

THE GOOD NEWS



ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH VOL. 18 ISSUE 10 OCTOBER 2011

Rector's Musings

I promise to keep this month's article short, just two quick thoughts.

I need your help! On **4 October**, with permission of your Wardens, I will be locked up for MDA. Bail has been set at \$1600, and I need your help to raise it. Please consider donating. \$10 per person who attends on any given Sunday would put me over the top. They will even let you pay to keep me in longer - just double the suggested amount!

Several years ago, I was present at the bedside of a parishioner who was losing his battle with prostate cancer. He fought for 9 years and never went into remission. His cancer was caught late as he did not have his regular check-up.

I will remember him as a giant of the faith and a great example and friend to me. In our last conversation, he made me promise that I would have my own test done when it was time, and would use my bully pulpit every few years to remind others. This is that year.

Gentlemen, some of us have a tendency to put off our annual check-ups, please don't, and remember if you are due to have your PSA checked and your prostate examined: *Make this month Procto*ber, if you haven't had a test and are due for one!



St. Francis Day will be celebrated on **October 2** at the 10AM service. Bring your favorite pets to church and have them blessed. Due to space limitations, livestock may be asked to remain in the yard.

WORDS FROM THE RECTOR'S WARDEN

It's hard to believe that fall is upon us- summer seemed to just fly by. The Vestry has done a spectacular job of "minding the store", by putting guidelines and processes in place to manage the monetary blessings bestowed upon us. In addition, we have dedicated church members working behind the scenes on committees, being a part of choirs, teaching Sunday School, helping with youth activities and more!! Since the time of stewardship awareness is upon us, I would ask that you prayerfully consider not only the time you donate, talent(s) you share, but also your financial commitment to St. Matthews as well.

Be looking in the mail for information regarding this year's program.

The 2011 Synod is just around the corner, and I ask that all of you keep the leadership of our Diocese in your prayers. It has been an exciting year with our new Bishop and we look for a productive time at Synod.

I would like to make note of the fact we have a little more than 3 months calendar time before our annual meeting in January, 2012. Debbie Leighton, Gary McGinnis and I will be rotating off our terms as Vestry members. Please prayerfully consider this important ministry to the church. If you are interested you may speak with any current Vestry members. We ask that you submit a "bio" to Laura in the church office info@stmatthewsbloomington.org via email or in writing to be published prior to the annual meeting.

If you are not receiving the monthly appointments and newsletter via email, and would like to be included, please send Laura an email to the church at info@stmatthewsbloomington.org Please note that there are limited copies run each month and placed at both doors. We are trying to be good stewards of our planet and our copy paper budget.

Peace and Blessings to you and your families!
Julie Bennett, Rector's Warden

DEANERY

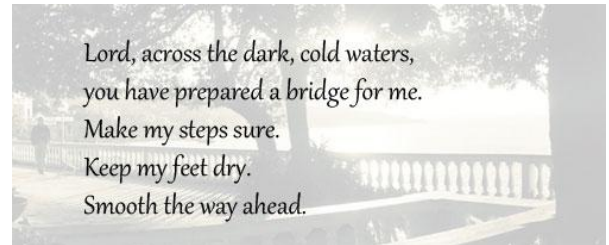
Congratulations to John Iliff who was elected to Council as our Deanery Representative at this year's annual Deanery meeting on **September 18**.

2012 SYNOD

St. Matthew's has been asked to host the Diocesan Synod for 2012. We are looking for a volunteer to lead the coordination of this event. Please see Fr. Dave or one of the wardens if you are interested.

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICES

Weekly Saturday evening service commenced in September. The service is held at 5PM each Saturday, holidays excepted. If you cannot make Sunday service, you are invited to partake of this low-key and less formal gathering.



Are you, or is someone you love, going through a very difficult time? It may be cancer; it may be Alzheimer's. It may be any number of things. John Hartman's cross is cancer.

John Hartman, a 7-time cancer survivor, writes: There's no way around it. Cancer changes life—for those who endure it and for those who stand by. No easy journey, I can tell you that prayer softens the process with comfort, meaning, and hope.

Cancer is pervasive. Very few escape its tentacles. **Virtually everyone either has cancer or knows someone who does.** That does not mean a death sentence is ahead. I've been treated seven times in my fifty-nine years on this earth. I know what it's like. I also know God controls the outcome.

I did not want to join the Cancer Club. No one does. Instead, without warning, we are thrust into a world of oncology with numerous questions and feelings of fear, anger, and isolation. What's in store for me? For those whom I love?

Initially, I wrote the prayers in *Eternal Bridges* after my morning Bible reading. I always pray to start the day. It doesn't happen every day, but often the Lord gives me a message or image that turns into a prayer. Sometimes he gives me the prayer itself. My wife shared these prayers with approximately two hundred people through text messages. Many of these friends encouraged us to

publish these messages. . . which is how *Eternal Bridges* came about.

My hope is that these prayers will help thousands more in strife connect with God in their own heart.

If you are going through the valley, I encourage you to talk with Father Dave or Deacon Bruce. St. Matthew's has several copies of *Eternal Bridges*. Let us know if this short book of simple prayers would help you.

Also, look at the *Eternal Bridges* website for prayer support, and a place to ask questions, make comments, ask for prayer.
<http://hartmancancer.wordpress.com/>

MUSIC NOTES



Blessing of Animals

Sunday, October 2, we'll celebrate the life of St. Francis and include a blessing of animals in the Sunday service. For this Sunday, the Chancel Choir will be seated at the front of the congregation. In consideration of the sensitive ears of our animal friends, piano will be used instead of the organ for this service.

The Offertory anthem **October 2** will be a text by Christina Rossetti that may be familiar to many members.

Consider the lilies of the field...

Consider the sparrows of the air of small account:

Our God doth view whether they fall or mount,
He guards us too.

The Children's music program is off to an exciting start for the fall. The children meet at 9:45, following Sunday school classes. The group plans to present a musical offering at the 10 o'clock service **October 16**.

~Melody Palm, Choirmaster

YOUTH NOTES



Hello everyone!

Autumn has arrived and with it all kinds of activities and learning opportunities. **Sunday School** has started and is going well, with kids for every class and gaining more weekly. Thank you for participating in our children's spiritual formation. Remember that there is adult Sunday School as well, meeting in the back of the fellowship hall.

Youth group is also going swimmingly. We always welcome new members and our curriculum is accessible from any starting date so earlier meeting attendance is not essential to understand the current week's lesson. Remember, 7th and 8th grades meet from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. and 9th through 12th meet from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.. We have had a great time so far this year.

The Youth also try to carry out at least one service project a month and this month they would like to invite you to a Halloween festival on **October 29th** from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. There will be fun and games for all ages. Please invite your friends and people in the neighborhood.

Costumes are expected and appreciated!

Remember that parents can dress up, too!!

Please join us for fun and frivolity hosted by our very own youth group!

~Terra

tswisher@stmatthewsbloomington.org

Calling All 20/30 Somethings!!

We have a very exciting line-up this year for the 20/30's Club and we would like you to join us! We will be having our first meeting after summer break on Friday, September 30th in the Parish Hall at 6pm . We will start with a potluck ~ please feel free to bring your favorite dish to share! I hope to see you all there! -Chante Forde

Upcoming events for the 20/30's Club:

Oct. 22: Clinton Haunted House

Oct. 29: Youth Group Halloween Festival

Nov. 12: Soup Kitchen

Nov. 19: St. Matthews Thanksgiving Dinner

Dec. 17: Holiday Party

PURCHASE PROCESS

In an effort to be careful stewards of the Parish finances, the Vestry is implementing an approval process for purchases made for St. Matthew's.

Purchases totaling \$50 or more must be pre-approved by the appropriate Vestry liaison, a Warden or the Rector.

For ALL purchases: Complete a Request to Purchase form and obtain the approval before placing an order or making the purchase. This includes all areas of St. Matthew's, including, but not limited to coffee hour supplies, office supplies, music, Altar Guild, etc. The Book Store is exempt from approval at the \$50 limit as they use their own funds for ordering.

Purchases totaling \$500 or more or requiring contractual agreement with the vendor must have Vestry approval. Vestry meetings are the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Requests should be submitted in writing no later than one week prior to the meeting.

Forms and complete information are in the bin outside the parish office.

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 October, 2011, St. Matthew's will pray for the staff and patients of the **Emergency Department**.

The current ED at the Medical Center has 18 beds, four of which are dedicated to cardiac emergencies and traumas. There are one to two emergency trained physician in house 24 x 7. Approximately 90 patients are seen a day in this area. When the new wing is opened and the current rooms have been remodeled, the ED will have a total of 22 beds.

Please pray for patients, their families and the staff in the **(ED) Emergency Department**.



**MEN'S BREAKFAST
October 15 - 8:00 a.m.**

The Men's Club typically meets every month on the third Saturday - watch the bulletin for the location. All men are invited to join us for food, fellowship, and prayer.



ITEMS OF THE MONTH

As the days dwindle down and get cooler, menus at my house (and probably yours) often include soup. As we shop for soup ingredients, let's include **Clare House** and its **Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen** on our lists. The Outreach Committee will collect and deliver canned and dried foods and paper & plastic goods to the Soup Kitchen at St. Mary's Catholic Church during September and October.

Suggested items: soup base, large cans of soup, canned vegetables and fruits, tomatoes, chili beans, baked beans, tuna, cereal, macaroni and cheese, 1-gallon baggies, 33-gallon trash bags, small heavy paper plates, powdered drink mix, baby food, baby wipes, diapers, toilet paper, sanitary pads, paper towels.

If you have more **garden produce** than you can use, please bring it to Clare House, 703 East Washington St., Bloomington, and put it on their front porch to share with people in need.

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

Happy Birthday OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Charlene Wald	1
Reta Holderby	1
Julie Bennett	2
Nancy Roberts	4
Steve Waldron	5
Andrew Dean	5
Charles Gordon	5
Caroline Leighton	6
Kia Griffin	11
Alston Boyd	13
Lois Pfeifer	13
Dave Halt	13
Robert Wolfe	13
Louise Krippenstapel	14
Brad Brenneman	18
Natalie Laken	18
Kathy Dean	20
Adrienne Ives	24
George Krippenstapel	26
Christopher Bennett	26
Joseph Freedman	26
Vivian Kraft	31



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

William and Sue Jones	3
Bruce and Sylvia DeGooyer	9
James and Mary Hospelhorn	11
Steve and Linda Waldron	14
Roy and Pam Laws	16

Donation of Projector

An Epson EX3200 Multimedia Projector has been donated to the church for program use by all church groups. The donor requests that it also be made available for members' home use for a \$10 per 2-day use fee for maintenance and bulb replacement. Contact the office for more information or to reserve the dates.

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:
Aaron Bivins,
T.J. Correll, Mark D. Hill,
Shane Kupferschmidt,
Jason Lynch, Jeff Riggs,
Paul Ward

BULLETIN GOES ELECTRONIC!

Beginning the first Sunday in October, our weekly bulletin will be uploaded to the St. Matthew's website in PDF format. Soon, you will be able to access St. Matthew's weekly bulletin lessons, schedules, announcements and more from your home computer, laptop, smart phone, iPad, etc. Before you know it, there'll be an app for that!

www.stmatthewsbloomington.org

THE GOOD NEWS

The deadline for submitting articles for the November edition of The Good News monthly newsletter is Wednesday, October 19 at noon. Articles are now being accepted for the November issue of The Good News. Please submit to the Parish Office: 662-4646 or info@stmatthewsbloomington.org

