

**From:** St. Matthew's Episcopal Church office@stmattsbldm.org  
**Subject:** St. Matthew's Newsletter  
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PM

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## Rector's Ramblings

This week we bring to a close our time in John 6. We will hear how many refused to follow Christ after taking offense at his self-identification as the Bread of Life and his insistence on the need to eat of his flesh and drink of his blood.

We will also hear Peter's confession that only Jesus has the words of eternal life and that there is no other one for Peter (and us) to follow if we wish to have eternal life.

This is always the choice before us. We can either remain in Jesus or take offense and leave. There is only one way that leads to life.

I pray you will choose life, and help others do the same.

Blessings,

Dave+

## Service Schedule for the week of August 23, 2015

**Holy Eucharist (Rite I)**  
7:30 AM

**Holy Eucharist (Rite II)**  
10:00 AM

## The Good News

A weekly newsletter of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
August 21, 2015



### Morning Prayer

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

### Outreach Items of the Month

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. 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

### 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 5:30 p.m., Wednesday  
at 12:15 p.m., and Thursday at  
10:30 a.m. in the Chapel

### Ministry Links

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

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

### Labor Day Sunday

On Sunday, September 6, we will join our brothers and sisters for a joint service in Maxwell Park. The service will begin at 9:30AM followed by a potluck. Fr. Halt will be preacher and celebrant, and Christ the King will supply the music. Please bring a dish to share and lawn seating.

There will still be a 7:30 Mass at St. Matthew's for those who cannot make it to the park.

### Bible Study and Adult Sunday School

Wednesday Evening Bible Study will resume on September 2 at 6PM. We will be spending time in Genesis. Feel free to bring your dinner with you. If you wish to arrive early the Rosary is prayed a 5:30 in the Chapel, followed by silent meditation.

Adult Sunday School will begin on September 13th at 9AM. The subject for the Fall will be the Catechism of the Episcopal Church. All are invited, but a special invitation is extended to all who wish to be confirmed during Bishop Daniel's next visit.

CALLING ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS!!!-We have a training date of August 22nd from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at St. Matts. This will equip you with lots of information on our upcoming Sunday School season. Your classes begin Sunday, September 13th.

### Strategizing for Mission at the Parish Level: A Workshop for Clergy and Lay Leaders

Presented through the Diocese of Springfield, with speaker Carrie Headington from the Diocese of Dallas. Saturday, September 19th, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., \$15 per person includes lunch.

If you are interested in attending or have questions, sign up through Fr. Dave (rector@stmattsblm.org) by September 1.

### **Fall Music News**

Calling all JOYFUL NOISE MAKERS and SINGERS!!!

Choir will begin on Sunday, September 13th! Our regular practices will be on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 a.m.

We will have a social (with some singing) gathering on Wednesday, September 9th to kick off the season at Amy Halt's home (19289 Deerhaven Drive, Bloomington, 61705) Please bring a dessert and your voice. ALL are welcome!!

### **Cooking Classes Begin**

Julaine Ingersoll will be offering a cooking class for 6 weeks starting Thursday, September 10th through Thursday October 15th in the church kitchen.

We will learn some knife skills, a healthier way to cook comfort dishes, one pot meals, and more. You will need to bring your cutting board and a good kitchen knife. There will be a small fee of \$3 to help with the food expenses. Be prepared to eat what we cook

P.S. Schuncks will sharpen your dull knives for free and return them to you in 24 hours. Just ask them in the meat department to sharpen your knife.

### **Breakfast Fellowships**

Fall Ladies Breakfast will be Saturday, September 12th from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Please sign up in the church hallway or email Amy Halt at [adhalt@gmail.com](mailto:adhalt@gmail.com). We hope to see you there!

### **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](#) now.

### **Evening Prayer**

Evensong will resume on September 14th at 5:30 PM.

## Readings & Music for August 23, 2015

Hymns:#401, #460, #300, #488 (and others printed in bulletin)

Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel:

"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

Psalms 34:15-22 Page 628, BCP      Benedicam Dominum

15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, \*  
and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, \*  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them \*  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted \*  
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, \*  
but the LORD will deliver him out of them all.

20 He will keep safe all his bones; \*  
not one of them shall be broken.

21 Evil shall slay the wicked, \*  
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

22 The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, \*  
and none will be punished who trust in him.

Ephesians 6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth

around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

John 6:56-69

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

#### Ministry Assignments for August 23 & 30

23-August

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Bill Johns

Lector: E.M.: Diane Gardner

10:00

Greeters:

Lector: Ann Sokan

Acolytes: Liam Halt, Jack & Nolan White

Crucifer: Alex Davingman

Shadow: Sean

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase & Shelley Brenneman Carter

Monday Counter: Gary Ploense

Coffee Hour: Ingersolls

30-August

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson  
Lector: Ann Nadukavukaren  
Lector: E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00  
Greeters:  
Lector: Julie Bennett  
Acolytes: Liam Halt, Jack & Nolan White  
Crucifer: Alex Davingman  
Shadow: Georgia  
E.M.: Time Leighton & Robin Levine  
Monday Counter: Pam Laws  
Coffee Hour: Sandy Kohlhase & Danielle Ward

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries August 21 - September 6**

John Stoffer  
James Gardner  
Loren Dyson  
Charlotte Casperson  
Janet Hoffman  
Sandy & Bob Kohlhase  
Bill Johns  
Dede Dyson  
Sarah Halt  
Thomas Lucey  
Kristi & James Williams  
Bill Rolley

### **Collect for Sunday, August 23rd**

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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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