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## Rector's Ramblings

This weekend's weather report indicates that we are under a winter storm watch now through Sunday night. It is calling for periods of freezing rain.

St. Matthew's will still celebrate both services on Sunday as long as the priest can get to the church.

However, please note that even with application of salt the drive and sidewalks can still experience a build-up of ice.

So, please make your decision about attending during such weather conditions based on your needs and safety. If we see you for services that is great. If you need to miss due to weather and the chance of injury, you will be missed and in our prayers. Yet, if you have to miss, please take the time to offer Morning Prayer for your parish.

In Christ,

Fr. Dave  
309-660-8515

## Ministry Links

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

## The Good News

January 13, 2017



### Breakfast Fellowships

Women's Breakfast will meet Saturday, 1/14, at 830 AM.

Men's Breakfast will meet Saturday, 1/21, at 8AM.

### Annual Meeting and Annual Reports

St. Matthew's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2017. There will be one service at 9AM on that day.

All reports to be included in the book should be into the office by January 20th. If possible, Microsoft Word formatted reports (.doc or .docx) are best, but we will retype handwritten information, if necessary.

### Parish Education

Continues meeting on 1/18/17.

### Coffee Hour

Here's a New Year's Resolution to benefit St. Matthew's: " I resolve to host Coffee Hour at least once during 2017. " A new Coffee Hour schedule will be coming out in February, and we'd like to see your name on the list. You need not go into debt to serve light snacks and keep the coffee brewing. Please pray about it, ask us questions, and let us know if you'll join us. Thank you for considering this important ministry. Ann Sokan, 664-1639, and Linda Thomas, 242-7160.

### 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**

#### **January & February Items of the Month**

During the cold winter months of January & February 2017, the Outreach Committee will be collecting items for the Salvation Army, with emphasis on products for its local shelter. The shelter houses and feeds men, women, and children in need of a warm place to sleep and a good breakfast and dinner.

You can help by filling the outreach baskets with such items as: 1. Cleaning Products: laundry detergent, dish detergent, bathroom cleanser, bleach; Paper & Plastic Products: toilet paper, napkins, 40-45-gallon garbage bags, latex gloves; Personal Hygiene Products: razors, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, foot powder, lotion; Miscellaneous Products: dish towels, face towels, coffee, gift cards from Sam's Club (for general operation of the shelter).

We will continue to collect gently used coats and other cold-weather garments for the Salvation Army through January 2017. If Santa brought you a new coat for Christmas, bring your old one to church and place it in the big white box opposite Pat's office.

Many, MANY thanks for your marvelous generosity to those in need in our community. The Outreach Committee

#### **Parish Schedule for the week of January 15th**

*Coffee Hour follows worship in the Parish hall.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

Wednesday-5:30 p.m.-pot-luck supper

Wednesday-6:00 p.m.-Catechesis of the Good Shepherd & Adult Bible Study

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

Thursday-6:00 p.m.-Cub Scout pack meeting

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

Friday-6:00 p.m.-Brownie Troop meeting  
Saturday-8:00 a.m.-Men's Breakfast

Office Hours: Monday - Friday: Mornings, 8:00 a.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 January 15, 2017**

Hymns: #121, #132, #307, #535

Old Testament Isaiah 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands,  
pay attention, you peoples from far away!  
The Lord called me before I was born,  
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.  
He made my mouth like a sharp sword,  
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;  
he made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me away.  
And he said to me, "You are my servant,  
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."  
But I said, "I have labored in vain,  
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;  
yet surely my cause is with the Lord,  
and my reward with my God."

And now the Lord says,  
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
and that Israel might be gathered to him,  
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,  
and my God has become my strength--  
he says,  
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the Lord,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,

the slave of rulers,  
"Kings shall see and stand up,  
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the Lord, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

#### Psalm 40:1-12

Expectans, expectavi

1 I waited patiently upon the Lord; \*  
he stooped to me and heard my cry.

2 He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay;  
\*

he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure.

3 He put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God; \*  
many shall see, and stand in awe,  
and put their trust in the Lord.

4 Happy are they who trust in the Lord! \*  
they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.

5 Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!  
how great your wonders and your plans for us! \*  
there is none who can be compared with you.

6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! \*  
but they are more than I can count.

7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure \*  
(you have given me ears to hear you);

8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, \*  
and so I said, "Behold, I come.

9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: \*  
'I love to do your will, O my God;  
your law is deep in my heart.'"

10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; \*  
behold, I did not restrain my lips;  
and that, O Lord, you know.

11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart;  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; \*  
I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great  
congregation.

12 You are the Lord;  
do not withhold your compassion from me; \*  
let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever,

#### The Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,  
and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are  
sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all  
those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, both their Lord and ours:



Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Gospel

John 1:29-42

John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

## **Ministry Assignments for January 15 & 22**

15-January

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Chris Bennett  
E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00  
Acolyte: Alley Roberson  
Crucifer: Brent Baughan  
Lector: Ann Soka  
E.M.: Robin Levine  
Monday Counter: Susan Clark  
Coffee Hour: Bray family

22-January  
7:30  
Greeters: Ray Durham  
Lector: Julie Bennett  
E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00  
Acolyte: Liam Halt  
Crucifer: Christian Pitts  
Lector: Martha Carroll  
E.M.: Jack Pitts  
Tuesday Counter: SB Carter  
Coffee Hour: Linda Thomas & Ann Soka

**Birthdays & Anniversaries     January 15 - 21**  
Anniversaries

Birthdays  
Tina Kaufman  
Brad Dyson

**Collect for January 8th**

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that thy people, illumined by thy Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Contact Information**

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

