
The Matthean of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

7 North Mast St. Goffstown NH 03045

www.stmattsepiscopal.org email:office@stmattsepiscopal.org 603-497-2003

May - August 2017



Interim Rector Notes:

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your Name, now and for ever. (BCP p.840)

As I wish you all a restful and joyous summer, enjoying the beauty of the earth, I want to assure you that although this coming season is traditionally a quiet one at St. Matthew's, much will be going on. This is especially true for this year, as your search committee begins reaching out to clergy who might become your next Rector. In addition to that, the vestry and I will be working hard to plan next year's programs and the budget that will sustain them. There are also three new initiatives being developed:

- A new ministry to youth: We are looking for new ways to meet the spiritual and formational needs of the teens who bless our congregation, and to have a new program in place by September.
- A new ministry to the bereaved who come to us for services of Christian Burial: Recent experiences have shown us that we can be more helpful to families seeking our services if we have an organized team of volunteers to help with funerals and the events surrounding funerals.
- A new ministry to newcomers: We are seeing more visitors in church. The presence of a new rector will also draw many visitors during his or her first months. An organized and trained welcoming team will be very helpful in showing the warmth of this congregation and helping newcomers become part of the family.

I ask your prayers for these endeavors. If you have comments or questions about any of them, or if you would like to be involved in planning, please let me know.

Have a blessed summer,
Celeste+

A note from the office:

People who have already expressed interest in being an acolyte, reader, usher, or chalice bearer should have received the most current schedule for June 4 – October 1. I would like to invite anyone in the church who has an interest in participating in any of those ways to please let me know. We are always looking for new people to include in these areas of ministry at St. Matt's. Summertime is a relaxed time to learn some of the various roles.

I understand it's summer and impromptu trips happen. If you are scheduled, please do your best to find a replacement and most importantly, let the office know.

In the future, we'd like to involve the youth more, especially on Family Sundays. If there are children interested in reading, ushering, and bringing up the communion gifts on those Sundays, let me know so we can give some basic instruction and work them into the schedule.

Note, that my hours in the summer will be reduced to Tuesdays & Thursdays only 9:30-1:30. I do check the office email daily.

Finally, I am thankful to those folks who bring me their used printer ink cartridges. I am able to turn them in and receive a \$2/cartridge credit each month. That certainly helps the office budget. Keep them coming! You can hand them to me in church or leave them in the bottom mailbox at the parish house door.

Wishing summer blessings upon you,
Kelly Kennerson
Parish Administrator



God bless graduating high school seniors: Kathy McKim - "May God watch over your going out and coming in from this time forth, for evermore." Psalm 121

Kudos to St. Matthew's Senior Choir for a superb year of music ministry! This year under direction of Mr. Joshua Desrochers, the Sr. Choir offered Sunday anthems, an Ecumenical Thanksgiving service, great Christmas Eve and Easter Anthems of depth and joy. New offerings this year were a traditional pre-Christmas service of Nine Lessons and Carols, and a music-filled Easter Vigil. We cannot thank this dedicated group of men and women enough for their faithful efforts.

Outreach Yard and Bake Sale - Saturday June 3



Bring your really good 'stuff' to the Outreach trailer, bake up a storm, or volunteer a couple hours between 6am and 2 pm. Mark the date for great bargains on all kinds of stuff at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. Every year we receive a literal truckload of treasure to display on our church lawn alongside delicious baked goods and grilled breakfast and lunch items. It all goes for our Outreach Ministry to help neighbors in need. Our Outreach Committee is a dedicated group serving the critical needs of numerous neighbors in partnership with helping organizations to see to it that basic food, shelter and personal needs are met. **Volunteers are needed to help on Saturday morning between 6 -9 am, 9am-Noon, and Noon-2pm (or as your schedule allows). Folks will help set up, then supervise tables, greet customers and old friends, and to help with the food table and grill.** A sign-up sheet will be available at Coffee Hour weeks prior to the event. It's a good day for a great cause.

Bling Thing The Outreach Committee of St. Matthew's is accepting donations of jewelry for its jewelry table at the upcoming Yard Sale. As you are doing your spring cleaning and picking out things to donate to the Yard Sale, please consider giving your jewelry box a once over. Your unwanted "bling" can brighten someone else's day and bring some money to the church for its Outreach efforts. Parishioners are invited to donate items they no longer use. These might include: necklaces, bracelets, earrings, pins and broaches, and watches. Fine jewelry as well as costume jewelry is welcome. Even broken chains are fine since they might contain gold or silver that can be sold for market value. Jewelry parts such as focal pieces not on chains are acceptable as well. You can also drop off unwanted or unused jewelry to the Parish House during open hours. Thank you for your generosity now and always.

Sunday School Celebration wrap up June 4 at 10am worship. After a great year, there will be a Sunday School celebration on June 4. All the kids and teachers will meet at the Parish House for fun activities, including planting flowers along the walkway during worship, burying the time capsule and making streamers for worship. Ice cream sundaes will be served during coffee hour.

From July 16 – August 13 we will offer kids an inter-age (PreK-9th grade) program interpreting the parables of Jesus through the witty cartoons of Holy Moly. If the weather is nice, the class may go out to the garden for part of the time. We hope to get 2 adults or 1 adult and 1 teen helper for each class. If you are interested in teaching this summer, let Jenn Gilliland (jgilliland@nbcs.k12.nh.us) or Melanie Sherwood (mksherwood@comcast.net) know. Let the joy roll on. God bless Jenn Gilliland & Melanie Sherwood for great leadership; and God bless our terrific teachers!

The SHINE group will conclude its program year on June 7th and will return in September.

Granite State Organizing Project (GSOP) will hold its annual Micah Dinner on Sat., June 10th, 6pm at Holy Cross Center, Manchester. It is a great way to relax and enjoy dinner. The dinner is also a wonderful way to learn more about what GSOP actually does & who its members are. St. Matthew's is proud to announce that parishioner Kristie Curtis is receiving a Micah Award from Granite State Organizing Project. Her dedication and efforts on behalf of the Youth of St. Matthew's and The town of Goffstown are awe inspiring. St. Matthew's has a table for eight reserved. If you are interested in attending, can ask Jean Mazarella, Barbara Carbonneau or Sue Chretien. (Sue Chretien telephone Number is 603-661-3987 or e-mail suzannechretien3@gmail.com)

Parish Picnic/COOKOUT at the MASS ON THE GRASS Sunday June 11 from 10 – noon at Peter and Nancy Clark's farm in New Boston. This is a great time. Outdoor folk style worship followed by an open B-B-Q grill. The inground pool will be open for the water lovers and the lovely country side will be available to relax and enjoy good company. **Rev. Celeste will thank everyone for a great 'Program Year'.** Bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on, meat to grill, your own silverware and plate, plus maybe something to share. (chips, a summer salad, etc) Bathing suit if you wish to take a dip. **Directions to 6 Bedford Rd, New Boston: Take Route 13 to New Boston, turn left before the gas station, go to the top of the hill and you are there. Please park in the field, not along the road.**

9 am Worship this summer will begin June 18. Summer worship is less formal with the choirs having the summer off and programs on summer break until September. Coffee Hour will continue weekly. **From July 16- August 13 we will offer kids an inter-age (PreK-9th grade) program explaining the parables of Jesus.**

Calling All Parish Program Leaders – Calendar Day is Sunday June 18 from 10:15 – 11am following worship. It helps us plan the year ahead. Each summer our program leaders are asked to either submit probable event/program dates for next year to Kelly Kennerson in writing, or join in person for our Calendar Day caucus. There are a number of events, religious Holy Days and programs that take place over the course of the program year at St. Matthew's. By looking ahead and making sure they get on the parish calendar we can be sure our members and interested parties checking our web site have accurate information with which to make their own plans. Program leaders wishing to meet in person are asked to gather in the air conditioned Parish House at 10:15 am. Those submitting probable dates in writing are asked to do so before June 17.

Sunday June 25 following 9 am worship **THE SUNDAY DRIVERS ANNUAL 9 HOLE GOLF TOURNEY WILL COMMENCE. 11:15am arrival and 11:30am tee off at Countryside G.C. in Dunbarton.** Sign up and get teamed up with a foursome to compete for the coveted (thou shalt not) trophy and bragging rights. The trophy will be awarded at the Annual Meeting. Contact Angie Battey for details (cell 486-9151). Sign up sheet is in the Undercroft. Fore!!!

St. Matt's All Star Softball Rides Again! Calling all softball players over age 18 in the parish to compete with the Women's Prison All Stars twice this summer. Contact Barbara Carbonneau to get on our roster. We will play a couple of games in June and/or July. Details to come.

Goffstown Insight Meditation Group will continue through Summer

Goffstown Insight holds Tuesday evening group sitting meditation sessions in the Buddhist Insight (Vipassana) tradition. Sessions are held in St. Matthew's Parish House from 7-8:30pm (except July 4).

We are a fledgling group and invite everyone from beginners to experienced meditators to join us. We aim to support each other and develop our practice. While the focus is on Buddhist sitting meditation, no allegiances are involved and all are welcome.

The session format is: 30 minutes sitting meditation; 10 minutes walking meditation; 30 minutes listening to a recorded talk; 20 minutes discussion

Further information please visit <http://goffstowninsight.org>

Summer Note- Regular summer office hours are Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-1:30 beginning June 20. If there is a crisis or emergency please contact Rev. Celeste Hemingson, Interim Rector (celeste340@aol.com or cell 496-8160 or Senior Warden Angela Battey (finelyorganized@msn.com) The office email (office@stmattsepiscopal.org) and phone 497-2003 will also be monitored periodically. Thank you.

Our Mission Statement

Seeking to nurture the power of Christ in and through its members, to encourage the recognition of the loving service of God in and through our homes, community, diocese, nation, and world.

SOME THOUGHTS.

What does this mean to you?

How are we doing this here at St. Matthew's?

How are we doing this when we go about our daily lives?

What does "nurturing the power of Christ" mean to you?

A CHALLENGE.

Write "nurturing the power of Christ" on a piece of paper and tape it to your car dashboard.

How does it affect you and your day?

Stained Glass Windows: Blessing and Curse

St. Matthew's 14 stained glass windows are both a blessing and a curse. They are lovely and enhance our building and worship space immensely. But at 150 years old they are in dire need of repair. The round window over the main door is as much as 2 inches off plane. Several are up to 5/8" off plane. Upon close examination, some have pinholes in the lead and solder that hold them together. Even the newest window, a replica of the original, behind the altar, has a space showing daylight at the top left.

Historic restoration of these windows is imperative and to that end a small group of parishioners submitted a Letter of Intent in mid-April for just over \$100,000 to the Fund for Sacred Places. Paul Peterson, Bob Jones, Josh Desrochers, Kelly Kennerson, Randy Cheyne, Nancy Nichols, and Joan Alayne Stevens under the watchful eyes of Angie Battey and Rev. Celeste Hemingson crafted sections on the historic significance of our building, its windows and organ, our historic designation in the area of Main Street, our financial situation, our community outreach and more. We were one of 221 churches

nationwide applying for 12-15 grants. If we get the nod we will need to complete a full grant application in 60 days. Please pray for success!

If you would like to know more about this project, please ask any of those named above. Randy, Nancy and Eric are focusing on the window, Paul, Bob and Josh on the building, Kelly on finances, and Joan Alayne on community outreach and overall coordination. Angie, as senior warden, is in all the loops, as might be expected and Celeste is our guardian reference.

Search Team Status - May 2017

The Search Team completed a first draft of the Parish Profile and presented it to the Vestry at a retreat on Sunday, May 7th. The meeting was very constructive. The Vestry offered a number of suggestions for improvements and the Search Team is busy working on making those changes. The Search Team will then present the revised profile to the Vestry one last time before submitting it to Canon Hannah Anderson. She will post it on a number of web sites and we then wait for applications. These will be submitted to the Diocese and a first level of filtering will be done by the Bishop's office. The Bishop's office will then forward applications to our Search Team for consideration. It's exciting to be about to begin this new phase of the search process. Soon we will start hearing from candidates to be our new Rector!

Search Team Prayer: Loving God, giver of all good gifts, guide us throughout our time of transition. Open our hearts and minds as we search for our new rector. Empower each one of us to use our unique gifts in ministry, to share openly and honestly our thoughts, to respect the opinions of others, and to encourage humility, patience and joy. Keep watch over the one you have chosen for us while you instill in us a vision of the Church's family; that, guided by your Holy Spirit, we will be united in love and joyfully accomplish our mission through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Team Members: Karyn Battey, David Betz, Bonnie Calhoun, Barbara Carbonneau, Michael Domingue, Bob Jones, Roger Macon, Laeny McKahan, and Shea Sennett. In addition Abby Poison and Kathy McKim are serving as youth representatives

Stewardship

The vestry would like to remind you to keep St. Matthew's in mind this summer. Due to increased travel, summer is often a time of decreased Sunday attendance and decreased pledge donations. In a typical year, the vestry is able to weather this ebb in donations without too much trouble. This year has seen a decrease in overall pledges; so, it will be more difficult than in past years to get through the summer months. An extra effort by everybody to stay current with their yearly pledges will be greatly appreciated by the vestry. Thank you.

"All things come of thee, O Lord. And of thine own have we given thee."

Dates Down the Line-

September 10 - Return to 8 and 10 worship

September 10- Sunday School registration

September 13 - SHINE Program resumes at 10:30am

September 17 - 150th Celebration with the Bishop at 8 & 10am with party to follow.

Lord Jesus Christ, make this a temple of your presence and a house of prayer. Be always near us when we seek you in this place. Draw us to you, when we come alone and when we come with others, to find comfort and wisdom, to be supported and strengthened, to rejoice and give thanks. May it be here Lord Christ, that we are made one with you and with one another, so that our lives are sustained and sanctified for your service. - BCP pg 568

NETWORK COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY (in St. Matthew's Parish House next door to the church)

Wednesday 6pm to 8pm & Saturday 10am to Noon

ST. MATTHEW'S COMMUNITY CLOTHING CENTER (two doors down from the church)

Tuesday 11am-2pm, Wednesday 6-8pm

Thursday 3-5pm & Saturday 10am -Noon

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Bishop of New Hampshire

Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld

Interim Rector of St. Matthew's The Rev. Celeste Hemingson – Worship, Administration, Spiritual Formation

Joshua Desrochers, Musical Director

Angela Battey, Sr. Warden – Pastoral Care, Stewardship, Youth 486-9151

Rick Simons, Jr. Warden-Buildings & Grounds, Outreach, Fellowship 533-6009

Morgan Pierce – Clerk 497-2592

Lauren Tennett – Treasurer, Stewardship 384-1623

Leo Steffens, Vestry – Pastoral Care, Fellowship, Stewardship 732-2488

Nancy Clark, Vestry – Worship, Youth, Fellowship 487-3861

David Betz, Vestry - Worship, Outreach, Search Team 674-4864

Chris Haines, Vestry – Buildings & Grounds, Outreach 325-0674

Eric Battey, Vestry – Buildings & Grounds, Administration 674-2110

Sue Chretien, Vestry – Spiritual Formation, Outreach, Pastoral Care 661-3987



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

7 N. Mast Street

Goffstown, N.H. 03045

St. Matthew's exists by the grace of God to seek and serve the sacred in all people, loving our neighbor as ourselves. To that end, our clergy, elected leaders and staff are available to you for the asking. Please feel free to contact us for help, advice, guidance, or to offer your assistance. Office hours Tues and Thursday morning or by appointment call: 497-2003 or email: office@stmattsepiscopal.org Office Administrator: Kelly Kennerson & Sr. Warden: Angela Battey 486-9151 Website: www.stmattsepiscopal.org