

## 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 30, 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.

Women's Breakfast resumes in September.

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. Halt's Summer Schedule**

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**

2-July

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Mark Gibson

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt

Lector: Jim Cooper

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Schaeffer Family

9-July - Morning Prayer

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Liz Gordon

10:00

Acolyte: Liam Halt

Lector: volunteer (Brad Bauman on Mission Trip)  
Monday Counter: SB Carter  
Coffee Hour: Leightons & Pitts

### **Outreach Opportunities**

#### ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

In July we continue 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 July 2nd**

*Coffee hour follows worship in the Parish hall*

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

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

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

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

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

Tuesday-Office Closed for the Holiday

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

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

Thursday-8:30 a.m.-Scribbles Field Trip, Parish Hall

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

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 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 July 2, 2017**

Hymns: #397, #440, #318, #537

Old Testament

Jeremiah 28:5-9

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. But listen

now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

Psalm 89:1-4,15-18

*Misericordias Domini*

1 Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

2 For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*

you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

4 'I will establish your line for ever, \*

and preserve your throne for all generations.'"

15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout! \*

they walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.

16 They rejoice daily in your Name; \*

they are jubilant in your righteousness.

17 For you are the glory of their strength, \*

and by your favor our might is exalted.

18 Truly, the Lord is our ruler; \*

the Holy One of Israel is our King.

The Epistle

Romans 6:12-23

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the

things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Gospel

Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple-- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries from July 2 - 8**

#### Anniversaries

Shelley Carter & Brad Brenneman

#### Birthdays

Phyllis Halt

Dave Halt

Abigail Bray

### **Collect for Sunday July 2, 2017**

O Almighty God, who hast built thy Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made an holy temple acceptable unto thee; through the same 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

