

MARCH 2021

THE MESSENGER

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

St. Matthew's Staff

Sherry Minzey
Admin. Assistant

Patti McGill
Music Director

Jim Minzey
Sexton

Officers

Judy Taylor
Senior Warden

Carl Turlin
Junior Warden

David Macey
Treasurer

Linda Gerding
Secretary

Service Times

10:00 a.m.
Sunday Service
ZOOM

Sr. Warden's Message

It's hard to believe that it's now March! Believe it or not, March brings the one-year anniversary of the shutdown for the Coronavirus pandemic. After February brought us a record-breaking cold snap, we need something to look forward to, and March has much to offer. COVID vaccinations are rolling out and many St. Matthew's parishioners have already received their vaccinations or are getting scheduled. Clocks get changed on March 13th (spring forward!) bringing us an additional hour of daylight (yay!), and we celebrate St. Patrick's Day on the 17th. Springtime is just a few weeks away now – March 20th, Palm Sunday is on March 28th, and Easter will be just around the corner on April 4th. We have the good fortune to have Mtr. Elisabeth Sinclair scheduled to conduct our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Eucharists, so that will be a treat. Eucharist kits (consecrated wafer and wine) are now available for pickup, so if you don't have yours yet, be sure to pick up a couple so you'll have them for both services.

Probably the most important aspect of March for us is that it makes up the bulk of the Lenten season. Lent this year goes from February 17th to April 3rd. The Diocese of West Missouri website describes Lent nicely:

"Lent traditionally is a 40-day period of fasting and repentance in preparation for Easter, the 50 days of celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ (the Great 50 Days), which commence on Easter Sunday. While many still practice fasting, in recent years Lent has become a period of foregoing materialistic things, reflection, education, and, of course, repentance."

Lent is a time when people "give up" something that *feels* like a personal sacrifice. (Linda Gerding is giving up chocolate. I'm giving up sweet treats with my morning coffee - no more blueberry muffins or bear claws with coffee - which for me is *truly* a sacrifice.) It's a nice time to give a little

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

extra in your envelope, too (or in times of a pandemic, via Online Giving.) I can suggest two great ways to add to your Lenten experience that several parishioners are taking advantage of. The first is Lenten Meditations, a free email subscription of daily meditations delivered to your email inbox. Linda Gerding brought this opportunity to us (see her February 3, 2021 all-parish email Invitation to Subscribe) and has found it a quick and easy way to read a couple of short, thought provoking paragraphs to deepen her Lenten experience. St. Matthew's also has a great educational opportunity offered by Fr. Bryan Spoon during Lent. He is conducting a weekly Lenten Series Book Study based on his book "Neuroscience and the Fruit of the Spirit". It's not too late to join, and books are still available. This book study is offered in conjunction with Church of the Redeemer and meets Wednesdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., throughout Lent. You can contact Sherry to obtain a book or contact Judy Taylor, Linda Gerding or Zella Forsythe if you want to know more about it. It's also a great way to meet new people, as we break up into small groups of four or five people to discuss different questions that Fr. Spoon poses. If those two suggestions don't work for you, the internet has a number of great articles on how to prepare yourself during Lent, and the diocese website (www.diowestmo.org) has a list of Lenten Resources, programs and articles with excellent ideas.

Here's hoping you have an excellent March, a warm spring, a lucky St. Patrick's Day, and a meaningful Lenten season!

Judy Taylor
Senior Warden

COMMUNITY OF CHAPLAINS



The Community of Chaplains held their February meeting on Valentine's Day, after church and coffee hour. Of course the meeting was via Zoom, but the group is anxiously waiting until they will be able to gather together inside, or possibly meet out-doors.

Their work as Chaplains continues, but not in the "up-close and personal" manner as before. Telephone conversations and helping family and close friends, at a distance, is the best that can be done during the pandemic.

St. Benedict in the The Rule of Benedict encourages to always "begin again". We are given opportunities "to begin again" and that is what the Chaplains will be doing when COVID is behind them and they can once again begin their "ministry of presence".

Linda Gerding
Community of Chaplains

2021 NEW PARISH LEADERS

Commissioning of the newly elected Vestry members and appointed leaders of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church is on hold until we are able to be together again inside St. Matthew's. For your information, the following are our new leaders and chairmen (many who have faithfully continued to volunteer in their position for many years):

Vestry Members:

Judy Taylor -Sr. Warden
Carl Turlin- Jr. Warden/Properties
Linda Gerding-Secretary/Clerk of the Vestry
Trish Arroyo- Stewardship/Worship Liaison
Beth Cook- Evangelism
Christina Brooks-Finance Committee
Dave Macey-Treasurer

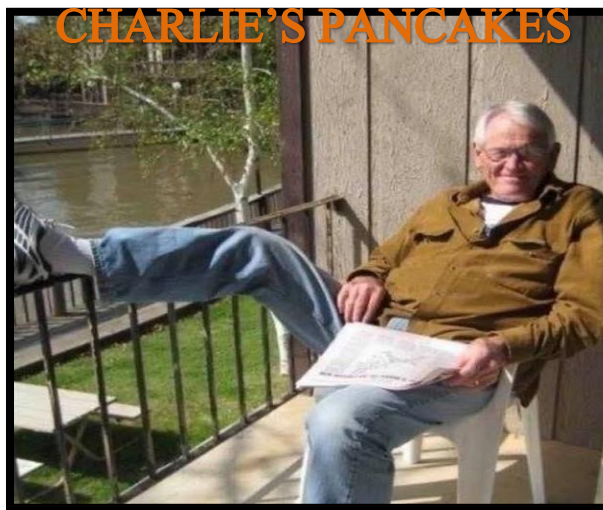
Other Committee and Commission Chairs for 2021:

Finance Chair-Christina Brooks
Convention Delegate-Carl Turlin
Alt. Convention Delegate-Zella Forsythe
Evangelism-Beth Cook
a. Flying Solo
Worship Commission- Barbara Wegener
a. Altar Guild, Acolytes, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers
Music Director- Patti McGill
a. Choir
Pastoral Care- Pat Whitmore
Telecare-Linda Gerding
Community of Chaplains- Linda Gerding, Carl Turlin, Marci Brown Turlin
Ushers- Rick Roberts
Service & Community Outreach-Linda Gerding
Hospitality- Pat Whitmore
Sunday School- Judy Taylor, Zella Forsythe
Happy Crafters-Beth Cook
Daughters of the King-Virginia Sembower
Women of St. Matthew's- Nancy Anderson
Men of St. Matthew's-Rick Roberts
Sexton/Clerk of the Works- Jim Minzey

ST. MATTHEW'S SHROVE TUESDAY "ZOOM"

Charlie Matson

PANCAKE SUPPER



Thanks to Zoom, the Annual Usher's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper was able to be held. It didn't look at all like what it has in past years...but everyone still had pancakes, good conversation and fellowship, and time to remember Charlie Matson. All you can eat pancakes were provided by each household in the comfort of their own kitchen.

No cost for tickets this year, or the need to pay a bill to Two Guys and a Grill! Instead, parishioners were asked to send a donation to Treasurer Dave Macey noting in the memo of their check "Usher's Fund"; or they could go on the website to the Online Giving tab and donate.

Twenty Five people joined in the fun. Linda Gerding won the title for "Blackest Burnt Pancake", Jim & Brenda Laney for the "Busiest Kitchen", Patti McGill and Charles Cease for their "Mardi Gras Hats" and Cathie & Rob Muschany for "Traveling the Farthest" as they popped in on Zoom from St. Louis.

This event is not intended to be a fundraiser, but a social activity prior to the Season of Lent. It's not too late however to make a donation to the Ushers Fund if you feel so inclined.

Thank you to ALL who attended for a fun evening and, this was hands down the easiest clean-up the Ushers have EVER had!!

Linda Gerding
for the St. Matthew's Ushers-2021

Pictures on page 5

ST. MATTHEW'S SHROVE TUESDAY "ZOOM" PICTURES



Linda Gerding, Jane Matson and Cathie & Rob Muschany



Top Row: Jane Matson Linda & Mike Gerding, Bill Noone, Patti McGill, Darrel & Beth Cook

Middle Row: Zella Forsythe, Carl, Marci & Nicolas Turlin,
Mary & Charles Cease, Jason & Christina Brooks

Bottom Row: Judy Taylor, James Laney



Photos by Linda Gerding

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 17, 2021

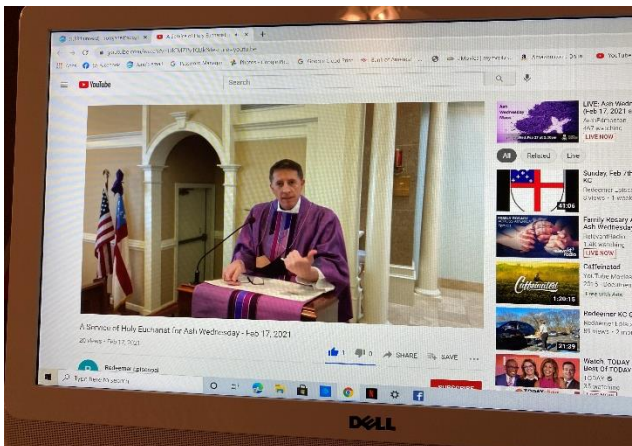
Thanks to our Worship Commission Chair, Barbara Wegener, and Mt. Elisabeth Sinclair, parishioners from St. Matthew's were able to join in on a You Tube or Face Book Link to celebrate Ash Wednesday.

Barbara and Sherry Minzey put together communion kits and packets of ashes, for parishioners who requested them, to pick-up from the Church on Feb. 16th from 11:00am-1:00pm. Thank you to Jim Minzey for being at the church on a cold day to pass out the kits.

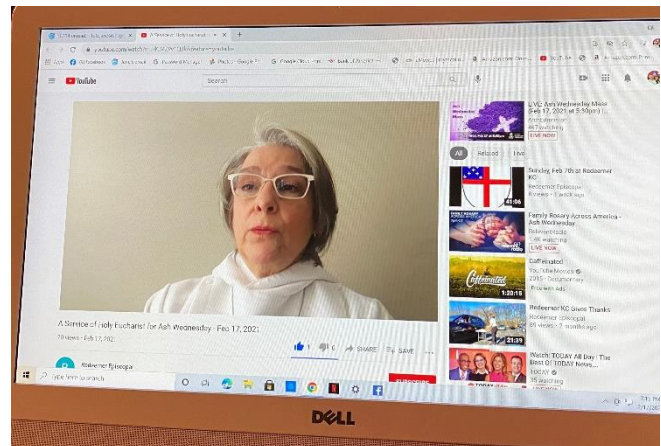
Sixteen members from St. Matthew's joined online with Church of the Redeemer to begin our Lenten journey.

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Linda Gerding



Fr. Joe Behen



Barbara Wegener –Reading the Gospel



Linda Gerding- self imposed ashes

FLYING SOLO



Flying Solo had a “Zoom Ice Cream social on February 20th. There were 9 people in attendance with some delicious Ice Cream sundaes consumed!

Flying Solo would like to invite you all to our next get together on March 20th at 4pm. We will be having a trivia night so bring 10 trivia questions and try to stump the group!

Flying Solo is a social group for anyone. If you have friends or neighbors you think would like the group, please contact Linda Gerding for the zoom contact! As the saying goes, “the more the merrier.”

Beth Cook
Evangelism Chair



Top: Patti McGill, Linda & Mike Gerding; Middle: Beth & Darrel Cook; Bottom: Zella Forsythe, Judy Taylor

Right Where You Are

Be a wave in God ocean.
Be a fragment of a star.
Be a lantern holding light.
Be a beacon where you are.

See the glory of a sunset.
See the rising of the moon.
See the glory and the wonder.
See the beauty where you are.

Hear the cry of newborn babies.
Hear wind whisper in the grass.
Hear thunder rumble in a rain storm.
Let your hearing hold you fast.

Can you hear the glory calling?
Can you see amazing grace?
Can you access inner wisdom;
In your home, your life, your space?

Prophets came to tell the story.
Holy books have said it too.
Life's a love-filled, holy mystery.
It's in me, the world, and you.

By Mary E. Berg

Mindfulness: In The Now.

Daughters of the King, Linda Batson

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT

Don't forget you may still donate **anytime during Lent**. The traditional Lenten practice of alms giving provides an opportunity to renew your commitment to people in need by supporting the work of ERD.

Simply mail your donation directly to Dave Macey, Treasurer-2200 NW Summerfield Dr, Lee's Summit, MO 64081 with a note for "ERD" on the memo line, or click the "Donate" button on St. Matt's website then click the dropdown arrow and select the Epis Relief Dev. Fund.

Linda Gerding
Community Service & Outreach

AIDS WALK APRIL 24, 2021-Aidswalkkansascity.org; or you can also give your donation to Linda.

Linda Gerding
Community Service & Outreach

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/>

TIME CHANGE!
SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH



MARCH 24th
APRIL
Messenger/Calendar
Deadline

