

# SAINT MATTHIAS

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## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Saint Matthias Messenger

Published Monthly

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Saint Matthias Episcopal Church  
7056 Washington Avenue  
Whittier, CA 90602  
(562) 698-9741

**Office Hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
9:00<sup>AM</sup> - 4:00<sup>PM</sup>

**Rector**  
The Rev. Bill Garrison  
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Web Page:

<http://www.stmatthiaswhittier.org>

**Sunday Worship Services**  
8:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist  
10:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist

**Saturday Worship Service**  
The First Saturday of the Month  
5:00pm - Healing Service

**Wednesday Bible Study**  
10:00<sup>AM</sup>  
Wednesday Eucharist  
11:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist



## Do Something Nice For Someone Else

Jesus was invited to the home of a Pharisee for a meal on the Sabbath. Once there Jesus talked about the relative importance of the seating around a table. Jesus talked about the power positions at a table. We all know where the power positions around a table are, don't we? They change according to the size of the table. For the standard square, four person table the entire room is taken into account in order to find the power position. Normally the power position would be the one that allows the most important person to have their back to the wall and able to survey the room. For a table that seats six or eight the power positions would be on the ends with the chair that could survey the room the most important of the two power positions. For larger conference tables the power position eventually shifts from the end to the middle. But whatever shape the table might take the power positions are instinctively known, aren't they?

Then in the story, as always, Jesus surprises us as we listen to him with some countercultural advice. He tells those in the room it would be better not to go to the power positions. He says to do so might cause the person who does so embarrassment because they might be asked to move to another seat allowing someone of more importance to take their place. In fact Jesus tells everybody to take the least important place at the table. They then might actually be asked to move up to a more important position and be honored in that way.

As the story continues Jesus suggests what the guest list in the Kingdom of God would preferably look like. Please let me quote him. "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Oh man. There he goes again turning everything on its head. Could he possibly have said anything more counter-cultural? Do it Jesus says, primarily because they can't repay you. And know this. God is watching and this is what God wants you to do.

If this were from other than a church you might be rolling your eyes at what Jesus is saying. From a church though for some reason it is ok to hear stuff like this because we know Jesus is right. But the rest of the time this good advice just isn't a practical idea if you want to get ahead.

I am reminded of something in this same vein that I hear occasionally. It goes something like this. You know what sort of a person you are dealing with by watching how they treat people either when they don't have to be nice or when no one is watching.

Well, I guess it's time to say something about the story. It isn't about getting ahead. It's not about getting rich or earning top dog status. It's about being human, and a decent, compassionate human being at that. I can't tell you God wants us to be rich or famous. I leave that to the prosperity preachers who are happy to intimate that. I can tell you God wants us to be the best human being you can be. Being a decent, compassionate human being turns out to be self rewarding and a great example to others.

Here's some advice for all of us and I hand it out regularly. If we are depressed or bored or down in the dumps for whatever reason there is a simple action we can take to feel better immediately. You don't want to miss this. Do something nice for someone else and preferably perform this service for someone who can't pay you back. I guarantee you will immediately feel better. It works every time.

And maybe there will be a child watching. Children don't care much about what we say, only what we do. Hopefully they will want to mimic what they have seen. And the world will be a little better place.

Finally, the ultimate example of doing the loving thing, and that is what we are talking about here, was done by the creator. God tore the fabric of reality and entered into the world in the form of a helpless child and through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ opened to us the gates of eternal life. God did it for us, a people totally incapable of paying God back for what God had done. God set the example. As God's children maybe we can learn from it.

*Fr. Bill+*

## Dreams and Resurrection

Can we realistically hope to be resurrected after we die? Is it reasonable to believe in an afterlife, or is this a case where reason and faith diverge? Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself. Are we to believe that the idea of an afterlife doesn't make sense but we should believe in it anyway because the Bible tells us so? To me, that would make it very hard to follow the part of the commandment that says to love the Lord your God with all your mind, as well as all your heart and all your soul.

In my book *Dreams and Resurrection*, I try to explain why I think we have good reasons to believe in an afterlife and that, in fact, it is the idea of eternal death that doesn't make sense. I would love to share my thoughts with you and to learn about your thoughts on this topic, in a discussion group on the book this fall. We are meeting in the chapel, from 6-7 p.m. on Monday evenings from September 23 through October 28. You may purchase a copy from Father Bill for \$10, or online at amazon. Everyone is welcome, and if you have missed an earlier meeting, come anyway. I hope to see you there.

*Jack Call*



## Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers at St. Matthias provide over 2,500 hours of caregiving service annually. Situations where Stephen Ministers have provided care to those in need include: Grief, Health Issues, Personal Crisis, Divorce, Terminal Illness/End of Life Issues, Spiritual Crisis, Caregiver for a Loved One, Financial Difficulties/Job Loss, Infertility and other situations

What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is a lay caring ministry being used by more than 13,000 congregations worldwide to increase care and outreach to hurting people. Through Stephen Ministry, congregations are able to equip and empower a team of laypeople—Stephen Ministers—who provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing life difficulties. Since Stephen Ministry began in 1975, millions of people have received care from a Stephen Minister.

Care Receivers Share How Their Stephen Ministers Made a Difference

**Ralph** - My Stephen Minister was a consistent presence walking with me throughout my divorce. He would always show up, and most importantly, he refused to give up on me. I'll forever be grateful for the way he changed my life.

**Ashley** - When I was with my Stephen Minister, I felt Jesus was with me. I saw the love of God in her eyes while we talked and prayed, and it would fill me with such comfort and peace. It helped me know that I could make it through.

**Molly** - After the death of my mom, I needed someone who would listen—even to the same stories over and over—and who wouldn't be afraid to say her name or bring up her memory. That's who my Stephen Minister was, and I don't know how I would have gotten through it without her.

**Brian** - My Stephen Minister listens—really listens. He doesn't judge me or tell me what to do but walks side by side with me. I never realized how helpful and healing that can be. With his care and support, I'm making it through.

*"A Stephen Minister is the Caregiver, and God is the Cure giver." Total confidentiality is a MUST. "*

*Faye Jackson, Stephen Minister Leader*

GOD GAVE US  
*eternal life*  
AND THIS LIFE  
IS IN HIS SON.  
WHOEVER HAS THE  
*Son*  
HAS LIFE.

1 John 5:11-12, NRSV

# Worship at Saint Matthias October 2019

- + 8:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- + 9:00<sup>AM</sup> - Adult Christian Education
- + 10:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- + 10:00<sup>AM</sup> - "The Works" - Children's Education

## **October 6            The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture:            Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4, Psalm 37:1-10, 2 Timothy 1:1-14, Luke 17:5-10

## **October 13            The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture:            2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c, Psalm 111, 2 Timothy 2:8-15, Luke 17:11-19

## **October 20            The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture:            Genesis 32:22-31, Psalm 121, 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5, Luke 18:1-8

## **October 27            The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture:            Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22, Psalm 84:1-6, 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18, Luke 18:9-14

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## Our Youth Group

October is a busy month for the youngest members of St. Matthias! The Youth Group begins the month on Sunday, October 6th by learning to make Chinese food, with help from older members of the parish. The second Sunday of the month is always set aside for the youngest kids and on October 13th they will be trying mask making and scary makeup. On October 20th the youth will be working on a project for the Women and Children's Crisis Shelter. On October 27th everyone will come together for the St. Matthias Halloween Party.

*Sally+*



## From the Senior Warden's Desk

Summer is officially over and our attention quickly turns to a most exciting time of the year. Soon, Jack-o-Lanterns will festoon our porches, and before too long the holidays and the highly anticipated Advent Season will be upon us. This time of year marks the beginnings of time for reflection on and preparation for the coming of Christ.

St. Matthias has a full calendar of events scheduled for the remainder of this year. Here are a few events we hope you will make special note of on your calendar.

Dr. Jack Call is hosting a weekly discussion about his book, *Dreams and Resurrection*. Dr. Call is a retired Professor of Philosophy who has written several books. We are honored to have him leading this six-week series on Monday evenings at 6PM in the Chapel. Copies of the book may still be available for purchase. See Father Bill.

On October 3, Rev. Carole Horton Howe and Teri Dodd will host the first meeting in their new monthly Wellness series focusing on the Fruits of the Spirit. The meeting will begin at 6:30PM in the Chase Room. Everyone is invited to attend and discover the Fruit-of-the-Month.

We invite you to join us for a Beautification Project scheduled for October 5, 2019 from 7AM to 10AM. This brief project gives us an opportunity to freshen our flowerbeds by removing weeds and re-mulching flower beds. We have most of the necessary tools on hand, but please bring small garden hand tools, if you have them. We will get started and finished early to avoid the heat of the day. See Mary Jean and Larry Christian if you have any questions.

At 11AM on October 5, Fr. Bill will lead the Blessing of the Animals. There's a new puppy at the Adams' household and we're certainly looking forward to having her take part in the Blessing. It seems fitting in light of the blessing that she brings to our family, every day. We hope you will join us!

On Sunday October 13, at our 10AM Service we will be honored with a visit from John Harvey Taylor, Bishop Los Angeles in the Diocese of Los Angeles of the Episcopal Church. Bishop Taylor will participate in our 10AM service during which we anticipate his confirmation of new members. We are encouraged by the attendance of so many interested attendees at our current Inquirers Classes. Immediately following the 10AM service, our Vestry will host a luncheon for our entire congregation celebrating Bishop Taylor's visit. We hope you will join us.

The Memorial Service for Dr. Donovan Dean will be held on October 19, at 11AM, at St. Matthias, followed by a reception in Lewis Hall. Dr. Dean was a long-standing member at St. Matthias. Don passed away on September 1, 2019.

Some fun is in store for those who join in our upcoming bus trip and wine tasting in Santa Barbara on Saturday, November 2. The trip will take us to the Funk Zone, immediately adjacent to the Amtrak Station and steps away from Stearns Wharf. It promises to be a day of fun, good food and wine. There is a sign-up clipboard available outside the narthex before and after each Sunday service. Cost for the bus ride is \$30.

And on November 3, we will celebrate All Saints Day and the Feast of Lights. A special service will be held at 5PM that evening.

While it may seem a while away, Thanksgiving Day is around the corner. We are soliciting members of our congregation to contribute their oven to cook a turkey for service at our Annual Thanksgiving meal. Turkeys will be provided from several local organizations. Keep an eye out for further information on how you can help with this effort. Thanksgiving Day Service & Eucharist will be observed at 10AM Thanksgiving Day.

As we move ahead through this season, an increasing number of activities will fill our calendar. We look forward to seeing you and we hope that each of these events will contribute to your preparation for our Advent season.

*Blessings, Tim*



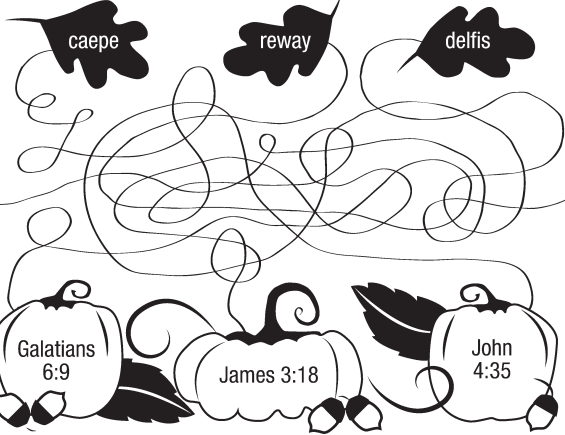
**...his mercies never come  
to an end; they are new  
every morning; great  
is your faithfulness.**

Lamentations 3:22-23, NRSV

# PUZZLE

## Harvest hunt

Directions: After unscrambling each leaf's word, follow the vine to complete the Bible verse.



Peacemakers who sow in \_\_\_\_\_ reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18, NIV

Let us not become \_\_\_\_\_ in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9, NIV

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the \_\_\_\_\_!  
They are ripe for harvest. John 4:35, NIV

Answer: peace, weary, fields

### We Need To Know

Please let the clergy know of any members of the parish that are unable to come to church and would like to receive communion. **The Office now schedules the Lay Eucharistic Visitors and wants to include all who need a visit. Please contact Dottie or Father Bill in the Parish Office to schedule a visit.**

If you know of someone who has been admitted to a hospital, remember to inform the clergy. With the new privacy laws, the clergy can no longer check the roster for parishioners that may be hospitalized. It is "Better We Know Twice Than Not At All!"

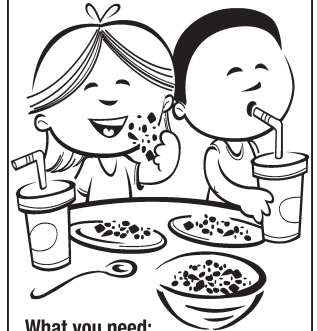
### Support Our Advertisers

Each issue of the Saint Matthias Messenger is printed at no cost to our Parish, thanks to C&M Church Publications. They are able to do this by selling a single page of advertising in each issue. Please check the back of each issue's calendar and if you are in need of a service listed, consider using one of our supporters.

### HARVEST

#### \* Trail Mix \*

This portable snack combines favorite fall flavors.



#### What you need:

- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup pecan pieces
- 1/3 cup roasted pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 2/3 cup dried fruit (any)

#### What you do:

1. Microwave syrup, spices, seeds and nuts for 30 seconds at a time, stirring frequently, until mixture thickens.
2. Spread the mixture on a baking sheet lined with wax paper. Let cool and harden.
3. Break the candied nuts into chunks. Combine with dried fruit.
4. Store in airtight container.

#### Saint Matthias Staff

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Fr. Bill Garrison

##### Associate

Rev. Carole Horton-Howe

##### Associate

Rev. Carolyn Estrada

##### Deacon

Rev. Kay Lozano

#### Youth / Senior Ministries

Sally Schacht

##### Music Director

Kevin McKelvie

#### Parish Administrator

Dottie Andersen

#### Facilities Manager

Ben Gonzalez

##### Treasurer

Kathel Harris

##### Bookkeeper

Kent Meyers

## Special Dates in October

- \* World Communion Sunday, October 6
- \* Reformation Sunday, October 27
- \* Reformation Day, October 31




"Instead of a second collection, think of it more as a GoFundMe campaign."



# October 2019

## Saint Matthias Events

		1	2	3	4	5	
<b>6</b>	8am Holy Eucharist 9am Inquirers' Class 10am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Sunday School 11:15 Coffee Hour 11:30 Choir Rehearsal	3:00 Soup Hour 7pm AA	10am Bible Study 11am Eucharist 3pm Soup Hour 6:30pm AEA	3pm Soup Hour	3pm Soup Hour	7-10am Grounds Beautification 7:30am Men's Breakfast 10am Blessing of the Animals 5pm Healing Eucharist	
<b>7</b>	3pm Soup Hour 6pm Dreams & Resurrection 7:30 pm ACA	3:00 Soup Hour 7pm Vestry 7pm AA	10am Bible Study 11am Eucharist 3pm Soup Hour 6:30pm AEA	3pm Soup Hour	3pm Soup Hour		
<b>13</b>	Bishop Taylor Visits 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Sunday School 11:15 Reception for Bishop 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm ECW Book Group	9am Finance Committee 3pm Soup Hour 6pm Dreams & Resurrection 7:30 pm ACA	2pm Our Time 3pm Soup Hour 7pm AA	10am Bible Study 11am Eucharist 3pm Soup Hour 6:30pm AEA	12 St. Elizabeth's Guild 3pm Soup Hour	3pm Soup Hour	9am ECW Stitchery Group
<b>20</b>	8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Sunday School 11:15 Coffee Hour 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 1:00 DOK	3pm Soup Hour 6pm Dreams & Resurrection 7:30 pm ACA	3:00 Soup Hour 7pm AA	10am Bible Study 11am Eucharist 3pm Soup Hour 6:30pm AEA 7pm Stephen Ministry	3pm Soup Hour	3pm Soup Hour	9am Episcopal Church Women
<b>27</b>	8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Sunday School 11:15 Coffee Hour 11:30 Choir Rehearsal 6pm Halloween party	3pm Soup Hour 6pm Dreams & Resurrection 7:30 pm ACA	3:00 Soup Hour 7pm AA	10am Bible Study 11am Eucharist 3pm Soup Hour 6:30pm AEA	3pm Soup Hour		

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

*"When someone is going through a storm, your silent presence is more powerful than a million empty words."*

—Thema Davis



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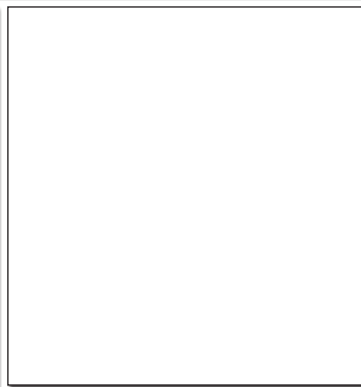
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-Matthew 5:4

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## The Futures Fund

Why are we called the futures fund? The emphasis is on Future" because it may draw our mind, spirit and heart out of the rut of short term problem solving and encourage us to find a hard edge vision about growing our vocation and mission. History and experience teach us that our future can be influenced by our past.



Inspiration and aspiration are not usually the products of desperation. As people of hope, and as we acknowledge our past, we must ask what will give us new breath and new life? All of us working together, along with Gods help, must do the discerning and aspiring work.

Now, lest we forget, lets go back and re-aquaint ourselves to the "Futures Fund". This fund is an endowment set up specifically for taking care of the future of St. Matthias. This fund is being built primarily thru legacies and memorials. When fully funded it will support new ministries and major capital needs. It will never be used for general operating expenses. Planned giving can be opportunities including bequests in wills and trusts, cash gifts, life insurance gifts and gifts of property or other assets.

If you have questions or would like to find out how you can contribute, not only spiritually, but also by becoming a philanthropist please contact one of the following members of the futures committee:

Larry Christian, Doug Halliday, Mike Taylor, Stan Jamieson or Fr. Bill Garrison.

# Capital Campaign

*Stan Jamieson*



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