



Reaching out  
Reaching within  
Proclaiming God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 342  
2001 Windsor Drive  
Newton, Kansas 67114  
Church: 316-283-3308  
www.stmatthewsnewton.org  
www.facebook.com/stmattsnewton

# The Messenger

March 2023

## A NOTE FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR – Something to reflect on during Lent

### The Road of Life

At first, I saw God as my observer, my judge,  
keeping track of the things I did wrong,  
so as to know whether I merited heaven  
or hell when I die.

He was out there, sort of like a president.  
I recognized His picture when I saw it,  
but I really didn't know Him.

But later on when I met Christ,  
it seemed as though life was rather like a bike ride,  
but it was a tandem bike,  
and I noticed that Christ  
was in the back helping me pedal.

I don't know just when it was  
that He suggested we change places,  
but life has not been the same since.

When I had control,  
I knew the way.  
It was rather boring,  
but predictable . . .  
It was the shortest distance between two points.

But when He took the lead,  
He knew delightful long cuts,  
up mountains,  
and through rocky places  
at breakneck speeds,  
it was all I could do to hang on!  
Even though it looked like madness,  
He said, "**Pedal!**"

I worried and was anxious  
and asked,  
"**Where are you taking me?**"  
He laughed and didn't answer,  
and I started to learn to trust.

I forgot my boring life  
and entered into the adventure.  
And when I'd say, "**I'm scared,**"  
He'd lean back and touch my hand.

He took me to people with gifts that I needed,  
gifts of healing, acceptance and joy.  
They gave me gifts to take on my journey,  
my Lord's and mine.

And we were off again.  
He said, "**Give the gifts away;**  
**they're extra baggage, too much weight.**"  
So I did,  
to the people we met,  
and I found that in giving I received,  
and still our burden was light.

I did not trust Him,  
at first,  
in control of my life.  
I thought He'd wreck it;  
but He knows bike secrets,  
knows how to make it bend to take sharp corners,  
knows how to jump to clear high rocks,  
knows how to fly to shorten scary passages.

And I am learning to shut up  
and pedal  
in the strangest places,  
and I'm beginning to enjoy the view  
and the cool breeze on my face  
with my delightful constant companion, Jesus Christ.

And when I'm sure I just can't do anymore,  
He just smiles and says . . . "**Pedal.**"

-- author unknown

Copied from **Holy Sweat** by Tim Hansel (which by the way is an excellent book).



**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.*

**Death doesn't win**



In the final hours of 2021, a wild-fire near Boulder, Colorado, destroyed 1,000 homes, including one belonging to Pastor Bill Stephens. His family, out of town at the time, lost all their possessions. After months of feeling buried in debris, insurance paperwork and mourning, Stephens decided that Easter 2022 would mark a fresh start.

During worship that morning, the pastor shared a photo of vibrant daffodils emerging on his charred property. Burned remnants were visible in the background, just as Easter's backdrop includes the pain and death of Good Friday. But the empty tomb in Easter's foreground means death won't win, reminded Stephens. Even when earthly life "isn't all daffodils," we have hope and eternal life through Jesus.

Easter reveals that God will "give us the joy, and it's going to be in the heart of pain that we go through as well," added the pastor. "And that just makes me draw closer to God."

**MARCH**

**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

**March Birthdays**

- March 5 - Katherine Lindgren, Kim Hill
- March 7—Ashton Jantz
- March 8 - Jaden Johnson
- March 6 - Scott Craig
- March 12 - Jessica Brungardt, Jon Ainsworth, Matt Bogner
- March 15 - Suzie Luginbill
- March 18 - Allison Hill, Elizabeth Wall Rodriguez
- March 23 - Joan Stahly, Bryanna Bush
- March 29—Bonnie Jones
- March 25 - Scott McCloud
- March—Jan Plummer

**March Confirmations**

- March 14 - Mitch Young

**March Baptisms**

- March 10 - Kristan Bogner
- March 24 - Joshua Reese

***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.***





83rd Annual St. Matthew's Pancake Supper  
*It was a great night for pancakes!!*



Thank you to all the good folks who signed up and helped run the evening, the musicians who entertained us, and all the community members who came and ate dinner with us. And thanks to Jerry Wall and Scott McCloud for organizing and leading the way. Many hands make light work. The money that was raised from this event will go to help others that are hungry and in need. Thank you for your generosity!



## Fun and interesting Facts about the Episcopal Church

### Holy Eucharist

How it started—According to Wikapida:

Church teaching places the **origin of the Eucharist** in the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples, at which he is believed to have taken bread and given it to his disciples, telling them to eat of it, because it was his body, and to have taken a cup and given it to his disciples, telling them to drink of it because it was the cup of the covenant in his blood.

The earliest extant written account of a Christian *eucharistia* (Greek: thanksgiving) is that in the First Epistle to the Corinthians (around AD 55), in which Paul the Apostle relates "eating the bread and drinking the cup of the Lord" in the celebration of a "Supper of the Lord" to the Last Supper of Jesus some 25 years earlier (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). Paul considers that in celebrating the rite they were fulfilling a mandate to do so. The Acts of the Apostles presents the early Christians as meeting for "the breaking of bread" (**Acts 2:42**) as some sort of ceremony.

### Eucharist in The Episcopal Church

From The Episcopal Dictionary of the Church (<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/glossary/eucharist/>)

The sacrament of Christ's body and blood, and the principal act of Christian worship. The term is from the Greek, "thanksgiving." Jesus instituted the Eucharist "on the night when he was betrayed." At the Last Supper he shared the bread and cup of wine at a sacred meal with his disciples. He identified the bread with his body and the wine with his blood of the new covenant. Jesus commanded his disciples to "do this" in remembrance of him (see 1 Cor 11:23-26; Mk 14:22-25; Mt 26:26-29; Lk 22:14-20). Christ's sacrifice is made to his one self-offering (BCP, p. 859). The Last Supper provides the basis for the fourfold Eucharistic action of taking, blessing, breaking, and sharing. Christ's body and blood are really present in the sacrament of the Eucharist and received by faith. Christ's

presence is also known in the gathered Eucharistic community.

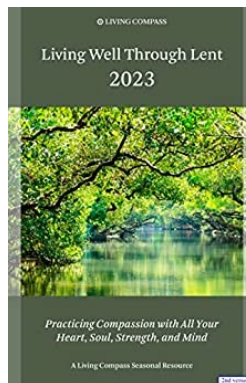
In the BCP, the whole service is entitled the Holy Eucharist. The first part of the service is designated the Word of God. It usually includes the entrance rite, the lessons and gradual psalm, the gospel, the sermon, the Nicene Creed, the prayers of the people, the confession of sin and absolution, and the peace. The second portion of the service is designated the Holy Communion. It includes the offertory, the consecration of the bread and wine in the Great Thanksgiving, the communion of the people, and the concluding prayers of thanksgiving and dismissal. A blessing may be given prior to the dismissal.

Here at St. Matthew's all baptized persons are welcome at the Table.

The Eucharist is also called the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, the Divine Liturgy, the Mass, and the Great Offertory (BCP, p. 859). The Hymnal 1982 includes a section with a variety of hymns for the Holy Eucharist (300-347), including "Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest" (305-306), "My God, thy table now is spread" (321), "Now, my tongue, the mystery telling" (329-331), and "I am the bread of life" (335).

## Lenten Study Continues Every Sunday during Lent.

Join us each Sunday at 9:00 am in the Church Lounge



We will be using a study guide, Living Well Through Lent 2023, Practicing Compassion with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind. *If you don't have the book available, you can still easily be a part of the conversation. Please join us.*





## St. Matthew's Outreach

### Food Cart

13 non-perishable food items were delivered to the Salvation Army "Harvest of Love" food bank in February. Thanks for helping those who do not have enough to eat.

### Souper Bowl of Caring

Here are the totals of Super Bowl of Caring: 102 cans of soup and \$50.00.

Soup and money were given to the Salvation Army "Harvest of Love" food bank. Thanks for everyone's generosity!!

### Lenten Outreach

#### New Jerusalem Mission

We have historically supported this facility located at 209 E. Broadway, here in Newton, during Lent. New Jerusalem Mission supports men just out of prison, helping them to get back on their feet.

They also provide meals to the community by means of donations, etc. to their Loaves & Fish Cafe. Below is a list of needed items.

We will have a small display in the front hallway during Lent for donations. There are also lists available. Thank you.

### Soldiers & Shut Ins

If anyone has a loved one that would love to receive cards and visits (in town), we would like a photo to place on the board... please contact Melissa.



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night, March 11. Daylight Savings Time begins March 12.

## March 2023 Coffee Hour Hosts

March 5 - OPEN  
March 12 - Melissa  
March 19 - OPEN  
March 26 - Scott and Mary Anne McCloud



There are plenty of openings for hosting coffee hour after the service on Sundays. It can be simple ... crackers and cheese, fruit, cookies...We are not picky!! Any questions, please contact Melissa.

## 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 of 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



**All God's Creatures**

Frost glistens on the dry grass trees  
reach to the cobalt blue skies  
cardinal song greets the morning sun  
sparrows chirp from pergola and  
feeders I fill the heated fountain on  
this mid-winter day blessed water  
that mainstay of all life night  
creatures have all but emptied the  
fountain possums raccoons other wild  
ones day animals all drink from the  
fountain squirrels cats flocks of  
sparrows cardinals blue jays flickers  
chickadees all feast at the banquet  
crows call to each other in the distance  
some foraging in the grasses  
"God's in His heaven -  
All's right with the world!"  
Robert Browning (1812-1889)

Joan Breit  
Winter 2023

**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 March 2023**

Melissa Keenan, Karen Wall, Ginger King

Orders are being accepted for Easter Lillies that can be given in memory of or in celebration of someone or some thing. Or maybe in thanksgiving. There are forms at the church to designate your gift. Or call, 316-215-1164. Thank you, Twila Lockaby



**Altar Flowers for March 2023**

- March
- March 5 - LENT**  
*No flowers*
- March 12 - LENT**  
*No flowers*
- March 19 - LENT**  
*No flowers*
- March 26 - LENT**  
*No flowers*

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

**St. Matthew's Meals on Wheels**

There is an opening to deliver meals on the 5th Tuesdays. There are only 4 or 5 5th Tuesdays per year (never in February).

Anyone interested please contact Thea Ferguson @ [jay.f.7643@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jay.f.7643@sbcglobal.net) or 316 283 4949. Training provided.



**SHAMROCK** — St. Patrick used the shamrock to teach people about the Godhead. Holding up a shamrock, he challenged them, “Is this one leaf, or three?” Inevitably, people replied that it was both, prompting St. Patrick to draw the analogy that so, too, is God: one God in three Persons — the Holy Trini-

**Parish Council Meeting**

All committee leaders, members, and anyone else that is interested in helping to plan and schedule the next 3-4 months here at St. Matthew's is invited to attend this meeting. Everyone is welcome.

We will meet on Saturday, March 25 at 10:00 am. Please bring your calendars and ideas for activities and how you can participate and help with anything that is scheduled! Can't be here? Send your ideas and comments along with someone or email the church office: office.stmatthewsnewton@gmail.com or call at 316-283-3308

See you there! Free coffee and tea!



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.

**From the Sexton**

**Spills**

If anyone notices a spill, or accidentally spills food or drink, please blot the area if possible, and leave a note with the location. If possible, notify the sexton, Melissa Keenan. This will help said sexton to attend to the spill in a timely manner. Thank you

Please note St. Matthew's new 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.



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.



The Card Ministry group will be meeting again in March on Monday, March 13 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

*God, as I encounter others today, help me look on their hearts, as you do. Then lead me to share a caring word.*





**Episcopal Summer Mega Camp registration is open**

Episcopalians have been attending Summer Camp the first week in June at Camp Wood YMCA for over 80 years. Camp Wood is accredited by the American Camp Association—a process that has over 300 safety and quality standards. There are separate age-appropriate Christian education, camp activities, and sleeping arrangements for four age-groups, as well as healthy well-balanced meals with accommodations available for allergies.

Camp Wood features a variety of activities such as horseback riding, archery, climbing tower, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, water slide, mud slide, arts and crafts, and sports. The volunteer Episcopal staff provides solid Christian education, featuring worship, music, small group discussions, and prayer.



**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.

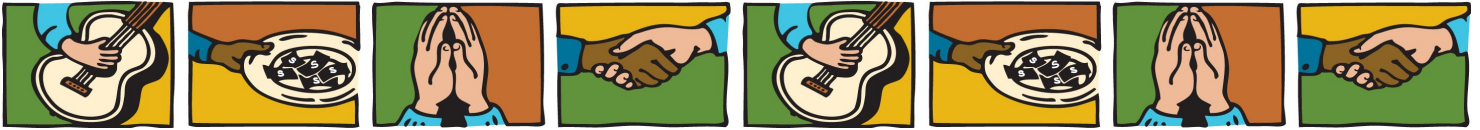
*Payment plans are available. If you choose, UltraCamp will automatically divide the cost of camp over the remaining months between when you register and the start of camp.*

**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.





Here is the worship schedule for March. 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!

	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
<b>Season</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Lent</b>	<b>Third Sunday in Lent</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>
<b>Service</b>	Holy Eucharist	Holy Eucharist	Communion in the absence of a Priest (ComAP)	Holy Eucharist
<b>Leaders</b>	Fr. Marc McDonald	Fr. Richard Osborne	Deacon Barbara Gibson Mary Anne McCloud	Fr. Richard Osborne
<b>Lectors</b>	Mary Upton	Elizabeth Hill	Jeremy Kitto	Bonnie Jones
<b>Counters (2)</b>	Twila Lockaby	Fred Schroeder	Mary Upton	Margie Knupp
	Margie Knupp	David Simmonds	Maggie Snow	Twila Lockaby
<b>Ushers (2)</b>	Rick Glover	Charlie Craig	Dave Simmonds	Rick Glover
	Mary Upton	Melissa Keenan	Bonnie Jones	Mary Werner
<b>Hosts</b>	Open	Melissa Keenan	Open	Scott and Mary Anne McCloud
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	<b>LENT</b> <i>No Flowers on Altar</i>	<b>LENT</b> <i>No Flowers on Altar</i>	<b>LENT</b> <i>No Flowers on Altar</i>	<b>LENT</b> <i>No Flowers on Altar</i>
<b>Acolyte &amp; LEM</b>	Michael Southern Karen Wall	Fred Schroeder	CoMap	Maggie Snow
<b>Organist</b>	Chris Teichler	Chris Teichler	Chris Teichler	Kelli Glann