



Reaching out
Reaching within
Proclaiming God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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Newton, Kansas 67114
Church: 316-283-3310
www.stmatthewsnewton.org
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The Messenger



From the Interim Pastor—Fr. Richard Osborne

All Souls Day is November 2nd.
Scripture Reading: Hebrew's 11:1-16.

Departure and Arrival

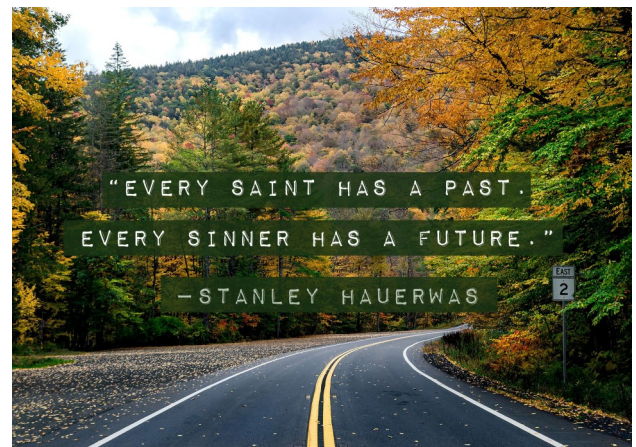
In an article called, **“You Know You’ve Arrived Only After You Depart,”** Peter Passell makes this interesting suggestion: One of the best indicators of your status in life is if you are mentioned in the obituary section of the New York Times when you die. He says that on an average weekday, 10 to 15 souls – rate an inch or more of space. Of these, only one or two get a double-column headline. In a random sampling from 5 years, he found that entertainers did best. Then came politicians, business people, and clergy, with writers tying for honorable mention.

In today’s Scripture above we have another list of departed persons.

Recognized by no less than God Himself, are a group of men and women including a shepherd a shipbuilder, a king, and a redeemed prostitute. They too were people who **“arrived”** only after they had departed. But there is no irony here because they received much more than any status seeker could ever hope for in death. The author of Hebrews tells us that their goal was not some achievement for which they'd be remembered. They were looking for a city whose architect and builder was God. Their distinguishing mark was faith, and they were rewarded as soon as they qualified for an obituary.

The all-important question is, are we living so that our names could be added to that list in Hebrews 11? The number of lines to describe our life is of little significance. What matters is that God Himself recognizes us among those who sought more than this world had to offer. By trusting Christ and living solely for Him, we can be sure we'll **“arrive”** after we’ve departed.

The world may not praise you or notice your walk, and few here may care when you're gone; but Jesus will honor your labor of love, when he calls his own one by one.



November 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



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.

St. Matthew's Mission Statement

The Mission of St. Matthew's is to Welcome, Respect and Care for All People. We accomplish this by following Christ, the perfect example of God's reconciling love, as we promote justice, peace and healing for ourselves and our world.

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

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

Services: Holy Eucharist 10:15 am every Sunday
Evening Prayer 6:30 pm every Wednesday
Special Service: *All Saints Service, Wednesday, Nov. 1, 6:30 pm, in the Covey Chapel*

The St. Matthew's Vestry's November meeting will be after church on Sunday, November 12, 2023.

The Vestry Meeting minutes will be posted on the Vestry bulletin board in the hallway.



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

November Birthdays

- November 1 - Jake Farmer
- November 13 – Karen Wall, Mary Upton, Peggy Gerber
- November 14 – Joshua Reese
- November 16 – Mary Anne McCloud
- November 17—Jerry Wall
- November 19 - Charles Joseph Collier
- November 20 - Felix Farmer
- November 21 – Chris Beck, Nancy Craig
- November 25 – Sissy Robb
- November 26 – Ryan Simmonds
- November 27 – Megan Upton Tyner
- November 30 – Ginny Holstine

November Confirmations

- November 1 – Darrin Craig, Melinda Scudder
- November 4 – Scott McCloud
- November 6 – Ginny Holstine
- November 9 – Jim Reese
- November 16 – Jill Ferguson Jantz
- November 25 – Nancy Craig

November Baptisms

- November 19 – Jill Ferguson Jantz

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.



With great pleasure, I want to announce that we are going to have special speakers at St Matthew's on November 12th after the coffee hour. Both are authors and fly fishermen from Colorado and the South Platte River System.

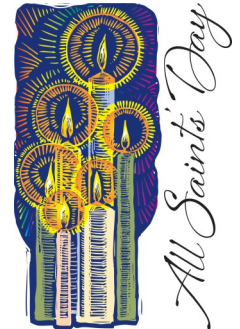
Go on a spiritual journey with Anthony Surage and Mike Aleckson as they explore the spirituality of their lives and particularly regarding fly fishing in God's creation. For them standing in a river during a trio mayfly hatch, casting to rising trout on the South Platte River can be a reverent spiritual experience beyond compare. Anthony has been a fly-fishing guide for over the past 35 years and retired as a teacher and school counselor for 31 years. Mike is a computer programmer and has been an avid fly fisherman and outdoorsman his entire life. These two gentlemen have also recently written a book called "Life and Death in the Middle: Reflections from the Seam Line" that captures many of their adventures.

Rick Glover



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


All Saints Day Service
Wednesday
November 1, 2023
6:30 pm
St. Matthew's
Covey Chapel



All Saints' Day is as a Principal Feast of the Church, "taking precedence over any other day or observance" (BCP, 15). The day is set aside to remember and commend the saints of God, especially those who are not recognized at other points in the church year.


According to Holy Women, Holy Men, in the tenth century, it became customary to recognize on a single day "that vast body of the faithful who, though no less members of the company of the redeemed, are unknown in the wider fellowship of the Church" (Holy Women, Holy Men, 664). Over time, the day became associated with special remembrances of an individual's family and friends.

LET'S FILL UP THE ST. MATTHEW'S FOOD PANTRY.



The pantry is outside, at the entrance to the parking lot. Some suggested items: cereal, canned goods, jelly, mac and cheese, boxed meals, spaghetti, easy muffin mixes, etc. Please consider the weather when leaving your items. Thanks for helping our neighbors.

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.



Cricket

This is the year of Crickets
their drumming repetitive hymns
of joyful short-lived existence in
kitchen pantry under the counter
cupboard outside my window in
the garage under the washer in
pergola vine bridal wreath
Japanese culture sees crickets as
messengers of good luck blessed am
I to be chosen as home for this
earthy choir of cricket hobbits

Joan Breit
Fall 2022

Blessings to you and yours!



The St. Matthew's Card Guild will meet
Monday, November 6, 10:00 to 2:00.
Bring a lunch or snack. Join us for the
fun and fellowship!



Notes From the Sexton

Please be sure to turn out lights and check
doors when leaving the church.

There have been some lights left on and doors
that have remained unlocked.

Also, please make note of any spills, and notify
the sexton so they can be taken care quickly.
Thank you!

**November 2023
Coffee Hour Hosts**

November 5 - The Stonehouse's
November 12- Mary and Rick Beck
November 19 - OPEN
November 26 - OPEN (Christ the
King)



If anyone has any questions or concerns about coffee hour, please contact Melissa. Thanks

St. Matthew's Outreach

Food Cart

23 non-perishable food items were delivered to the
Salvation Army "Harvest of Love" food bank in
October. Thanks for caring about those who do not
have enough to eat.

Cards

Halloween cards were mailed to our college
students, soldiers, shut ins, and friends of St. Matts.

Thank you for your well wishes. A card in the mail
always brighten someone's day!!

Harvest of Love

During the entire month of November, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army "Harvest of Love" food bank. The need is great during the upcoming months. There is a display in the front hallway.

Upcoming Outreach

Adopt a Family
Mitten tree





Altar Guild



Altar Guild Team for November
Twila Lockaby,
Scott McCloud,
Maggie Snow and
Ruth Cooper

November Altar Flowers

November 15 - Janie Grant, Clay Hedrick, and Trip Hedrick
"In loving memory of Nancy Hedrick"

November 12 - Ruth Cooper
"In loving memory of darling Chuck"

November 19—Darla and Steve Stonehouse & family
"For blessings received"

November 26 - Stan and Rosalind Scudder & family
"For blessings received"

Check us out on the Web at these links.

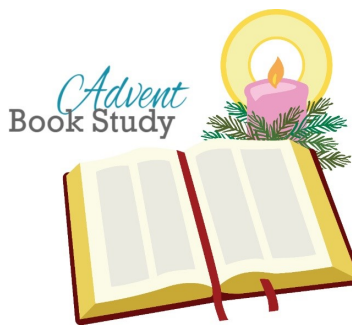
stmatthewsnewton.org—visit our webpage

facebook.com/stmattsnewton—like our Facebook page and join us here Live on Sundays and Wednesday evenings

youtube.com/@stmatthewsepiscopalnewton — Subscribe and join us here Live on Sundays

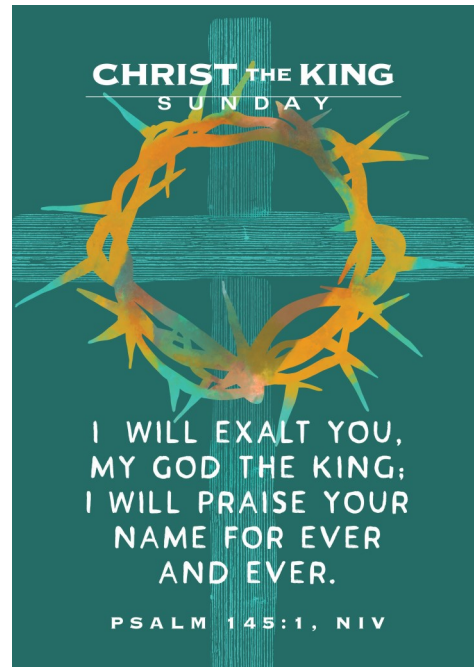


Daylight-Saving Time Ends November 5



Advent begins Sunday, December 3

Join us for a group study during Advent at 9:00 am every Sunday morning in the lounge.





Convention Summary

The 164th Diocesan Convention met October 20-21 at Grace Cathedral, Topeka. A full summary of convention business is available below or [in this PDF](#).

Convention Business

Two people were elected to the Council of Trustees. Also confirmed were convocation board elections of four clergy and one lay members.

- The Rev. **Daryl Stanford**, Grace, Chanute, clergy at-large representative, 3-year first term
- **Diana Waddell-Gilbert**, Good Shepherd, Wichita, lay at-large representative, 3-year second term
- Clergy convocation representatives, 3-year terms:
- The Venerable **Jim Cummins**, Northeast Convocation, St. Francis of Assisi, Overland Park (second term)
- The Rev. **Margaret McGhee**, Northwest Convocation, St. Paul's, Manhattan (first term)
- The Rev. **Helen Hoch**, Southeast Convocation, Calvary, Yates Center (first term)
- The Very Rev. **Laurie Lewis**, Southwest Convocation, St. Stephen's, Wichita (first term)
Lay convocation representatives, 2-year unexpired term:
- **Melanie Hoyle Laster**, Northwest Convocation, Church of the Covenant, Junction City (first term)

The convention expressed thanks to members who retired from the Council: the Rev. **Greg Doll** (three-years Northwest Convocation clergy representative) and the Rev. **Andrew O'Connor** (seven-years Southwest Convocation clergy representative).

Disciplinary Board

One person was elected to fill a vacant lay seat on the diocesan Disciplinary Board.

Darren Root, St. Margaret's, Lawrence

Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas

One **canonical amendment** was adopted.

Canon II.2 was amended to reframe and give clarity to the method by which congregations determine how many convention delegates should be elected.

Ministry Recognitions and Grants

ECW Distinguished Woman, 2022: Helen Hoch, Calvary, Yates Center

Custodian of Creation: Evan Ash, non-parochial

Alleluia Grants:

- Breakthrough – ESS, *Clubhouse Community Retreat*, \$1,523.38
- Church of the Ascension, Neodesha, *Welcome Baskets – NHA*, \$1,200.00
- St. Aidan's, Olathe, *Center of Grace*, \$1,213.50
- St. Bartholomew's, Wichita, *Sunday Undies*, \$2,000.00
- St. David's, Topeka, *Hygiene Bags – Rector's Pantry*, \$3,000.00
- St. Matthew's, Newton, *Railway Clubhouse Launch*, \$3,000.00
- St. Paul's, Clay Center, *Bridges of Hope*, \$3,000.00
- St. Stephen's, Wichita, *Open Doors to the Neighborhood*, \$3,000.00
- St. Thomas the Apostle, Overland Park, *Sensory Path – Comanche Elementary*, \$869.91

Deacon's Cross: Carolyn Garwood, St. Paul's, Clay Center

Canon's Cannon: Andrew O'Connor, St. Francis Ministries, Wichita

Bishop's Chair: Ann Palmer, St. David's, Topeka

Members of the Council of Trustees presented an update on their ongoing planning work.

Council working groups presented four strategic objectives:

Congregational Vitality: "Strengthen congregational vitality in all its forms to respond to the needs of a changing church and world."

Invitation & Mission: "Develop a culture of mission, invitation, and welcome in neighborhoods."

Youth & Young Adults: "Demonstrate commitment to youth and young adults as part of current leadership of the Church."

Leadership Capacity: "Diocesan and parish leaders will have the resources they need to be healthy and sustainable in their ministries and resources to recruit and train clergy and lay leaders equipping them to creatively meet the challenges in their parishes."

Members of convention were invited to participate in two discussion breakouts to dive more deeply into the topics and provide feedback.





Took the opportunity to capture a picture of a special place on the grounds of the Cathedral.



Fr. Mike Loyd and Deacon Barbara Gibson were able to represent St. Matthew's, Newton, in accepting the Alleluia Grant for *Railway Clubhouse Launch*, \$3,000.00

Newton Public Library Book Discussion

Bishop Cathleen Bascom's husband Tim Bascom will lead a book discussion at Newton Public Library Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m. The book "Running Out: In Search Of Water on the High Plains," by Lucas Bessire, is part of a three-part TALK (Talk About Literature in Kansas) book discussion series.

This book is third in the series that "make direct connections to how people are shaped and sometimes burdened by their connections to land. They explore how the land has made us into who we are today, and how we have shaped the land in return. They tell family stories that are rooted in place, stories in which 'home' is not only where we live, but a site of discovery, love, and loss for generations. Sometimes, home is in the past, a place we were not able to hold on to, or a place we had to flee."

Tim Bascom is an author, writing teacher and director of the Kansas Book Festival. Members of St. Matthew's have met him at Diocese Conventions and when he travels with Bishop Bascom.

Newton Public Library's website describes the book: "Guided by his grandmother Fern's diaries, author Lucas Bessire takes the long view as he explores the possible future of the endangered Ogallala Aquifer. The aquifer has enabled a way of life in western Kansas that defines us as a people, but its imminent depletion will soon change the environmental and cultural landscape when the water runs out. Bessire returns to his family's farm in Grant County to reconnect with his father, and together they attend groundwater management district meetings, reconnect with old friends and fellow farmers, and search for answers to the pending water crisis."

Members of the public are invited to participate in this free discussion. Thanks to a grant from Humanities Kansas, copies of the book are available for borrowing. Ask at the public service desk, email library@newtonplks.org, or call 316-283-2890.

Members of St. Matthew's are encouraged to attend the presentation even if you have not read the book.



Our generosity is informed by the simple theological truth that God has blessed us infinitely with all of the gifts of Creation. Our lives, our labor, our love is devoted to the mission of the Church when we take stock and realize that our lives and our response to God's generosity are Rooted in Abundance.

What is Stewardship?

A Practical Meditation Stewardship is Everything I do after I say, "I believe." God calls us to share in God's mission of caring for the world, using all the gifts God has given us. We are stewards, caretakers of God's gifts. Everything we have was a gift from God, and God asks us to use it all for God's purposes. Generosity flows naturally out of our gratitude for the gift of love, family, and life itself. In the church, we are stewards of the good news of God's love for us in Jesus Christ. We are called to share that good news with new generations.

But we live in a world where sharing that news is becoming ever more challenging. In order to share the good news, we need financial and other resources. Our worries about stewardship tend to focus on money. But stewardship is all about mission. Convince people that the church is doing God's mission and that it will truly transform our lives and our communities. Each of us is an integral part of that mission – heart, mind and body – and the money will follow.

Stewardship isn't just:

- Fundraising.
- Paying the light bills or maintaining a building.
- Paying a decent staff.
- Meeting the budget.
- Keeping the church alive.
- Paying our fair share of the dues.
- Passing on a legacy to our children.

Stewardship is:

- Sharing in God's mission with a glad, generous and grateful heart.
- Transforming lives in our community.
- Prayerfully responding to God's call.
- A deeply spiritual matter.
- Something that blesses the giver more than the receiver.


Stewardship is discipleship; it is a complete reorientation of our lives toward God, who calls us through Jesus Christ. Stewardship is Everything I do after I say, "I believe."



?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

Fill in the blank:
 "Rejoice always, pray continually, give _____ in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

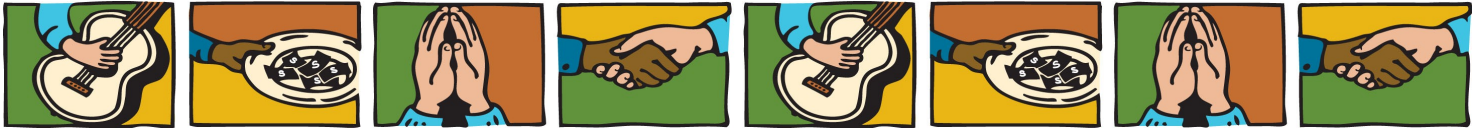
A. alms
 B. praise
 C. thanks
 D. offerings



Answer: C (See 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV)



1 Luke 1:1-4	2 John 1:1-5, 18	3 John 1:1-5, 18	4 Isaiah 9:6-7 & 11:1-5	5 Micah 5:2-4
6 Matthew 1:1-17	7 Luke 1:5-25	8 Luke 1:26-38	9 Luke 1:39-45	10 Luke 1:46-56
11 Luke 1:57-66	12 Luke 1:67-80	13 Luke 2:1-7	14 Matthew 1:18-25	15 Luke 2:8-21
16 Matthew 2:1-12	17 Luke 2:22-40	18 Matthew 2:13-15	19 Matthew 2:16-18	20 Matthew 2:19-23
21 John 1:6-8, 15	22 John 1:9-14	23 John 1:16-17	24 Isaiah 52:13-53:12	25 Revelation 21:1-8



Here is the worship schedule for November. 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!

	November 5	November 12	November 19	November 26
Season	23rd Sunday after Pentecost	24th Sunday after Pentecost	25th Sunday after Pentecost	Last Sunday after Pentecost Christ the King
Service	Holy Eucharist	Holy Eucharist	Communion in the absence of a Priest (ComAP)	Holy Eucharist
Leaders	Fr. Richard Osborne	Fr. Richard Osborne	Deacon Barbara Gibson Maggie Snow	Fr. Richard Osborne
Lectors	Darlene Hall	Elizabeth Hill	Jeremy Kitto	Fred Schroeder
Counters (2)	Twila Lockaby	Fred Schroeder	Margie Knupp	Mary Upton
	Margie Knupp	David Simmonds	David Simmonds	Fred Schroeder
Ushers (2)	Melissa Keenan	Elizabeth Hill	Rick Glover	Mary Werner
	Mary Upton	Bonnie Jones	Mary Upton	Bonnie Jones
Hosts	The Stonehouse's	Mary and Rick Beck	Open	Open
Altar Flowers	Janie Grant, Clay Hedrick, and Trip Hedrick <i>"In loving memory of Nancy Hedrick"</i>	Ruth Cooper <i>"In loving memory of darling Chuck"</i>	Darla and Steve Stonehouse & family <i>"For blessings received"</i>	Stan and Rosalind Scudder & family <i>"For blessings received"</i>
Acolyte & LEM	Fred Schroeder	Karen Wall		Fred Schroeder
Organist	Chris Teichler	Chris Teichler	Chris Teichler	Kelli Glann

Would you like to serve as Usher, Counter or Lector? Or serve the church in some other way? Contact the Office!