



JANUARY 2022

THE MESSENGER

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ST. MATTHEW'S STAFF

Sherry Minzey
Admin. Assistant
Remote

Patti McGill
Music Director

OFFICERS

Judy Taylor
Senior Warden

Carl Turlin
Junior Warden

David Macey
Treasurer

Linda Gerding
Secretary

SERVICE TIMES

10:00 a.m.
Sunday Service

Welcome to 2022!

Happy New Year, Everyone! Here's to a fantastic 2022! The year 2021 was an odd year, but not as strange as 2020. I know we all look forward to a great year ahead. We enjoyed a year of Zoom services, parking lot services and, *finally*, a return to indoor services. Thanks to Linda Gerding's efforts, we were able to offer concurrent indoor and Zoom services to accommodate as many parishioners as possible. We will transition to YouTube services in January in lieu of Zoom services. We will offer Zoom services in addition to YouTube services *for a few weeks* in January until we can ensure everyone is able to view services live in YouTube. We have a December 19th test run posted now in YouTube (go to www.youtube.com and search for St. Matthews Raytown) so everyone can test whether they can see and hear the recorded service. Dave Macey was able to catch the video live and noted that he could not hear anyone when they were not talking directly into the microphone on the podium. He showed us how to activate the handheld microphone, which should alleviate that issue. Contact me directly to let me know if you cannot both see and hear the video (move through the video until you see Fr. Jeff and listen for sound.) We have heard of varying results depending on the computer type used (desktop, iPad, cell phone), so we will continue to tweak our settings until everyone has success.

November and December were Stewardship months. Hopefully we were all able to return our packets. If you weren't able to turn your packet in during a church service or mail your packet to the church or directly to Dave Macey, it is ok to *email* your pledge offering and time and talent sheet or information to Dave Macey (d-macey@sbcglobal.net .) With all the pledges in, Dave will be able to give us a picture of our financial position for the coming year. We hope to have a priest in place in the next month or so.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

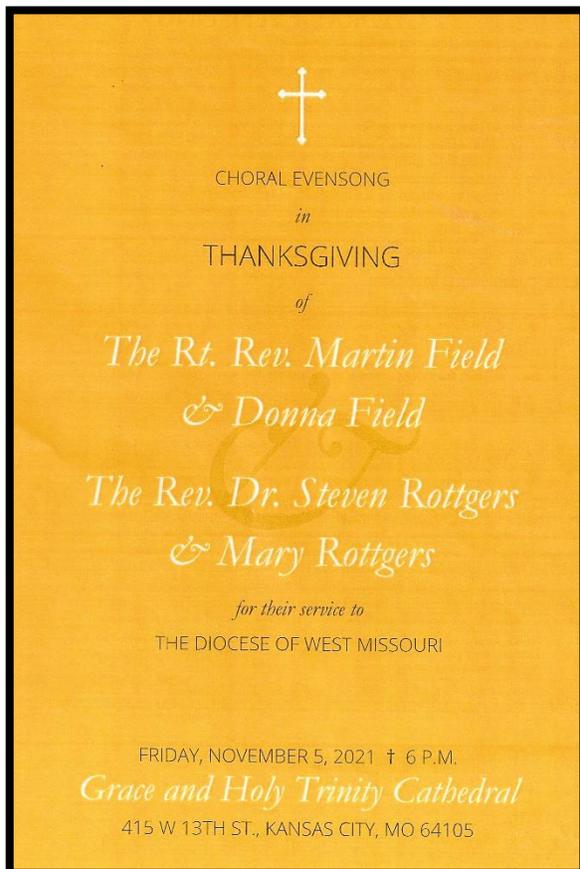
January 30th is the Annual Parish Meeting. Our current slate of nominees includes Judy Taylor, Tish Arroyo and Christina Brooks. All are current vestry members, but it is not too late to nominate yourself or someone else to be a vestry member. Just forward your nominee's name to a nominating committee member: Zella Forsythe, Mary Cease, Linda Gerding, Judy Taylor. The annual meeting will be held via Zoom again this year to ensure we have as many people as possible attend. The meeting will be held at noon, which should give everyone time to enjoy coffee hour at church before making our way home to grab a snack and login to Zoom. We will use the same Zoom invitation used for the church service that morning.

I look forward to an excellent annual meeting and a successful 2022. I hope to see all of you at the Zoom meeting on January 30th!

Warmest regards,

Judy Taylor
Senior Warden
(816)506-0167 / jtayloratty@att.net

THE RT. REV. MARTIN FIELD & THE REV. DR. STEVEN ROTTGERS



An Evensong service was held on November 5, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, in thanksgiving for Bishop Field and Donna and Canon Rottgers and Mary. A reception followed in Founder's Hall. Judy Taylor and Linda Gerding, from the Vestry, attended representing St Matthew's Parish.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

December 24, 2021



St. Matthew's Christmas Eve Service was at 5:00 PM this year with Fr. Mark McGuire serving as the Supply Priest. Jason Brooks served as Crucifer, and Barbara Wegener was Lector.

The Altar Guild had prepared the Altar beautifully for this special service, and the Sanctuary had a peaceful glow from the candles that were in the arrangements which are traditionally placed in each window.

The St. Matthew's singers had practiced the hymns for the evening and sang beautifully. We were blessed to have a guest soloist, Patti McGill's daughter Jessica Toro, with us as well.

God's Peace and Blessings for us all in the New Year.

Linda Gerding





Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Once again, we enter the new year with Covid and all of its spin offs on our minds. We have survived so far and God will give us patience and calm to continue to deal with this into 2022. I have a suggestion to help you feel calm and hopeful- Music! Every chance you get, listen to your favorite music and stretch your mind and your imagination by listening to music that you aren't familiar with, or that you think you don't like. Let it speak to you and fill you with hope and joy. YouTube is a great place to start. Enter a search for some of your favorite singers or composers and don't forget those people you've heard of but aren't that familiar with, like Bach, Mozart, Bernstein, Gershwin....and it goes on and on. Last night I pulled up The William Baker Singers where I heard recordings of some of their singing, often in rehearsal close to time of their concerts. So, stay off the news and others depressing TV and listen to something that will brighten your spirits.

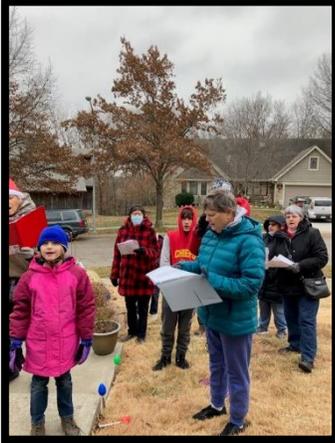
I hope you have noticed, either in person or on Zoom, that some of our choir is getting together again to lead hymns for you and sometimes will sing something special. Before Christmas Eve and Christmas, I when we did Lessons and Carols, they got together to sing, stretch their vocal cords and get ready for these two services. They were wonderful and have helped me feel less lonely back at the organ/piano! We'll take things a week at a time and maybe by Easter won't have to sing in a mask and distance a bit from each other. If not, we'll carry on just as you are. Thanks to Judy Roberts for faithfully playing guitar with us and singing when she's not playing.

The best to you all.

Patti McGill/Music Director



St. Matthew's Carolers



In December, Flying Solo took advantage of the season and went Christmas caroling in the Raytown area. There were 12 parishioners and 5 guest who caroled to 6 families. After caroling, the singers enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies in the hall.

Beth Cook, Evangelism



**Back Row L-R: Linda Gerding, James Laney, Brenda Laney, Patti McGill, Carl Turlin
Front Row L-R: Zella Forsythe, Marci Brown Turlin**

COMMUNITY OF CHAPLAINS

The Community of Chaplains held their last Circle of Care meeting of the year on December 12th, in the Church Library, after coffee hour.

Zella Forsythe was the Host and decorated the room and table with various Christmas scenes from other lands. And, as has been the practice for most of the year, everyone brought their own lunch. Linda Gerding brought a bag of 5 flavors of Lindt Assorted Chocolate Truffles for everyone to enjoy, and commented that “it’s always good to end the year with chocolate!”

Zella read the December 12th daily reading from *The Rule of Benedict-Insight for the Ages: Chapter 58*. As always, there was good conversation and various insights shared from the reading.

Everyone is hopeful that the New Year will allow the Chaplains to make in-person pastoral visits.

Linda Gerding-COC 2021

THIS I WISH

May you relish your individuality,

Living every day as you-- and only you ---desire.

May you honor your intuition,

Listening to your innermost self, knowing divine order endures.

May you treasure life's intricacies,

Lingering in the details, ever transforming your vision.

May you laugh infectiously,

Looking for lightness in each moment, cherishing those who

laugh with you.

May your spirit shine incandescently,

Lighting up lives around you, brightening stranger's days,

May you find love that lasts infinitely,

Loving inclusively---and being loved incomparably.

May your education go on into infinity,

Learning without end. Amen

Heide Aungst

Linda Batson, Daughters of the King





MANY THANKS to all those whose efforts went toward the celebration of a beautiful Christmas at St. Matthew's. We are especially grateful to the Altar Guild members who did so much to prepare for and supervise the hanging of the greens and who were ever-present before, during and after the Christmas season services to be sure that all was ready and in order for worship.

We are also grateful to all those who contributed toward the plants, flowers and greens for Advent and Christmas. Many commented on the loveliness of the sanctuary. Thank you! Those who contributed this year were:

George & Jeannie Miller	Mike & Linda Gerding
Jane Matson	Rick & Judy Roberts
James & Brenda Laney	Dave & Frances Macey



**ANNUAL
MEETING**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held via ZOOM, on Sunday, January 30, 12:00 p.m., after the Sunday Service. Watch your email for further information. All Parish officials and group leaders, please remember that Annual Reports are due on January 7. Please send reports by email to sminzey.stmatt@gmail.com in **Word** format.

GIVING REMINDER

Just a reminder that you have options on how you can send in your pledge.

By mail: Dave Macey's address: 2200 NW Summerfield Dr., Lee's Summit, MO 64081

Online: Online Giving Link: <http://stmatthewsraytown.org/>



♥ **January 19th**
February ♥
Messenger/Calendar
Deadline

