

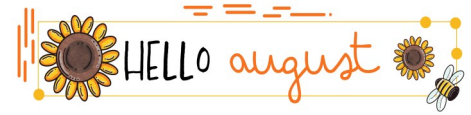


Reaching out
Reaching within
Proclaiming God's Love

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

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

The Messenger



2026

A Note from Fr. Mike Loyd

DOG DAYS HAPPENINGS

The dog days of summer are definitely here. When I told my dog, Millie, that the dog days are named for Sirius, known as the “Dog Star”, which makes its rising appearance during the hot, sultry days of summer, Millie acted like she didn’t much care. I’m not sure I care either, because it’s about this time in summer that I begin looking forward to fall. But things are happening this August which might make these dog days more interesting and fun.

Of course, August means getting ready for school, and I’m proud that St. Matthew’s, due to the dedicated ministry of Melissa Keenan, contributes school supplies to the schools for Newton’s kids. If you haven’t already made a donation of school supplies, please do. And, this year, we are planning to have a watermelon feed and will invite the neighborhood. We would like to have it on the evening that “Meet the Teachers” is scheduled, and we’ll have it out by the new outdoor sign.

August 4 is primary election day, and St. Matthew’s is a polling place; along with the activities of the Payee Program, the church will be a busy place. Also, on August 4, there is a Minster meeting at one of the Wichita churches, and anyone can attend.

On August 18, at 7:00 pm, St. Matthew’s will

host the Team Meeting for the Justice project. Our Justice Team leaders are Rick Beck and Maggie Snow and they will take what they learned at the conference in Florida to begin the next phase. The next phase is the House Meetings, when it will be determined the issues that will be taken to our elected officials for action. Team Leaders from First Mennonite Church and Trinity

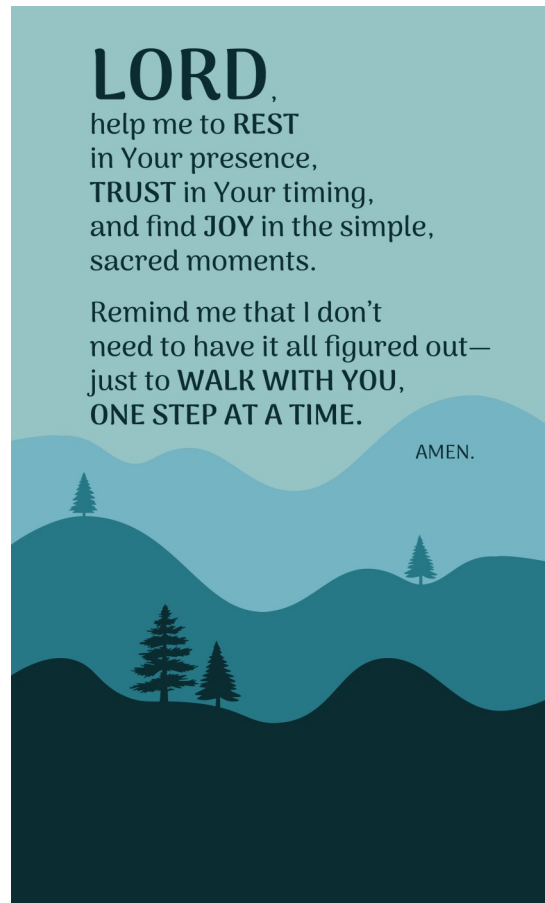
*Dog Days
(Continued on page 3)*

LORD,

help me to REST
in Your presence,
TRUST in Your timing,
and find JOY in the simple,
sacred moments.

Remind me that I don’t
need to have it all figured out—
just to WALK WITH YOU,
ONE STEP AT A TIME.

AMEN.





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.

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2001 Windsor Dr.
P.O. Box 342
Newton, Kansas 67114

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 are Monday and Thursday 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

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

- St. Matthew's Vestry meeting will be Sunday, August 16 after church
- PEF will meet on Sunday, August 30 after church

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 use for when someone asks for help with things like a utility bill, rent, food or gas. Please be generous.

A Prayer for the search of a Bishop for the Diocese of Kansas:

**Almighty God, giver of every good gift:
Look graciously on your church, and so
guide the hearts and minds of those who
search for a new bishop to lead the
Episcopal Diocese of Kansas, that we
may receive a faithful pastor, who will
care for your people and equip us for our
ministries; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.**



**Don't
Forget
Your
Pledge
This Summer**



St. Matthew's Outreach

Food Cart

15 non-perishable food items were delivered to the Salvation Army "Harvest of Love" food bank in the month of July. Please remember those who don't have enough to eat.

Spring UTO

Totals of our United Thank Offering came to \$648.24. Thanks to everyone for helping others worldwide by giving to provide money for grants and to improve quality of life.

Back to School

Back to school totals soon!

Soldiers and Shut Ins

We hope that everyone took the time to read the updates about a few of our wonderful soldiers. Most of them attended St. Mathew's growing up. We are so blessed and proud to know them! Please keep all of them in your prayers!

Our Shut In board is in need of more faces to adorn it. If you have a relative, loved one, or friend that cannot get out, please let us know. They will receive cards and visits.

Birthday Cards

Bill Swendson was thrilled to receive a few cards from us for his 95th birthday on July 22nd. He had a wonderful day with family and friends, and LOTS of balloons...at the retirement community in Lawrence

*Dog Days(
Continued from page 1)*

Heights Methodist Church will also attend the Team Meeting at St. Matthew's.

We have four candidates to become the next Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas. You can learn about the four candidates by going to the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas website. I'm excited about the candidates and what they will bring to our churches and communities. We will elect our next bishop at our Diocesan Convention in October. In the meantime, there will be a Question and Answer Session at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Wichita, Thursday, September 17 from 7:30-9:00 pm.

The candidates for our next bishop are:
The Reverend Grant Ambrose, rector at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in York, PA.

The Reverend Dr. David Gortner, rector at St. Luke Episcopal Church in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

The Reverend Canon Whitney Rice, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Missouri, St. Louis, MO.

The Reverend Canon Lisa Senuta, Canon for Spiritual Life and Clergy Care, Diocese of Kansas.

Even though we're in the dog days, a lot is going on, and the month will go fast. And before we know it, it will be fall and time for Chiefs football. Life is good.



Altar Guild Team for August

Karen Wall, Melissa Keenan,
George & Kala Whiteside, Ginger King

Altar Flowers for August 2026

August 2

Mary Anne and Scott McCloud
"for blessings received"

August 9

Ruth Cooper
"To the Glory of God"

August 16

Elizabeth Hill

"In loving memory of Mary and Elmer Weyand"

August 23

Rich Stinnett and Charlie Robinson
"for blessings received"

August 30

Darlene Hall

"In memory of Charles and Dorothy Elliot"

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





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.

August Birthdays

August 6—George Whiteside
August 7 - Charles Craig
August 8 - Daniel Teichler
August 9 - Darlene Hall
August 10 - Elizabeth Hill
August 11 - Benjamin Teichler
August 12 - Alison Loyd
August 14 - Clay Hedrick, Jr., Vince Collier
August 22 - Creed Ekerberg
August 23 - Connie Osborne, Maggie Tyner
August 29 - Joe Robb, Taten Penner

August Baptisms

August 6 - Lance Taylor Woodward, Scott McCloud
August 11—Asa Garner
August 24 - Caleb Woodward
August 29—Mariah Dove, Valerie McCutcheon

August Confirmations

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.

August 2026 Coffee Hour Hosts



August 2 - Rochelle, Rick and
Brooke Glover
August 9 - Mary Anne and Scott McCloud
August 16 - Darla and Steve Stonehouse
August 23 - OPEN
August 30 - Melissa Keenan

Please sign up to host coffee hour, or make a cash donation to help offset costs of coffee and supplies. Treats are also welcome! Thanks!!

St. Matthew's Prayer Chain

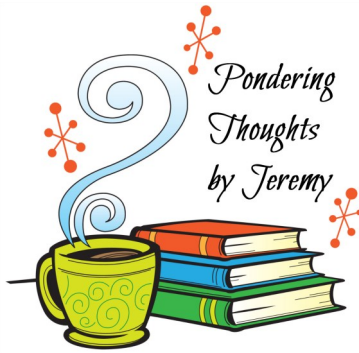


If you have a request for prayers for yourself or others, contact Mary Upton at **316-841-1736**. The information you share will then be passed on to the chain leaders who will pass the information on to their team. The members of the chain will add your request to their prayers. The information you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



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 picking up 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's hot! Thank you for doing your part to help our neighbors.



*Pondering
Thoughts
by Jeremy*

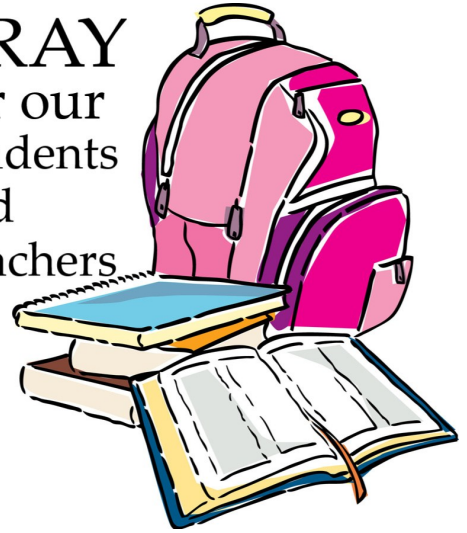
Love Song to Torah: Psalm 119

Psalm 119 is recited each year at the Feast of Shavuot, fifty days after Passover, celebrating the giving of the Torah - Law - to Moses at Sinai during the wilderness wanderings. This poetic masterpiece was composed by a highly skilled literary artist, employing an alphabetic acrostic to fully express love for the Torah. Adele Berlin explains that this type of acrostic is more than a mere alphabet, it is "the entire alphabet, the source of all words. One cannot actually use all the words in a language, but by using the alphabet one uses all potential words."

Psalm 119 has been described as a love song to the Torah. A love song is 'fundamentally a lyrical, musical, or poetic expression of romantic love. It conveys feelings that are often difficult to articulate in everyday language, allowing listeners to connect with emotions such as desire, admiration, vulnerability, or loss' (Merriam-Webster). 'Love songs serve as a medium to explore the interior landscape of human emotion, translating complex feelings into melody and words' (uDiscoverMusic).

During the month of August, set aside some time to read Psalm 119 and make the psalmist's experience your own. Let the emotions of desire, admiration, and vulnerability for the Torah consume you. I will be praying for you.

PRAY for our Students and Teachers



A Child's Favorite Word

A 6-year-old boy attended a church conference with his parents. After listening for a short while, he began to fidget in his seat. To help him settle down, his mother handed him a notepad and pencil and suggested he make a mark every time the speaker said the word "and."

Before long, the boy grew restless again. "Would you like to listen for a different word?" his mother whispered.

"Yes," he replied. "I'd like to listen for 'Amen.'"



Thy word is a
lamp unto my
feet, and a light
unto my path.

Psalm 119:105, KJV



Are you looking to deepen your faith?

Do you want to know more about the Bible, Christian Tradition, and Church History? Are you hoping to understand how your personal experiences and beliefs bring you closer to God and God's people?

If "Yes," EfM (Education for Ministry) may be for you.

EfM is a four-year Christian Formation program (taken one year at a time) founded and administered through the School of Theology of the University of the South at Seawane. Through study, prayer, worship, and reflection, EfM seminar groups journey together through scripture, church history, and theology.

A seminar group can be comprised a mentor (Deacon Barbara Gibson) and up to twelve participants. The group meets weekly for 36 times at St. Matthew's beginning the Wednesday after Labor Day, September 9.

Years 1 & 2 study the Hebrew Scriptures, the Gospels, and the New Testament. Year 3 looks at Church History. Year 4 studies Christian ethics and systematic theology, developing and enhancing their own practice. Wide-Angle is a 1-year "taste" of the traditional four years of the program.

Registration is now open for the 2026-2027 year. If you would like to register or would like more information, please contact Deacon Barbara Gibson

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Who was Bartholomew?

On August 24, the church commemorates St. Bartholomew:

Among the twelve disciples, Bartholomew remains one of the more intriguing figures, known more through connections than detailed accounts. Though he is not named in the Gospel of John, many scholars believe he is the same person as Nathanael, who appears only in John's Gospel.

This connection is often made because Philip introduces Nathanael to Jesus in John, while Bartholomew is consistently listed alongside Philip in Matthew, Mark and Luke. When Nathanael meets Jesus, the Lord declares, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" (John 1:47, NKJV).

Outside of Scripture, early church historian Eusebius provides one of the earliest references to Bartholomew's ministry. He records that Bartholomew brought a Hebrew version of Matthew's Gospel to believers in India. Tradition also holds that Bartholomew preached in regions such as Mesopotamia, Persia, Egypt and Armenia.

His death is remembered as a martyrdom. According to longstanding tradition, Bartholomew was either beheaded or flayed alive and then crucified upside down. His life and witness reflect bold faith and enduring commitment to the Gospel.

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

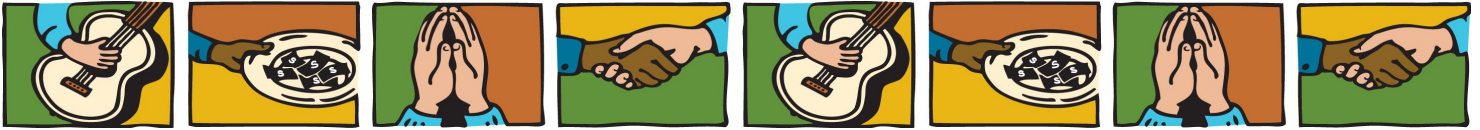
Jesus said that his followers are the "light of the world" (Matthew 5:14). It wouldn't do much good to hide a light under a bushel, he said. It should be put on a lamp-stand to give light in the house. Then Jesus said, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see ..."



Choose the ending of Jesus' sentence:

- A. their way and not stumble.
- B. how good and faithful you are as my servants.
- C. your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.
- D. in their darkness.

Answer: C (Matthew 5:16, NIV)



Here is the worship schedule for August. 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!

	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
Season	10th Sunday after Pentecost	11th Sunday after Pentecost	12th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Vestry Meeting</i>	13th Sunday after Pentecost	14th Sunday after Pentecost
Service	Holy Eucharist	Holy Eucharist	Holy Eucharist Healing Service	Holy Eucharist	Holy Eucharist
Leaders	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara	Fr. Mike Loyd Deacon Barbara
LEM& Acolyte	Maggie Snow Elizabeth Hill	Karen Wall Ruth Cooper	Ruth Cooper Karen Wall	Fred Schroeder	Mary Anne McCloud Ruth Cooper
Lector— Lessons	Jeremy Kitto	Bonnie Jones	Mary Upton	Ruth Cooper	Mary Anne McCloud
Lector— Psalm	Elizabeth Hill	Darlene Hall	Mary Anne McCloud	Jeremy Kitto	Bonnie Jones
Ushers (2)	Mary Upton	Mary Upton	Melissa Keenan	Bonnie Jones	Melissa Keenan
	Melissa Keenan	Bonnie Jones	Bonnie Jones	Mary Upton	Mary Werner
Counters (2)	Mary Anne McCloud	Margie Knupp	David Simmonds	Elizabeth Hill	Margie Knupp
	David Simmonds	Fred Schroeder	Margie Knupp	Fred Schroeder	Mary Anne McCloud
Altar Flowers	Mary Anne and Scott McCloud <i>“for blessings received”</i>	Ruth Cooper <i>“To the Glory of God”</i>	Elizabeth Hill <i>“In loving memory of Mary and Elmer Weyand”</i>	Rich Stinnett and Charlie Robinson <i>“for blessings received”</i>	Darlene Hall <i>“In memory of Charles and Dorothy Elliot”</i>
Coffee Hour Hosts	Rochelle, Rick and Brooke Glover	Mary Anne and Scott McCloud	Darla and Steve Stonehouse	Open	Melissa Keenan
Organist Flutist	Kelli Glann	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler	Kelli Glann Sarah Teichler	Chris Teichler Sarah Teichler

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