ll be doing each week.

Lisa

Below are the reports from the Bishop’s Committee for April.

Bishop’s Committee
April 7, 2024
Minutes

Present: Fr. Chandler Jackson, Rob Barns, George Keller, Jerry Larsen, Debbie Smith.

Fr. Jackson opened the meeting at 2:04 pm with a devotion on Mark 3:31-34. Who is our family? Jesus says our mother, sisters, and brothers are the church. What are we to be doing as a church for families? All are welcome. Are we meeting the needs in the community? Who and how many

people are we impacting? Wednesday meals, Marian Medical Mission wells in Africa, a congregation in a Muslim majority country was watching our service together on Wednesday. All of these are our family.

Discussion question: What do we love to do at St. Matthew's? Food and fellowship, Wednesday meals, quilting. Possibly quality services. We might consider some after work type events.

Reports:

Secretary - March minutes - George moved and Rob seconded motion to approve minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer - Jerry reported he is concerned as we draw near the end of the year that our financials will be tight in the October-December timeline. Tabulation error on March numbers - ending balance should be \$7159.56. Rob moved we accept amended financial report, George seconded. Motion passed.

Warden - Rob reported we received a little over \$286 from the mite boxes for the Altar Guild. They will be replacing some of the threadbare altar linens.

Green Planet Recycling - they will take many electronic devices, including cellphones, GPS devices, and similar, in addition to ink cartridges. Rob will post the list on the bulletin board downstairs. It was also suggested that he take a picture of the flyer and text it to all members of the church, as well as making copies available for people to take to work. Even things they cannot recycle they pay a small amount for. And, they pay the shipping.

Priest - Gratitude for all participation during Holy Week and Easter - in all of March in general. It made life easier for all.

We will be hosting the deanery clergy on April 16th. Lisa will have everything set for Holy Eucharist.

Fr. Chandler will be on vacation April 22-28.

Memorial service for Roland's nephew, Bobby, will be on April 27 at Smyrna Baptist Church. We will send out the time as soon as we hear as many will want to go to support Roland and Bert.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Calendar -

Tuesday, April 16 - Deanery Clericus meeting at St. Matthew's

Saturday, April 27 - Deanery Council at St. John's, Springfield at 11:00

Our next meeting will be May 5 at 2:00. It will be hybrid.

Meeting adjourned at 2:54 pm with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Smith, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2024

| | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | YTD | BUDGET |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|------------------|
| BEGINNING BALANCE | 9986.04 | 9670.05 | 7016.67 | 7159.56 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| INCOME | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Giving Estimates | 3052.00 | 1980.00 | 3401.12 | 3252.00 | | | | | | | | | | 11685.12 | 33400.20 |
| Ministry | 150.00 | 287.98 | 150.00 | 150.00 | | | | | | | | | | 737.98 | 1800.00 |
| Extras | 75.50 | 860.00 | 253.01 | 381.63 | | | | | | | | | | 1570.14 | |
| TOTAL INCOME | 3277.50 | 3127.98 | 3804.13 | 3783.63 | | | | | | | | | | 13993.24 | 35200.20 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OPERATIONS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diocese | 375.99 | 375.99 | 751.98 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 1503.96 | 4511.88 |
| Clergy | 1312.50 | 1312.50 | 2625.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 5250.00 | 15750.00 |
| OPC | 1500.00 | 3000.00 | 0.00 | 1500.00 | | | | | | | | | | 6000.00 | 18000.00 |
| Misc. | 0.00 | 130.39 | 0.00 | 80.00 | | | | | | | | | | 210.39 | 0.00 |
| Advertising | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Insurance | 0.00 | 188.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 188.00 | 752.00 |
| USPS #704 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 | 193.00 |
| Total Operations | 3188.49 | 5006.88 | 3376.98 | 1580.00 | | | | | | | | | | 13152.35 | 39206.88 |
| MINISTRY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Altar Guild | 0.00 | 17.98 | 253.01 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 270.99 | 600.00 |
| Organist | 405.00 | 472.50 | 0.00 | 405.00 | | | | | | | | | | 1282.50 | 3900.00 |
| Day by Day | 0.00 | 0.00 | 31.25 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 31.25 | 100.00 |
| Continuing Education | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 | 300.00 |
| Convention | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 | 200.00 |
| Music License | 0.00 | 120.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| Total Ministries | 405.00 | 610.48 | 284.26 | 405.00 | | | | | | | | | | 1704.74 | 5401.13 |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXP | 3593.49 | 5617.36 | 3661.24 | 1985.00 | | | | | | | | | | 14857.09 | 44608.01 |
| ENDING BALANCE | 9670.05 | 7016.67 | 7159.56 | 8958.19 | | | | | | | | | | | (9407.81) |

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

| JUNE 2024 | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|-----------|-----------|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| Online services are via the St Matthew's Facebook page. Wednesday evening meals and service are downstairs at the church. | | | | | | 1 8A Men's Breakfast at Village Inn 9A Women's Breakfast at Village Inn |
| 2 <i>Luke BD</i> 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education | 3 | 4 12:30P Quilters | 5 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 <i>Carol BD</i> 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education 2P Bishop's Committee | 10 <i>Betsy BD</i> Noon Jubilee Study Group | 11 <i>St. Barnabas</i> 12:30P Quilters | 12 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education | 17 | 18 12:30P Quilters | 19 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE | 20 | 21 | 22 <i>Raine AN</i> |
| 23 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education | 24 <i>Nativity of John the Baptist</i> | 25 12:30P Quilters | 26 <i>Ruth BD</i> 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE | 27 | 28 | 29 <i>St. Peter and St. Paul</i> |
| 30 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education | | | | | | |

The Bishop's Committee:

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rev. Chandler Jackson, Priest | Debbie Smith, Secretary |
| Robert Barns, Warden | George Keller, Member |
| Jerry Larsen, Treasurer | |

Church Staff:

Rev. Chandler Jackson, Priest in Charge
 Gary Bancroft, Organist