

## Contents

This Week's Readings

## Rector's Ramblings

The Councils of the Church  
At ordination priests are tasked with taking their share in the Councils of the Church. At the time is sounds exciting, as if the new presbyter (elder) will be the next Nicholas or Athanasius standing and defending the truth of the Gospel at an Ecumenical Council. This overly inflated view of their calling is quickly deflated. There has been no Ecumenical Council for 1000 years, and may never be again. And so the councils of the Church continue to take the ancient pattern of a bishop gathering with his presbyters (priests) to discuss the life and work of the Church. Last week some of us took council with youth of the diocese at St. Michael's. It was an excellent time of prayer, fellowship, and formation. It was an encouragement to see youth passionate about worship, praying the office, and singing classical Anglican music.

This Monday, I will be joining Bishop Daniel on a visit to our partner diocese in Tabora. The purpose of the visit is not mission in the classic sense, but to share in the council of the Church in Tabora. We will be attending and participating in their annual Synod. Unlike our day and a half meeting in the fall, Tabora will spend four days in prayer, fellowship, council, and celebrating the Holy Eucharist. I am certain that this will be a blessing for us all.

Traveling with us this time are Cris Embree, Brad Bauman, and Chuck Palm. They will be presenting Bishop Elias with \$500 from our Outreach Committee and

## The Good News

June 23, 2017



### Parish Education

Formal formation is on summer break. There will be informal gatherings on and off during the summer for youth and adults. Watch this space for information.

### Mission Leadership Team Meeting

The Mission Leadership Team met on Monday 6/5. Among the items for discussion were requests from Building and Grounds for a couple of maintenance items including replacing lighting in the parish hall with energy efficient fixtures and striping the parking lot. They also discussed finishing the sound system update and installing a new video projector in the parish hall. These items were approved.

Lay members of the MLT initiated a discussion of creating a cry room on the west side of the narthex for our younger members. It was decided to commence a research program to assess the feasibility, cost, and impact of this idea.

Finally, there was agreement on an organizational chart to guide the MLT in their work. Members of the MLT will choose an area of specialization for their work as a part of this body in keeping with the Bishop's mission vision. Once all positions are assigned, we will communicate who is responsible and what those responsibilities include.

### Breakfast Fellowships

Men's Breakfast will meet on July 15 at 8AM in the Parish Hall.

### Fr. Halt's Summer Schedule

some other funds to a rural parish for building needs. We will return on July 9 and desire your prayers for our travel, and especially for our renewal in the work of Christ.

May God bless you all.

In Christ,

Fr. Dave  
309-660-8515

## Ministry Links

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

Fr. Dave will be in and out quite a bit during the Summer. He will be working with the St. Michael's Conference from the afternoon of the 11th-17th of June. He will also travel to Tabora with the Bishop and several from St. Matthew's from the 26th of June-10 July. Services on the 2nd of July will be lead by Fr. David Wells and Deacon Tim will lead on 9 July.

The next intensive for his PhD work will take place from 27 August to 9 September. He is working on arranging coverage at this time.

### **Morning Prayer - Summer Schedule**

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

### **The Daily Devotional Reading**

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

### **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.

### **Serving Schedule**

25-June

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Julie Bennett

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Liam Halt

Lector: John Stoffer

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: volunteer needed

Coffee Hour: SB Carter & Susan Long

2-July

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte:

Lector: Jim Cooper

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase  
Monday Counter: Gary Ploense  
Coffee Hour: SB Carter & Susan Long

### **Outreach Opportunities**

#### ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

In May and June we are asking for donations for the Home Sweet Home Mission, a 100-year-old Christian organization which provides shelter and meals for the needy in our community.

Here are some suggestions: body wash, baby wipes, diapers sz. 4, razors, shaving cream, children's toothpaste, dish soap, paper towels; cooking oil, coffee, canned or jars of nuts, baked beans, fruit cups, pudding cups, dried fruit, dry milk.

Many thanks! The Outreach Committee

### **Parish Schedule for the week of June 25th**

*Coffee hour follows worship in the Parish hall*

Sunday-7:30 a.m.-Rite I Morning Prayer

Sunday-9:00 a.m.-Rite II Morning Prayer

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

Sunday-5:30 p.m.-Evensong

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

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

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-Guild of the Holy Rosary

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer & Breakfast

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

Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

*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.*

### **Readings & Music for June 25, 2017**

Hymns: #381, #490, #313, #699

Old Testament

Jeremiah 20:7-13

O Lord, you have enticed me,  
and I was enticed;

you have overpowered me,  
and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long;  
everyone mocks me.

For whenever I speak, I must cry out,  
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the Lord has become for me  
a reproach and derision all day long.  
If I say, "I will not mention him,  
or speak any more in his name,"  
then within me there is something like a burning fire  
shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in,  
and I cannot.  
For I hear many whispering:  
"Terror is all around!  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
All my close friends  
are watching for me to stumble.  
"Perhaps he can be enticed,  
and we can prevail against him,  
and take our revenge on him."  
But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble,  
and they will not prevail.  
They will be greatly shamed,  
for they will not succeed.  
Their eternal dishonor  
will never be forgotten.  
O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous,  
you see the heart and the mind;  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.  
Sing to the Lord;  
praise the Lord!  
For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.

Psalm 69: 8-20

*Salvum me fac*

8 Surely, for your sake have I suffered reproach, \*  
and shame has covered my face.  
9 I have become a stranger to my own kindred, \*  
an alien to my mother's children.  
10 Zeal for your house has eaten me up; \*  
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.  
11 I humbled myself with fasting, \*  
but that was turned to my reproach.  
[12 I put on sack-cloth also, \*  
and became a byword among them.  
13 Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, \*  
and the drunkards make songs about me.  
14 But as for me, this is my prayer to you, \*  
at the time you have set, O Lord:  
15 "In your great mercy, O God, \*  
answer me with your unfailing help.



16 Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; \*  
let me be rescued from those who hate me  
and out of the deep waters.

17 Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,  
neither let the deep swallow me up; \*  
do not let the Pit shut its mouth upon me.]

18 Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind; \*  
in your great compassion, turn to me.'

19 "Hide not your face from your servant; \*  
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

20 Draw near to me and redeem me; \*  
because of my enemies deliver me.

### The Epistle

Romans 6:1b-11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

### The Gospel

Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus said to the twelve disciples, "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than

many sparrows.

"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,  
and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries from June 25 - July 1**

### *Anniversaries*

#### *Birthdays*

Christian Pitts

Sarah Pitts

Josephine Brooks

Liz Gordon

## **Collect for Sunday June 25, 2017**

O Lord, we beseech thee, make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name, for thou never failest to help and govern those whom thou hast set upon the sure foundation of thy loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Contact Information**

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

