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## Rector's Ramblings

Ignore my previous e-news. That is what happens when you have an amateur office staff at the controls. (Lest anyone think I am criticizing my staff, I am the amateur office staff this week).

Please excuse any mistakes or missing information in this newsletter. It has been a very stressful week here at the office.

Our beloved Parish Administrator, Pat Meyer, has been quite ill over the past several days. Please keep her in your prayers for a full recovery.

In Christ,

Fr. Dave  
309-660-8515

## Ministry Links

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

## The Good News

April 21, 2017



### Book Sale

Reminder that the Outreach book sale will take place tomorrow from 8AM until Noon. A bag sale will be offered between Noon and 1PM.

Baked goods may be dropped off at the church until 6PM this evening.

### New Member/Inquirers Gathering

Fr. Halt will host a New Member/Inquirers Gathering on Sunday, May 7th at 6PM (after Evensong). We will meet in the Parish Hall.

This is a social event, but time will be set aside to answer questions and discuss life at St. Matthew's.

All are welcome.  
Beverages and snacks will be provided.

### Parish Education

Resumes this Wednesday at 6PM. Light supper served at 5:30.

### Confirmation

We are compiling a list of individuals (youth and adults) interested in confirmation/reception this fall. Please let Fr. Halt know if you are interested in this process.

The classes will occur monthly June-September. Time and dates TBD based on participants schedules.

### **Mission Leadership Team**

Meeting is scheduled for April 24th at 7PM. All Mission Leadership Team meetings are open meetings.

### **St. Michael's Conference**

The St. Michael's Conference will be held June 11-17 at St. Michael's Church in O'Fallon. The conference is designed to be both formational and fun. It is open to all youth between the ages of 13-19. If you are interested, please see Fr. Dave for more information. The cost is \$100 for the week.

### **Church Camp**

The Episcopal Church camp of Illinois will be held at East Bay Camp from July 2-8. Camp is open to rising 1st Graders to High School Seniors. Brochures are available [here](#) and the registration site is [open](#). Camp is \$250 for the week, and scholarships are available.

### **Sign-Up Now**

*Sign-Up Sheets are always posted on the bulletin boards outside the office, and across from the Parish Hall.*

Please help those homebound members with a meal. If you might be available to share in this occasional ministry, please sign up today. For questions contact Phyllis Halt.

### **Movie Night**

Join us Saturday Evening, April 29, for the movie "Queen of Katwe". This is the true story of Phiona Mutesi, the slums of Uganda, opportunity, tenacity, and chess. A truly uplifting film.

Movie will begin at 6:00 PM. Pizza, popcorn, and drinks will be provided.

### **Morning Prayer - Standard Schedule**

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

### **Intercessory Prayer**

Intercessory Prayer is offered at 8 p.m. on Monday, and on Thursday at 12:15.

## **Guild of the Holy Rosary**

Meets immediately after the 10:00 service on Sunday morning and Wednesdays at 5:30pm.

## **Outreach Opportunities**

### **March & April Items of the Month**

As we continue into the new year please consider assisting those in our community who are seeking help to escape the abuse of domestic violence. Mid Central Community Action's (MCCA) emergency shelter, Neville House, provides safe harbor, assists and provides families in crisis situations with individual and group counseling for adults and children, and serves as a community resource providing awareness, advocacy, and education on the issue of domestic violence.

Neville House personnel have suggested the following necessary supplies for the shelter and its residents: women and children who arrive with literally the clothing they have on their backs and nothing else need comfortable pajama/lounge-like clothes, in a variety of sizes along with t-shirts, underwear, socks, and diapers (of all sizes). In addition, personal hygiene items such as: bath soaps, lotions, shampoos/conditioners, toothpaste and brushes are always in short supply. Cleaning supplies for the bathroom and kitchen along with paper products (especially toilet paper) are always needed. Please help by providing nonperishable canned goods and boxed meals for the pantry. Grocery store gift cards also assist in helping provide fresh produce, dairy and other perishable items for the kitchen.

Keep in mind some children may arrive having left a favorite toy or book behind because of the need to leave quickly. Please consider providing some small (new or gently used) toys and books that may provide some comfort to a child who has been removed from all they have previously known.

And lastly, because of the ongoing unsolved problems with the transit situation, any monetary gifts would be appreciated to assist in transporting residents to doctor appointments, job interviews, and/or their children to school/daycare.

Please place supplies in the Outreach baskets in the narthex and the hallway beside the fireplace. We bless and thank each and every one of you for your continued generosity to those in need in our community.

The Outreach Committee will hold its **spring Book/DVD/Bake Sale** on Saturday, April 22, 8 AM - 12 Noon. Please bring your donations of books, DVDs, VHS tapes and other recordings to the parish hall and place near the book shelves. If you need any help

getting donations to the church, please call Debbie Leighton at 662-7478.

### **Parish Schedule for the week of April 16th**

*Brief Coffee time is between services*

Sunday-11:00 a.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

Monday-Office Closed

Monday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Monday-8:00 p.m.-Intercessory Prayer

Tuesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Tuesday-10:00 a.m.-Quilters

Wednesday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-light supper for participants

Wednesday-6:00 p.m.-adult bible study and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Holy Eucharist & Breakfast

Thursday-6:00 p.m.-Cub Scouts meeting

Friday-7:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

Friday-6:00 p.m.-Brownie troop meeting

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.  
(noon)

*If you have anything you would like added to the schedule or announcements in the bulletin and news letter please send an email reply to the newsletter, or call the office.*

### **Good News Daily**

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

### **Readings & Music for April 16, 2017**

Hymns: #212, #178 #318, #193

Acts 2:14a,22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know- this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,

for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades,  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor  
David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us  
to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had  
sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his  
descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the  
resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Psalm 16

Conserva me, Domine

1 Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; \*

I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,  
my good above all other."

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble among the people.

3 But those who run after other gods \*  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

4 Their libations of blood I will not offer, \*  
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.

5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; \*  
it is you who uphold my lot.

6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; \*  
my heart teaches me, night after night.

8 I have set the Lord always before me; \*  
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my body also shall rest in hope.

10 For you will not abandon me to the grave, \*  
nor let your holy one see the Pit.

11 You will show me the path of life; \*  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his  
great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into  
an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,  
kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power  
of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the

last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

### **Ministry Assignments for Easter & April 23rd**

23-April

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Diane Gardner

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Crucifer: Sarah Halt  
Thurifur: Chris Bennett  
Lector: Ann Soka  
E.M.: Bob Kohlhas  
Monday Counter: Roy Laws  
Coffee Hour: Whites

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Will return next week. We will also post belated birthdays.**

### **Collect for the Second Sunday of Easter**

**Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; 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

