

# SAINT MATTHIAS

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## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Saint Matthias Messenger

Published Monthly

Volume 16 Issue 2 - February 2019



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

**Office Hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
9:00<sup>AM</sup> - 4:00<sup>PM</sup>

**Rector**  
The Rev. Bill Garrison  
[Bill@stmatthiaswhittier.org](mailto:Bill@stmatthiaswhittier.org)

Church e-mail:  
[office@stmatthiaswhittier.org](mailto:office@stmatthiaswhittier.org)  
Web Page:

<http://www.stmatthiaswhittier.org>

**Sunday Worship Services**  
8:00<sup>AM</sup> - Morning Prayer with Eucharist  
10:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist Rite II

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

**Wednesday Bible Study**  
10:00<sup>AM</sup>  
Wednesday Eucharist  
11:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist



## Hearing God's Call

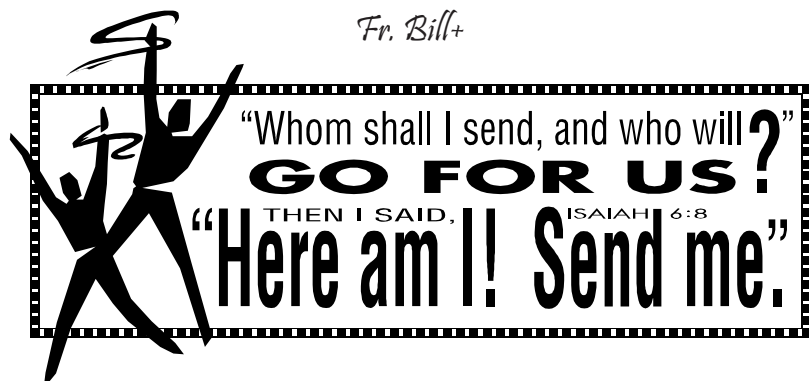
As I write this please know that all of us at St. Matthias witnessed the ordination of Carole Horton-Howe to the priesthood on Saturday. She is such a wonderful gift from God to our parish. And then on Sunday we witnessed the baptism of Jacob and Aubrey Warner. Finally, as icing on the cake Sunday we heard from both Carol and Nate Warner the children's father, regarding God's call to each of them as they approached the idea of ordination and baptism respectively.

So I was reminded that each of us, without exception is called by God to some sort of ministry and action. How then do we discern God's voice separate from all the other noise that surrounds us daily? Here is what I had to say about that Sunday after Carole and Nate spoke. Perhaps it will be helpful to you.

1. You are receiving the same message over and over again in your prayers, and things are happening in your daily life bringing this same idea to your attention.
2. Doors are opening unbidden that will lead to success if you say yes to the idea.
3. Following the invitation leads to a concrete example of doing the loving thing for others.
4. The idea is consistent with scripture and your understandings about the teachings of Jesus Christ.
5. The idea probably makes you a little uncomfortable as you recognize there is some risk involved. You are going to have to trust God, sort of like an acrobat anticipating catching the next swing as it comes toward them while they hang in space having left the other one.

I hope this list is helpful to you and I wish each of you well as you wrestle with your calls from God, whatever they may be. Over the weekend we had a couple of great examples of response to God from other members of our family. Now it's your turn. Good luck and trust God to bless you.

*Fr. Bill+*



## Senior Wardens Corner

Starting next month this blurb will be written by your new Senior Warden, who will be announced at our Annual meeting on January 27th:

To bring in the new year I would like to present my personal forecast and predictions for the coming year 2019:

- ✦ I predict continued growth on for congregation (more families)
- ✦ I predict continued growth in our youth program due to more families
- ✦ I predict a very large growth in our women's ministries and programs
- ✦ I predict the formation of more programs for congregational participation
- ✦ I predict an expanded stewardship program
- ✦ I predict more upgrades and repairs to our beautiful facility
- ✦ I predict the rental of the remaining spaces in our building
- ✦ I predict the receipt of more grants for our soup hour program due to the new 501(c)3 status of our soup hour

We should all reach out to and give thanks to Fr. Bill for his great leadership, for his visions of the future for St. Matthias and for his past work and efforts in making this congregation what it is today. **Thank you Father Bill!**

*Stan*

## Stephen Ministry Is Your Ministry

You play an important role in our Stephen Ministry. Here's what you can do:

\*Pray for God to bring hope and healing to hurting people through our Stephen Ministry.

\*Accept care from a Stephen Minister during your time of need. God doesn't expect you to bear your burdens alone.

\*Tell a friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative who is hurting about our Stephen Ministry.

\*If you are a compassionate person and a good listener, prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister.

Our new class of five participants has met once, last Thursday; there will be nineteen more sessions of training which will end May 30, 2019.

"A Stephen Minister is the Caregiver, and God is the Cure giver." Total confidentiality is a MUST.

*Faye Jackson, Stephen Minister Leader*

## "God Loves Me"

On Monday mornings at St. Matthias there is a staff meeting where Fr. Bill, Dottie, Sally, Ben, Kent and I go through the activities of the previous week and talk about what's ahead. The meeting opens with prayer and recently Fr. Bill has added something new right after we pray: we are each asked to share how we experienced God in the previous week. Now that we are in the season of Epiphany it's the perfect thing to do. During Epiphany we are invited to see God present in a new way. After all, the world is completely different now. The savior of the world has been born. He has been baptized and God has proclaimed from the heavens to the whole world that Jesus is his beloved son. How could we ever see things the same way again?

One of my favorite books is called, appropriately, "Epiphany." It's a collection of stories compiled by Elisa Ballard where people relate a time in their life when something was revealed to them in a new way. And although all the stories are different, the thread that runs through them is that they are suddenly brought up short. Something in their life that they had always thought to be true was changed forever. Or something new occurred in their lives that brought about profound transformation. The stories may be more interesting because most of these people are ones who are well-known. So we might have the impression that they've got it all together and they always have. Not so for them. Not so for us.

One of my favorite stories comes from the poet Maya Angelou. She suffered a serious emotional trauma early in her life and did not speak for many years. When she did heal, she began to speak through extraordinary poetry. She started taking elocution lessons in her early 20's and was asked by her teacher to join a group of actors who would read aloud to each other to practice their craft. She tells what happened:

"At one point, I was reading and the line was, 'God loves me.'

And [the teacher] stopped me and said, 'Read it again.' So I read it again: 'God loves me.'

He said, 'Again.' (Continued next page)



# Worship at Saint Matthias January 2019

- + 8:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- + 9:00<sup>AM</sup> - Adult Christian Education
- + 10:00<sup>AM</sup> - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- + 10:00<sup>AM</sup> - "The Works" - Children's Education

## **February 3      The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Scripture:      Jeremiah 1:4-10, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30, Psalm 71:1-6

## **February 10      The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

Scripture:      Isaiah 6:1-8, [9-13], 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Luke 5:1-11, Psalm 138

## **February 17      The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

Scripture:      Jeremiah 17:5-10, 1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Luke 6:17-26, Psalm 1

## **February 24      The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany**

Scripture:      Genesis 45:3-11, 15, 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50, Luke 6:27-38, Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

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*(Continued)*

And suddenly I became embarrassed. I was young and black, and everybody else was older, white and accomplished. And I felt he was really embarrassing me. Putting me on the spot. So I read it with ferocity: 'GOD LOVES ME.'

And at that moment, I knew it. I knew it!

I thought 'God? That which made bees and mountains and water? That? Loves me? Maya Angelou? Well then, there's nothing I can't do. I can do anything good.'

Even now, telling this fifty some years later, I could weep with joy at the knowledge that I am loved by Love itself."

As an Epiphany spiritual practice, I invite you join with the staff to look for those moments when God is very present, to consider with new eyes your own moments of transformation, to reflect as Ms. Angelou does on how you might have experienced a new reality of God and the joy of never being the same again.

It will be my prayer that each of you will feel in this season a renewed sense that you are indeed beloved by Love itself.

*Carole+*







Photos from  
Saint John's Cathedral  
Los Angeles  
As Our Own  
Rev. Carole Horton-Howe  
Was Ordained on  
January 12, 2019



# PUZZLE

## WITH LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Bible is full of special words from our loving God.

Directions: Using the messages on the candy hearts, complete the Bible verses (all NIV) below.



God is our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_,  
an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1

“Surely I am with you \_\_\_\_\_.” Matthew 28:20

And the \_\_\_\_\_ of God ... will guard  
your hearts and your minds in  
\_\_\_\_\_. Philippians 4:7

Whoever lives in \_\_\_\_\_ lives in God,  
and God in them. 1 John 4:16

\_\_\_\_\_ love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18

Answer: refuge, strength, always, peace, Christ Jesus, love, Perfect

### 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.

### A MESSAGE OF Love

Make this valentine for a family member or friend.



#### What you need:

- 10 wooden craft sticks
- Painter’s tape
- Markers
- A photo and glue (optional)
- Craft knife (and adult help)
- Ribbon or a rubber band

#### What you do:

1. Set the sticks side by side. Secure with two tape strips.
2. Flip the sticks over. Draw (or glue on) a picture or write a message or Bible verse. If using glue, let dry.
3. Flip the sticks again and remove tape. If you glued on a photo, have an adult help cut the sticks (and photo) apart.
4. Secure the sticks with ribbon or a rubber band.
5. Deliver the gift and invite the recipient to assemble the puzzle.



#### 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 February

\* Valentine’s Day, February 14

\* Presidents Day, February 18



“Don’t worry. I’m a church pastor. First little problem, and they’ll find me.”

# Stephen Minister's Annual Sweet Sale!

February 10, 2019

After Both Services

You can help by purchasing sweets for yourself and/or loved ones.

This is our annual fund raiser which helps sponsor speakers for continuing education and updating materials.

"A Stephen Minister is the Caregiver, and God is the Cure giver."

Total confidentiality is a MUST.

*Faye Jackson,  
Stephen Minister Leader*



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