

THE GOOD NEWS



ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH VOL. 18 ISSUE 4 APRIL 2011

Rector's Ramblings

The month of March seemed to slip by rather quickly this year for me. This was most likely due to there being quite a bit of excitement in the Diocese over the consecration of Bishop Daniel. I, for one, found the celebration of that event to embody the very best of our tradition, and admit to having to dry an eye when Bishop Daniel's daughter hung the pectoral cross around his neck at his vesting. I guess there is a wee bit of sentimentalist in me.

In keeping with the theme of celebration, we will welcome Bishop Daniel to St. Matthew's on **April 17, Palm Sunday**. The Bishop will celebrate at both services, and there will be a reception following the 10:00 service. Please plan on attending and giving our Bishop and his wife, Brenda, a warm welcome for their first visit to this parish as he leads us into our observance of Holy Week.

Our Holy Week observances will continue throughout the week of April 17-24 with a daily Eucharist at 7:30 AM Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Maundy Thursday will be celebrated at 7:00 PM with the traditional washing of feet, the stripping of the Altar, and vigil in the Sanctuary. The vigil commemorates Jesus' prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane before his betrayal. Please consider signing up for an hour or two of prayer.

A Good Friday service according to the Book of Common Prayer will be held at 7:00 PM, or for those who wish to participate in the three-hour vigil on Good Friday, it is being hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church. I will be offering the final meditation on the words, "It is finished!"

Easter Vigil, the first celebration of Easter, will be held at 7:00 PM on Saturday, April 23. This is my favorite service of the year, and

includes the lighting of the new fire, renewal of the Baptismal Covenant, and the shouting of the first Alleluias of Easter. (Am I even allowed to write Alleluia in Lent?)

If you have candidates for Baptism, Easter Vigil is a great time to celebrate the Sacrament, so please let me know as soon as you can.

I pray that the remainder of Lent will be a holy time for you, and that the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection will fill you with joy.

WORDS FROM RECTOR'S WARDEN

Happy Spring! I always love this time of year, except Lent has seemed pretty scattered for me personally this season. Maybe it's the weather, maybe it's all the disasters that our world has been plagued with, and maybe it's just the busyness of my own life or maybe, all three. I invite everyone to partake in Holy Week services at St. Matthew's. I always marvel as I go through Maundy Thursday and Good Friday at all Jesus did for each and every one of us- it makes Easter Sunday even more glorious and special to me. I pray it is special for each of you as well. Please be sure to attend Palm Sunday when we welcome Bishop Daniel Hayden Martins. Bishop Daniel will be with us for coffee hour after church.

Aid for Japan:

Please continue to keep the survivors and aid workers of this horrific disaster in your prayers. During Holy Week, excepting Easter Sunday, we will collect plate offerings and donate these toward the relief efforts. If you write a check to support this effort, please write "Japan Relief" in the memo line. Writing notes in the memo line

on your check ensures that your offerings are coded correctly on your giving statements.

Greeter Ministry:

We are revamping and reorganizing the greeter ministry here at St. Matthew's! Monica Iliff has graciously stepped forward to lead this group of volunteers. We are working with Father Halt on revising materials for new parishioners and visitors. Look for more information to come!! We will be sending information to current greeters within the next week or two. If you are interested in becoming a greeter, please contact Julie Bennett or Monica Iliff.

God's Peace and Blessings!!

><> Julie Bennett, Rector's Warden

BISHOP'S VISIT

Bishop Daniel will visit St. Matthew's on **April 17, Palm Sunday**. He will celebrate at both services, and there will be a reception following the 10:00 service. Please plan on attending and giving our Bishop and his wife, Brenda, a warm welcome for their first visit to this parish as he leads us into our observance of Holy Week.



Stations of the Cross will be offered each Friday in Lent beginning at noon.

LENTEN SERIES

Our Lenten series this year, "Gospel in Life: Grace Changes Everything" by Timothy Keller continues on Wednesday evenings. The evening begins with a potluck supper at 5:30 with study to follow. We conclude each evening by 7:15. Babysitting is available.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

APRIL 18-24, 2011

Mon, Tues, Wed: daily Eucharist at 7:30 AM

Maundy Thursday: celebration at 7:00 PM

Good Friday: service at 7:00 PM or for those who wish to participate in the three-hour vigil on Good Friday, it is being hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church

Easter Vigil: 7:00 PM on Saturday

Easter Sunday: 7:30 AM & 10:00 AM

~Youth Notes~

Thank you to everyone who made our first fundraiser a success. We had a great time at the Jambalaya Supper on Mardi Gras. Our dessert auction was first-rate due to the great cooks here at St. Matthew's. I want to put out a special thank you to June McAnulty who made the delicious Jambalaya. We listened to jazz and ate until we could barely walk. I hope our next fundraiser is just as successful.

Speaking of our next fundraiser, the youth will be selling paper flowers for Mother's Day. There will soon be order forms around and the kids will be asking for your order. The flowers are going to be lovely and handmade by our kids! For Easter, the Sunday school kids will be making cards for shut-ins and the Youth Group will be making chocolates to go with them. The kids always love to do things for others and serving their St. Matthew's community.

Again, thank you to all and I'll see you Sunday.

~Terra

PARTNERS IN HEALING

Every month churches throughout our area pray for the patients and staff of Advocate BroMenn Regional Medical Center and Advocate Eureka Community Hospital.

During April 2011, St. Matthew's will pray for the staff and patients of the Mother/Baby Unit.

The **Mother/Baby Unit (MBU)** is located on 2 South. This unit includes six private labor/delivery rooms, a 26-crib nursery, an emergency area for C sections and 26 post-delivery care rooms, 12 of which are private and 7 semi-private.

Please keep the patients, their families and the staff of the Mother/Baby unit in your prayers.

ITEMS OF THE MONTH

During March and April the Outreach Committee is collecting items for the **Neville House Shelter**. A program of Mid Central Community Action, the shelter has a daily capacity of 13 women and children, and 4 infants. It offers special provisions to assist individuals with disabilities, males in need of shelter, and families larger than shelter room capacity. Responding to crisis and increasing self-sufficiency among its residents are the central features of Neville House assistance. Residents work closely with trained domestic violence caseworkers who assist in finding resources for housing, childcare, employment, legal representation, transportation and enhancement of life skills.

Residents arrive at Neville House in crisis with little to nothing from their homes, and are often in need of an initial change of clothing. Donations of NEW sweat suits/lounge wear for adult women, NEW packages of underwear, socks and sweat suits for children, and UNOPENED packages of diapers, feminine hygiene products, and toiletries are in constant need. Personal travel bags and used cell phones are also important donations for Neville House. The phones are cleared of all personal information and can then be used by victims of domestic violence as an emergency phone for 911 calls as no service plan is required to utilize 911.

Thank you for your generosity.
~ *The Outreach Committee*

VOLUNTEER AT MIDWEST FOOD BANK

The Outreach Committee wants to make everyone aware of a fun volunteer opportunity at Midwest Food Bank on **Tuesday, April 12th** from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Midwest Food Bank is a food warehouse and distribution facility located at 1703 S. Veteran's Parkway (across from Famous Dave's). Midwest Food Bank donates nearly \$3 million of food per month to over 600 organizations locally, nationally and internationally. It also provides disaster relief assistance for The Salvation Army and The American Red Cross.

With only three paid employees, Midwest Food Bank relies heavily on volunteer groups to help fulfill its mission. The primary task performed by volunteers is repackaging bulk food items.

Volunteers come from churches, civic organizations, corporations, college fraternities and sororities, scouting, youth sports teams and the like. Volunteering as a group is a great way to build new relationships or to strengthen existing ones.

We hope you'll consider this as an opportunity to join together as a Church community in support of a worthy cause. If you can't make it on April 12th, please join us on **June 21st, September 20th and December 13th**. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Chrissy Stoffer at 663-6450 (home) or 735-2161 (work). We hope to see you there. Thanks.

Directions to Midwest Food Bank: Go south on Veteran's Parkway. Take a right at Morrissey Boulevard (Dennison Ford is on the right) and then take the first left onto Gilmore Drive. The driveway to Midwest Food Bank is immediately on the left. Although Midwest Food Bank has a Veteran's Parkway address, there is no direct access from Veteran's Parkway.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast will be **April 16** at 8:00 a.m. The Men's Club typically meets every month on the third Saturday - watch the bulletin for the location.



* APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Ian Ward Shaw | 1 |
| Patty Pitts | 2 |
| Elijah Mohr | 4 |
| Michael Dean | 4 |
| Martha Carroll | 5 |
| Ann Sokan | 5 |
| Debbie Thomas | 6 |
| Anne Sharpton | 7 |
| Tyson Mohr | 7 |
| Austin Holderby | 9 |
| William Pitts | 9 |
| Wendy Woith | 10 |
| Barbara Allsup | 11 |
| Victoria Hill | 11 |
| Lewis Garrison | 13 |
| Grace Leighton | 14 |
| Rowena Chiles | 16 |
| Susan Jones | 17 |
| Morgan Kimmerling | 20 |
| Amy Halt | 24 |
| Margaret Cutter | 26 |
| Kevin Roberts | 27 |
| Patricia Happa | 28 |
| Charles Stuckey | 29 |
| Sarah Woith | 29 |
| Justin Palm | 30 |



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Chris and Julie Bennett | 1 |
| Jim and Reta Holderby | 4 |
| Gary and Carol Montague | 12 |
| George and Louise Krippenstapel | 21 |
| Dexter and Louise Hebert | 27 |

PRAYER FOR OUR TROOPS
Lord, hold our troops in your hands.
Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families for the
selfless acts they perform for us
in our time of need.
And give us peace.
I ask this in the name of
Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.



Our troops:

Andy Grant, Runyon Henderson,
Shane Kupferschmidt, Jason Lynch, Jeff Riggs,
Jared Spaid, Paul Ward

MUSIC NOTES

During Lent, we're singing the Psalm at the 10:00 o'clock service to Anglican Chant. This type of harmonized chant evolved from Plainsong and other unison types of chanting, which are traditionally sung without accompaniment. All types of chant are musical methods for clear, expressive singing of liturgical texts.

Word accents create the rhythm in chant. The chant should be sung with the same rhythmic flow as when we read the text aloud with expression, but not exaggeration. The recitation flows, but shouldn't be rushed. The Psalm tone we are using throughout Lent has each half verse sung on a single pitch up to the last accented syllable. The tone is repeated for each pair of verses.

Featured composer: Dr. Hyung Kook, MD (b. 1967). The Chancel Choir will offer two anthems during Lent by this South Korean composer. Come To The Feast is a gentle, lilting setting of a text by Carol McClure. The open invitation "Come in to the feast that our Lord has provided" reminds us to "Come off'ring your hearts... Come in repentance... Go out to serve in the name of our Lord."

The second anthem is a lovely new choral setting of the traditional Latin prayer *Pie Jesu*.

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem. Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Kind Lord Jesus, grant them rest. Kind Lord Jesus, grant them rest everlasting.

In addition to writing choral music, Dr. Kook specializes in research to find new treatments for heart disease. I'm confident that both these beautiful works will lift your heart and enhance our worship together.

~Melody Palm, Choirmaster

MID-WEEK COMMUNITY GATHERING

Our Wednesday midweek gathering continues!

MEAL - POTLUCK – 5:30-6:00 PM

Please bring a dish to pass.

Program:

BIBLE STUDY 6:00-7:00 PM

March 30, April 6, 13

Lenten Series—“Gospel in Life: Grace Changes Everything” by Timothy Keller

For more information, contact the office.



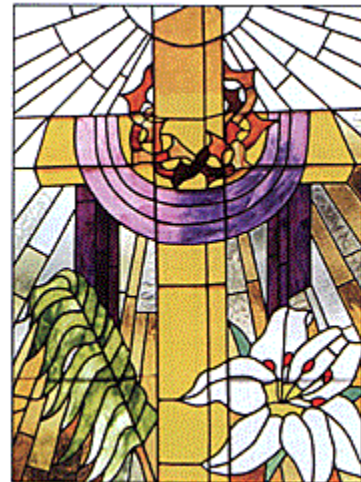
WEEKLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

Life Together, the St. Matthew's weekly bulletin, has its deadline on Tuesdays, to allow time for layout, editing and printing. If you have any information for the bulletin, be sure to turn it in to the Parish Office by noon on Tuesdays. 662-4646 or e-mail: info@stmatthewsbloomington.org

THE GOOD NEWS

The deadline for submitting articles for the April edition of The Good News monthly newsletter is Wednesday, April 20 at noon. Articles are now being accepted for the May issue of The Good News. Please submit to the Parish Office: 662-4646 or info@stmatthewsbloomington.org

We are unable to publish articles or information received after the set deadlines.



*Happy Easter
from
St. Matthew's Church*