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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

In our continuing story, we now speak of our Communications Director. It is a fancy title, but the pay is lousy.

Roger Hollis is a native of Alabama and a retiree from State Farm. He is an avid reader, golfer, and very good with technology. Roger faithfully attends the 10AM service and is heavily involved in Christian Formation classes.

For the past several years he has been responsible for maintaining the website and Facebook feeds.

Over the next year, he will be taking a closer look at how we can improve all our communications channels and publications.

If you have suggestions or concerns about the process and products of communication please see Roger.

In Christ,

Fr. Dave
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

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

The Good News

October 6, 2017



Parish Education

Parish study of the Book of Judges on Wednesday evenings - 6:00 p.m. We begin with a very light meal at 530 if interested.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for children meets at 545 after the supper.

All are invited.

Youth Gathering

The youth will gather in the Parish Hall on the 29th of October at 6PM. The agenda is a mystery, but will be fun and informative. Feel free to bring a friend.

Diocesan Synod

Synod will take place on 13-14 October at the Parke Regency here in Bloomington. We are in need of several volunteers for both days. If you are interested in serving as a registration clerk, page, or teller, please see Sandy Kohlhasse.

If you are interested in serving on the altar for the Synod Mass on the 13th, please see Fr. Dave.

Bishop's Visit

Bishop Martin's will be making his annual visit on 15 October at both services. Any adult who desires to be confirmed should see Fr. Dave.

Pulpit Exchange (Postponed)

Fr. Wetmore has had to postpone the pulpit exchange indefinitely. Unfortunately, the usual suspect will be preaching and celebrating on 10/22.

The Daily Devotional Reading

is available by clicking of the link below:

[Good News Daily](#)

Guild of the Holy Rosary

Meets immediately after the 10:00 service on Sunday morning.

Breakfast Fellowships

Women's breakfast - Saturday 10/14 at 8:30 a.m.

Men's breakfast - Saturday 10/21 at 8:00 a.m.

Serving Schedule

8-October

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: Sarah Halt

Lector: Ann Sokan

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Roy Laws

Coffee Hour: Cris & Gary

15-October Bishop's Homecoming

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Liz Gordon

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: SB Carter

Thurifer: Joe Norton

Crucifer: Brent Baughan

Lector: Martha Carroll

E.M.: Bob Kohlhase

Monday Counter: Gary Ploense

Coffee Hour: Chrissy & John Stoffer

Outreach Opportunities

ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

Thank you for your recent donations of school supplies to Oakland School. We will continue to request donations during the fall; however, the school needs supplies throughout the year.

Suggestions for supplies for grades K-5 as noted on the supply list (double sided) are posted on the bulletin board. Your contributions can be placed on the ledge in the main hallway outside the sanctuary. Please read the thank you note from Oakland School, also posted on the bulletin board in recognition and appreciation of our efforts.

In addition, we continue to collect "Boxtops for Education" labels found on packages of many food items. A long list of possible foods with Box top labels is posted on the bulletin board. The labels can be placed in boxes in the Narthex or on the bulletin board. Many thanks for helping with these collections.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES-HURRICANE RELIEF

We have all been so moved over the past two weeks by the impact of Hurricane Harvey. The damage from this storm is so widespread and recovery will take many months, if not years. From all accounts, the potential destruction from Hurricane Irma will be even be more significant. Midwest Food Bank is working closely with The Salvation Army to provide disaster relief boxes and other supplies to people who have been and will be impacted. As a Salvation Army First Responder, Midwest Food Bank can have supplies on the road within 24 hours of being called. To date, at least 10 tractor trailer trucks of relief boxes have been requested for Houston victims, with many more loads expected in the coming months. Disaster Relief boxes contain enough shelf-stable food to feed a family of four for 4 to 5 days as well as some toiletries. Each box also contains a Bible and a handwritten note of support and encouragement. These notes let those impacted by the storm know that people care about them, are praying for them and firmly believe that with God's help, they will recover and see better days ahead.

HOW ST. MATTHEW'S CAN HELP. If you would like to write a handwritten note to be inserted into the Salvation Army relief boxes being delivered by Midwest Food Bank to Hurricane Harvey and Irma victims, please place an undated note into the basket by the Outreach items of the month. This is a very tangible way to show compassion for those in need and offer them encouragement amidst all of the upheaval in their lives. I know this will be very much appreciated by the recipients and by Midwest Food Bank.

YOU CAN ALSO PROVIDE DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT through the Diocese of Texas websight: www.epicenter.org/harvey/ is a direct link for giving, along with information from their Bishop.

Other Ways to Help. Midwest Food Bank will have many opportunities available in the coming weeks and months for those who would like to assist with hurricane relief efforts. Please check the Midwest Food Bank website: www.midwestfoodbank.org for dates of upcoming volunteer opportunities. The website also lists

food, hygiene items and cleaning supplies currently being collected.

Please pray for all those impacted by these natural disasters. If you have any questions, please contact Chrissy Stoffer at 663-6450.

Parish Schedule for the week of October 8th

Coffee Hour follows 10:00 a.m. worship in the Parish hall

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

Sunday-10:00 a.m.-Rite II '

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

Sunday-5:30 p.m.-Evensong

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

Monday-5:30 p.m.-Brownies

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

Wednesday-6:00 p.m.- Adult formation & CGS

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer and breakfast

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

Saturday-8:30 a.m.-Women's breakfast

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 October 8, 2017

Hymns: #495, #337, #518

Old Testament

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

What more was there to do for my vineyard

that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

Psalm 80:7-14

Qui regis Israel

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
8 You have brought a vine out of Egypt; *
you cast out the nations and planted it.
9 You prepared the ground for it; *
it took root and filled the land.
10 The mountains were covered by its shadow *
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea *
and its branches to the River.
12 Why have you broken down its wall, *
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, *
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
14 Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine; *
preserve what your right hand has planted.

The Epistle

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Gospel

Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord's doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Birthdays & Anniversaries from October 8 - 14

Anniversaries

Linda & Steve Waldron

Birthdays

Kia Griffin

David Halt

Robert Wolfe

Collect for Sunday, October 8th

Almighty and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve: Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son 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

