

THE GOOD NEWS



ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH VOL. 18 ISSUE 5 MAY 2011

Rector's Ramblings

Once in a while I find something that I simply must share. Below is +++Rowan William's letter to a Scottish schoolgirl.

Dear Lulu,

Your dad has sent on your letter and asked if I have any answers. It's a difficult one! But I think God might reply a bit like this –

'Dear Lulu – Nobody invented me – but lots of people discovered me and were quite surprised. They discovered me when they looked round at the world and thought it was really beautiful or really mysterious and wondered where it came from. They discovered me when they were very, very quiet on their own and felt a sort of peace and love they hadn't expected.

Then they invented ideas about me – some of them sensible and some of them not very sensible. From time to time I sent them some hints – specially in the life of Jesus – to help them get closer to what I'm really like.

But there was nothing and nobody around before me to invent me. Rather like somebody who writes a story in a book, I started making up the story of the world and eventually invented human beings like you who could ask me awkward questions!

And then he'd send you lots of love and sign off.

I know he doesn't usually write letters, so I have to do the best I can on his behalf. Lots of love from me too.

+Archbishop Rowan

Liturgical Notes

And there was much rejoicing! We have returned to the use of the 1979 BCP after our sojourn with the 1559 Elizabethan prayer book during Lent. I appreciate your flexibility and willingness to try something new/old and hope that even if it wasn't your "cup of tea" you found something to appreciate in it.

As you will notice, we are scheduling one Eucharistic Minister at each liturgy on Sunday. There are several reasons for this, one practical and a few liturgical.

Here is the practical. We hope that this will make it easier for our Eucharistic Ministers in terms of producing a schedule and making liturgical service more predictable and regular. We hope it will also make it easier to find a "pinch hitter" when necessary.

Now for the liturgical. One of the joys for me, as a priest, is to be able to serve communion to each parishioner on a Sunday, except on high holy days when that is impossible. In order to do that, we need to use just one paten at a service. The other consideration is that it will allow the priest who is celebrating to ensure that those who wish to receive a blessing instead of communion are able to do so, as in our tradition the Deacon is not able to pronounce a blessing. With just using one paten (plate) for the distribution of

the bread, the Deacon (or assisting priest) will necessarily have to serve one of the chalices, leaving just one for the Eucharistic Minister.

Also, traditionally, the prayers of the people are traditionally bid by the Deacon. As the Deacon begins to bid the prayers of the people, by reading the written form, I would like the Eucharistic Minister to be the voice of the people in adding the specific requests. For example, if we used the following prayer:
Deacon: I ask your prayers for the sick, the suffering, and those in any need or trouble...

(Silence)

Eucharistic Minister: Harry, Hermione, Ronald, Ginny, Bill, George...

I pray that these changes will not be too drastic, and will help us to continue to be the intentional community at prayer when we gather to celebrate the Eucharist. If you have any questions about this, please come and talk to me.

Good Shepherd Sunday

The following was announced to the clergy in a pastoral letter from Bishop Daniel:
"On **May 15**, Good Shepherd Sunday, at **5pm**, I will be formally "welcomed and seated" (known in days of yore as an "enthronement") in the cathedral church of the diocese. This will take place in the context of an Evensong in the "cathedral vespers" tradition. It will be ceremonially rich, musically exciting, and (best of all, some might say) will NOT include a sermon! Clergy of the diocese are invited to be "liturgically present" (cassock, surplice, white stole), and I hope you will publicize this in your congregations and encourage your folks to attend."

I hope you will consider attending this celebration of our Diocesan life. If you need a ride or are willing to provide one, a sign-up sheet is in the parish hall.

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERINGS



Due WEDNESDAY, May 4

On Mother's Day, the bulletin will have a published list of loved ones to be remembered. Please use the special "Mother's Day" offering envelope to submit your requests. Mother's Day Envelopes are available on the table in the Narthex and hallway.

ATTENTION: GRADUATES –TO- BE (& PARENTS)



St. Matthew's will celebrate "Recognition Sunday" on May 22nd. If you will be graduating at the high school or college level of education, we want to include you in this celebration. Please complete the form available in the gray bin outside the office and in the narthex. The form should be returned to the church office by **May 9th**. The information that you furnish will be published in the bulletin for Recognition Sunday as well as the June Newsletter.

~Youth Notes~

Attention all Cool Volunteer-oriented people!

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner! This year VBS is June 13th though the 17th in the evenings. If you want a fun way to make a difference in children's lives, please join us for Vacation Bible School. We need everything from session leaders to Crew Leaders (high school kids, anyone?). Please contact me (Terra Swisher) if you want to help in any capacity, no matter how big or small. You can email me or call me at the church!

My info is at the bottom of this notice so get excited for Pandamania!!

Youth Group – New Orleans update

"The time has come, the walrus said, to speak of many things..." especially mission trip forms!! If you or your child are planning on attending the mission trip to New Orleans this summer, I need your forms turned in by the 15th. Turing these in means that you're committing to this trip so please, only turn them in if you're sure you will be attending. NOT turning them in means that you are not attending and I'll take your name off the list. It's getting close to crunch time so let's see those registration forms!!

Also, any adults attending, I need to know who will be driving down with us on the 17th and whether you are willing to help drive.

If you need new forms, there are some hanging on the Youth Board or you can print them off from the website.

www.annunciationmission.org

Thank you all!

~Terra

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 May 2011, St Matthew's will pray for the staff and patients of the **Neuro Specialty Unit**.

The Neuro Specialty Unit is located on the west end of 5 West. This is a 14- bed unit that includes all neurosurgery patients except those with cardiac conditions requiring them to be in the critical Care Unit or those requiring the longer-term services of the Acute Rehab Unit.

Please pray for the patients, their families and the staff in the (NSU) **Neuro Specialty Unit** 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

Men's Breakfast will meet **May 21, 8AM** in the Parish Hall. All men are invited to join us for food,

fellowship, and prayer.

The Men's Club typically meets every month on the third Saturday - watch the bulletin for the location.



*** MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- Art Carnahan 1
- Diane Gardner 1
- Keisha Whiteside 1
- Barbara Williamson 3

Carole Cox	4
Shelley Brenneman Carter	5
Scott Carnahan	7
Liam Halt	8
Alexandra Davingman	14
Rutger Bachman	15
Phyllis Feaster	15
Fiona Ward Shaw	15
Gary Montague	16
Regina Bray	16
Daniel Kohlhase	17
Edith Franklin	23
Alexandra Thomas	24
Stephanie Davingman	26
Christopher Genge	30
Steven Chiles	31
Nathaniel Jones	31



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

John and Chris Stoffer	3
Bruce and Janet Chandler	10
Ron and Liz Gordon	12
Dave and Amy Halt	22
Lewis and Theresa Garrison	24
Robert and Keisha Whiteside	25
Kenneth and Carolyn Barling	29
Harry and Kim Bray	29
Gus and Heather Mather	29

MID-WEEK COMMUNITY GATHERING

Our Wednesday midweek gathering continues!

MEAL - POTLUCK – 5:30-6:00 PM

Please bring a dish to pass.

BIBLE STUDY 6:00-7:00 PM

For more information, contact the office.

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, Shane Kupferschmidt,
Jason Lynch, Jeff Riggs,
Jared Spaid, Paul Ward

MUSIC NOTES



During the Easter season, all verses of the Gradual hymn will be sung during the Gospel procession, instead of dividing the hymn verses to sing one or more following the reading. There will be brief instrumental music as the Gospel Book is returned to the altar. This "wordless" music provides an opportunity to reflect on the lessons prior to the sermon.

Let your song be heard! Members of the Chancel Choir, Children's Choir, and Handbell Choir faithfully work together to prepare anthems and other music for services throughout the academic year. The choirs will be taking a break from rehearsal during the summer. Singers and instrumental soloists, small ensembles, and family groups are invited to offer musical selections as offertory and communion anthems, or as prelude/postlude

music. St. Matthew's is blessed with many talented musicians, and we celebrate and are blessed when that talent is shared and offered in our services. Please contact me if you'd like to be included in the schedule for summer music offerings.

~Melody Palm, Choirmaster



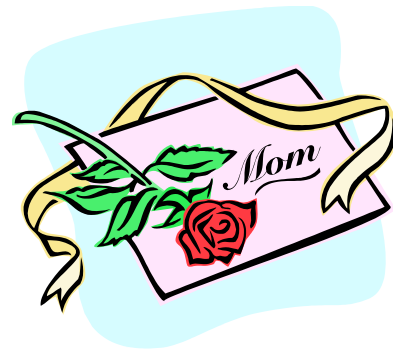
WEEKLY BULLETIN DEADLINE

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 June edition of *The Good News* monthly newsletter is Wednesday, May 18 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 Mother's Day
from
St. Matthew's Church*