



St. Matthew's Church

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Worcester, MA 01610

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(716) 948-8194, Interim Priest
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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

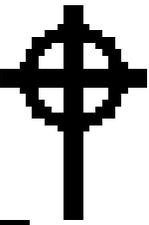
Worship:	
<u>Wednesday</u>	10:00am (followed by coffee hour & Bible Study)
Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am
Church School	9:45 am
1 st Sunday of the Month	8:00 am

Our website address is:
www.stmatthewsworcester.org



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

The Way



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

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

[Isaiah 43.19]

September 2019

Creation Season

**Thoughts from your
Interim Priest**

Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river, and mother earth.

[Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 9]

September 1st is World Day of Prayer for Creation Care, and it is a fitting way to begin this new season at St. Matthew's. In preparing for

ministry with your next Rector, it is good for us to remember that the ministries we share are *woven together in the love of God*, and that we share our *wonderful pilgrimage* through this earth with a large number of companions, some we see and others we do not see. Our decisions reverberate in ways we cannot know or understand, but at the same time they are small elements in the divine *weaving* that is our universe.

After the Search Committee Listening Session on September 8th, you will be on two parallel paths in fulfilling God's purpose for St. Matthew's. The Search Committee will undertake its confidential work of reviewing applications and interviewing candidates, preparing to present 2 or 3 to the Vestry, who will then interview and call one of them to be your next Rector. The rest of the congregation will undertake the task of preparing our space, our ministries, and our relationships to be ready for your new Rector.

How can we weave ourselves into the new creation that God is bringing about at St. Matthew's?

1. Do something for the first time! Help with cleaning and clearing, contribute to the 4 Corners Friendship Dinner, help with Sunday School, attend a new service
2. Rest! Give yourself permission to ponder your own hopes for you and your family. This is Sabbath time—a time for listening to God set us free to wonder and to hope.

In this Creation Season, let us pray for the grace to feel ourselves woven into the love of God:

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the true sun of the universe, ever rising, never setting. You are the source of all life and health. With your glance you generate, preserve, nourish, sustain and inspire all things both in heaven and on earth. Dawn in our souls, that the night of our misdeeds and the clouds of our errors may be dispelled. With your light within us and before us, may we go through all of life honoring and cherishing your presence everywhere around us. Amen

-Mother Judith

Worcester African Ministries
From the Desk of
Rev. John Edgar Freeman

Many years ago, Christian missionaries traveled to Africa to plant churches, schools and hospitals. Their three infrastructures made up the three-fold ministries of Jesus Christ: The Church for preaching, the school for teaching and the hospital for healing. Today, things seem to be in the reverse. Missionaries now come *from* Africa to minister the Good News of Jesus Christ in Europe and America.

Rev. Fr. Dave Woessner, Rector of the St. Michael's on the Heights, Worcester, a good friend and brother from another mother, accompanied me to Liberia in July to see the places where I lived, attended school and worked.

Since Liberia is near the equator, it has two seasons: a rainy season and a dry season, each lasting about six months. We traveled during the rainy season. I was the tour guide for the group. Our travel team consisted of Rev. Fr. Dave Woessner, Emmanuel G. Freeman, Christian Hines, our driver, Henry Ellis, and me.

We left the United States on July 9th and arrived on the 10th. After almost twenty-four hours of travel, we spent the night at the Farmington Hotel near the Roberts International Airport. Our first full day in Liberia we went on a tour of the Firestone Rubber Plantation, the largest rubber plantation in the world. From Firestone we proceeded to a hotel in downtown Monrovia and spent two nights there. My children and grandchildren came to visit us there. I also distributed gifts and packages to people. On July 13th, we drove to Robertsport (Grand Cape Mount County), my home town. We stayed at a hotel in Robertsport and visited St. John's Episcopal Mission for a brief tour and to meet with our host, Rev. Fr. Richard B. Kpehe. I

graduated from St. John's Episcopal High School.

On Sunday, July 14th we attended St. John's Church where a Father's Day program was held. Fr. Dave preached and together we celebrated the Holy Eucharist. During the church program, Fr. Dave and I were ceremoniously gowned in traditional Vai tribal costumes and decorated as special fathers. Fr. Dave was given the Vai¹ name "Wakokai," meaning Robertsport Man. St. John's Church presented a letter to Fr. Dave requesting a parish relationship between the two churches. The service lasted almost four hours. After the long service, there was a big banquet in our honor.

On July 16th, we traveled to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Mbaloma, the interior part of Cape Count County. We were welcomed by the town Chief and Elders, traditional saasaa² dancers, students from the St. Andrew's School and their teachers. There were lots of speeches. Fr. Dave and I danced to the playing of the saasaa and singing. A gift of a rooster was presented to us to depict their love and appreciation for our visit. After that ceremony, we left Mbaloma and spent the night in Sinje, a town near the highway. That night, we bought another chicken and ate both of them for dinner. We killed the chickens according to the local (Muslim) tradition.

On Tuesday, July 17th, we traveled to Mambo, where St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and School are located. Upon arrival, to our surprise we were again received by the traditional Saasaa Dancers, Town Chief and Elders, and the people of Mambo. We were taken to the Town Hall where a special ceremony was held. Again, we were presented a big rooster and kola nuts. There were lots of speeches in Vai with one of the elders interpreted assisted by me.

Immediately after the program, we went up to the Mission Campus for the School Closing Program where Fr. Dave was Guest Speaker. A sumptuous dinner was provided for us. The visit to Mambo concluded our Cape Mount County tour.

We went on an adventure to the border of Liberia and Sierra Leone. We had the opportunity to have a police officer escort us to the Sierra Leonean side of the border, where we had some refreshment and took pictures before returning to Monrovia.

We paid courtesy calls to the Most Rev. Jonathan B. B. Hart, Archbishop of the Province of West Africa and Diocesan Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Liberia, and to the Very Rev. James B. Selle, Dean of the Episcopal Cathedral; we had a tour of the great Trinity Episcopal Church Cathedral on Broad Street, Monrovia.

After two days of rest, we went into central Liberia to visit the only Episcopal University in Africa, Cuttington University, in Suacoco, Bong County. We were received by the President of Cuttington, Rev. Dr. Herman Browne, who hosted our stay on the campus and provided a guided tour of the campus. Father Browne was Dean of the Cathedral prior to being called a President of Cuttington and his father served as Bishop Liberia (1970 – 1993).

We returned to Monrovia and stayed in the home of my Aunt and Uncle Sonii for the remainder of our time in Liberia. We were warmly received by Uncle Momolu, whose hospitality went beyond measure and praise. We visited the Julia C. Emery Bromley Mission School for girls in Virginia. In Monrovia, we also visited the National Museum, the Centennial

¹ There are four language groups, thirty languages and sixteen tribes in Liberia. English is the official language.

² The Saasaa is a West African percussion instrument consisting of a dried gourd with beads or cowries woven

into a net covering the gourd. The shape of the gourd determines the sound of the instrument.

Pavilion, the Baptist Church and other historical sites of Liberia.

While in Liberia, we ate a combination of traditional and American foods. A favorite was Evelyn's Restaurant, owned by my cousin; and Uncle Momolu's home where Haji was the cook. Haji is a young man attending the University of Liberia majoring in engineering, and he is a master at cooking outside in the traditional Liberian style. My grandson Christian became known for his ability to consume fried plantains.

Father Dave and Christian returned to the United States on July 25th. I remained in Liberia until August 5th, participating as the best man in a wedding, visiting with family and friends, and keeping Uncle Momolu company. Emmanuel will return on August 26th.

Thank you all for your prayers and good wishes for our safe travels.

Fr. Freeman

From your Senior Warden

On behalf of the Interim Priest, Reverend Dr. Judith Lee, the Wardens, Vestry, and the entire congregation of the Saint Matthew's Parish, I take this special time to immensely thank the Profile Committee for preparing the task given them to do in a timely and proficient manner. Miss Catherine Goodwin and her members dedicated their honest time and efforts in getting the job done. I am very proud of your work. I strongly believe that listening is very vital in knowing who we are in this present time.

The Search Committee is about to commence its work. I ask that we all continue to sincerely pray for them. As parishioners, let us keep in mind that information to the congregation will be highly filtered until the process is ended. I therefore request your patience and understanding in this regard.

On Thursday, August 22nd, the Vestry of the Church had a special meeting at the rectory for the first time in many years, with the Diocesan Transition Officer for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, Canon Dr. Richard Simpson. It was with great pleasure for some Vestry members to tour the Rectory for the first time. I want to also thank Mother Judith Lee for the warm welcome. The atmosphere was very congenial and peaceful.

God continues to do new things at Saint Matthew's Church – the formation of the Episcopal Church Men's Group, the 4 Corners Friendship Kitchen, the upcoming Bible Contest, the Parish Quiet Day, among other plans. It is strongly believed that God is present with us. Therefore, let us embrace the gifts God has given us with love and appreciation.

Finally, I urge every member to continue to attend services regularly as you are able, and do all such good works as God has given us to do.

Festus Konneh
Senior Warden

The Women of St. Matthew's

The Women of St. Matthew's will meet on **Thursday September 19 at 7:00 pm.** in the Parlor. We will make a date for making pies for the Fair and discuss our plans for the new year. **Baskets---** If you are planning to make a Basket for the Fair, please try and have them in by October 20th. We like to show them to the Deaf Seniors so that they have a chance to buy tickets.

Millie



RenewalWorks



The Spiritual Formation Committee (SFC) met on August 7th to plan events that will introduce the

Spiritual Catalysts that we said were important to us as individuals and as a community in our discussions this past spring. In upcoming issues of *The Way*, we will summarize those discussions and explain why the Spiritual Catalysts are important. For now, mark your calendars for these events:

November 17th Coffee Hour -

Intergenerational Bible Challenge Contest.

Our topic will be the Gospel of Luke. Watch for information about forming teams and study guides. This event is designed to us to have fun, to learn, and to deepen our spiritual friendships.

Table Talks

Wendy Piscitelli will lead an informal discussion at a table during coffee hour once a month. The first will be on **Sunday October 6th**. A small group will gather at a designated table to discuss a text that Wendy brings - it might be Scripture, or a meditation, or a poem. The purpose is to share our reflections and build spiritual friendships. We expect to finish between 12:15 and 12:30.

December 7th - Parish Quiet Day: 9 am - 1 pm

On this day - the first weekend of the new liturgical year following the Commissioning of Ministries on December 1st-- we will gather for prayer, silence, and ministry group meetings. Each ministry group will meet for 45 minutes during the morning for training and planning, and there will be time and opportunity for individuals to pray in silence, share quiet conversation, and follow a guided meditation.

Individuals will have the option of coming only for the meetings, or for coming and going throughout the morning. We will begin with a light breakfast and finish after lunch. Watch for more information about how the day will be organized.

In thanksgiving for our ongoing journey,

The Spiritual Formation Committee:

Liz Kilpatrick & Cathy Goodwin, co-Chairs;

Linda and Ben Albinson, Paula Buonomo,

George Gailor, Festus Konneh, Kelly

MacGregor, Wendy Piscitelli, and Nancy Smith

Creation Care



*The earth is the Lord's
and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who
dwell therein.*

[Psalm 24:1-2]

From September 1st through October 6th the Diocese of Western Massachusetts will unite

with Christians around the world in celebrating a special season of prayer and action to protect God's creation.

The "Season of Creation" begins on September 1st, a date chosen in 1989 by the Ecumenical Patriarchate of the Orthodox Church — and now embraced by the wider ecumenical family — as the World Day of Prayer for Creation. Creation Season ends this year on Sunday, October 6th, following the October 4th Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, the man who is often called the patron saint of ecology.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, recently signed Faith leaders' invitation to join the Season of Creation. The invitation ends with these words: *During the Season of Creation, we ask ourselves: Do our actions honor the Lord as Creator? Are there ways to deepen our faith by protecting 'the least of these,'*

who are most vulnerable to the consequences of environmental degradation?

At St. Matthew's we will observe Creation Season on the Sundays in September by departing from the standard lectionary for our Scripture readings and by including special Collects, Prayers of the People, and Postcommunion Prayers in our liturgy. We will say Eucharistic Prayer C on these Sundays.

Episcopal Church Men

The Episcopal Church Men meet on the second Saturday of every month for breakfast, reflection on Scripture, and discussion of ways to serve St. Matthew's and the wider community.

The ECM will volunteer to serve the second 4 Corners Friendship Dinner at St. Matthew's on October 27th.



The next meeting will be on **Saturday September 14th at 9 am** in the Parish Hall.

Stewardship *Shining Our Light*

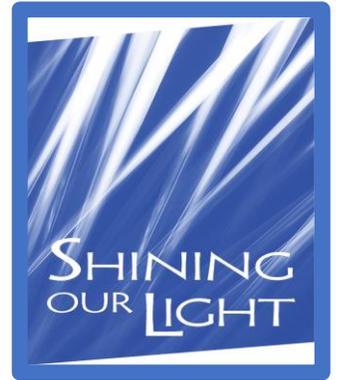
*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna...*

You finished the verse, didn't you!! I learned this song when I was very young. I know I was very young because when we got to the verse "Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm gonna let it shine!"....I didn't even know what a "bushel" was!!! But

what I DID know was that it was IMPORTANT that I let my light shine!

Shining Our Light is our Stewardship theme for St. Matthew's annual giving campaign for 2020. We will be using the The Episcopal Network for Stewardship narrative series (also known as **TENS**) with our "kick off" on **Sunday, October 6th**.

A couple of synonyms for "shine" are "radiate" and "glow." Wouldn't you like to let your light shine? I would. I believe that we are all wonderful children of God and I believe that God wants me to enjoy this precious gift of life I have been given. I want to radiate and glow with God's love! We have all been given special gifts and talents that make each one of us unique and special. So, let your light shine! Don't hide your gifts and talents...they make you YOU!!



St. Matthew's shines as well! The Profile Committee has designed a wonderful brochure that includes reflections shared by members of St. Matthew's and examples of how our parish has shed a "light" in their lives. The brochure also mentions St. Matthew's "light" reaching out in our neighborhood and the city of Worcester. The Search Committee will also get to personally share with prospective candidates even more information about our parish. It is our hope that several parishioners will be willing to share, on the Sundays in October, how St. Matthew's has shed a "light" in their lives.

You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven.

[Matthew 5:14-16]
Charlotte Townsend

The Parish Fair



SAVE THE DATE:

Friday, November 1, 2019

4:00 – 8:00 pm Hot Dog and Bean Supper

Saturday, November 2, 2019

8:30 am – 3:00 pm Lunch

Preparations:

Jewelry: Please bring in as soon as possible.

Books: All kinds – start getting them together.

Crafts: All kinds of homemade items

Baskets Time to start making one

November 1st & 2nd:

Bake Table: All kinds of homemade baked goods

Take Out Table: Any kind of food you can take home and eat later: Quiche, Jams, Chili, Etc.

If you can help in any way, see Pam Wilson or Linda Albinson.

**This grand show is eternal.
It is always sunrise somewhere;
the dew is never dried all at once;
a shower is forever falling;
vapor ever rising.**

**Eternal God,
eternal sunrise, eternal sunset,
eternal dawn and gloaming,
on seas and continents and islands,
each in turn,
as the round earth rolls.**

-John Muir

Mission of the Month: School Supplies for the Worcester Schools

We will have a box for donations of supplies for students and teachers in our public schools.

*One child, one teacher, one book,
one pen can change the world.*

— Malala Yousafzai

The South Worcester Neighborhood Center

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD!

The South Worcester Neighborhood Center continues to thank you for your weekly contributions of food. Cereal is still the most needed food staple. Thank you!



Worcester African Ministries Essay Contest

Here are excerpts from the 4 essays that were awarded prizes in the second annual WAM Essay Contest on July 7, 2019. The essays were written on the following topic: Imagine a church where you and your friends grow spiritually. Describe the program and worship of that church.

Amanda Baldwin

I believe that a church that uses updated material and is more accessible in language and action during its services makes for a more welcoming and open-minded environment, in which its parishioners and friends would be able to grow spiritually. Updated material is not only more engaging for a younger demographic, but is also a way to prove that the church is evolving as time and culture progress. Accessibility is vital, as using language that may seem flowery could be interpreted as pretentious and therefore create distance between the program and both those who already attend and those considering it. . . .

I don't believe my friends or I would be able to grow spiritually within a church community unless we were able to feel as though we knew that what we said would be listened to and genuinely taken into consideration. In large community spaces and programs such as a church, individuality should be respected and celebrated. Constructive thinking and criticism should be welcome. It's the only way the program will grow. A rigid service and definition of what is and isn't acceptable within the community won't help an individual develop their own ideas of what religion is and could be. They will either be turned off from the church as an institution or would feel limited and stunted in their spiritual growth.

Nick Baldwin

Worship is something that parents often want to pass down to their children to keep the art of worship alive in the coming generations. Aside from being a place for people of a certain faith to practice their religion, people who go to churches like to feel a sense of community. Many people also like to be entertained in whatever they do, so there are a few things that I believe can make positive changes in the church to add a sense of community and entertainment to get more people involved.

One thing I would like to see added to my church is a live band that plays songs . . . that get people involved, such as fun call-and-response songs and sing-a-long songs Whenever I see a live band play at a church other than my own, I see how much fun the audience has with it, and I believe that adding a live band to my church would bring people that same happiness and entertainment. . . .

Another thing I would like to see added. . . is more community work, such as volunteering at not just local shelters and parks but outside of the city, maybe outside of the state. My favorite part of the youth group at my church is when we do outings and we leave the state for a weekend of fun. I believe that a lot of people would enjoy doing those kinds of outings, but to do something noble, such as cleaning up other areas in our region, or volunteering at shelters and other activities that help others.

Alisa Gailor

While away at college, I was faced with the opportunity to attend a different church, one with no denomination. This opportunity proved beneficial to me because I was able not only to observe how another church was run, but also to experience it for myself.

The first thing that was most apparent to me was the amount of community engagement the congregation demonstrated. Although the Boston church that I attended had a congregation significantly larger than St. Matthew's, I think that community engagement is a practice that I would have St. Matthew apply if I had the chance to run the church. More specifically I would encourage the younger members of the church to participate in these activities. . . .

I have noticed that the Sunday School children are very eager to join the Youth Group and acolyte. . . . They want to serve and feel of use. . . . The youngest members of the church are especially important because they are the most impressionable, and early participation in community engagement can be self-empowering since most of them only see themselves as kids who cannot make any change. I think all members of the church should be given the opportunity to make a difference, no matter how small.

Another change I would make to the church if I ran it would be to change the order of the service. . . . Predictability is an element all too familiar with the church, . . . Simply changing the order of the schedule, or even incorporating more engagement in the community might break this cycle of repetition.

Emmanuel G. Freeman

The question proposed for this essay leaves me reminiscing on my childhood and my life growing up in the church. Childhood years are when foundations are built, beliefs are instilled, values are adopted and applied, and most importantly, lifelong memories are created. . . .

In my home church St. Thomas, I knew everybody, and everyone knew me. . . . I was a member of every organization possible at age twelve: Sunday school, acolyte guild, choir, and the youth organization. At that tender age, my parents were very instrumental in my participation in churchly activities. I owe everything to them.

Sunday service usually started at about 10:00 am and lasted for about two hours. . . . In Sunday school, we were taught to love and respect others regardless of who they were and what they had. To trust and always listen to God's word. . . .

Over the years, I came to the realization that my church had lots of organizations. It was like a body: many parts, yet they are all compelled to function in unison to stay alive. These organizations were like that. . . .

A church with an active participatory congregation works together to worship in the beauty of holiness. The beauty of holiness to me is not being perfect. It is applying the greatest commandment from God: "Love your neighbor as thy self." Applying this commandment to one's life thus creates a community of brothers and sister. A family. In this community as a family, we have a better chance to grow spiritually and appreciate the goodness of the Lord upon our lives.



Bring a Friend . . . Meet a Friend . . . Make a Friend

What is our Friendship Dinner?

St. Matthew's will offer a dinner with entertainment on the 4th Sunday of every month, September through June, from 4-6 pm. Dinner will be served restaurant style, and Parish Hall will be transformed with seasonal décor. Our guests will be our neighbors: We will offer a space where people who would not otherwise have a meal can share an evening with people who can choose where and when they eat.

What is the menu?

Pasta and meatballs or meat sauce; salad, bread & butter, dessert, beverage.

Who will be the volunteers?

Students from local colleges and high school students doing community service, members of St. Matthew's and our covenant parish Sacred Heart-St. Catherine of Sweden and ECOW. We will need 7-8 volunteers for each event, working in 90-minute shifts between 1:30pm and 6:30 pm. Adults & youth from St. Matthew's will be the volunteer group for September 22nd, and the Episcopal Church Men of St. Matthew's will be the volunteer group for October 27th.

What will the volunteers do?

Volunteers will prepare the room, set the tables, prepare the meal, welcome guests, serve the meal, distribute take-home servings, and clean up after the meal.

What will the entertainment be?

Local musicians, dancers, and theatrical artists have been invited to perform. Don Irving will organize the entertainment on September 22nd, with soloists from Worcester Academy and

Special Guests. On November 24th, Betsy Bronstein & Sam Politz, members of St. Luke's, will perform violin and accordion.

What is the Children's Corner?

We will have an area in the room where volunteers will read with children (ages toddler to 12). We will have a collection of donated children's books available for children to read or to take home.

How will the Friendship Dinner be funded?

For this first year we will be funded entirely by donations and fundraisers. When we are established, we will be eligible for a number of grants, as well as affiliation with the Worcester Food Bank. We have asked for donations from local vendors.

How can I participate?

Donations of gift cards from local groceries

Financial donations

Donations of non-perishable food:

Boxes of Ziti or spaghetti

30 oz cans of tomatoes

32 oz jars of traditional spaghetti sauce

Italian salad dressing

Donations of gently-used children's books

Volunteer to help on a Sunday

Plan an entertainment program

Bake desserts

Invite your friends to join us for the evening

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]

Altar Guild Reflections

Sundays After Pentecost



Did you know that we are IN the season after Pentecost? It began on the Monday after Pentecost. This year Pentecost Day was on June 9th and on that day

the colors in the church were red to signify the fire of the Holy Spirit and parishioners were encouraged to wear red.

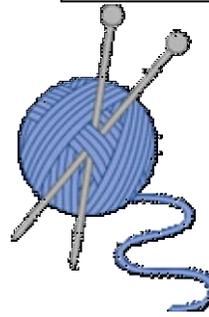
The season after Pentecost continues until the last Sunday in November. The color in the church is green, which signifies life, growth, and fertility. St. Matthew's is blessed to have two "greens" to use – a lighter green for the hot summer months and a much darker green to use in the fall. One of my Altar Guild books suggests picking a green that is "pleasing to the eye because you're going to be looking at it for a long time."

Of course, like everything else in life, there are exceptions to the rule. On feasts of Our Lord, and when there is a baptism during this season, the liturgical color is white. For example, the first Sunday after Pentecost is Trinity Sunday and the liturgical color is white; similarly, when we observed the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord on August 4th the liturgical color was white. The liturgical color for Saturday evening is the same as for the Sunday unless we are have a special ceremony (such as a baptism) at one of these services.

The second half of the church year, after Pentecost, "celebrates the continuing work of Christ in his Church through the Holy Spirit." *God the Father created us; God the Son redeems us; God the Holy Spirit sanctifies and enables us.*

~ Charlotte Townsend ~

Knitting and Crocheting Ministry



Please join us on **Saturday, September 7, 2019** from **10:00 to noon** in the Parish Hall.

We have a few things planned. Do you want to learn how to make a Prayer Shawl? Wendy Piscitelli will be present to guide you through it! We will

have yarn, as well as knitting needles and crochet hooks will be available too!

Do you want to make some craft items for the St. Matthew's Annual Fair? We will have some projects and materials to get you started! Pam Wilson and Linda Albinson will guide us through that as well! Materials will be provided.

Do you want to learn how to make some winter clothing to give to the South Worcester Neighborhood Center after the St. Matthew's In-Gathering in early December? Robin Chenarak, and others will help you with that too! We have yarn, knitting needles, and crochet hooks.

Please join us. Refreshments provided!!!

Thank you.

Parish Quiet Day
Saturday December 7th
9am - 1 pm

Come for an hour - stay for the day

Planning & Renewal
Silence & Sharing
Learning & Teaching

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope. [Pope Benedict XVI]

Sconeheads

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 7:00 pm

Do you love to read? Come join us! At our last meeting, we chose our next book:

Where the Crawdads Sing
by Delia Owens. We plan to meet in the Parlor.



We chose a second book, but a date has not been set for that meeting. The book selected is: *Educated* by Tara Westover.

We do read many other wonderful books! Here's a list:

OTHER BOOKS WE LOVE (NOT IN ANY PARTICULAR ORDER)

1. *A Place for Us* by Nicholas Gage
2. *Gone With the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell
3. *The Winds of War* by Herman Wouk
4. *I, Keturah* by Ruth Wolff
5. *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson
6. *A Quaker Book of Wisdom* by Robert Lawrence Smith
7. *North and South* by Elizabeth Gaskell
8. *Dracula* by Bram Stoker
9. *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
10. *The Woodcutter* by Kate Danley
11. *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi
12. *Five Stones* by Ann Fairbairn

Sunday School & Youth Group

Welcome Back Sunday will be **September 15th**. We will have Family Service that day, and we will have in-person Sunday School Registration. Plan to stay for an ice cream social after the service.



You may register your children for Sunday School at any time by completing the form found on our website:

www.stmatthewsworcester.org/Learn.

Our curriculum this year will be DonutForget Bible Lessons.

We welcome two new teachers this year: Tim Rossi and Festus Konneh will teach the older youth (Grades 6-12). Kelli and Steve MacGregor will help with special projects and fill in when the regular teachers are away. Karen Baldwin will continue as Sunday School Superintendent and Kim Rossi will teach the younger classes (Grades K-5) with her. Staci MacGregor will lead the Youth Group.

Our Sunday School classes are at their best when parents participate actively. With your participation, our children can more easily learn how to *live* their faith, and they learn to ask you more openly questions about faith and morality. Please consider helping out in some way during this school year.

Schedule:

1st Sunday – Family Service – no classes

2nd Sunday @ 11:30 – Youth Group

3rd Sunday – Classes with Children's Chapel

4th Sunday – During Coffee hour our children will decorate place cards for the Friendship Dinner to be held later that day.

Youth Group

September 15th 11:30 – Planning meeting

February 29-March 1st -20 Hour Famine



September Coffee Hour & Greeter Schedule

Date	Coffee Hour	Greeter
9/1/19	Everyone	Pam Wilson
9/8/19	Everyone	Linda Albinson
9/15/19	Everyone	George Gailor
9/22/19	Everyone	Wendy Piscitelli
9/29/19	Everyone	Lois Ann Cummings

Coffee Hour

Providing for Coffee Hour is open to everyone. If you like the Coffee Hour, please consider bringing in something to share with others. Also, think about helping to clean up.

-Millie Cummings

Fundraiser for 4 Corners Friendship Kitchen
Hosted by Kim Rossi in St. Matthew's Parish Hall

Come & Join the fun!!

Make & Take a Sign

Select a saying . . . Pick your colors
Paint your board & apply vinyl lettering

October 13th 11:30 am – 1 pm
\$10 / Person or \$25 / Family

Bring a Friend . . . Meet a Friend . . . Make a Friend

Weekends in September

August 31st - September 1st

Saturday **5:00 pm** ` Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
Sunday **9:00am** Mass on the Grass
 10:30 am Executive Committee Meeting

September 7th & 8th

New Weekend Worship Schedule Begins

Saturday **10:00am – noon** Knitting & Crocheting Ministry
 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel followed by a
 Search Committee Listening Session
Sunday **8:45 am** Bible Challenge Contest Planning Committee Meeting
 9:45 am Sunday School – Last Summer Session
 10:00 am Holy Eucharist in the Church
 11:15 am Search Committee Listening Session with lunch

September 14th & 15th

Saturday **9:00 am** Episcopal Church Men
 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
Sunday **Welcome Back Sunday**
 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00 am Holy Eucharist – Family Service/ Commissioning of Ministries
 11:30 am Youth Group Planning Meeting
 11:30 am Vestry Meeting

September 21st & 22nd

Observance of St. Matthew's Day

Saturday **9:00am-3:00pm** Safe Church Training at St. Stephen's-Westborough
 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
Sunday **9:45 am** Sunday School
 10:00 am Holy Eucharist in the Church
 11:30 am Sunday School Teachers Meeting
 4:00-6:00 pm 4 Corners Friendship Dinner

September 28th & 29th

Friday through Sunday Silent Retreat at the Community of St. Margaret in Duxbury

Saturday **5:00 pm** Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
Sunday **10:00 am** Holy Eucharist in the Church

Saint Matthew's Parish Calendar

September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Mother Judith's Schedule</u> Office: Monday- Thursday 9am-1pm 1pm-4pm: pastoral visits & meetings by appointment Friday Day off Saturday meetings by appointment; 5 pm HE</p>						
<p>1 12th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am Mass on the Grass 10 am – Executive Committee</p>	2	3	<p>4</p> <p>10am – Healing Service & Bible Study</p>	5	6	<p>7</p> <p>10 - Noon Knitting & Crocheting Ministry</p> <p>5pm Holy Eucharist 6 pm Search Committee Listening Session</p>
<p>8 13th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am Choir 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:45 am Sunday School 11:30 – Search Committee Listening Session w/lunch</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>Election Day</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10am – Healing Service & Bible Study</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6-9 pm Laundry Love</p>	13	<p>14</p> <p>9 am Episcopal Church Men</p> <p>5 pm Holy Eucharist</p>
<p>15 14th Sunday after Pentecost Welcome Back Sunday Church School Registration 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10 am Holy Eucharist 9:45 am – Sunday School Blessing of the Backpacks 11:30 am Youth Group 11:30 am Vestry Meeting</p>	16	17	<p>18</p> <p>10am – Healing Service & Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm Sconeheads</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10am – 1pm Worcester Clericus at Trinity-Milford 7 pm Women of St. Matthew's</p>	20	<p>21</p> <p>5pm Holy Eucharist Patronal Celebration: St. Matthew's Day</p>
<p>22 Patronal Celebration: St. Matthew's Day 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Sunday School Teachers Meeting 4-6 pm 4 Corners Friendship Kitchen dinner</p>	23	24	<p>25</p> <p>10am – Healing Service & Bible Study</p>	<p>26 Diocesan Clergy Day Office Closed</p>	<p>27 Silent Retreat begins</p>	<p>28 Silent Retreat @ Community of St. Margaret 5 pm Holy Eucharist</p>
<p>29 10:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:45 am Sunday School</p>	30					<p>Office Hours: 9:30 am – Noon Monday-Thursday</p>

Monthly Lectionary

September 1

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Jeremiah 2:4-13
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 8

Readings for Creation Season

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17 Jeremiah 18:1-11
Acts 17:22-34 Matthew 6:19-24

September 15

Readings for Creation Season

Psalm 67 Genesis 9:8-17
Philippians 4:4-9 Matthew 6:25-33

September 22

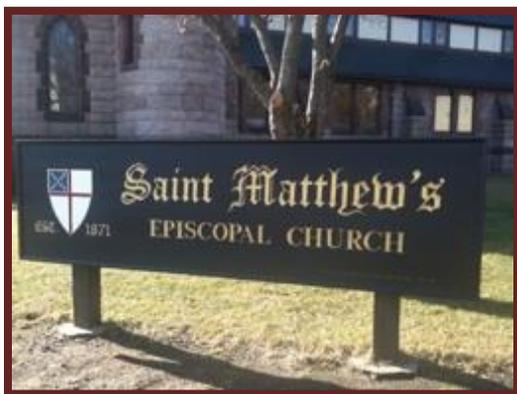
Patronal Feast: St. Matthew

Psalm 119:33-40 Proverbs 3:1-6
2 Timothy 3:14-17 Matthew 9:9-13

September 29

Readings for Creation Season

Psalm 100 Isaiah 55:12-13
Colossians 1:15-20 John 6:25-35



Meetings at St. Matthew's

Sundays 6:30pm Al-Anon (parish hall)
Mondays 7:30pm AA (parish hall)
10:00am Al-Anon (parish hall)
Tuesdays 7:00pm AA Young Beginners
8:00pm AA (parish hall)
Wednesdays 8:00pm AA (parish hall)
Thursdays 8:00 am -3pm Deaf Seniors
(parish hall)
Fridays & Saturdays No Meetings

Saint Matthew's Vestry

Festus Konneh, Senior Warden
Augustus Kormah, Junior Warden
Rob Ermanski, Treasurer
Tim Rossi, Clerk
Charlotte Townsend, Corresponding
Secretary

Vestry Members

Rob Ermanski
George Gailor
Staci MacGregor
Emmanuel Ndebeh
Kim Rossi
Stephen Smith
Dennis Wilson

*Our Mission is to build on the past, while
looking towards the future, and provide a
Christian community for worship and
fellowship that extends to others in joy,
witness, and outreach*

*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs
forth, do you not perceive it?
[Isaiah 43:19]*