

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

I promised last week that we would look at first steps in our Evangelization, and I do not want to disappoint. However, this will be a much shorter article this week.

Step 1: Ask this question of your parish, your Eucharistic Community, your Priest, and yourself, "Would my neighbors notice if (my Parish, my Eucharistic Community, my Priest, or I) happened to disappear tomorrow? How do you answer that question, what is it that would be missed, if we are missed? If we answer negatively follow up with step 2.

Step 2: Ask this question: "How does my Parish, my Eucharistic Community, my Priest and how do I need to change, adapt, adjust, minister to my neighbors so that the answer to question one is "yes"?"

Step 3: Pray. Now, I know someone will object and say "is that not step one", and I would respond, "Yep". All of these steps are to be covered in prayer as prayer is the key to our Evangelism efforts. However, in this step it is the specific prayer for ministries, people, and ourselves to begin to carry out our answer to step 2. This is not just individual private prayer, but the focused prayer of the community

The Good News

A weekly newsletter of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
October 9, 2015



Special Guest

The Rt. Rev. Elias Chakupewa and his wife Lucy will be making a visit to the Diocese of Springfield over the week of October 12-19th. They will be visiting each Deanery of the Diocese and attending our Synod. Bishop Elias and Lucy will spend the night of the 17th at the Rectory as guests of Fr. Dave and Amy, and worship with St. Matthew's on Sunday the 18th. Bishop Elias will be our preacher and celebrant on that day as well. Please plan on attending on this day to show our support for our Companion Diocese and our brothers and sisters in Christ in Tanzania.

on the Mission of the Church.

Praying we can work together in the Kingdom of God for its expansion in our community,

Dave+

Service Schedule for the week of October 11, 2015

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
7:30 AM

Holy Eucharist (Rite II)
10:00 AM

Evensong 5:00 PM

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

A potluck lunch and greeting time will follow the 10AM service. A sign up sheet is available in the hallway. Main course and drinks will be provided.

Golden Celebration

Let's Celebrate at Coffee Hour, October 11, 2015. Roy and Pam Laws' family would like you to join in honoring their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Everyone come and help us eat cake!

Women's Breakfast

Ladies will meet this Saturday at SHANNON's Restaurant for breakfast and fellowship. Shannon's Restaurant is located at [1305 S Mercer Ave, Bloomington, IL 61704](#). Come join us this Saturday morning. at 8:30 a.m.

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.

Children's Sunday School

For high school through nursery age are meeting downstairs. Kids begin at 9 am in the center room of the basement for a quick song and a prayer and then off to their classes - early years (roughly ages 4-7), middle years (roughly ages 8-11) and Jr./Sr. High (12-up). Teachers are eagerly awaiting your arrival!

Speaking of Tabora

A year ago, a generous donor from St. Matthew's made it possible to fill a request from Bishop Elias to train Ms. Aksa Ernest as a financial assistant (treasurer) for the Diocese of Tabora. I am pleased to report that Ms. Ernest has completed her certificate of training in Dodoma and is working as a financial assistant in the Diocesan office. This has been a great blessing to the Diocese, and Bishop Elias has asked that I pass on his thanks to St. Matthew's.

Also, it has been reported that as of the beginning of September over \$9,000 has been raised by the ECW of the Diocese of Springfield for the construction of the new girl's hostel at St. Peter's Secondary School. St. Matthew's played a very large role in this project and we are very proud of how much this community did to assist. Well done! It will be a joy to see Bishop Elias presented with the "large" ceremonial check at Diocesan Synod.

Musical Musings

The musical team of Heidi and Amy would love your input. You may have noticed some changes in music during the 10 a.m. service. Fr. Dave has asked us to explore the various Anglican resources. With these explorations, we would love your feedback.

Watch as this space disappears! :(However, it will reappear!

Unfortunately, due to an unforeseen technical complication with Forward Movement (the host for RenewalWorks), we will not be launching RenewalWorks this weekend. However, we expect the complication to be resolved in a short period and are planning on joining the January session of RenewalWorks.

RenewalWorks is offered by Forward Movement and is focused on assessing and improving our Spiritual Vitality as a Eucharistic Community and as individuals. More details will follow in this space as we move toward launching this program.

RenewalWorks is a key component to checking on the health of our ministries and spiritual lives, as well as helping the clergy and vestry ensure we are doing the things necessary to promote spiritual growth and health.

Popcorn Sales

It might be a well-kept secret, but St. Matthew's has picked up the responsibility of being the Chartering Organization of Cub Scout Pack 42 located at Oakland School. This was done at the request of the Oakland School PTO and the Boy Scout Council. It is a natural fit for us as we are also the emergency partner for Oakland School.

This Sunday a couple of the Cub Scouts with their families will be here at and after the 10AM service to promote their annual popcorn sale. Please welcome them warmly.

PS. We also have a couple of Cub Scouts in the parish that are not members of this pack, and we ask that you support them as well.

Bishop's Homecoming

Bishop Daniel will celebrate his homecoming visit on November 1. We already have several folks who wish to be confirmed and received on that day, if you have not let Fr. Dave know you desire for this, please do so as soon as you can.

Youth Group

The Youth Group meetings for October are 6-7:30 PM on the 11th and 25th.

Evening Prayer

Evensong is held each Sunday at 5PM.

Good News Daily

This Week's Good News Daily is [here](#).

Readings & Music for October 11, 2015

Hymns: #460, #488, #335, #680, and inserted music

Amos 5:6-7,10-15

Seek the LORD and live,
or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire,
and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood,
and bring righteousness to the ground!

They hate the one who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

Therefore because you trample on the poor
and take from them levies of grain,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not live in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

For I know how many are your transgressions,
and how great are your sins--
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and push aside the needy in the gate.

Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time;
for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.

Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Psalm 90:12-17 Page 718, BCP

Domine, refugium

12

So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

13

Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.

14

Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

15

Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.

16

Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

17

May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

Hebrews 4:12-16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Mark 10:17-31

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age--houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions--and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

Ministry Assignments for October 11 & 18

11-Oct

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Ann Nadakavukaren

Lector: E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Lector: John Stoffer

Acolytes: Liam Halt, Jack & Nolan White

Crucifer: Alex Davingman

Shadow: Daniel

E.M.: Shelley Brenneman Carter, & Bob Kohlhasse

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Laws family - 50th Anniversary

18-Oct

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Mona Johnstone

Lector: E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Lector: Alex Davingman

Acolytes: Shelley Brenneman Carter, Alley & Devan Roberson

Crucifer: Brent Baughan

Shadow: Georgia

E.M.: Tim Leighton & Robin Levine

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Dinner honoring Bishop Elias

Birthdays & Anniversaries October 9 - 25

Reva Alber

Kia Griffin

David Halt

Robert Wolfe

Linda & Steve Waldron

Pam & Roy Laws

Brad Brenneman

Natalie Laken

Kathleen Dean

Lynn & Kelly Gray

Adrienne Ives

Collect for Sunday, October 11th

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

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St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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