

THE GOOD NEWS



ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH VOL. 18 ISSUE 6 JUNE 2011

Rector's Ramblings

One of our members recently emailed me and asked about the Te Deum canticle found in the forms for Morning Prayer in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP 52-53, 95-96). They wanted to know the origin and then when/how of its usage. I hope this brief article sheds some light on this.

A word about canticles. A canticle is essentially a song. When we say the daily office today, we normally recite these instead of singing them. However, in the monastic tradition, and in most English Cathedrals today, these are indeed songs with their own musical settings. One canticle follows the reading from the Old Testament and one follows the New Testament lesson. The Te Deum, in the earliest Book of Common Prayer (1549), was appointed to be used "daily throughout the year, except in Lent", and was the primary canticle in the 1662 (and still official) Book of Common Prayer for the Church of England.

In our Book of Common Prayer, the canticles are given two titles and a number. Often we use the shorthand and simply ask the congregation to join in "canticle # whatever", but the English titles and the numbers are a recent addition. Traditionally, the canticles were announced by reciting the first line of the Latin. Hence, the title of the canticle in question comes from *Te Deum laudamus*, "You are God: we praise you", or "You are God".

The legend of the Te Deum holds that it was extemporaneously composed by saints Ambrose and Augustine at the latter's baptism by the former. What is known, is that the earliest extant copy comes from the Bangor antiphony

of the seventh-century, and probably dates from the fourth century. Modern scholars assign authorship to Niceta, bishop of Remesiana in Dacia (c.392-414). The Te Deum itself is a song of praise and contains the essential doctrine of the Apostles' Creed.

In times of great threat to, and thanksgiving in, the national life the Te Deum would be performed in solemn form (meaning formally sung). Thomas Tallis composed a popular form during the Reformation and in the modern era, William Walton composed a version for the coronation of Elizabeth II. Interestingly, it is reported that in 1558, at the death of Queen Mary, the Te Deum was sung in London churches the following Sunday. Depending on your viewpoint, Protestant or Catholic, it could have been either thanksgiving or a cry for deliverance.

During the season after Pentecost at the Eucharist, we sing the Gloria as a song of praise immediately following the Collect for Purity. However, since at this time, the rubrics allow us to sing a song of praise in the place of the Gloria, and as we have an opportunity to learn a text of long-standing Christian devotion, we will be singing a version of the Te Deum beginning June 19 until the end of summer.

I hope that you will find the singing of the Te Deum both uplifting and spiritually formative this summer.

Calling all

Eucharistic Ministers and Acolytes!

The clergy would like to spend some time with you in an instructed Eucharist. We will meet on June 25 at 10AM. This is a great time to learn more about the "hows" and "whys" and "what's it

mean” of our celebrations. We should be done no later than 1PM and lunch will be provided with a chance to “stump the clergy” on liturgical questions. A prize will be awarded if the clergy can be stumped. If you are not a Eucharistic Minister, or an Acolyte, please feel free to attend as well.

GRADUATES



Michelle Baillie, (our Nursery Attendant) will graduate from Illinois Wesleyan University this month. While attending IWU, she was a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority, serving as VP of Finance, Accounting Society Member, and Intramural Volleyball Team.

Her honors include Dean's List and various scholarships. After graduation, Michelle will begin a career in Auditing in Springfield and is running the half marathon in Chicago this summer.

Dean Monroe Jordan, grandson of Mona Johnstone, is graduating from Bloomington High School this May. He has been a member of the football and track & field teams while a BHS Raider. Dean will continue his education at Southern Illinois University (Carbondale), majoring in Education - Mathematics. He will also be a member of the SIU Track & Field team.

Mitchell Steven Jordan, grandson of Mona Johnstone, graduated from Southern Illinois University (Carbondale) this past December. Mitchell graduated with a degree in Education - History, with cum laude honors. He is presently teaching history and coaching track & field at Bloomington High School.

Grace Victoria Leighton, daughter of Debbie and Tim Leighton, is graduating from Normal Community High School. At St. Matthew's, Grace was an acolyte, a member of the bell choir, children's choir and a VBS volunteer. She participated in cross country, track and field,

honor guard, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Wind Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra at NCHS. Her honors include: National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society), La Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica (Spanish Honor Society) and is class Salutatorian. Grace has also been honored as top Spanish student and United States Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence student.

In the Civil Air Patrol (Air Force Auxiliary), she has achieved the grade of Cadet Lieutenant Colonel. Her other extra-curricular activities include: worship leader and member of the student leadership team at Wesley United Methodist Church where she is also a member of the youth and bell choirs and audiovisual team. Grace will attend Olivet Nazarene University and plans to major in Church Music and participate in the Army ROTC program.

Annie K. McNeil, oldest daughter of Tim & Laura McNeil (parish secretary), will graduate from Des Moines University Medical School on May 28, 2011. She will be completing the Program for Physician Assistant studies and will take her board certification exam in June. Annie completed her undergraduate studies, magna cum laude, at Illinois College in Jacksonville, IL, where she was a member of the Track & Field team and on the Dean's List. She was recently hired as a Surgical P.A. for the Drs. Wieland, Esch and Naour Surgical Group.

Robert Lloyd Mikel McNeil, youngest son of Tim & Laura McNeil (parish secretary), graduated from Central Catholic High School on May 22nd. While a "Saint", Rob was on honor roll, the golf, football and the track & field teams, serving as team captain and has twice been named Sprints MVP. He volunteered at Bickford House, St. Mary's Church, Epiphany Oktoberfest, Bloomington and Normal Parks & Rec. and summer track & field programs. Rob will be majoring in either mathematics or computer science at Augustana College this fall where he will be a member of the Track & Field team.

Congratulations to all of the graduates from St. Matthew's!

DOCTORAL STUDIES

Fr. Halt will be at Nashotah House from 4 July to 16 July for his Doctoral studies. Deacon Bruce will be available for pastoral support during his absence.

FUTURE BUILDING NEEDS

Your input is needed. Over the past several years there has been plenty of discussion on what updates our building needs for the 21st Century. We need your input on this important topic. Surveys will be available in the Narthex and on the website. Please take the time to complete a survey today. Results will be announced in July, and will help the Vestry form a vision for our future.



Vacation Bible School will be June 13th through the 17th from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

This year's theme is Pandamania!! We'll be learning about how God is wild about us! VBS is open to kids from Preschool to 6th grade, so invite your friends and neighbors. We still need volunteers for crew leaders to help get kids from session to session and adult helpers for teachers. Join us!! You may pre-register your child at: <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/stmatthewschurch>

The **New Orleans mission trip** is coming up soon as well. If you're going, I hope I have your paperwork in. If not, it's overdue. This paperwork is your reservation and means that you have committed to the trip. I'm so excited to serve the people of New Orleans July 17th through 24th! We've still got a fundraiser or two planned so I hope to see those of you participating there.

Thank you all!

~*Jerra*

tswisher@stmatthewsbloomington.org

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 June 2011, St Matthew's will pray for the staff and patients of the **Operating Rooms**.

There are 10 operating rooms at Advocate BroMenn Regional Medical Center, one of which is dedicated to heart surgeries. There are also two rooms on the Mother/baby Unit where c-section deliveries can take place.

Please pray for the patients, their families and the staff in the **Operating Rooms (OR)** at Advocate BroMenn Hospital.

ITEMS OF THE MONTH

For nearly a century, **Home Sweet Home Ministries** has offered assistance to more than 100,000 individuals in time of need. The Mission provides: Assistance 24 hours daily, 365 days a year; 56,000 meals each year; more than 130 beds, with 10 beds reserved for veterans; secure facilities 24 hours daily. The St. Matthew's Outreach Committee will be collecting and delivering items for the Mission in May and June. Please donate nonperishable food items like canned and boxed fruits, vegetables, pasta, cereals. Paper goods, cleaning products, and UNOPENED toiletries are also very welcome. Please keep the Mission in mind when you shop for groceries, and **THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH** for giving!

~ *The Outreach Committee*



MEN'S BREAKFAST

There will be no Men's Breakfast in June due to a scheduling conflict.

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.



* JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Martha Pitts	2
Fran Hoopes	8
Janenne Schmidt	11
Meghan Dyson	12
Geoffrey Montague	13
Monica Iliff	13
Anna Kohlhase	16
Charles Casperson	18
Katherine Dyson	19
Kathryn DeMeritt	20
Anne Nadakavukaren	22
Tami Rolley	25
Elizabeth Clark	26
Dennis Stuckey	26
Christian Pitts	26
Sarah Pitts	27
Elizabeth Gordon	29



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Brent and Stephanie Davingman	3
Steve and Rowena Chiles	9
Tim and Debbie Leighton	11
David and Kiersten Douglass	15
Spence and Cindy Strickley	17
Greg Shaw and Mollie Ward	17
Roger and Mary Hunt	19
Douglas and Clara Veal	20
Anne and Mathew	22
Nadakavukaren	
Jack and Patty Pitts	23

MID-WEEK COMMUNITY GATHERING

The Wednesday night community will not meet regularly during the summer, but will meet for special events.

The first will take place on June 22nd - Linda Thomas' slide show and video presentation of her trip to Burundi, Africa in February and March of this year. It will be preceded by a Salad, Bread & Dessert potluck at 6:00 pm.

Look for a signup sheet in the fellowship hall.

FAITH IN ACTION

Want to find out what volunteering for *Faith in Action* is all about? Linda Thomas invites you to ride with her to transport care receivers to medical appointments on any first-through-third Tuesday of the month - mornings or afternoons - your choice. The half-day experience includes a stop for lunch or coffee and a visit to the *Faith in Action* office. Call Linda @ 309-242-7160.

COFFEE HOUR

The time has come around again for a new Coffee Hour schedule. In June we'll be scheduling hosts for July through December 2011. If your name is included on our current list of hosts, we will assume you are still willing and able to serve. If you need to resign as a Coffee Hour host, please let us know. We always welcome new hosts, either families or singles, and we will gladly help you to find your way around the kitchen. We can even pair you with a current host.

Coffee Hour is an important ministry here at St. Matthew's because being able to relax and refresh after the 10:00 a.m. service fosters a sense of belonging and cohesiveness in our congregation, and gives us a chance to meet visitors and possible new members. We encourage all of you to invite someone new to Coffee Hour after the 10:00 a.m. service.

THANKS SO MUCH TO ALL
COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS,
past, present, and future!

Ann Sokan, 664-1639, amsokan@frontier.com;
Donna Mann, 829-3184,
donnaleeRN26@yahoo.com

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:

Michael Gault, Andy Grant,
Shane Kupferschmidt,
Jason Lynch, Jeff Riggs,
Jared Spaid, Paul Ward

MUSIC NOTES



The Chancel Choir will offer anthems at the 10 a.m. service through Pentecost, June 12. The Handbell Choir continues rehearsals into June, as well. The Children’s Choir anthem on May 15 completed their anthems until rehearsals begin again in September. I’m looking forward to the children sharing music from Vacation Bible School in June.

The schedule for vocal and instrumental music during summer services is being made. I invite soloists and small ensembles to contact me about a date to share your musical gifts.

I’d like to say “Thank You” to each of the members of the Chancel Choir, Children’s Choir and Handbell Choir, and to the parents that help our young people get to rehearsals. Special thanks to Amy Halt, for her assistance with the Children’s Choir.

This poem was shared recently at an event I attended. The person reciting it expressed their thanks for music used in worship, and for those who share their talents. They came across the poem in a hymnal, without the author identified, and, so far, I haven’t had any success finding the writer.

Their singing is a prayer, O Lord,
A prayer of thanks and praise;
In music, Lord, they worship Thee,
Thy beauty fills their days.

They give their talents, Lord, to Thee,
Their minds and hearts and voices;
For Thou alone art worthy, Lord,
In thee they do rejoice.

Accept the worship of their hearts,
Accept their music, too;
Help them to live always for Thee, Lord,
Keep them strong and true.

O bless them, Lord, and help them sing,
Thy love so full and free;
And bless all those who listen, Lord,
Help them to worship Thee.

~Melody Palm, Choirmaster

**VOLUNTEER AT
MIDWEST FOOD BANK**

The Outreach Committee wants to make everyone aware of a fun volunteer opportunity at Midwest Food Bank on **Tuesday, June 21st** 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 around \$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 June 21st, please join us on **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!

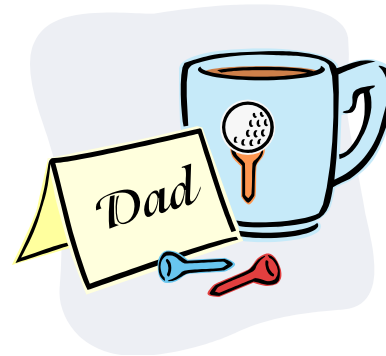
Directions to Midwest Food Bank: Go South on Veteran’s Parkway. Take a right at Morrissey Boulevard (Dennison Ford is on the right) and then take the first left onto Gilmore Drive. The driveway to Midwest Food Bank is immediately on the left. Although Midwest Food Bank has a Veteran’s Parkway address,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



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 July edition of *The Good News* monthly newsletter is **Wednesday, June 15 at noon**. Articles are now being accepted for the June 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 Father's Day
from
St. Matthew's Church**

