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This Week's Readings

Rector's Ramblings

Community Knowledge
Coordinator: Liz Gordon

Liz is a long time member and faithfully attends the 7:30 Rite I Eucharist. She was asked to serve on the MLT, initially, as a representative of the early service and to facilitate communication with parishioners who attend that service.

As the MLT concept has been developed, it was apparent that Liz has the gifts, talents, and connections to serve in the role of the Community Knowledge Coordinator. Her day job is as a teaching assistant in the local schools.

This new position focuses on the questions of "who are our neighbors", "what are their needs", "what wakes them up at 2AM", "what community resources are already in place", and "what does the church bring to these issues".

As the MLT has been tasked with developing our mission to the wider community, these questions are the key to beginning that process.

Please see Liz if you have a particular area of knowledge or interest in demographics and community knowledge.

Remember this is a work in progress and please be patient as we all grow into this new structure.

In Christ,

The Good News

August 18, 2017



Update from Tabora

Bishop Elias sends his greetings and thanks. The funds sent by the Mission Leadership Team (MLT) have been put to good use in constructing a roof for the rectory in the parish of Ndala.

Here is video of the day the parish received the funds. (Please ignore awkward, non rhythmic American in the background).



Fr. Elias Chimpaye (blue shirt in picture) sends his thanks as well. Even without windows and doors completed he will be able to move his family into the rectory.

Ministry Links

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



Men's Breakfast

Meets tomorrow at 8AM. Roger Thomas is hosting, so you know the food will be good.

All men of the parish are invited.

Parish Education

Formal formation will resume on September 20th. Our initial gathering will be to discuss the themes, books, or questions we want to study over the course of the year.

There will be a gathering of youth following evensong on September 10th. Evensong will be at 5:30 that day and youth will gather at Monicals on El Dorado at 6PM.

Fr. Halt's Summer Schedule

The next intensive for his PhD work will take place from 27 August to 9 September.

Fr. Scanlon will celebrate Holy Eucharist on 27 August.

Fr. Halt will be returning for the Labor Day weekend and will celebrate on 3 September.

This will conclude summer travel and absences.

Weekday 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.

Serving Schedule

20-August

7:30

Greeter: Ray Durham

Lector: Liz Gordon

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Acolyte: Alley Roberson

Lector: SB Halt

E.M.: Robin Levine

Monday Counter: SB Carter

Coffee Hour: White Family

27-August

7:30

Greeters: Doug & Dede Dyson

Lector: Bill Johns

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Acolyte: SB Carter

Lector: Cris Embree

E.M.: Jack Pitts

Monday Counter: Roy Laws

Coffee Hour: Baughan Family

Outreach Opportunities

ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

Thank you for your past contributions to the Items-of-the-month program sponsored by the Outreach Committee. Our efforts continue this fall with donations to Oakland School. Items are needed for grades K-5 now and throughout the year. Some suggestions include: large washable Crayola markers, #2 pencils (sharpened), erasers, Elmer's glue sticks, regular sized crayons, boxes of facial tissues and back packs (no wheels). Many other items are needed. Please see the complete list of supplies posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. School supplies can be placed in the baskets in the main hallway.

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.

Parish Schedule for the week of August 20th

Coffee hour follows 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

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

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

Wednesday-8:00 a.m.-Morning Prayer

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

Thursday-7:30 a.m.-Morning Prayer & 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 August 20, 2017

Hymns: #470, #531, #321, #537

Old Testament

Isaiah 56:1,6-8

Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant--

these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

Thus says the Lord God,

who gathers the outcasts of Israel,

I will gather others to them

besides those already gathered.

Psalm 67

Deus misereatur

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.
2 Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.
3 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.
5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.
6 The earth has brought forth her increase; *
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.
7 May God give us his blessing, *
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.

The Epistle

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Gospel

Matthew 15:10-28

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not

defile."

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Birthdays & Anniversaries from August 20 - 26

Anniversaries

Birthdays

John Stoffer

Valerie Schaeffer

Collect for Sunday August 20, 2017

Almighty God, who hast given thy only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Contact Information

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

