



Reaching out
Reaching within
Proclaiming God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 342
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Newton, Kansas 67114
Church: 316-283-3308
www.stmatthewsnewton.org
www.facebook.com/stmattsnewton

The Messenger

April 2023

A NOTE FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR



Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth?
Interesting, I had never heard this before had you?

Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth after His resurrection?

The Gospel of John (20: 7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes. The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed at the head of that stony coffin.

Is that important?

You'd better believe it! Is that significant?
Absolutely!

Is it really significant? Yes!

In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition. When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it.

The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.

Now if the master was done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table. The servant would then know to clear the table.

For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, **'I'm done'**.

But if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because the servant knew that the folded napkin meant, **'I'm not finished yet.'**

The folded napkin meant, **'I'm coming back!'**

He is Coming Back!

Happy Easter!

Fr. Richard +



St. Matthew's Vision Statement

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church is living into God's vision for us as a beloved community and disciples of Christ. We are always growing in relationship with God, embracing our neighborhood and our world, and leading through acts of service as a beacon of God's justice and love.

DOK SPRING ASSEMBLY

THE JOY OF GOD'S CREATION

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY

April 22, 2023

Time: 9:30 am—2:30 pm

Location: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

7404 E. Killarney Place, Wichita, KS
316.634-2513

*Hosted by the Julian of Norwich Chapter
of the Daughters of the King*

For additional information:

Barbara Fizer: befize@att.net or 316.683.1956

Jorinda Brant: jorinda60@yahoo.com or 316.665.0569



Birthdays, Baptisms and Confirmations

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

April Birthdays

April 1 - Lance Woodward, Maddie Stonehouse

April 3 - Brett Irving

April 7 - Ruth Cooper

April 17 - Alex Beck

April 18—Joshua Teichler

April 26—Kent Dove

April Baptisms

April 2 - Patrick Craig, Sean Hall, Todd Dove

April 3 - Jerry Wall, Renea Dove

April 4 - Mike Loyd

April 7 - Vincent Ochs

April 8 - Suzie Luginbill, George Graybill

April 10 - Twila Lockaby, Jill Loyd

April 11 - Elizabeth Hill, Sarah Hill, Allison Hill,
Katrina Southern

April 14 - Susan Koehn, Maggie Tyner, Judy Sheahan, Jonathan Sheahan

April 17 - Cathy Woodward

April 25 - Stephan Hall, Darla Stonehouse

April 27—Karen Wall

April Confirmations

April 10 - Chris Beck, Patrick Craig, Kristan Bogner, Matt Bogner, Amanda Luginbill, Evalie Ainsworth, Vincent Ochs, Gloria Ochs, Elizabeth Wall

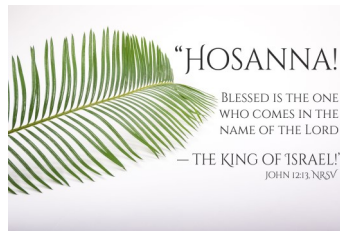
April 22 - Jane Orr

April 24 - George Graybill

April 27 - Karen Wall

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.

“Never yet was a springtime,
when the buds forgot to bloom.”
—Margaret Elizabeth Sangster

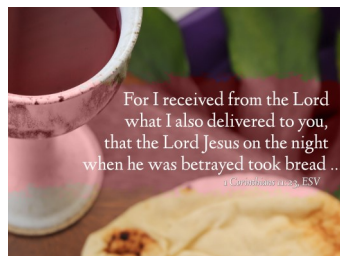


Sunday, April 2
Palm Sunday Service
10:15 am

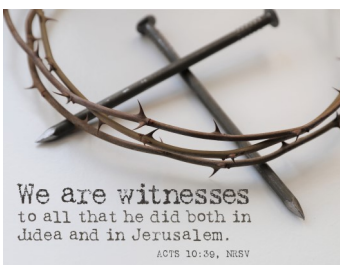


Wednesday, April 5
Tenebrae Service
7:00 pm

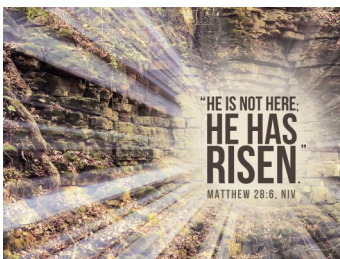
Service of Darkness



Thursday, April 6
Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 pm



Friday, April 7
Good Friday Service
7:00 pm



Sunday, April 9
Easter Service
10:15 am



Fun and Interesting Facts about the Episcopal Church

Baptism is an initiating sacrament for the Episcopal Church.

In addition to the Holy **Eucharist**, the Episcopal Church celebrates the sacrament of **Baptism**, by which people become a part of the Body of Christ, meaning the church congregation, through water and the Holy Spirit.

Those who are Baptized in Christ are “baptized into his death,” and are recognized as **born again** into the life of Christ, “dead to sin, but alive for God in Christ Jesus.” The Episcopal Church, ever aware of the connection of all believers, acknowledges the baptisms enacted by other Christian churches and traditions.

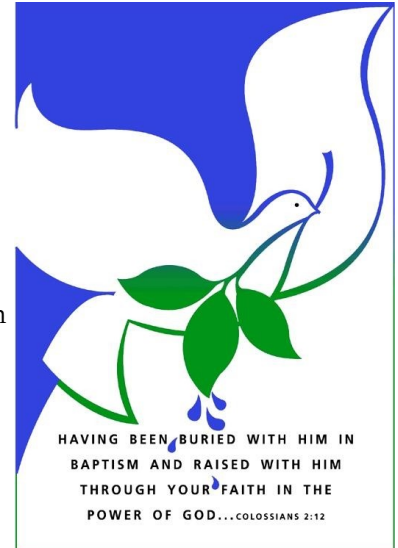
Excerpt from [Crosswalk.com](http://www.crosswalk.com)

Baptism (from An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church online at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/baptism>)

This is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the church. God establishes an indissoluble bond with each person in baptism. God adopts us, making us members of the church and inheritors of the Kingdom of God (BCP, pp. 298, 858). In baptism we are made sharers in the new life of the Holy Spirit and the forgiveness of sins. Baptism is the foundation for all future church participation and ministry. Each candidate for baptism in the Episcopal Church is to be sponsored by one or more baptized persons.

Sponsors (godparents) speak on behalf of candidates for baptism who are infants or younger children and cannot speak for themselves at the Presentation and Examination of the Candidates. During the baptismal rite the members of the congregation promise to do all they can to support the candidates for baptism in their life in Christ. They join with the candidates by renewing the baptismal covenant. The water of baptism may be administered by immersion or affusion (pouring) (BCP, p. 307). Candidates are baptized “in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,” and then marked on the forehead with the sign of the cross. Chrism may be

used for this marking. The newly baptized is “sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.” When all baptisms have been completed, the celebrant and congregation welcome the newly administered within the Eucharist as the chief service on a Sunday or another feast.



The Catechism notes that “Infants are baptized so that they can share citizenship in the Covenant, membership in Christ, and redemption by God.” The baptismal promises are made for infants by their parents or sponsors, “who guarantee that the infants will be brought up within the Church, to know Christ and be able to follow him” (BCP, pp. 858-859). Baptism is especially appropriate at the Easter Vigil, the Day of Pentecost, All Saint's Day or the Sunday following, and the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (the First Sunday after the Epiphany).

Do you know your Baptismal Anniversary? Do you remember who your sponsors/godparents are? If you were not baptized at St. Matthew's you can supply that information to the office and it will be added in with the church's recordkeeping. If you would like to talk to someone about being baptized or for someone else, please contact Fr. Richard, any Vestry Member, or the office, 316-283-3308.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized
into the death of Jesus Christ your Son
may live in the power of his resurrection and
look for him to come again in glory;
who lives and reigns
now and forever. *Amen.*
BCP 306



St. Matthew's Outreach

Food Cart

14 non-perishable food items were delivered to the Salvation Army "Harvest of Love" food bank in March. Thank you for remembering those who don't have enough to eat.

Soldiers & Shut Ins

If anyone has a loved one that is home bound, or in a retirement / nursing facility.....and would love to receive a visit and cards, please contact Melissa. A picture for the Shut In board would be wonderful. We love to see their smiling face!!

We have 3 young men on our soldier board:

Jordan Orr is a Navy Seal, and has been in several areas. He is now living in New Orleans
Ryan Bernard is a former helicopter pilot, and was a National Guard coordinator over several states. He and Brenda have recently moved back to Newton.
Conner Ekerberg is now back in the states stationed at Ft. Riley. He is currently living in Manhattan.

New Jerusalem Mission

We are collecting items until the end of Lent, through Holy week for the mission it's not too late to pick up a list located in the front hallway.

Good Friday Outreach

The Good Friday offering will go to the Church of Jerusalem (Not to be confused with the New Jerusalem Mission in Newton)

Upcoming Outreach

May 7th will be the spring UTO (United Thank Offering)
This will be a 2nd offering during the church service.
DON'T forget to bring your Blue box to church on May 7th.



Card
Ministry

The Card Ministry group will be meeting on Monday, April 10 at 1:00 pm at the church. Please join us! All you need to bring is yourself, as all the materials will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Mary Upton and Bonnie Jones

April 2023 Coffee Hour Hosts

April 2—Palm Sunday—Melissa Keenan
April 9—Easter Sunday—Maggie Snow and Elizabeth Hill
April 16—The Glovers
April 23—OPEN
April 30—Chris & Sarah Teichler



There are plenty of openings to host coffee hour. Please sign up today!!

From the Kitchen

LABELING FOOD

Any committee or group, or even an individual that has food for a function, or leftovers to save, please write a name on the items, so it doesn't get thrown away or lost by accident. Thanks

St. Matthew's Lenten Outreach will be supporting the New Jerusalem Missions here in Newton. Please leave items in the blue tub at the church. Call Melissa if you have perishable items and she will pick them up.

The following items would be appreciated:

Food Items:

Fresh fruit & vegetables
Dairy: milk, eggs & butter
Cheese (sliced and shredded)
Peanut butter and Jelly
Sandwich breads
Lunch meat
Chips
Cereal
Beef, pork, boneless chicken
Baking items (chips, nuts, etc.)
Canned tuna/chicken
Canned vegetables
Canned fruit



NEW JERUSALEM
MISSIONS

Other Items

Shampoo/conditioner
hand lotion
men's toiletries
facial tissue
office supplies
white 8.5 x 11 copy paper



Encourage wonder

For a new perspective on Bible accounts learn to play the game often played by children and adults alike, "I Wonder". Similar to "I Spy," it encourages a deeper dive into familiar passages. Simply explore ideas that aren't detailed in the Bible, starting with the phrase "I wonder." For example:

- I wonder if any Roman soldier was standing in the back *not* mocking Jesus (Matthew 27:27-31). If so, what was he thinking as others threw about insults?
- I wonder how long it took Joseph of Arimathea to cut his own tomb out of the rock (Matthew 27:57-60). What did he think about as he worked?
- The day after Jesus' ascension, I wonder which disciple spoke first at breakfast — and what he said. Scholars may have chimed in on some of these ponderings, but there's likely no right answer. Playing "I Wonder" can help you slow down to really pay attention and experience more of a Bible passage — especially one you seem to know by rote.

Add meaning to this year's Easter celebration by letting your wonder wander during Holy Week. Then continue the practice whenever you're eager to gain new insights on the "old, old story ... of Jesus and his love."

—Janna Firestone

St. Matthew's Prayer Chain

If you have a request for prayers for yourself or others, please contact Mary Upton at **316-841-1736**. The information you share with me will then be passed on to the chain leaders who will then pass the information on to their team. The members of the chain will then add your request to their prayers. The information you give me is confidential and will not be shared with others outside the prayer chain without your permission.

If you have a prayer request, would like more information and/or join the St. Matthew's Prayer Chain, please contact Mary Upton at **316-841-1736**.



Altar Team for April 2023

Chris Simmonds, Margie Knupp,
Katie Reese, Elizabeth Hill



Altar Flowers for April 2023

April 2—Palms

April 9—Easter Lilies

April 16—Easter Lilies

April 23—Steve and Darla Stonehouse

"For Blessings Received"

April 30—Barb Plummer and Jan Plummer
and family

"In loving memory of Evelyn Bacon"

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 1. The Altar Guild will be polishing brass and making Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday.

Celtic prayer:

I weave a silence onto my lips
I weave a silence into my mind
I weave a silence within my heart
I close my ears to distractions
I close my eyes to attractions
I close my heart to temptation.
Calm me, O God, as you stilled the storm,
Still me, O God, keep me from harm.
Let all tumult within me cease;
Enfold me, O God, in your peace.



Report from the Parish Council Meeting

Leaders of St. Matthew's committees and other church members met on March 25th. Here are a few highlights from the meeting:

First, Maggie and Barbara explained what the Vestry is doing to update the church's Standard Operating Procedures and Customaries. These documents will be in the office for anyone that wants or needs to reference them.

April 1—Will be making palm crosses 10:00 am at the church

April 2—Palm Sunday services . Last Sunday to turn in money for Easter Flowers

April 3-7—Charlie will be out of the office all week

April 5—Tenebrae Service at 7:00 pm. Scott McCloud and others will be putting this together

April 6—Maundy Thursday service. 7:00 pm. Washing of feet and stripping of the Altar

April 7—Good Friday service 7:00 pm

April 9—Easter 10:15. am We will carry the banners during the procession and use the bells

April 16—Vestry meeting rescheduled to this Sunday due to Easter

Any one that needs camp scholarships should contact the office and/or PEF

April 30—2:00 pm—the church will be hosting a memorial service with Hospice.

May 7—this will be the Spring UTO. Please bring your Blue Box to church. We will be looking into being able to donate online for UTO

May 14—Mother's Day. Vestry meeting after church. We will also celebrate graduations on this day. There will be cake.

May 28— Pentecost—Wear Red. There will be more cake! Do you need a red St. Matthew's shirt? Let the office know and we can put in an order.

June 4-10—Episcopal Summer Camp—Camp Wood

June 18—Father's Day—More cake!

We talked about possibly having special music during the summer. This would allow parishioners to request their favorite hymns to be incorporated into the Sunday services during summer. More details to come.

There was discussion about having special guests from various charities that we support come and give a short talk about their organization. More details to come!

This was a quick outline of what was talked about and planned through June.

The next Parish Council meeting is tentatively set for Saturday, June 24. Everyone is welcome to come to this meeting to help plan the calendar. Thanks for everyone's input and involvement.



St. Matt's Little Free Food Pantry

Don't forget to add to the St. Matthew's Food Pantry outside, at the entrance to the parking lot. Please include canned food items, peanut butter and other non-perishables.

Thanks for helping our neighbors.

St. Matthew's office hours:

Monday-Wednesday 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Thursday 10:00 am-Noon

Friday 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Notice: Charlie Gibson will be out of the office the week of April 3-7.

Fr. Richard is in the office 10:00 am-2:00 pm Monday and Tuesday.

The St. Matthew's Vestry April meeting will be after church on Sunday, April 16.

The PEF meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 23, after church.



Please join Deacon Barbara for Evening Prayer every Wednesday at 6:30 pm on Facebook. Or join us in person at the church in the St. Matthew's Covey Chapel. Everyone is welcome. Come take a few minutes to end your day with prayer.



DEADLINE!

Episcopal Summer Mega Camp registration is open

When: June 4-10, 2023

Where: Camp Wood YMCA, Elmdale, KS

Who: Students in grades 3-12 for 2022-23 school year (you must have *finished* third grade to attend); Camp is NOT restricted to Episcopalians or regular churchgoers. All are welcome, so feel free to invite friends and family.

Cost: \$500 through April 3, 2023; \$550 after April 3. There is a \$35 non-refundable deposit due at registration.

Payment plans are available. If you choose, UltraCamp will automatically divide the cost of camp over the remaining months between when you register and the start of camp.

Registration: [online via UltraCamp](#) starting January 1; priority deadline is Monday, April 3. [Register by clicking here.](#)

Scholarships: You can apply for scholarships on the registration form. Information about your household income will be required. Scholarships are awarded by a committee. Your parish should also be able to provide some scholarship money.

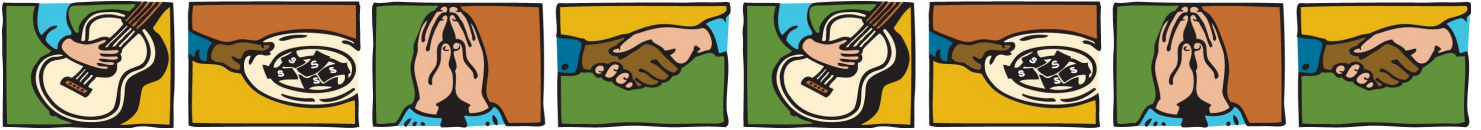
Cancellation Deadline: Two weeks prior to the start of the camp session for a 100% refund.

Sharing the load

In 1969 the Hollies released "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother." Do you know the story behind that song title?

Fifty years earlier in Omaha, Nebraska, a boy with polio was abandoned at Father Flanagan's Home for Boys, predecessor to the Boys Town organization. Soon several older residents started carrying young Howard — with his heavy leg braces — especially up stairs. Father Flanagan once saw an older boy, Reuben, doing this and asked if it was hard work. Reuben replied, "He ain't heavy, Father. He's my brother." Years later, these words and the image of one person carrying another became the Boys Town brand.

All of us have been "carried" at some point, and we've likely "carried" someone else. The Hollies' song declares: "His welfare is my concern." Jesus said it this way: "Love your neighbor as yourself." The load isn't too heavy to bear because Jesus himself is always carrying us.



Here is the worship schedule for April. Please let the office know if you would like to sign up to read, usher and/or count. We can always use more hands! ***If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please find a substitute.*** Thanks for your service!

	April 2	April 5	April 6	April 7	April 9	April 16	April 23	April 30
Season	Palm Sunday	Holy Week	Holy Week	Holy Week	Easter	2nd Sunday of Easter	3rd Sunday of Easter	4th Sunday of Easter
Service	Holy Eucharist	Tenebrae	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	Holy Eucharist	Communion in the absence of a Priest (ComAP)	Holy Eucharist	Holy Eucharist
Leaders	Fr. Richard Osborne	Scott McCloud	Fr. Richard Osborne	Fr. Richard Osborne	Fr. Richard Osborne	Deacon Barbara Gibson Maggie Snow	Fr. Richard Osborne	Fr. Richard Osborne
Lectors	Fred Schroeder		Bonnie Jones	Fred Schroeder	Elizabeth Hill	Mary Upton	Bonnie Jones	Jeremy Kitto
Counters (2)	Twila Lockaby				Fred Schroeder	Margie Knupp	Mary Upton	Maggie Snow
	Margie Knupp				David Simmonds	Twila Lockaby	Fred Schroeder	Margie Knupp
Ushers (2)	Melissa Keenan		Mary Upton		Bonnie Jones	Charlie Craig	Rick Glover	Melissa Keenan
	Bonnie Jones				Rick Glover	Elizabeth Hill	Mary Upton	Mary Werner
Hosts	Melissa Keenan				Maggie Snow Elizabeth Hill	The Glover's	Open	Chris & Sarah Teichler
Altar Flowers	Palm Sunday				<i>Easter Flowers</i>	<i>Easter Flowers</i>	Steve and Darla Stonehouse	Barb Plummer and Jan Plummer and family
Acolyte & LEM	Fred Schroeder				Michael Southern Karen Wall	ComAp Maggie Snow	Fred Schroeder	Maggie Snow
Organist	Chris Teichler		Chris Teichler		Chris Teichler	Chris Teichler	Kelli Glann	Chris Teichler