



**Reaching out
Reaching within
Proclaiming God's Love**
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

2001 Windsor Drive
Newton, Kansas 67114
Church: 316-283-3310
July 2018

The Messenger

A word from the Rector

“At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such as a child in my name welcomes me.” Matthew 18: 1-5

Have you wondered about greatness - what true greatness looks like? Is it merely the survival of the fittest and dismissal of the weakest? What is its source, and does it matter? How do Christians perceive greatness, and how does our perception shape our virtues and responses to the cultural dilemmas that occur all around us? Is greatness just a slogan – a sales pitch to get us to buy something, or an agenda to relieve to our fear of and anxiety over the future?

Jesus’ disciples wanted to know about greatness, and precisely who would be the greatest in the kingdom. By calling a child and placing that child among them, Jesus gives them a visual image of greatness. He instructs his disciples to become like, to take the form of a young child, to identify and stand in unity and cohesion with them. That’s what greatness should look like for those who follow Jesus. We are to identify with and seek to welcome the weakest, most vulnerable among us. We are to measure greatness based on our civility - how well we treat the most vulnerable members of society in whatever circumstance they maybe found. That’s what makes the Representative Payee Program here at St. Matthew’s such an im-

portant part of our ministry and outreach and overall an important part of Christian community.

Then and now we tend to romanticize our marginalized children and fail to comprehend their reality. Images of delightful children playing at the knees of a gentle Jesus are heartwarming, but not very accurate. Childhood in the Mediterranean culture of antiquity was a time of terror. Children were the weakest and most vulnerable, the first to suffer from dislocation, famine, war and disease. They had little status within their families and even less within the community. That’s not to say children were not loved by their families. Times were difficult, and resources were limited. During this period of history, 60% of the children died before the age of 16.

We can see the same vulnerability and suffering in our current society. United States Child Poverty statics

greatness
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Remember to pray for each of these persons on their special day.

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

July Birthdays

- July 8—Thea Ferguson
- July 9—Juliana Loyd
- July 15—Mary Beck
- July 18—Debbie Lattimer
- July 19—Lennon Tyner
- July 22—Steven Biddle, Bill Swendson
- July 23—Bonnie Tandoc
- July 26—Jessica Keenan
- July 27—Fred Schroeder
- July 29—Sean Hall, Jay Holstine
- July 30—Kami Brooke Eye,
- July 31—Elissa Tandoc

July Baptisms

- July 9—Jordan Brinkley Orr
- July 16—Gloria Ochs
- July 25—Ashley Lundblom

July Confirmations

- July 14—Haley Sage Southern, Juliana Mae Loyd, Jacob Isaac Anderson, Alexa Marie Anderson, Kristy Kay Anderson, Erica Marie Eaker Logan, Katherine Grace Lindgren, Maddie Stonehouse, Logan Bradley Moulds, Ethan William Moulds, Ellen Elizabeth Moulds, Bradley William Moulds, Elizabeth Ann Moulds

If you know of other birthday, confirmation, or baptism dates that are not listed, please contact the office so they can be included. Thank you.

July 2018 Coffee Hour Hosts



- July 1 - Scott & Maryanne McCloud
- July 8 - Marge Friesen/Twila Lockaby
- July 15 - Kala and George Whiteside
- July 22 - Fred Schroeder
- July 29 - Darlene Hall

Please sign up to host coffee hour after the service on Sundays. You can buddy up with a friend, a class or committee. A feast is not required, just a treat or 2! There are plenty of opening in the upcoming months. Thanks

St. Matthew's Outreach

Food Cart
11 non-perishable food items were delivered to the Salvation Army "Harvest of Love" food bank in June. The need is great. There are so many that struggle to put food on the table for their families, or a senior citizen watching their pennies. Thank you.

Back to School in July
Yes....it's that time of year. Hard to even think about school right now, with summer in full swing. Vacations, BBQs, Hanging out at the pool, summer jobs. We still want everyone to enjoy summer to the fullest, however now is the time to help families with school age children that cannot afford school supplies. During the ENTIRE month of July, we will be collecting school supplies to donate to Salvation Army. We will have a display and lists of needed items will be available. Thanks.

Shut Ins & Soldiers
We hope you all have enjoyed the shut in board featuring Charlie's dad, Maurice Robinson.

We plan of featuring Kathleen's mom, Fran Rogers. She is quite a character! Please take a minute to look and read about some of the interesting things Fran has done.

These people have led such varied and interesting lives... please get to know them.

As always please keep all of our shut ins and soldiers in your prayers



greatness
(Continued from page 1)

estimates 14 million children go to school and bed hungry every day here in one of the most affluent nations in the world. The poverty level for a family of four is \$24,000.00 is half of estimates of what it takes to cover basic expenses for a year. As nation we spend far less on programs to address poverty than any other developed nation. Consequences of our unwillingness to identify and stand with these children and families are great, and we know it.

Jesus makes a clear distinction between a humble, voiceless, vulnerable child and the competing, arguing, status seeking disciples – a distinction that still applies today. Jesus is rewriting for us the definition greatness. He calls us to become like children and to speak on behalf of those without a voice- who are of questionable status. The call to faithful discipleship is one to humble, vulnerable, service – a call to welcome and show hospitality for these who are the seeds of greatness in the kingdom of heaven.

Blessings
Les+

DON'T LET ANYONE LOOK DOWN
ON YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE YOUNG,
BUT SET AN EXAMPLE FOR
THE BELIEVERS IN SPEECH,
IN CONDUCT, IN LOVE,
IN FAITH AND IN PURITY.

1 TIMOTHY 4:12, NIV



Class with Presiding Bishop Curry offered by Forward Movement

A special online class featuring Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will celebrate Forward Movement's acquisition of the online learning platform ChurchNext.

A new "Big Class" will focus on the presiding bishop's "Way of Love" initiative. The course will be available for free to everyone in the church from July 2-14, coinciding with the 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

In the class Bishop Curry will give four talks: the Royal Wedding, the Way of Love, International Exposure and the Jesus Movement.

You can find the course at <https://www.churchnext.tv/library/from-palace-to-public-square-the-way-of-love/74777/about/> .

Lessons from a farmer

Summer often reminds pastor Walter Wangerin Jr. of his father-in-law, a farmer. Farmers, he writes, remember "that we belong to the earth, and the earth belongs to God." Recalling his father-in-law working the fields, he states, "Surely I don't suppose that we shall live by the horse again, but I plead that we live on this earth with reverence."

Because God gave people "dominion" over creation (see Genesis 1:28), we are "God's emblem within the universe, God's signature upon the work he had accomplished," Wangerin writes. "We were placed here to serve God by serving the earth and so to be served by it."

Who demonstrates that better than a farmer nurturing soil and seeds to yield abundant harvest? "By his reverential stance," Wangerin concludes, "the farmer calls again for honor to God and kindness to creation, that we dress and till and keep it rightly."

—based on *Measuring the Days*



Prayer for the Search of the 10th Bishop of Kansas

Gracious and loving God, thank you for the directing presence of your Holy Spirit upon those who have been set apart to discern your call of the 10th Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas. Look graciously on your people as we lift up the search process in fervent prayer. Guide us to the faithful pastor, who will nurture your people and cultivate the myriad of gifts that abide in the people of this diocese. Empower this search with a spirit of joy and discernment as together we journey with Jesus the road ahead; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Council of Trustees, acting as the canonical Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, presents to the diocese two priests as candidates for the 10th bishop of the diocese:

The Rev. Martha N. Macgill,
Diocese of Maryland

The Rev. Helen Svoboda-Barber,
Diocese of North Carolina

The Search Committee had chosen three nominees, but one withdrew shortly after the slate was presented to the Council of Trustees, which oversees the election. Nominees may be added by a petition process (<https://www.kansasbishopsearch.org/petition-process.html>) that opens today and closes at 5 p.m. CDT on June 30, 2018.

Members of the diocese will have the chance to meet the candidates in walkabouts scheduled in the diocese for Oct. 2-5; the schedule of events is online at <https://www.kansasbishopsearch.org/walkabouts.html>.

The election of the next bishop will take place on the first day of Diocesan Convention, Oct. 19, at Grace Cathedral in Topeka. The Service of Ordination and Consecration is scheduled for March 2, 2019, at the cathedral, with Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry officiating.

Here are brief introductions to the candidates; more information about them is on the bishop search website, www.kansasbishopsearch.org.

The Rev. Martha N. Macgill **Rector, Emmanuel Episcopal Church,** **Cumberland, Maryland**



The Rev. Martha N. Macgill was baptized and confirmed at Christ Church, Alexandria, Va., where she sang for several years in the junior choir. She attended St. Agnes Episcopal School in Alexandria for 12 years, where she graduated in 1976 as valedictorian.

She attended Davidson College, where she received a Bachelor of Arts, cum laude. After attending University of Virginia Law School (J.D.) and New York University Law School (L.L.M. in Taxation), she practiced law in Connecticut and as a clerk at the United States Tax Court in Washington, DC.

Martha entered the ordination process in the Diocese of Virginia from St. Paul's, Alexandria, in 1990. She attended Virginia Theological Seminary, where she graduated with honors in 1995. She was ordained to the diaconate in June 1995 by the Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee at All Saints, Richmond.

She served as an assistant rector at St. Stephen's, Richmond, where she was ordained to the priesthood in January 1996.



In 1997, she and her family moved to the Diocese of Christ the King, South Africa, where she became priest-in-charge of St. Francis, Walkerville. In August 2000, she returned to the United States to become rector of Memorial Church in Baltimore, Md., until May of 2014.

In the Diocese of Maryland, she has served as chair of the Commission on Ministry. She was a mentor to the new Episcopal Service Corps of young adults and served as a deputy to General Convention in Indianapolis in 2012. Martha now serves as rector of Emmanuel Parish in Cumberland, Maryland.

Martha is married to Bryan Kelleher. Martha and Bryan have two children: Jack, age 29, and Anna, age 26. Martha's interests include swimming, tennis, golf, gardening and reading.

The Rev. Helen Svoboda-Barber
Rector, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Durham,
North Carolina



The Rev. Helen Svoboda-Barber grew up in Chapman, Kan., and graduated with degrees in psychology and human development from the University of Kansas. Her Masters of Divinity is from the Seminary of the Southwest, and her Doctor of Ministry is from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, both in Austin, Texas.

Before going to seminary, Helen was a researcher at the Center for the Influences of Television on Children and was a registered representative at Twentieth Century Mutual Funds (now American Century).

Helen spent three years as curate then canon at Grace Cathedral, Topeka; three years as assistant pastor at Holy Cross ELCA in Overland Park; 10 years as rector of Harcourt Parish in Gambier, Ohio; and has been rector of St. Luke's in Durham, N.C., since 2014.

She is active in all levels of the church, including as convocation president (Kansas), diocesan Christian Education Chair (Ohio), Credentials Committee (North Carolina),

Council of Advice for the President of the House of Deputies, and several-time deputy to General Convention.

She has been on the Executive Committees of the Topeka Center for Peace and Justice (Kansas), Interchurch Social Services (Ohio) and Latino Education Achievement Program (North Carolina).

She and her husband, Shawn, are parents to Charlie, 14, and Luke, 11. Helen enjoys board games, reading, weaving and needlework, and she loves time spent with her family.

Walkabout schedule is announced. Members of the public, as well as groups of clergy, and youth and young adults, will have the chance to meet with candidates for bishops at stops in each of the four convocations in October.

Southwest Convocation—Thursday, October 4, 2018:

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.: Lunch with clergy, Episcopal Social Services, 1010 North Main, Wichita

5-6 p.m.: Dinner with college and youth, St. James', 3750 East Douglas, Wichita

7-8:30 p.m.: Q&A session, St. Stephen's, 7404 East Killarney, Wichita (open to everyone)

(for other convocations please see <https://www.kansasbishopsearch.org/walkabouts.html>.)

July 1, 2018—Update:

The petition process for the 10th bishop of the Diocese of Kansas ended at 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 30, 2018. At least one nomination by petition was received.

After materials are checked and the required background check is complete, any additional candidates will be announced by the Council of Trustees, most likely in August.

The bishop election will take place at Grace Cathedral, Topeka, on Oct. 19, the first day of Diocesan Convention. Plans are for the election to be live streamed. A service of ordination and consecration is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2019, at Grace Cathedral.



Restoring Paradise

An amazing man He was walking through cultural and religious walls crying over a city and when a friend died depressed when betrayed believing he could make a difference creating a society of mutual respect and justice

confronting smug bureaucrats and being outstandingly rude at times being a menace to religious and political systems not easily unscrambled loving people especially second-class folk women and the underdogs of society curing the sick teaching all who would listen dying because of the world's resistance

Even now the warrior ones of this world know this hatred even as He did "If the world hates you, realize it hated me first."

Joan Breit
Spring 2017

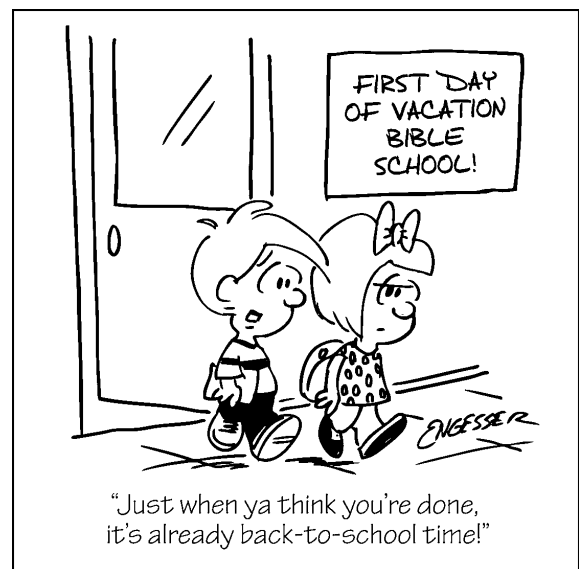


Evening Prayer

Evening Prayer at St. Matthew's will be taking a break in July. Please plan to join us again in August for Evening Prayer, Wednesday's at 6:30 pm In the chapel



YOUR PLEDGE
This Summer





We Pray for Children *Ina J. Hughs*

We pray for Children who sneak popsicles before supper, who erase holes in math workbooks, who can never find their shoes.

And we pray, for those who stare at photographers from behind barbed wire, who can't bound down the street in a new pair of sneakers, who never 'counted potatoes' who are born in places where we wouldn't be caught dead, who never go to the circus, who live in an X-rated world. We pray for children who bring us sticky kisses and fistfuls of dandelions, who sleep with the cat and bury goldfish, who hug us in a hurry and forget their lunch money, who squeeze toothpaste all over the sink, who slurp their soup.

And we pray for those who never get dessert, who have no safe blanket to drag behind them, who watch their parents watch them die, who can't find any bread to steal, who don't have any rooms to clean up, whose pictures aren't on anybody's dresser, whose monsters are real. We pray for children who spend all their allowance before Tuesday, who throw tantrums in the grocery store and pick at their food, who likes ghost stories, who stove dirty clothes under the bed, who never rinse out the tub, who get visits from the tooth fairy, who don't like to be kissed in front of the carpool, who squirm in church or temple and scream in the phone, whose tears we sometimes laugh at whose smiles can make us cry.

And we pray for those whose nightmares come in the daytime, who will eat anything, who have never seen a dentist, who aren't spoiled by anybody, who go to bed hungry and cry themselves to sleep, who live and move, but have no being.

We pray for children who want to be carried and for those who must, for those we never give up on and for those who don't get a second chance. For those we smother... and for those who will grab the hand of anybody kind enough to offer it.

We pray for children. Amen



Happening #93 registration is now open

Happening is a Christian experience by youth for youth. It's a weekend retreat focusing on Jesus and what he taught. There are games, music, great food and a chance to talk with peers about things that really matter.

When: Happening #93 will be July 20-22

Where: Grace Cathedral, 701 SW 8th Ave. in Topeka

Who: Youth in grades 9-12 (including rising 9th graders)

Fee: \$55 (\$70 after July 6)

Priority deadline: Friday, July 6

Registration forms:

<https://edok.formstack.com/forms/happening93>
(This form works for all youth and adults.)

Recent high school graduate Julia Howell from Grace Cathedral, Topeka, will serve as the youth lay rec-tor for Happening #93.

College-age mini-camp is July 28-29

If you're an Episcopalian age 18-24(ish) this retreat is for you!

Join us for a college-age mini-camp, July 28-29 at Camp Wood YMCA, near Elmdale. Those interested can go canoeing or climb the tower. We also plan to have s'mores and stargazing.

We will gather at Camp Wood at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 28. On Sunday morning we will attend an 11 a.m. closing worship service at St. Andrew's in Emporia. Those interested can go out for brunch/lunch together after worship.

Registration fee: \$35 (includes one lunch, one supper, one breakfast, snacks, program materials and the option to go canoeing or climb the tower)

Registration form: https://edok.formstack.com/forms/collegeage_retreat

Deadline: Thursday, July 26

Questions? Contact Will Chaney, internku@episcopal-ks.org or Dillon Green, internksu@episcopal-ks.org



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Sunday School 9:00 am - Sunday Worship Service 10:15 am

E-mail - stmatthews@kscoxmail.com — webpage - stmatthewsnewton.org

*The Feast Day of
Mary Magdalene, First Witness of the Resurrection
July 22*

Mary Magdalene is mentioned in the Gospels as being among the women of Galilee who followed Jesus and His disciples, and who was present at His Crucifixion and Burial, and who went to the tomb on Easter Sunday to anoint His body. She was the first to see the Risen Lord, and to announce His Resurrection to the apostles. Accordingly, she is referred to in early Christian writings as "the apostle to the apostles."

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed of all our infirmities and know you in the power of his endless life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**You and your family are always welcome at the
community of St. Matthew's**

Return service requested



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