

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

Next week at the annual meeting we will hear an update on the timeline for reconstruction of our hole-y building. As we receive that report, and prepare for the work to be done, I would ask that you join me in discerning what the architecture of our building communicates about our Christian faith.

Throughout the remainder of Epiphany and Lent, I will be using this space to highlight several details of our architecture and bid us to contemplate those details as they draw us closer to Christ.

To start us off, a word about what we call this place. Colloquially, we call the building in which we worship a "church". That is a place where the "ecclesia" the ones called out, the believers, gather to do the basic work of being believers, to give thanks to God (celebrate the Eucharist). We should never forget that this church building is not all that the term Church means and that we, the whole body of Christ are the Church when we gather and when we do God's work in our daily lives.

This building can also be called a Temple as it is the place where the worship of the Triune God occurs, and where the Sacrifice of Thanksgiving is offered. Temples

The Good News

January 22, 2016



Morning Prayer - Standard Schedule

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.

Bible Study

Continues on Wednesday at 6PM. We will finish Genesis this week and begin preparing for the Lenten Series which will start on February 10. We will meet before the 7PM Ash Wednesday service.

During Lent we will study the lives of the Apostles after Pentecost. Each evening will begin at 6PM with soup and salad and conclude at 7:30 with Compline.

The Society of King Charles the Martyr

The SKCM, of which your rector is a member, will be holding a mass in commemoration of the Martyr King on Friday, January 29 at 12:15. The service will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral and those in attendance will go out to lunch together. If you wish to attend, please let Fr. Dave know and he will arrange a carpool.

The Guild of the Holy Rosary

Several of our members have formed a guild for the promotion and praying of the Rosary. The Guild has put together a devotional manual that they are eager to share with anyone who wishes. They meet at 5:30 PM each Wednesday to pray together, and invites all members of St. Matthew's to join them in prayer. Please join the Guild in prayer for our Church, our Parish, our clergy, and each other.

are always seen as the abode of the deity, and the glory of God is always present in the temple. It is the place where heaven and earth meet. Yet, we are also called to be the Temple of the Holy Spirit, the place where heaven and earth meet.

In short the very space in which we worship is communicating to us what we are and how we should live as Christian people. How we orient ourselves in this space will impact how we orient ourselves to the divine work of making disciples for Jesus Christ.

Next week, temple elements in St. Matthew's.

Dave+

PS I will be migrating my personal (and most often checked) email from gmail to frhalt@protonmail.com over the next month or so. The Church email for me (rector@stmattsblm.org) will continue to be "live".

Service Schedule for the week of January 24, 2016

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 7:00 AM
and Thursday 7:30 AM

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 31. We will have one service at 9AM that day with the meeting immediately to follow. Meat and drinks will be provided, please bring something to share at the meal.

Vestry members will handle set-up and clean-up duties.

All reports from committees and ministries should be turned into the office by January 24. No reports will be published after that date.

Two delegates to Diocesan Synod are also needed. If no nominations are made, the vestry will appoint from its own membership.

If you are interested in being nominated for either of these positions, please let a vestry member know.

Parish Mission Trip

If you are interested, please see Fr. Dave. The trip will leave the week of June 27 and return on July 8. The cost of the trip is \$1500 (inclusive).

The goal of the trip is 1) to build relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ and 2) to rebuild a roof at St. John Church, Owia, St. Vincent.

No shots are required, but a passport is. All ages are welcome and you don't have to know how to swing a hammer.

Local Mission Opportunities

ITEMS OF THE MONTH FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2016-The old year goes and the new year comes, but the need never ends. The Salvation Army is always there to help; and we can all help this fine, historic organization feed, clothe, and shelter those in need by donating food for the Safe Harbor Shelter and the Army's food pantry. Please place supplies and imperishable foods in the Outreach baskets in the narthex and the hallway beside the fireplace. We bless and thank you!

Here are some suggestions from The Salvation Army: Ketchup--Mayo--Hot Sauce; Italian & Ranch Dressing; Butter, Sugar & Syrup; Coffee & Kool-Aid; Fruit Juice & Tomato Juice; Jell-O (not pudding); Cereal (hot or cold) & Grits; Canned Meats; Canned Fruits/Vegetables; Boxed Meals; Mac-N-Cheese; Cereal; Crackers.

COATS-donated to The Salvation Army will still be welcome through the end of January.

Coffee Hour

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

A big thank-you to all who served as Coffee Hour hosts in 2015! But please don't stop now. We want you to serve sometime during February through July 2016. If you are currently on our schedule, you'll be on the new schedule UNLESS you tell us to drop you. (Please don't.)

Rosary 5:30 PM Wednesdays.

Intercessory Prayer

Monday at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday
at 12:40 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

If you are not on our current schedule, we urge you to come back or to join for the first time. We will instruct you. You need not offer large and varied amounts of food unless you really want to: all we ask is that you keep the coffee going (St. Matthew's provides the coffee and tea) and provide snacks after the 10 a.m. service. Thanks again.

Ann Sokan, 664-1639; Linda Thomas, 242-7160

Good News Daily

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

Readings & Music for January 24, 2016

Hymns: #126, #381, #616

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Psalm 19 Caeli enarrant

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,

4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.

5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
8 The statutes of the Lord are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
9 The fear of the Lord is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.
11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.
14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers?

Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Luke 4:14-21

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Ministry Assignments for January 24 & 31

24-Jan

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Martha Carroll

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Lector: Brad Bauman

Acolytes: Liam Halt, Jack & Nolan White

Crucifer: Alex Davingman

Shadow: Daniel

E.M.: Shelley Brenneman Carter

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: Chris Embree & Gary Ploense

31-Jan

9:00

Lector: Chrissy Stoffer

Acolytes: Chris Bennett, Sarah Halt, Christian Pitts

Crucifer: Collin Bennett

Shadow: Sean

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Annual Meeting Potluck

Birthdays & Anniversaries January 22 - February 7

Alicia Perry

Philip Brooks

Megan Holderby
Wayne Dean
Rachael Kimmerling
Charlotte & Charlie Casperson

Collect for Sunday, January 24th

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reign with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Contact Information

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