

SAINT MATTHIAS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Saint Matthias Messenger

Published Monthly

Volume 16 Issue 7 - July 2019



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

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
9:00^{AM} - 4:00^{PM}

Rector

The Rev. Bill Garrison
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office@stmatthiaswhittier.org

Web Page:

<http://www.stmatthiaswhittier.org>

Sunday Worship Services

8:00^{AM} - Morning Prayer with Eucharist

10:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist Rite II

Saturday Worship Service

The First Saturday of the Month

5:00pm - Healing Service

Wednesday Bible Study

10:00^{AM}

Wednesday Eucharist

11:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist



Care for Creation

One of the best things about Whittier is its trees. I regularly drive down Painter and make a left on Wardman to get to St. Matthias. And the trees on the stretch of Painter between Whittier Blvd and Wardman are magnificent. They are so lush and full and sheltering that even on the hottest days you can feel a drop in temperature as you drive those few blocks. If I get caught at a red light I marvel at their huge trunks that are somehow able to survive and thrive even though they are encased in the cement sidewalks. Another visual feast is on La Cuarta where the jacarandas are in bloom. I've gone out of my way to see them - all the while giving thanks that I don't have to sweep the sidewalks of the fallen purple blooms or brush them off my car. God's gifts to us are fully on display.

And like all gifts we have from God we have a responsibility to thankfully and thoughtfully care for creation. In fact it is one of our on-going prayers "Give us a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer." (Prayers of the People Form IV from the Book of Common Prayer.)

One of our small group ministries, Anam Cara, came up with a great idea of how to do just that. They noticed that we dispose of a lot of Styrofoam on Sunday mornings during coffee hour not to mention the rest of the week while serving our Soup Hour guests. They were moved by the Holy Spirit to start a process of "greening" St. Matthias by calling this to our attention and by actively looking for alternatives.

Take just one item: Styrofoam cups. According to Washington University, Styrofoam takes five hundred years to decompose in a landfill. It cannot be recycled, so the Styrofoam cups dumped in landfills are, in effect, there to stay. With enough Styrofoam cups produced each day to circle the earth if lined up end to end, the potential for major ecological impact is frightening. Styrofoam and Styrofoam products already fill up thirty percent of our landfill space.* So the green spaces intended by God for our common joy are all too quickly turning into dumping grounds and will stay that way for several centuries.

What can we do to better care for creation? Support the efforts of Anam Cara and others including the women of ECW:

Grab a mug! Enjoy coffee on Sundays in a St. Matthias mug. It's going to taste better that way. And when you're done, join the volunteers in the kitchen who are washing them for us for next Sunday. Don't the nicest people always seem to end up together in the kitchen?



Dispose of trash the right way! We're working on getting containers that separate what we throw away. When you see them, discard any paper, plastic and food waste in the right place. You're probably already doing something like this at home, just continue those good habits when you're here.

We're in the beginning stages of our "greening" efforts to use our resources rightly to honor and give glory to God. As it unfolds, I am so thankful that the Holy Spirit has inspired this work and shows us even more evidence that St. Matthias is an address on earth for the Kingdom of God to thrive.

*Blessings and peace,
Rev. Carole+*

**SOURCE: "FACTS ABOUT LANDFILL & STYROFOAM" BY MARK LITTLE, LIVESTRONG LIFESTYLE FEBRUARY 2018*

Thank You Saint Matthias

A warm thank you from ECW to everyone who participated in the June Bake Sale by baking, bringing, purchasing and/or enjoying goodies. \$495 was raised to support the projects of ECW including supplies for "greening" St. Matthias – making our coffee hour and events more ecologically sustainable.

Self-Fulfilling Prophecies

"Children have this amazing way of becoming exactly who we tell them they are," writes Amy Weatherly. "If we tell them they are strong, they become strong. If we tell them they are kind, they become kind."

Perhaps Jesus knows this when he tells his disciples, "You are the salt of the earth [and] the light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14). Clearly they haven't already mastered sharing Jesus' goodness with everyone! They are works in progress, as are we. But Jesus, teacher that he is, seems to set the bar high so his followers will strive to meet his expectations.

"You are Peter," Jesus tells Simon, "and on this rock I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18). We can hear Weatherly: "If we tell them they're faithful, they become faithful." And when Jesus declares, "You are of more value than many sparrows" (Matthew 10:31), we believe in our worth and live it out. We become what Jesus tells us we are.

—Heidi Mann



Stephen Ministry

In past months we have been placing our focus and attention on what Stephen Ministers are trained to do and how they go about their duties and responsibilities. This month we want to approach Stephen Ministry in a different direction and focus on the care receiver.

Lets discuss members of our congregation who may have a crises (small or large) and are in need of a friend and a good listening ear. Lets also discuss what happens when that person comes forward and asks for assistance.

If a member of our congregation finds they have a crises and are in need of a good listening ear, a friend and/or person to pray with they should approach Fr. Bill or Rev. Carole and let them know they have a problem. After talking with them Fr. Bill or Rev. Carole may suggest that they accept a Stephen Minister. They will then let the Stephen Ministry coordinator know and a Stephen Minister will be selected to work with that person. Our Stephen Ministers all have their special talents and one will be selected to best fit the congregants needs. It is our policy to only match males to males and females to females. Be assured that all these conversation are handled with the utmost care and confidentiality.

If the person has decided to accept a Stephen Minister the first thing to be discussed with the Stephen Minister is where to meet and how often to meet. It will, in most cases be a weekly visit at their home, a coffee shop or other quiet spot so as to be in private.

If the person prefers, they can make the first couple of meeting a time to get to know each other and build up trust. After the trust is made a discussion can begin in regards to the crises the person brings to the table. Or the person may want to start immediate discussions about the crises.

In the past there has been a lot of hesitation from parishioners to even ask think about asking for a Stephen Minister because they were not sure how the system works and whether or not they could trust a Stephen Minister to keep their crises from being known by others. We can assure everyone that you can trust your Stephen Minister to stay true to the trust that has been built.

Please, if you have a crises, big or small, let Fr. Bill or Rev. Carole know and then ask them questions about the care you will be receiving from a Stephen Minister. They will be able to assure you that you will have a Stephen Minister who will be your LISTENING EAR, YOUR FRIEND AND YOUR PRAYER PARTNER (if you want prayers). Fr. Bill and Rev. Carole will always look after your best interest. ALWAYS

Please remember that we always keep God as the center piece of our caring Ministry.

Stan - Stephen Leader

Worship at Saint Matthias July 2019

- + 8:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- + 9:00^{AM} - Adult Christian Education
- + 10:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- + 10:00^{AM} - "The Works" - Children's Education

July 7 **The Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture: Isaiah 66:10-14, Psalm 66:1-8, Galatians 6: 7-16, Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 14 **The Fifth Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:9-14, Psalm 25:1-9, Colossians 1:1-14, Luke 10:25-37

July 21 **The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture: Genesis 18:1-10a, Psalm 15 , Colossians 1:15-28, Luke 10:38-42

July 28 **The Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**

Scripture: Genesis 18:20-32, Psalm 138, Colossians 2:6-15, Luke 11:1-13

VBS



2019



From the Senior Warden's Desk

Spring is in full swing! And nothing stands out more to me as a symbol of refreshment and renewal at St. Matthias than our parking lot. It has been re-stripped, and it looks fabulous! Many thanks to John Maidlow and Ben Gonzalez who took their time on a couple of Sunday afternoons to paint the stripes and label the handicapped spaces on our lot. Please give them both a personal "thank you" for their hard work!

We have had several unwanted intruders of the feline variety, lately. Cats can be adorable. However, when given the opportunity to roam throughout the Parish campus they become obnoxious as they tend to treat the entire facility as their litterbox. This promotes an unsanitary and potentially unhealthy environment, and it can't be tolerated. It appears the greatest contributor to these intrusions is the fact that we leave doors open. All of us can help prevent this from happening by just making sure we close the doors behind us, at all times. This will eliminate the unwanted visits in our hallways from the cats. On a larger and more important level, it will increase the security of our facilities from all unwanted and potentially dangerous intrusions. Please, be mindful!

Thanksgiving is coming! I know. That sounds awfully premature. But just as quickly as these past six months have flown by, the holidays will be upon us. This year, in preparation for our Annual Thanksgiving Celebration meal, we are asking everyone to share in the preparation of Thanksgiving turkeys. Dave Donovan has prepared the turkeys for this event for some 50 years! He, understandably, would like to shift that workload and focus on other areas of the meal preparation. This will require an ALL HANDS effort! So, as you begin, in a few weeks, to start your Thanksgiving menu planning, please consider preparing an additional turkey and sharing it with us for our annual Thanksgiving Meal. And many thanks to you, Dave, for your tireless and generous service. More information will follow.

Last month, I touched briefly on how we respond to visitors at St. Matthias. I'm reading a book entitled Holy Envy, by Barbara Brown Taylor. She is full of insight and wisdom. One thought she shared in her book reads as follows: "When visitors come to a worship service in my own religious tradition, a great deal depends on how warmly they are welcomed and whether they feel included or excluded by what they hear during the short time they are with us. We may have exactly one shot at communicating who we are to people who know nothing about us – or who think they already know a lot about us – but who in either case, will remember us as the embodiment of our entire tradition, the prime exemplars of our faith."

Summer breakfasts will continue through August 11, 2019. The following groups are participating June 23: ECW; June 30: Youth Group; July 7: Tim & Kathy Adams; July 14: Larry & Mary Jean Christian; July 21: Stephen Ministries; July 28: Kent Myers; August 4: Men Eating Badly; August 11: Vestry. We hope you'll join in fellowship with us following the 8:00AM service, in Lewis Hall.

Men's Desert Spirituality resumes with several Summer dates. June 18, July 11, and August 8. Each meeting begins at 6PM and ends at 7PM. Nate Warner has created an exceptional opportunity for the men of our congregation to engage in spiritual discovery and to create the foundation for a more intimate relationship with our Creator. Join us!

*Blessings!,
Tim*



NOW, O MY GOD, LET YOUR
eyes be open
AND YOUR
ears attentive
TO THE PRAYER OF THIS PLACE.

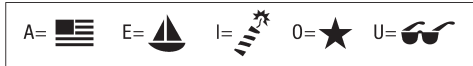
2 CHRONICLES 6:40, ESV



"IN DEPENDENCE" DAY!

Always live "in dependence" on God.

Directions: Use the vowel code to complete Psalm 16:8, NIV.



k _ _ p my _ y _ s
 I w _ y s _ n th _ L _ RD.
 W th h _ m _ t my
 r _ ght h _ nd,
 w ll n _ t b _ sh _ k _ n.
 Ps _ lm 16:8, N _ V

Answer: I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand.

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.

PATRIOTIC PINWHEEL

Create this colorful July 4th craft.

What you need:

- Decorated card stock square (5" x 5")
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- 2 one-inch circles of card stock
- Glue
- Pipe cleaner (3 inches)
- Drinking straw



What you do:

1. Fold the square corner to corner to form an X. Unfold.
2. To make spokes, cut the four creases until an inch from the center.
3. Punch a hole in the middle of each spoke, and in the middle of each circle.
4. Fold each spoke toward the center, lining up the holes. Glue in place.
5. Wrap one end of the pipe cleaner around the top of the straw. Thread a circle, the pinwheel, and the remaining circle onto the pipe cleaner.
6. Roll the pipe cleaner end into a ball. Then spin!

Saint Matthias Staff

- Rector**
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 July

- * Canada Day, July 1
- * Independence Day, July 4



Tithing Sunday Worth a Try?

“Tithing is the best gift a family can give themselves.” Fr. Bill passed along these words when I spoke to him about a tithing campaign for the summer. As you probably know, the tithe is an ancient tradition with roots in the Jewish scriptures, or Old Testament (Gen. 28, Deut. 14). One concept associated with tithing is the “first fruits,” i.e. setting aside the best part of one’s increase for the service of the faith community. In ancient times, the tithe was often something akin to a tax, and helped alleviate the burden of the poor.

Today, tithing is of course voluntary, and yet setting aside a fixed portion of our incomes for stewardship can still help lift the least among us, through supporting diocesan relief efforts (Episcopal Housing Alliance, St. Barnabas Senior Services), giving to local efforts like the St. Matthias Soup Hour, or by supporting other worthy causes you have personally identified. (TIP: You can earmark any part of your St. Matthias donation to the Soup Hour by creating a separate donation online or writing a separate check made out to the Soup Hour.)

On Aug. 4, we are encouraging parishioners to observe the tithe for one week. While we often talk about the tithe as an aspirational goal, why not make it more than that – at least for one week out of the year? By setting aside 10% of a single week’s financial gain for St. Matthias, you could join generations of Jews and Christians in a tradition that digs back into the deepest foundations of our faith tradition. You might even find it becomes a habit! Or to quote Fr. Bill from the same conversation: “You never know unless you try it.”



Please join us as you are able in observing Tithing Sunday on Aug. 4!

*Sincerely,
Ben Corbitt, Stewardship Chair*



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