

SAINT MATTHIAS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Saint Matthias Messenger

Published Monthly

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Saint Matthias Episcopal Church
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Office Hours

Monday-Friday
10AM-4 PM

Holy Eucharist

Sundays at 8 AM

Holy Eucharist

Sundays at 10 AM

10 AM Services Streamed at
facebook.com/stmatthiaswhittier

St. Matthias and I

I have been coming to St. Matthias for over twenty years. I chose to start coming to St. Matthias because I was lost and floundering and wanted to find a place where I can worship and find peace and solace and it is close to where I live. Really just a five minute drive or an 8 minute walk away. That too was an inducement in my choice of St. Matthias.

All I wanted when I started to attend services at St. Matthias was to find a sense of peace and purpose and just a place to prayer. I did not want to get involved beyond just being there on a Sunday morning. Church on Sunday was good enough and that's all I thought I wanted or needed.

No need to get more involved and no need to get to know other church goers at the coffee hour. I was out of there and in the parking lot and in my car five minutes after the last hymn was sung. I would be on my way home or on my way to run errands until the next Sunday. That's

how I envisioned things to be but the best laid plans is not God's plan and He had other ideas for me.

To my surprise when Bruce Gray, the priest at the time, asked for a volunteer for the Soup Hour, I found myself saying, yes I will do it! I showed up on a Monday afternoon and Marilyn and Ted Summersett were the other volunteers there and they quickly took me and my husband under their wing.

What that meant was answering a lot of probing questions about us and what we were doing and why. At the same time Marilyn and Ted were assessing our abilities in the kitchen and whether we were willing to wash all the pots and pans used while preparing the meal to be served at 3pm. I guessed we passed their assessment as we went on to prepare and serve a meal on Mondays for years to come.

And from then on, St. Matthias continued to draw me in and my non involvement once a Sunday only policy was thrown out of the window. So if you too are thinking I don't want to do anything more than come to church on Sunday, think again as there is something for everyone at St. Matthias.

There is a Stitchery Group that meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month and any one, regardless of gender are welcome to just show up and knit, sew, embroider, do cross stitch, crochet or whatever makes you happy.

If you would like to have some companionship and to share a sandwich for lunch, the St. Elizabeth's Guild would be the perfect group to share a quick bite with. They meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at noon in the Chapel.

If you need safe pair of ears to rant and rave to or someone to turn to for comfort and solace, seek out a Stephen Minister. They are trained to listen and to be there for you in your time of need.

There are also book clubs where ideas and opinions can be exchanged and a place where men can go to eat badly without being chastised for their dietary choices.

If you wish to spent a couple of hours helping out the less fortunate, just ask Sophie and she will schedule you to help in the office or the Soup Hour.

There is also the Pastoral Committee who are quick to send flowers when an illness or misfortune strikes. I know as I had flowers delivered to me when I tripped over my sleeping dog in the night and ended up with a black eye when I fell on the floor. Of course, that is not all they do. The committee also manages the beautiful annual Feast of Lights which honors and remembers those who have passed.

And I could go on and on but won't, as I am sure everyone is aware of all the groups that meet and get together on a regular basis at St. Matthias. Try out some of them or all of them. You might just surprise yourself at how much enjoyment you might find, and since attendance is not compulsory, you can come and go as you please. I know we all have a life outside of the St. Matthias but it is also a blessing to have a life within St. Matthias as it is while sharing and praying with one another that we grow in Christ and find the peace that passes all understanding.

Take care everyone and God Bless.

WeiSan Mohindar



Food For Thought

Jesus' question to Andrew and John is a good question for us.

[They ask Jesus the day after Jesus was baptized.] "What are you looking for?" It's a profoundly simple question which has successive levels of depth.

Plumb the depths. Let that question form your prayer to Jesus.

He asks you, "What are you looking for?"

And you respond.

And then he asks you, "Why?" And you respond.

And then he asks you again, "Why?"

Keep plumbing the depths in your response, and you'll eventually get down to what is real, real about you and real about Jesus.

It's what we call "the real presence," the two of you, really being present to one another.

From Br. Curtis Almquist, SSJE, 1/15/23

This offering leaves plenty of room or food, for thought.

Fred



Kevin McKelvie will be presenting a Noon Time Lenten Series Organ Recital on Friday March 22nd at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert, CA at 12:00 Noon. Admission is FREE with a complimentary light lunch provided following the 30 minute program.

St. Margaret's is at 47535 CA-74 in Palm Desert.

If you can't make it is person, please hold him in your prayers. He will be playing the **Sonata on the 94th Psalm** by Julius Reubke, there will be a lot of notes flying around. 😊

Kevin



For many, many years, during the annual rainy season, St. Matthias has experienced very expensive roof repairs over the Church portion of our facility. We are again faced with this situation and the vestry, after much debate and discussion, has authorized the replacement of the complete roof over the church area. This will eliminate future expensive roof repair.

You may ask the question: "Where are we getting the funds to do this major work, when our budget is only allowing us (at this time) to hire a part time priest?" This is a very legitimate question and deserves a straight forward answer. It is the vestry's responsibility to keep the congregation apprised of what is happening at St. Matthias.

Many years ago St. Matthias established a "Futures Fund" to take care of future needs of the church. This fund was and still is designed to fund major Capital Expenditures and funding of new ministries. The fund does not allow spending for every day operating expenses. Currently the fund has grown to over \$500,000.00. Your vestry has been very careful over the years not to tap into this fund.

These current roofing problems can be considered as a major project, especially with the current weather predictions. We have contacted three (3) reputable roofing contractors and are currently waiting for their responses.

So, when you start seeing people tearing up our roof, please understand the situation and the source of funding to do the repairs. *Stan Jamieson*

Article from the St. Matthias Treasurer

On February 11, 2024 the 2024 budget was presented at the Annual Meeting. We are moving in a positive direction with pledged income and fairly steady rental income. Our 2023 financials end of year reports showed we stayed under budget overall and "in the black". We have a large, unexpected expenditure looming in our future that concerns our roof repairs. Vestry has approved obtaining some estimates on re-roofing the church (nave and sanctuary area) as the recent rains have illuminated additional leaks.

For 2024 our budget is not "balanced", and we expect about a \$55,000 deficit by the end of 2024. This deficit may shrink depending on when in the year we are able to call a new rector. In Kathy Underwood's presentation at the Annual Meeting, we learned that we can only offer a salary for a half-time Rector. I will continue to post the monthly financial reports in the display case in St. Francis patio.

I am grateful to you all for your generous support of the ministries of St. Matthias to be able to continue to "do the loving thing". I am especially grateful for the expert finance group of Liz Villalva, Carol McCracken, Diana Jimenez, Mona Paladino and Sophie McIntosh.

Mary Jean Christian
Treasurer



Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday	March 28 th	7pm	Rev. Valerie Hart
Good Friday	March 29 th	Noon	Rev. Rob Bethancourt
Good Friday	March 29 th	7pm	Rev. Valerie Hart
Easter Sunday	March 31 st	8am	Rev. Hartshorn Murphy
Easter Sunday	March 31 st	10am	Rev. Hartshorn Murphy

(The office will be closed April 1st through April 5th.)

Recipe Corner

LaVerne Edmunds shares this recipe for Ham Glaze to try on our Easter Hams.

Prep Time: 10 minutes.

Cook Time: 2 hours

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (5 to 7 lb.) fully cooked smoked ham
- 1 1/2 cups Smucker's® Strawberry Preserves
- 1/3 cup prepared mustard
- 1/4 cup lemon juice

DIRECTIONS


1. HEAT oven to 325°F. Score fat surface of ham with sharp knife, making uniform diagonal cuts about 1/8-inch deep and 3/4-inch apart.
2. PLACE ham fat side up on rack in shallow roasting pan; bake 1 1/4 to 2 1/4 hours.
3. COMBINE preserves, mustard and lemon juice in small saucepan; cook over low heat, stirring until blended.
4. BRUSH ham with about 1/2 cup glaze during last 20 minutes of baking time. Let ham stand 10 minutes for easier slicing. Heat remaining glaze and serve as a sauce for the ham.

?? ? ? ?

Bible Quiz

The "Christ hymn" in Philippians 2 proclaims that after Jesus humbled himself even to the point of death, God exalted him, and that eventually all will worship him. What two body parts are named as part of that worship?

A. knee; tongue
B. hands; feet
C. arms; lips
D. heart; mouth

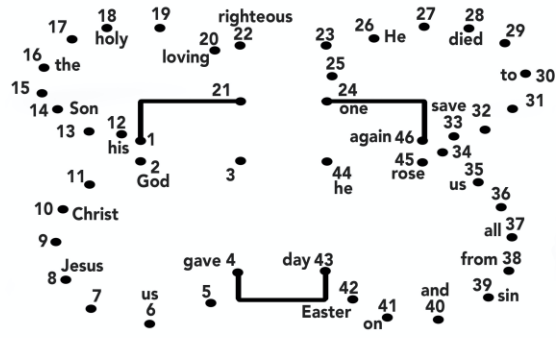


Answer: A (See Philippians 2:10-11.)



Puzzle!

Connect the dots to find two symbols of Easter. Then write the words in the correct blanks to complete an Easter poem.



2	4	6	8	10	12	14
16	18	20	22	24		
26	28	30	33	35	37	38
40	41	42	43	44	45	46

Answer: God gave us Jesus Christ, his Son, the holy, loving, righteous one. He died to save us all from sin, and on Easter day he rose again.

MARCH SERVICES, EVENTS, & SMALL GROUPS

SUNDAYS AT 8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist (in-person only)

SUNDAYS AT 10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist (in-person and streaming live at
facebook.com/stmatthiaswhittier)

BIBLE STUDY/MORNING PRAYER: Wednesdays 10am, Chapel

MEN EATING BADLY: Saturday, February 2nd, 8:00 a.m. Greenleaf Café. Contact Tim Adams.

OUR TIME: Tuesday, March 12th, 2p.m. Contact Mary Jean Christian.

VESTRY MEETING: Tuesday March 12th, 7:00 p.m. Chapel.

STITCHERY GROUP: Saturday, March 16th, 9:00 a.m. Chapel. Contact Ellen Mykkanen.

ST. ELIZABETH'S GUILD: Thursday, March 21st · Noon, Chapel, Contact Diana Jimenez.

BIBLIOPHILE: Tuesday March 19th , 6:30 p.m.. On Zoom, Contact Fred Adams.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW) Saturday, March 23rd , 10a.m. Chase Room.

LENTEN STUDIES AND POTLUCKS: Thursdays, 6:30 on March 7, 14 and 21, Lewis Hall

MAUNDY THURSDAY: Thursday, March 28th, 7pm Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: Friday, March 29th , Noon Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: Friday, March 29th , 7pm Sanctuary

CENTURY 21[®]

Cornerstone



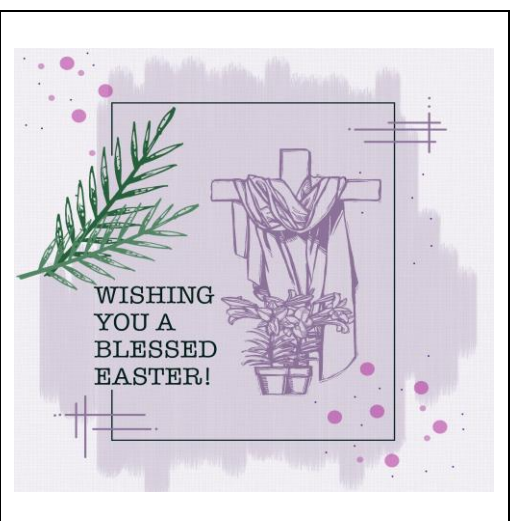
Alan Selmanaj

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Sunday Worship at St. Matthias: March 2024

March 3 Exodus 20:1-17, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22, Psalm 19

March 10 Numbers 21: 4-9, Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

March 17 Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33 Psalm 51: 1-13

March 24 Isaiah 50:4-9a, Philippians 2:5-11, Mark 14:1-15:47, Psalm 31:9-16

March 28 Exodus 12:1-4, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-17, 31b-35, Psalm 116:1, 10-17

March 29 Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Hebrews 10:16-25, John 18:1-19:42, Psalm 22

March 31 Isaiah 25: 6-9, Acts 10:34-43, Mark 16: 1-8, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

We look forward to offering our worship services on more than one platform for streaming in the near future. We are awaiting new equipment that will allow us to do so. So please be patient and stay with us till that happens.

MARCH 2024

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