

SAINT MATTHIAS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Saint Matthias Messenger

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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
Bill@stmatthiaswhittier.org

Church e-mail:
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



A Fantastic Time Of Year

What a fantastic time of year this is. Don't you think so? I just love it. We in Southern California don't experience the seasons like they do in other parts of the country but we do experience them a little bit.

I remember as a child I loved the fall because of football, and the cooler weather, and all the wonderful holidays like Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Some of the trees shed their leaves and nature takes on a different look. I can still remember the leaves made from paper the teachers put up in our classrooms to mimic what was going on outside.

Since Jesus is my favorite subject I was wondering recently about what the land and the weather were like in lower Galilee where Jesus spent his childhood and most of his life. Here is what I found on the subject in a quote from Josephus, the famous Jewish historian. "Its (Lower Galilee's) nature is wonderful as well as its beauty; its soil is so fruitful that all sorts of trees can grow upon it, and the inhabitants accordingly plant all sorts of trees there; for the temper of the air is so well mixed, that it agrees very well with those several sorts, particularly walnuts, which require the coldest air, flourish there in vast plenty; there are palm trees also, which grow best in hot air; fig trees also and olives grow near them, which yet require an air that is more temperate. One may call this place the ambition of nature, where it forces those plants that are naturally enemies to one another to agree together; it is a happy contention of the seasons, as if every one of them laid claim to this country; for it not only nourishes different sorts of autumnal fruit beyond men's expectation, but preserves them a great while; it supplies men with the principal fruits, with grapes and figs continually, during ten months of the year and the rest of the fruits as they become ripe together through the whole year" (The Jewish War, Book 3, Chapter 10:8).

How about that? Now I have a better idea about what it was like for Jesus in his lifetime as he grew up and was formed by his surroundings. Does it bring a picture of Jesus to your mind? It certainly does to mine.

Have a great November.
Fr. Bill+



Senior Warden's Corner

St. Matthias Vestry met on October 9th

FATHER BILL REPORTED ON THE FOLLOWING:

- » Attendance continues to grow at both the 8AM and 10AM services
- » Bishop Diane Bruce will conduct a Mutual Ministry Review with the Vestry and staff on Saturday October 13th. This review will indicated how we are improving, where we need to concentrate our efforts etc..

JUNIOR WARDEN TIM ADAMS

- » Security Cameras will be installed on October 16th. Two will be installed inside the building and on outside to monitor the parking lot and alley.
- » Will be looking for parishioners to replace retiring vestry members (have finished their 3 year tour of duty). Retiring members are Stan Jamieson, Mike Garabedian, Ellen Mykkanen , Teresa Dodd and Mary Carrillo.

CAROLE HORTON-HOWE

- » (Report read by Mary Jean Christian) covered all the many, many wonderful things that are happening with the women's groups. ECW is going strong, wellnes group will be up and running, Daughters of the King (DOK) has finished there training and will be welcomed with a ceremony in the near future. These ministries continue to grow and benefit all of us at St. Matthias.

ANDREA SCHMID

- » (Communications Director) left a report regarding our new 2018 directory. Andrea is busy setting up the "One Body" account which will allow each person of the parish to update their directory information on line.

SENIOR WARDEN STAN JAMIESON

- » Mandy Knight has agreed to do the Audit of the 2017 books. We are looking for someone to assist her in this important function.
- » Futures Fund now stands at \$448,412.45

STEWARDSHIP CHAIRMAN BEN CORBITT

- » Ben spoke to the congregation at both Sunday services on October 7th and Stan Jamieson will be speaking on October 14th.
- » Luncheon to be held in November to thank everyone for there contributions to the church. More details will follow.

FINANCIAL MANAGER KENT MYERS

- » Reports that financially St. Matthis is doing very well.

Stan Jamieson, Senior Warden

Gambling for the Soup Hour



And Apple Picking Too!



Worship at Saint Matthias November 2018

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

November 4 The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Ruth 1:1-18, Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34

November 11 The Tweny-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, Psalm 127, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

November 18 The Tweny-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:4-20, 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25, Mark 13:1-8

November 22 Thanksgiving Day

Scripture: Joel 2:21-27, Psalm 126, 1 Timothy 2:1-7, Matthew 6:25-33

November 25 The Last Sunday after Pentecost (Christ the King)

Scripture: 2 Samuel 23:1-7, Psalm 132:1-13 , Revelation 1:4b-8, John 18:33-37

Pilgrimage: The Experience of Travel

One of the most profound experiences of my time in seminary was in July 2015 when I spent three weeks studying in El Salvador. There was a brief announcement in chapel service one Saturday in the spring that there might be an opportunity to study Asset Based Community Development (better known by the acronym "ABCD") there through an organization called Cristosal. I hadn't thought much about El Salvador since fifth grade geography class or news reports about their civil war in the '80's. And I'd never heard of Cristosal, formed by the Episcopal Bishop of El Salvador to live out the gospel by pursuing human rights. I wasn't sure what ABCD even was much less whether or not I wanted to study it. But I knew I had to go. And right away I knew this was going to be extraordinary and not just because it was a new place or topic of study.

It occurs to me that we leave home for many types of reasons. There are those necessity trips where we have business that must be accomplished. There are trips we plan with itineraries to see certain places or things usually on a tight schedule. One of the most intriguing and perplexing things I've seen recently is large groups of tourists approaching a famous icon like the Statue of Liberty in New York for example. They line up with their camera, take a couple shots and walk away. They can show the folks back home they were there and that's the extent of their experience. In those cases, whether by necessity or choice, it's about the destination.

But if we're lucky there are times we get to go on pilgrimage. We spend time not just seeing but experiencing the place and everything that happens along the way. The destination takes a back seat to anything and everything else.

I still have all the curriculum materials from my time in El Salvador and the final paper. But I barely remember them. I do remember standing on the spot where St. Oscar Romero was murdered, seeing what he must have seen as the assassins took aim at him. I remember walking the Stations of the Cross at Igelsia El Rosario made out of granite and steel and feeling Jesus journey to the cross as profoundly as if they were made of his flesh and blood. I remember eating a sweet juicy mango offered by a family whose poverty was stunning. They had eagerly offered me the very best out of the little they had. And I remember evenings on the patio of the house where we seminarians stayed sharing our experiences. We were on a journey together as pilgrims.

You don't have to go somewhere unknown or exotic to be a pilgrim. It's far more about mindfulness of all that's around you and all those who travel with you. Travel safely, my pilgrim friends, and travel well.

Carole+



Blessing of the Animals 2018



Stephen Ministry at St. Matthias

There is still time for interested parishioners to commit to taking The New Training Class which will be offered January 10 – May 30, 2019. The cost per participant is \$50.00 which include two (2) manuals and three (3) pamphlets. Assistance is available to anyone who will have difficulty with the fifty dollars cost. The following Stephen Ministry Leaders are willing and able to answer your questions or concerns: Catherine Coots, Faye Jackson, Stan Jamieson, Kay Lozano, Sally Schacht or Fr. Bill.

ABOUT OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS

Twenty members of St. Matthias have been commissioned as Stephen Ministers. These are people who have received over 50 hours of training in the skills of active, caring listening. They are able to minister to peoples' needs, such as loneliness, grief, terminal illness, unemployment, childbirth, adoption, hospitalization, separation/divorce, life transitions, spiritual crisis, family problems and retirement. They are not trained therapist. They are people who care, support, listen and share; they are committed to confidentiality. If you have such a need or know of others who might benefit, please call Fr. Bill at 562- 412-3919.

Our Prayer...

May the troubled waters of your life be calmed.

May the rising winds that surround you be stilled.

May you find the time you need just to think.

May you dwell in a space that allows you to breathe.

May the voices you hear be hushed from any distraction.

May the sound of a single friend reach your waiting ear.

May love abide all around you.

May peace be your garment of grace.

May your steps be as sure as the direction you follow.

May the destination quicken your heart with the thought of homecoming.

May you be who you are.

May you find what God seeks for you.

These blessings I ask in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

Faye Jackson, Stephen Minister Leader

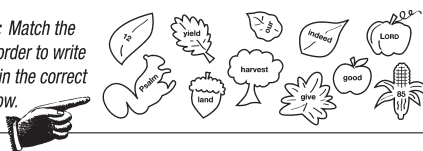













PUZZLE

HARVEST OF GOODNESS

God always provides, no matter the season.

Directions: Match the shapes in order to write the words in the correct places below.



"The  will  
 what is , and 
 will  its ."
  : , NIV

Answer: "The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest." Psalm 85:12, NIV

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.

FALL SCAVENGER HUNT

Enjoy searching for seasonal aspects of God's creation!



What you need:

- Family members and friends, divided into groups if desired
- Maps of local areas
- Lists of fall-related items (one per person or group)
- Digital cameras or smartphones
- Prizes

What you do:

1. Hand out maps and lists of items (scarecrow, pumpkin, red leaf, squirrel, apple tree, pine cone, acorn, bug, bird, sunflower, etc.)
2. Instruct participants to walk through their assigned area, find and take photos of the items, and report back at a specific time.
3. When everyone returns, share your photos. Award prizes for the most items found, the most unusual item and so on.

Saint Matthias Staff

Rector

Fr. Bill Garrison

Associate

Rev. Carolyn Estrada

Deacon

Rev. Kay Lozano

Transitional Deacon

Rev. Carole Horton-Howe

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 November

- * All Saints' Day, November 1
- * Daylight-Saving Time ends, November 4
- * Veterans Day, November 11
- * Thanksgiving, November 22
- * Christ the King Sunday, November 25



Saint Matthias History of Thanksgiving Meals

In the fall of 1974, a wicker basket was introduced to the narthex and parishioners were invited to bring nonperishable food items when they came to church on Sunday morning. During the following year, three or four bags of food were given out weekly to those seeking such assistance. In the decade that followed, that number grew to 125 bags a day and gave birth to the Ecumenical Food Center.

In 1975, twenty five parishioners gathered in Lewis Hall to share their Thanksgiving Dinner in hopes that others in the city of Whittier would join them. The elderly, those without food to put on their own tables, and individuals living alone were especially invited to take part in this First Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner. That first year there was but one guest who came from the old William Penn Hotel. Under the leadership of two parishioners, this Thanksgiving Day experience grew year by year. Now, four decades later, over 800 meals are being served' on Thanksgiving Day by our Parish.

For this Thanksgiving our own Dave Donovan, who WAS one of the two parishioners who took charge of that first Thanksgiving meal in 1975, will be out in front of the Church to accept Thanksgiving sign ups and donations after both 8:00 and 10:00 services. You can donate a turkey or two, Pumpkin Pies, and you can donate your time to help and, of course money is gratefully accepted. Look for Dave



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Saint Matthias Episcopal Church

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