

November 2021

The Messenger

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

9349 E. 65th Street, Raytown, Missouri 64133
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St. Matthew's Staff

Sherry Minzey
Remote
Admin. Assistant

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
First & Third Sundays
Holy Eucharist
Rite II
Second and Fourth
Sundays
Morning Prayer

Sr. Warden's Message

November is a happy month and a time to give thanks for all the blessings God has brought into our lives. On November 7th, we regain that hour we lost in the spring when Daylight Saving Time ends. On November 11th, we celebrate this country's veterans on Veterans Day, which is usually accompanied in many communities by a parade the Saturday right before or right after. November 25th brings Thanksgiving Day, which hopefully will bring our families and friends together if Covid doesn't derail us again this year. Advent then begins November 28th, which means Christmas will be just around the corner.

I'd like to update everyone on a few things you may have been wondering about. The first is our continuing search for a part-time priest. As you might realize, hiring a part-time priest for a small congregation is not an easy task, and we have been searching carefully for just the right person. Our approach has been to alternate Morning Prayer services with Eucharist services, utilizing supply priests every other week. When we find a candidate who might be a good fit, we will give that priest the opportunity to supply for us, which allows us to "try them out" and gives them an opportunity to try us out as well. Many of you will recall Mtr. Elisabeth Sinclair. She supplied for us on a number of occasions in 2020 and was looking for a permanent part-time position. She was an excellent candidate and we felt she was a great fit and, just as importantly, she liked us. Alas, she had the opportunity to interview to be a part-time priest in Mexico for a position she felt was her dream job, and she ultimately took the position in Mexico. We wished her well and continue to pray for her success as well as for ours. We continue our search for the right person who will help us grow our congregation as well as meet the needs of our existing congregation. We are talking to a couple of priests who may be good candidates.

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I also want to update you on the streaming equipment for which we obtained a Deanery grant. The equipment has been purchased, and I have been working toward getting it operational. I have encountered a few hurdles, the biggest one being getting the gaming computer to work properly. It has not been the easy plug-and-play project I anticipated, but has instead involved many hours working with Dell and the Micro Center support lines to get it to recognize the Nvidia graphics card and to solve various other problems. The next steps were to get the various software products and drivers downloaded. An IT consultant was hired to work with the camera to get it ready for streaming on YouTube. I'm now working with Dave Macey to upgrade our internet service to get a fast enough upload speed so the transmission won't be glitchy, and our IT consultant will come out to get the camera connected to our sound system and hard wire the internet connection. If things go well, I hope to have the camera operational in a few weeks, which will truly make November a great month!

Blessings to all for a terrific November!

Judy Taylor

Senior Warden

Reminder - Mask Up and Spread Out!



Masks are still required at St. Matt's for everyone whenever we are in the sanctuary. The sanctuary is a "safe place" for all worshippers. The only exception is for lectors and lay leaders *when they are speaking*, the priest while conducting the service, and all of us briefly while we are taking communion. This is a recent change made in response to comments that it is hard to hear the service when words are muffled by masks and you

can't even read lips! This will especially help those folks attending the service online. Please keep your mask on throughout the service. Masks should also be worn downstairs while getting your coffee and donut, but they can be removed while eating and drinking during coffee hour.

Please also remember to keep some distance from the person in front of you while going up for communion. We tend to forget and bunch up on each other. Also, try to give each other some space while each person opens their communion kit and partakes of the wafer and wine. It's okay to pause before you take a communion kit from the bowl if you see too many people are still up front opening their kit. Once you take a communion kit, go whichever way (left or right) that has the fewest number of people pausing to open their wine and wafer kit. Remember, there's no need to hustle through communion - take your time and pause to give thanks.

CROP WALK 2021

ST. MATTHEW'S-"ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME"
Saturday Oct. 30, 2021 ~ 4:00pm



This year the World is still combatting COVID-19, and the Crop Walk, still like so many other events, was to take place virtually. This was the second time the Crop Walk Committee asked participants to do their own walk. The date was scheduled to be Saturday October 9, 2021. That day however conflicted with another Run/Walk that this Team Captain was in charge of (Run for Excellence) ...so of course THAT didn't happen! BUT, what did happen was the faithful and steadfast support of St. Matthew's Church AND, the **ST. MATTHEW'S CROP WALK TEAM**. So, on Saturday Oct. 30th at 4:00pm (after St. Matthew's Trunk or Treat from 2:00-3:00) the Team met at the Rock Island Trailhead at 59th & Raytown Trafficway to walk together in support of eradicating world hunger. The weather was perfect (after 4days of clouds and rain) for Yael Abouhalkah, Beci Bosley(and their 3 dogs), Mary and Charles Cease(and their dog Jasmine), Judy Taylor, Jane Matson, and Linda Gerding, to walk on the new section of the Rock Island Trail towards the Chiefs Stadium. St. Matthew's has been faithful for many years to represent our Parish in its efforts to donate to help in the fight against world hunger.

St. Matthew's Team raised to date \$520.00 this year. A BIG THANKS goes to the very appreciated generosity of the following:

*Jim & Brenda Laney
Mary & Charles Cease
Linda Gerding
Janie Matson
Linda & Dave Batson
Patti McGill
Judy Taylor*

*Yael Abouhalkah & Beci Bosley
Darrel & Beth Cook
Rick & Judy Roberts
Christina & Jason Brooks
Carl, Marci, & Nicolas Turlin
Barbara Wegener
Janet Anderson*

Continued...

CROP WALK 2021 continued

“THANK YOU St. Matthew’s Parish”. Hopefully our funds will be “matched” by the Diocesan International Outreach Grant Committee and our total donation to the Crop Walk will be **\$1,040.00!** By supporting the Crop Walk, the opportunity to help **“eradicate extreme poverty and hunger”** worldwide, has been met.

As always, we pray for those less fortunate, hungry, and in need: **“Oh God, to those who have hunger, give bread. And to those who have bread, give hunger for justice.”** (Latin American prayer)

Blessings,

Linda Gerding
Crop Walk Chair-2021
Service & Outreach Commission



**YOU GUYS
ROCK!**

**TEAM
AWESOME!**



Flying Solo



Flying solo toured the Vaile mansion this month. Three people attended. The mansion's woodwork is gorgeous and although not all the furnishings were owned by the Vaile's they were very nice period pieces. The docents were very knowledgeable about Mr. and Mrs. Vaile too.



The vestry is planning a church picnic on November 20th at noon in the church parking lot. Judy Taylor will be providing the fire pit and hot dogs. We plan on hot dogs, chips, and other dishes that go with hot dogs, and s'mores for dessert.

Please RSVP to Beth Cook (816)-885-7021 by November 14th with number attending and your side dish (chips, coleslaw, beverages, etc.) Bring you lawn chairs. Plates, cups, and silverware provided. Hope to see you there!



St. Matthew's Halloween



"Trunk or Treat"
October 30, 2021 2:00-3:00pm

At the suggestion of Vestry member Tish Arroyo, and spearheaded by Evangelism Chair, Beth Cook, St. Matthew's held their first ever Trunk or Treat. After 4 days of rain, clouds, and dreary weather, it cleared up and it was a beautiful Fall day on Saturday, October 30th.



Fourteen trunks were decorated by parishioner families, including some of their relatives and friends, and one lawn chair (hosted by Mary and Charles Cease) and served as "Trick or Treat" stations on either side of the Church's parking lot. Beth Cook had prepared little bags with some candy and information about St. Matthew's services and handed them out directly to the parents of the children. She passed out 12 bags to parents and 45 children attended the event...it was a HOWLING success!





St. Matthew's Halloween
"Trunk or Treat"





THANK YOU ZELLA FORSYTHE!

Parishioners attending Coffee hour after service on Oct. 31st were able to get a quick History lesson on All Saints'/All Hallows' Eve, courtesy of Zella Forsythe. While pouring cream in your coffee and picking up your doughnut you could learn that All Saints' Day used to be called All Hallows' Eve which eventually turned into Halloween. Trick or Treat!!

Linda Gerding

Create Today

What is it we will create today?
With how we show up and the words we say
With what's in our heart
With the thoughts in our mind
What will we create?
When we choose to be kind
When we radiate love deep from our heart
We create a place where miracles start
What is it we will create today?
Let it be love with the words we say
Radiate joy----see good everywhere
Allow your thoughts to be ones of prayer
What is it we will create today?
Heaven on earth----Love is the way



By Darlene Parnell

Linda Batson
Daughters of the King

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>.

**DECEMBER
MESSENGER/CALENDAR
DEADLINE
NOVEMBER 24th**

**FALL
BACK!**

Just a reminder to set your
clocks one hour back this
Sunday, November 7th

Thanksgiving
BLESSINGS

*"They will
celebrate your
abundant goodness
and joyfully sing of
your righteousness."*

— PSALM 145:7