

SAINT MATTHIAS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Saint Matthias Messenger

Published Monthly

Volume 16 Issue 8 - August 2019



Saint Matthias Episcopal Church
7056 Washington Avenue
Whittier, CA 90602
(562) 698-9741

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
9:00^{AM} - 4:00^{PM}

Rector
The Rev. Bill Garrison
Bill@stmatthiaswhittier.org

Church e-mail:
office@stmatthiaswhittier.org
Web Page:

<http://www.stmatthiaswhittier.org>

Sunday Worship Services
8:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist
10:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist

Saturday Worship Service
The First Saturday of the Month
5:00pm - Healing Service

Wednesday Bible Study
10:00^{AM}
Wednesday Eucharist
11:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist



“You wanna sing kum-by-ya?”

CNN has a documentary series called “The Redemption Project.” It’s not intended to have a religious theme. No “Highway to Heaven” here. But it truly shows God at work in powerful and tangible ways.

Aldo and Mario’s father was murdered during a robbery on June 30, 2008. He saw a kid demanding money from a woman in a parking lot at gunpoint. So he pulled out his own gun and shouted at him to stop. The kid turned, shot their dad and killed him. Sixteen-year-old Dominick fled with the money convinced that it was their dad’s own fault that he got shot. He shouldn’t have pulled a gun on him.

Aldo describes getting the news and struggling to control his own emotions long enough to tell his son that he wouldn’t see his grandpa again before falling apart himself. Mario was immediately angry and stayed that way throughout the trial that saw Dominick convicted as an adult and sent to prison for several decades. The prison doors clanged shut on Dominick, but Aldo and Mario were in prisons of their own – for ten years.

The series was created by attorney Van Jones who wanted to “put some medicine on” what he saw as poisonous aspects of our current culture that embraces isolation and anger. It concerned him that “empathy, grace, compassion and forgiveness are no longer trendy.” So he invited families like Aldo’s and Mario’s and convicted felons like Dominick to join in an underground movement called “restorative justice.” Instead of locking wrong doers up and throwing away the key, restorative justice begins the process of humanizing the victims to the wrong-doer and the wrong-doer to the victims, something that doesn’t happen in the legal system. The tools for doing this are simple, honest and open conversation: “why did you do this?” “do you get what this means to me and my family?” You know you get to restorative justice, according the Jones, when the victims get answers and the wrong-doer takes responsibility.

Before meeting with Dominick, Aldo says he wants details about his father’s last moments on earth and “hopes and prays that Dominick can do something good.” Mario isn’t ready to forgive. He is adamant that he isn’t going to “hold hands and sing kum-by-ya” Hopes and prayers, he says, only get you so far. “It’s an evil world.” Dominick knows they see him as a monster and hopes to change that but he’s not confident. And he’s scared. But the critical piece is that all three are willing to engage the process.

Instead of the arrogant teenager of 10 year ago, Aldo and Mario find a 26-year old man who remembers their expressions of pain spoken in court at his sentencing. On his first day in prison, Dominick wrote down their words and each year on June 30th he has taken them out and re-read them. He acknowledges the damage he has caused them.

Welcome to Matthew 25

*“For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink;
I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me;
I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.”*

He answers all their questions. He asks for their forgiveness. And they give it to him. "Hope heals everything." Dominick says. "This is a blessing. This is God's work."

There is virtually nothing I can add to this scenario. It tells us everything we need to know about God working in us when we are open and courageous enough to set aside the emotions that freeze our hearts and instead make space for God to act. The impact we have on each other that wounds us doesn't have to stay that way. Dominick, Aldo and Mario are living proof of what can come when we see each other as God sees us – beloved and forgiven regardless of what we have done or has been done to us.

Not all of The Redemption Project's documentaries end this well. For some participants, the journey from heartbreak to hope takes longer. But no one, according to Jones, regrets taking a step in the direction of restorative justice.

The final scene for these three men, emerging through hope into justice, finds them arm-in-arm. Mario smiles and asks "you wanna sing kum-by-ya?"

Carole+

It Matters

An old man was walking along the ocean shoreline one morning after a very high tide. As he walked along, he saw hundreds of starfish that had been washed ashore and realized that they would die if they were not returned to the sea. But there were so many, there was no way to save them. Suddenly he saw a young boy bending over, picking something up and throwing it into the water. He approached the young boy and realized that the boy was methodically bending down, picking up a starfish and throwing it into the ocean, and repeating this same process again and again. The old man stopped the boy and asked him why he was bothering. What difference would it make? There were simply too many starfish. The boy looked at the old man, bent down and picked up another starfish and threw it into the ocean. As he did so, he said, "It makes a difference to that one."

Sock Drive

The Episcopal Church Women are devoting the entire month of August to our annual sock drive. There will be a collection basket in the narthex each Sunday morning, and socks can also be dropped off at the church office during business hours. Men's white crew socks are preferred. Think big and buy lots of them!

Carol Frohnappfel, ECW Co-facilitator

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers can provide care for people with several types of needs. Today lets discuss two of the types of needs.

CRISIS CARE

Crisis care is the caring ministry people think about first in describing pastoral care. Persons in crisis come readily in mind as possible care receivers for Stephen Ministers. These crisis include the following: hospitalization, terminal illness, death of a loved one, unemployment, divorce, severe financial setback, natural disaster, aftermath of a fire, retirement, stress of moving, being a victim of a crime,

FOLLOW UP CARE

Often when a person goes through a crisis they receive a lot of attention and support. The Church, family, neighbors, and others will be there to help. What about a couple of months later? Typically the level of attention, support and care drops off, but the persons need for care may well grow. That's why the follow up care that Stephen Ministers provide is so valuable. They focus on one care receiver, so their attention cannot be drawn away by another need for care. They also continue the caring relationship for as long as the care receiver needs it.

As we always stress, your caring relationship with a Stephen Minister is always kept extremely confidential.

So, if you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis and would like a listening and caring Stephen Minister please contact Fr. Bill or Rev. Carole.

This is worth repeating: ***We Always Keep God As The Center Piece Of Our Caring Ministry.***

Stan Jamieson - Stephen Leader

FROM OUR PARISH PROFILE

10 YEARS AGO

Demographics

- + Of the 70 who responded, 80 % attend services nearly every Sunday.
- + 72 % are over 66.
- + 75 % are retired.
- + 69 % are female.
- + 55 % are married, but 30 % are widowed.
- + 84 % are college graduates; half of those have graduate degrees.
- + Half live about 10 miles from the church; only 20 % live in uptown Whittier.

Kyrie

Worship at Saint Matthias August 2019

- + 8:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- + 9:00^{AM} - Adult Christian Education
- + 10:00^{AM} - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- + 10:00^{AM} - "The Works" - Children's Education

August 4 The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23, Psalm 49:1-11, Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21

August 11 The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Genesis 15:1-6, Psalm 33:12-22, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40

August 18 The Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Jeremiah 23:23-29, Psalm 82, Hebrews 11:29-12:2, Luke 12:49-56

August 25 The Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Isaiah 58:9b-14, Psalm 103:1-8, Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17

Futures Fund

It would be well to re-acquaint ourselves on just exactly what the futures fund is and does. This fund is an endowment set up specifically for taking care of the future of St. Matthias. This fund is being built primarily thru legacies and memorials. When fully funded it will support new ministries and major capital needs of St. Matthias. It will never be used for operating expenses. Planned giving can be opportunities including bequests in wills and trusts, cash gifts, life insurance gifts and gifts of property and other assets. No expenditures can be made without the approval of your Vestry.

On page 445 of the Book of Common Prayer it states:

"It is the duty of Christians to make prudent provisions for the well-being of their families and of all persons to make wills, while they are in good health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."

Following are a few planning mistakes:

- Procrastination
- Not using a living trust
- Not keeping your plan up to date
- Not being a "savvy" giver

So, when you are making out your will or living trust don't forget St. Matthias.

If you have any questions or would like to find out how you can contribute, not only spiritually, but also by becoming a philanthropist please contact one of the following members of the futures committee: Larry Christian, Doug Halliday, Mike Taylor, Stan Jamieson or Fr. Bill Garrison. ~ *Stan Jamieson*



From The Sr. Warden's Desk

Summer has started with a bang! Fourth of July celebrations are behind us and we are quickly moving our attention to the heart of this season. Temperatures are warming and vacation plans are giving way to actually hitting the air, rails, seas and highways for our respective getaways. Prayers abound for safe travels and adventures for everyone.

In the meantime, activities at St. Matthias are continuing at a busy pace. Our St. Matthias Youth had a full week of activity during Vacation Bible School at the end of June. They made major contributions to the St. Francis Garden as they cultivated the soil and planted new flowers. Thanks to Sally Schacht, the parents of each of the kids and, of course, the wonderful kids of St. Matthias, for a job well done. They were true to the theme of the weeklong program to follow Christ as the Guardian of the Galaxy.

Thanks to everyone for making a conscientious effort when visiting St. Matthias to ensure our security by taking that extra look over our shoulder to see to it that the doors close behind you. The stray cat problem continues but it appears things are improving slowly. Continue to be aware of the ongoing need to keep our Parish safe. Even little things like making sure the doors are shut go a long way toward keeping undesirable elements away.

On a very few occasions, in conjunction with a holiday, St. Matthias Soup Hour shuts down for some much needed and well deserved time off. This Fourth of July, the staff took the holiday and the day after. So, in order to provide many needed meals to our Soup Hour faithful, some 15 to 20 members of our congregation pitched in to prepare and assemble sack lunches and serve them to close to 80 recipients. Had our members not stepped up to fulfill this opportunity, many Soup Hour attendees may have gone as many as four days without a meal. In addition to providing an opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in the community, it provided an opportunity for fellowship, and it was a moment of great joy for all who participated. Those who responded to Rev. Carole's request on Sunday, June 30, truly fulfilled Jesus' charge set forth in the Gospel of Matthew 25:40, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Father Bill visited us while we were serving sack lunches. He is doing well and he looks like he is getting much needed rest and rejuvenation. He is enjoying his time away, while at the same time staying involved in some very exciting possibilities for St. Matthias.

Soon we will begin to see strategically placed trash receptacles throughout our parish campus. The intent of these trash bins is to encourage us to dispose of our trash more wisely. Signage adjacent to each will provide guidance as to how to appropriately utilize them. We, too, can share in the mission of the Guardian of the Galaxy – by caring for the planet God has given us.

Among the upcoming events for you to keep in mind is the Soup Hour Fund Raiser on September 28, 2019. This year's event promises to be something entirely different from what we've done the past several years. It will be a fun-filled night with great food and entertainment.

Confirmation Class will begin Sunday, September 9. If you are considering becoming a member at St. Matthias, or if you would like to learn more about the Episcopal Church and what and why we are, join us for this lively and informative learning opportunity. Classes will prepare potential confirmands for a very special confirmation service led by Bishop

John Harvey Taylor.



Mark Sunday, October 13, 2019 for the 8AM and/or the 10AM Worship service. Bishop John Harvey Taylor, Bishop Los Angeles of the Los Angeles Episcopal Diocese will join us in worship for both services that Sunday. The 10AM service will be followed by a reception for Bishop Taylor in Lewis Hall. This is a significant date on our church calendar. Please be sure to plan on joining us and sharing our hospitality with Bishop Taylor.

Tim Adams, Senior Warden



PUZZLE

GOD'S MORNING ROUTINE

Every new day, we wake up to blessings from God.

Directions: Use the clues to fill in the words. Then write the boxed letters in order below to complete Lamentations 3:22-23, NIV.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Brush these daily | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do this to your shoes | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> |
| This rises in the east | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| Cold breakfast food | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| Hot breakfast food | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Talk to God | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| Morning meal | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Extend your limbs | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| Fruit drink | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Waffle machine | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Eat these scrambled or fried | _____ <input type="checkbox"/> |



Because of the LORD's great love...
 never fail. They are
 new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23, NIV

Answer: teeth, tie, sun, cereal, oatmeal, pray, breakfast, stretch, juice, iron, eggs, his compassions

We Need To Know

Please let the clergy know of any members of the parish that are unable to come to church and would like to receive communion. **The Office now schedules the Lay Eucharistic Visitors and wants to include all who need a visit. Please contact Dottie or Father Bill in the Parish Office to schedule a visit.**

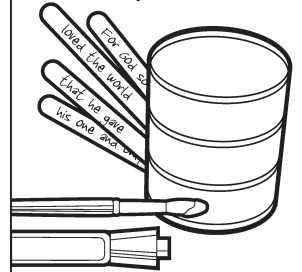
If you know of someone who has been admitted to a hospital, remember to inform the clergy. With the new privacy laws, the clergy can no longer check the roster for parishioners that may be hospitalized. It is "Better We Know Twice Than Not At All!"

Support Our Advertisers

Each issue of the Saint Matthias Messenger is printed at no cost to our Parish, thanks to C&M Church Publications. They are able to do this by selling a single page of advertising in each issue. Please check the back of each issue's calendar and if you are in need of a service listed, consider using one of our supporters.

WAKE-UP WORDS

Play this memory game to start each day in God's Word.



What you need:

- Paint and paint brushes
- Stickers
- An empty, clean tin can
- Permanent marker
- Bible
- Wooden craft sticks

What you do:

1. Paint and decorate the outside of the can.
2. With marker, write a Bible verse on several sticks (only two or three words per stick).
3. Put the sticks in the can, and set it in a spot you'll see daily. As you eat or brush your teeth, practice unscrambling the verse and placing sticks in the correct order.
4. When you've memorized the verse, repeat with a new one.

Saint Matthias Staff

Rector

Fr. Bill Garrison

Associate

Rev. Carole Horton-Howe

Associate

Rev. Carolyn Estrada

Deacon

Rev. Kay Lozano

Youth / Senior Ministries

Sally Schacht

Music Director

Kevin McKelvie

Parish Administrator

Dottie Andersen

Facilities Manager

Ben Gonzalez

Treasurer

Kathel Harris

Bookkeeper

Kent Meyers

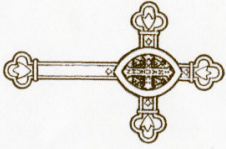
Special Dates in August



From Rev Kay Lozano
Here is a history of the Origin of the Episcopal
Cross in the Diocese of South Dakota.



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOUTH DAKOTA

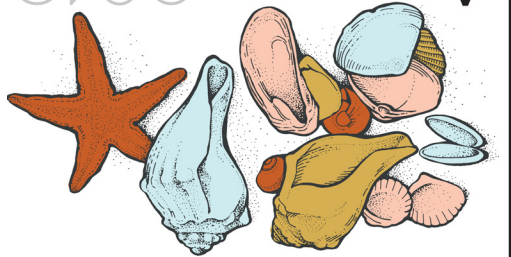


The Diocese of South Dakota is unique in the Episcopal Church. The Indian ministry of the Episcopal Church here really began with the Minnesota Uprising of 1862. After years of government treachery and deceit, the Santee people rose up and broke free of the Minnesota Valley reservation. Many lives were lost, and despite the fact that Christians among the Santee saved the lives of missionaries and some settlers, all of the surviving Indians were imprisoned and later expelled to the Dakota Territory.

Episcopal Deacon Samuel Himman, who had served the Santee people in Minnesota for three years, accompanied them to South Dakota. The chaos of the Civil War, however, prevented the establishment of a new jurisdiction until 1871, when the Missionary District of Niobrara was created. William Hobart Hare, the first Bishop of Niobrara, was consecrated in 1873. Bishop Hare designed a Niobrara Cross to give to each new Indian Christian, inscribed: *That they may have life.*

*Redesigning
a Rev. Kay*

August 2019



Saint Matthias Episcopal Church
7056 Washington Avenue
Whittier, CA 90602
(562) 698-9741
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL



Non-Profit
Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #204
Whittier, CA