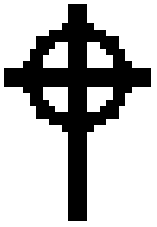




The Way



The Newsletter of St. Matthew's
Episcopal Church

St. Matthew's Church

695 Southbridge St.
Worcester, MA 01610
(508) 755-4433, office
(508) 755-8319, fax

The Rev. Nancy Baillie Strong
Rector

Kirsten Ireland
Secretary to the Rector

Donald Irving
Organist/Choir Director

Chet Ireland
Publisher

Kirsten Ireland
Editor

September 2011

The Season of Pentecost

Dear Friends -

Welcome Back! At this time of the year these words have a familiar ring. Many of us have been away on summer vacations or long weekends, enjoying the beauty of a New England summer day or traveling to far off places seeing new sights and making new friends. Maybe we have traveled to visit family or old friends. When Fall rolls around, we find ourselves back home, back to work, back to school, back to our St. Matthew's home. It's the time when church school begins a new school year, parish meetings gear up, we finalize plans for the parish fair, and choir members are back filling our worship space with songs of praise. It's a time to think again of why we are here, about our mission, about why God has called us to this place on the corner of Cambridge and Southbridge Streets.

Our mission is to build on the past, while looking towards the future, and provide a Christian community for worship and fellowship that extends to others in joy, witness and outreach.

What do these words mean to you and what do you see as your role in helping St. Matthew's fulfill this mission? I know for me, I am called to the words community and outreach. As a Christian community, I continually see us called to serve those in our neighborhood who are in such great need. Recently the Vestry visited with the Director of the South Worcester Neighborhood Center and heard of the needs of

Worship:

<u>Wednesday</u>	10:00am
(followed by coffee hour)	
<u>Saturday</u>	5:00 pm
<u>Sunday</u>	8:00 am
	10:00 am
Church School	9:45 am
Nursery	10:00 am

Our email address is:
stmatthew5@aol.com

our neighbors who live just outside our door. We have heard of the over 100 students at South High School who are homeless whose needs we are only beginning to understand. What other ways is God calling us to “provide a Christian community” to those beyond our walls? What other ways is God saying to us “be joyful in witness and outreach to others”?

St. Matthew’s has a long history of responding to those in need. Our parish hall was one of the first Head Start and Elderly Nutrition sites in the City, and the first home of the SWNC. Each week we host AA and AlAnon meetings and many other groups where members are searching for ways to put their lives back together. Building on this past and looking towards the needs of today...what is God leading us towards?

I invite you to reflect on our mission statement, to dwell on these words as we begin anew this Fall season. And ask yourself, what is your role in St. Matthew’s mission, and listen for God’s message to you and the reason He placed you here at this particular time. God has something in store for us, a reason for our being. We just need to be aware and listen for His voice.

Paula Buonomo
Senior Warden

FALL PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday 8:30am-2:30pm

Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm

Saturday 12:00pm-4:00pm

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office will be closed Monday, September 5 (Labor Day) and Tuesday September 6

PASTORAL CARE AND OTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO THE RECTOR’S SABBATICAL

Crisis Pastoral Care: In the event of pastoral need for yourself or a member of your household (for example, hospitalization, serious illness or accident, death or other crisis), please call the Parish Office during stated Parish Office Hours. If you cannot reach the Parish Secretary, please call

either Warden (Paula Buonomo or Dennis Wilson). The Wardens and the Parish Office have contact information for local clergy who have agreed to be called in the event of pastoral need during the Rector’s sabbatical.

Wednesday Healing Services: There will be a Healing Service with Holy Eucharist on the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of September, October and November at 10 AM in the Chapel. There will be Morning Prayer with Prayers for Healing and for the Sick at 10 AM on all of the other Wednesdays during the sabbatical.

If you have questions or other concerns about ministry at Saint Matthew’s during the Rector’s sabbatical, please do not hesitate to speak with one of the Wardens – thank you!

From the Parish Registers:

Received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism
on July 3, 2011:

Michael T. Nagy & Rodney J. Nagy
“We receive you into the household of God...”

Buried with the prayers of the Church:
Mary A. (Kallmann) Cooper, on July 15, 2011
Catherine Malpass, on August 19, 2011

“Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord...”

Monthly Lectionary

September 4 – Pentecost 12

Exodus 12:1-14, Psalm 149

Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20

September 11 – Pentecost 13

Exodus 14:19-31, Psalm 114

Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35

September 18 – Pentecost 14

Proverbs 3:1-6, Psalm 119:33-40

Timothy 3:14-17 Matthew 9:9-13

September 25 – Pentecost 15

Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 78:1-4,12-16

Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

- Joe and Judy Chilton have a beautiful new granddaughter, Josephine Lea Galeckas? Congratulations to you, and best wishes to Baby Josephine and her parents, Jeremy and Stacy (Chilton) Galeckas!
- Alice Ploysungwan has become a certified Apiarist? Yes, she's an "urban beekeeper," and has just spun off her very first batch of honey...SWEET!
- Scott Townsend, son of Bob & Ellie Townsend, was named as one of the Forty Under 40 honorees in Maine Today Media's first annual Forty under 40 event. Scott, a realtor with Keller Williams Realty and owner of a vacation rental business, HigginsBeach.com, lives in Scarborough, Maine with his wife, Sunny.
- Kevin Baldwin is going back to school? He'll be an Instructional Assistant this year at Millbury High School -- congratulations and good luck, Kevin!

We know that there is a lot of GREAT news out there – and if you'd like to share YOUR good news with Saint Matthew's Parish family, please e-mail us at stmatthew5@aol.com, drop a note in the mail or call the Parish Office! Thanks!

SAINT MATTHEW'S DAY CELEBRATION: September 18th!

This year's celebration of Saint Matthew's Day will coincide with "Welcome Back" Sunday activities and worship (see related article). At both the 8 AM and 10 AM Masses, the lessons for Saint Matthew's Day will be read, and we'll have an opportunity to reflect on the tax collector, evangelist and saint together! Plan to attend and give thanks for the life, ministry and witness of our parish's patron saint and our parish's ministry and mission!

SAINT MATTHEW'S CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS NEW CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR September 18th is "Welcome Back" Sunday!

The 2011-2012 Church School year will begin on Sunday, September 18th, at 9:45 AM, with "Welcome Back" activities, worship, fellowship and food for all! Church School staff will greet children, youth and families in the Parish House at 9:45 AM. Teachers will be commissioned for their ministry of Christian Formation during the 10 AM Mass, and all are invited to stay for hot dogs and ice cream following the service!

The Fall 2011 Church School curriculum will feature Bible stories focusing on "attitudes" and Biblical kings and queens, using exciting, interesting and interactive materials produced by GROUP Publishing. (Saint Matthew's has often used GROUP's Vacation Bible School curricula for our "Special Summer Sundays" program.) Saint Matthew's received a diocesan Congregation Development grant to help us purchase these materials for our Christian Education program. If you have questions about the program, or would like more information, please speak with our Church School Superintendent, Karen Baldwin.

Classes are offered for children in pre-school through high school, and there is nursery care for younger children. Registration forms for the 2011-2012 Church School at Saint Matthew's are available on the parish website: stmatthew5@aol.com or you may pick up a "hard copy" at church! We look forward to seeing everyone on "Welcome Back" Sunday, September 18th!

Stewardship

We've all heard "Give until it hurts" but we want you to think this way.. "Give until it feels good" for the LORD loves a cheerful giver. Most of us have all we need (maybe not all we want) so it shouldn't be too hard to think about sharing what we have with those who have less. Commitment Sunday will be here before you know it, so please think and pray about what you can pledge to help St. Matthew's continue to do God's work in the coming year.

**YOUTH GROUP KICKS-OFF AND
BEGINS PLANNING FOR FALL
ACTIVITIES!**

The calendar of fall plans and activities has begun to take shape – look forward to hearing information about it all in the Sunday Service leaflets, and look for the calendar of activities and meetings on the Bulletin Board outside the Parish Hall!

All youth at Saint Matthew’s in Grades 6 through 12 are welcome to join the Youth Group. Please contact Steve and Kelly MacGregor, Youth Group advisors, for more information.

Women Of St. Matthew’s

The Women of St. Matthew’s will meet at 7PM in the Parlor on Thursday, Sept.15th. We will make plans for our part in the Fair and the coming year. All women who are members of St. Matthew’s are automatically members of this group and are invited to join in. Our dues are \$5.00 per year and this helps us in our Outreach.

This year, once again, we are going to have a Basket Event at the Fair and if you would like to contribute one, we would like to have it for the September 24th (the night of the fair supper). Just call Millie Cummings @508-755-4465 if you can contribute a basket.

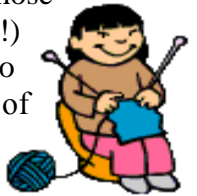


**COFFEE HOUR
SCHEDULE**

September 4	Everybody
September 11	Everybody
September 18	Vestry
September 25	Choir

**“FIRST FRIDAY KNITTERS”
PICK UP THEIR STICKS!
Friday, September 9th, 6:30-8:30 PM
(NOTE DATE CHANGE!)**

Saint Matthew’s “First Friday Knitters” will hold their first meeting of the Fall Season on the SECOND Friday of September (due to the Labor Day weekend), September 9th, 6:30-8:30 PM. All are welcome to attend: we have knitting needles, crochet hooks and yarn for those interested in learning (or re-learning!) a craft, and lots of folks willing to help teach! It’s always a great time of fun and fellowship – for many good causes!



If you have been knitting all summer for the Parish Fair or for the South Worcester Neighborhood Center, please bring your finished items along – it will inspire us all to see a large pile of hats scarves and mittens! For more information, please speak with Robin Chenarak. *(If you have yarns you will never use, speak with Robin about donating them for the knitters who make prayer shawls, cold weather accessories, baby items, etc., for our neighbors in need and for the Parish Fair. Thank you!)*

**NEWS FROM THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH IN LIBERIA**

The August 11th issue of e-Matters, a bi-weekly newsletter of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts has a great photo showing Bishop Jonathan Hart with two clergy of his diocese and their new MOTORBIKES! Saint Matthew’s Parish has raised funds in past years to help the Episcopal Church in Liberia rebuild and expand its ministry in the aftermath of the civil war that lasted for so many years. Thanks to a grant from Bishop Gordon Scruton and our Diocese (including funds that Saint Matthew’s parishioners have donated), many grants have been given, and these motorbikes were purchased with the most recent grant! Thanks to all for helping our Liberian brothers and sisters in Christ!

**ALL SAINT SUNDAY IS NEXT
BAPTISMAL SUNDAY
November 6th, 10 AM**

Three new members of Saint Matthew's will be admitted to the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on All Saints Sunday at the 10 AM Mass. Please pray for Ballah Corder, William Corder II and Mardea Smith, who are all preparing for this step in faith, and who will speak for themselves when they are admitted as Candidates for Holy Baptism on September 18th, and then when they are Baptized on November 6th.

The next occasion for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be on January 8th, 2012, The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. Make a note and speak with the Rector when she returns from sabbatical if you are interested in preparing for a Baptism at that time. Thank you for your cooperation!

***PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
BLOSSOMS!***

Thank you to all who rose to the call for MORE Prayer Shawls for our neighbors in Wilbraham-Monson! Through the Church of the Epiphany, Wilbraham, some of Saint Matthew's knitters were able to pass along prayer shawls with messages of prayers, comfort and encouragement to survivors of the June 1st Tornadoes. Eight Prayer Shawls were blessed to pass along on August 21st.

There will be a Retreat Day/Diocesan-Wide Gathering for all involved in a "Praying Hands" ministry (prayer shawls and more!) on Saturday, November 12th, at Saint David's Church, Feeding Hills (Agawam-area), MA. Look for the flyer describing the event, and sign-up by November 1st! Registration forms are available in the parish office or send an e-mail to jeanb01119@aol.com including your name, telephone number, parish, e-mail address and whether or not a display table is needed. See Wendy Piscitelli to explore car-pools.

**Saint Matthew's Episcopal
Church Ornament
Fundraiser to Support the
Parish Restoration and Renewal Fund**



\$12 Each – Please order by October 1 by calling the parish office at 508-755-4433

Mass Remembers—Voices of Hope

Communities of faith across the interfaith spectrum, along with the wider community are invited to participate in ***Mass Remembers—Voices of Hope***, a statewide commemorative event honoring those who lost their lives, sacrificed and responded to the tragedy of September 11, 2001. This fall will mark the tenth anniversary of this devastating tragedy in our nation's history. Professional, religious, community and children's choruses from across the Commonwealth will join together in song on **Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 2 p.m. at Institute Park, off Salisbury Street, in Worcester, Massachusetts** to mark this solemn occasion. Through the solace and transformation of music sung collectively, we will demonstrate the power of community and renew our dedication to a nation that is committed to freedom and justice for all. Your participation in this poignant memorial service would mean so much to so many, especially the men and women who continue to serve our country overseas, the families of those affected by the 9/11 tragedy, and the citizens of the Commonwealth. For additional information about Mass Remembers, please contact Ms. Erin Williams, Cultural Director, City of Worcester at (508) 799-1400 ext. 265 or williamse@worcesterma.gov.

From Patti Cummings....

"Fair for All Seasons"

Can you believe the fair is only a few months away? That's right! It will be on Friday, October 14th and Saturday October 15th. It'll be here before you know it! The school kids are getting ready to go back to school. While you shop for the kids keep an eye open for something you might be able to pick up to help St. Matthew's Fair. In today's market, we need to plan and shop when those bargains are available! You might also be cleaning out those closets now that summer is over and you're getting ready for fall. Think about whether those things you are tossing out might be useful for the fair!

Some things we are looking for:

- Craft- something hand made
- Sweaters -kids/adults, scarves
- Handtowels
- Jewelry-*Clean out your jewelry box or keep an eye open at yard sales for cheap finds. We'll clean it up and sell it! We could also use small jewelry boxes, scarves, trinket boxes or purses. Bring your treasures to church and give them to Jennifer Martocci or Nancy Smith.*
- Apple Table- *apple pies, apple decorations, apples, apples, apples, apples...ideas welcome!*
- Pumpkin Table-*pumpkin pies, pumpkin decorations, pumpkins, pumpkins, pumpkins, pumpkins....ideas welcome!*
- Toys, toys, toys, toys, toys.
- We will need many folks to cook and bake! *It's too early to start now, but what you can start to do is keep an eye on those sales. Pick up sugar, flour and baking ingredients that go on sale and have them ready to bake. If you are able to get several let us know and we will match this up with someone who is baking.*
- Sweet Shoppe.... *What is your specialty? Fudge? (Please don't cut it.) Everyone loves Quiche, would you be willing to make one or two?*
- Book Table-*clean out those shelves and donate a box or two.*

And remember our **SILENT AUCTION** which is made up of mostly CERTIFICATES from grocery stores, diners, pizza places, hair salons, etc..... Is there a place you can go to and ask if they will donate one of their services. Do you have a service you can offer? (yard work, clean windows, bake a dinner, make a

cake...). The more we have the better the opportunity to have a VERY successful FUNDRAISER for ST. MATTHEW'S. **At the end of this newsletter is a page that includes a letter you can use to request donations from various places. The letter can be printed and handed out or you can pick up copies at the Parish Office.**

I'm sure I left something off this list. Whatever you can contribute will be a big help and we are grateful for all help and donations!

Thanks, Patti

Co-Chair Persons are Pam Wilson and Linda Albinson

Borja Family Update

I have been corresponding with Pat Borja by email and would like to share their news with you. Their trip to New Mexico took six days which included a two day visit with family. Everyone fared well: "no fussing or issues with Ruth-Maria or David-Rafael" and only minor discomfort for Rachel-Ann due to motion sickness.

Pat says that they can see the Rocky Mountains from where they live and it is quite beautiful. The weather in Rio Rancho "is great and we don't even need to use the air conditioner." Fans work well and the nights can get quite chilly and they "sometimes have to reach for a blanket when the windows are open" because of the cool desert air.

The moving truck finally arrived on July 25 and it was "interesting" Pat writes, "After hours of unloading we decided not to check the inventory. Big mistake." There were broken and missing items and a damaged second car. In typical Borja fashion Pat adds, "We are coping though and trying not to be down about it. We are all together and that is what is important."

School has started for Rita-Marie, Omar and Rachel-Ann. Busy mornings with three schools and three different start times. Ruth-Mariah and David-Raphael will be at home with mom. The girls are in the process of finding a dance studio and Omar is planning to play football for his school. The family is also looking for a new church and had plans to attend on the first Sunday of August when Bo had his first Sunday off since their arrival. Pat reminded the children that it would "be like going to family service for us since it is the first Sunday of the month."

Pat adds that they miss their St. Matthews family and asks to be remembered and kept in our prayers. If you would like to send a note or email, the address is: 4501 Sprint Blvd. NE, Apt. 7202, Rio Rancho, NM 87144 - patriciaborja@rocketmail.com



**AROUND THE WORLD
POT LUCK SUPPER**
Saturday, September 24th, 6pm
in the Parish Hall

Saint Matthew’s Parish is a multicultural church family and we have so much to share and learn from one another. Come share a little about your heritage with food. We all have favorite recipes that have been handed down from the good old days! Get out your grandmother’s cookbook and whip something up. You may want to try something new and different. Go for it! We are asking for main/side dishes. Drinks and desserts will be provided. This a fund raiser to help continue all the good things St Matthew’s does, but it will also be a wonderful evening for fellowship with friends and family. “Basket event” baskets will also be on display. If you would like to help or have any questions please get in touch with Wendy Piscitelli or Cathy Goodwin.

**SAINT MATTHEW’S SCONEHEADS
STILL READING – AND MEETING!**

The Reading Group at Saint Matthew’s, affectionately known as “The Sconeheads,” are reading a wonderful historical novel, CALEB’S CROSSING by Geraldine Brooks, and will meet to discuss it on Wednesday, September 21st, at 7PM – all are welcome to attend!

If you can’t join them for this meeting, their next book is a biography of a very famous woman – CLEROPATRA: A LIFE, by Stacy Schiff, will be discussed on Wednesday, December 7th, at 7 PM – plan to read and join the group for a great discussion! Need more info? Speak with Wendy Piscitelli or Nancy Smith – thanks!

Betsey Wetherbee would like to share this link to a website she thought others might find useful.... www.give.org/reports/index.asp (to rate charities before giving).

**SOUTHERN WORCESTER COUNTY
WELCOME SOUTH SUDAN!**
Bishop Abraham Nhial to speak in
Webster, October 2nd, 2 PM!

The world’s newest nation, South Sudan, recently celebrated its independence! Bishop Abraham Nhial, Anglican Bishop of the Diocese of Aweil in South Sudan, and a former Sudanese “Lost Boy” will speak at the Church of the Reconciliation, Webster, on Sunday, October 2nd, at 2 PM. The public is warmly welcomed to come and hear Bishop Abraham share his experiences, his hopes for his country’s future, and ways that Episcopalians and others can help those who continue to suffer after years of war and genocide.

Saint Matthew’s is privileged to have Abraham Gai Yol, another of the “Lost Boys,” as a member of our parish. If you can attend the event on October 2nd, you will learn a lot and have much to think and pray about!

For more information, please contact the Church of the Reconciliation, Webster.

<u>Meetings at St. Matthew’s</u>		
Sundays	2:00pm 6:30pm	Word-Based Int. Min. Al-Anon (parish hall)
Mondays	7:30pm	AA (parish hall)
Tuesdays	7:00pm 8:00pm	AA Young Beginners AA (parish hall)
Wednesdays	6:00pm 8:00pm	NA (parish hall) AA (parish hall)
Thursdays	8:00am-3pm 10:00am	Deaf Seniors (parish hall) Al-Anon (downstairs)
Fridays	7:00pm	NA (parish hall)
Saturdays	12:00pm-4pm	K & K (parish hall)



I want to run for office....

There are many ministries available for you here at Saint Matthew's. Some of them are elected offices. This form is your opportunity to place yourself in nomination for one of these offices.

Requirements: A qualified nominee for Church office is, by Canon Law, a "confirmed adult communicant of the Church in good standing." "Good standing" is taken to mean having participated in the life of the parish in the last year, contributed to its support, been regular in attendance at worship and received communion at least three times in the past year. "Adult" is taken to mean over age 16. There is an expectation that all in ministries of leadership understand the need for thoughtful, prayerful discernment in decision-making.

You may nominate yourself (for one position). A position which has more than one nominee would therefore be contested – which is OK! If you want to nominate another, please ascertain from them their willingness to run and that they meet the membership requirements.



Name _____ Name _____	Wardens – One year terms. Senior Warden is responsible for overall administrative lay leadership of parish. Junior Warden is responsible for administrative lay leadership for property matters.
Name _____ Name _____ Name _____	Vestryperson [Serves three years]. Member of the Church Board, called the Vestry. Generally monthly meetings and sometimes special ministries. Responsible for leadership of the Church, especially in matters material and monetary, works with Rector to serve the needs of the people. Three three-year positions are open.
Name _____	Treasurer - One year term; responsible for finances of parish and working with bookkeeper and auditors. Currently this position is being held by Joe Chilton.
Name _____	Assistant Treasurer- One year terms; responsible for finances of parish and working with the Treasurer, bookkeeper and auditors. Currently this position is being held by Ellie Townsend.
Name _____ Name _____	Clerk - One-year terms; responsible for accurate taking of minutes of Vestry and Parish meetings and their care. Currently this position is held by Charlotte Townsend.
Name _____ Name _____	Delegate - Three persons who represent this parish at the annual Diocesan Convention, the fourth weekend of October each year. One of the requirements, therefore, is the ability to make those dates available. These delegates will also elect the next Bishop of our Diocese.
Name _____ Name _____	Alternate Delegate - One person who represents this parish at the annual Diocesan Convention, the fourth weekend of October each year, in the event one of the Delegates is unable to attend. One of the requirements, therefore, is the ability to make those dates available.

If you sense God's call to serve in one of these ways, fill this out, then give it to the Rector, a Warden or the Secretary to the Rector. It would be helpful to have them in by November 16, 2011

Saint Matthew's Parish Calendar

September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 No 5pm Mass
4 9:00am-Mass	5 Labor Day	6 7:00pm- Executive Comm. Mtg.	7 10:00am- Mass	8	9 6:30pm- 8:30pm First Friday Knitters	10 No 5pm Mass
11 8:00am-Mass 9:00am-Choir 10:00am- Mass	12	13	14 10:00am Healing Prayers	15 7:00pm Women of St. Matthew's	16	17 No 5pm Mass
18 8:00am-Mass 9:00am-Choir 9:45am- Church School 10:00am- Mass	19 7:00pm- Vestry Mtg.	20	21 10:00am Healing Prayers 7:00pm- "Sconeheads" Book Group	22	23	24 No 5pm Mass 6PM-Around the World Pot- Luck Supper
25 8:00am-Mass 9:00am-Choir 9:45am- Church School 10:00am- Mass	26	27	28 10:00am Healing Prayers	29	30 Silent Retreat at Monastery Begins!	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Rector on Sabbatical August 27-November 25 </div>						



Saint Matthew's Parish

An Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts

695 Southbridge Street
Worcester, MA 01610

Telephone: (508) 755-4433
Fax: (508) 755-8319

September 1, 2011

Dear Friends –

I am writing to you today regarding our upcoming Church Fair at St. Matthew's Church which will be held over the weekend of October 14th and 15th in the Parish Hall. This is our major fundraiser for the year and we are reaching out to area businesses for donations.

We would greatly appreciate a donation from you for our Silent Auction – either a gift certificate or merchandise. Our auction has become very popular over the years with both parishioners and others attending our event.

With your help we will move closer to our fundraising goal and allow us to continue to serve our community. We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

St. Matthew's Parishioner