

# *St. Matthew's Companion*



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January 2026

## *Pastoral Ponderings*

Happy New Year!

As we begin another year together, I am reminded of all the wonderful things we have done over the past many years. For about 20 years, you have been feeding the people of Ozark and the surrounding area on Wednesday evenings. While the bulk of the need has changed from food insecurity to the desire for conversation, it is a ministry which impacts many people and offers everyone a place to gather and have a great meal.

It's been a little over five years since we moved from the storefront on Brick Street to our home with the Presbyterians. There was some apprehension about the move, but I believe everyone in both congregations sees the joy of our two worship communities coming together to serve the people of the community. Our worship together, the fun of common projects, and the love that is shared between the members of both worship communities enhances our common bond. Personally, I enjoy the joint worship services the most, but value the friendships I have made within the Presbyterian congregation. One of the most recent collaborations has been in the bell choir. I appreciate Kimberly and Jennifer joining the Presbyterians and encouraging them to play for our services occasionally.

What does the future hold for St. Matt's? Unfortunately, my crystal ball is cloudy and I would never make it as a prophet. I am confident that we will continue to worship God, serve our neighbors, and have fun doing all that we do. We never know the future, but we plan anyway. We are blessed to have each of you adding to the spirit of love within our community and for so many

of you stepping up when asked. No matter what happens, I know that we shall thrive in 2026 and continue to bless the people who come to us – for food, for fellowship, or for worship (or all three).

My prayer shall always be – May God bless us each and every day and use us for the greater Kingdom of God.

Rev. Chandler Jackson  
Priest in Charge

## COMMUNITY DINNERS FOR JANUARY



January 7  
January 14  
January 21  
January 28

Breakfast for Dinner  
Chili  
Baked Potato Bar  
Sloppy Joes



*From the Computer of the  
Bishop's Warden*

Here we are at the start of another new year. As I was thinking what to write about, I was shown the following simple prayer and thought it would be a great way to start off another year.

If you have one minute for God today, please read the following prayer and then share it with someone you love.

Dear Lord, as I step into 2026, I come before you with a humble heart, asking for Your guidance and wisdom. I may not know what this new year will bring, but I trust that You are already there, holding my future in Your hands. I surrender my plans, my fears, my worries, and every unanswered question to You. Where my strength runs out, Yours takes over. Remind me that You will never give me more than I can handle, because You walk with me through every season. Lord, cover 2026 with your peace, protection, and favor. Lead my steps, guard my heart, and help me trust You even when I don't understand the path ahead.

AMEN

While this is short, I believe it a very powerful daily prayer.

In Christ's Love  
Rob  
Warden.

### *Reports from the Bishop's Committee for November*

Bishop's Committee  
November 2, 2025  
Minutes

Present: Fr. Chandler Jackson, Rob Barns, George Keller, Jennifer Marbut, Betty Gloyd.

Fr. Jackson opened the meeting at 11:03 with a prayer and historical ideas about All Soul's Day.

#### Reports

Secretary - Rob moved and George seconded that the minutes of the October 5 meeting be approved. Motion passed.

Treasurer - The October financial report was presented. George moved and Betty seconded that the financial report be accepted. Motion passed. George began a discussion about the expense balance vs. the budgeted amount. It looks like we will be ok. The income balance vs the budgeted amount looks like we will break even or be a little ahead at the end of the year.

Donations for the Marion Medical Mission is at \$1100. Jennifer and Rob will work on the grant application for matching funds from the diocese.

Warden - Rob commented that he and Lisa had been at Least of These, assisting in packing Thanksgiving meals. A total of 1600 meals were packed for distribution. Another time of packing meals, for Christmas, will be November 17. Least of These has had 300 new families sign up for assistance in the past month.

Priest – The Diocesan Clergy Conference was this past week in Branson. The theme was clergy wellness – physical, spiritual, and emotional. I received some great information. On Wednesday, the bishop talked about changes in the diocese. Archdeacon Bruce Bower is retiring after convention. Also, the two chaplains to the retired clergy are also retiring. The Rev Ron Keel will be the new chaplain for the retired clergy.

The bishop also discussed the issue of “tiny cups” for communion. Liturgically, there is no biblical precedent for the use of individual cups for communion. It is recommended that we explore either intinction from the common cup or a separate “intinction cup” for those uncomfortable with drinking from the common cup. This is not something we need to change immediately, so we will continue to discuss how St. Matt’s will handle this.

I will be gone the end of the week for Diocesan Convention in Kansas City. I will go up on Thursday to work in the archives and assist in setting up for the convention. I will return Saturday evening. There are many elections to be held this year, so the convention business session on Saturday could be long.

Old Business: Bazaar wrap-up – We took in approximately \$850 this year. Rob moved and George seconded a motion to hold the money in the General Fund until after the first of the year. Then we can reassess where to use it best.

Update of the grant for ad – Rob is in contact with the people at the newspaper. We decided that the ad should include the Episcopal Shield, the name of the church, service times, physical address, phone number, website, email, and Facebook, Wednesday dinners, and Adult Education. The people at the paper will create the ad and send it to Rob for approval.

New Business: None.

Calendar -

- a. Diocesan Convention is November 7-8 at the Cathedral.
- b. Our next meeting will be December 7 after Brunch.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Chandler Jackson

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD	BUDGET
BEGINNING BALANCE	5170.27	3396.26	2540.56	2009.90	1461.18	2066.93	1877.77	1441.11	1645.45	1830.17	3911.19			
<b>INCOME</b>														
Giving Estimates	1697.65	2615.96	3407.00	3007.57	2105.75	2350.00	3060.00	3406.00	4107.68	5613.21	2684.25		34055.07	35200.00
Ministry						1000.00							1000.00	1800.00
TOTAL INCOME	1697.65	2615.96	3407.00	3007.57	2105.75	3350.00	3060.00	3406.00	4107368	5613.21	2684.25		35055.07	37000.00
<b>EXPENSES:</b>														
<b>OPERATIONS:</b>														
Diocese	389.16	389.16	389.16	389.16	389.16	389.16	389.16	389.16	389.16	389.16	389.16		4280.76	4670.00
Clergy	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	131250		14437.50	15750.00
OPC	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00		16500.00	18000.00
Misc.	0.00	0.00	165.00	17.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	295.30	40.55	0.00		517.98	0.00
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					0.00	0.00
Insurance	0.00	0.00	208.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00					208.50	834.00
USPS #704	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	156.00				156.00	142.00
Total Operations	3201.66	3201.66	3575.16	3218.79	3201.66	3201.66	3201.66	3201.66	3652.96	3242.21	3201.66	0.00	36100.74	39396.00
<b>MINISTRY:</b>														
Altar Guild	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.98	0.00		55.73	600.00
Organist	270.00	270.00	337.50	337.50	270.00	337.50	270.00	0.00	270.00	270.00	270.00		2902.50	3510.00
Day by Day			25.00				25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00		75.00	100.00
Convention													0.00	200.00
Music License													0.00	120.00
Total Ministries	270.00	270.00	362.50	337.50	270.00	337.50	295.00	0.00	270.00	289.98	295.00	0.00	3033.23	4530.00
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXP</b>	3471.66	3471.66	3937.66	3556.29	3471.66	3539.16	3496.66	3201.66	3922.96	3532.19	3496.66		39133.97	43926.00
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	3396.26	2540.56	2009.90	1461.18	2066.93	1877.77	1441.11	1645.45	1830.17	3911.19	3098.78			(6926.00)

## *St. Matthew's Episcopal Church*

January 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Online services are via the St Matthew's YouTube channel and the Wednesday services are on the Facebook page. Wednesday evening meals and service are downstairs at the church.						
				1 Holy Name of Our Lord	2	3 8a Men's Breakfast at St. Matt's
4 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Brunch 11:00A Bishop's Committee	5	6 Epiphany 12:30P Quilters	7 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE	8	9	10 Kimberly BD
11 9A Holy Eucharist - IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education	12 12:00N Jubilee Study	13 12:30P Quilters	14 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE	15	16	17
18 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education	19 Confession of St. Peter	20 12:30P Quilters	21 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE	22	23	24
25 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education	26 Conversion of St. Paul	27 12:30P Quilters	28 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE	29	30	31 JoAnn BD

### *The Bishop's Committee:*

Rev. Chandler Jackson, Priest	Vacant, Secretary
Robert Barns, Warden	George Keller, Member
Jennifer Marbut, Treasurer	
Betty Gloyd, Member	

### *Church Staff:*

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