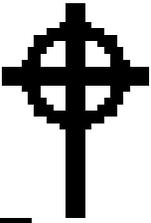




# The Way



**The Newsletter of St. Matthew's  
Episcopal Church  
The Episcopal Church of Worcester**

## St. Matthew's Church

695 Southbridge St.  
Worcester, MA 01610

(508) 755-4433, office  
(716) 949-8194, Interim Priest  
[stmatthewsworcester@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewsworcester@gmail.com)  
[ilee.stmatthewsworcester@gmail.com](mailto:ilee.stmatthewsworcester@gmail.com)

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas J. Fisher  
The Rev. Dr. Judith Lee  
The Rev. J. Edgar Freeman  
Donald Irving, Organist/Choir Director  
Audrey Cronin, Parish Secretary

### Worship:

Wednesday 10:00am  
(followed by coffee hour & Bible Study)  
Saturday 5:00 pm  
July 7<sup>th</sup> through September 1st  
Sunday 9:00 am  
Church School 9:00 am

Our website address is:

[www.stmatthewsworcester.org](http://www.stmatthewsworcester.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Matthews-Worcester>



*I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth,  
do you not perceive it?*

[Isaiah 43.19]

## July/August 2019 The Season of Pentecost



### Thoughts from your Interim Priest

Beginning on June 16<sup>th</sup> and ending on November 24<sup>th</sup>, the Sundays in our liturgical calendar are numbered as the *Sundays after Pentecost*. This is also called "ordinary time." The English name "ordinary time" translates the Latin term *tempus per annum* (literally "time through the year"). The liturgical color for Ordinary Time is green – the color of life and hope. On the Sundays in Ordinary Time we hear about Jesus' ministry—stories about miracles, about hopes fulfilled and about unexpected lessons learned. We witness in Scripture and prayer the working of the Holy Spirit in ways both subtle and surprising. We watch and listen for the whispers of the Holy Spirit in our own hearts and minds.

In the life of St. Matthew's these "ordinary" days will also be quietly busy. Your Profile Committee will complete your parish brochure, your Search Committee will begin discernment and planning for interviews; your Community Meal Team will develop a new project for using your renovated kitchen to serve a monthly meal to the community beginning in September; your Sunday School and youth group leaders will organize summer activities and plan a new program year; your Green Team will schedule an energy audit, and your crocheting and knitting ministry will be making hats, mittens, and prayer shawls; your Men's Group will meet monthly and the Women of St. Matthew's will begin planning your Winter Wonderland Fair. All the ministry teams will clear out the storage areas in the church: the stage area in the Parish hall, the Choir Room, the Sunday School rooms, the Sacristy, the "organ room", even the Common Room and the Tower area. This is the time to create space for new enterprises to which the Holy Spirit may call St. Matthew's, to discover treasures to be donated or re-used, and to discard what is no longer useful.

I love this meditation on ordinary time by one of my favorite poets, Enuma Okoro:

From "Passing Ordinary Time":

*This ordinary time is  
gifted in its quiet, marked passing  
Christ slips about  
calling and baptizing,  
sending and affirming,  
pouring his Spirit like water  
into broken cisterns,  
sealing cracks and filtering our senses,  
that we may savor the foolish  
simplicity of his grace.*

-in *At the Still Point*, ed. Sarah  
Arthur [Paraclete Press, 2012, p.25]

[www.enumaokoro.com](http://www.enumaokoro.com)

Let us come together to share "the foolish simplicity" of God's grace as we help each other prepare for *the new thing* that God is doing in the Life we share. - Mother Judith

**From the Desk of Father Freeman:  
The Worcester African  
Community Ministry**

**ESSAY CONTEST**

The June 16, 2019 deadline for the Worcester African Community Ministry's Essay Contest has passed. This year's essay contest is expected to be highly competitive with a significant number of submissions. It will be interesting to know what young people tell us about how they understand their own church as they grew up.

Our panel of judges will impartially and meticulously read and score the essays judiciously. The essays have been stripped of identifying information to ensure impartiality. During the Multicultural Festival, essay contest winners will be announced and receive their awards: first, second and third places. All who participated in the Bible Quiz and the Essay Contest will receive Certificates of Participation for their efforts.

**MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL**

The Multicultural Festival takes place immediately after the St. Matthew's "Mass on the Grass" at 9:00 am on Sunday, July 7, 2019. This event is co-sponsored by the Worcester African Community Ministry and St. Matthew's Parish.

We have invited members of area Episcopal Churches (St. Matthew's, All Saints Church, St. Luke's Church, St. Michael's on Heights, Trinity Episcopal Church, Shrewsbury, Holy Spirit, Sutton) and other Worcester area churches to come in the native dress of their cultural heritage and to bring food representing the countries from which they come. It is important to label your food indicating the name and country, and whether the food contains nuts of any kind.

In order to depict our diversity, the flags of many countries will be displayed outdoors. You are invited to bring the flag of your country, if we

don't have one. Three by five-foot flags can be purchased on Amazon for less than \$10. Please consider donating the flag to St. Matthew's after the event.

### **TRAVEL/VACATION**

After the Multicultural Festival, I will be taking a month-long vacation to Liberia. Traveling with me will be my son, Emmanuel, my grandson, Christian Hines; and Fr. Dave Woessner Rector of St. Michael's-on-the-Heights. Your prayers are requested for God's traveling mercies for this quartet and for their safe return.

-Fr. Freeman

**Weekend Worship Schedule  
Change  
September 2019-June 2020  
Saturdays – 5:00 pm  
Sundays – 10:00 am  
1<sup>st</sup> Sundays – 8:00 am**

After over 2 months—and several years-- of discussions and reflections shared by people who regularly attend all three of our current weekend services, the Vestry voted on June 16<sup>th</sup> to change the weekend worship schedule beginning in September: we will have Holy Eucharist in the Chapel on Saturdays at 5 pm and Holy Eucharist in the Church at 10 am on Sundays. In addition, we will have a service of Holy Eucharist at 8 am on the first Sunday of the month.

The Vestry decision reflects a strong consensus among all the groups who took part in conversations that addressed two questions about each service: Why is it important to St. Matthew's Mission? What resources does it require or impact (e.g. liturgical ministers, Altar Guild, Sunday School, Choir, financial costs)?

Because St. Matthew's is the only church in this area that offers a service on Saturday, it reflects

St. Matthew's mission in several ways: it accommodates different work schedules; it offers an alternative to Sunday morning for people who have other obligations on Sundays or for whom Sunday is the only day for quiet relaxation; it serves as a "gateway" to new members; it offers a worship opportunity to visitors and travelers.

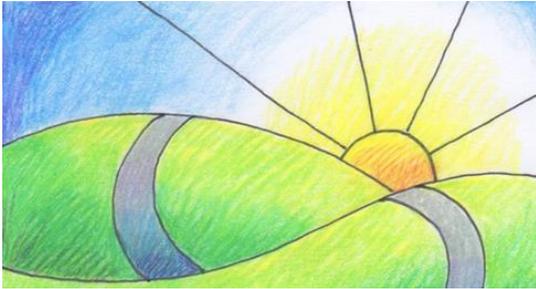
Although there is clearly a place for a quiet, contemplative service early on Sunday mornings, small and inconsistent attendance suggests that the service at 8 am on Sunday is not meeting the spiritual needs of this congregation and has not served as an entry point for new members. Having this service on the first Sunday of every month will allow us keep the door open and retain the practice of a brief and simple worship.

Given the choice between 9:30am and 10 am, the consensus favored remaining at 10 am for several reasons: change might be disruptive, this hour is convenient for families, and the half-hour difference would be difficult for the choir and Sunday School ministries.

Some of you have asked why we don't wait until after the new Rector has begun ministry with you. However, it is very important that your expectations be clear to candidates, and that the new Rector step into a schedule that is already in place. Once he or she has settled in, you will no doubt review the schedule and decide together what changes might be called for. So any decision made by the Vestry now will not be binding forever; all candidates will understand that everything is up for review after a year or so. Making a decision based upon your vision for St. Matthew's and your resources is not only appropriate at this time, it is a necessary part of preparing for new ministry. Recognizing how difficult this kind of decision is, your candidates will be grateful and respectful that you addressed this matter now.

-Mother Judith

## RenewalWorks



Greetings from your RenewalWorks/Spiritual Formation Committee co-chairs, Cathy Goodwin and Liz Kilpatrick! We have completed our spiritual growth catalyst presentations for the season and have compiled the data. Specifically, we met with the Vestry, the Youth Group, the Sconeheads Book Group, and two coffee hour groups and collected information about which spiritual growth catalysts these groups have found most impactful in the past and which ones people are most interested in exploring to ignite future spiritual growth.

When looking at the data from all of the groups combined, the highest ranking catalysts that have most shaped the participants' past spiritual growth include (with 5 practices tied for third place):

- 1) Helping those in need
- 2) Serving in church ministry
- 3) Developing an active prayer life
- 3) Learning about and participating in the Holy Eucharist
- 3) Devoting time to meditation and spending time in solitude
- 3) Taking on a leadership role at church
- 3) Actively appreciating and caring for creation

The highest ranking catalysts that participants are interested in learning more about or beginning to practice include:

- 1) Devoting time to meditation and spending time in solitude

- 2) Regularly reading and reflecting upon the Bible
- 3) Seeking and developing spiritual friendships
- 4) Actively working for justice, peace, and respect for the dignity of every human being
- 5) Developing an active prayer life

In the upcoming months, the Spiritual Formation Committee will continue to analyze all of the spiritual growth catalyst data that have been collected. Using these data, we plan to organize parish-wide activities that will focus on the catalysts in which the parish has the most interest. A parish-wide Bible Quiz Challenge with inter-generational teams will be held in early Fall (date to be determined). Further opportunities to develop an all-parish prayer, and an all-parish read during Advent will be discussed and planned by the Spiritual Formation Committee. Stay tuned for more details! We are very excited about these upcoming events.

Blessings,

Cathy Goodwin

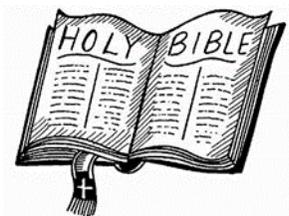
Liz Kilpatrick

Co-chairs, Spiritual Formation Committee

## Parish Bible Challenge Contest: The Gospel of Luke

**Watch for more information!  
Start forming your team!**

On a Sunday in October (date to be announced) we will hold a Bible Quiz Contest during Coffee Hour, with intergenerational teams competing. Your Spiritual Formation Team will announce the details in July. Meanwhile, during July and August we will post a weekly Study Guide to the Gospel of Luke on our website. We will have fun, build spiritual friendships, and learn together.



## The Women of St. Matthew's



At their annual Meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup>, the Women of St. Matthew's voted on how to designate the funds they have raised during the past year. They agreed to donate

\$100 to St. Matthew's new Community Dinner program, \$50 to Marie's Mission of diaper donations hosted by St. Michael's on the Heights, \$50 to the South Worcester Neighborhood Center, and \$50 to Laundry Love.

The Women of St. Matthew's will not meet during July and August but now is the time to think about the Fair and our Basket Event. Can you put a basket together? Think of a theme and pick up a thing or two when you are out shopping. Baskets should be brought in by **Sunday, October 20**. If you have any questions call Millie at 508-755-465.

Millie Cummings

## The Men of St. Matthew's

The Men's Group of St. Matthew's met for its second breakfast meeting on Saturday, June 8, 2019 in the beautifully decorated Parish Hall. The second breakfast meeting witnessed an increased in participation – from twelve to fifteen participants. The grace (blessings of the meal) was said by Bengt Albinson. Each participant introduced himself to the rest of the assembled men, stating their full name and length of stay at St. Matthew's.

The Men's Group agreed on the following plans:

- The Men's Group will meet on the second Saturday of each month for a Breakfast Meeting in the Parish Hall. The Men's Group wants to maintain consistency of thinking and continuity of ideas through

monthly meetings. This suggestion made by Bengt Albinson.

- In order to develop sound biblical knowledge and spiritual formation, a ten-minute Bible reflection will begin every meeting. Leadership will rotate each month.
- The Men Group agreed to host an annual Retreat away from the church at a future date to be decided.
- The Men's Group has committed to support the new **Community Meal Program** at St. Matthew's by assisting on one Sunday.
- The Men's Group wants to start a mentoring program at St. Matthew's Parish, intended to share skills and specialized knowledge between generations.



The meeting closed with individuals sharing their responses to the meeting. Tim

Rossi is excited about Men's Group, emphasizing the value of mentorship at St. Matthew's, especially in leading and supporting various ministries at the church. Francis Konneh remarked that the meeting was conducted in a very professional manner. Participants were afforded the platform to present their ideas and views on agenda topics. Francis committed to definitely being present at the next meeting and he will invite other young men to attend Men's Group Meeting. The body thanked Joseph Chilton for providing the breakfast. Festus Konneh, Sr. offered to provide breakfast for the next meeting scheduled for **Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 9 am**. The Meeting Summary and Closing Prayer were led by Dr. Yang De-Ping.

-George Gailor, Convenor

## The Sermon for Youth Sunday Ryan Rossi

Hello all, as you may know my name is Ryan Rossi and on Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup>, I graduated from South High Community School. I graduated as number six in my class of nearly three hundred students. Over the past four years I have taken 8 AP courses and numerous other accelerated courses. At South I was very active in the student body. I have played the clarinet in the school's marching and concert band and performed in various unique venues such as Shrewsbury Street, Park Avenue, Union Station, Mechanics Hall, City Hall, and even on the front lawn of Independence Hall in Philadelphia only a few feet from the Liberty Bell. At South I ran three Varsity Sports, three years of Cross Country and four years of both Indoor and Outdoor track. Just recently, me and my fellow teammates traveled to the Central-Western State Championships where we all excelled in each of our races despite finishing near the bottom of the pack overall. In the fall I will be attending the University of Massachusetts Lowell as a Biomedical Engineering Student in the Francis College of Engineering.

I have been attending Saint Matthew's for my entire life. It was here that I was baptized by Mother Nancy and it was here that I took my First Communion classes through Karen Beaudoin. As a part of Sunday School, I participated in what seemed like numerous Youth Sundays. It seemed like I would never be the person speaking and moving on to what I was told as "bigger and better things." As a child I constantly wished I could grow up faster to be like the older kids I watched do these seemingly fun and exciting things. I watched my sister go to Youth Group events and hear about how at the beginning of the

year kick off cookout and she had so much fun swimming in the lake. I heard of how she would lean back in her chair and laugh with her friends at the lake. I heard of how one year when she leaned back her chair broke and sent her tumbling down the hill in the grass. As a young child my first thought was "I wish I could be there and tumble in the grass." I was too concerned with growing up; I didn't stop and enjoy the times I was living.

But then suddenly my wish came true. Life sped up and suddenly I was the one sitting in those chairs at the cookout. I was the one swimming in that lake and not my sister because she yet again had an accident there as she cut her leg on the dock getting in the water. I remember thinking



that she should just stay away from there. And from there life sped up even more. It seems as if I was living in Fast Forward as I had my first Thirty-Hour Famine and Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. We celebrated Saint Nicholas Day with even more pancakes and sausages. I said goodbye to my sister as she headed off to college. I had my confirmation classes with Nick and Didi as well as a few others from other Episcopal Churches

in the city. Between Hunger Walks, Crop Walks, and the Stations of the Cross I explored the city with my fellow Youth Group members, and I served as an acolyte in countless services.

Everything has passed by in a Flash and suddenly I am here. It's funny how I wanted things to speed up as a kid but now as I'm standing here myself heading off to "bigger and better things" I suddenly want life to slow down so I can take the time to enjoy it.

I suddenly wished that I had taken the time as a kid to thank all those who have helped me along the way. I would have thanked my grandparents,

Dave and Pam Wilson, for always supporting me in both my spiritual and academic journey. I would like to thank all my aunts and uncles both, regular and great, for supporting me here at church, especially Uncle Denny and Steve and Kelly. I would like to thank my cousins for serving on the altar by my side and for all the laughs during youth group. I would like to thank my fellow youth group members for all the great memories. Thank you to Karen for putting together all those pageants and for helping put together this service here today. Thank you Festus for not only being our Senior Warden but my sponsor for my confirmation. Thank you to Mother Nancy who has guided me in my spiritual life since birth and I wish her the best as she moves on in life. Thank you to Mother Judith who has come and stepped in to help guide us in this transition. Thank you to you all in the congregation for helping support me in my journey in life for if it wasn't for you all I probably wouldn't be the person I am today. Most importantly I'd like to thank my family. For my sister Angela who has always been a role model and a guide for me in life and as well as my parents for raising me into the person I am today.

As I move on to be a River Hawk next fall, I will cherish all the memories and lessons you all have taught me, and I know you will always be there supporting me in my future. I wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavors as well. Thank You.

- Ryan Rossi

Image designed by Anita Konneh

## Stewardship

transforming  generosity

Timmy didn't want to put his money in the offering plate on Sunday morning, so his mother decided to use some hurried, creative reasoning with him.

"You don't want that money, Honey," she whispered in his ear. "Quick! Drop it in the plate. It's tainted."

Horrified, the little boy obeyed. After a few seconds he whispered, "But Mommy, why was the money tainted? Was it dirty?"

"Oh no, dear," she replied. "It's not really dirty. It just 'taint yours and it 'taint mine, she replied. It's God's."

Hope that put a smile on your face! Thank you for keeping up your pledge this summer!!

- Charlotte Townsend



**Please stay current with your Capital Campaign pledge commitment. See Rob Ermanski if you would like an update on the status of your pledge.**

## Knitting and Crocheting Ministry



We met on Saturday, June 15, 2019 in the Parish Hall. Twelve were in attendance, including 3 newcomers! We had such a great time!!! Some decided to work on Prayer Shawls. Others worked on items for the Saint Matthew's Fair (to be held on November 1, 2, and 3, 2019). And still others worked on winter clothing for the South Worcester Neighborhood Center.

Yarn, patterns, knitting needles, and crochet hooks were brought in to choose from. Additionally, all of the donated winter clothing for the South Worcester Neighborhood Center was brought in to count, (before our summer break). Mother Judith volunteered to count! We discovered that we currently have 111 pieces of winter clothing, the majority of which are handmade. We are off to a wonderful start for the December 2019 In-Gathering for the South Worcester Neighborhood Center!

How can you help this group? First and foremost, we ask your prayers for our continued work here in South Worcester. Second, if you knit or crochet, you could donate some of what you have made. Or, if you are shopping and find On Sale or reasonably priced winter clothing, you could donate it to this Ministry. A few of our Parishioners already do this on a regular basis! Finally, if you have yarn at home, a donation would be greatly appreciated.

The dates were set for all further meetings for the remainder of 2019:

**Saturday, September 7, 2019**

**Saturday, October 5, 2019**

**Saturday, November 16, 2019**

**Saturday, December 7, 2019**

The plan is for our gatherings to be held in the Parish Hall, from 10 am - noon.

Thank you! Please think about joining us.

## Sconeheads



The Sconeheads met on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 in The Parlor. We

discussed the book, *She Would Be King* by Wayetu Moore. Dr. Deborah Harmon Hines provided wonderful insight into the formation of Liberia. Audrey Cronin, a former Book Club Member, joined us. Welcome Audrey!!! Karen Murphy, a long time Sconehead, informed us that she and her husband have sold their Worcester home and have decided to move to Colorado. We will miss her dearly but wish them the best of everything in their new place.

The group chose a new book and a new time to meet! The book picked is entitled, *In the Sanctuary of Outcasts: A Memoir* by Neil White. The date chosen to meet is: **Wednesday, July 24, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.** Happy Reading!

Everyone is welcome to join us! Please do so. Thank you.

## South Worcester Neighborhood Center



The SWNC will not have their summer program this year due to their construction but they still need food. So, instead of buying summer things, consider contributing a little extra food.

On June 8, 2019, there was a Retirement Party held at the South Worcester Neighborhood Center, 47 Camp Street, Worcester. On that gorgeous, sunny day, there was a wonderfully festive event in honor of Ron Charrette, Director. Guests were fed and entertained from 11:00-

2:00. Everyone who attended had a grand time. We wish the best to Ron and his family. Saint Matthew's gave him a handcrafted card, made by Amanda Baldwin. Additionally, through the generosity of our Parish, a substantial check was also given to Ron.

Our Parish does such a fantastic job bringing food to the Altar each Sunday. During the week, it is then delivered to the SWNC. This next statement sounds so repetitive: cereal continues to be their greatest need. Find the SWNC on [swnic.net](http://swnic.net). Thank you!

Millie Cummings

**Thank you from Ron Charette**

*Dear St. Matthew's Members,  
Thank you all so much for the most awesome gift. Thank all of you for 45 years of support, love, and prayers making me feel so much a part of your families. You are all so special to me.*

*Happy Trails,  
Don*

**Creation Care**

*The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it*  
Psalm 24:1

Several years ago, St. Matthew's made a commitment to the "greening" of our church grounds and rectory. On June 16<sup>th</sup> your Vestry renewed that commitment as part of your preparation for new ministry.



**Francis Konneh and Emmanuel Ndebeh** have agreed to co-chair the St. Matthew's Green Team. Watch for more news as we join in the following tasks:

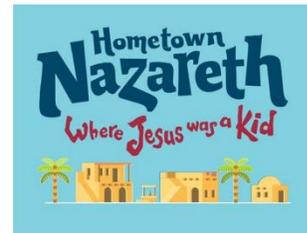
1. **Form a Green Team**  
2. **Undertake an Energy Audit** of our church buildings and Rectory.  
3. **Create an education plan** that will guide all of us to practice environmental stewardship.

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Please let the Wardens, Francis, or Emmanuel know if you are able to be on the team.

**Sunday School  
Summer 2019**

**July 14, July 28, August 18, August 25,  
and September 8**



Our summer curriculum will be based on *Hometown Nazareth*. On these five Sundays we will talk about what life was like for Jesus growing up in Nazareth:

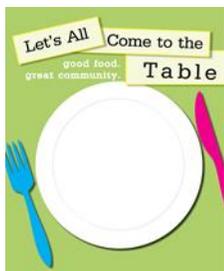
1. Jesus had a family- we do too
2. Jesus had a name – we do too
3. Jesus had a home – we do too
4. Jesus went to church – we do too
5. Jesus served others – we do too

We will share our thoughts, do crafts, and play games, and have fun together.

On July 7<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate our Multicultural Festival, and on August 4<sup>th</sup> we will hold our Family Service. Our youth will lead the Liturgy of the Word and perform a dramatic reading of the Gospel and our hymns will be "songs we learned in Sunday School."

## Community Dinner at St. Matthew's

*Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. [Hebrews 13:2]*



Beginning on **September 22<sup>nd</sup>** St. Matthew's will host a neighborhood community dinner with entertainment on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month.

We will serve dinner restaurant-style 4:00-6:00 pm.

Beginning at about 5:30 pm we will offer entertainment, which will vary from month to month (possibilities include game night, karaoke, live concert, theatre, crafts, a movie night).

For the first few months our menu will be the same every Sunday: salad, pasta, dessert, beverages. Once established, we will be affiliated with the Worcester Food Bank, which will allow for more variety. Take-home containers will be available for diners.

This project will be funded entirely by donations. We received an initial donation of \$400. From a Friend of St. Matthew's; the Women of St. Matthew's have contributed \$100., and the Men's Group has volunteered to host one of the dinners. The monthly cost in reimbursable expenses is estimated to be \$150-200/month, in addition to the one-time cost of certifying Safe Service volunteers (approximate \$200). We will reach out to vendors in our community, and we welcome donations large and small.

Our purpose is five-fold

- To be good stewards of the gifts that made possible renovation of our kitchen
- To strengthen our partnership with the neighborhood
- To be a location for other organizations and groups to volunteer in community outreach
- To provide an occasion for fellowship and well-being for our neighbors
- To share the abundance of grace that St. Matthew's has received

We have received commitments from a large group of volunteers from local schools, colleges, and community organizations, but there is a role for everyone at St. Matthew's!

- Publicity to neighborhood organizations
- Solicitation of donations from local vendors
- Shopping and pick-up
- Setting up, greeting, serving, and cleaning up
- Baking desserts
- Organizing entertainment
- Serving on the Management Team
- Certification in Safe Service Manager and Food Handler (online courses)
- Grant Writing

Our work is just beginning and we have a lot to do before September. Please consider how you can help.

Many thanks to the members of the Planning Committee for their ongoing commitment to bringing about this dream of St. Matthew's: Gus Kormah (Jr. Warden), Linda Albinson, Paula Buonomo, Bendu Ehrich, Rob Ermanski (Vestry member and Treasurer), Catherine Goodwin, Bethany MacGregor, Staci MacGregor (Vestry), Pam Wilson.

**Monastic Musings by  
Fr. John Julian OJN**

My father was a building contractor, and “of the old school” (in that he cared more about producing a quality building than in getting rich). One time when I was visiting him, he took me to see a house being built by a competitor who had bought out some fire-damaged lumber at a very cheap rate and was using that lumber in the frame of the new house. “Look at that,” my grandfather said, “it’ll have a clean dress but with dirty underwear!” The house would look good on the surface but would have all kinds of structural inadequacies underneath the surface.

And that is a parable of the Christian life.

As we approach Christianity, we have a choice of two general approaches:

- (1) We can retain all the values, attitudes, orientations and commitments and replace them with Christianity neatly over all of that, so it fits nicely and looks good, or,
- (2) We can go back to very foundation of our lives, values, attitudes, orientations and commitments, and replace them with Christianity from the ground up.

Our religion can serve as a clean dress over the secular underwear, or we can strip down and build our Christianity from the bottom.

A good way of checking out how we have done our own Christianity is to ask what values come first for us. For instance, do we measure our religion and its teachings against other values (like patriotism or capitalism or hedonism or family) or do we measure those other values against our Christianity. Do we expect our Christian teaching to be always patriotic, and reject it if it is not? Do we place our socio-economic system ahead of our religion and

expect our religion to support our capitalism? Is our personal pleasure and comfort first, and Christianity accepted if it doesn’t make us uncomfortable or reduce our pleasures? When our religion and patriotism are in conflict, do we follow the cross or the flag first? When our religious commitments call for things that are painful or unpleasant, do we follow appetites or the cross? Is our religion only on the outside, or is in at our center? A clean dress? Or new clothes from the skin out?

Submitted by Stephen Smith

**Winter Wonderland Fair  
November 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

It is not too early to start thinking about the Fair. Here are a few things you can do over the summer to get ready:

- Save your books for the Book Table
- Go through your jewelry for the Jewelry Table
- Start making crafts
- If you are thinking about making a basket for the Basket Raffle, now is a good time to start picking up items for your basket.

We need everyone’s support.

Linda Albinson & Pam Wilson





## July/August

### Coffee Hour & Greeter Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>Greeter</b>
7/7/19	Everyone	Lois Ann Cummings
7/14//19	Everyone	Linda Albinson
7/21/19	Everyone	Augustus Kormah & Rob Ermanski
7/28/19	Everyone	Wendy Piscitelli
8/4/19	Everyone	Pam Wilson
8/11/19	Everyone	Linda Albinson
8/18/19	Everyone	Emmanuel Ndebeh
8/25/19	Everyone	Rebecca Kasenge

We have an informal Coffee Hour on the Sundays in July and August.  
Please consider contributing some lemonade, juice, or cookies.

### **Weekends in July & August**

**July 7th - Summer Worship Schedule begins: Saturdays at 5 pm & Sundays at 9 am**  
9 am - Mass on the Grass

Our annual Multicultural Festival begins after the service.

We will announce the winners of the Bible Challenge Contest and the Essay Contest.

**July 13<sup>th</sup>** 9 am Men's Group

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** 9 am Summer Sunday School

**July 28<sup>th</sup>** 9 am Summer Sunday School

**July 21<sup>st</sup>** 9 am Holy Eucharist

**August 4<sup>th</sup>** Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord [transferred]

9 am Mass on the Grass: Family Service: *Songs I learned I Kindergarten*

**August 10** 9 am Men's Group

**August 11<sup>th</sup>** 9 am Holy Eucharist

**August 18** 9 am Summer Sunday School

**August 25** 9 am Summer Sunday School

# Saint Matthew's Parish Calendar

## July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Mother Judith's Schedule</b> <b>Office: Monday- Thursday</b> 9am-1pm 1pm-4pm: pastoral visits & meetings by appointment <b>Friday</b> Day off <b>Saturday</b> meetings by appointment; 5 pm HE Vacation: 6/26 through 7/2	1	2	3	4  Office Closed	5	6  5pm Mass
<b>7 4 Pentecost</b> 9:00 am Mass on the Grass 10:00 Multicultural Festival	8	9	10  10am – Healing Service & Bible Study	11  Thursday Night Work Crew	12	13  9:00 am Men's Gathering  5pm Mass
<b>14 5 Pentecost</b>  9:00 am Mass 9:00 am Sunday School	15	16	17  10am – Healing Service & Bible Study	18  Thursday Night Work Crew	19	20  5pm Mass
<b>21 6 Pentecost</b>  9:00 am Mass	22	23	24  10am – Healing Service & Bible Study  7:00 pm Sconeheads	25  Thursday Night Work Crew	26	27  5pm Mass
<b>28 7 Pentecost</b>  9:00 am Mass 9:00 am Sunday School	29	30	31  10am – Healing Service & Bible Study			
						<b>Office Hours:</b>  <b>9:30 am – Noon</b> <b>Monday-Thursday</b>

# Saint Matthew's Parish Calendar

## August 2019

<u>Sunday</u>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Mother Judith's Schedule</b> <b>Office: Monday- Thursday</b> 9am-1pm 1pm-4pm: pastoral visits & meetings by appointment <b>Friday</b> Day off <b>Saturday</b> meetings by appointment; 5 pm HE				1	2	3  5pm Mass
<b>4 Transfiguration Sunday</b> 9:00 am Mass on the Grass Family Service	5		7	8	9	10 9:00 am Men's Gathering  5pm Mass
<b>11 9 Pentecost</b>  9:00 am Mass 9:00 am Sunday School	12	13	42 10am – Healing Service & Bible Study	15 Thursday Night Work Crew	16	17  5pm Mass
<b>18 10 Pentecost</b>  9:00 am Mass 9:00 am Sunday School	19	20	21  10am – Healing Service & Bible Study	22 Thursday Night Work Crew  Vestry 7:00 pm	23	24  5pm Mass
<b>25 11 Pentecost</b>  9:00 am Mass 9:00 am Sunday School	26	27	28 10am – Healing Service & Bible Study	29	30	<u>31</u>  5 pm Mass
						<b>Office Hours:</b>  <b>9:30 am – Noon</b> <b>Monday-Thursday</b>

