



Reaching out
Reaching within
Proclaiming God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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Newton, Kansas 67114
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The Messenger

A Note from Fr. Mike



2025

THE OTHER JUDAS

Hello everyone, here we are in October. October is a favorite month for a lot of people, including me. I like October because of the cooler, not cold weather, the changing of the leaves, the World Series, and my birthday is in October. In fact, lots of people have birthdays in October and that includes my family. All of us kids in the Loyd family, my brother, two older sisters, and me were born in October. Also, our son, Jordan was born in October. Why all the birthdays in October? Something about January and February being cold months and people staying inside, and well, I think you can figure it out.

As far as church goes, it feels very good to be here. St. Andrew's in Derby is a great church, and I had a wonderful seven years at St. Andrew's. But St. Matthew's feels like home, I guess because it is home. I thank all of you for welcoming Jill and myself back into this very special church family. It will be great to be with all of you as we journey together in our life with God.

But again, as far as church goes, not a whole lot goes on in October. We are still in the church season known as Ordinary Time, that long stretch between Pentecost Sunday and Advent. Though it's called Ordinary Time, it can actually be an extraordinary time to take time to see the wonder of God at work in our day to day lives.

In October we do observe the feast days of four

apostles, St. Luke, St. James, and St. Simon, and St. Jude. St. Jude's proper name was Judas, but of course, there was another guy named Judas. The more infamous Judas was Judas Iscariot, and there was concern about confusing the one Judas with the other Judas. So, St. Jude was often mentioned as Jude Thaddeus. Jude has a book in the New Testament. Actually, it's The Letter of Jude and it's the last book before Revelation. And The Letter of Jude is short, only 25 verses. In his letter, Jude criticizes the moral failures of some of the early church leaders, but it ends with words of encouragement. It's believed by many scholars that he ministered in Persia and Armenia where he was martyred.

St. Jude, as many of you know, is the patron saint of lost and desperate causes. St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee is named for the patron saint of desperate and lost causes. St. Jude Hospital is dedicated to the

*St. Jude
(Continued on page 2)*





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.

Office phone: 316-283-3310
Office e-mail:
office.stmatthewsnewton@gmail.com

St. Matthew's office hours:

- Monday-Thursday 9:00 am—2:00 pm
- Fr. Mike's office hours will be Monday and Thursday 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

Services: Holy Eucharist 10:15 am every Sunday
Evening Prayer 6:00 pm Wednesday

- * St. Matthew's Vestry meeting will be Sunday, October 19 after church
- PEF will meet October 12 after church

*St. Jude
(Continued from page 1)*

treatment and research of pediatric cancer as well as other pediatric diseases. If anything can convince you that life isn't fair, it's childhood cancer.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital was founded by Danny Thomas, an actor and comedian. Being a Boomer, I can remember Danny Thomas having his own show on TV and being the father of actress Marlo Thomas, but I wasn't sure why he dedicated himself to this cause. Danny Thomas was one of ten children of immigrants from Lebanon and when he was barely surviving as a struggling actor, he made a vow: if he found success, he would open a shrine dedicated to St. Jude Thaddeus, the patron saint of hopeless and desperate causes.

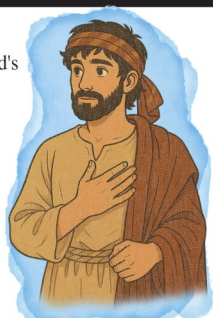
Like I said, as far as church goes, it's a pretty quiet time. But then you better strap yourself in, because once Advent gets here, as you know, it gets pretty busy. Anyway, enjoy October with its fantastic weather, fall festivals, football, and yes, pumpkin spice almost anything. And along with everything else, don't forget to make some time to come to church.

Faithfully, Fr. Mike

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

The book of Jonah tells the story of a prophet who ran from God, faced a storm and learned about God's mercy. Which of the following statements is **true**?

- A. Jonah told the sailors he was running from God, and they threw him overboard.
- B. The fish that swallowed Jonah washed up on the shores of Joppa.
- C. Jonah preached in Nineveh for forty days and forty nights.
- D. After the city repented, Jonah rejoiced and built an altar to the Lord.



Answer: A (See Jonah 1:9-15).



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

October Birthdays

October 8 - Christi Southern
October 10 - Jed Lockaby, Zoe Stonehouse
October 12—Joan Breit
October 13 - Mike Loyd
October 15 - Jordan Loyd
October 16 - Michael Southern
October 18 - Jim Reese
October 26 - Brooke Glover
October 25 - Katie Reese
October 28 - Jake Collier, Austin Penner
October 29 - Chris Simmonds, Donna Mills, Maggie Snow
October 30 - Twila Lockaby

October Baptisms

October 3 - Melissa Keenan, Jessica Keenan
October 5 - Erik Jantz
October 20 - Zoe Stonehouse
October 21 - Sissy Robb
October 22 - Andrew Craig

October Confirmations

October 1 - Jill Loyd
October 2 - Jerry Wall
October 19 - Darlene Hall, Dave Simmonds, Chris Simmonds, Ryan Simmonds, Mary Werner
October 26 - Cathy Woodward

October 2025 Coffee Hour Hosts



October 5 - OPEN
October 12 - Kala and George Whiteside
October 19 - OPEN
October 26 - Rick and Rochelle Glover

There are plenty of opportunities to host coffee hour on the calendar in the parish hall. It is not required to provide lunch. Just a few treats will make everyone happy. No need to get fancy or break the bank! If you want to help, but can't host, we will gladly accept cookies, supplies, or a monetary donation to offset the cost.

St. Matthew's Outreach

Food Cart

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

New Hope Shelter

During the month of September, 59 items were collected and donated to the New Hope shelter here in Newton.

This organization helps people find jobs, find a place to live, and items to furnish their new homes, plus so much more!! Thanks for helping those in need!

Soldiers & Shut Ins

Help!! Our Shut In board is empty. If anyone knows someone who is homebound, and would like to receive cards and visits, please contact Melissa K.

Upcoming Outreach

November - Harvest of Love
December - Adopt A Family Mitten Tree



Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources — basically our entire lives. It's a beautiful concept when properly understood. Here are the basics of good stewardship:

God is the source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.

We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.

Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an account of our management of God's creation and of God's gifts.

When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs, etc. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat, or smell. Yet we did the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God's provisions and our labor brought the garden to its fulfillment.

Good stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our checkbook and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work. That is the beauty of stewardship.

St. Matthew's Prayer Chain

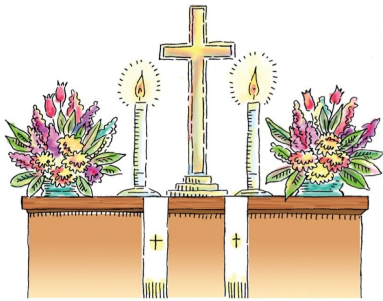
If you have a request for prayers for yourself or others, contact Mary

Upton at **316-841-1736**. The information you share will then be passed on to the chain leaders who will pass the information on to their team. The members of the chain will 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.



Update from Capital Campaign Committee:

At the end of our first year, we have \$98,000 in pledges and \$50,000 cash received from those pledges. So far, we have replaced the toilets and the flooring in the women's bathroom. The flooring in the kitchen was replaced. The HVAC units for the Chapel and the Conference Room have also been replaced. The Parish Hall ceiling has been repaired from water damage. A leak was repaired and the sink removed from the small bathroom at the front of the Nave. Two additional HVAC wall units in the classrooms have been replaced. The lighting in the Chapel was improved and the Nave lighting will be scheduled soon. The main water valve was replaced, so we don't have to call the city when we need to shut off the water. The exterior paint of the church is a work in progress and hopefully will be completed soon! Check out how nice it looks! A big thank you to all who have donated to the capital campaign to update necessary things for our church!



Altar Guild

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

Altar Flowers for October

October 5
Diane and Al Joseph
*"In loving memory of Dick and
Joanne Oliver."*

October 12
Maggie & Chris Snow
*"In celebration of our wedding
anniversary"*

October 19
Mary Upton
*"In thanksgiving for the life and ministry of
Jim Upton"*

October 26
Thea Ferguson
"In loving memory of Jay Ferguson"

If you have any questions regarding Altar Guild or
Altar flowers please contact Margie Knupp at
316-284-1790



Please join
Deacon Barbara Gibson
and company
for Evening Prayer
every Wednesday
at 6:00 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.



**LET'S FILL UP THE
ST. MATTHEW'S FOOD
PANTRY/BLESSING BOX**

Don't forget that you can add items
to the Blessing Box anytime. Just
an extra can or two when you are at
the grocery store is appreciated. Please keep the
weather in mind when donating an item. It will soon
be getting colder.

Thank you for doing your part to help our neighbors.



What a great day at St. Matthew's! We celebrated St. Francis Day with a Blessing of the Animals. We had 29 people and 12 pets (9 dogs, 1 cat, and 2 dogs by photo!)! Thanks to everyone that helped make this day special. Dog food, cat food, treats and newspapers were also brought to be donated to Caring Hands Humane Society. We love our pets!





ALL SAINTS' DAY
NOVEMBER 1ST

Parish Council Meeting

There will be a Parish Council Meeting on Saturday, October 11 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will be looking at the calendar and planning events and worship for the next three months. This will include All Saints Day, Thanksgiving, beginning of Advent, Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Years, and Epiphany. Plus anything else that may be happening here at the church.

If you are a member of any committee, Altar Guild, Vestry or just someone that wants to be involved and have a voice in what happens here at St. Matthew's, please plan to attend! Everyone is welcome.



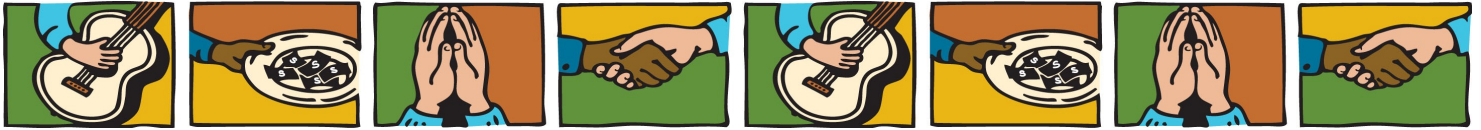
Do you have some time to help? We need a few people to help with weeding the island flower bed. It can be done whenever it fits your schedule. Crab grass and bind weed mostly. Thanks for the help!

Discretionary Fund

This is a reminder that on the first Sunday of each month any loose money in the collection plate goes to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. This gives the Rector resources to give to someone that asks for help with a utility bill, rent, food or anything else that is asked of the church. Please be generous.

The Diocese is pleased to welcome clergy and delegates to the diocese's 166th convention convening at the DoubleTree Overland Park on October 24-25, 2025. We will conduct our business while reflecting on our 2025 theme, ***Practicing Hope*** and Bishop Antony Mambo, 6th Bishop of the Diocese of Nakuru, Kenya, along with a small delegation, will be our guests.





Here is the worship schedule for October. 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!

	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26
Season	17th Sunday after Pentecost	18th Sunday after Pentecost	19th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Vestry Meeting</i>	20th Sunday after Pentecost
Service	Holy Eucharist <i>Blessing of the Animals</i>	Holy Eucharist	Holy Eucharist <i>Healing Service</i>	Communion in the Absence of a Priest
Leaders	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Deacon Barbara Gibson
LEM& Acolyte	Maggie Snow Elizabeth Hill	Karen Wall Chris Iserhardt	Ruth Cooper Chris Iserhardt	Mary Anne McCloud Fred Schroeder
Lector— Lessons	Jeremy Kitto	Ruth Cooper	Jeremy Kitto	Bonnie Jones
Lector— Psalm	Darlene Hall	Maggie Snow	Mary Upton	Elizabeth Hill
Ushers (2)	Melissa Keenan	Kala Whiteside	Melissa Keenan	Mary Werner
	Mary Upton	George Whiteside	Mary Upton	Rick Glover
Counters (2)	Twila Lockaby	Mary Upton	Fred Schroeder	Margie Knupp
	Margie Knupp	Fred Schroeder	David Simmonds	Twila Lockaby
Altar Flowers	Diane and Al Joseph <i>"In loving memory of Dick and Joanne Oliver."</i>	Maggie & Chris Snow <i>"In celebration of our wedding anniversary"</i>	Mary Upton <i>"In thanksgiving for the life and ministry of Jim Upton"</i>	Thea Ferguson <i>"In loving memory of Jay Ferguson"</i>
Coffee Hour Hosts	Cookies	Kala and George Whiteside	Open	Rick and Rochelle Glover
Organist Flutist	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler	Kelli Glann Sarah Teichler

Evening Prayer: every Wednesday night at 6:00 pm in the St. Matthew's Covey Chapel