



Reaching out  
Reaching within  
Proclaiming God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 342  
2001 Windsor Drive  
Newton, Kansas 67114  
Church: 316-283-3310  
[www.stmatthewsnewton.org](http://www.stmatthewsnewton.org)  
[www.facebook.com/stmattsnewton](http://www.facebook.com/stmattsnewton)

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# *The Messenger*

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From the Interim Pastor—Fr. Richard Osborne

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## **Greed Versus Generosity**

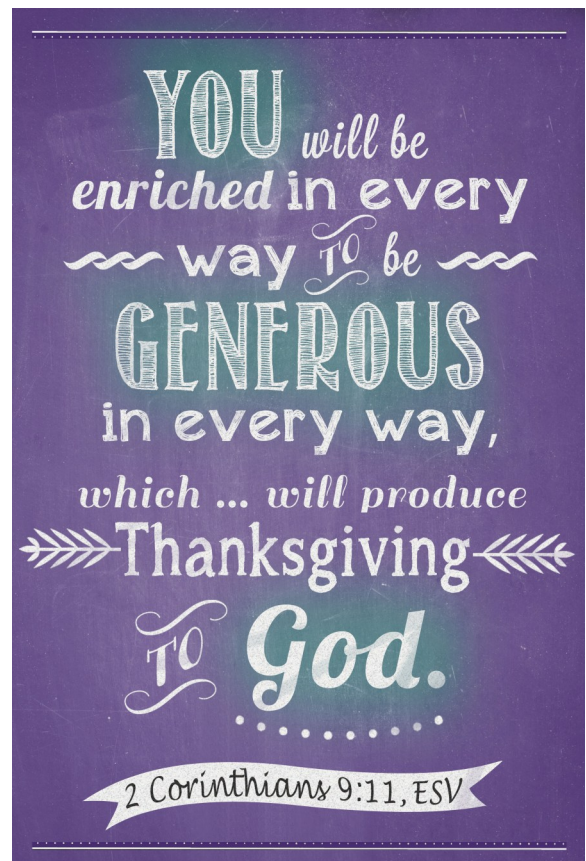
Giving generously out of abundance is one thing, but to give up all one has to live on is quite another. Such an act goes against all we hear about sound money management and retirement planning. It also challenges the prevailing attitude that the possession of material wealth determines the status of a person in their community.

It is difficult to think of too many people who would give up their money as freely as the widow from Mark's gospel did who put in all she had. As Jesus was teaching in the temple, he contrasted the greed of the scribes with the generosity of a poor widow. Whereas the scribes took advantage of widows for their own gain, the poor widow placed all that she had into the treasury.

Jesus noticed her act of generosity; he lifted her up as a model disciple because she was not attached to her small amount of wealth. Instead, she was willing to contribute what she had for the greater common purpose. Even though she put her own future at risk, she had the impulse to give what she had for the sake of others rather than worry about her financial security in the future.

In the early years of Christianity, some communities of disciples continued to live according to a similar spirit of generosity. They put all their money into a common purse so that no one would be in need. Their lifestyle gained the attention of the culture and attracted new people into their communities.

Our churches do not ask us to put everything we have to live on into the offering plate as a requirement for membership in the body of Christ. As each of us searches our heart to discern how much we are willing to give up for the sake of others, let us also remember that God abundantly provides everything we need.





### ***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](mailto:office.stmatthewsnewton@gmail.com)

#### **St. Matthew's office hours:**

- Monday-Thursday 9:00 am—2:00 pm
- Fr. Richard is in the office 10:00 am-2:00 pm Monday and Tuesday.

**Services:** Holy Eucharist 10:15 am every Sunday  
Adult Study 9:00 am Sunday morning  
Evening Prayer 6:00 pm Wednesday

- \* St. Matthew's Vestry meeting will be Sunday, July 20 after church.
- \* PEF will meet after church on Sunday, July 27

### **Prayer for the Search of our Next Rector**

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. Matthew's.

Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our church.

We ask your direction and guidance for those who shall choose our new spiritual leader, that we may receive an upright and faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries.

Grant us perception, faithfulness and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations.

Grant us also the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those who have entrusted us with this process.

Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us.

Come Holy Spirit.

We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



**Remember  
Your Pledge  
This Summer**



## 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

### **July Birthdays**

July 9—Juliana Loyd  
July 15—Mary Beck  
July 19—Lennon Tyner  
July 22—Bill Swendson  
July 26—Jessica Keenan  
July 27—Fred Schroeder  
July 29—Sean Hall

### **July Baptisms**

July 9—Jordan Brinkley Orr  
July 25—Ashley Lundblom-Hinderliter

### **July Confirmations**

July 14—Haley Sage Southern, Juliana Mae Loyd,  
Katherine Grace Lindgren, Maddie Stonehouse,  
Logan Bradley Moulds, Ethan William Moulds, Ellen  
Elizabeth Moulds, Bradley William Moulds, Elizabeth  
Ann Moulds



## July 2025 Coffee Hour Hosts



July 6 - OPEN  
July 13 - OPEN  
July 20 - Sarah and Chris Teichler  
July 27—Elizabeth Hill

Please be sure to sign up to host coffee hour.  
We have plenty of openings... it can be crackers,  
cookies, fruit, cake... whatever you desire.  
We are not picky!!

## ***St. Matthew's Outreach***

### **Food Cart**

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

### **BACK to SCHOOL in JULY**

We will be collecting school supplies during the entire month of July for Salvation Army this year. There will be a display and lists of needed items. Children are our future, let's help them by giving them the tools to learn. Thank you.

### **Soldiers & Shut Ins**

Our shut in board is empty. If you have a loved one who would like to receive cards and visits, please let us know. A picture would be greatly appreciated, also. Please contact Melissa K. Thanks.

### **UTO Totals**

Our total ingathering for UTO was \$373.06.  
Thanks to all of you for helping others worldwide!



## Book of Leviticus

Third book of the Bible

The study of Leviticus will continue every Sunday morning at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Led by Jeremy Kitto, he includes many details about the history of Leviticus and what was happening during the time it was written about. There are lots of questions and thoughtful discussions.

Please join us as you are able.

### 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 presented to Fr. Richard. Please be generous.



You are always welcome here at St. Matthew's.

No matter what is going on in your life, good or bad.

Especially during the summer, you are welcome to come as you are! Shorts and flip flops are welcome!

"Come as you are" expresses a foundational truth about God's heart: He opens His arms to anyone, inviting us into His presence without prerequisites. This invitation is anchored in Scripture—seen in Jesus' welcoming posture toward sinners and the New Testament authors' teachings on grace. So Come as You are to St. Matthew's. You are loved.

## FROM YOUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

We began the Capital Campaign in the Fall of 2024 with a goal of creating a \$100,000 fund to provide needed updates to our church facility and to set aside enough money to replace our 25 year old primary HVAC unit when it is no longer functional (it requires Freon for the AC).

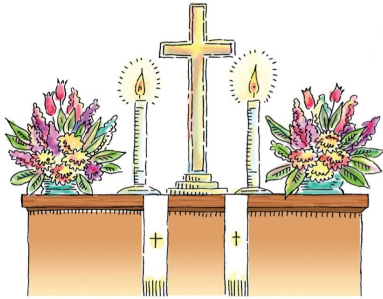
Our financial goal has essentially been met with about \$95,000 in donations and pledges. We continue to perform important upgrades to our building as described below.

An important reminder for those of you who have made annual pledges to the campaign: The first year of our three year campaign will be complete as of September 30th. If you have not made your first year donation as yet, please do so in the near future.

The campaign work started with replacing floors in bathrooms and kitchen and redoing plumbing in the women's bathroom. The ceiling in the Parish Hall was repaired and last month the broken heat pumps in two classrooms were replaced.

The next two projects will be more noticeable. The exterior of the church will be repainted. This involves some caulking and repair but the refreshed paint will brighten the appearance and will catch your eye. How soon that will be completed is dependent on weather.

The other planned redo is to replace lights that illuminate the Altar in the Chapel and two fixtures that will give better light directed at the Altar in the Nave. When those two projects are completed, the capital campaign funds will be held to cover the replacement of the main HVAC system.



*Altar Guild*

### Altar Guild Team for July

Twila Lockaby, Ruth Cooper,  
Scott McCloud, Maggie Snow

### Altar Flowers for July

July 7

The Rev. Scott Hankins

"In loving memory of Sam and Vera Hankins"

July 13

Oliver J and Carol Geiger

"In memory of Inez and Watt Geiger by their  
children and grandchildren"

July 20

Jim and Katie Reese

"In memory of Nomi and Royston Reese  
and Agnes Lundstrom."

July 27

Ginger and Steve King

"For blessings received"

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



Please join us at Kidron-Bethel Village on Wednesday, July  
30 in their Fellowship Hall. We will have our Wednesday  
Evening Prayer with the people at Kidron-Bethel!



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

Let's fill up The Pantry and help our  
neighbors. Some items to include  
are easy open cans of vegetables,  
fruit, sauces, etc. Also microwave  
soups, mac & cheese and single meals. Please take  
into account the weather when leaving items. It has  
been suggested to put items in the pantry on the  
weekends when city organizations are closed. Also,  
books are wanted for the top shelf.

Thank you for doing your part to help our neighbors.



While pondering differences between patriotism and nationalism, Ryan Hamm looks to Jesus' example in Luke 19:41-44. "Jesus, it seems, loved his people, his city, his nation — so much so that he cried over it," he writes in Christianity Today. "He didn't despise his country or wish ill upon it — instead, he wanted nothing but the best for it, and it grieved him to see how his people had rejected his teachings."

This example of "patriotism perfected" can serve as a guide for modern-day Christians, according to Hamm. "It's an example that's both pragmatic and romantic, shot through with justice, truth and love. It's not a nationalistic patriotism — it's a love for nation that doesn't pit it against other nations. Instead, it's a recognition of love followed by a mournful recognition of shortcomings."

Put another way, God doesn't love America more than any other nation. And he doesn't want us to worship our nation alongside him, because that is idolatry. Instead, we are to love and proclaim God above any earthly realm.

The following lines are from a long prayer, "That America Fulfil the Promise of Its Founding," by Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan. Though written in 1945, it rings true yet today. (Full text at <https://tinyurl.com/nhc8747x>.)

O God, who is Liberator and Redeemer, Lawgiver and Judge, ...

May America remain loyal  
to the principles of the Declaration of  
Independence, and extend their application to ever-  
widening areas of life.

Keep out of our life all manner of oppression,  
persecution, and unjust discrimination;  
save us from religious,  
racial and class conflicts;  
may our country be a haven of refuge  
to the victims of injustice and misrule.

Instruct us in the art of living together,  
of reconciling differences of opinion  
and averting clashes of interest,  
of helping one another  
to achieve a harmonious and abundant life ...

That the Star-Spangled Banner,  
the symbol of our American democracy,  
may ever wave o'er the land of the free  
and the home of the brave. Amen.

*Have a fun  
and safe 4th  
of July!  
Enjoy your  
celebrations.*





Congratulations to our latest EfM graduate, Dr. Richard Glover, II.

Rick completed the 4 years of EfM at St. Matthew's in May 2025. Job well done, Rick, you made it through!

The next EfM session will begin in September. If you are interested with finding out about this 4-year study of the Old Testament, New Testament, church history, and theology, talk to Rick and he can give you all the details. You can also speak with Deacon Barbara Gibson for other details. It will be a life changing experience. Scholarships are available.

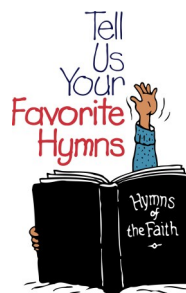


Education for Ministry (or as it's better known, EfM) is a program for adults who desire to grow deeper into scripture, church history and theology in a small group.

As the emphasis on lay ministry has grown, Education for Ministry has become an important part of that growth by providing a program that develops an informed and knowledgeable laity.

## 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.



Do you have a favorite hymn that you wish we would sing? Or maybe a hymn that you haven't heard for awhile and would like for us to sing on Sunday?

Then we want to hear from you! There is a form on the table at the back of the church that you can indicate a hymn or two that you would like to have Jerry add to the schedule for Sunday Worship.

These songs will be worked in during the summer months. Can't wait to hear your favorite hymns!



It is with a heavy heart that we share the passing of Buckshot, a cherished member of our community. Those who visited on Tuesdays or frequented the St. Matthew's Payee office had the pleasure of knowing him.

He was a loyal friend to the Payee clients and volunteers alike, eagerly welcoming everyone and serving as an unofficial doorbell. Buckshot was also a devoted companion to Peggy. His absence will be deeply felt by all who knew him.

Heavenly Father,  
Creator of all things,  
thank you for having entrusted us with  
such a loyal friend. Thank you for letting  
this beautiful animal teach us unselfish  
love. Thank you for the memories we can  
recall to brighten our days for the rest of  
our lives. Finally, in gratitude,  
we return our cherished companion to you.  
Amen

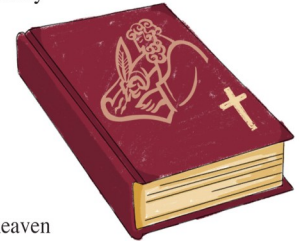


## Bible Quiz



In a parable of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, someone named Lazarus features prominently while other characters go unnamed. Who is Lazarus in this story?

- A. a friend Jesus raised from the dead
- B. a rich man dressed in fine linen
- C. a poor beggar at the rich man's gate
- D. the brother of the poor man
- E. an angel who carried the poor man to heaven



Answer: C (See Luke 16:19-31.)

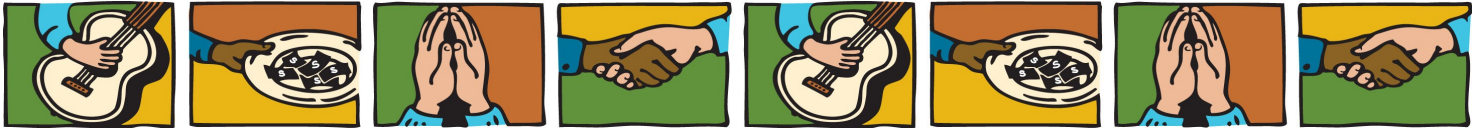
## KITCHEN TEAM



Hey there! We're excited to build a fantastic Kitchen Team to keep our space clean, stocked, and ready for events, including potlucks, meetings, weddings and funerals. Want to be part of this awesome crew at St. Matthew's? Everyone's invited! Once we gather enough enthusiastic folks, we'll meet up to plan and organize our team. Thank you so much for helping us bring this group back to life and taking care of our kitchen! Keep an eye out for the sign-up sheet if you're interested in joining the fun and helping out.

LET US NOT  
BECOME WEARY  
*in doing good.*  
FOR AT THE  
PROPER TIME  
WE WILL REAP  
A HARVEST IF  
WE DO NOT GIVE UP.

GALATIANS 6:9



Here is the worship schedule for July 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!

|                          | July 6                                                                      | July 13                                                                                                     | July 20                                                                                  | July 27                                                  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Season</b>            | 4th Sunday after Pentecost                                                  | 5th Sunday after Pentecost                                                                                  | 6th Sunday after Pentecost                                                               | 7th Sunday after Pentecost                               |
| <b>Service</b>           | <b>Communion in the Absence of a Priest</b>                                 | <b>Holy Eucharist</b>                                                                                       | <b>Holy Eucharist</b>                                                                    | <b>Holy Eucharist</b>                                    |
| <b>Leader s</b>          | Deacon<br>Barbara<br>Gibson                                                 | Fr. Richard<br>Osborne<br>Deacon Barbara                                                                    | Fr. Richard<br>Osborne<br>Deacon Barbara                                                 | Fr. Richard<br>Osborne<br>Deacon Barbara                 |
| <b>LEM&amp; Acolyte</b>  | Maggie Snow<br>Ruth Cooper                                                  | Karen Wall<br>Chris Iserhardt                                                                               | Ruth Cooper<br>Elizabeth Hill                                                            | Fred Schroeder                                           |
| <b>Lector— Lessons</b>   | Jeremy Kitto                                                                | Mary Upton                                                                                                  | Jeremy Kitto                                                                             | Maggie Snow                                              |
| <b>Lector— Psalm</b>     | Darlene Hall                                                                | Maggie Snow                                                                                                 | Elizabeth Hill                                                                           | Mary Upton                                               |
| <b>Ushers (2)</b>        | Melissa Keenan                                                              | Kayla Whiteside                                                                                             | Rick Glover                                                                              | Mary Werner                                              |
|                          | Mary Upton                                                                  | George Whiteside                                                                                            | Mary Upton                                                                               | Melissa Keenan                                           |
| <b>Counters (2)</b>      | Twila Lockaby                                                               | David Simmonds                                                                                              | Mary Upton                                                                               | Margie Knupp                                             |
|                          | Margie Knupp                                                                | Fred Schroeder                                                                                              | Fred Schroeder                                                                           | Twila Lockaby                                            |
| <b>Altar Flowers</b>     | <b>The Rev. Scott Hankins</b><br>“In loving memory of Sam and Vera Hankins” | <b>Oliver J and Carol Geiger</b><br>“In memory of Inez and Watt Geiger by their children and grandchildren” | <b>Jim and Katie Reese</b><br>"In memory of Nomi and Royston Reese and Agnes Lundstrom.” | <b>Ginger and Steve King</b><br>“For blessings received” |
| <b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b> | Open                                                                        | Open                                                                                                        | Chris and Sarah Teichler                                                                 | Elizabeth Hill                                           |
| <b>Organist Flutist</b>  | Chris Teichler<br>Sarah Teichler                                            | Chris Teichler<br>Sarah Teichler                                                                            | Chris Teichler<br>Sarah Teichler                                                         | Kelli Glann<br>Sarah Teichler                            |

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