

From: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church office@stmattsbldm.org
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Rector's Ramblings

In this Newsletter you will find a note from Fr. Bruce announcing his intention to retire as Curate/Assisting Priest at St. Matthews at the end of the Liturgical Year (Nov. 22).

I will let Fr. Bruce's letter speak for itself, but I would be remiss if I did not make a couple of comments.

We have been blessed to have Fr. Bruce among us, as layman, deacon and priest. When I first arrived Fr. Bruce as one of the first to welcome me and make me feel at home. As a deacon, then, he helped me find my way around the parish. In many ways, deacons are big brothers of priests, and I found this true of Bruce both professionally and personally. I am blessed to be able to count Fr. Bruce as a colleague and a friend.

It was also my great joy to have seen him ordained as a priest, and to watch him blossom in priestly ministry. A testimony to his ministry is his popularity as a supply priest, both in our Diocese and elsewhere.

I am convinced that when Fr. Bruce says he is feeling called to new avenues of ministry, he truly is, and will pray the our Lord bless his calling with clarity and

The Good News

A weekly newsletter of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
July 31, 2015



Letter from Fr. Bruce

[Fr. Bruce Retirement Letter to St. Matthew's](#)

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is offered at 7AM on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and at 730 AM on Thursday. The fourth Thursday at 7:30 AM is Holy Eucharist.

Important Communications Reminder

Our old domain name is gone so please do not send anything to Fr. Halt or to the old "info" email addresses. Make certain that you "allow" and save these new addresses:

Fr. Dave -- Rector@stmattsbldm.org
office@stmattsbldm.org

Vacation Bible School For All Ages Continues

Vacation Bible School is held over a period of five Thursday Evenings beginning on July 16.

Beginning with a light potluck supper at 5:30 PM (St. Matthew's will provide the main and drink, please bring a side to share), followed by the VBS program from 6-7 PM. All ages are welcome to participate!

Our chosen curriculum is called "Praying All the Time" and uses popular children's books to teach the five forms of prayer.

For more information, please see Amy Halt

purpose, and that Fr. Bruce will be made a blessing to others as he has been to us.

Blessings,

Dave+

Service Schedule for the week of August 2, 2015

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
7:30 AM

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
10:00 AM

Other Services:

Morning Prayer

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Friday mornings at 7 AM
Thursday morning at 7:30 AM
(4th Thursday - Holy Eucharist)

Rosary 5:30 PM Wednesdays.

Intercessory Prayer

Monday at noon, and Thursday at
10:30 a.m. in the Chapel

Ministry Links

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

For more information, please see Family Page.

Outreach Items of the Month-July and August

In July and August, St. Matthew's will be collecting school supplies for foster children supported by Children's Home and Aid. School supplies for all age ranges are needed, especially in light of recent cuts in funding. A list of typical school supplies is noted below, but any school supplies would be welcome. If you prefer, the Outreach Committee will accept monetary donations and we will be happy to purchase supplies on your behalf (we are great shoppers!). Please make checks payable to St. Matthew's and indicate that the donation is for Outreach in the memo line. Children's Home and Aid will make its first distribution of school supplies on August 10th and will then make further distributions throughout the year. Please consider donating to this very worthy cause. If you have any questions, please contact Chrissy Stoffer at [309-663-6450](tel:309-663-6450). As always, thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Crayola Crayons
Crayola Washable Markers, wide tip, 8ct. (Classic Colors)
Crayola Color Pencils
Fiskars 7 or 8" Pointed Scissors
Pencils (No. 2 Lead) Note: No Mechanical Pencils
Pencil Box
Elmer's Glue
Glue Stick
Highlighters
Dividers
3x5 Index Cards
Pink Erasers
Dry Erase Markers (Odor Free)
12" Wood Ruler (metric/inch)
3 prong 2 pocket Folders
Spiral Notebooks (Wide-Ruled preferred)
Poly Expanding Files w/elastic closure,
Wide-Ruled Notebook Paper (150 ct.)
1 1/2" 3 -ring binder
1" 3 -ring binder
Post-its
Handheld Pencil Sharpener
Composition Notebooks
Clear Protractor
Metal Compass, ball bearing w/ pencil
Spiral Bound Sketch Pad (9" x 12")
Scientific Calculator, Texas Instrument TI 30XIIS
Crayola or Prang 16 color watercolor paints (Art)
Scotch Tape
Masking Tape
8 GB Flash Drive
Backpack

Fr. Kari Marcelle & Holy Trinity Parish

Fr. Dave will be traveling to Nassau, The Bahamas, August 12-17 for the

wedding of Fr. Kari Marcelle. The wedding is in Nassau, as Fr. Kari is Bahamian by birth. Fr. will be concelebrating the nuptial Mass on Saturday and preaching in a parish of the Diocese on Sunday.

Fr. Kari, our guest last summer, and priest of the Parish of the Holy Trinity in St. Vincent is an old friend and is still interested in forming a partner parish relationship. Unfortunately, due to some unforeseen circumstances, the plans for the partnership were not feasible this year, but we will resume planning during the time spent preparing for his wedding.

Currently, Holy Trinity is working on a refurbishment of its leaky roof and Sanctuary and is looking to raise the remaining funds for the project. The majority of funds have already been raised amongst the parishioners of Holy Trinity.

Fr. Dave, with Vestry approval, is asking anyone interested in making a donation to the Parish of the Holy Trinity's renovation to please do so over the next couple of weeks. He will present the gift, on behalf of St. Matthew's, to Fr. Kari and the Wardens, at the reception.

Thank you for your support.

Faith in Action Seeks Volunteers

If you have wanted to reach out to assist our senior neighbors in need, Faith in Action can help connect you. Even if you only have a few hours per month, you can make a difference in the lives of a senior in need of transportation to get to the doctor or to the grocery store. Do you miss having an older adult in your life or do you just find older adults interceding? Become a friendly visitor one or twice a month. We also have need for handyman service for light home maintenance chores. Or you can also make difference by working on special projects, answering the phone, doing data entry or helping with our fundraisers.

Join the Faith in Action Team of volunteers who work together to meet the needs of over 500 senior care receivers in Bloomington-Normal and Towanda. By sharing the responsibility among a team, no one volunteer is over committed. Using a Ride Scheduler program, you choose the ride that fits your schedule. Call Doretta Herr at 827-7780 to see how you can utilize your talents to assist our senior neighbors in need.

Do you know an older adult age 60 or over who needs assistance? Call Faith in Action. Each potential care receiver will be visited by one of our nurses to discuss how Faith in Action may help them stay independent. There is no charge for our services thanks to our volunteers.

Breakfast Fellowships

Women's Breakfast - Saturday, August 8th, 8:30 a.m. - all women are

welcome!

Men's Breakfast - Saturday, August 15th, 8:00 a.m.

Good News Daily

Each week we are glad to offer a set of daily devotional readings from the Bible Reading Fellowship. These are short devotionals include references to the readings from the Daily Office Lectionary, and can be customized for each parish. Currently, we are adding the Anglican and Diocesan prayer cycles, and will be adding a parish prayer cycle in the future.

Copies may be picked up in one of the entrances or get this week's [here](#) or next [week's](#).

Evening Prayer

Due to Summer Schedules, Evensong will be on hiatus until the first of August.

Readings & Music for August 2, 2015

Hymns:#411, #296, #593, #690 (and others printed in bulletin)

Exodus 16:2-4,9-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, `Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, `At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

Psalm 78:23-29 Page 696, BCP Attendite, popule

23 So he commanded the clouds above *
and opened the doors of heaven.

24 He rained down manna upon them to eat *
and gave them grain from heaven.

25 So mortals ate the bread of angels: *

- 25 So mortals ate the bread of angels,
he provided for them food enough.
- 26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens *
and led out the south wind by his might.
- 27 He rained down flesh upon them like dust *
and winged birds like the sand of the sea.
- 28 He let it fall in the midst of their camp *
and round about their dwellings.
- 29 So they ate and were well filled, *
for he gave them what they craved.

Ephesians 4:1-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

John 6:24-35

The next day, when the people who remained after the feeding of the five thousand saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Ministry Assignments for August 2 & 9

2-August

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: David Hanck

Lector: E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Greeters:

Lector: John Stoffer

Acolytes: Chris Bennett, Liam & Sarah Halt

Crucifer: Brent Baughan

Shadow: Daniel

E.M.: Tim Leighton & Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Brays

9-August

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Mona Johnstone

Lector: E.M.: Diane Gardner

10:00

Greeters:

Lector: Alex Davingman

Acolytes: Shelley Brennenman Carter, Christian Pitts, Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Alex Davingman

Shadow: Hally

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase & Robin Levine

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Stoffers

Birthdays & Anniversaries July 31 - August 16

Benjamin Lucey

Allan Horsman

Julie & Jim Cooper

Jenny Pitts

Zach Davingman

Ryan DeGooyer

Debbie & Roger Thomas

Mary Kaufman

Dave Kaufman

Brent Davingman

Drew Davingman
Susan & Jeffrey Clark
Bill Jones

Collect for Sunday, August 2nd

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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