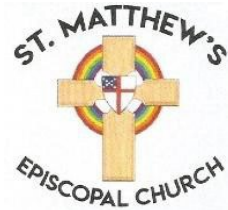


St. Matthew's Companion



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
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September 2026

Pastoral Ponderings

Public schools and colleges are back in session. The NFL preseason is over and we can all begin to settle into our familiar routines we enjoy each Fall. I heard a meteorologist say that September begins the meteorological Fall. I had never heard that before this week. I guess we can officially say we are in Fall, although the calendar still says Fall begins later this month.

In the church calendar, we are still in the midst of that wonderful season after Pentecost, the so-called "Green Season" because the color of my vestments and those on the altar are green. Looking at the lawns around town, we might call this the "brown season." And, the temperature reminds us that it is still summer in Missouri.

As Rob mentions in his article, we will celebrate the Feast of St. Matthew on September 20. We will also mark the end of six years enjoying this marvelous facilities we enjoy with Ozark Presbyterian Church. Much has happened during those years. We have seen members leave, new people join us, and many fun events we have shared with our Presbyterian siblings. What does the future hold for the next six years?

I don't have a crystal ball, so predicting the future is difficult. I know that we will continue worshipping together, enjoying wonderful food (we do have many good cooks in this group), and reaching out to others in need. Wednesday evening dinners will continue, new people will find their way to us (especially if you invite them), and

everyone will get a little older and, perhaps, wiser. In short, St. Matthew's will continue to be the church YOU create. As I have said many times, priests come and go, but it is the laity who keep the doors open. YOU are the most important person in this congregation.

I should probably warn you that I am rereading a book on evangelism. I know the Episcopal Church has an uneasy relationship with that word, but the last thing Jesus told His disciples before He ascended was to "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19-20) We have been instructed by Jesus to tell people about our relationship with God – not to condemn them, but to show them God's love. That is what we do on Wednesday evenings, and that is what many of you do in your daily lives. And, that is what makes St. Matt's a wonderful group of loving people.

Continue your ministries of LOVE and people will want to hang around with you.

Rev. Chandler Jackson
Priest in Charge

COMMUNITY DINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER



September 2	Mac & Cheese
September 9	Meatloaf
September 16	Hot Dogs
September 23	Sloppy Joes
September 30	Spaghetti & Meatballs

NEWS of the DAY:

There are several items I'd like to share with you. You know we just had a wonderful and successful Pie and Yard Sale in August. Now, it's time to look ahead to the Bazaar and Quilt raffle.

Our quilt is "All In A Row". I can tell you it was such fun to make and watch come alive. There are four of us that worked together to make this quilt and keep up with comfort quilts. I hope you'll make every effort to sell the raffle tickets. They are \$5 each if; someone buys five tickets, they get the sixth one free. I look for friends around and outside the church family, like my hairdresser. She actually won two years ago. The raffle is a big draw and money maker, so help the two churches out.

We will be making lots of pies for the bazaar. We sold 32 pies at the yard sale; start thinking and making pies. We have room to freeze, so you can start now. If you don't like to make pies, we will have some bake goods for sale also, like brownies, cookies or candy. Circle October 24th on your calendar—that's the date for the Bazaar, from 9 to 1. We will be setting up on October 23rd. Like the yard sale, come help or come visit with each other.

Ladies, there's a wonderful opportunity coming in September. The new material has arrived for the women's Bible Study, also called Jubilee. We start on the second Monday, September 14th. The study is Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. There is NO cost to belong; OPC has Memorial Fund just for study programs, so cost of the book is free. We meet at noon. Bring a lunch item that we can all share together. Rev. Dr. Rhonda Lee, an Episcopal priest, is the author of this year's study. I have my copy already and it looks great. I hope you'll consider coming and sharing with us.

Thanks for listening, Lisa



*From the Computer of the
Bishop's Warden*

On September 20th we will celebrate our Patron Saint, St. Matthew, an apostle and evangelist. (PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR RED THAT SUNDAY). However, what do we really know about Matthew?

Some interesting facts about Matthew:

1. His original name was Levi.
2. He was a despised tax collector in Capernaum.
3. He left everything immediately when Jesus said "Follow me". Matthew left his lucrative tax booth, wealth, and old life behind without hesitation.
4. He hosted a huge banquet for Jesus. After answering the call, he gave a big feast at his house which was criticized by the Pharisees.
5. He authored the first Gospel. It is the first because it bridged the Old and New Testaments effectively for the Jews.
6. His symbol is a winged man or angel.
7. He is the patron saint of financial workers, accountants, bankers, bookkeepers, custom officers, and security guards.
8. He was a dedicated missionary. After Jesus ascended into heaven, Matthew traveled widely to Judea, Macedonia, Persia, and Parthia.
9. Accounts of his martyrdom vary as to whether he was stabbed, beheaded, or burned alive in Persia.

While the exact birth and death dates of Matthew are uncertain, most believe that he was born in the first century AD in Galilee and died in the first century AD (about year 68) in Ethiopia. Tradition holds that he died a martyr and his tomb is located in the crypt of Salerno Cathedral in southern Italy.

Matthew the apostle was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. According to many Christian traditions, he was also one of the four Evangelists as author of the Gospel of Matthew, and so is also known as Matthew the Evangelist. The father of both Matthew (known as Levi) and James, son of Alphaeus, is named Alphaeus, and according to the Eastern Orthodox Church tradition the two apostles were brothers.

Some of the early church leaders believed that Matthew preached the gospel to the Jewish community in Judea before going to preach in other countries. The ancient writers cannot agree as to which other countries, but most sources mention Ethiopia. (This Ethiopia is probably the region south of the Caspian Sea, which is now known as ancient Persia. It is not the modern nation of Ethiopia in Africa).

We need to remember that Jesus has in the past, can do in the present, and will do in the future, bring those whom He needs or wants for His purpose. Like Matthew, we just need to be willing when He calls.

In Christ's love
Rob

Reports from the Bishop's Committee for July

Bishop's Committee

July 5, 2026

Minutes

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

Fr. Jackson opened the meeting at 11:24.

Devotion: Fr. Jackson read the Collect for the Nation (BCP 258).

Reports

Secretary - George moved and Rob seconded that the minutes of the June 7th meeting be approved. Motion passed.

Treasurer - The June financial report was presented. Jennifer pointed out that she had corrected the May "clergy" line. George moved and Betty seconded that the financial report be accepted. Motion passed.

Bishop's Warden: Rob pointed out that the mailbox situation was working well. He checks it on Wednesdays and Sundays and Tami checks it the other days. Rob will update the bank on the new address when he goes in this week. He noted that one of the ladies at the bank has an abundant crop of green beans from her garden. She will be donating much of it to us for the Wednesday dinners. Also, he reminded us of the yard sale and pie sale.

Priest: Updated the committee on his conversation with the bishop in her meeting with him prior to her visitation. On the topic of the individual cups at Eucharist, she agreed that the way we handle it, and for the reason we use them, is OK. We also explored possible solutions for our financial situation including checking for alternative sites (OC, schools, etc.) as an alternative to being here. The discussion which followed included how to handle music and AA. Rob will check with the OC and the school district on what it might cost, size of space, etc. There was the suggestion that any decision needed to include the entire congregation.

Old Business: Rob asked about the timing of when Gary takes communion. If he takes communion at the beginning (when the altar party receives), that will allow him to play without the break. Fr. Chandler will discuss it with Gary.

New Business: None.

Calendar

- a. Bishop Visitation July 12
- b. Next meeting will be August 2 after potluck brunch.

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev Chandler Jackson

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD
BEGINNING BALANCE	4792.87	2695.27	1788.07	1511.17	1047.35	1422.25	2293.15						
INCOME													
Giving Estimates	1636.75	2406.90	3414.95	2252.78	2505.50	2825.00	2530.00						17571.88
Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	60.00						860.00
TOTAL INCOME	1636.75	2406.90	3414.95	3052.78	2505.50	2825.00	2590.00						18431.88
EXPENSES:													
OPERATIONS:													
Diocese	366.60	366.60	366.60	366.60	366.60	366.60	366.60						2566.20
Clergy	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	1312.50	0.00	0.00	0.00						5250.00
OPC	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1500.00	1250.00	1250.00	1250.00						9750.00
Misc.	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00						0.00
Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						0.00
Insurance	217.75	0.00	217.75	0.00	219.00	0.00	0.00						654.50
USPS #704	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00						0.00
Total Operations	3396.85	3179.10	3396.85	3179.10	3148.10	1616.60	1676.60						18280.00
MINISTRY:													
Altar Guild													0.00
Organist	337.50	135.00	270.00	337.50	270.00	337.50	270.00						1957.50
Day by Day			25.00		25.00								50.00
Convention			0.00										0.00
Music License			0.00										0.00
Total Ministries	337.50	135.00	295.00	337.50	295.00	337.50	270.00						2007.50
TOTAL OPERATING EXP	3734.35	3314.10	3691.85	3516.60	3443.10	1954.10	1946.60						20287.50
ENDING BALANCE	2630.83	1788.07	1511.17	1047.35	109.75	2293.15	2936.55						
DONATED CHURCH EXPENSES													
Advertising Grant Available	2400.00	2400.00	2400.00	1390.42	1140.42	940.42	740.42						
Altar Guild	64.44	41.60	239.95	82.26	29.95	362.15	42.70						863.50
Dinner Fund					0.00	139.02	0.00						139.02
Music License		126.00			0.00	0.00	0.00						126.00
Snow Plowing		460.00			0.00	0.00	0.00						460.00
Total	64.44	627.60	239.95	82.26	29.95	501.17	42.70						1588.07

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

September 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 12:30P Quilters	2 <i>Keller AN</i> 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE	3	4	5 8A Men's Breakfast at Village Inn
6 9A Holy Eucharist - IN C6URCH & ONLINE 10A Brunch 11:00A Bishop's Committee	7	8 12:30P Quilters	9 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE	10	11	12
13 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education	14 <i>Holy Cross</i> Noon Jubilee	15 12:30P Quilters	16 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE	17	18	19
20 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education	21 <i>St. Matthew</i>	22 12:30P Quilters	23 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE	24	25	26 <i>Jill BD</i>
27 9A Holy Eucharist – IN CHURCH & ONLINE 10A Coffee Hour 10:30A Christian Education	28	29 <i>St. Michael and All Angels</i> 12:30P Quilters	30 5-6:30P Dinner 6:45P Evening Prayer CHURCH & ONLINE			

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