

Contents

This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

Don't you just love technology?
Some days I do commiserate with
the [Luddites](#).

In introducing the various roles of
the Mission Leadership Team we
left off with Finance and Jeff
Clark.

This week we introduce Gary
Ploense. Gary is a Marine (former
not ex) and a retired McLean
County Sheriff's Deputy. He is a
cradle Episcopalian and member
of St. Matthew's.

Gary's portfolio is Building &
Security. In this capacity he is
responsible for liaising with the
Building and Grounds committee
to present its concerns and plans
to the MLT and vice versa.

Additionally, he will be
responsible for ensuring security
of records, building, and
electronic resources.

If you have any concerns about
the MLT's plans for facilities or
security, please see Gary.

In Christ,

Fr. Dave
309-660-8515

Ministry Links

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

The Good News

September 29, 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.

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.

Organ Dedication Gala

at the Cathedral of St. Paul's, Springfield

3:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 1st, free concert (see posting)

There will be no Evensong this week, instead all are invited to
The Cathedral Church of St. Paul for the dedication of their
new organ on Sunday Afternoon. If you are interested in
carpooling please see Fr. Halt.

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

Fr. Halt will be participating in a pulpit exchange with, Fr. Ian Wetmore, the current president of the diocesan Standing Committee and Vicar of St. Michael's, O'Fallon. The exchange will take place on October 22. Please make Fr. Wetmore feel welcome.

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

1-October

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Liz Gordon

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte:

Lector: Brad Bauman

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: SB Carter

Coffee Hour: Lee & Bill Anderson

8-October

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte:

Lector: Ann Sokan

E.M.: Emily Lavikoff

Monday Counter: Roy Laws

Coffee Hour: Cris & Gary

Outreach Opportunities

BOOK/DVD/PUZZLE SALE

Continues this Saturday (9/30) morning 8 a.m.- noon

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 1st

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

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

Sunday-9:00 a.m.-Outreach Committee meeting

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

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 1, 2017

Hymns: #492, #574, #477

Old Testament

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O

house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Psalm 25:1-8

Ad te, Domine, levavi

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

my God, I put my trust in you; *

let me not be humiliated,

nor let my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *

and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *

for you are the God of my salvation;

in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *

for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *

remember me according to your love

and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *

therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right *

and teaches his way to the lowly.

The Epistle

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard

others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going

into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Birthdays & Anniversaries from October 1 - 7

Anniversaries

Sue & Bill Jones

Birthdays

Char Wald

Julie Bennett

Jeff Clark

Charles Gordon

Steve Waldron

Kelly Gray

Caroline Leighton

Collect for Sunday, October 1st

O God, who declarest thy almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running to obtain thy promises, may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; 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

